



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

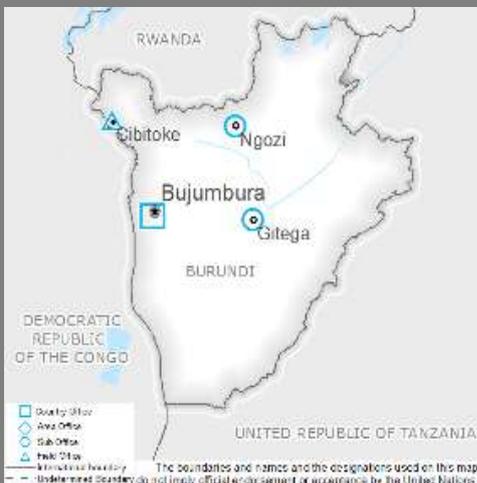
WFP Burundi Country Brief April 2021



Operational Context

According to October 2020 IPC results, 11 percent of the population is facing emergency and crisis levels of food insecurity (phases 3 and 4). The Joint Approach to Nutrition and Food Security Assessment (JANFSA) carried out in December 2018 revealed that 44.8 percent of the population were food insecure, with 9.7 percent in severe food insecurity. Provinces affected by severe food insecurity include Karusi (18.8 percent), Gitega (17.5 percent), Muramvya (16.0 percent), Kirundo (14.3 percent), and Mwaro (12.5 percent). The high population density, as well as the new influx of returnees from Tanzania and refugees from DRC, contributes to competition and disputes over scarce natural resources. Due to the demand for land, the poorest and most vulnerable populations, mainly women, generally depend on marginal land.

Over 90 percent of the population depends on agriculture for their livelihood. Burundi's preparedness for emergencies and crises is weak and cannot cope with severe shocks such as droughts, epidemics and floods, which often claim lives and undermine livelihoods. Burundi is the second country most affected by chronic malnutrition in the world. According to the SMART 2020, the national average stunting rate is at 52 percent well above the emergency threshold (40 percent). WFP has been present in Burundi since 1968.

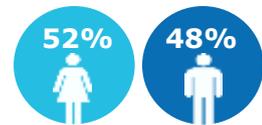


In Numbers

1,666 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 9.7 m net funding requirements for the next six months (May-October 2021)

454,860 people assisted in April 2021



Operational Updates

Assistance to refugees

WFP assisted 50,364 refugees (22,160 males, 28,204 females, 13,598 children aged 0-59 months and 2,015 people aged over 60 years) with 608 mt of in-kind food. Food assistance provided consisted of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and salt.

Assistance to returnees

WFP provided 386 mt of food to 8,178 Burundi returnees (4,007 males and 4,171 females) coming back from neighbouring countries. The assistance consisted of hot meals provided at the transit centres, and a three-month return package consisting of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and salt to facilitate their reintegration in their communities.

Food assistance to IDPs

WFP also assisted 2,470 internally displaced persons (IDPs), including households displaced by the rising waters of Lake Tanganyika, in Rumonge Province, people evacuated after a landslide in Kabezi, Bujumbura, and those who were displaced by flooding in Mutimbuzi, Bujumbura. They received 35 mt of food from WFP.

Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)

A total of 7,546 moderately malnourished pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs), and 8,706 children aged 6-59 months from Cankuzo, Kirundo, Ngozi, and Rutana provinces received 101 mt of specialized nutritious food items for the treatment of malnutrition. Distributions were coupled with social behaviour change communication (SBCC) implemented by Health Community Workers.

Prevention of chronic malnutrition

WFP implemented stunting prevention activities in Kirundo province where 43,367 children aged 6-23 months and 21,724 PLWGs received 157 mt of specialized nutritious food items and SBCC. The latter was provided with the aim of promoting and maintaining best nutrition and hygiene practices.

School feeding

Through the school feeding programme, WFP provided hot meals to 312,505 school children. A total of 379 mt of food (including 60 mt of milk) was distributed in the provinces of Bubanza, Cibitoke, Bujumbura, Muyinga, Gitega, Ngozi and Kirundo. In Kirundo and Muyinga. The tonnage distributed is lower than that of the preceding months as schoolchildren were on Easter vacation (two weeks) in April.

