

Crisis response revision of Zimbabwe country strategic plan (2017–2021) and corresponding budget increase

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	April 2017– December 2021	No change	April 2017– December 2021
Beneficiaries	1 982 656	2 600 000	4 582 656
	<i>(USD)</i>		
Total cost	468 404 321	178 296 632	646 700 952
Transfers	368 266 165	147 947 356	516 213 521
Implementation	41 471 056	8 518 637	49 989 693
Adjusted direct support costs	29 890 233	10 948 685	40 838 918
Subtotal	439 627 454	167 414 678	607 042 131
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	28 776 867	10 881 954	39 658 821

Gender and age marker*: 2A

* <http://gender.manuals.wfp.org/en/gender-toolkit/gender-in-programming/gender-and-age-marker/>.

Rationale

1. As a result of widespread drought, flooding and macro-economic shocks, Zimbabwe is facing the highest food insecurity levels in a decade. The Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee rural livelihood assessment report (May 2019) estimates that 7.7 million people will be food insecure from January to March 2020. Meanwhile, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) projected that 3.58 million people (38 percent of the rural population) were acutely food insecure in IPC phases 3 and 4 from October to December 2019 (IPC, July 2019). Specifically, 1.1 million people were estimated to be in IPC phase 4 category and in need of life-saving food assistance.
2. In the absence of an updated IPC, WFP has undertaken an IPC compatible analysis to assess the impact of worsening economic conditions on the food security of the population, including market availability of maize grain and inflation of commodity prices. Based on this analysis, WFP estimates that from January to April 2020, the number of people in urgent need of food assistance would rise from 3.58 million to 4.1 million. Moreover, internal analysis from WFP's Vulnerability Analysis Unit projects that 1.5 million people will remain in need of food assistance in May and June 2020, taking into consideration projected market dynamics and anticipated shortfalls in agricultural production.
3. Given the continued macro-economic crisis, which is characterized by sustained rising inflation and depreciation of the local currency against the US dollar, the food security situation continues to deteriorate and to undermine purchasing power of vulnerable households. The prices of food commodities have increased at an unprecedented rate since the promulgation of Statutory Instrument 142 of 2019, which introduced the Zimbabwe dollar as the sole legal tender. Furthermore, liquidity and access to physical cash have remained constrained, while payments made using mobile money continue to attract a premium of 30 to 50 percent.



4. Under Statutory Instrument 189 of 2019 of the Civil Protection Act (Chapter 10:06), the President of Zimbabwe has declared a state of disaster as a result of the prevalent drought brought about by the El Niño weather phenomenon. The declaration has been applied to both rural and urban areas since 6 August 2019.
5. In response to critical levels of food insecurity, WFP initiated an emergency response through its lean season assistance in August 2019, reaching 585,000 people in the 14 most affected districts. The rapidly evolving complex emergency necessitated the activation of a Level 2 response in November 2019.
6. In line with the IPC analysis, WFP is targeting 2.1 million people in December 2019 and 4.1 million (3.9 million rural and 200,000 urban) from January through April 2020. Specifically, the peak lean season support will target 200,000 vulnerable people in urban areas and 3.9 million people in rural areas, which equates to 95 percent of the rural population classified IPC 3 and 4 according to WFP internal IPC compatible analysis of December 2019.
7. The Government of Zimbabwe, through the Food Deficit Mitigation Strategy, is currently supporting up to 2.5 million people with the monthly provision of 50 kg of maize grain for every vulnerable household. Dwindling maize stocks in the grain reserve, however, threatens to affect the Government's food assistance programme. While the Government has endeavoured to procure additional grain, the supply in-country is inadequate and the price to import represents a significant challenge in light of the limited access to foreign exchange.
8. WFP will leverage its expertise in procurement and logistics to facilitate a service delivery to the Government of Zimbabwe. WFP will procure and transport maize which will be a critical injection for the Zimbabwe food market.
9. In sum, this sixth revision to the Zimbabwe country strategic plan encompasses the following:
 - Addressing increased needs lean season by augmenting the duration of assistance as well as the number of beneficiaries. Lean season assistance will extend by two months and will be implemented from January through June 2020. At the peak of the lean season (January to April), WFP will address the food security needs of 4.1 million people, up from 1.5 million people.
 - Switching the modality of all assistance in rural areas to in-kind food transfers for the period January to April 2020. WFP will continue to monitor the situation and evaluate the best modality of assistance to preserve the value of the food basket.
 - Fostering participation in livelihood promoting activities such as training that include, but is not limited to, low-tech and low-risk asset creation and maintenance, good agricultural practices, post-harvest handling, food preservation and social and behaviour change communication.
 - Supporting the Government of Zimbabwe through service delivery to its Food Deficit Mitigation Strategy programme. WFP will procure, ship and deliver maize for the Government of Zimbabwe and deliver to selected Grain Marketing Board depots.

