

## **WFP Great Lakes Region Weekly Report Week 3 (12 Jan - 18 Jan)**

\*\*\* WFP's food delivery capacity seriously affected by transport constraints as a result of rains and floods. Food distributions are presently at reduced levels.

\*\*\* WFP is co-ordinating the logistics arrangements for the operation to assist some 13,000 flood affected persons in Kisangani, east DR Congo.

\*\*\* In Rwanda the security situation continues to deteriorate particularly in the north-western prefectures.

\*\*\* Fighting between the rebels and the military continues in the hills surrounding Bujumbura, Burundi. As estimated 4,000 - 8,000 people have fled their homes in Kamenge Parish since the military operations began in the area.

\*\*\* A FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission is presently reviewing the damage caused to the crops and cultivated land by the heavy and prolonged rains in Tanzania. It was found out that an aerial assessment would be needed in parts of the country.

\*\*\* Although the planning figure for the caseload of displaced persons in Gulu district, Uganda has been set at 250,000 local authorities put the number now at over 324,000 persons representing almost 65,000 households.

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**This Report is produced weekly by WFP in Kampala, based on inputs from various sources.**

**Any comments, corrections or suggestions are welcome.**

**For further information please contact WFP Kampala**

**E-Mail: [FerreiraA@wfp.or.ug](mailto:FerreiraA@wfp.or.ug)**

**Radio callsign: Uniform Kilo. SelCall: 6401. Standby on 7734 USB (voice), 6260 USB(high speed)**

**Fax: +256 41 251760/250485/250489**

**Telephone: + 256 41 254050**

# **Operational Update**

*General - Impact of floods in East Africa on Regional Operations*

Heavy rains continue in most parts of Tanzania creating havoc with transport routes. The road and rail line are still interrupted on various points along the stretch Dar-es-Salaam/Dodoma and the last WFP deliveries along this route were in mid December. It is estimated that this stretch of the rail line will remain cut off for another two months. The railway line between Dodoma and Tabora has now been reopened.

In order to bypass the disruptions in the transport routes along the southern corridor, WFP is planning to truck food from Dar-es-Salaam to Dodoma and from there loading it onto rail wagons for delivery to Kigoma and Isaka. This movement is expected to start by the end of the current week.

WFP has also begun on 22 January the movement of 5,000 metric tons of food using the TAZARA rail line, from Dar-es-Salaam to Kasama in Zambia, then by road to Mpulungu and via Lake Tanganyika to Bujumbura and Uvira, as well as to Kigoma for the refugee camps. This lengthy route has however limited capacity.

Food movements along the northern corridor running from Mombasa have also been affected, albeit less than in the southern route. Traffic along the road Mombasa/Nairobi has resumed, although with some difficulty. The rail line is still interrupted on the Ugandan side of the border and it is expected to reopen by the end of the month.

As an alternative WFP is railing food from Mombasa to the port of Kisumu in Kenya, on the shore of Lake Victoria. From there, the food is then shipped via lake to Kampala, for inward delivery to northern and western Uganda and to Rwanda and Burundi. WFP is also transferring 1,500 metric tons of food received in Kampala to Mwanza in Tanzania, via Lake Victoria. This arrangement will allow deliveries to various sites in Tanzania.

Despite these transport constraints, food distributions in the Great Lakes region have continued, even if at reduced levels, making use of the buffer stocks pre-positioned in the various countries. However, the delivery capacity has been seriously curtailed and this is affecting food availability. Food deliveries to Burundi, the most affected by these events, have been reduced from 5,000 metric tons a month to 2,500 metric tons and deliveries to Rwanda are being scaled down by forty percent. Food releases to non-essential programmes have been stopped over the next month.

### ***DRC/Congo***

During the reporting period 287 Congolese refugees were repatriated by UNHCR from Kinshasa to Brazzaville. The number of refugees who returned home under this programme initiated on 19 December totals 5,418 persons. WFP repatriation packages were provided to the returnees upon arrival in Brazzaville.

A joint verification exercise was carried out by WFP, UNHCR and MSF - Doctors without Borders - in the Kintele camp, north of Brazzaville. The camp holds presently 2,387 Rwandan and Burundian refugees, of which 5 percent are children. WFP continues to provide them with food assistance. WFP foods also still being distributed to approximately 12,000 refugees in the Loukoela area, further north.

A new group of 741 Rwandan and Burundian refugees has been identified by UNHCR and Caritas in the Republic of Congo. These refugees are accommodated at Impfondo, some 900 km north of Brazzaville, in an area only accessible by plane or boat. This caseload is reportedly in poor health and nutritional conditions, receiving some assistance from the local Catholic church. UNHCR is presently assessing the situation and a request for food assistance is likely to be forthcoming.

