



WFP Republic of Congo Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	12 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CP 200648 (Jan 2015 - Dec 2018)	56.8 m	39.9 m	1 m

* December 2017 - May 2018

WFP supports the Government through

School Feeding: WFP aims to promote access to education by ensuring that primary school children have a balanced diet using local products. WFP provides capacity building to the Government for school feeding policy development. The policy aims to define the vision and provide guidance as well as a handover strategy. Since the introduction of the 'Observe, React, Act' (ORA) in 2014, WFP has assisted 4,500 additional indigenous children with school meals. In November 2017, WFP received funding from the Government of Japan.

Social Safety Net: WFP is supporting the Government to establish a social safety net for vulnerable households by providing electronic voucher transfers. Through this programme, WFP has distributed vouchers to 3,000 people in newly selected areas, Sibiti and Owando. The safety net programme is a conditional electronic voucher transfer to malnourished individuals under treatment for HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis (TB). Vouchers are also provided to malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding mothers who are undertaking scheduled visits to health centers either for consultations or for child vaccination programmes. The program faces a critical resource shortfall.

Nutrition: WFP provides specialized food to children under the age of five, pregnant and breastfeeding women to prevent chronic malnutrition and improve nutritional recovery among people living with HIV/AIDS or TB and receiving treatment. The program faces a critical resource shortfall.

Disaster and Risk Management: WFP provides technical support to the Government to strengthen disaster and risk management.

Highlights

- WFP food distribution continues in Pool department.
- WFP's Social Safety Net programme is in urgent need of funding.
- Funded by the European Union, WFP, FAO and IFAD have launched a smallholder farmers project with the Government to promote a homegrown school feeding programme.
- A budget revision is ongoing to merge and extend the Pool and the CAR refugees operations in a single EMOP through 2018.

Critical support to populations affected by the ongoing crisis in CAR and its regional impact	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Regional EMOP 200799 (Jan 2015- Feb 2017)	11.6 m	4.8 m	N/A

The Regional Emergency Operation (EMOP) is in line with WFP's Strategic Objective 1: "Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies." It aims to improve food consumption, reduce undernutrition and restore access to basic services of populations affected by the December 2013 conflict in the Central African Republic (C.A.R.).

Support to populations affected by the ongoing crisis in Pool Department in RoC	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
EMOP 201066 2017	7.8 m	7.7 m	4.9

* December 2017 - May 2018

The EMOP started in April after a first IR-EMOP of 45 days and is in line with WFP's Strategic Objective 1: "Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies." It aims to stabilize or improve food consumption over assistance period for Congolese targeted households and/or individuals in Pool and Bouenza departments.

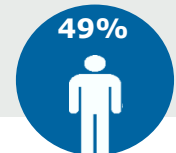
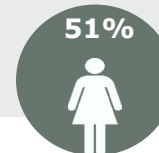
In Numbers

17,022 CAR refugees CAR assisted in **November 2017**

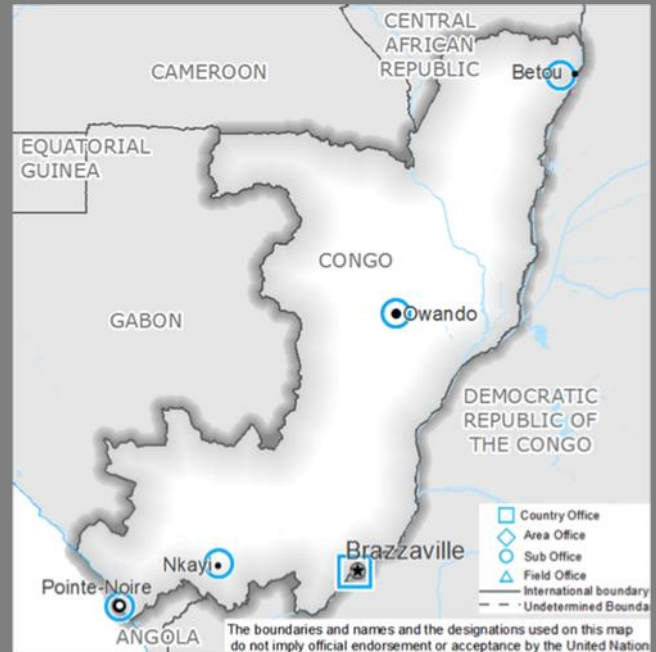
166,000 persons affected by Pool crises

74,620 IDPs assisted in November 2017

November 2017



Country Background & Strategy



Despite its status as a lower middle income country with a GDP of USD 14 billion in 2015, RoC ranks poorly on the Human Development Index. Food production is below national requirements, with only 2 percent of arable land currently under cultivation. RoC produces 30 percent of the country's food needs and thus imports almost all of its food, leading to high food prices. Income is very unevenly distributed, reflected by a Gini coefficient of 0.43. Forty-eight percent of Congolese live on USD 1.25 per day.

According to the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, there is a dire shortage of nutritious food, resulting in children suffering from acute malnutrition. 67 percent of children under five are anaemic. In children under the age of five, rates of severe acute malnutrition stood at 2.6 percent; global acute malnutrition at 8.2 percent; stunting at 21.2 percent; and underweight at 12.3 percent.

The national HIV/AIDS prevalence is 3.2 percent. WFP's operations in RoC contribute to the global efforts to reach Sustainable Development Goals 1 (End Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), 4 (Quality Education) and 5 (Gender Equality).

WFP has been present in RoC since 2000.

Population: **4.2 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **136 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **21.2% of children between 6-59 months**

Donors

Government of Republic of Congo, USA, Japan, Brazil, European Union, France, Italy, China.

Operational Updates

- The results of the latest post distribution monitoring showed that the suspension of the safety net programme has negatively affected the nutritional status of the beneficiaries. The most affected people are HIV/AIDS and TB patients in Brazzaville and Pointe Noire.

Challenges

- WFP Congo urgently requires funding for both EMOP, the safety net and for school feeding programmes.
- To minimize logistic constraints in Likouala department, WFP has launched electronic food transfer for CAR refugees in Bétou and Impfondo for the Regional EMOP in May.

Impact of limited funding

- The Government of Congo is the main donor for WFP's Country Programme. Falling oil prices have resulted in serious budgetary constraints for the Government and have left a critical funding gaps for the WFP Country Programme.
- The lack of resources has a huge impact on the implementation of WFP's programmes under the Country Programme, where only very few activities can be carried out, leaving many beneficiaries without any assistance.
- WFP urgently needs support from new donors to continue providing food and nutrition assistance to vulnerable people in the Republic of Congo.
- WFP is also seeking additional support to scale up the small farmers' project started in the Bouenza department, to include other commodities and areas to further develop the home grown school feeding program.

Pool crisis update

- WFP is providing assistance to 20,066 IDPs in the Pool with in-kind distributions and to 54,554 in the Pool and Bouenza department with CBT in november.
- WFP launched a pilot mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM) system in Pool in September. The mVAM project uses mobile technology to track food security trends in real-time, providing high-frequency data supports humanitarian decision-making.
- Caritas and the Ministry of Social Affairs continue to identify and register IDPs in Pool, Bouenza and Brazzaville to update the IDPs figures.