Ms. Mwale, a mother of four, has been a widow for the last 12 years. After losing her brother, she took on his two children as well. Before the COVID pandemic, she used to travel to Mwemeshi every day – a bustling town 10km away from Lusaka where fish are traded – to sell sardines in the local market.

“I was making around ZMW 700 a month, but the coronavirus ruined everything. I lost my small income as I fear travelling to Mwemeshi in case I catch the virus”. To make some money, Joyce set up an alternative business making floor polish. But this only brings her around ZMW 50 a month.

“Life isn’t easy for me – this isn’t enough money to survive on. I must pay school fees and find food for six children on my own,” Ms. Mwale says. WFP’s cash payment of ZMW 2,400 - enough to meet half her family’s food and nutrition needs for six months during the onset of the pandemic - came at a vital time when her family hit rock bottom.

"I was so happy when I received a text message that said that I had received a voucher for cash as I desperately needed help," she says. "We had no food left and I was preparing to sell my household furniture to get some cash for food." With the cash received from WFP, she could finally buy food for her children and went straight to the market to buy a bag of mielie meal, fish, beans and vegetables.

Ms. Mwale’s hope for the future is that coronavirus will end and she can resume with her business.
Strategic outcome 1: Crisis-affected people in Zambia, including refugees, can meet their basic food and nutrition needs all year round

- 659,056 people reached with food assistance
- 316,565 people affected by COVID-19 received cash transfers
- 88% refugees frequently consumed diverse diets

Strategic outcome 2: Vulnerable people in Zambia have improved nutritional status in line with national targets, by 2024

- 47,269 pregnant and lactating women and girls and carers reached with nutrition messaging
- 10,531 pregnant and lactating women and girls trained in food processing and preservation
- Supported the Government to develop and launch the healthy diets campaign to increase awareness

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

- 63,387 smallholder farmers trained in conservation agriculture practices
- 21,829 smallholder farmers sold 23,628 mt of produce for USD 3.34 million
- 7,016 smallholder farmers affected by early season dry spells received insurance payouts valued at USD 57,320

Strategic outcome 4: Government institutions in Zambia have more efficient, effective, and shock-responsive social protection systems to contribute to SDG2

- 24,327 schoolchildren benefitted from hydroponic gardens
- WFP supported the development of a national home-grown school meals strategy
- WFP supported the Government in conducting the 2020 indepth vulnerability and needs assessment

Strategic outcome 5: Government institutions in Zambia and their partners have more efficient, effective, and shock-responsive social protection systems to contribute to SDG2

WFP delivered service provision to the United Nations Population Fund for storage and handling of non-food items and common premises to the International Fund for Agricultural Development. WFP undertook a market survey to increase current storage capacity (from 6,000 mt up to 24,000 mt), secured on-demand specialised storage facilities for medical-related products and other sensitive relief items and started boosting its logistics capacity.

PARTNERS