Between 12 and 18 January a total of 199 metric tons of WFP food commodities were provided for distribution in Brazzaville, to benefit 17,590 persons: vulnerable persons in the city, patients in hospitals and malnourished persons, refugees in the Kintele camp and returnees from Kinshasa.

As a follow-up of the survey on the situation of food security carried out by FAO and WFP in November 1997, WFP has started monitoring the market prices in Brazzaville.

WFP is co-ordinating the logistics arrangements for the operation to assist some 13,000 flood affected persons in Kisangani. Between 12 and 25 January a total of 216 metric tons of food commodities donated by WFP, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Government, and 21 metric tons of non food items from the Government, UNICEF and UNFPA were airlifted into this town in DRC. UNDP contributed by chartering planes for this operation.

On 15 January another 806 Congolese refugees were repatriated to eastern DRC from Nyaruguso and Lugufu camps in Kigoma. Since the beginning of this repatriation exercise on 1 September, 15,090 Congolese were returned home, in a total of 23 trips across Lake Tanganyika.

For the first time since the above repatriation programme started, a barge carrying refugees landed in Baraka, south of Uvira. A large part of the Congolese refugees are from this area, and this direct connection, only four hours from Kigoma, greatly facilitates the operation. The landing in Baraka was made possible following the rehabilitation of the port facilities by UNHCR. Some Congolese refugees from Tanzania are still repatriating spontaneously to Uvira.

**Summary of Distributions in DR Congo during the week (Quantity in MT):**

	Kinshasa / Kinkole	Bukavu	Goma	Uvira
<b>Cereals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Pulses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>CSB</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Others</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>30</b>

***Rwanda***

The security situation continues to deteriorate, particularly in the north-western prefectures of the country. A joint UN mission is visiting the prefectures of Ruhengeri and Gisenyi to assess the needs of those affected by the conflict and to evaluate ongoing assistance programmes.

WFP is supplying food to some 50,000 refugees still in Rwanda: 15,000 Congolese in Kageyo camp in Byumba, transferred from Mudende following the attacks on the camp; another 14,500 Congolese refugees are in Kibiza, Kibuye and UNHCR plans to transfer them to a new and more accessible location; the camp of Kibangira in Bugarama holds 15,000 Congolese refugees, and approximately 5,000 Burundian refugees are in camps in Kigeme.

UNHCR has organised an airlift, using three planes, to move 140 refugees, remainder of the Mudende caseload who survived the last attack. These refugees are being transported to Kigali and then they will be transferred by road to the new camp in Byumba.

The European Union (EU) held a seminar on food security in Rwanda. The main topics of discussion were based on how to improve agricultural production and household access to food. The role of food aid was also discussed along with monetization.

***Burundi***

Fighting between the Burundian rebels and the military continues in the hills surrounding Bujumbura. An estimated 4,000 - 8,000 people fled their homes in Kamenge Parish since military operations began in the area, searching for the rebels involved in recent attacks near the capital.

The Route Nationale 1 was opened for traffic but due to continuing insecurity along the road, the UN has declared the route off limits to UN staff, until further notice.

The non-governmental organisation ACF, Action Contre la Faim, has reported an alarming situation at the Rwegura therapeutic nutrition centre in Kayanza province. The centre has a capacity for 50 persons but ACF is currently assisting 450 patients who have gathered there with over 500 family members. ACF is building a therapeutic feeding centre nearer to town, which should be completed within the next two weeks. WFP is participating in the planing for the next country-wide distribution of seeds, co-ordinated by FAO. The seeds will be distributed for the 1998 B season for which planting should start between mid-February and mid-March. WFP has been requested to provide seed protection food packages in food-deficit areas. Due to current transport constraints affecting the food pipeline, priority areas will be identified for initial distributions.

A Workshop on the Food Economy Analysis (FEA) is underway in Gitega province to improve the ability of staff to carry out FEA assessments and analyse their findings. The training is being carried out by Save Children Fund -UK, (SCF) the organisation which developed the methodology. The training will focus not on individual sites but rather on the province as a whole to emphasise the current situation and how it differs from the situation prior to the embargo and crises in Burundi.

### ***Tanzania***

The heavy and prolonged rains have also affected food production activities in Tanzania. Crops have been destroyed in the fields and large areas of cultivated land have been washed away. A FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission is presently reviewing the damage to the crops but aerial assessments are needed in parts of the country. Government officials, non-governmental organisations and the USAID Famine Early Warning System are participating in the mission as observers.

