



WFP Malawi Country Brief October 2021

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

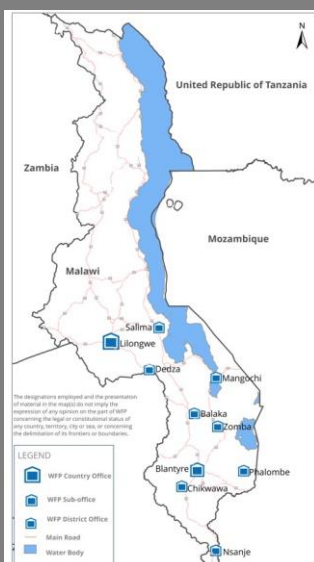


Operational Context

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 the age of 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**

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

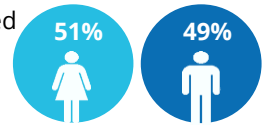
Photo: Khadija is one of more than 65,000 farmers that have received pay-out from the crop insurance they invested in through WFP and partners NICO and PULA. © WFP/Badre Bahaji

In Numbers

61,796 cumulative and 1,950 active cases of COVID-19 in Malawi (31 October 2021)

USD 2.2 million six-month (November 2021 - April 2022) net funding requirements

11,000 refugee households assisted with food and cash distributions



Strategic Outcome 1

- **Refugees:** Double distributions for the months of September and October 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.
- WFP and sister agency United Nations High Commissioner for refugees (UNHCR) supported the [visit](#) of UNHCR's Regional Director in Dzaleka refugee camp in Malawi to enhance government engagement and plans in support of the comprehensive refugee response framework.
- WFP and partners (including Malawi university of science and technology) held seasonal livelihood planning and community-based participatory planning with refugees and host communities to design and expand livelihoods activities in the camp.

Strategic Outcome 2

- **School feeding:** In collaboration with the Ministries of Agriculture and Education, WFP Malawi conducted home-grown school feeding (HGSF) trainings as part of the transitioning to HGSF in Chikwawa, Nsanje, Phalombe and Zomba Districts under EU-supported Tsogolo la thanzi-TSOLATA. The trainings focused on financial management, procurement, warehouse management, nutrition, and cooking demonstrations and 74 out of 86 schools participated in the trainings.
- Meanwhile, over 600,000 children are receiving a daily hot breakfast before class while smallholder farmers access a stable market for their produce thanks to the resumption of on-site school feeding.
- **Social protection:** To inform preparedness work for the lean season response, WFP Malawi has supported the Government with developing and disseminating standard operating procedures on horizontal expansion of the social cash transfer programme for harmonization with government programming.
- Also, WFP Malawi has supported the development of guidelines to feed into the larger strategic national guidance for cash plus activities. The cash plus, to be piloted during the upcoming lean season, is intended to build household resilience and fast track recovery following a period of heightened need.

Strategic Outcome 3

- **Malnutrition prevention:** Nutrition awareness campaigns on various nutrition messages including maternal nutrition, infant and young child nutrition, water, hygiene and sanitation and COVID-19 were also conducted through live radio programmes, radio jingles and sensitization meetings in Balaka, Chikwawa and Zomba reaching an estimated 750,000 people.

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	2.2 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:** Implementation of activities continued in the districts with a focus on raising tree seedlings, land resource activities including building water conservation structures as well as irrigation activities where farmers concentrated on production of cash crops such as onions and tomatoes.
- Amid promise of a bumper harvest in the 2020/2021 growing season, an [insurance pay-out](#) was triggered for crop-insured smallholder farmers following failed harvests in pocket areas of Malawi. The pay-out was launched by the Ministry of Agriculture, WFP, NICO and PULA in October as over 65,000 farmers in eight districts will be receiving compensation for failed harvests.
- In October, WFP Malawi presented to development partners, government representatives, and UN and NGO partners its consolidated body of [integrated resilience research](#), which was comprised of nine bodies of evidence capturing the voices of the beneficiaries in a robust evaluation of its food assistance for assets activities. Findings from the research indicate:
 - Asset creation is the cornerstone of WFP's integrated resilience package and is yielding significant impact and sustainability.
 - Participating farmers are experiencing improved food and nutrition security.
 - There are improved natural resources and capacity to manage environmental risks.
 - There is evidence of sustainability and spill-over effects.

Strategic Outcome 5

- **Malawi vulnerability assessment committee integrated food security phase classification (IPC) analysis:** The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC), with technical support from WFP Malawi, kicked off the **nation's first-ever Chronic IPC analysis** with a week-long data analysis workshop. Members from several government departments, major development partners, and donors participated in the interactive workshop.

Strategic Outcome 6

- **Emergency supply chain support to the COVID-19 response:** The logistics cluster, through WFP, is supporting the Ministry of Health with the construction of container labs at several border entry points. Construction work in Dedza, Mchinji and Mulanje is ongoing.
- Furthermore, 125 metric tonnes of super cereal were exported to Mozambique for WFP's emergency operations there. So far, a little over 11,000 metric tonnes of food items have been exported to several countries in the region in 2021.

Donors

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