

THE FAO COMPONENT OF THE CONSOLIDATED APPEALS



2012

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO





The Appeal for the Democratic Republic of the Congo was launched globally on the 14th December 2011 as part of the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP).

For a complete overview of FAO's component of the 2012 CAP, please go to www.fao.org/emergencies.

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FOREWORD

Every year, the plight and needs of many of the world's most vulnerable people are described in the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP). This year's CAP spans 18 countries¹ and outlines needs across key sectors.

The 2012 CAP clearly highlights that food insecurity continues to be compounded by protracted crisis situations, more frequent natural disasters, conflict, volatile food prices, harsh economic conditions and climate change.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) works with partners to reduce food insecurity through improved preparedness for and effective response to food and agricultural threats and emergencies.

Stepping up to the challenge

To rise to this challenge and improve effectiveness in a climate of reduced funding and increased need, FAO's emergency response focuses on protecting both lives and livelihoods. Rebuilding livelihoods and decreasing dependency on external aid ensures a quicker return to normalcy for affected people, restoring their self-sufficiency and sense of dignity.

Beyond immediate support to ensure food security in protracted or sudden-onset crisis situations, FAO implements programmes that build the resilience of households in the face of future shocks. Families that have been affected by crises, and often divested of their assets, are even more vulnerable to the potential impacts of future shocks – restoring livelihoods and strengthening resilience can mitigate the effects and reduce risk.

FAO's components of the CAP fit within broader planning and programming strategies at country and subregional levels, which look into longer-term measures to address the root causes of vulnerability and increase resilience through disaster risk management. These include FAO Plans of Action, which have been developed together with national counterparts in Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, the Niger, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan, the West Bank and Gaza Strip and Zimbabwe, among other countries.

Another way that FAO has stepped up to the ever increasing challenges of today's world is in our closer collaboration with international and local partners and counterparts. In 2011, the global Food Security Cluster was established to improve the coordination of food security responses in humanitarian crises, under the co-leadership of FAO and the World Food Programme. At country level, Food Security Clusters are increasingly reflected in CAP documents. FAO's work in development provides an important link with national authorities and community-based organizations that can often be built upon in times of crisis.

Adapting programming to best fit needs

Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts, and achieving food security in emergencies requires a specific understanding and analysis of livelihoods.

FAO programming places people at the centre of its actions, identifying the most effective and efficient ways to assist those most vulnerable. Emergency response programmes are adapted to the needs of

¹ The present brochure only features the 16 countries that will be included in the global launch of the CAP on 14 December 2011. The CAP for Liberia and Sri Lanka will be launched at a later date.

women, men and their families, whether they are fishers, pastoralists, farmers or foresters. Diversifying livelihoods and intensifying agricultural production are some of FAO's key strategies. To be effective, analysis of household, community and national systems is needed. The individual CAP strategies reflect this livelihood analysis. In many contexts, addressing needs at the household level must be done hand in hand with strengthening community and social support systems.

In Somalia, in addition to providing immediate life-saving assistance, the strategic priorities for humanitarian assistance include stabilizing and preventing the deterioration of people's way of life through the protection and restoration of livelihood assets and through early recovery, resilience building, emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction and social/productive networks.

This is a twin-track approach that combines immediate assistance to improve access to food with addressing the root causes of the problems and building longer-term coping capacity in the face of protracted crises and new shocks. FAO is supplying inputs like drought-tolerant seeds while improving pastoral techniques, water harvesting, irrigation and soil conservation. In situations of high unemployment or where access to food is constrained, cash and seed voucher schemes in exchange for labour are being established.

In the Horn of Africa, FAO has set up irrigation schemes so that some communities have been able to keep producing food despite the drought. FAO is also distributing seeds that can tolerate drought, and assisting farmers to produce more quality seeds and sell them to other farmers. These efforts are ensuring that more and more people can cope with drought in the future.

Building on local institutions

We have much to learn from our partners. In the past, the international community spoke of "capacity building", often as a "top-down" system of knowledge transfer, but experience has shown that most of the learning and best approaches to strengthen resilience are found at the local and national levels, within communities and institutions.

Building on and supporting local institutions can provide a sustainable basis for addressing the drivers of a crisis, for rebuilding livelihoods after a crisis and for strengthening resilience and coping mechanisms.

In South Sudan, FAO has and will continue in 2012 to work with the nascent government to establish a sound institutional framework for food security, which is resulting in increased levels of public investment in agriculture and food security.

