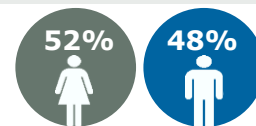


In Numbers

1,596 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 12.4 m net funding requirements in the next six months (June – November 2018)

477, 400 people assisted in May 2018



WFP Burundi Country Brief

May 2018

Operational Context

Burundi is one of the poorest countries in the world, it is facing a socio-economic crisis and has very high levels of food insecurity (26 percent population are in phases 3 and 4 in December 2017). The high population density as well as the new influx of returnees and refugees from DRC contributes to competition and disputes over scarce natural resources. Due to the demand for land, the poorest and most vulnerable populations, mainly women, generally depend on marginal land. Burundi has the lowest land productivity of East Africa, while over 90 percent of the population depend on agriculture for their livelihoods. Burundi's preparedness for emergencies and crises is extremely low and lacks the capacity to cope with severe shocks such as droughts, epidemics and floods, which often claim lives and undermine livelihoods. Domestic food production is insufficient to meet the needs of the population, which renders the country vulnerable to economic shocks and fluctuating agricultural prices. Burundi is the country in the world most affected by chronic malnutrition. According to the Demographic and Health Survey 2016/2017, the national average stunting rate is at 56 percent and prevalence rates are well above the emergency threshold (40 percent) in 17 out of 18 provinces. The government has promulgated a restrictive law for NGOs which could prevent them from operating and while it is currently not being implemented, they are in a fragile position.



Population: **11.6 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **184 out of 188**

65 percent Burundians live under the poverty line

Chronic malnutrition: **56 percent of children between 6-59 months**

Operational Updates

- Voluntary repatriation:** In May, WFP assisted 6,200 Burundian refugees returning to their zones of origin from Tanzania. As of 31 May 2018, 30,090 Burundians had returned home, through the support of the humanitarian community since the launch of the operation in September 2017.
- According to an action plan adopted in March 2018 by the Tripartite (Burundi/Tanzania/UNHCR) Commission for the voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees in Tanzania, a total of 72,000 Burundians are expected to return to Burundi by December 2018, 12,000 more than what was agreed in July 2017.
- Flooding and displacement:** According to International Organization for migration (IOM) Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), nearly 80,000 people were affected by torrential rains and flooding during the January - April rainy season. The heavy rains that poured in March and April caused considerable damage all over the country, including the destruction of 1,600 houses and 1,800 hectares of cropland, as well as human displacement. According to IOM, more than 59,000 people are estimated to be in need of immediate food assistance (among them are 16,500 people in Bujumbura and its vicinity) following the floods and subsequent displacements. In May, WFP provided 30-day food ration to 4,700 affected people.

Destruction of croplands and marshlands have led to crop production losses. The affected farmers will require agricultural inputs (seeds) for 2018C (harvest in September) and for 2019A (harvest in December) crop seasons. Despite the losses, the total Season B harvest in June is still likely to be average as beans and marshland crops account for about 20 and 10 percent respectively of total acreage. Nonetheless, many poor households in severely flooded areas of Bujumbura Rural, Bubanza, and Kirundo provinces are likely to be in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to displacement and severe crop losses.

Contact info: Michel Rwamo (michel.rwamo@wfp.org)
Country Director: Virginia Villar Arribas
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Burundi

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Michel Rwamo
Caption: SAFE project supported by WFP in Gitega province

WFP Country Strategy

Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
-------------------------------	-------------------------------------	---

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)

163.8 m	11.9 m	15.5m
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food		
Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations including refugees in camps, internally displaced people (IDPs), and returnees in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food needs all year round. <i>Focus area:</i> Crisis Response		
51.1 m	6.7 m	6.5 m
Strategic Outcome 2: Food-insecure households in targeted areas have safe access to adequate and nutritious food all year round <i>Focus area:</i> Resilience Building		
81.3 m	2.3 m	2.8 m
Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition		
Strategic Outcome 3: Children 6-59 months, adolescent girls, and pregnant and lactating women (PLW), in the targeted provinces and communes, have improved nutritional status throughout the year. <i>Focus area:</i> Resilience Building		
23.2 m	2.9 m	1.2 m
Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes		
Strategic Outcome 4: Food-insecure smallholders and communities in targeted areas have enhanced livelihoods to better support food security and nutrition needs by 2020. <i>Focus area:</i> Root causes		
3.9 m	0 m	0.91 m
Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnership		
Strategic Outcome 5: Government, humanitarian and development partners have access to effective supply chain management and logistics all year round. <i>Focus area:</i> Resilience Building		
4.3 m	0 m	0.94 m

WFP Burundi Activities

SO 1	1: Provide unconditional food and/or cash-based assistance to refugees in camps
	2: Provide unconditional and/or conditional food and/or cash-based assistance to severely food insecure households among local populations, IDPs and returnees.
	3: Provide capacity strengthening to Government and local humanitarian partners on early warning systems, food security assessments and analysis, and food security and market monitoring.
SO 2	4: Provide conditional food and/or cash-based assistance to food-insecure households through productive assets creation, livelihoods diversification and nutrition counselling
	5: Provide Home Grown School meals to school-aged children and support national institutions on the formulation of a national home-grown school meals policy and social protection programmes
SO 3	6: Provide specialized nutritious foods in combination with SBCC activities to children, adolescent girls and PLW, and support the implementation of a national food fortification policy and strategy
SO 4	7: Provide technical support on post-harvest solutions, equipment and capacity building (SBCC will be used to empower smallholder farmers to improve post-harvest management and enhanced food diversification) to smallholder farmers and farmers' organizations/cooperatives
SO 5	8: Provide external services to Government, humanitarian and development partners

- **Food security situation:** According to the March 2018 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, the food security situation improved in all livelihood zones due to average harvests registered during the 2018A agricultural season. Overall, 1.46 m people were food insecure between March to mid-April (from 2.6 m by end of 2017); this is projected to increase to 1.78 m between mid-April – May 2018.
- **WFP assistance:** In May, WFP continued to provide assistance to vulnerable populations including: Congolese refugees in camps, school going children in food-insecure areas, moderately malnourished pregnant and nursing women and children aged 6-59 months, through treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), as well as pregnant and nursing women and children aged 6-23 months in the stunting prevention programme.

Challenges

- The Burundi 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan for Burundi is the worst funded in the world (below 3 percent of the total requirement). This affects emergency response in a context of increased emergency needs. Without additional financial support, partners in the food security and livelihoods sector will be unable to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable households, including: people affected by the floods in March and April 2018. More than half of the affected people will be unable to produce sufficient food in the next crop season and will need support to prevent them from sliding deeper into food insecurity.
- In addition, without additional funding, the actors in the food security and livelihoods sector will not have the means to assist the 72,000 Burundian refugees expected to return from Tanzania by December 2018. With the current level of funding, only returnees in areas currently targeted by ongoing FAO projects will be supported, which represent just a minority of the returnee population.
- Due to limited funding, WFP and other actors would also have difficulties responding in the case of a possible increase in the flow of refugees from DRC, as it happened in January, and as is expected as the conflict in DRC deteriorates.

Donors

USA, Multilateral, European Commission, UN CERF, The Netherlands, Burundi, Switzerland, Germany, Canada, France, and Monaco

