

# WFP Malawi **Country Brief April 2022**



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

Contact info: Badre Bahaji (badre.bahaji@wfp.org)

Country Director: Paul Turnbull

Further information: <a href="https://www.wfp.org/countries/malawi">www.wfp.org/countries/malawi</a>

Photo: As part of logistics support for the floods-response, WFP is providing boat transport to Malawi Government and other partners for delivery of relief items and responders to inaccessible areas. © WFP/ Badre Bahaij.

# In Numbers

85,788 cumulative and 811 active cases of COVID-19 in Malawi (30 April 2022)

USD 1 million six-month (May - October 2022) net funding requirements

USD 29.4 million funding required for flood response under the flash appeal





### **Strategic Outcome 1**

- Floods Response: Under tropical storm Ana flood response, WFP completed distribution of cash-based transfers to 32,000 households in Chikwawa District. WFP confirmed a contribution from the Government of **Switzerland** towards cash assistance and emergency school feeding in flood-affected schools. This contribution and other resources will be used to reach 27,500 households in two additional districts (Nsanje and Phalombe) in May.
- **Refugees:** In parallel to the ongoing cash operation targeting over 11,000 households in Dzaleka refugee camp, WFP is also promoting income generating activities, so refugees and host communities boost their self-reliance. A wide of range of interventions are promoted, from soya and mushroom farming, eggs production, soap making and tailoring.

# **Strategic Outcome 2**

- School feeding: WFP joined a joint monitoring technical team with representation from the European Union, Government ministries and members of the AFIKEPO programme to document lessons on programme implementation in Mulanje, Nsanje, Phalombe and Zomba. The mission included visits to seven schools under WFP supported school feeding of which four schools supported by the European Union TSOLATA school feeding intervention. A total of 137 schools were proposed for scale up of home-grown school feeding under WFP.
- Social protection: In collaboration with the Government and partners, an after-action review of the lean season response will be conducted in May. The review will include the use of the social protection system jointly supported by UNICEF and WFP for targeting and delivery of lean season assistance.

### **Strategic Outcome 3**

Malnutrition prevention: With the support of the Government of Ireland, the Neno Nutrition Investment Project (NNIP) has strengthened overall governance structures at district and community levels, it also delivered an integrated nutrition-focused multisectoral package in Neno District. This serves as a pilot to inform multi-year and nation-wide scale up of the approach across other districts.

# **WFP Country Strategy**



### **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	1 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: WFP's food-assistance-for-assets (FFA) intervention is supporting 104,000 households in eight districts with land resource management, irrigation, crop and livestock production, and/or reforestation. Activities in April focused on irrigation farming and planning for the next phase (2022 cycle).
- Meanwhile, about 28,000 farming households were enrolled for crop insurance for the 2021/2022 season.
  These households will be compensated in case of crop failure.

### **Strategic Outcome 5**

- Food security phase analysis: WFP supported the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee to complete its market and price monitoring. The results point towards a potentially lower harvest compared to 2020 and 2021 levels because of the late onset of the rains coupled with the adverse effects of tropical storm Ana.
- Malawi launched its first-ever Chronic IPC Analysis, the results of which will be shared in May and will be used to inform policy and programme design.
- The conflict in Ukraine comes at a time when the country has been adversely affected by natural disasters and anticipated reduction in crop production. The uptick in global prices will adversely affect smallholder Malawian households across four main areas (fertilizer, fuel prices, cooking oil, wheat and maize prices). Combined, these drivers are likely to impact smallholder farmers' purchasing power and exacerbate the already-fragile food insecurity situation.

# **Strategic Outcome 6**

- Emergency supply chain support: As co-lead of the logistics cluster, WFP provided transportation of relief items (specifically 9,800 tarpaulins and 4,800 fixing kits) on behalf of Catholic Relief Services to Chikwawa in the wake of floods. Furthermore, WFP boats provided transport to Partners in Hope to facilitate delivery of healthcare services to flood-affected people in Nsanje District.
- On behalf of the logistics cluster, WFP has prepositioned 450 mt of emergency supplies for the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA) at the humanitarian staging area in Nsanje.
- WFP as co-lead of the National Logistics Cluster provides free-to-user emergency logistics support to humanitarian responders (i.e. transportation, storage, cargo handling, engineering). Requests for support should be channelled to <u>malawi.tropicalstormana@wfp.org</u>.

### **Donors**

Adaptation Fund, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, European Union International Partnerships, Flanders, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Multilateral Funds, Norway, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, United Kingdom Foreign Commonwealth and Development office, United Sates Agency for International Development Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance.