

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

World Food Programme Zambia

2021 Annual Country Report

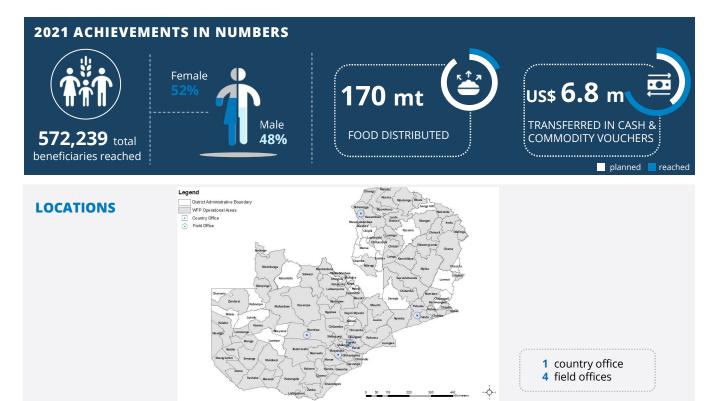


2021 highlights

Climate change effects continued to impact agricultural production, especially among Zambia's 1.5 million smallholder farming households due to over-reliance on rain-fed production and maize monocropping.

Zambia continues to face the triple burden of malnutrition, with widespread undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies and worsening overnutrition. Thirty-five percent of children aged 24-59 months are stunted.

COVID-19 remained a significant national risk, threatening to worsen pre-existing socio-economic challenges and undermining the Government's ability to provide social services and to achieve national priorities.



5

USD 29.85 million resourced

USD 16.245 million budgeted

WFP promotes hydroponic gardening for improved school meals

With climate change effects increasingly undermining agricultural productivity, WFP has continued to explore innovative ways to promote the production and consumption of vegetables in schools and communities. Hydroponics technology — a soilless cultivation technique that uses up to 90 percent less water and 75 percent less space than traditional agriculture and grows crops faster — is one of the solutions WFP promotes.

To ensure schoolchildren receive diverse school meals, WFP is supporting the Ministry of Education to establish 71 hydroponic gardens in schools in drought-prone areas, with 47 already functional.

Now, schoolchildren are bringing their newly acquired knowledge home and growing fresh and nutritious produce for their families using local solutions.

"When WFP first came to my school, I thought 'wow, these people are amazing'. I never thought you could grow plants without soil. I said I must try to do this at home. I knew I could do it. I started trying to replicate it, until finally I built my own greenhouse," says 16-year-old Daniel Chansa from Kitwe, one of the 26,000 school children benefitting from the established hydroponic gardens.

WFP ZAMBIA

www.wfp.org/countries/Zambia

Contact info: Christopher Katete, Reports Officer (christopher.katete@wfp.org) **Country Director:** Ms Cissy Byenkya

WFP DONORS IN 2021

China, European Commission, Germany, Green Climate Fund (GCF), Ireland, Private Donors, Sweden, Switzerland, UNICEF and the United States of America

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Crisis response

Provided food and nutrition support to crisis-affected populations



Refugee settlement covered



Key achievements

211,020 urban

people impacted by COVID-19 received cash transfers

USD 4.5 million

distributed in cash

transfers

refugees received cash assistance

1,073 refugees and asylum seekers received food assistance

170 mt

distributed

of food



28.8% of the refugees experienced food shortages (compared to 56.6% in 2020)



96.6% of the **refugees** frequently consuming diverse **diet** (compared to 88.5% in 2020)

districts covered

COVID-19-impacted

Nutrition support

Provided technical support to Government institutions and the private sector for the reduction of malnutrition and the scale up of high-impact nutrition interventions



activities

18,000 pregnant and lactating women and adolescents received nutrition messages

59.734 school children reached with nutrition education and school gardening

131 local organisations benefited from the SUN **Business Network services**

Finalized the Fill the Nutrient Gap analysis for improving nutrition



1,320 community-based animators trained to integrate nutrition in savings groups activities

29% of children 6-23 months consumed a diverse diet (compared to 19% in 2020)



Smallholder farmer support

Enhanced smallholder farmers' resilience against climatic shocks, and improved their access to markets and financial and aggregation services

Smallholders trained on:

Post-harvest management to reduce crops losses (201,438)

Conservation agriculture to promote sustainable farming for improved yields and incomes (121,938)

100,000 smallholders received 201,000 hermetic storage bags, enabling them to safely store their grain; among them, 42,684 received farm inputs including climate-resilient seed. The inputs, distributed via commodity vouchers, amounted to **USD 2.3** million.

16,000 smallholder farmers sold nearly **19,000** mt of food crops valued at **USD 4.6** million through WFP-supported aggregation network

50,000 smallholders supported to start saving part of their incomes

83.8% smallholder households frequently consuming diverse diets compared to 17% in 2020

recovery support

14.4% smallholders reported postharvest losses compared to 37.7% in 2020

62% targeted smallholders reported increased production of nutritious crops under the early drought-

Social protection

Provided technical assistance to strengthen national capacities and systems for social protection programmes and disaster preparedness

Supported the Ministry of Education to rollout a Food Tracking System in 120 schools to enhance accountability

Supported the establishment of 47 hydroponic gardens (with 24 finalised in 2021) to improve and diversify meals for **26,000** school children

Trained government staff in 17 districts on decentralized procurement to enhance school feeding; 1,000 mt of food for schools procured locally

Installed 120 rain gauges in 14 districts to strengthen early warning systems

Service provision

Provided on demand logistics and technical advisory support

Gladys, a WFP-supported smallholder,

harvesting orange maize



Provided services to the United Nations Population Fund for storage and handling of 149,893 non-food items at a

cost of **USD 24,652**



Undertook a logistics oo capacity assessment to ascertain WFP's emergency preparedness