



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Malawi Country Brief June 2021



Operational Context

Malawi is a small landlocked country in Sub-Saharan Africa with a population expanding rapidly at 3 percent per year. With the majority of livelihoods dependent on agriculture, the population is highly vulnerable to the effects of natural disasters, in particular prolonged dry spells and flash floods.

Malawi's challenges are compounded by a volatile economy, high rates of HIV/AIDS infection (at 9.6 percent), a low primary school completion rate (at 51 percent), and a high level of stunting (at 37 percent for children under five). Given these challenges, WFP's operations support the Government in attaining a food- and nutrition-secure and resilient future, and are guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) with a particular emphasis on achieving zero hunger (SDG 2)

WFP has been present in Malawi since 1965.



Population: **17.5 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **174 out of 189 countries**

Income Level: **Low**

Stunting: **37% of children aged 6-59 months old**

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/malawi

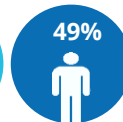
Photo: Trinity Makupete enjoying her Super Cereal porridge which her mother received from WFP as take-home rations of School Meals. WFP/Badre Bahaji

In Numbers

1,529 active cases of COVID-19 in Malawi (30 June 2021)

USD 2.6 million six-month (July - December 2021) net funding requirements

11,000 refugee households assisted with food and cash distributions



Strategic Outcome 1

- **Refugees:** Double distributions for the months of May and June were completed with in-kind transfers of Corn Soya Blend, and cash transfers for the food basket for 11,000 refugees in the camp. The next cycle of distributions will begin in mid-July.
- Furthermore, 200 participants in the camp were engaged under livelihood activities including soya production, mushroom production and soap and mask making.
- So far, 73 metric tonnes of soya have been harvested to be sold as soon as possible. On the other hand, soap and cloth masks produced are already being sold within the camp.
- Partners have celebrated [World Refugee Day](#) on 20 June.

Strategic Outcome 2

- **School Feeding:** WFP completed distribution of take-home rations for the current term for the 600,000 learners under its school feeding programme in the country. The adaptation of the school feeding programme to take-home rations is in line with the Ministry of Education's guidance to partners during the pandemic. Rations are being provided in-kind or as cash transfers.
- As part of the scale-up of home-grown school feeding, WFP conducted district consultations in Nsanje, Chikwawa, Zomba and Phalombe. In the meetings, WFP also introduced the [Tsogolo la Thanzi programme](#) supported by the European Union.
- **Social Protection:** WFP is continuing its preparedness work and strengthening the social protection system to better address food and nutrition outcomes, including in times of shocks. In June, WFP finalised a communication handbook on shock-sensitive social protection, as well as a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis on the use of the national social registry for food insecurity interventions.

Strategic Outcome 3

- **Malnutrition Prevention:** WFP continued to spread social behaviour change communication in mass awareness campaigns using mobile vans and public address systems, airing of jingles, nutrition video shows and cooking demonstrations in five districts. A total of 822,918 people (368,015 males; 454,903 females) were reached with messages on complementary feeding, maternal nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, dietary diversification, and COVID-19 prevention.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
629.7 m	225.5 m	2.6 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Shock-affected people vulnerable to seasonal and climatic shocks and refugees in Malawi have access to all year long.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activity 1: Provide cash and/or food transfers to refugees, malnourished people and the most vulnerable populations affected by seasonal shocks.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in food-insecure communities benefit from strengthened shock-responsive social protection systems and efficient supply chains to ensure access to safe, nutritious food all year round.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity 2: Support national social protection systems to become increasingly shock-responsive and hunger- and nutrition-sensitive.

Activity 3: Provide nutritious meals to schoolchildren in food-insecure areas.

Strategic Result 2: End Malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Targeted populations, especially children under 5, adolescents, PLWG, and TB & HIV/AIDS clients, in Malawi, have improved nutritional status in line with national targets.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity 4: Provide chronic malnutrition and micronutrient deficiency prevention services to at-risk populations in targeted areas.

Strategic Result 4: Sustainable Food Systems

Strategic Outcome 4: Smallholder producers in Malawi have enhanced resilience, through diversified livelihoods, increased marketable surpluses and access to well-functioning food systems and efficient supply chains by 2030.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity 5: Provide resilience-building support, education and systems-strengthening services to smallholder farmers and value chain actors.

Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening

Strategic Outcome 5: National and local institutions, agencies and enterprises in Malawi have increased capacity and improved supply chain systems to achieve SDG 2 by 2030.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity 6: Provide capacity strengthening, skills transfer, partnership activities and logistics and procurement services to national and local institutions and private-sector enterprises involved in food security, nutrition, food safety, disaster risk management and emergency response.

Strategic Result 8: Common Services

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian and development partners in Malawi have access to increased emergency services throughout the crisis.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activity 7: Provide services through the Logistics Cluster to National Disaster Management Offices and other relevant partners to improve emergency logistics coordination, access to services and supply chain management.

Activity 8: Provide on-demand services to humanitarian and other relevant partners to ensure effective emergency assistance.

Strategic Outcome 4

- Livelihoods:** For the Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) programme, activities during the month of June focused on finalizing preparations and contracting partners for the next phase (July-December 2021). The cycle will start with sensitization campaigns to the target communities from July 2021.
- WFP and District Councils, together with PULA, conducted crop cut assessments to determine the yield lost by farmers due to adverse weather conditions and other shocks (i.e. pests). The resulting yield from the crop cuts exercise will determine the pay-outs to be made by NICO (insurance firm) to the 66,000 insured farmers supported by WFP and the Adaptation Fund Programmes.

Strategic Outcome 5

- Food Security Analysis:** WFP continues to collect both commodity prices/availability from traders across the country as well as food security data from some 2,500 households to understand how the COVID-19 situation and its associated mitigating measures are impacting market access and food security. These analysis bulletins are disseminated to stakeholders through the bi-weekly [Minimum Expenditure Basket](#) and monthly [COVID-19 Household Food Security Monitoring](#) Bulletins.
- The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee's (MVAC) annual Acute IPC assessments were completed. The Acute IPC consolidation workshop is slated to take place in mid-July, the results of which will inform the upcoming 2021/2022 Lean Season Response. At present, early figures based on the overlay of various data sources indicate that some 900,000 are likely to be classified as food insecure. Preparations are also underway to launch Malawi's first-ever Chronic IPC analysis.

Strategic Outcome 6

- Emergency Supply Chain Support to the COVID-19 Response:** As co-lead of the cluster, WFP deployed and installed four big tents (32m x 10m) at Mzuzu Central Hospital function as a field hospital for COVID-19 screening and treatment.
- Further, WFP deployed and installed two tents to Mwanza Border to be used as a testing facility.
- Meanwhile, in June, 437 metric tonnes of commodities including pulses and Super Cereal were exported to other country offices (Eswatini, Mozambique and Angola).

Donors

Adaptation Fund, Flanders, ECHO, European Union (INTPA), FEED, Flanders, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Mastercard, Multilateral Funds, Norway, Russia, SDG Fund, Swiss Development Cooperation, UK (FCDO), USAID.