



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Burundi Country Brief June 2022



Operational Context

According to the projections for April 2021 (lean season) IPC results, 9 percent of the population (1.18 million) is facing emergency and crisis levels of food insecurity (Phase 3). 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 highest in the past five years.

Over 90 percent of the population depends on agriculture for their livelihood. Burundi’s preparedness for emergencies and crises is weak and cannot cope with severe shocks such as droughts, epidemics and floods, which often claim lives and undermine livelihoods. Burundi is the second country most affected by chronic malnutrition in the world. According to the SMART 2022, the national average stunting rate is at 55.6 percent well above the emergency threshold (40 percent). WFP has been present in Burundi since 1968.



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**

In Numbers

2,030 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 544,497 cash transferred under assistance to refugees and drought-affected people

USD 10.75 m net funding requirements for the next six months (July - December 2022)

738,659 people assisted in June 2022



Operational Updates

- **Assistance to refugees:** WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **54,769** refugees (**24,098** males, **30,671** females, **14,788** children aged 0-59 months and **2,191** people aged over 60 years) with the distribution of **250 mt** of in-kind food and **USD 350,650** in cash-based transfers (CBT).
- **Assistance to returnees:** WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **3,395** Burundian returnees (**1,664** males or 49 percent and **1,731** females or 51 percent), distributing **154 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 drought-affected people:** WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **30,000** food-insecure people affected by drought in Kirundo Province. They received a combination of **130 mt** of in-kind food and CBT valued at **USD 193,847**.
- **Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM):** In June 2022, MAM treatment activities benefitted **7,689** moderately malnourished pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs) and **8,920** children aged 6-59 months who received **121 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 and targeting the PLWGs, and guardians of children 6-59 months present at the health centers for distributions.
- **School Feeding Programme:** The programme assisted **647,537 school children** in seven provinces with **1,380.398 mt** of food (including 219.738 mt of milk distributed to **104,493 school children** of which **55,015 girls**).

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
257.96m	0 m	10.75 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 camp 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.

Monitoring

- **Food prices monitoring:** June usually coincides with the start of the bean and rice harvests in almost all provinces of the country. As a result, stock levels of all foodstuffs have improved compared to May. The proportion of markets with more than 5 tonnes of beans increased from 14 percent in May 2022 to 45 percent in June 2022 (48 percent in June 2021), while for rice the proportion increased from 23 percent in May 2022 to 36 percent in June 2022 (41 percent in June 2021). However, the level of maize stocks is decreasing, with the proportion of markets with more than 5 tonnes of stock falling from 28 percent in May to 21 percent in June 2022 (28 percent in June 2021), this decrease being due to the fact that maize, which is generally harvested in February-March, begins to be gradually depleted on the markets from June onwards. The price of beans fell sharply by 27 percent, while the average price of cereals and tubers remained stable compared to May 2022.
- **Community Feedback Mechanism report:** In June 2022, WFP and its partners received 334 feedback and complaints from beneficiaries through the Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM). Out of these, 297 (89 percent) were resolved, and 37 are currently being addressed. The main complaints included assistance request for resolving issues linked to assistance distribution. In terms of priority, 62 complaints were classified as high priority. They included complaints linked to beneficiary registration, beneficiaries who did not find their names on lists and fraud suspicions.

Challenges

- **Pipeline break for treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM):** Starting in July until November, the programme will fall short of nutritious food (CSB++ and Plumpy Sup) to distribute to moderately malnourished pregnant and lactating women and girls and children 5-59 months. WFP is only expecting some nutritional inputs provided by Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) under the 2022 Financial Year to reach Burundi in October and December (49 mt of CSB++ in October; and 510 mt of CSB++ and 170 mt of Plumpy Sup in December). Meanwhile, WFP needs support of USD 2 million to be able to cover the period from July to November. Otherwise, the nutritional status of thousands of malnourished children and PLWG will further deteriorate.

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: Food distribution to drought-affected people in Kirundo province. © WFP/ Irene Nduwayezu

Contact info: Michel Rwamo (Michel.rwamo@wfp.org)
Country Director: Housainou Taal (housainou.taal@wfp.org)
 Further information: <https://www.wfp.org/countries/burundi>