Liberia currently faces a series of endogenous shocks, further exacerbated by the impact of COVID-19, that are largely driven by declining external assistance, weak domestic revenue generation, and limited expenditure adjustments.

Food insecurity is widespread with an estimated 2.4 million people moderately or severely food insecure (Liberia Food Security and Post-Harvest Assessment, March 2021). Overall, 63 percent of the population are multidimensional poor (with women more affected), 30 percent of children aged 6-59 months are stunted, and 3 percent are acutely malnourished.

The Government of Liberia’s National Development Plan, the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (2018-2023), aims to make Liberia a middle-income country by 2030, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. WFP’s Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019-2023 links food security, agriculture, nutrition and education through an integrated approach aligning with broader national and international commitments. Key priorities include capacity strengthening of national and local institutions to address food and nutrition insecurity.

In Numbers

USD 6.5 m six-month (February to July 2022) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- In January, WFP collaborated with the Ministry of Education to continue beneficiary registration under the COVID-19 emergency food assistance project. The project supports food insecure school children and their families in Montserrado, Nimba and Maryland counties and is funded by the Government of the People's Republic of China. WFP is using its digital beneficiary information and transfer management platform (SCOPE), to track the transfer of entitlements to the targeted beneficiaries. The SCOPE registrations of the targeted 55,250 school children and an adult representative of each household, is expected to be completed by February 2022. In the majority of targeted schools, distributions of take-home rations to students will take place in February and March 2022. A total of 276,250 food insecure Liberians will benefit from this assistance that is being provided, amidst a deteriorating food security situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- On 28 January 2022, WFP, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, launched the second round of Health Supply Chain deliveries. This involved preparation of the first trucks of health supplies for dispatch from the Central Medical Store to health facilities across Liberia. The collaboration aims to strengthen the national health supply chain operations, by supporting with the movement of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies to county depots and hospitals across Liberia. In January, upon request from the Government, WFP delivered 371 packages of HIV rapid test kits to 11 facilities in seven counties.

- WFP continues to face serious funding shortfalls for its school feeding programme - USD 6.1 million is required (87 percent of the six-month funding requirements for school feeding: from February to July 2022) to provide hot school meals to 100,000 school children. The resources are vital in supporting children vulnerable to food insecurity and other factors. In many cases, the school meal is the only certain meal children have access to daily.
**WFP Country Strategy**

**Liberia Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2022 Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>2022 Available Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.3 m</td>
<td>8.1 m*</td>
<td>6.5 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 2022 Available Contributions include a balance of USD 6.7 million carried over from previous years. A substantial amount of these funds was earmarked for the implementation of the COVID-19 Household Food Support Programme which was completed in 2021 and the remaining balance will be returned to the Government of Liberia.

**Strategic Result 1:** Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food insecure populations, including school-aged children in targeted areas, have access to adequate and nutritious food, including food produced locally, by 2030.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activity 1:**
- Provide an integrated, inclusive and gender-transformative school feeding package to food and nutritionally vulnerable school children including take-home rations of adolescent girls in a way that relies on and stimulates local production (home-grown school feeding).

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Crisis-affected populations in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

**Activity 2:**
- Provide an integrated emergency food and nutrition assistance package to vulnerable households affected by disasters and/or other disruptions.

**Strategic Result 5:** Countries strengthened capacity

**Strategic Outcome 3:** National and sub-national institutions have strengthened capacities to design and manage food security and nutrition, social protection, emergency preparedness and response, and disaster risk management systems by 2030.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activity 3:**
- Provide capacity strengthening support to the Government and its partners to strengthen national coordination mechanisms, information management and monitoring systems for food security and nutrition, and disaster risk management.

**Strategic Result 8:** Enhance Global Partnerships

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Humanitarian and development partners have access to common services throughout the year.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

**Activity 4:**
- Provide supply chain and ICT services to humanitarian and development partners

**Monitoring and Assessments**

- In January, WFP carried out outcome monitoring activities of its emergency response activities in Bong, Grand Bassa, Grand Kru, Loфа, Maryland, Montserrado, Nimba, River Cess, River Gee and Sinoe counties. The monitoring results showed that the targeted households continue to struggle from food insecurity, with more than half the household expenditure is used to purchase food. After receiving WFP food assistance in 2021, monitoring results show that vulnerable households require further support to meet the minimum food requirements and recover from the economic impacts of COVID-19.

**Stakeholder Collaboration**

- WFP closely engaged with partners including the Ministry of Education, school authorities, community-based organizations and beneficiaries to plan activities for the COVID-19 emergency food assistance project. Preparations aimed to ensure smooth implementation of distributions to food insecure school children and their families in Montserrado, Nimba and Maryland counties.

- Under WFP’s activities to provide common services to humanitarian and development partners, WFP and Save the Children renewed an agreement to provide supply chain services, including storage and associated services at WFP’s warehouse in Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County. This will allow prepositioning in Liberia’s less accessible areas and ensure uninterrupted delivery of school feeding assistance. WFP also renewed an agreement with Partnership for Research on Ebola Vaccines in Liberia (PREVAIL) that includes the provision of a mobile storage unit used as a COVID-19 testing facility at John F. Kennedy Hospital in Monrovia.

**Challenges**

- WFP is presently facing an extremely difficult resource situation that is impacting its ability to sustain life-saving food assistance, school feeding, livelihood support, and contributions to the national COVID-19 recovery efforts in Liberia. WFP’s six-month net funding requirements in Liberia amount to USD 6.5 million (February to July 2022).

**Donors**

Donors to the WFP Liberia Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023 include Canada, Government of Liberia, Multilateral Funds, People’s Republic of China, Private Donors (MasterCard, Japan Association for WFP) and USA. Additional support has been provided by UNDP, the UN Peacebuilding Fund and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.