



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Liberia Country Brief July-August 2023

In Numbers



10,805 people assisted

in August 2023

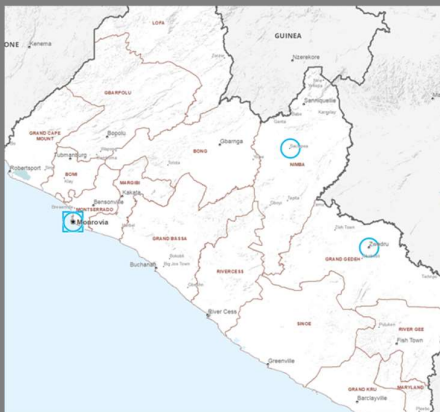
US\$ 71,191 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 3.7 million six months (Sept-Feb) 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

2022 Human Development Index: 178 out of 191

Income Level: Low income

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

Operational Updates

- In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, WFP is working with 200 women to establish 20 school gardens in 20 selected schools that implement Home Grown School Feeding. The school garden initiative is also geared towards empowering women to meet their food security and nutrition needs. Each of these women is entitled to USD 60 for work completed in 20 days per month in the garden over a period of 4 months. At the end of October, each woman will receive a package of seeds and agricultural tools to support their own garden or farm and will be integrated into ongoing WFP's livelihood programmes.
- Twenty-seven hectares of lowland in five counties (Grand Cape Mount, Grand Bassa, Bong, Lofa and Nimba) have been transplanted with rice by the 750 participants who are participating in the asset creation initiative. Twenty-five groups completed the first phase of capacity-building training which covered 15 sessions of best agriculture practices. Agriculture equipment such as rice mill complete set, cassava processing complete set, destoner, power tiller were delivered to two Agri-business centres under construction. To ensure financial inclusion and access, 15 groups of the project participants were established into village saving and loan associations.
- WFP signed the award agreement with USAID for the management of the Central Medical Store. The agreement will stand for two years, during which WFP will be responsible for the reception, storage, preparation of orders of health commodities for 10 health programmes (Essential Medicines, HIV, Tuberculosis, Malaria, reproductive health...) at the Central Medical Store of Liberia on behalf of the Ministry of Health.

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Photo Caption: Women farmers, working on the field, as part of the resilience activities County. WFP/Mamadou Jallow

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD)
106 million	50.58 percent
2023 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (September 2023 – January 2024)
19.1 million	3.7 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

- In July, findings from the market monitoring showed an increase in imported rice by 5 percent for the third consecutive time largely driven by inflation, currency depreciation and deplorable road networks. In Liberia, distribution remains a challenge because households in remote areas find it difficult to access available rice in addition to their low purchasing power. [Liberia Market Monitoring Bulletin July 2023](#)
- In August, findings from the market monitoring showed that seasonal high demand for imported rice coupled with poor road conditions during the rainy season is causing up to 18 percent price differentials between Monrovia, the main entry point for all rice imports, and far off markets in (Cestos City, Voinjama). [Liberia Market Monitoring Bulletin August 2023](#)

Stories from the field

- Ms. Comfort Jallah, Chairperson of Destiny Women Cooperative, signed a contract with WFP to provide locally produced food to the school feeding programme. For Comfort, the programme is not just a regular school feeding programme but rather a very innovative and integrated one that enhances gender equality, women's inclusion, women empowerment, digital inclusion. It is the positive change smallholder farmers have envisaged for so long. According to Comfort, *"Getting market to sell what we produce was a big issue here. Sometimes, our produce will remain in our hands and get spoiled or sometimes we will be forced to sell for less price to middlemen because we didn't want it to remain with us and get spoiled/ damaged. Today, our children have a meal from what their parents produce, and their parents also receive money for what their children eat at school. Families are benefitting. This programme is a catalyst to alleviate rural poverty. We thank WFP and all those supporting WFP implement this project in Liberia. Please, don't stop."*

Donors

Donors to WFP Liberia CSP in 2023 include France, the Government of Liberia, Japan, The Global Fund, MasterCard Foundation, The Church of Latter-day Saints, The Rauch Family Foundation, UN Funds (PBF, UNTFHS, UN SDG Fund), the United States of America and WFP USA.