Photo: Preparation of food for schoolchildren in Muyinga province, using local food and fish donated by Japan. © WFP/Aurore Ishimwe
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Population: **11.7 million**

2019 Human Development Index:
185 out of 189

65 percent Burundians live under the poverty line

Chronic malnutrition: **52% of children** between 6-59 months

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
270.1 m	1.7 m	9.7 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations including refugees in camps, internally displaced people (IDPs), and returnees in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food needs all year round.

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

Activities:

- Provide unconditional food and/or cash-based assistance to refugees in camps;
- Provide unconditional and/or conditional food and/or cash-based assistance to severely food insecure households among local populations, IDPs, and returnees;
- Provide capacity strengthening to Government and humanitarian partners on early warning systems, emergency food security assessments and analysis, and food security and market monitoring.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Food insecure households in targeted areas have safe access to adequate and nutritious food all year round

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

Activities:

- Provide conditional food and/or cash-based assistance to food-insecure households through productive assets creation, livelihood diversification, and nutrition counselling;
- Provide Home Grown school meals to school-aged children and support national institutions on the formulation of a national home-grown school meals policy and social protection programmes.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Children 6-59 months, adolescent girls, and pregnant and lactating women (PLW), in the targeted provinces and communes have improved nutritional status throughout the year.

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- Provide specialized nutritious foods in combination with SBCC activities to children, adolescent girls, and PLW/G, and support the implementation of a national food fortification policy and strategy.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes

Strategic Outcome 4: Food-insecure smallholders and communities in targeted areas have enhanced livelihoods to better support food security and nutrition needs by 2020.

Focus area: *Root Causes*

Activities:

- Provide technical support on post-harvest solutions, equipment, and capacity building (SBCC will be used to empower smallholder farmers to improve post-harvest management and enhanced food diversification) to smallholder farmers and farmers' organizations/cooperatives.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnership

Strategic Outcome 5: Government, humanitarian and development partners have access to effective supply chain management and logistics all year round.

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- Provide on-demand services for the humanitarian community and development partners.
- Provide technical assistance through the logistics sector to the National Disaster Platform and humanitarian partners to improve emergency logistics coordination and supply chain management

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 6: Government and partner institutions and systems in Burundi have enhanced supply chain capacities by end of 2021.

Focus area: *Crisis response*

Activities:

- Provide capacity strengthening through supply chain technical advice and services to the Government of Burundi and to humanitarian and development partners

Smallholder agricultural market support

This activity focussed on the provision of technical expertise to the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock to provide support in building up a strategic stock of maize purchased from local smallholder farmers. WFP supported the project through assessment of storage capacity and standards, equipment needs, and capacity strengthening in procurement process, handling, conservation and stock management. The assessment inform government's decision on how to address identified gaps.

Supply Chain

- In April, WFP delivered 2,582 mt of food to beneficiaries.
- In close collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, WFP participated in a 3-day joint assessment of 23 of their warehouse facilities across nine provinces with the aim to identify challenges, requirements for rehabilitation, and outline potential WFP's support.
- WFP provided technical support to the Ministry of Health on stock management through the organization of a 5-day training on stock management and temperature-sensitive logistics in Gitega
- WFP conducted a 3-week food safety and quality insurance mission in April with the objective to assess mills facilities and cooperatives against food safety and quality standards and requirements.

Monitoring

In April, WFP and its partners received feedback and queries from 415 beneficiaries through the complaints and feedback mechanism (CFM). Out of these, 340 were resolved, 17 referred to partners for resolution and 58 are currently being addressed. Most of the complaints and feedbacks included requests for support and information.

Challenges

Lack of funding continues to negatively impact WFP's operations, particularly the **food assistance for refugees**.

The food basket for refugees still lacks SuperCereal, thus reducing the calorific value to 1,900 kcal per person per day instead of the full 2,100 kcal. In addition, due to resource constraints, treatment of MAM among children aged 6–59 months and PLWG, as well as the provision of specialized nutritious food items to people living with HIV on antiretroviral treatment and people with tuberculosis (TB) undergoing directly observed treatment could not start yet. If no additional funding is received, refugees' food security will be further compromised.

Donors (in alphabetical order):

Burundi, Canada, European Union, France, Germany, Global Partnership for Education, Hilton Foundation, Japan, Kerry Group, Monaco, Netherlands, Russia, Switzerland, UNCF, United States of America, World Bank