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## DRC Emergency Food Program

### FY14 Quarter 1 Report (1 October – 31 December 2013)

**Award Number: AID-FFP-G-13-00046**



Submission Date: 31 January 2014

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The DRC Emergency Food Security Program (EFSP) aims to improve the food security of 3,150 vulnerable IDP, returnee, and host-community households (HH), which is approximately 18,900 individuals, in the Kalehe territory of South Kivu through a short-term program to increase HH food access and improve HH productive capacity. EFSP supports these vulnerable households through the provision of monthly food vouchers worth \$90, meeting 100% of immediate HH food needs. In addition the program provides agricultural inputs and training to support livelihood recovery and increased resilience in the longer term. The direct beneficiaries represent 7% of the population of the approximately 46,666 HH (~280,000 individuals) along the Kalehe Littoral Axis.

This report covers the period from **October 2013** through **December 2013**.

### **PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS IN FY14 Q1**

#### ***General***

Through the end of the reporting period World Vision finalized the start-up activities consisting of conducting the baseline survey, community sensitization, beneficiary identification and registration, market surveys, vendor assessment and contracting. World Vision purchased agricultural tools and seeds and socialized the program to the local authorities. The distribution of vouchers to beneficiaries as well as payment for vouchers redeemed was done in the reporting period.

Through the reporting period all staff recruitment was completed except for the Program Officer.

#### ***SO 1 – Protected and/or improved access to food for most vulnerable HH***

##### **IR 1: Beneficiaries purchase food in the local market through the voucher system**

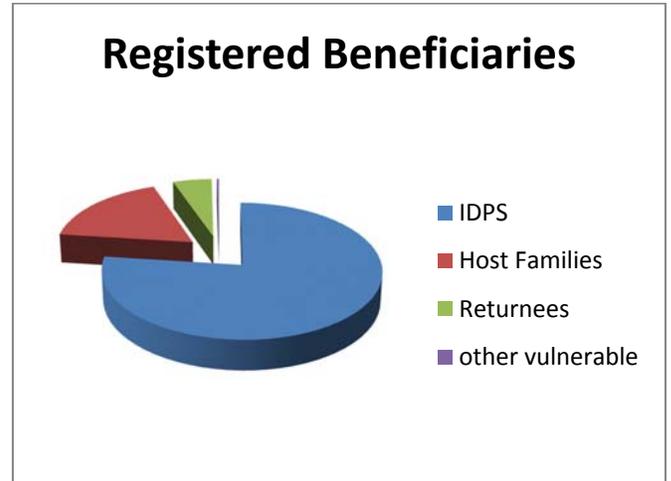
**Beneficiaries Selected and Registered** - The project registered 2,991 beneficiaries HH. The registered beneficiaries included households of internally displaced persons (IDPs), host families and returnees. This represents 95% of the targeted beneficiary household number. The project did not reach the targeted number of 3,150 HH because in the 10 villages the beneficiaries that met the criteria of being IDPs, Host Families and Returnees was lower than the proposed number of 3150 HH. The project team will be reviewing the survey questionnaires for other vulnerable HH. The number registered was also lower than targeted because some of the beneficiaries were already getting assistance from WFP-funded projects.

*Table 1: Beneficiary Registration per category*

	<b>Planned (HH)</b>	<b>Achieved (HH)</b>	<b>Variance</b>
<b>IDPS</b>		2,303	
<b>Host Families</b>		529	
<b>Returnees</b>		151	
<b>Other Vulnerable groups</b>		08	
<b>Total</b>	3,150	2,991	95%



Beneficiary picture taken during LMMMS registration



**Community Sensitized on Gender issues and equality** - The project developed a Sex and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) sensitization strategy during the quarter. The strategy includes: training project staff on SGBV-related issues and potential risk factors to enable them to provide support to affected persons and direct them to adequate information and counseling centers; educating women and men in the community, including village leaders and men’s groups, on violence against women and girls, including domestic violence; strategies for providing confidential information to local authorities and the community about the location and circumstances of reported cases of sexual violence.

**Voucher distribution** - The project distributed 8,658 Vouchers to 2,886 Household. Each Household received 3 vouchers worth 90 USD denominated as \$30 for each voucher.

Table 2: Household Voucher distribution

Household Head	Planned # Households	Achieved # Households	% Achievement
Male	1607	838	
Female	1543	2048	
<b>Total Number of Bens</b>	<b>3150</b>	<b>2886</b>	<b>91.62</b>

The total number of beneficiaries reached during the quarter was 17,316 that constituted children under two years, children between 3-5 years, children 6-12 years, children 13- 18 years and Adults 19 years and over.

Table 3: Beneficiary Breakdown by Age and Gender

6months – 2 years		3years- 5 years		6years – 12 years		13 years – 18years		19 years and above	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
790	735	911	1020	1190	1140	2711	2801	2918	3100

**IR 2: Vendors participate effectively in voucher program**

**Vendors Surveyed and selected** - The project surveyed 169 vendors with established business in the ten villages where the project is being implemented. The vendors constituted both men and women. There were 65 businesses owned by women and 101 businesses owned by men

*Table 4: Gender of Business owners surveyed*

	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Men	101	59.8
Female	65	38.4
Undisclosed	3	1.8
Total	169	100

116 vendors signed contracts with the project for the first round of distribution conducted in December and over 95% of the vendors were small businesses and did not have bank accounts. The project encouraged those vendors who did not have a bank account to open one and subsequently 89 new accounts were opened. World Vision proposed to include the current functional Farmer Business Associations as part of the project vendors to compliment the Title II-funded Multi-year Assistance Program JENGA II.

