



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

# WFP Zimbabwe Country Brief July 2018



## Operational Context

Over the last decade, Zimbabwe has experienced a number of unprecedented economic, environmental and political shocks and stressors, contributing to a 2017 Global Hunger Index classified as 'serious.' 62.6 percent of Zimbabweans live below the poverty line. Consecutive poor agricultural seasons have further undermined the agricultural sector, with dire consequences for a population in which 80 percent of people derive a significant proportion of their livelihoods from rain-fed agriculture and livestock production. Micronutrient deficiencies are prevalent, including a 66 percent prevalence of anaemia among children of ages 6 to 8 months, largely driven by poor dietary diversity.

Working through a Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021) jointly with the Government of Zimbabwe and partners, while preserving its humanitarian response capacity, WFP is promoting a shift towards resilience-building efforts, which includes emphasis on reducing stunting, strengthening social protection systems, and empowering smallholder farmers. WFP has been present in Zimbabwe since 2002.



Population: **15.6 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **154 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **26.2% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**0 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$0** cash-based transfers made

**US\$54.7 m** six months (September 2018 to Feb 2019) net funding requirements, representing 68% of total

**10,595 people** participated in asset creation and rehabilitation supported by WFP in July 2018

52%



48%



## Operational Updates

- As a security precaution, WFP suspended all programme activities in the week leading up to and right after the national election on 30 July.
- Guided by the findings of the 2018 Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) Rural Livelihoods Assessment, which estimates that more than 2.4 million people will be food insecure during the peak of the 2018/19 lean season, WFP has produced a 2018/19 Lean Season Assistance (LSA) response plan that prioritises the 30 most food insecure districts, reaching 1,135,000 people at peak. This response plan, valued at \$71.2 million, has to date received contributions amounting to \$21.9 million from USAID. Additional resources are urgently required to ensure timely planning and implementation.
- With support from Royal DSM (a global science-based company active in health and nutrition), WFP in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Child Care, carried out food fortification demand creation inception meetings with the media, local organisations, and provincial health, nutrition and administrative practitioners in Midlands and Matabeleland provinces. The meetings were meant to raise awareness and discuss the roles of stakeholders in furthering the fortification agenda in the country.
- WFP in partnership with GRM, FAO and the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture & Rural Resettlement conducted trainings of trainers on Post-Harvest Handling for 13 farmers and their AGRITEX extension workers in Kwekwe. The participants benefitted from best practices and methods of minimising post-harvest losses.
- The July activities under Food Assistance for Assets and other programmes were affected by the elections. Both WFP and its partners minimized participants' gatherings at FFA sites during the period two weeks preceding. Participants will complete their work milestones in August and will receive their rations in the same month.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
272.3 m	78.3 m	54.7 m

## Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome #1:** Food-insecure people, including refugees, in the most affected districts are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements during severe seasonal shocks or other disruptions

## Activities:

- **Activity 1.1:** Provide cash and/or food transfers to the most vulnerable households affected by seasonal food shortages.
- **Activity 1.2:** Provide unconditional cash and/or food transfers and livelihood support for refugees in camps

## Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome #2:** Children in prioritized districts have stunting rate trends in line with the achievement of national and global targets by 2025

## Activities:

- **Activity 2.1:** Build evidence for nutrition advocacy, policy direction and programme decision-making
- **Activity 2.2:** Support the Government's nutrition programming at the national and sub-national levels

## Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition

**Strategic Outcome #3:** Smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe have increased access to well-functioning agricultural markets by 2030

## Activities:

- **Activity 3.1:** Support the development of an efficient local food marketing and procurement mechanism
- **Activity 3.2:** Enable farmer organizations to aggregate and market surplus production

## Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome #4:** Food-insecure rural households and smallholder farmers achieve food security and resilience to repeated exposure to multiple shocks and stressors

## Activities:

- **Activity 4.1:** Support the creation and rehabilitation of assets for sustainable food and nutrition security
- **Activity 4.2:** Enhance the capacity of prioritized districts to plan and manage resilience building

## Strategic Result 5: Developing Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome #5:** The social protection system ensures that chronically vulnerable populations throughout the country are able to meet their basic needs all year round

## Activities:

- **Activity 5.1:** Provide analytical expertise to support the evidence-based planning and management of context-specific solutions and responses
- **Activity 5.2:** Support innovative risk management, insurance and financing mechanisms
- **Activity 5.3:** Support the consolidation, administration and implementation of social transfer programmes under the national social protection system
- **Activity 5.4:** Support re-establishment of the national school meals programme

## Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology to strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs – SDG Target 17.16

**Strategic Outcome #6:** Partners in Zimbabwe are reliably supported by world-class, cost-effective and efficient supply chain services

## Activities:

- **Activity 6.1:** Provide logistics and procurement expertise and services.

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- Work under the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative progressed well, with the presentation of the Minimum Viable Product (MVP) for index insurance to the community in Masvingo ward 17; feedback will support the finalisation of the product, scheduled for the end of August.
- WFP attended the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education Presidential Indaba under the theme "Promoting education access through investment in school infrastructure," which aimed to invite the private sector and development partners to invest in infrastructure for the development of education in Zimbabwe, which tallies well with WFP's thrust to support the government in setting up a Home Grown School Feeding programme.

## Monitoring

WFP and partners suspended all monitoring activities from mid-July as a cautionary measure to minimize the risk of programmes being associated with political activities. Focal staff used the time to review CO standard operating procedures for accountability to affected populations and related monitoring guidelines.

## Challenges

WFP and partner activities were throttled down in July to make way for the harmonised elections conducted on 30 July 2018. Both WFP and its partners took a cautious approach by limiting presence, also minimizing participants' gatherings at FFA sites. In most districts activities stopped by the 20th of July implying that milestones were not fully achieved but will be undertaken in August.

## Donors

Australia, Canada, China, ECHO, France, Japan, Japan Association for WFP, the Netherlands, Russia, Switzerland, UN Central Emergency Fund, United States of America, Zimbabwe.