Changes

Strategic orientation

10. No changes to the strategic orientation of the CSP are introduced through this revision.

Strategic outcomes

11. No changes to the strategic outcomes are introduced.



Targeting approach and beneficiary analysis

12. This revision will extend the length of lean season assistance by an additional two months, through end June 2020. Guided by the IPC and further corroborated by additional analyses, the revision also increases the number of people assisted at the peak of the lean season from 1.5 million to 4.1 million representing a 2.6 million increase in caseload.

Transfer modalities

13. All rural transfers will be converted to full in-kind for a prescribed period as informed by the results of market assessments undertaken jointly with the Government and partners. The macro-economic situation, primarily the depreciation of local currency, increased food costs, physical cash unavailability, high premiums on use of mobile money and limited availability of maize grain on the formal market have influenced this decision. The urban response will continue to receive transfers through mobile money (in USD) from existing financial institutions. WFP will continue to monitor the situation and make adjustments as necessary.
14. WFP leverages general food assistance activities to strengthen nutrition actions, including the provision of a protective ration of specialized nutritious foods to children age 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women in targeted districts. Nutrition-sensitive programming is also incorporated to address the underlying causes of malnutrition. WFP activities are a point of convergence for strengthened multi-sectoral and complementary actions of the Ministry of Health and Child Care, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and other partners. The integrated package includes, but is not limited to, hygiene promotion, mother-led nutrition screening, and identification and referral of acute malnutrition cases for treatment.

Country office capacity

15. WFP is hiring additional staff to support operational requirements, with the view of establishing a more robust field presence. Operational backstopping, reporting, and coordination, amongst other functions, will be bolstered. Support will also be provided through temporary duty assignments from other country offices, regional bureaux and Rome headquarters. The principle of gender equality in the workforce shall continue to apply during recruitment.

Supply chain challenges

16. Limited availability of commodities locally and regionally will result in international procurement affecting the lead time. Coordination will be enhanced throughout the supply chain to mitigate any potential delays. Five transport corridors, including three discharge/load ports will be activated to maximize sourcing options and optimize costs. Additionally, local transporter capacity will be expanded to meet the increased in-kind requirements.

Monitoring and evaluation

17. WFP will continue to closely monitor and evaluate operations to ensure achievement of the highest standards of quality, transparency and value-for-money. Staff monitoring capacity will be increased to enhance verification monitoring as part of efforts to ensure transparency and accountability in beneficiary selection and registration. In addition to regular outcome monitoring, WFP will closely look at the impact of activities complementary to food assistance activities. Post-distribution monitoring results will be disaggregated by the complementary activity type and results will be compared over the period of assistance. Gender responsive monitoring shall be applied in all monitoring activities. Finally, building



upon the mid-term review, the country office will conduct a country strategic plan evaluation in 2020.

Accountability to affected populations, protection risks, restrictions of gender and disabilities

18. Risks related to transactional sex, access, safety, dignity and access to assistance could affect people assisted, particularly vulnerable groups such as women, children, people with disabilities and chronic illnesses, and the elderly. WFP will continue to manage protection risks by strengthening food security assessment methodologies and conducting participatory needs assessments at community level to better comprehend the different needs of vulnerable groups and inform activity design. WFP will also continue to enhance processes and mechanisms to prevent acts of sexual exploitation and abuse from occurring, including through regular training of field personnel, sensitization of affected populations and the strengthening and regular monitoring of complaints and feedback mechanisms.

Risk management

19. Given the country context and scale of response, the following risks are imminent:
- Partner and service provider capacity. The scale up to all 60 rural districts will require the engagement of new cooperating partners and service providers. WFP will embark on extensive refresher and new training for existing and new partners to ensure all partners implement the programme in line with WFP policy and regulations.
 - The macro-economic environment will affect availability of fuel due to limited foreign currency for importation. Provisions have been effected to ensure that service providers, particularly transporters, have access to fuel for efficient and uninterrupted delivery of food assistance, through access to a contingency fuel facility operated on a full cost recovery basis.

Beneficiaries

TABLE 1: DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY							
Strategic outcome	Activity	Period	Women (18+ years)	Men (18+ years)	Girls (0-18 years)	Boys (0-18 years)	Total
1	1	Current	388 500	331 500	391 500	388 500	1 500 000
		Increase	673 400	574 600	678 600	673 400	2 600 000
		Revised	1 061 900	906 100	1 070 100	1 061 900	4 100 000
	2	Revised (<i>no change</i>)	3 000	3 900	3 750	4 350	15 000
2	4	Revised (<i>no change</i>)	137 550	-	26 364	24 336	188 250
4	7	Revised (<i>no change</i>)	120 953	103 107	121 887	120 953	467 000
5	10	Revised (<i>no change</i>)	5 500	4 500	-	-	10 000
Total (without overlap)		Current	614 195	390 530	490 407	487 524	1 982 656
		Increase	673 400	574 600	678 600	673 400	2 600 000
		Revised	1 287 595	965 130	1 169 007	1 160 924	4 582 656

