



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Burundi Country Brief April 2022



Operational Context

According to the projections for April 2021 (lean season) Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) results, 9 percent of the population (1.04 million) is facing emergency and crisis levels of food insecurity (phases 3 and 4). However, food security situation remains worse in livelihood zones of “ Depression du Nord, Crete Congo Nil and Plaine de l’Imbo”. Factors, such as rainfall deficit, rising waters of Lake Tanganyika, floods, population displacement in the western provinces, consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and recurrent population movements are aggravating the food insecurity in the country: staple food prices have soared to highest since 2018.

Over 90 percent of the population depends on agriculture for their livelihood. Burundi lacks capacity in emergency preparedness and response, and cannot cope with severe shocks such as droughts, epidemics and floods, resulting in livelihood losses. Burundi has the second highest chronic malnutrition rate in the world. According to the SMART 2020, the national average stunting rate is at 52 percent well above the emergency threshold (40 percent). WFP has been present in Burundi since 1968.



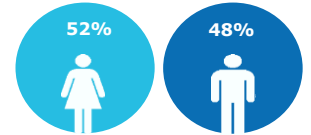
In Numbers

901 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 393,220 cash transferred under assistance to refugees

USD 17.7 m net funding requirements for the next six months (May - October 2022)

521,732 people assisted in April 2022



Operational Updates

- **Assistance to refugees:** WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **54,557** refugees (**24,005** males, **30,552** females, **14,730** children aged 0-59 months and **2,182** people aged over 60 years) with the distribution of **244 mt** of in-kind food and **USD 393,220** in cash-based transfers (CBT).
- **Assistance to returnees:** WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **1,986** Burundian returnees (**973** males or 49 percent and **1,013** females or 51 percent), distributing **84 mt** of in-kind food. The assistance consisted of hot meals provided at transit centres, and a three-month return package consisting of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and iodized salt.
- **Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): 10,525** people who were displaced by flooding in Gatumba district last year and still hosted in displacement sites received **125 mt** of food assistance.
- **Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM):** In March 2022, MAM treatment activities benefitted **7,753** moderately malnourished pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs) and **8,879** children aged 6-59 months, who received **100 mt** of specialized nutritious foods in Cankuzo, Kirundo, Ngozi, and Rutana Provinces. Distributions were coupled with social behaviour change communication (SBCC) implemented by health community workers, targeting the PLWGs, and guardians of children 6-59 months present at the health centers for distributions.
- **Stunting prevention:** WFP provided **16 mt** of specialized nutritious food to **11,210** children aged 6-23 months in Kirundo province. Activities included a strong SBCC component.
- **School Feeding Programme:** The programme assisted **426,822 school children** with **332 mt** of food (including 24 mt of milk). WFP assisted less children than planned (71 percent) due to a pipeline break in cereals.
- **Burundi HRP 2022:** The 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Burundi identifies 1.8 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Among these, the 2022 HRP targets 947,000 most vulnerable people in need of urgent assistance. They include refugees, Burundian returnees, IDPs and other

Population: **11.7 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **185 out of 189**

65 percent Burundians live under the poverty line

Chronic malnutrition: **52% of children between 6-59 months**

Country Strategy Plan (2022-2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
257.96m	0.82 m	14.72 m

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Shock-affected populations in targeted areas, Burundi returnees, refugees in camps, can meet their basic food needs all year round.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide unconditional food and/or cash-based assistance to refugees in camps and transit centers;
- Provide unconditional and/or conditional food and/or cash-based assistance to severely food insecure households including IDPs and Burundi returnees;

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Children 6-59 months, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, PLHIV and TB clients in the targeted provinces have improved nutritional status throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide an integrated nutrition-specific and sensitive package to children aged 6-59 months, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, and other vulnerable groups including people living with HIV/AIDS

Strategic Result 4: Sustainable Food Systems

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable populations including school-aged children and food value chain actors in Burundi have access to and contribute to healthier, nutritious, resilient, sustainable and gender-transformative food systems by 2024

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide nutritious home-grown school meals to pre-primary and primary school-aged children;
- Provide improved access to technologies and capacity development to smallholder farmers and food value chain actors;
- Provide nutrition-sensitive and gender-transformative livelihood support to food-insecure and at risk of food insecurity households

Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening

Strategic Outcome 4: Government and national actors in Burundi have strengthened capacities, systems and services by 2024

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide advisory and technical services, skills and assets to Government, Private Sector, Burundi Red Cross and NGOs for the design and implementation of effective and gender-responsive food and nutrition assistance including supply chain, social protection, school feeding, nutrition, sustainable food systems and early warning and emergency preparedness.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnership

Strategic Outcome 5: The Government of Burundi, humanitarian and development partners can reach vulnerable people and respond to the needs and to emergencies throughout the year.

Focus area : Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide on-demand supply chain and emergency telecommunications and shared IT services to Government, development and humanitarian partners.

vulnerable people in the country. The resources needed to provide this assistance amount to USD 182 million in 2022. The food security sector alone targets 506,000 food-insecure people and requires USD 18.7 million in 2022.

- **Impact of Ukraine crisis on Burundi:** Burundi imports 83 percent of its wheat from Russia and 17 percent from the rest of the world. The crises in Ukraine will have a negative impact on the overall cereal supply in Burundi as the country is highly dependent on wheat, and will have to substitute wheat with other cereals. This will further result in a demand increase of these substitutes, and consequently a price increase. Burundi imports rice and maize from Tanzania and Uganda which are also serving as the supply routes for South Sudan. The increase in demand for maize and rice across the region will result in a price increase in Burundi. As a result of the increase in the fuel products prices since 28 April, the price of transport has increased, which is already impacting the food prices on local markets.

Monitoring

- **Food prices monitoring:** April coincides with the start of the lean season and all food prices on the market are on the rise. In particular, the price of beans has risen by 30 percent compared to March 2022, reaching its highest level since the beginning of 2021. The combined effect of the lean season and the impact of the crisis in Ukraine resulted in a surge in the price of fuel, which further led to the general increase in the price of foodstuffs on the market. Indeed, since 28 April 2022, the price of oil and gasoil increased by 20% and 30% respectively at the pump in a context of persistent shortages. This has resulted in the disruption of market supply to the detriment of consumers.
- **Community Feedback Mechanism report:** In April 2022, WFP and its partners received 258 feedback and complaints from beneficiaries through the Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM). Out of these, 230 (89 percent) were resolved, and 28 are currently being addressed. More than half (57%) of the complaints were assistance request for resolving issues linked to assistance distribution. 39 out of the 258 complaints were classified as high priority, including cases of beneficiaries not finding their names on distribution lists, suspicions of fraud and thefts, and food shortages in schools under the school feeding programme.

Challenges

- **USD 3.6 million needed for assistance for refugees over the next six months:** shortfalls in cereals are expected in August with ration cuts starting the same month. Full rations would resume in November when in-kind food provided by BHA for fiscal year 2022 reaches Burundi. Additional funding is needed to cover August – October with full rations for those refugees who only rely on humanitarian food assistance from WFP to meet their daily food needs.

Donors (in alphabetical order): Burundi, Canada, China, European Union, FEED, France, Germany, Global Partnership for Education, Hilton Foundation, Japan, Kerry Group, Mastercard Europe, Monaco, Netherlands, Rockefeller Foundation, Russia, Switzerland, United States of America, World Bank.

Photo: Belyse, 9 months, enrolled in WFP's MAM treatment programme, has her arm measured at a clinic in Kirundo Province, Burundi. © WFP/ Fredrik_Lernerydt

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