Between 12 and 18 January, a two-week full food ration was distributed in the Lugufu camp and in all refugee camps in Kibondo district. In Kasulu, due to low availability, the refugees were provided with only a one-week ration of pulses but all other commodities covered a two-week period. In Ngara, a one-week ration of cereals and a two-week ration of other commodities were distributed. The refugee caseload in Tanzania stands presently at 346,373 persons.

***Drought Operation Update:*** To date, WFP has despatched over 19,000 metric tons of food for distribution to persons affected by the drought in Tanzania. Food movements from the district warehouses to targeted villages remain a challenge due to flooded secondary roads, and food distributions under this programme are at less than fifty percent of the plan.

### ***Uganda***

A two day meeting has been organised by UNHCR to discuss the current instability in northern Rwanda and lay strategies for any resultant influx of refugees into western Uganda. The meeting will take place in Mbarara in western Uganda on the 20 and 21 January and will be attended by representatives of WFP and Ministry of Local Government.

Although the planning figure for the caseload of displaced persons in Gulu district has been set at 250,000, local authorities put the number now at over 324,000 persons, representing almost 65,000 households. WFP, in collaboration with local authorities, will carry out a needs and vulnerability assessment of the camps for the internally displaced, to prioritise food distributions and relief interventions.

The resettlement of displaced Ugandans from camps in Bundibugyo and Nyahuka in western Uganda, has faced a set-back due to an upsurge in fighting in the area. This follows a period of over a month of relative calm. Seeds and tools are needed for the resettlement programme, and additional plastic sheeting is also needed to help move people out of public buildings. Food distributions in Bundibugyo have stopped, pending an agreement with a new implementing partner. In Nyahuka only resettlement packages are being distributed.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has been approached to become the new implementing partner for Bundibugyo area and has visited the area concerned. In another development Lutheran World Federation has taken over the management of food distributions in Mongulla and Maaji settlements in Pakelle camp formerly handled by Action Contre la Faim (ACF).

## **LOGISTICS**

### **Expected Shipments**

Expected shipments for week ending 18 January were the same, as that of last weeks: 112,780 metric tons of various WFP food commodities including EU donations were expected for the GLR. The quantities per commodity were as follows: Cereals - 105,000 MT, Pulses 7,125 MT, Salt - 635 MT and Oil 20 MT.

### **Port Stocks:**

As of 18 January Mombasa, Kenya and Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania port stocks stood at a total of 40,033 metric tons. The following were the quantities per destination: Burundi - 15,386 MT, Rwanda - 11,176 MT, Tanzania - 7,244 MT, Uganda - 1,092 MT and DR Congo - 5,134 MT. There was an increase in stocks as compared to 33,555 metric tons of 11 January. (i) <sup>19%</sup> Stocks are building up at the ports due to transport bottlenecks.

(NB. The above figs. exclude stocks of sugar and dairy products.)

#### **Transit stocks:**

WFP food stocks in transit throughout the Great Lakes Region stood at 6,132 metric tons, as of 18 January: 1,297 MT was earmarked for Burundi, 1,615 MT for Rwanda, 1,904 MT for Tanzania, 184 MT for Uganda and 989 MT for DR Congo. There was a slight decrease in stocks as compared to 7,123 metric tons of 11 January. (i) <sup>14%</sup>

(NB. The above figs. exclude stocks of sugar and dairy products.)

#### **In-country Stocks:**

As of the week ending 18 January, in-country stocks of WFP food commodities stood at 11,752 metric tons. The breakdown per country was as follows: Burundi - 1,408 MT, Rwanda - 5,561 MT, Tanzania - 3,354 MT, Uganda - 398 MT, and DR Congo - 960 MT. There was a slight increase in stocks as compared to 10,011 metric tons of 11 January. (i) <sup>17%</sup>

(The above figs. exclude stocks of sugar and dairy products.)

#### **Regional Buffer Stock:**

The regional buffer stock of food stood at a total of 214 metric tons, as of 18 January. It comprised 71 metric tons of blended food as in-country stocks, which was being held in Kampala, Uganda and 143 metric tons of maize meal which was in-transit, in the northern corridor.

#### **Despatches from the ports:**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Week 3 (MT)</b>	<b>Cummulative</b>
Mombasa	562	3,133
Dar es Salaam	902	2,512

#### **Despatches from transit points:**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Week 3 (MT)</b>	<b>Cummulative</b>
Kampala		3,6749,602
Isaka	172	464
Kigoma	369	865
Lumasi	523	1,014
Nalukolongo	75	465
Dodoma	206	525
Mwanza	555	875

#### **Road Transport**

##### **Fleet Operations:**

During the reporting week a total of 3,994 metric tons of WFP food commodities were transported throughout the region by truck.

