



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Zimbabwe Country Brief August 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 classification 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**

2017 Human Development Index: **156 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

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

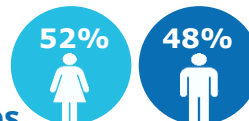
In Numbers

773.6 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$383,228 cash-based transfers made

US\$62.2 m six months (October 2018 to March 2019) net funding requirements, representing 72% of total

65,100 people were assisted in August 2018



Operational Updates

- Following the suspension of all programme activities in July during the period running up to and just after elections, WFP resumed all field activities in August.
- Partners and communities in all districts resumed Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) works in August, with communities agreeing to work additional hours to finalise July and August milestones. In August, WFP assisted 51,920 people with rations for both July and August. Activities in all the 11 districts are projected to be completed in time.
- Preparations for the start of the Lean Season Assistance programme (LSA) are on course, with WFP currently undertaking a partner selection and contractual process. Registrations (initially in 12 districts) are expected to start in September whilst the first distributions will be undertaken in October. Subject to availability of additional funding, WFP plans to assist 1,135,000 people in 30 districts which were prioritised as food insecure using the Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) findings and Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) analysis.
- Through the support to refugees, WFP in August assisted 12,080 refugees residing at Tongogara Refugee Camp through both in-kind and cash assistance, consisting of a total of 6.65mt of Cereals, Pulses, Oil and Fortified Nutritious products (Super Cereal) and US\$151,112 being distributed.
- WFP continues efforts to procure 1,200mt of locally produced sorghum through smallholder competitive tendering, as part of the broader goal of stimulating markets as well as the production and consumption of nutritious drought tolerant crops locally. In August, WFP awarded contracts to two local traders for 935mt sorghum for delivery in September, whilst the remaining tonnages will be procured directly from smallholder farmers supported by WFP and other partners.
- Under the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative, WFP and partners are finalising the Minimum Viable Product (MVP) based on the feedback from communities and additional work from Blue Marble/Old Mutual.

Contact info: Ashley.Baxstrom@wfp.org

Country Director: Eddie Rowe

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Zimbabwe

Continued on page 2

Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
272.3 m	81.1 m	62.2 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.

Continued from Page 1....

- Work on collecting geo-referencing data of the villages is the next step, which is critical in providing more accurate modelling of the price in the ward. Under a collaboration with Met Service Department (MSD), WFP is procuring 50 manual rain gauges to support efforts in rainfall monitoring.
- An estimated 1,100 pregnant women received nutritious food under the support to Maternity Waiting Homes in August. The assistance avails women waiting to give birth an opportunity to access health services during, at and immediately after delivery, as part of efforts reduce maternal deaths in the country.
- A state of emergency has been declared in Zimbabwe following an outbreak of typhoid and cholera in Harare and Gweru. As of 11 September, 54 cumulative cases and 24 deaths have been confirmed. WFP Zimbabwe in partnership with other UN agencies is exploring institutional feeding at the cholera treatment centre in the most affected area in HRE.

Monitoring

- Following the inception of the FFA programme in June, a survey was implemented to set baselines for this cycle for key corporate indicators which include food consumption score and coping strategies index. The results depict a stable food security situation, as evidenced by the low proportion of households with poor food consumption and low coping strategies index.
- While a trend analysis of the Rural Livelihoods Assessment shows an increase in the food security prevalence from 11.3 percent in 2017 to 25 percent in 2018, the situation among assessed households for the current FFA cycle is much better compared to households enrolled under the 2017 FFA. This is attributed to the combined effects of the extension of the LSA programme to the start of the consumption year in April, the government food distribution programme implemented until June, the 2018 post-harvest season and benefits accruing from FFA programmes from previous cycles in assisted districts.

Challenges

- Guided by the findings of the ZimVAC and considering these increased needs for the LSA, and additional resources still required to fully implement the FFA and Health and Nutrition activities that are still underfunded, WFP still requires an additional US\$62.2 million to fully implement activities for the six months running through March 2019.

Donors

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