

Super Cereal Plus Distribution Report

Objective:

- prevention of malnutrition among children under 2 years of age.
- early detection of children with malnutrition and referral of children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

Target group:

- all DRC refugee children 6-23 months registered in Mussungue and Cacanda registration centers (through caregivers).

Intervention:

- nutritional status monitoring through the measurement of the children's MUAC¹;
- distribution of a monthly ration of specialized fortified food (6kg of *Super Cereal Plus*) to all children 6-23 months;
- sensitization with caregivers including the explanation of how to prepare and who is the target group for Super Cereal Plus, and sensitize mothers for continue breastfeeding.

In addition, the mothers of infants aged < 6 months were encouraged to continue breastfeeding and return when the child is 6 months old.



Photos: Distribution in Cacanda Reception Center. WFP / Diana Borges

Distribution pre-requisites:

- child within the target age group is present at the distribution site, in order for his/her MUAC to be measured;
- the person collecting the food has to be part of the family;
- the child is not enrolled in MSF's therapeutic programme (these cases were referred to the next day of distribution of *plumpy'nut* by MSF);

¹ MUAC – mid-upper-arm circumference.

- the child is not with SAM² (these cases, if not enrolled in SAM treatment, were referred to MSF).

Coverage:

	MUSSUNGUE	CACANDA
	12-Jul	17-19-Jul
Children 6-23mo registered by time of distribution	232	2 243
Children 6-23mo attending distribution ^a	107	859
Coverage rate	46%	38%
Children 6-23mo receiving SC+ and sensitization session ^b	106	803

^a. based on tally sheet filled by the volunteers during the distribution.

^b. based on UNHCR database information & exceptional cases record (agreed with UNHCR registration and/or protection).

Thirty nine percent of the total target population came to the distribution. This low coverage was likely because more than 70% of the refugee population is residing outside the reception centers, with limited access to the information disseminated. The date of distribution of Super Cereal Plus and the need for the child to attend the activity was shared with only 2-days advance thus did not have time to spread.

The reason for distributing Super Cereal Plus in the same days as the GFD is that this is the time when most refugees travel to the centers, thus it reduces the need for a second trip to collect the nutritious food for the children. From the previous experience, it was understood that families would prefer not to collect this food as the cost for receiving it would be too high.

The children enrolled in MSF's therapeutic programme or referred to MSF with SAM did not receive *Super Cereal Plus*, as they should continue on the SAM protocol (with *plumpy'nut*).

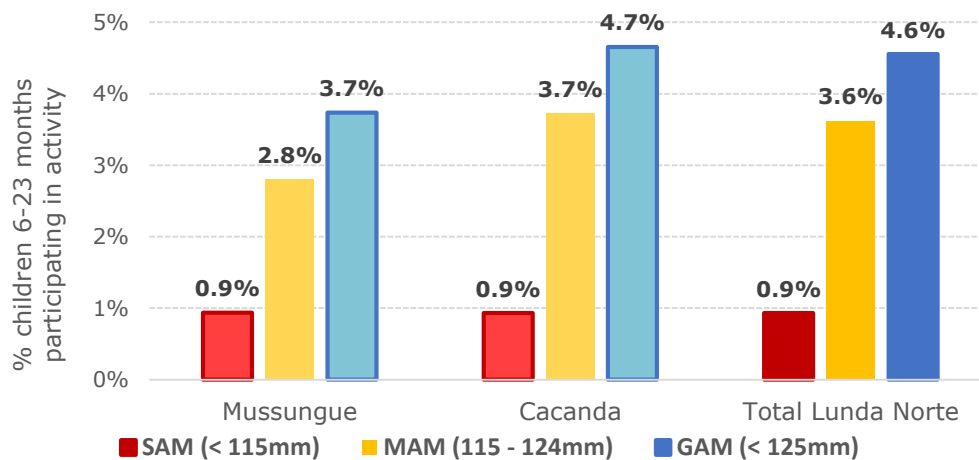
During the distribution, the team also referred to MSF children with need for medical assistance:

- need for deworming tablets;
- fever and diarrhoea;
- fever and respiratory problems.

(this reference was informal and numbers were not recorded)

² Using the extended criteria being used by MSF: children with MUAC < 120mm or WFH < -3 z-score or bilateral oedema.

Children’s Nutritional Status:



Out of the 966 children from both reception centers who participated in the activity, **4.6% were malnourished** (global acute malnutrition, GAM): one girl in Mussungue and 8 children in Cacanda were severely malnourished (SAM), and 3 children in Mussungue and 32 children in Cacanda were moderately malnourished (MAM). It is also relevant to notice that 24.7% of the children measured had a MUAC between 125-134mm, meaning that they may quickly become malnourished if conditions change.

In addition, **78% of the children identified with MAM are girls**. The gender information for the children with SAM was not recorded.

Food Distribution:

WFP, with the support of its partners, distributed a total of **5.454 MT** of Super Cereal Plus to children under 2 years old in Lunda Norte.

	MUSSUNGUE	CACANDA
	12-Jul	17-19-Jul
Children 6-23mo receiving SC+	106	803
Total Super Cereal Plus Distributed (MT)	0.636	4.818
Total Super Cereal Plus Distributed (units/boxes)	43	322