In Numbers

- **292.53 mt** of food assistance distributed
- **US$ 0** cash-based transfers made
- **US$ 6 m** six months (October 2019–March 2020) net funding requirement
- **59,573** people assisted in October 2019

Operational Context

WFP has been in Sierra Leone since 1968, supporting the Government through a range of life-saving and resilience-building through food, cash, and nutrition interventions. The work that WFP does continues to empower women, build local capacities, and enhance both local and national preparedness to climate-related shocks.

WFP has officially released its Food Security System (FSMS) Assessment Report of its August 2019 data collection. The complete findings was validated by representatives of the Food Security Working Group (FSWG) in September 2019. The Report shows great concern in the food security situation in Sierra Leone and demonstrates significant increase in food insecurity amounting to now 53 percent nation-wide as opposed to 44 percent in 2018. Nearly 4.2 million Sierra Leoneans are currently estimated to be food insecure with a proportion of 4.6 percent severely food insecure households.

At district level, food insecurity was highest in Bonthe, Kailahun, Tonkolili and Koinadugu.

Sierra Leone has made long strides to recover from the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak that ended in 2016.

Operational Updates

- In October 2019, WFP Sierra Leone assisted 93 percent of its planned beneficiaries through 292 mt of assorted food items distributed to 59,573 beneficiaries receiving food and nutrition assistance for stunting prevention, moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), school feeding and disaster management.

- WFP started complementary feeding for stunting prevention in Pujohn districts, assisting 7,416 children aged 6 - 23 months, and 8,129 pregnant and lactating women (PLW). This activity was aimed to address districts with the highest stunting rates, as per findings from the national survey.

- At the beginning of the 2019/2020 school year, WFP participated in cooking demonstrations that was coupled with nutrition sensitization interventions.

- In collaboration with the Ministry of Basic & Senior Secondary Education (MBSSSE) WFP conducted an assessment of schools in districts of Kambia and Pujehun. A head count exercise was done to verify the current enrolment figures of children in supported schools. This also helped to determine whether basic infrastructures are available at given schools. In October, WFP provided 24,362 students with warm and nutritious meals together with community sensitization and training of education authorities.

Monitoring

- WFP conducted a community based participatory planning session, with the support of partners in the district of Kenema.

- WFP is planning to conduct a quarterly Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) exercise in November for its food assistance for asset programme.
**Challenges:**
- Due to resource constraints, the District Health Medical Team (DHMT) was not able to conduct regular monitoring activities for the Nutrition programme as planned on a timely basis.
- The food delivery process was delayed due to access constraints from poor road infrastructure, and remoteness of various locations.

**Partnerships:**
- WFP continues to collaborate with a variety of partners—including INGOs, NGOs, Government line ministries, and partner agencies from the UN to update the multi-hazard response plan.
- WFP signed a Field Level Agreement (FLA) with two cooperating partners (CAWeC and PHF) for the school feeding programme in Pujehun and Kambia districts.

**Donors**
- Japan, Canada