



The Democratic Republic of the Congo has the world's highest number of people in acute food insecurity. Without urgent assistance, about one-quarter of the population is projected to be in IPC Phase 3 or above (Crisis or worse) by June 2025, with 80 percent residing in rural areas. The country also has the second-highest number of internally displaced people in Africa, primarily due to armed conflict in the eastern provinces. Emergency agricultural interventions provide cost-effective solutions for vulnerable communities to quickly produce nutritious food. For example, with just 50 g of quality seeds, a household can harvest up to 250 kg of vegetables in just four weeks, worth USD 480.



TO ASSIST 3.6 million people



FAO REQUIRES USD 200 million

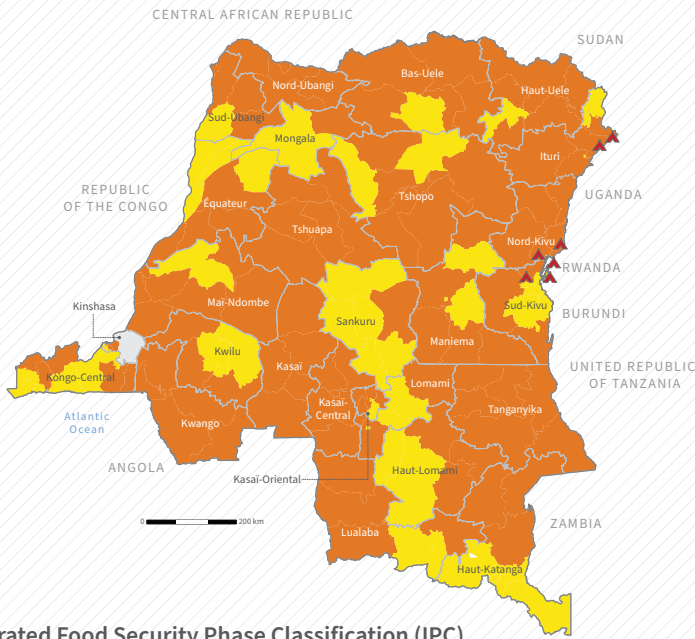


JANUARY-DECEMBER 2025

What investments in agriculture can achieve

<p>USD 170 =</p>	<p>With a staple crop package, alongside cash and technical support, a household can cultivate 0.4 ha of land and produce about 430 kg of cereals and pulses, worth USD 500 on the local market.</p>	<p>=  Enable a family of 6 to produce staple food for 4.5 months and generate income</p>
<p>USD 400 =</p>	<p>With a cash transfer alongside vaccinated poultry, small ruminants and training, a household can obtain up to 3 500 eggs/chicks a year and a herd of 21 goats, each worth over USD 100 on the local market.</p>	<p>=  Address immediate needs while restoring livestock production and enabling income generation year-round</p>
<p>USD 1 500 =</p>	<p>With an equipped fishing boat, alongside cash and technical support to organize post-catch training, 12 households can catch an average of 752 kg fish a month, worth USD 865 on the local market.</p>	<p>=  Provide families with a sustainable source of income and the means to access nutritious food</p>

Projected acute food insecurity situation (January–June 2025)



Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)



Note: Refer to the disclaimer on the last page for the names and boundaries used in this map. **Source:** IPC. 2024. *Democratic Republic of the Congo: IPC Acute Food Insecurity Snapshot, July 2024–June 2025.* https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_DRC_Acute_Food_Insecurity_Jul2024_Jun2025_Snapshot_English.pdf

Urgency of humanitarian agricultural assistance

The humanitarian situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo remains dire, with a 9-percent increase in the number of people in acute food insecurity compared with the same period last year. Ongoing armed conflict and intercommunal violence, particularly in the eastern provinces, severely impact livelihoods, triggering the widespread displacement of millions of people and disrupting food production.

