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Strategic Outcome 2: shock-responsive social protection

What is the Situation?

With a national poverty rate at 51.5 percent and a per capita annual GDP of just USD 330, Malawi has high rates of vulnerability, with significant disparities between genders, urban and rural areas, and between regions, with the southern areas worst affected.

The economy has rebounded from devastating floods in 2015 followed by the 2016 El Niño-induced drought, however annual GDP growth (5.6 percent) is still insufficient to build the Government's capacity to deliver services or respond to recurrent and seasonal shocks.

One long-term challenge is to develop mechanisms that provide social protection for unproductive households and for those unable to remain productive in the face of economic changes and recurrent shocks. These systems need to reflect the central role of food and nutrition in order to build the resilience of vulnerable households, even in times of crises.

What do we want to do?

Strategic Outcome 2 (SO2) 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 SO2 is to ensure that **“Vulnerable populations in food-insecure communities benefit from strengthened shock-responsive social protection systems and efficient supply chains that ensure access to safe, nutritious food all year.”**

To contribute to Strategic Result 1, SO1 and SO2 complement each other as two inter-dependent strategic outcomes with strategic outcome 1 focused on crisis response and strategic outcome 2 focused on building resilient national systems and activities under both, coordinated to serve as a single integrated shock-responsive hunger safety net.



Activity 2: Support national social protection systems to become increasingly shock responsive

Activity 3: Provide nutritious meals to school children in food-insecure areas

WFP will support the Government in strengthening national programmes and systems for responding to acute and chronic food insecurity. WFP will carry out this work as a member of the Government's steering committee on social protection, as co-lead of the school meals programme (SMP) and as co-lead of the Food Security Cluster. WFP will work with the Department of Economic Planning and Development, the Department of Disaster Management Affairs and other partners to design and implement a framework for nutrition-sensitive, gender-transformative and shock-responsive social protection in Malawi.

How do we do it?

WFP's key activities under this Strategic Outcome are:

- **Activity 2: Support national social protection systems to become increasingly shock-responsive and hunger- and nutrition-sensitive**
- **Activity 3: Provide nutritious meals to school children in food-insecure areas**

innovative, well-coordinated food security and nutrition-sensitive and/or shock-responsive national social protection programmes, and efficient supply chain systems, to ensure access to food.

- Targeted school children receive a nutritious meal every day they attend school in order to meet basic food and nutrition needs and increase enrolment, attendance and retention.
- Communities in affected areas benefit from girls' and boys' access to education, skills transfer and trainings to enhance gender equality girls' and women's empowerment.
- School children targeted by the national school meals programme benefit from improved government capacity to help meet their basic food and nutrition needs and contribute to improved education indicators (SDG4)
- Schools in targeted areas benefit from the Government's improved capacity to provide access to smallholders' produce, including through HGSM programmes (SR4).

Our Goals

While working to achieve SO2, WFP has identified five goals to be achieved from the outcome. These are:

- Food insecure people in affected areas benefit from



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