



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Burundi Country Brief July 2021



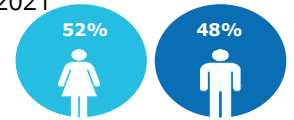
In Numbers

1,083 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 707,727 cash transferred under assistance to returnees, vulnerable people affected by the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 and resilience-building activities

USD 13.2 m net funding requirements for the next six months (July - December 2021)

186,708 people assisted in July 2021



Operational Updates

Assistance to refugees

WFP provided food assistance to **51,069** refugees (**22,470** males, **28,599** females, **13,789** children aged 0-59 months and **2,043** people aged over 60 years) through the distribution of cash-based transfers (CBT) and 608 **mt** of in-kind food. The food distributed consisted of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and salt.

Assistance to returnees

WFP provided **148.5 mt** of in-kind food and **USD 148,358** through cash-based transfer (CBT) to **8,244** Burundi returnees (**4,040** males or 49 percent and **4,204** females or 51 percent). The assistance consisted of hot meals provided at transit centres, and a three-month return package consisting of cereals and vegetable oil. Returnees also benefited from CBT, and a total of **USD 256,711** was transferred to allow them to buy beans and salt, not present in the food basket. The return package facilitated the reintegration of the returnees into their communities.

Food assistance to people affected by the socio-economic impact of COVID-19

In July, **133,058** people (66,668 males or 50.1 percent and 66,390 females or 49.9 percent) in Cibitoke Province received a total of 174 **mt** of food consisting of cereals and vegetable oil. Each household also received a cash entitlement of BIF 80,000, (equivalent to USD 41.3) to purchase beans, not provided in WFP's food basket. In total, **USD 117,797** were transferred through CBT to beneficiaries.

Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)

In Cankuzo, Kirundo, Ngozi, and Rutana Provinces, WFP reached **15,205** moderately malnourished pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs), and **27,452** children aged 6-59 months with **134 mt** of specialized nutritious foods through MAM treatment activities. Distributions were coupled with social behaviour change communication (SBCC) activities implemented by community workers.

Resilience building

Under the project Tubehoneza, WFP distributed **USD 451,017** to **50,200** participants.

Operational Context

According to April 2021 (lean season) IPC results, 14 percent of the population (1.61 million) is facing emergency and crisis levels of food insecurity (phases 3 and 4). The food security situation could improve in the coming months, thanks to the harvest of the 2021B season. For the projected period (June to September 2021), the number of people in need could decrease to about 1.04 million people (9%). However, food security situation will remain worse in livelihood zones of "Depression du Nord, Crete Congo Nil and Plaine de l'Imbo". Factors, such as rainfall deficit, rising waters of Lake Tanganyika, floods, population displacement in the western provinces, consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and recurrent population movements are aggravating the food insecurity in the country: staple food prices have soared highest in the past five years

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.



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	2.5 m	13.2 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

It is a joint FAO/UNICEF/UNFPA/WFP Community Resilience-Building project whereby WFP contributes to improve food security by providing cash-based transfers to targeted beneficiaries.

Supply Chain

- From 19 to 30 July, WFP carried out a training to improve the safety and efficiency of operations in the major ports around the Lake Tanganyika. In Bujumbura, WFP conducted trainings on Health and Safety during port operations, in collaboration with Maritime Authorities and Ministry of Transport. The training included theory sessions followed by practical exercises at the port of Bujumbura.
- Following a joint assessment on border points conducted by WFP in January-February, WFP met with the Non-Tariff Barrier Committee to review and validate the final report and its recommendations. A formal validation workshop will be organized in August. It will be the first step for WFP's support to the border operations (technical, transfer of skills).

Monitoring

- In July, WFP and its partners received 287 feedback and complaints from beneficiaries through the complaints and feedback mechanism (CFM). Out of these, 244 (85 percent) were resolved, and 43 are currently being addressed. Most of the complaints and feedback included requests for information and identity card issues in relation to the distribution of cash entitlements under the resilience-building project. It is worth noting that the CFM also recorded 35 positive feedback (expression of gratitude).

Challenges

- Lack of funding continues to negatively impact WFP's operations, particularly its food assistance for refugees. The food basket for refugees continues to face shortages in Super Cereal due to funding constraints. In addition, constrained funding has led to delays in the implementation of treatment of MAM activities and nutrition support to people living with HIV on antiretroviral treatment and tuberculosis (TB) patients.
- WFP anticipates a shortage in cereals in September and October due to insufficient funding. If no additional funding is received, the food security and nutrition situation of the refugees 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, United States of America, World Bank

Photo: Beneficiary receiving cash in July, under TUBEHONEZA project. © WFP/Aurore Ishimwe

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