



WFP Zambia Country Brief July 2023

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



In Numbers

US\$ 71,000 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 3.5 million six-month (August 2023 – January 2024) net funding requirements

26,972 people assisted

In July 2023



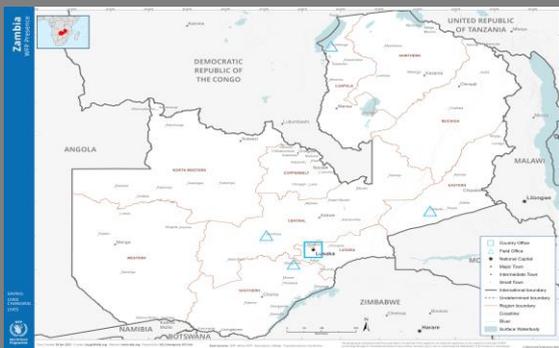
Operational Context

In 2022, the World Bank reclassified Zambia as a low-income country after a decade in the lower middle-income category. The reclassification followed sustained poor economic performance exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. More than half of the country's 19.6 million people live below the poverty line. The country continues to grapple with a high debt burden, posing a significant threat to the Government's efforts to deliver social services, alleviate poverty, and achieve zero hunger.

In the last decade, Zambia has suffered from the impact of climate change, with frequent, prolonged dry spells, extreme high temperatures, and floods that have undermined food security and threatened the livelihoods of many smallholder farming households. Smallholders are the country's largest population of food producers, responsible for up to 90 percent of the food produced in Zambia.

As part of the Zambia Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2023 – 2028, WFP provides technical assistance to the Government to strengthen national systems and programmes that aim to achieve zero hunger. This includes integrated nutrition programmes, smallholder farmer support, social protection programmes and disaster risk management, as well as providing food assistance to vulnerable individuals and populations, including refugees, and offering on-demand logistics support during emergencies.

WFP has been present in Zambia since 1967, providing food assistance and strengthening the capacity of the Government in addressing people's food and nutrition needs.



Population: 19.6 million

2021 Human Development Index: 154 out of 191 countries

Income Level: Low

Stunting: 35% of children aged 6–59 months

Operational Updates

In July, WFP assisted 26,972 people, including 7,569 individuals through crisis response cash assistance, 1,079 people through nutrition improvement interventions, 18,121 individuals through smallholder support and resilience interventions, and 203 through social protection interventions.

Crisis response

WFP continued to provide cash assistance to the refugees and asylum seekers at the Mantapala Refugee Settlement. In July, the total population of refugees in the settlement was 7,808 (3,959 female and 3,849 male). Of these, 166 (86 female and 80 male) were asylum seekers. A total of 7,569 (female 3,895 and male 3,674) beneficiaries from 2,053 households each received cash-based transfers of K170 (US\$ 9.7) for their monthly food basket.

Nutrition improvement support

Sensitization workshop on the Fill the Nutrient Gap (FNG) analysis methodology, key findings and sector-specific recommendations with government line ministry Directors and technical staff: WFP organized a workshop with four Directors and 18 technical staff (12 male, 10 female) from eight line ministries on the key findings of the Zambia FNG 2020/2021 analysis. This was to enhance understanding among government officials and stakeholders on the FNG analysis methodology and its application in informing national policies and programmes. During the workshop, participants familiarised themselves with the findings, the sector-specific recommendations and how the FNG has been applied in other countries to inform and prioritize national policies and programmes addressing malnutrition. Among areas of discussion was the next step to update the analysis of the cost and affordability of the nutritious diet as well as selected modelling, with specific attention to social protection.

Photo: Frazier Kazembe, a smallholder farmer from Makowa village, packs her maize in a low-cost hermetic storage bag. She learned about post-harvest handling and the practical use of these bags from the Green Climate Fund funded SCRALA project facilitated by WFP. @WFP/Nkole Mwape

Contact info: Chileshe Chilambwe (Chileshe.chilambwe@wfp.org)

Country Director: Cissy Byenky

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/zambia

Country Strategic Plan (2023–2028)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirement (in USD)
98.5 m	9.9 m	3.5 m

Strategic Result 1: Access to food (SDG Target 2.1)

Strategic Outcome 01: Food-insecure people in Zambia (including refugees) affected by shocks are better able to meet their essential food security and nutrition needs in anticipation of, during and in the aftermath of crises.

