



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Burundi Country Brief September 2022



## Operational Context

The humanitarian situation in Burundi remains alarming.

Recurring climate-change natural disasters lead to massive internal displacements and impact the livelihood of the rural population, highly dependent on subsistence farming for their food security. The inflationary effect of the Ukrainian crisis compounded with the trade and market supply disruptions imposed by the COVID19 containment measures have exacerbated the national economic crisis and the food insecurity in the country: compared to July 2021, the price of staple food on local markets has increased by 53 percent.

According to the August 2022 IPC survey, 10 percent of the population (1.18 million) is facing acute food insecurity and require immediate assistance, while the prevalence of chronic malnutrition among children aged 6-59 months, rated at 55.8 percent, has increased by 3 percent since 2020.

Burundi hosts a high number of refugees fleeing violence from the Democratic Republic of Congo (55,000 in 5 camps) and since 2017, more than 200,500 Burundians have repatriated, adding strain on resource-scarce vulnerable host communities.

WFP has been present in Burundi since 1968.



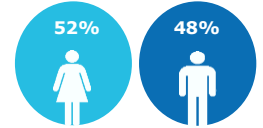
## In Numbers

**579 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 594,980** cash transferred under assistance to refugees and returnees

**USD 14.81 m** six months net funding requirements (October 2022 - March 2023)

**216,388 people** assisted in September 2022



## Operational Updates

- Assistance to refugees:** WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **55,363** refugees (24,360 males, 31,003 females, 14,948 children aged 0-59 months and 2,215 people with over 60 years of age) with the distribution of **311 mt of in-kind food** and **USD 552,263 in cash-based transfers (CBT)**.
- Assistance to returnees:** WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to **3,609 Burundian returnees** (1,768 males or 49 percent and 1,841 females or 51 percent), distributing a combination of in-kind food and cash-based transfers (CBT). The assistance consisted of hot meals provided at transit centres, and a three-month in-kind food or CBT return package depending on availability. Thus, out of the 3,609 returnees assisted, 1,487 received a return assistance package in CBT for a total of **USD 42,717**, while the rest (2,122) received in-kind food. In total, **45 mt** of in-kind food were distributed to these returnees in September.
- School Feeding Programme:** On 12 September, schools reopened for the new 2022/2023 schoolyear after a two-month vacation, and school feeding activities resumed in schools assisted under the school feeding programme. However, WFP reached only **119,200** school children which is 20 percent of its target because of a pipeline break in cereals, vegetable oil and salt. The programme assisted the **school children** with **105 mt** of food.
- Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM):** In September, MAM treatment activities benefitted **3,853** children aged 6-59 months who received **15 mt** of specialized nutritious foods in Cankuzo, Kirundo, Ngozi, and Rutana provinces. Pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls could not be treated due to lack of SuperCereal Plus (CSB++).
- Stunting prevention:** Under the KfW-funded nutrition and resilience programme and BMZ-funded nutrition programme, WFP provided **103 mt** of specialized nutritious food to **34,363 PLWGs** and **children aged 6-23 months** (14,769 PLWGs and 19,594 children) for the prevention of stunting in Kirundo, Karusi, Ruyigi and Rutana provinces.

Population: **11.7 million**

2020 Human Development Index: **185 out of 189**

**72 percent** of Burundians live under the poverty line

Chronic malnutrition: **55.8 percent** of children between 6-59 months

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>257.96m</b>	<b>2.47 m</b>	<b>14.81 m</b>

## 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.

**Photo:** Returnees from Tanzania having a meal provided by WFP at Gitara transit center in south Burundi. © WFP/ Bruno Gumyubumwe

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- **Food insecurity Integrated Phase Classification (IPC):** The projections of the August 2022 IPC indicate that during the projected period (Oct. to Dec. 2022) 12 percent of the population (1.404 million) is facing acute food insecurity (IPC phases 3 and above). During the current period (June to Sept. 2022), this proportion stood at 10 percent (1,185 million). The main factors of food insecurity are recurrent climatic hazards, displacement, the lingering effects of COVID-19, the Rift Valley Fever and the global inflation of food prices.
- **Food price monitoring:** The monthly increase in food prices observed since June 2022 continued in September 2022. The average price of beans and rice has increased by 16 percent and 4 percent respectively between August and September 2022 in all provinces of Burundi. This price increase will continue, particularly as we enter the lean season (October to December 2022) which, in addition to the normal depletion of household reserves, is also compounded by disruptions to market supplies caused by fuel shortages.

## Monitoring

- **Community Feedback Mechanism report:** In September 2022, WFP and its partners received 340 feedback and complaints messages from beneficiaries through the Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM). Out of these, 255 cases (75 percent) were resolved, and 85 are currently being addressed. The main complaints included requests for assistance in accessing food assistance or for access facilitation (46 percent), and negative feedback (30 percent) on targeting and registration issues for cash distribution., linked to the use of the SCOPE beneficiaries' registration card, suspicion of fraud, and food quality issues. Thirty-eight (38) feedback messages were classified as a high priority. They included registration issues, beneficiaries not finding their names on the lists, suspicions of fraud, and receipt of smaller quantities of food commodities. An attempt to extort assistance and a security issue also reported and addressed immediately.

## Challenges

- **Pipeline break for treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM):** Since July, the programme has been facing a shortfall in nutritious food (CSB++ and Plumpy Sup) to distribute to moderately malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls and children 5-59 months. WFP is only expecting nutritional inputs financed under BHA FY 2022 to reach Burundi in October and December (49 mt of CSB++ in October; 510 mt of CSB++ and 170 mt of Plumpy Sup in December).

**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.