Operational Context

Zambia achieved lower middle-income status in 2011 following years of impressive economic performance. Yet, more than half of its 17.8 million people live below the poverty line. The deteriorating economy, coupled with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, threatens government efforts to deliver social services, alleviate poverty, and achieve zero hunger.

In the last decade, the country has suffered from the impact of climate change, with frequent prolonged dry spells, extreme high temperatures, and floods that have undermined food security and threatened the livelihoods of many smallholder farming households. Smallholders are the country’s largest population of food producers. They are responsible for up to 90 percent of the food produced in Zambia.

Under the Zambia Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019–2024, WFP provides food assistance to vulnerable and food insecure people, including on-demand logistics support during emergencies. WFP also implements nutrition and smallholder farmer support interventions in food insecure areas, and helps strengthen the capacity of the Government to implement national programmes and systems that contribute to zero hunger and improved nutrition.

WFP has been present in Zambia since 1967, providing food assistance and strengthening the capacity of the Government in addressing people’s food and nutrition needs.

Operational Updates

In April, WFP assisted 118,395 people through its saving lives and changing lives interventions implemented across Zambia. Among the assisted, 17,999 refugees and asylum seekers received cash transfers and in-kind food assistance; 18,828 beneficiaries were reached through nutrition improvement interventions; 43,282 people were reached through the smallholder resilience and market access interventions; and 38,286 were assisted under the social protection and capacity strengthening interventions.

Refugees support: In April, WFP introduced ration cuts for the 18,000 refugees and asylum seekers at the WFP-supported Mantapala Refugee Settlement in Nchelenge district. The ration cuts were introduced due to funding challenges. WFP needs an additional USD 727,029 to provide full rations to the affected populations between May and December 2022.

School feeding: As part of systems strengthening to the Government, WFP supported the Ministry of Education (MoE) to train 95 school focal persons in four districts (Gwembe, Ikelenge, Lufwanyama and Sinazongwe) to manage the Food Tracking System (FTS). The FTS is a web-based system developed for the ministry to track the movement of commodities from procurement to consumption, ensuring improved commodity accountability in the Home-Grown School Meals programme implemented by the Government in 70 districts targeting over two million school children. So far, WFP has supported MoE to roll out the FTS in 144 schools in 14 districts. The FTS provides real-time data visualization to users and managers at all levels (school, district, province and national), allowing transparent and efficient management and monitoring of food allocated to the schools.

Smallholder market access support: WFP continued to implement initiatives aimed at enhancing market access among smallholder farmers. During the month under review, WFP facilitated three workshops in Chipata, Kabwe and Livingstone districts to equip 33 aggregators with knowledge on becoming WFP’s pulse suppliers under its local pulse procurement initiative. The workshop sessions included a brief on the 2022/2023 crop marketing outlook, commodity management and price negotiations.

Nutrition support: Working with the ministries of Health and Education and the National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC), WFP trained 144 government and cooperating...
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2019–2024)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six-Month Net Funding Requirement (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>142 m</td>
<td>56.09 m</td>
<td>458,727</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Strategic Result 01:** Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 01:** Crisis-affected people, including refugees can meet their basic food and nutrition needs all year.

**Focus Area:** Crisis response

**Activities:**
- Unconditional cash-based and food transfers.
- Supplementary feeding for targeted refugees.

**Strategic Result 02:** No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 02:** Vulnerable people in Zambia have improved nutrition status in line with national targets by 2024.

**Focus Area:** Root causes

**Activities:**
- Provide technical support to government institutions and the private sector for the reduction of malnutrition and the scale up of high-impact nutrition interventions.

**Strategic Result 03:** Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes

**Strategic Outcome 03:** Smallholder farmers in Zambia, especially women, have increased access to markets, enhanced resilience to climate shocks and diversified livelihoods by 2030.

**Focus Area:** Resilience Building

**Activities:**
- Promote climate-smart agriculture, crop diversification through access to finance, climate services, post-harvest management support and access to markets for smallholder farmers.

**Strategic Result 04:** Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome 04:** Government institutions in Zambia have more efficient, effective and shock-responsive social protection systems that contribute to the achievement of SDG2.

**Focus area:** Root causes

**Activities:**
- Provide technical expertise and other services for strengthening the systems and capacities of government institutions and other partners in implementing and disaster social protection programmes and early warning preparedness and response activities.
- Provide technical support to the Government in strengthening systems and capacities of the structure for the HGSM programme.

**Strategic Result 05:** Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 05:** Provide on-demand service provision to the Government, private sector, development partners and United Nations agencies

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activities:**
- Provision of logistics and technical advisory support

---

**Success story**

“"The future rests in sorghum farming"” – Georgina

Sitting next to a stack of recently harvested sorghum, Georgina Chimbya, 52, of Gwembe District, in the company of her husband, Constantine Habutambo, narrates why she diversified into sorghum farming, after several years of growing the traditional crop maize, whose market prices are unstable.

“Drought has been a huge challenge in this part of Zambia. Memories of the many times our maize fields have dried up completely due to lack of rain are still fresh in my mind. But we are thankful to the World Food Programme (WFP) for motivating us to start growing sorghum which can withstand poor rainfall”.

Before, we would grow just maize throughout, a practice which worsened the risk of harvest losses and hunger,” discloses Georgina.

Another challenge that smallholders face is access to profitable markets. But this narrative is changing for the better.

In partnership with private sector players, WFP has been facilitating market access to enable smallholder farmers like Georgina to sell their surplus sorghum for a profit. She eagerly awaits the opening of marketing season to sell part of her harvest and use the income to meet household needs.

---

**Donors**

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

---

Photo: Ubraine, a smallholder farmer in Gwembe district, thrilled to have diversified into sorghum production, awaits to sell part of the harvested crop © WFP/Arnold Chasaya