



**Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations**



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# The Democratic Republic of the Congo

## Humanitarian Response Plan 2017–2019



to assist  
**2.8 million people**



FAO requires  
**USD 90 million**



period  
**January – December 2018**

For the huge number of displaced and returnee families in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, agriculture is the only sector that simultaneously provides income, food and dignity.

The scale and scope of the humanitarian crisis has far surpassed expectations and projections for 2018 are alarming. Lives are at stake. It is thus essential to continue responding to the immediate needs of the most vulnerable populations while focusing on long-term development solutions.

### Objectives

FAO is working with partners in the Food Security Cluster to:

- Protect livelihoods in emergency situation, while enabling people to access food and agricultural land.
- Support and restore livelihoods by strengthening households' resilience to shock and disaster risks.
- Strengthen the ability of communities to establish and manage safety-nets systems, including related to agricultural value chain.
- Ensure Food Security Cluster coordination.

### Activities



#### Restore food production

nutrition training | short-cycle vegetable production | agricultural, fishery and livestock inputs | training on production techniques | cash transfers



#### Strengthen household resilience

*caisses de résilience* activities | community savings and loan schemes | reinforce financial capacities and access to credit for farmers' groups and women's associations | cash-for-work for planting trees and seed production | income-generating activities | climate adaptation and mitigation practices | land and road rehabilitation | post-harvest (process, preserve and market agricultural production)



#### Prepare and partner

early warning systems | information sharing | collect and analyse food security data | advocate and mobilize funds | integration of cross-cutting themes (gender, protection, accountability) | coordination among food security partners

## Situation analysis



**7.7 million people**  
severely food insecure



**1 in 8** severely malnourished  
children in the world are Congolese



**4.3 million IDPs**

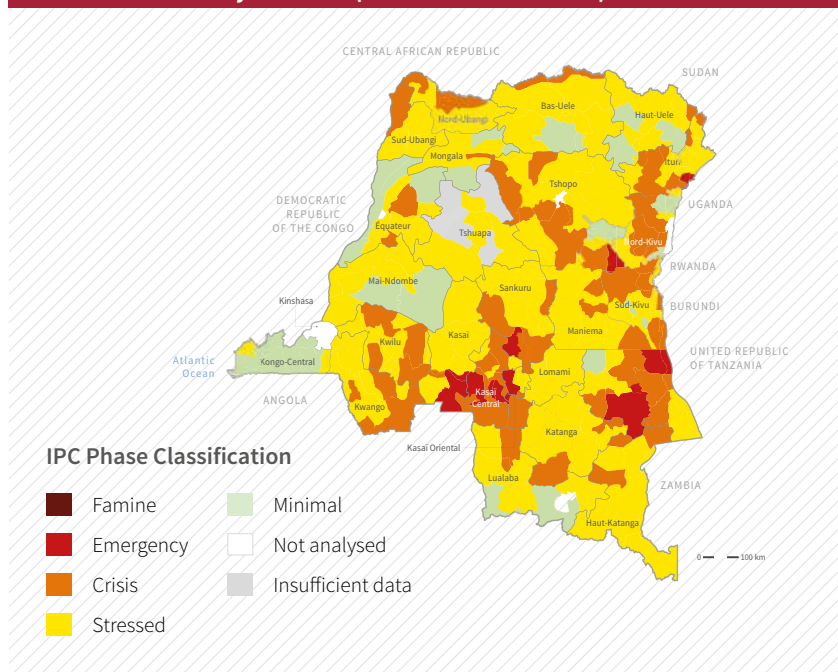


**74%** of Congolese live on  
less than USD 1.25 a day



**75%** of rural families rely on  
agriculture for their livelihoods

## Acute food insecurity situation (June – December 2017)



Source: The Democratic Republic of the Congo IPC Technical Working Group, June 2017

## Impact on food security

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is experiencing a protracted crisis that is rapidly evolving. The conflict, previously mainly affecting eastern provinces, has intensified and expanded causing widespread insecurity and population displacements in North Kivu, South Kivu, Ituri, Tanganyika and Haut-Katanga provinces and Kasai region. In 2017 alone, 1.7 million have fled their homes – more than 5 500 people per day.

The worsening situation has had a dramatic effect on food security, with 7.7 million people severely food insecure compared with 5.9 million during the same period last year. Farmers fleeing from violence – 80 percent of IDPs – have missed three consecutive planting seasons and have lost their productive assets. With the exception of cassava and sweet potatoes, other crops, such as maize, cowpea and rice, have been lost or burnt. By not being able to engage in agricultural activities, trading activities in general have been disrupted as well as local economies.

In addition to fall armyworm outbreaks severely affecting maize production, banana wilt and the cassava brown streak and mosaic, have further deteriorated communities' food security and nutrition. In various parts of the country, the humanitarian situation has been exacerbated by cholera and measles outbreaks. As a result of the challenges linked to not being able to access animal protein or vegetables, malnutrition rates have severely increased among displaced populations, with about 2 million children affected by severe acute malnutrition.

## CONTACTS

Alexis Bonte | FAO Representative a.i. | Kinshasa, the Democratic Republic of the Congo | FAO-CD@fao.org

Dominique Burgeon | Director, Emergency and Rehabilitation Division and Strategic Programme Leader – Resilience | Rome, Italy | TCE-Director@fao.org

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