World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Liberia
Country Brief
April 2023

In Numbers

48% 52%

42,613 people assisted in April 2023

US$ 67,424 cash-based transfers made

US$ 6.4 million six-month (May - October 2023) net funding requirements

Operational Context

The Republic of Liberia faces a series of endogenous shocks, further exacerbated by the impact of price rises due to the Ukraine crisis. This compounds an already challenging situation with the decline of external assistance, weak domestic revenue generation, and limited expenditure adjustments. Food insecurity is widespread; over 531,268 people are expected to face acute levels of food insecurity in June – August 2023 (Cadre Harmonisé, April 2023). Overall, 63 percent of the population are multidimensional poor (with women more affected), 30 percent of children aged 6-59 months are stunted, and 3 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**

Operational Updates

- WFP concluded cash transfers to the home-grown school feeding (HGSF) schools for March and April. Over 42,600 primary schoolchildren (48 percent girls and 52 percent boys) in 177 schools in Montserrado, Bong, Nimba and Maryland counties received daily school meals during this period.
- The HGSF schools are supported by 25 farmers cooperatives, they supplied 205 mt of assorted food commodities (rice, cowpeas, gari and palm oil) produced locally by smallholder farmers in the four counties where the programme is been implemented.
- In collaboration with its cooperating partner BRAC Liberia, WFP completed the implementation of a three-month resilience project funded through internal funding mechanisms. Overall, 200 smallholder farmers and 30 farmers cooperatives strengthened their resilience in food security and nutrition by increasing their production and productivity, particularly in lowland rice and vegetable production.
- The Government of Liberia and School Feeding partners celebrated the 2023 Africa Day of School Feeding in Tubmanburg City, Bomi County. The program was graced by government officials, development partners, school authorities and students.
- Distribution of health commodities successfully ended in March. Distributions will resume once the Central Medical store finalizes its inventory and the Ministry of Health receives requisitions from the health facilities. In the meantime, WFP is preparing mitigation measures to ensure timely and efficient deliveries during the upcoming rainy season.

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Photo Caption: Women cooking at the school garri and beans as part of the homegrown school feeding programme.
Credit: WFP/Marcelle Rodriguez

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)	
Total Requirements (US$)	Total Received
106 million	50.58 percent
2023 Requirements (US$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US$) (May-Oct 2023)
19.1 million	6.4 million

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.
Focus area: Crisis response

Activity 4:
Provide supply chain and ICT services to humanitarian and development partners.

Monitoring

- The targeting and registration of 4,150 vulnerable households in 76 schools of the 177 HGSF schools targeted for take-home rations are ongoing in Montserrado, Bong and Maryland counties. Vulnerable households are being identified by targeting committees set up in each school community. WFP will then register the vulnerable households in its beneficiary and transfer management platform (SCOPE).
- Fifty-three retailers were assessed and selected to support the Integrated Food Security project with Latter-Day Saints (LDS) in five counties (namely Bong, Bassa, Lofa, Nimba, and Grand Cape Mount) and the Japanese Supplementary Fund Project in two counties (namely Montserrado and Maryland).
- As part of the resilience and asset creation project, 20 farming organizations in five counties (Grand Cape Mount, Grand Bassa, Bong, Lofa and Nimba) were assessed to improve the crop management and market value chain to reduce post-harvest losses.

Challenges

- WFP is discussing with the Government of Liberia to reallocate savings made from the implementation of the COVID-19 household food support programme to the HGSF programme.

Donors

France, the Government of Liberia, Global Fund, Japan, Private Donors, The Church of Latter-day Saints, he United States of America.