



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

# WFP Liberia

Country Brief

November 2022



## Operational Context

The Republic of Liberia faces a series of endogenous shocks, further exacerbated by the impact of COVID-19, that are largely driven by declining external assistance, weak domestic revenue generation, and limited expenditure adjustments. Food insecurity is widespread with an estimated 373,230 people facing acute levels of food insecurity i.e., IPC 3 (Crisis) and IPC 4 (Emergency) (*Cadre Harmonisé, November 2022*). Overall, 63 percent of the population are multidimensional poor (with women more affected), 30 percent of children aged 6-59 months are stunted, and three percent are acutely malnourished.

The Government of the Republic of Liberia's National Development Plan, the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (2018-2023), aims to make the Republic of Liberia a middle-income country by 2030, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. WFP's Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023 links food security, agriculture, nutrition, and education through an integrated approach aligned with broader national and international commitments. Key priorities include capacity strengthening of national and local institutions to address food and nutrition insecurity.

WFP has been present in the Republic of Liberia since 1968.



Population: **5 million**

2021 Human Development index:  
**178 out of 191**

Income level: **low income**

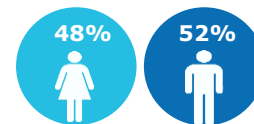
Chronic malnutrition: **30 percent**  
of children between 6-59 months

## In Numbers

**110.3 mt** of food distributed

**USD 7 million** six-month (December 2022 - May 2023) net funding requirements

**46,235 people assisted**  
in November 2022



## Operational Updates

- Close to 21,800 schoolgirls and 24,500 schoolboys in 185 WFP-supported schools in Nimba County received hot meals in November.
- Under the leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture, WFP participated in a two-week working session on a proposed development for the [Global Agriculture and Food Security Program \(GAESP\)](#). WFP planned activities, (Home Grown School Feeding, Post-Harvest Loss Management, School based Nutritional programmes and diversified agriculture technologies) were incorporated in the proposal submitted to the GAESP.
- A scoping mission comprising staff from the Social Protection, Cash-based Transfer, and Research Assessment and Monitoring units visited the country office from 28 November to 2 December 2022 to support in identifying potential areas to provide assistance to vulnerable persons through social protection interventions that align with areas of interest to the host government and development partners, with a specific focus on cash-based transfers.
- As part of this year's commemoration of 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), a trained official from the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSPP) and WFP staff sensitised schoolchildren from an elementary school in Ganta, Nimba County on GBV and encouraged them to be advocates in their communities.
- WFP also collaborated with other UN agencies in planning community-engagement activities. Additionally, monetary support was given to the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to assist with programmes that were planned for the period.
- WFP will support the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to provide a potable water source for domestic use as part of the "Sustaining Peace and Reconciliation through Strengthening Land Governance and Dispute Resolution Mechanisms" (PBF) project. WFP has procured equipment and reagents valued at USD 27,916 to implement this project.

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**Main photo: Credit:** © WFP/ Vannette Tolbert

**Caption:** Wellekema Rural Women's Group harvests rice grown with technical assistance and the provision of seeds from WFP

## Liberia Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

2022 Total Requirement (in USD)	2022 Available Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
6.8 m	8 m	7 m

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food-insecure populations, including school-aged children in targeted areas, have access to adequate and nutritious food, including food produced locally, by 2030.

**Focus area:** resilience building

#### Activity 1:

- Provide an integrated, inclusive and gender-transformative school feeding package to food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable schoolchildren, including take-home rations for adolescent girls, in a way that relies on and stimulates local production (home-grown school feeding).

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Crisis-affected populations in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises.

**Focus area:** crisis response

#### Activity 2:

- Provide an integrated emergency food and nutrition assistance package to vulnerable households affected by disasters or other disruptions.

### Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

**Strategic Outcome 3:** National and sub-national institutions have strengthened capacities to design and manage food security and nutrition, social protection, emergency preparedness and response and disaster risk management systems by 2030.

**Focus area:** resilience building

#### Activity 3:

- Provide capacity strengthening support to the Government and its partners to strengthen national coordination mechanisms, information management and monitoring systems for food security and nutrition, and disaster risk management.

### Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnerships

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Humanitarian and development partners have access to common services throughout the year.

**Focus area:** crisis response

#### Activity 4:

- Provide supply chain and ICT services to humanitarian and development partners

- The Rapid Food Security Assessment and the *Cadre Harmonisé* analysis conducted in August and October 2022 recorded an increase in the number of food-insecure people in the Republic of Liberia. The country office, in collaboration with the WFP Centre of Excellence (CERFAM) in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire and HELP Logistics finalised arrangements to train 25 government staff and five technical staff of WFP Liberia in Post-Harvest Loss Management aimed at curbing post-harvest loss and improving the food security of the country's population. This training scheduled for 13-15 December 2022 in Ganta, Nimba County, will support the Government of Liberia's commitment to improving food systems nationwide.
- The country office is working with the relevant government ministries to make the home-grown school feeding programme a government-led programme, in line with its goal to transition from humanitarian assistance by strengthening capacities and ensuring sustainability. A concept note currently being developed will be shared with the government, followed by a donor briefing and the formation of a national steering committee for its implementation.

## Assessments and Monitoring

After assessments, 91 schools, with a total number of 20,891 schoolchildren, in Montserrado, Bong, Nimba and Maryland Counties were selected to participate in the new model of home-grown school feeding programme, which comprises onsite school meals made from locally grown food (rice, cowpeas, palm oil, and a new addition: gari) and take-home rations via mobile money for targeted 1,322 schoolchildren.

## Challenges

- 70 percent of the schools in Maryland and Nimba counties have run out of food supplies due to an increase in enrolment. Forecasts anticipate that by the second week of December 2022, there will be no supplies left to feed the children.

## Donors

Donors to WFP Liberia in 2022 include private donors and United Nations Agencies.