The lack of basic infrastructure, particularly roads, hinders economic development, agricultural activities and the transport of goods to markets, leading to food shortages and driving up prices. Economic shocks such as inflation further exacerbate the situation and weaken households' purchasing power. This means that even when food is available, many families are unable to afford it.

In addition, recurring epidemics and disease outbreaks, including measles, cholera and Mpox, as well as natural disasters such as floods and drought, further strain already vulnerable populations.

As the challenges affecting the country are expected to continue in 2025, including escalating insecurity in North Kivu triggering additional widespread displacement, providing vulnerable households with timely emergency agricultural support is fundamental to the humanitarian response.

Coordination

As co-leads of the Food Security Cluster in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme work closely with 105 local and international partners, in collaboration with government counterparts, to ensure a needs-based, coordinated and effective response.

Drivers of food insecurity

Armed conflict

Intercommunal violence

Inadequate infrastructure

Natural hazards

Economic shocks

Recurring epidemics

Forced population displacement

Key facts

Country population: **111.2 million**



25.5 million people projected to experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above)



6.76 million internally displaced people



8.2 million people acutely malnourished, including **4.4 million** children under five, with **1.39 million** of them facing severe acute malnutrition



1.1 million people affected by floods between January and September 2024



38 000 suspected cases of Mpox and **1 000** deaths reported between January and October 2024



60% of the population survives on less than USD 2.10 a day



USD 2.40 out of 100 in humanitarian assistance to food sectors went to support agriculture and livelihoods (2016–2023)

In 2024, FAO reached about 3 million people (nearly 500 000 households) with interventions to restore crop, livestock and fisheries production. Over 90 percent of these households live in the eastern provinces (Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu and Tanganyika) and the Kasais (Kasai, Kasai Central and Kasai Oriental). Of the farming households supported, 142 220 received 1 530 tonnes of food crop seeds and with 1 kg of maize seed, for example, a household was able to obtain a production

of 150 kg. Moreover, in North Kivu, Ituri and Tanganyika, FAO has provided micro-gardening kits to 3 500 households, 67 percent of whom led by women, enabling them to cultivate over 140 ha of land and produce more than 1 000 tonnes of vegetables. This significantly contributed to enhancing households' nutrition, while 60 percent of the production was sold to generate a total of USD 584 500 (USD 167/household) to cover other basic needs.

FAO priorities

Priority	Type of assistance to be provided/ content of assistance package	Cost per household (USD)	Number of beneficiary households	Total cost (USD)	Funds needed by	Planned implementation period	
Support sustainable agricultural production	Cash+: 40 kg of staple crop seeds, four tools, training plus an unconditional cash transfer (USD 75)	170	150 000	25 500 000	June (season A)	August–September	
	Cash+: 50 g of five types of vegetable seeds, tools (hoes, rake, etc.), training plus an unconditional cash transfer (USD 75)	130	200 000	26 000 000			
Improve animal health and livestock production	Cash+: vaccinated poultry (ten hens and rooster), small ruminants (four female goats and one male), training plus a conditional cash transfer (USD 50)	400	80 000	32 000 000			
	Livestock vaccination against peste de petits ruminants, Newcastle disease and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia	100	100 000	10 000 000			
Enhance fish production and availability in food-insecure areas	Cash+: fry, feed, fish-farming equipment and material, training in fish-farming and feed production along with a conditional cash transfer (USD 150)	900	35 000	31 500 000		Year-round	Year-round
	Fish production equipment and material (environment-friendly nets, tools, boat); fish processing and conservation material; training fishmongers in purchase, sale and marketing	1 500	15 000	22 500 000			
Protect the livelihoods of vulnerable populations	Training in conflict prevention and management (Dimitra clubs); reduce protection risks, for example through briquette production support to reduce dependency on wood; anticipatory actions; improve access to land and markets	2 200	20 000	44 000 000			
Improve food security sector coordination	Food Security Cluster coordination; establish an agriculture and food security information system; strengthen food security analysis capacities	–	–	8 500 000			

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.



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