



Project Title: Food Aid for 500 Children in Distress in Eastern DRC

Introduction

The eastern region of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is facing a severe humanitarian crisis, exacerbated by ongoing armed conflicts and political instability. According to the World Food Programme (WFP), approximately a quarter of the DRC's population, or 23.4 million people, are experiencing crisis levels of hunger or worse. This situation is particularly alarming for children, who make up a significant portion of the vulnerable populations. In 2024, the WFP assisted 5.4 million people by providing food, cash, malnutrition support, and protective interventions. Despite these efforts, the situation remains critical, and many children continue to suffer from malnutrition and food insecurity.

Context

The eastern DRC is marked by persistent conflicts, particularly in the provinces of Ituri, North Kivu, and South Kivu. These conflicts have led to massive population displacements, leaving many children without access to adequate food. According to UNICEF, nearly 5 million displaced people, including 2.8 million children, are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance. The situation is especially dire in areas controlled by armed groups, where children are exposed to multiple risks, including abduction, forced recruitment, and sexual violence. Moreover, severe food poverty affects a staggering number of children, with more than one in four children under the age of five living in "severe food poverty." This food crisis has long-term consequences for children's development, affecting their growth, health, and future prospects.

Objectives

1. **Primary Objective:** Improve food security and reduce malnutrition among 500 children in distress in Eastern DRC.
2. **Specific Objectives:**
 1. Provide immediate food aid in the form of complete meals and nutritional supplements.
 2. Establish community gardens to ensure a sustainable source of fresh fruits and vegetables.
 3. Implement nutrition education programs to raise awareness among families about the importance of a balanced diet.
 4. Support local food systems to strengthen resilience and long-term food security.

Proposed Outcomes

1. **Immediate Outcome:** 500 children will receive complete meals and nutritional supplements daily for three months.
2. **Medium-term Outcome:** The creation of community gardens will provide a healthy and sustainable food source for an additional 100 children each month.
3. **Long-term Outcome:** Nutrition education programs will reduce malnutrition rates by 20% among children in targeted communities.
4. **Sustainable Impact:** Support for local food systems will improve food security and community resilience against future crises.

Estimated Budget Overview (30,000 USD)

1. Immediate Food Aid:	
Complete meals for 500 children for 3 months:	15,000 USD
Nutritional supplements:	3,000 USD
2. Community Gardens:	
Materials and training for garden establishment:	4,000 USD
3. Nutrition Education Programs:	
Workshops and educational materials:	3,000 USD
4. Support for Local Food Systems:	
Investment in agricultural development projects:	3,000 USD
5. Administrative and Logistics Costs:	
Coordination and project monitoring:	2,000 USD