Thinking about outcomes

Humanitarian response is life-saving, but it also aims to protect and restore the lives and livelihoods of people that have been hit by crisis. Dignity, food and nutrition security, self-sufficiency and resilience are cornerstones of what FAO aims to achieve in emergency response; there are also further positive outcomes across a variety of sectors that can be achieved through food- and agriculture-based approaches. For example, collaboration with the Department of Education in school gardening projects in the Philippines will enhance the nutritional value and variety of meals prepared in schools, and ensure that children attend school.

In Afghanistan, steps have already been taken to link food assistance, cash-based and agriculture support activities with a nutrition response to ensure that adequate household dietary intake and food consumption levels are met. Food security and agricultural interventions are closely aligned with programmes to increase water access for herders, whose livelihoods are impacted by natural disasters and conflict.

Short-term funding leads to short-term results

Humanitarian donors are at work to support the needs of the most vulnerable; however, despite generous short-term aid, which has been successful in addressing immediate needs, vulnerability persists in many countries facing humanitarian crises. If lasting solutions are not found, after each shock families are less able to cope, take longer to rebuild their lives and livelihoods, and remain dependent on external aid for longer periods of time.

In some parts of the Sudan, for example, vulnerability remains acute as underlying conditions are left unaddressed. As a result, large segments of internally displaced persons residing in camps have to various degrees become dependent on external aid. The comparative lack of parallel support for durable solutions within a humanitarian framework in the Sudan is one of the key contributors to persistent vulnerability in the country.

FAO's component of the 2012 CAP reflects how we in FAO are taking on new challenges. We appeal to our donors and partners to help us take on the challenge and work together to address not only the life-saving needs of vulnerable communities today, but to restore lives and livelihoods for tomorrow.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laurent Thomas', with a horizontal line underneath.

Laurent Thomas
Assistant Director-General
Technical Cooperation Department

2011 IN REVIEW

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) received USD 200 million in contributions for emergency programming in response to the 2011 Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) and other humanitarian appeals launched in 2011. Although this represented a USD 50 million decline in appeal-related funding as compared with 2010, the coverage of requirements has remained steady at just over 50 percent.

The international community responded generously to agricultural needs in Afghanistan (94 percent met), Somalia (90 percent met) and Sri Lanka (77 percent met). These countries accounted for more than one-third of FAO's programming needs under the 2011 appeals.

2011 also included the continuation of appeals launched in 2010, such as the Pakistan Floods Relief and Early Recovery Response Plan, which remained active until July 2011. With almost USD 107 million in requirements and over USD 97 million in funding, it was FAO's largest appeal ever, and one of its most successful. The current appeal for Pakistan, launched in response to the devastating monsoon floods of 2011, will last until March 2012 and has received almost 56 percent of required funding. Over the past two years, FAO has implemented over USD 126 million in emergency agricultural programming in Pakistan.

The situation across the Horn of Africa deteriorated significantly in 2011. The region faced one of its driest years since 1950/51. Conditions were particularly dire in Somalia, where the food crisis escalated into famine in parts of the country. Although the Somalia 2011 CAP is well funded, funding for the rest of the region has been low. So far, out of total needs of more than USD 161 million for the whole region, almost USD 80 million, or 49 percent, has been contributed. FAO has a significant presence in the region, with active programming in every country affected by the crisis.

As of 30 November, total funding for FAO's Emergency and Rehabilitation Programme in 2011 amounted to over USD 333 million.

FAO Emergency and Rehabilitation Programme

1 January to 30 November 2011

FUNDING BY COUNTRY/REGION	(USD)
Somalia	78 801 904
Sudan	45 786 639
Pakistan	18 537 881
Afghanistan	15 308 239
Kenya	13 486 406
Regional Africa	11 708 090
Sri Lanka	10 787 258
DR Congo	10 532 563
West Bank and Gaza Strip	10 292 629
Uganda	10 247 365
Indonesia	9 660 056
Ethiopia	6 402 099
Zambia	5 219 997
Niger	5 013 939
Chad	4 622 600
Côte d'Ivoire	4 520 742
Regional Latin America	3 815 808
Guatemala	3 681 897
Zimbabwe	3 639 010
Liberia	3 595 190

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS	(USD)
European Union	57 396 448
United States of America	56 291 682
Canada	36 241 276
OCHA/CERF	35 497 782
Sweden	16 380 547
Belgium	13 847 977
Australia	12 266 908
Japan	11 197 420
Spain	10 428 230
World Bank	8 770 000
UN Trust Fund - Sudan	7 020 257
United Kingdom	7 008 322
UN Trust Fund - DR Congo	5 966 903
Switzerland	4 557 886
France	4 431 766
UN Trust Fund - Somalia	4 401 244
Italy	3 800 941
Unilateral Trust Fund	2 938 565
United Kingdom	2 019 902
Netherlands	1 875 000

THE FAO COMPONENT 2012
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**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF THE CONGO**

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Continuous cycles of violence and insecurity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo have left millions of people vulnerable and struck by poverty. Attacks by armed groups, human rights violations, violence against women, looting and displacement affect day-to-day life in many areas of the country. Humanitarian indicators remain alarming – and services inadequate to meet basic needs – in areas such as health, water, sanitation, education, nutrition and food security. Over 70 percent of the population lives on less than USD 1 per day, and 1.65 million people remain displaced. The long-term nature of the crisis has left many families with little or no ability to face new shocks, as coping mechanisms have been eroding for decades.

