



WFP Malawi Country Brief December 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: est. 18.6 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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Photo: Alinafe Magwela has seen significant impact in her and her family's life as a result of her participation in WFP's Food Assistance for Assets programme. WFP/ Badre Bahaji.

In Numbers

75,075 cumulative and 12,334 active cases of COVID-19 in Malawi (31 December 2021)

USD 3.7 million six-month (January - June 2022) net funding requirements

11,000 refugee households assisted with cash distributions



Strategic Outcome 1

- Refugees:** Double distributions for the months of November and December were completed, with cash and in-kind transfers of super cereal (corn-soya blend) for 11,000 refugee households (approximately 46,000 refugees) in Dzaleka refugee camp.
- Lean Season Response:** To support the 2021/2022 lean season response, WFP is targeting over 16,000 households in the district of Chikwawa with cash-based transfers to meet their food gap. As of 31st December, about 12,000 households had received their entitlements (about USD 23 per household per month.)

Strategic Outcome 2

- School feeding:** The Government of Norway [announced](#) a new contribution to support home grown school meals in three countries in Africa: Ethiopia, Malawi and Niger. For Malawi, Norway has provided USD 1.5 million to support 50,000 children with school meals in 2022.
- Social protection:** As part of the 2021/2022 lean season response, the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare is supporting about 79,000 households receiving regular support from the Social Cash Transfer Programme with a cash top up to meet their food gap. WFP and UNICEF are supporting the Ministry in strengthening its systems such as the Unified Beneficiary Registry (UBR) which is used for beneficiary targeting.

Strategic Outcome 3

- Malnutrition prevention:** Nutrition awareness campaigns on messages on maternal nutrition, infant and young child nutrition, water, hygiene and sanitation and COVID-19 reached over of 300,000 beneficiaries through door-to-door visits conducted by care group volunteers in Balaka, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Phalombe and Zomba districts.
- WFP, in collaboration with the Department of Nutrition, HIV and AIDS hosted a Scaling Up Nutrition Business Network (SBN) breakfast meeting with private sector companies on 17th December 2021. Led by the Minister of Health, [the breakfast](#) aimed to enhance private sector contributions towards nutrition under the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) 3.0 strategy.

Strategic Outcome 4

- Livelihoods:** In December, resilience building activities focused on (i) raising tree seedlings, (ii) land resource activities including building water conservation structures as well as (iii) irrigation activities where farmers concentrated on production of cash crops such as onions and tomatoes.
- In 2021, 32,000 farmers received cash-based transfers for asset creation while 72,000 farmers implemented asset creation while receiving only technical assistance from WFP.
- Ahead of the 2021/2022 growing season, farmers supported by WFP are registering for crop insurance to safeguard their produce against potential loss from weather shocks. So far, over 27,000 farmers have been registered in the targeted districts (Balaka, Blantyre, Chikwawa, Machinga, Mangochi, Nsanje, Phalombe and Zomba) and registration is still underway.

Strategic Outcome 5

- Malawi vulnerability assessment committee integrated food security phase classification (IPC) analysis:** In December, the Malawi Government released the updated results of the IPC update assessments which indicate a slight uptick in the number of people classified as food insecure during the 2021/2022 lean season from 1.4 million to 1.6 million.

Strategic Outcome 6

- Emergency supply chain support to the COVID-19 response:** Six fabricated container laboratories were [transferred](#) to Chitipa and Karonga Districts to support the Ministry of Health with screening incoming travellers at points of entry in line with the recently announced [new prevention measures](#) for COVID-19 in Malawi.



Schools in Malawi are set to reopen in the first week of January and farmers are supplying produce to schools providing home grown school feeding to learners. WFP/Badre Bahaji

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).

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	3.7 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.