Focus Area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide food and livelihood support to crisis-affected, food-insecure people, including refugees, to meet their basic food and nutrition needs, and support self-reliance in anticipation of, during and in the early aftermath of shocks including climate change induced impacts

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2)

Strategic Outcome 02: Populations at risk of malnutrition in Zambia have improved access to and consumption of safe and diverse nutrient-dense food all year round.

Focus Area: Root causes

Activities:

- Promote adoption of optimal nutrition practices among populations at risk of malnutrition and strengthen partnership with food system actors to increase the availability of nutrient-dense foods.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes (SDG Target 2.3)

Strategic Outcome 03: Food-insecure and risk-prone smallholder farming populations, especially women, youth and people with disabilities in targeted rural and urban areas, are enabled to withstand climate change and other shocks and benefit from more resilient food systems through increased incomes that contribute to improved nutrition and food diversity and increased economic and livelihood opportunities by 2030.

Focus Area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Promote knowledge and adoption of climate services, regenerative agriculture practices and innovative technologies among smallholders and nutritious food value chain actors to build resilience with regard to climate change and other shocks while simultaneously reducing environmental degradation.
- Provide targeted smallholders and value chain actors with an integrated package of innovative and transformative skills, tools and systems to enable the adoption of diversified and decent livelihoods

Strategic Result 4: Capacity Building (SDG Target 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 04: National institutions in Zambia have strengthened capacity to design policies and programmes that promote the enhancement of national food systems and deliver national emergency preparedness, anticipatory and response programmes, nutrition-sensitive, shock-responsive social protection, supply chain systems and sustainable food security programmes by 2030.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance, including through South–South and triangular cooperation, to national institutions to strengthen national capacity and systems for emergency preparedness, anticipatory action and early response, social protection, food and nutrition security and sustainable food systems

Strategic Result 5: Global Partnership (SDG Target 17.16)

Strategic Outcome 05: Humanitarian and development actors in Zambia have improved access to on-demand services and benefit from innovative, effective and cost-efficient supply chain capacity by 2030.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide timely and appropriate on-demand services for supply chain, innovation and health logistics services to relevant actors

Smallholder support

Post-harvest Management Trainings: WFP trained 3,262 (1,598 females) lead farmers and 29,979 (14,302 females) follower farmers in the seven districts of the Strengthening Climate Resilience and Livelihoods in Agro-ecological Region I and II (SCRALA) project on post-harvest management (PHM) practices and technologies, resulting in a cumulative total of 39,777 (21,934 females) farmers trained this harvesting season. Adoption of PHM practices and technologies by smallholder farmers will result in increased food availability and marketable surpluses.

Local and Regional Food Procurement: By the end of July, 195.5 mt of cowpeas were aggregated by the 6 contracted lead aggregators in Southern Province, while 30 mt of cowpeas and 40 mt of beans were aggregated in Western Province under WFP's Local and Regional Food Procurement Policy. In addition, 8,500 mt of commodities valued at US\$ 675,005 were aggregated in various districts of Southern Province from 13,966 smallholder farmers (6,523 female).

Handing over of tricycles under the Strengthening Climate Resilience and Livelihoods in Agro-ecological Region I and II (SCRALA) project: Following training on utilisation and maintenance, WFP handed over four tricycles to cooperatives and aggregators in Sesheke and Mulobezi Districts under the SCRALA project. This initiative will strengthen community transportation of agricultural commodities and inputs by smallholder farmers.

Climate and disaster risk management

Technical working group workshop on the Africa Risk View (ARV) Software customisation, beneficiary targeting, and monitoring and evaluation: To enhance the Government of Zambia's capacity to better plan, prepare, and respond to crop failures triggered by drought and the effects of climate change, WFP has partnered with the Government and the Africa Risk Capacity Group (ARC) to support an ARC replica insurance product in the 2023/2024 season. To achieve this, WFP and ARC organized a workshop with 30 technical working members from government institutions, non-governmental organizations, and United Nations agencies, including WFP. WFP has pledged to contribute an additional premium of US\$ 500,000 to implement the ARC replica initiative, in addition to the Government's premium of US\$ 1 million for sovereign climate risk insurance.

Donors

Green Climate Fund (GCF), Private Donors, Sweden, Switzerland, UNICEF, and the United States of America.