Transfers

**TABLE 2: FOOD RATION (g/person/day) OR CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/person/day)
BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY**

	Strategic outcome 1						Strategic outcome 2			Strategic outcome 4		Strategic outcome 5
	Activity 1: Provide cash-based transfers or food transfers for the most vulnerable households affected by seasonal food shortages			Activity 2: Provide unconditional CBTs and/or food transfers for refugees in camps			Activity 4: Support the Government's nutrition programming at national and subnational levels			Activity 7: Support the creation and rehabilitation of assets		Activity 10: Risk management, insurance and financing
Beneficiary type	Standard	Standard	Children 6-59 months (top-up)	Standard	Chronically ill (top-up)	New arrivals	Children 6-23 months	Children 6-23 months	Pregnant women	Standard	Standard	
Modality	Cash-based transfers	Food	Food	Cash-based transfers	Food	Food	Food	Micro-nutrient powder	Food	Cash-based transfers	Food	Cash-based transfers
Cereals	-	333	-	-	-	450	-	-	400	-	333	-
Pulses	-	67	-	-	-	67	-	-	80	-	67	-
Oil	-	25	-	-	-	25	-	-	25	-	25	-
Salt	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sugar	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-
SuperCereal	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	-	200	-	-	-
SuperCereal Plus	-	-	200***	-	-	-	200	-	-	-	-	-
Micronutrient powder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	-	-	-	-
Total kcal/day	-	1 664	787	-	376	2 188	787	-	2 724	-	1 664	-
% kcal from protein	-	11	17	-	16	11	17	-	11	-	11	-
Cash-based transfers (USD/person/day)	0.35	-	-	0.50	-	-	-	-	-	0.40	-	N/A*
Number of feeding days per year	180	180	180	365	365	365	365	365	365**	180	180	N/A*

* The CBT component under strategic outcome 5 is represented by insurance (value voucher for services), and thus cannot be translated directly into food rations or a cash equivalent.

** Mothers are fed for 15 days a month, however the programme runs all year round.

*** Lipid-based nutrient supplements (Plumpy' Doz) to substitute SuperCereal Plus as necessary.



Food type/cash-based transfer	Current budget		Increase/decrease		Revised budget	
	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)
Cereals	119 351	31 679 750	185 925	70 087 941	305 277	101 767 691
Pulses	23 875	15 108 215	32 062	24 320 816	55 938	39 429 032
Oil and fats	9 027	6 813 452	11 573	8 551 535	20 600	15 364 988
Mixed and blended	17 923	15 957 424	2 085	3 708 294	20 008	19 665 718
Others	5	92 334	0	0	5	92 334
Total (food)	170 182	69 651 175	231 646	106 668 586	401 827	176 319 762
Cash-based transfers and commodity vouchers		159 390 494		- 27 303 140		132 087 354
Total (food and CBT value)	170 182	229 041 669	231 646	79 365 446	401 827	308 407 116

Cost breakdown

20. The transfer value has increased in concomitant with the increased number of people to be assisted under activity 1. The implementation rate is reduced from 8.2 percent to 7 percent due to the economies of scale. Implementation costs are increased by USD 10,788,585. The cash-based transfer cost rate is increased from 10.45 percent to 22.61 percent due to hyperinflation. As there is reduced availability of commodities in rural markets, cash-based interventions now only cover urban areas. The direct support cost rate remains the same at 7 percent.

	Strategic Result 1	Strategic Result 2	Strategic Result 3	Strategic Result 4	Strategic Result 5	Strategic Result 8	Total
	Strategic outcome 1	Strategic outcome 2	Strategic outcome 3	Strategic outcome 4	Strategic outcome 5	Strategic outcome 6	
Transfer	134 131 269	0	0	0	13 816 088	0	147 947 356
Implementation	8 518 637	0	0	0	0	0	8 518 637
Adjusted direct support costs							10 948 685
Subtotal							167 414 678
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)							10 881 954
Total							178 296 632

TABLE 5: OVERALL CSP COST BREAKDOWN, AFTER REVISION (USD)							
	Strategic result 1	Strategic result 2	Strategic result 3	Strategic result 4	Strategic result 5	Strategic result 8	Total
	Strategic outcome 1	Strategic outcome 2	Strategic outcome 3	Strategic outcome 4	Strategic outcome 5	Strategic outcome 6	
Transfer	401 892 633	11 266 335	5 056 966	69 857 630	21 110 411	7 029 546	516 213 521
Implementation	31 606 244	1 995 671	989 323	11 897 402	3 255 299	245 753	49 989 693
Adjusted direct support costs	30 863 090	996 712	464 697	6 222 091	1 753 281	539 046	40 838 918
Subtotal	464 361 968	14 258 718	6 510 986	87 977 123	26 118 991	7 814 345	607 042 131
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	30 260 931	938 156	429 939	5 801 173	1 716 720	511 903	39 658 821
Total	494 622 899	15 196 874	6 940 925	93 778 296	27 835 711	8 326 248	646 700 952