From Kampala and Nalukolongo, Uganda, the UN fleet transported 1,008 metric tons and 42 metric tons

respectively; private transporters despatched 2,666 metric tons from Kampala and 38 metric tons from Nalukolongo.

From Isaka, Tanzania private transporters despatched a total of 240 metric tons.

### **Rail Transport**

A total of 436 metric tons were railed from Tanzania during the reporting week. Isaka railed 120 metric tons, Kigoma railed 72 metric tons and Mwanza railed 244 metric tons. There were no despatches by rail from the northern corridor during the reporting week.

### **River/Barge Operations**

Over 800 metric tons of food have to date been shipped by barge through Lake Kivu, from Cyangugu to Kibuye, in western Rwanda. This supply route, although more expensive than road transportation, is the best alternative in view of insecurity and poor road conditions in the area.

Barge Tembwe was loaded with 60 metric tons of pulses for DR Congo and sailed on 13 January from Kigoma, Tanzania.

### **Air Operations**

The WFP regional aircraft carried 33 passengers to and from Burundi during the reporting period.

The Caravan, as reported last week, is still in Entebbe, Uganda awaiting clearance for Burundi from the Regional Sanctions Committee. It was to temporarily replace the Twin Otter craft while it undergoes repairs for the damage it suffered during the rebel attack at Bujumbura airport on New Year's Eve.

## **ANNEXES**

1. Great Lakes Region Pipeline by Corridor
2. Stock Projections for the Great Lakes Region

GREAT LAKES REGION (EMOP 5624) PIPELINE BY CORRIDOR AS OF 18/01/98 (quantities in MT)

#### 1. Northern Corridor (excluding Burundi's and Tanzania's in-country stocks)

	Rwanda	Uganda	DR.Congo	Tanzania	Burundi	Reg. BST	Total
Cereals	5284.81	1480.945	1362.301	0	3938.508	143.4	12209.964
Pulses	4063.361	41.36	166.494	-	165.8	-	4437.015
Oil	594.474	108.462	313.579	-	101.309	-	1117.824
BF	1187.98	42.963	629.042	310.17	170.609	70.74	2411.504
Salt**	412.85	-	5.454	-	-	-	418.304
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11543.475</b>	<b>1673.73</b>	<b>2476.87</b>	<b>310.17</b>	<b>4376.226</b>	<b>214.14</b>	<b>20594.611</b>

\*\*Rwanda reported both sugar and salt as MSC.

#### 2. Southern Corridor (excluding DR.Congo's, Rwanda's & Uganda's in-country stocks)

	Rwanda	Uganda	DR.Congo	Tanzania	Burundi	Reg. BST	Total
Cereals	4511.35	-	3252.95	5628.107	10246.2	-	23638.607
Pulses	2086.75	-	941.75	4230.053	2664.65	-	9923.203
Oil	209.971	-	228.748	1125.527	500.862	-	2065.108
CSB	0	-	183.825	1113.535	259.79	-	1557.15
Salt	0	-	0	94.315	44.17	-	138.485
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6808.071</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4607.273</b>	<b>12191.537</b>	<b>13715.672</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37322.553</b>

### 3. Total food stocks in the Great Lakes Region )

	Rwanda	Uganda	DR. Congo	Tanzania	Burundi	Reg. BST	Total
PORT STOCKS	11176.38	1091.878	5134.403	7244.02	15386.209	0	40032.89
IN TRANSIT	1614.636	183.597	989.359	1903.687	1297.389	143.4	6132.068
IN-COUNTRY	5560.53	398.255	960.381	3354	1408.3	70.74	11752.206
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>18351.546</b>	<b>1673.73</b>	<b>7084.143</b>	<b>12501.707</b>	<b>18091.898</b>	<b>214.14</b>	<b>57917.164</b>

NB. The above figures exclude stocks of sugar and dairy products. Stock figures used for DR Congo are Bukavu's, Goma's & Uvira's figures.

### 4. Expected shipments (in MT) with SI #s (including EU Donations)

	Burundi	DR. Congo	Rwanda	Tanzania	Uganda	Reg. BST	TOTAL
Cereals	24500	2750	35550	41000	1200	0	105000
Pulses	1500	400	5000	225	0	0	7125
Oil	0	20	0	0	0	0	20
CSB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salt	150	65	125	175	120	0	635
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>26150</b>	<b>3235</b>	<b>40675</b>	<b>41400</b>	<b>1320</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>112780</b>

All tables produced by Charmaine Matovu, WFP-Kampala