*Table 5: Vendors contracted Breakdown by Gender*

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Number</b>
Female	35
Male	58
Others (FBA etc)	23

**Vendors trained in voucher system** - Ten training sessions were conducted for the Vendors on the voucher redemption processes. A total of 116 vendors are now familiar with how to verify the vouchers for authenticity, how to record the commodities purchased by beneficiaries on the World Vision-provided receipt books, and how to prepare invoices for payment of commodities bought. The vendors were also provided with sign posts that they display on the shops for beneficiary recognition of partner shops.

**Vendors sensitized on gender and equality** - This activity was not planned for this quarter.

**Vendors sell food to the beneficiaries** - A total of 8,658 vouchers were exchanged for commodities at the vendor shops. The most frequently purchased commodities were maize flour, cassava flour, beans and vegetable oil. The beneficiaries mostly spent their vouchers on maize flour and vegetable oil. A total amount of US \$ 259,360 was paid to the vendors for the vouchers exchanged for food at their shops.



**Figure 1 A beneficiary in queue holding his voucher**

***SO 2 – Early recovery opportunities are available for most vulnerable HH***  
**IR 2.1 Beneficiaries equipped to grow crops**

**Train Beneficiaries on cultivation techniques** - This activity is planned for the second quarter of FY14. The training module has been developed in line with the JENGA II farmer field school training modules. The modules cover: soil preparation, seeds preparation, planting techniques, disease control and management, soil restoration and conservation, post-harvest processing and storage

**Distribution of tools and seeds** - World Vision also proposed to distribute seeds and tools to registered beneficiaries for the October planting season. This was not achieved given delays in the startup. World Vision proposes instead to undertake this activity during the January/February 2014 planting season. This change is not believed to affect the intended outcomes of the project. World Vision has purchased hand hoes for distribution to the beneficiaries. A germination test was conducted for the seeds and the results of the germination were not ready by the end of the reporting quarter. Two independent germination tests are under way—one by SENASEM and the other by World Vision project staff for conclusive results.

## Indicator Progress Tracking Table

	Indicator	Baseline	3-month Target	3-month Achieved	3-month Achieved vs Target	Variance Explanation
Goal	Reduced prevalence of households with moderate or severe hunger	70%				
	Mean number of food groups consumed by HH (dietary diversity score)	3.38				
SO 1	% of vulnerable HH eating three meals per day	1%				
	Average proportion of ration consumed, sold and shared by target household members	0				
IR 1.1*	% of vouchers redeemed by HHs	0				
Activity 1.1.1	# of HHs registered as beneficiaries	0	3150	2991	95%	These were the households that met the targeting criteria of being IDP, Returnee and Host Family
Activity 1.1.2	# of people participating	0	0	0	0%	
Activity 1.1.3	# of HH receiving vouchers	0	2991	2886	96%	5 cases of no show
Activity 1.1.4	% of distributed vouchers redeemed	0	100%	99.93%	99.93%	6 Vouchers were not submitted for payment
IR 1.2*	# vendors participating in voucher program	0				
Activity 1.2.1	# of vendors	0	156	156	100%	
Activity 1.2.2	# of agreements	0	156	116	74%	40 contracts were not finalized by the reporting period.
Activity 1.2.3	# vendors trained	0	116	116	100%	
Activity 1.2.4	# of vendors sensitized	0	0	0	0%	This activity is planned for the second quarter
Activity 1.2.5	% of vouchers redeemed by HHs	0	100%	99.93%	99.93%	6 Vouchers were not submitted for payment
SO 2	Average yield per HH	N/A				
IR 2.1*	# of HH that received seeds and tools	0				
0	# of HH planting seeds	0				
Activity 2.1.1	# of HHs registered as beneficiaries	0	3150	2991	95%	These were the households that met the targeting criteria of being IDP, Returnee and Host Family
Activity 2.1.2	# of beneficiaries trained	0	3150	0	0	This activity was moved to the January/Feb planting season
	% of beneficiaries participating	0	3150	0	0	This activity was moved to the January/Feb planting season
Activity 2.1.3	# of households receiving seed	0	3150	0	0	This activity was moved to the January/Feb planting season
Activity 2.1.4	# of households receiving a hoe	0	3150	0	0	This activity was moved to the January/Feb planting season
Activity 2.1.5	Extension support services provided	0	3150	0	0	This activity was moved to the January/Feb planting season

### ***Variance Explanation***

Variances incurred under SO1 and SO2 activities are as a result of delays in staff recruitment and procurement of the seeds. The project was approved in September and the time duration for procurement of seeds for the October cultivation period was not sufficient for proper cultivation and planting on beneficiary land.

### ***Security issues and implications on project implementation***

While other security incidents were recorded during this time period, they were predominately located in North Kivu province and did not affect the implementation of the program in South Kivu.

### ***Staffing issues***

Apart from the hire of the project officer, no prominent staffing issues occurred during the period under review.

### ***Project visits and outcomes of visits:***

The project hosted Ms Rebecca Semmes, Food Peace Officer and Mr. Dieudonne Mbuka Food for Peace Development Assistance Specialist from the USAID Mission in Kinshasa on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2013. The mission encouraged the inclusion of DFAP Farmer Business Associations among the contracted Vendors. The project complied with the recommendation.

### **Significant Issues/Challenges**

Overall there were no significant issues or challenges during this period.

### **Actions taken**

Recruitment alternatives are being explored to ensure that the work functions of the Program Officer are covered through the implementing office resources.