



# WFP Malawi Country Brief August 2021

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## Operational Context

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

Malawi's challenges are compounded by weak economic growth, a high risk of overall debt distress with limited space to absorb shocks, a low primary school completion rate (51 percent), a high prevalence of stunting (37 percent for children under 5) and high prevalence of HIV/AIDS infection (9.6 percent). WFP's activities support the Government for a food and nutrition-secure and resilient future, and are guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 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

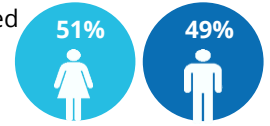
Stunting: 37% of children aged 6-59 months old

## In Numbers

60,494 cumulative and 10,279 active cases of COVID-19 in Malawi (31 August 2021)

USD 4.9 million six-month (September 2021 - February 2022) net funding requirements

11,000 refugee households assisted with food and cash distributions



## Strategic Outcome 1

- **Refugees:** Double distributions for the months of July and August were completed, with cash transfers and in-kind transfers of Super Cereal (corn-soya blend) for the food basket for 11,000 refugee households (approximately 46,000 refugees) in Dzaleka camp.
- Some 200 participants in the camp were engaged in livelihood activities, including soya farming, mushroom production and soap making.
- To date, 73 metric tons of soya produced in and around the camp have been sold to consumers within the camp. WFP plans to scale up the livelihood activities to an additional 300 refugee households in September.

## Strategic Outcome 2

- **School Feeding:** Drafting of the school feeding strategy has started in consultation with the Ministry of Education School Health and Nutrition Department, with the aim of finalising the document by end of September. Workplans for the districts of Chikwawa, Nsanje, Phalombe and Zomba have been completed as part of roll of the *Tsogolo La Thanzi* programme (TSOLATA). The district teams will start implementation of activities in readiness for home-grown school feeding rollout.
- **Social Protection:** WFP continues supporting evidence generation to inform programming, with recent contributions towards the Lean Season Response After-Action Review (AAR). AAR recommendations continue to inform preparedness work for the lean season response. With support from WFP, 17 government staff have completed an online course on adaptive social protection to design and adapt a social protection system in times of shock, delivered by the Economic Policy Research Institute.

## Strategic Outcome 3

- **Malnutrition Prevention:** Household door-to-door visits were conducted by care groups supported by WFP to disseminate nutrition messages on infant and young child feeding, maternal nutrition and hygiene and sanitation practices across the five districts of Balaka, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Phalombe, and Zomba. About 70,500 households were reached.

Contact info: Badre Bahaji (badre.bahaji@wfp.org)

Country Director: Paul Turnbull

Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/malawi](http://www.wfp.org/countries/malawi)

Photo: Food Assistance for Assets participants highlight that backyard vegetable gardens developed under the intervention have contributed to improving dietary diversity and overall nutrition at the household level. WFP/Badre Bahaji

## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>629.7 m</b>	<b>225.5 m</b>	<b>4.9 m</b>

### 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:** The roll-out of the integrated resilience activities for the 2021/2022 season has started. The integrated resilience approach focuses on watershed management, livelihoods support, integrated risk management and market access support. Key activities and results from previous years have been compiled in a brief [available online](#).
- In August, WFP continued to work with participants on the use of the [Fenik Cool Boxes](#) to reduce food waste and [Pesitho solar cooker](#) as an alternative energy source.
- Under the smallholder agricultural market support component, the livelihoods activity is expanding to support farmers who are part of home-grown school feeding in Mangochi District.
- The food for assets (FFA) final evaluation, which looked at WFP’s integrated resilience programme with FFA as the cornerstone from 2014-2019 has been finalized. Among its key findings, the percentage of households across WFP’s eight target districts which reported harvesting over 200 kgs of maize increased from 43 percent in 2019 to 75 percent in 2020. 90 percent of participants reported that the creation of household and/or community assets protected them from natural disasters.

## Strategic Outcome 5

- **Gender and Protection:** WFP has participated in a global language assessment activity to better discern WFP’s use of language in communication with the goal of ensuring the best service to beneficiaries.
- **Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis:** Initial 2021/2022 lean season figures of affected populations have been released. Current estimates show a total of 1,495,000 classified as IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Of those, 84 percent are in rural areas, 12 percent in urban areas and 4 percent in peri-urban areas (“bomas”). Preparations are now underway regarding response design in support of the Government.

## Strategic Outcome 6

- **Emergency Supply Chain Support to the COVID-19 Response:** As co-lead of the logistics cluster, WFP supported the Ministry of Health with about 1,000 m<sup>3</sup> of storage space for medical personal protective equipment, as well as with the deployment and installation of six small tents to Nkhatabay District Hospital.
- Through the cluster, WFP also supported the Ministry of Health by transporting oxygen cylinders to Mzimba, Nkhata and Rumphu district hospitals.

## Donors

Adaptation Fund, Flanders, ECHO, European Union (INTPA), Flanders, Germany (BMZ), Iceland, Ireland, Multilateral Funds, Norway, SDG Fund, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, United Kingdom (FCDO), USAID (BHA).