Challenges facing food security and livelihoods

Well over 4 million people are facing a severe food and livelihood crisis. Livelihoods have become extremely fragile due to declining agricultural productivity, low purchasing power, extremely volatile input prices, effects of climate change, natural resource degradation, land disputes and poor infrastructure.

Decreased levels of crop, livestock and fisheries production, made worse by high food prices, are taking a direct toll on family food baskets. In 2011, several provinces – Kasai Oriental, Kasai Occidental and the north of Province Orientale – have shown a deterioration in food security, despite a 2 percent improvement in national acute malnutrition rates between 2007 and 2010 (from 13.4 to 11.5 percent).

Farmers are missing major planting seasons due to displacement, or lack of access to seeds and other key production inputs. Forced population movement, repeated looting of livestock and animal diseases – such as Newcastle disease and *peste des petits ruminants* – have reduced herds. Food conservation, storage and processing are virtually non-existent, preventing families from diversifying and increasing their production and income opportunities. Good agricultural practices are being eroded, and access to markets is becoming increasingly difficult.

Plant and animal diseases pose major threats to household food production and food security. Cassava mosaic disease – affecting one of the country’s most important staple foods – causes yield losses of up to 40 percent. Other plant diseases, such as Cassava Brown Streak and Banana Xanthomas Wilt, are emerging and intensifying particularly in eastern provinces.

Agriculture plays a fundamental role in the reintegration of former soldiers and marginalized groups, offering a return to an active social and professional life. It also creates employment opportunities for youth, the majority of whom find themselves trapped in a vicious cycle of violence, poverty, illiteracy and social exclusion.

Women’s ability to recover from crisis and rebuild their resilience is more limited than that of men. They have less access to productive resources, rural employment, agricultural inputs and services. The promotion of gender equality is crucial for agricultural development and for society as a whole, as women are central to household food security.

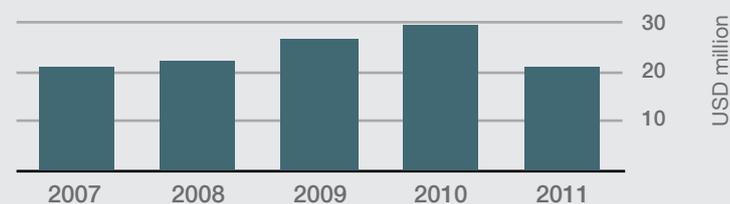
KEY FACTS

- Population: 65 965 795
- Human Development Index Rank: 187/187
- Workforce in agriculture: 57%
- Recent emergencies: conflict, cholera outbreak, floods, landslide.

Source: FAO, UNDP, World Bank

FAO EMERGENCY PROGRAMME

As of November 2011, based on project expenditures



Food Security Cluster response

As co-lead of the Food Security Cluster with WFP, FAO will help vulnerable communities fight hunger by restoring their means to produce food and generate income. Restoring agriculture will strengthen livelihoods, promote peace building and increase people's resilience.

The 2012 Food Security Cluster Response Plan consists of two components: (i) food assistance through food distribution, cash transfers, food-for-work and food-for-training; and (ii) supporting the restoration of food production and livelihoods. The Response Plan will target vulnerable IDPs, returnees and host community members, focusing on women-headed households, the elderly and people affected by HIV/AIDS.

The Food Security Cluster will adapt its assistance to respond better to the needs of beneficiaries, moving away from direct distribution to more flexible types of response, such as cash-for-work and seed fairs. These types of activities assist individuals to restore their production capacity, while benefiting entire communities.

The Cluster also aims to improve coordination and strengthen the capacity of partners, as well as develop a common food security monitoring and impact assessment system. Resources dedicated to the Integrated Food Security and Humanitarian Phase Classification will also enhance the information available to determine the extent of the crisis and identify agreed priority areas of intervention.

PROPOSALS - Food Security Cluster assistance

Total funding requested: USD 215 096 383

Due to the magnitude and complexity of humanitarian needs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Humanitarian Action Plan does not contain individual projects as in the remainder of the CAP.



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www.fao.org/emergencies



Preparing for, and responding to,
food and agriculture threats and emergencies

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