



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Rwanda Country Brief October 2018



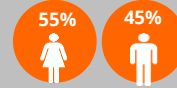
In Numbers

1,237 mt of food assistance distributed to refugees as well as vulnerable Rwandans

USD 765,000 transferred to refugees

USD 5 million six months net funding requirement (November 2018 - April 2019)

227,862 people assisted in October 2018

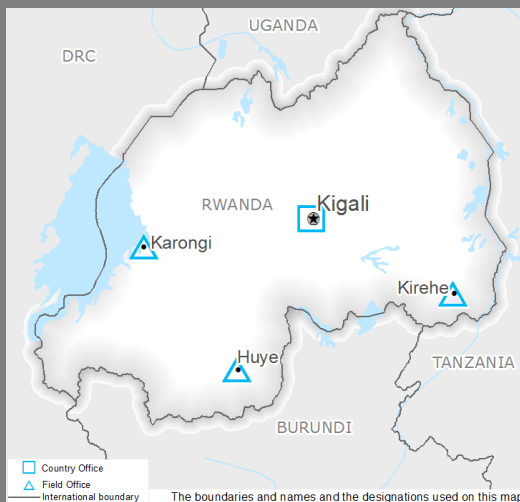


WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Operational Context

Rwanda is a low-income, least-developed country with a population of 11.2 million people, of whom 52 percent are women and girls and 48 percent men and boys. The population is growing at 2.4 percent per year and the country has one of the highest population densities in sub-Saharan Africa. Rwanda ranks 159th of 188 countries on the Human Development Index and 84th of 159 on the Gender Inequality Index; 44.9 percent of the population lives below the income poverty line. Undernourishment affects 4.8 million people (41 percent of the population) and approximately one fifth of the population is food-insecure.

Rwanda currently hosts 175,000 Congolese and Burundian refugees and asylum seekers, of whom 79 percent reside in camps and the remaining 21 percent are urban refugees. Many refugees have been present in the country for decades, with limited prospects for repatriation in the immediate future. The “forgotten crises” in these neighbouring countries, where protracted volatility is exacerbated by political instability, may lead to the further arrival of refugees in the coming years.



Population: **11.2 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **159 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower**

Chronic malnutrition: **38 percent of children between 6-59 months**

Operational Updates

- WFP provided **lifesaving food and nutrition assistance** to more than 146,800 refugees living in six refugee camps across Rwanda. In total, 953 mt of in-kind food commodities were distributed and US\$ 765,000 of cash was transferred electronically to refugees’ smart cards. Cash assistance has continued to enable refugees to buy food of their choice from local shops and markets.
- WFP introduced cash transfers in Mahama refugee camp in October 2018; the biggest refugee camp in Rwanda with approximately 58,000 Burundian refugees. With the roll out of cash assistance in Mahama camp, all refugees in camps in Rwanda are now receiving partial cash assistance from WFP. To ensure refugees are receiving a balanced nutrient diet in Mahama camp, WFP is providing beans and specially blended food as in-kind food assistance, while maize, vegetable oil and salt are converted into cash.
- In October, WFP provided daily hot meals to more than 81,000 Rwandan school going children in 104 schools through the **Home-Grown School Feeding Programme**. Over 70 percent of 284 mt of assorted food commodities that were distributed to schools in October were sourced locally and from smallholder farmers. Furthermore, WFP finalized the construction of kitchens in 25 schools in Nyaruguru and Nyamagabe districts. The new kitchens will provide schools with sufficient space, storage and hygienic conditions for meal preparation and save energy. The handover ceremony of the kitchens to the Government is planned for mid-November 2018.
- As part of WFP’s **assistance to small holder farmers**, a inter-ministerial task team was set up in October to develop a pro-smallholder friendly procurement strategy for the home-grown school feeding programme. Some 25,500 farmers also received good agricultural practices training, ahead of the main maize planting season.

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Rwanda CO

Caption: WFP assistance to Home Grown School Feeding programme in the most food insecure districts helps to keep children concentrated and smiley in classrooms.

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	Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) *
Food and Nutrition Assistance to Refugees and Returnees			
PRRO 200744 (2018)	27.6 m	17 m (62%)	5 m
Enhancing National Capacity to Develop, Design and Manage Nationally Owned Hunger Solutions in Rwanda			
CP 200539 (2018)	16.3 m	7.1m (44%)	-

*Nov 2018 – Apr 2019

GENDER MARKER 1

Monitoring

- Monthly market monitoring findings from October indicate that food prices in and around refugee camps were within the normal range, allowing refugees to access diversified food commodities.
- Erratic rainfall in September (below normal) and October (average) at the start of season A and the early stages of crop development will adversely impact seasonal performance.
- The Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis report (CFSVA) has been validated by the Agriculture Sector Working Group. The report is scheduled to be finalized and disseminated in December.

Challenges

- Due to the outbreak of the Ebola Virus in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda has been classified as one of the high-risk zones according to the World Health Organization (WHO). WFP is therefore taking the necessary preparedness measures and is supporting the Government and its partners in preparedness measures. WFP has updated its minimum preparedness actions, including prepositioning of emergency stocks of food and non-food items. WFP has also purchased four tents to be allocated to the Ministry of Health, two ambulances, and ten chlorine makers. WFP is also supporting in the monitoring of point of entries and has allocated a supply chain officer in support of Ebola preparedness actions.
- Despite generous contributions from donors, funding constraints continue to affect WFP operations in Rwanda. WFP needs **USD 5 Million** in the next six months (November 2018 – April 2019) to be able to respond to basic food and nutritional needs of over 150,000 Burundians and Congolese refugees who are living in six camps. If no additional resources are received in due time, WFP will be forced to reduce food rations, which may affect the most vulnerable people, including children and breastfeeding mothers.

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

WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) targets Burundian and Congolese refugees, former Rwandan refugees returning home and children from the host communities attending the same schools as refugee children living in and around refugee camps.

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

WFP's assistance is provided through in-kind food and cash distributions, as well as safety net interventions such as nutrition programmes, to prevent and treat malnutrition and school meals. With Mahama camp shifted from in-kind food assistance to a hybrid combination of in-kind and cash assistance from October 2018, cash transfers are provided in all six camps, enabling refugees to purchase food of their choice at the local markets, thus contributing to the local economy.

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

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

Through asset creation, 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 a participatory approach with communities, based on WFP's long-term experience in asset creation and existing government initiatives such as Vision 2020 Umurenge Programme.

Donors

CP 200539: USDA, Republic of Korea, MasterCard, DEVCO, Switzerland and UN Common Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF).
PRRO 200744: USAID, UN CERF, ECHO, UK, Japan, Belgium and Canada.