



WFP Rwanda Country Brief

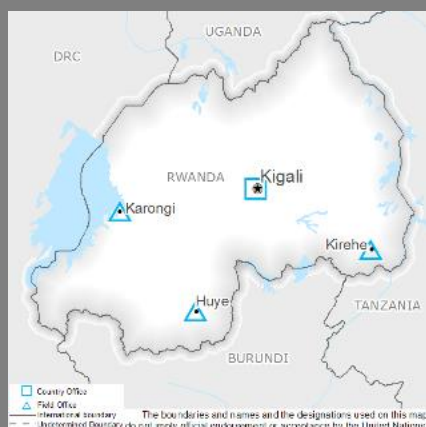
June 2018

Country Background & Strategy

Rwanda has one of the highest population densities in Africa (471 people per square kilometre). It has a limited natural resource base; agriculture comes second of the main sectors contributing to the national gross domestic product (GDP) with over 31 percent after service sector (45 percent). Agriculture generates over 50 percent of total export revenue. Life expectancy in Rwanda is 66 years. Households headed by women account for 26 percent of the population.

Since the 1994 genocide and the ensuing collapse of the economy and social services, the Government embarked on rebuilding the country and improving the quality of life through long and short term development programmes such as Vision 2020 and the second Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS2).

WFP's strategy is to contribute towards making Rwanda a food secure country, where people are well nourished, able to develop to their full potential, and live in resilient communities. WFP has been present in Rwanda since 1975.



Population: 11.8 million

2016 Human Development Index: **162**
out of 188

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **37% of children**
between 6-59 months

Main
Photo

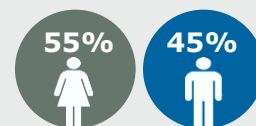
Credit: WFP/Noel Dukuzumuremyi
Caption: WFP staff monitoring cash based transfers programme at a refugee bank agent and merchant in Mugombwa camp, Southern Rwanda

In Numbers

1,201 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 630,200 cash-based transfers made

236,000 people in June 2018



Operational Updates

- In June 2018, WFP provided food assistance to 236,000 people including camp based refugees and Rwandan vulnerable populations through; general distributions, cash transfers, nutrition interventions, asset creation activities, school meals programmes, as well as assistance to small-holder farmers in Rwanda.
- Through its assistance to refugees and returnees in Rwanda, WFP distributed 1,058 mt of assorted food commodities and transferred US\$ 549,751 of cash to 72,351 refugees and returnees enabling them to purchase a variety of food from the local market. With limited access to livelihood activities, refugees in Rwanda continue to depend on WFP monthly assistance to meet their food needs.
- WFP transferred US\$ 80,441 to 5,758 Rwandans participating in asset creation activities in the most food insecure areas. Under this programme, WFP is assisting beneficiaries in the most food insecure districts of Nyamagabe, Rutsiro and Karongi to improve their livelihoods through creation of assets such as; land terracing, marshland reclamation, livestock keeping and increasing their access to markets.
- WFP provided 143 mt of assorted food commodities to 81,739 Rwandan school children in the most food insecure districts. Over 75 percent of distributed commodities are purchased locally. WFP is also linking schools to farmers' cooperatives.
- The Government of Rwanda in partnership with WFP has launched a Country Strategic Review of Food and Nutrition Security. The strategic review will further inform the implementation of the sustainable development goals (SDGs), as well as accelerate progress in achieving national and global food and nutrition security goals.
- WFP continues to support smallholder farmers in Rwanda by providing training in post-harvest loss reduction and linking them with formal buyers and agriculture service providers including banks and financial institutions. Over 47,000 smallholder farmers around Rwanda are assisted through this programme monthly. During the 2017/2018 agricultural calendar, WFP facilitated the sale of approximately US\$ 2 million of food commodities from supported smallholder farmers to private sector buyers.

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	Total Requirements (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Food and Nutrition Assistance to Refugees and Returnees (PRRO)			
200744 (2016 – 2018)	119.4 m	70 m (56%)	
Enhancing National Capacity to Develop, Design and Manage Nationally Owned Hunger Solutions in Rwanda (CP)			
200539 (2013-2018)	51.8 m	52.5 m (101%)	

*Jul – Dec 2018

GENDER MARKER 1

Monitoring

- WFP monitors monthly food prices, inside and around the refugee camps, where most of the refugees purchase food commodities. This exercise examines the food prices, status quo of supply and demand, commodity sources, and traders' perception on the anticipated supply changes and price dynamics in the coming months. The June price monitoring indicates the stability of the cost of food basket which remains affordable and within the current value of cash transfers to refugees.
- WFP conducted a survey in May 2018 to assess the food security situation among camp-based refugees in Rwanda. According to the findings, families consume foods of low nutritional value and are under more stress to cope with food shortages compared to the same period last year. Due to reduced funding, WFP was compelled to reduce rations between November 2017 and June 2018. Reportedly, this has contributed to their aggravated situation.
- In partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources and the National Institution of Statistics of Rwanda, WFP is conducting a Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis (CFSVA), a country-wide survey that provides an in-depth picture of the food security situation and the vulnerability levels of households in Rwanda. CFSVA is conducted every 3 years.

Challenges

- WFP needs more funding support to ensure continuous food assistance to refugees in Rwanda, as the available resources are running low. WFP stocks will be exhausted by November 2018 if there are no new contributions received soon. Given the protracted crisis in Burundi and the deteriorating security situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), which is likely to trigger further refugee influxes into Rwanda, it is essential to maintain adequate

funding levels to be able to respond to the increasing needs.

Food and Nutrition Assistance to Refugees and Returnees (PRRO 200744)

The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) targets 186,300 people, including Burundian and Congolese refugees, former Rwandan refugees returning home and children from the host communities attending the same schools as refugee children in and around refugee camps.

Refugees living in the camps in Rwanda entirely depend on assistance to meet their food needs, as they have limited access to livelihood activities.

WFP's assistance is provided through in-kind food and cash distributions, as well as safety net interventions such as blanket supplementary feeding, targeted supplementary feeding and school meals. Cash transfers in lieu of in-kind food distributions are implemented in five out of the six camps, enabling refugees to purchase food of their choice at the local markets, thus contributing to the country's economy.

This refugee operation and its components were formulated based on consultative meetings with partners including the Government of Rwanda, UN agencies and the people that WFP assists.

Enhancing National Capacity to Develop, Design and Manage Nationally Owned Hunger Solutions in Rwanda (CP 200539)

WFP's portfolio of assistance under the Common Country Programme (CCP) focuses on national capacity development and on modelling innovations in food assistance. WFP's emphasis is on the provision of technical support to the government and enabling it to develop, design, and manage nationally owned, innovative hunger solutions, including school feeding.

WFP enhances resilience and livelihood opportunities for the most vulnerable and food insecure people, and strengthens the capacity of the government to reduce hunger.

WFP builds resilience through community based asset creation activities, and is based on WFP's long term experience in asset creation and existing government initiatives such as Vision 2020 Umurenge Programme (VUP), based on a participatory approach.

Donors:

CP 200539: USDA, Republic of Korea, Multilateral, MasterCard and UN Common Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF).

PRRO 200744: USAID, ECHO, UK, Japan and UN CERF