



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Zambia Country Brief June 2020

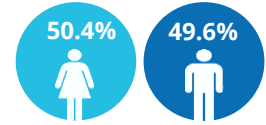


In Numbers

566.44 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 16.48 m six months (July-December 2020) net funding requirements.

65,620 people assisted
in June 2020



Operational Updates

As part of preparatory works for WFP's cash-based transfers (CBT) for urban populations planned to start in July, WFP conducted a rapid food security and vulnerability impact assessment from 08-18 June 2020, targeting 1,500 households in the two urban districts of Lusaka and Kafue. The aim was to ascertain the extent to which main livelihood strategies have been impacted by COVID-19. Preliminary findings indicate that the livelihoods of people in the informal sector and households with pre-existing vulnerabilities (i.e. households headed by the elderly, people with disabilities, and women-headed households) were the worst impacted. The pandemic also affected the quality, quantity and diversity of meals accessed and consumed in the households, with over 243,000 people in the two districts found to be food insecure and in need of assistance.

In June, WFP developed sensitization and nutrition messages that will accompany CBT in urban areas, with the objective to promote the choice and consumption of nutritious and diverse food to ensure healthy and balanced diets.

As part of the 85,000 mt of maize that WFP will export for its humanitarian operations in the region, WFP started exporting 20,500 mt of maize to Zimbabwe in June, in support of relief efforts in the country. By 30 June, 2,900 mt had been exported.

In June, WFP concluded its response in support of drought-affected people, which started in December 2019 after the 2018/19 drought left 2.3 million people in 58 districts food insecure and in need of humanitarian assistance. By the end of the drought response, WFP reached 648,833 people in 16 districts out of some 625,000 targeted, delivering 3,400 mt of government-supplied maize meal and distributing 5,500 mt of WFP-procured pulses.

WFP continued to provide cash assistance to 1,518 refugees in the Mantapala Refugee Settlement, distributing a total of USD 11,400. Each refugee received USD 7.35, equivalent to the value of a food basket. WFP continued to distribute food to the remaining refugees, reaching 12,261 refugees in June. In June, WFP also facilitated the registration of additional refugees to scale up cash assistance to reach 5,000 people by July 2020. At the same time, WFP intensified nutrition messaging to promote the choice and consumption of nutritious food for a balanced diet. To mitigate malnutrition in the settlement, WFP and Care International rolled out a six-week intensive nutrition education programme, targeting mothers of 106 malnourished children.

Operational Context

Landlocked and with a population of 17.4 million, Zambia achieved lower middle-income status in 2011 following years of impressive economic performance. Yet, more than half of its population still live below the poverty line. The deteriorating economy, coupled with the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, threaten government efforts to deliver social services, alleviate poverty, and achieve zero hunger.

In the last decade, the country has suffered from the impact of climate change, with frequent prolonged dry spells, extreme high temperatures, and floods that have undermined food security and threatened the livelihoods of many smallholder farming households. Smallholders are the country's largest population of food producers. They are responsible for up to 90 percent of the food produced in Zambia, with women accounting for about 80 percent.

Under the Zambia Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019–2024, WFP provides food assistance to vulnerable and food-insecure people, including on-demand logistics support during emergencies. WFP also supports integrated nutrition and smallholder farmer support in food-insecure areas, and helps strengthen the capacity of the Government to implement national programmes and systems that contribute to zero hunger and improved nutrition.

WFP has been present in Zambia since 1967, providing food assistance and strengthening the capacity of the Government in addressing people's food and nutrition needs.



Population: **17.4 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **143 out of 189 countries**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Stunting: **35% of children aged 6–59 months**

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Main photo credit: WFP Zambia/Paul Mboshya

Caption: A refugee receiving cash assistance at a mobile money booth in Mantapala Refugee Settlement, Luapula Province

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirement (in USD)
112.4 m*	40.76 m	16.48 m

*WFP is undertaking a USD 30 million budget revision for its COVID-19 response in Zambia.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected people, including refugees can meet their basic food and nutrition needs all year.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Unconditional cash-based and food transfers.
- Supplementary feeding for targeted refugees.

Strategic Result 2: End Malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable people in Zambia have improved nutrition status in line with national targets by 2024.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Provide technical support to government institutions and the private sector for the reduction of malnutrition and the scale up of high-impact nutrition interventions.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder Resilience

Strategic Outcome 3: Smallholder farmers in Zambia, especially women, have increased access to markets, enhanced resilience to climate shocks and diversified livelihoods by 2030.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Promote climate-smart agriculture, crop diversification through access to finance, climate services, post-harvest management support and access to markets for small holder farmers.

Strategic Result 4: Capacity Strengthening

Strategic Outcome 4: Government institutions in Zambia have more efficient, effective and shock-responsive social protection systems that contribute to the achievement of SDG 2.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Provide technical expertise and other services for strengthening the systems and capacities of government institutions and other partners in implementing and disaster social protection programmes and early warning preparedness and response activities.
- Provide technical support to the Government in strengthening systems and capacities of the structure for the HGSM programme.

From 29 June to 01 July, WFP conducted a national training for 25 staff from the Ministry of Agriculture to equip them with knowledge and skills required to adequately support smallholder farmers in market access and post-harvest management. The training is part of WFP's efforts to

strengthen the Government's capacity to enhance smallholders' post-harvest management practices, and food preservation and processing. The training also introduced the participants to hermetic storage solutions and potential suppliers, while creating efficient market linkages for improved food security and livelihoods.

WFP, together with the Government, nutrition partners and the private sector, have designed the Healthy Diets Campaign to promote the production and consumption of healthy and diversified diets. In June, building on the preparatory works for the launch of the campaign, a local media house started pre-testing creative materials (logos, posters, billboards and television announcements) to accommodate the audiences' contributions to the creative works and obtain their views on the attractiveness, comprehension, and acceptance of the campaign materials.

In June, WFP provided technical assistance to the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU), the lead government body dealing with emergency preparedness and response, in designing the 2020 in-depth vulnerability and needs assessment under the Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZVAC). During the 2020 assessment, WFP will continue providing resource support and technical oversight, including data analysis, report writing and technical review of the assessment. Annually, the Zambian Government, with support from WFP and other stakeholders, conducts vulnerability and needs assessments to analyze the impacts of dry spells, floods and pest infestation on the food security sector and to inform decisions on appropriate actions.

From 24-27 June, WFP facilitated a national level training of trainers (TOT) for 25 Ministry of Health (MoH) staff, in preparation for the 2020 Long Lasting Insecticide-treated Nets (LLINs) mass distribution campaign under the National Malaria Elimination Programme (NMEP). This followed a request by MoH to WFP to coordinate the logistics and procurement working group for the 2020 campaign. Owing to its expertise in logistics support services, WFP has been one of the Government's logistics partners in the implementation of LLINs mass distribution campaigns since 2014.

Monitoring

From May to June, WFP conducted distribution monitoring at 75 food distribution points in six districts under its drought response. Key findings include: compliance with safety standards during the distribution process, more so in light of the COVID-19 outbreak; targeted food insecure people received their right food rations; and no reported incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse among the assisted people or staff. WFP also started conducting two outcome monitoring exercises on integrated nutrition and smallholder farmer support, and completed another outcome monitoring exercise for the refugee response to assess the impact of WFP assistance on the food and nutrition security of the supported people and to generate up-to-date information to support informed, evidence-based decision making and accountability for results.

Donors

Donors to WFP Zambia in 2020 include Canada, Germany, Green Climate Fund (GCF), Ireland, Italy, Private Donors, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, UNICEF and the United States of America (in alphabetical order). Additional support has been provided by UN CERF.