

# **Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis Response**

# What is the Situation?

Malawi hosts refugees and asylum seekers, mainly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi, Rwanda and, in recent years, Mozambique. Malawi has hosted refugees for more than two decades, and according to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) projections there will be between 30,000 and 40,000 by December 2019.

Meanwhile, across Malawi, many communities face a season of high vulnerability called the 'lean season'. This occurs when farmers have consumed most or the totality of the previous year's harvest and are waiting for the next one.

During this time, vulnerable families are likely to slip deeper into poverty, as entire communities are left without sufficient food reserves to last them until the next harvest, typically in March/April.

Affected districts have witnessed recurrent shocks and rounds of poor production, thereby minimizing their coping capacities.

# What do we want to do?

Strategic Outcome 1 (SO1) is part of WFP Malawi's five-year Country Strategic Plan that is in effect from 2019 to 2023. The CSP represents a strategy to help Malawi better coordinate national efforts on hunger and nutrition, reduce vulnerability to food security and malnutrition.

As an objective, SO1 is to ensure that "Shock-affected people vulnerable to seasonal and climatic shocks and refugees in Malawi have access to nutritious food all year long."

**2.7** Strategic Outcome 1 funding gap in 2019 (million USD)





March 2019

Activity 1: Provide cash and/or food transfers to refugees , malnourished persons, and the most vulnerable populations affected by seasonal shocks.

To contribute to Strategic Result 1, SO1 and SO2 are considered together as an intergrated *shock-responsive hunger safety net*, ensuring access to food during crises and all year, made necessary by the large number of chronically food-insecure people, linking stronger flexible social protection systems to resilience-building activities incorporated into humanitarian responses.

WFP will provide life-saving food assistance (in kind, vouchers and cash based transfers) to the most vulnerable acutely food insecure people, including women, girls, boys and men, and those suffering acute malnutrition, mainly in shock-affected districts, thereby ensuring access to food and nutrition and contributing to SDG target 2.1. (*ensure access to food*)

#### How do we do it?

WFP's key activity under his Strategic Outcome will be to, provide cash and/or food transfers to refugees, and the most vulnerable populations affected by seasonal shocks

# **Funding Situation**

Following protracted security and political unrest in DRC, the UN refugee agency UNHCR has registered an additional influx of over 5,000 asylum seekers into Malawi in 2018. Without vital financial support, some 36,000 refugees and asylum seekers in Dzaleka camp will be no longer receive food assistance from or WFP will be forced to reduce rations. USD 0.8 million is required to cover general distributions up to June 2019 and USD 1.9 million from July up to December 2019. Total requirement for 2019 is at USD 2.7 million.

### **Our Goals**

While working to achieve SO1, WFP has identified four goals to be achieved from the activity. These are:

- Targeted populations, including refugees and school children, receive sufficient social transfers, including specialised nutritious food that meets the different basic food and nutrition requirements for girls, boys, women and men, to facilitate their early recovery.
- Households affected by recurrent shocks benefit from the creation and/or rehabilitation of nutrition-sensitive assets and skills development that support early recovery and transition towards resilience and self-reliance.
- Shock-affected people benefit from strengthened national capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from shocks to meet their basic needs in times of seasonal crisis.
- Targeted individuals benefit from improved knowledge in nutrition, care practices and diverse healthy diets, climate, agriculture, gender and protection in order to improve their nutritional status.

