Food Assistance as a Protection Outcome
Executive Board Presentation

July 2023
HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN EASTERN DRC

- Second highest number of IDPs in the world: 6 million IDPs as of April 2023
- Multiple conflicts: 120 non-state armed groups
- 6.7 million people in IPC 3 and 4 (Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu)
- State of Siege since May 2021 (North Kivu, Ituri)

INSO DRC map of incidents between 16-31 May
### Context: Interlinked Crises

#### Nutrition
- More than 300,000 children and 200,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women are malnourished in the 3 provinces in 2023.
- Screening for acute malnutrition indicated that 1 in 4 children are malnourished in the IDP camps.
- Most health facilities in areas recently occupied have been looted.

#### Food Insecurity
- **6.7 million** people in acute food insecurity, IPC 3 and 4 across 3 provinces of scale-up zones (Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu)
- **1.4 million** in IPC 4 across Ituri and North Kivu
- Main drivers of food security: internal displacement, conflict

#### Health
- **Measles**: MSF reported 12,000 cases of measles from Jan to May. From Feb to May in Masisi, cases have jumped from 63 to 203.
- **Cholera**: Since the start of 2023, MSF responded to over 7,800 cases of cholera. 82% of cases are in Goma.

#### Protection

#### Education
- **750k** children out of school due to conflict
- **2,100** schools not operating: mostly due to insecurity, some hosting IDPs
Protection crises across scale-up zones (Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu)

At the end of 2022, 65% of the gender-based violence (GBV) cases (approx. 78,000) reported in DRC occurred in the three provinces.

Reoccurring violation of GBV amongst IDPs, 50 women raped daily in camps around Goma (MSF).

91% increase in reported GBV cases in North Kivu between 2021 and 2022.

During the first quarter of 2023, the protection cluster documented 8,682 protection incidents, affecting approximately 45,000 victims (44% female, 56% male).

10,339 survivors of GBV, 66% of whom were raped, accessed services in North Kivu between Jan-Mar, 2023.

Since January 2023, 1,511 civilians were killed and 933 abducted.
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AS A RESULT OF...

Lack of Food and Loss of Livelihoods

- Food and firewood collection
- Negative coping mechanisms
  - Survival Sex --67 brothels in IDP sites around Goma
  - High number of under-age girls and women involved in survival sex

Poor Living Conditions

- Overcrowding
- Lack of lighting
- Precariousness of makeshift shelters
- Inadequate and inappropriate hygiene facilities (toilets, showers)
- Inadequate security/civil protection around camps
  - (source: GBV Safety Audit)
Food Security as a Protection Outcome

Prevent

Reduce

Mitigate

Food Security

- Improved Access to Food and Livelihoods
- Advocacy for Durable Solutions and Safe Returns
- Provision of predictable Food Assistance and Resource Transfers
# WFP DRC’s Implementation Plan for Protection & AAP

## Leadership & Institutional Set-up and Processes
- Largest field protection and AAP team in WFP

## Planning & Programming: People-centered approach
- Conflict-sensitive programming that considers inter-ethnic conflict and minority group
- Optimized identity management and delivery process
- Improved data protection and information management

## Capacity Development
- Training of WFP and cooperating partners (CPs)

## Partnerships & Inter-Agency Engagement
- Framework developed with protection cluster with focus on the East joint protection analysis in Ituri
- Engagement with women civil society organizations
- GBV Safety Audits
**PROGRESS TO DATE: PROTECTION, AAP AND GENDER—PROGRESS**

**Protection Mainstreaming**
- Protection risk assessments
- Development of collaboration framework with protection cluster
- Strong collaboration with protection actors

**Gender-Based Violence**
- GBV risk mitigation matrix
- Mapping out mitigation measures across protection actors
- Future GBV safety audits to include nutrition and food security

**Information Provision to Communities**
- Development of protection and complaints and feedback mechanisms (CFM) messages

**Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFM)**
- Launch of digital complaints and feedback dashboard to improve resolution of complaints
- Establishment of multiple channels to improve CFM (e.g. hotline available 6 days/week; community complaints committees; suggestion box)
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION = PEOPLE CENTERED APPROACH

- **Safe and context-appropriate modality** in delivery of assistance
- **Complaints and feedback mechanism** to capture barriers to safe and meaningful assistance
- Increased **community engagement and participation** to explain WFP’s approach
- Ensure beneficiaries can **protect** their assistance
- Close and continued **collaboration** with protection and GBV actors
CHALLENGES

• **Forgotten emergency** due to decades of protracted crises

• **Significant Funding shortfalls** to provide predictable food assistance to at risk population and other humanitarian needs, including GBV and protection actors

• Short-term emergency funding while protection outcomes requires longer-term and consistent funding

• Improved mechanisms to **work with women’s groups and associations**

• **Coordination**

• Improving community consultations and use of CFM data
THANK YOU!