



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Zambia Country Brief September 2023



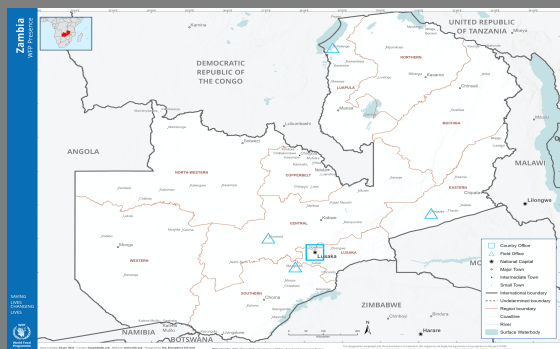
Operational Context

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**

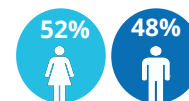
In Numbers

US\$ 74,431 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 1.6 million six-month (October 2023 – March 2024) net funding requirements

28,204 people assisted

In September 2023



Operational Updates

In September, WFP assisted 28,204 people, including 8,017 individuals through crisis response cash assistance, 435 people through nutrition improvement interventions, 19,684 individuals through smallholder support and resilience interventions, and 68 through social protection interventions.

Crisis response

WFP continued to provide cash assistance to the refugees and asylum seekers at the Mantapala Refugee Settlement. In September, the total population of refugees in the settlement was 8,140 (4,100 female and 4,040 male). Of these, 974 (470 female and 504 male) were asylum seekers. A total of 8,017 beneficiaries (4,076 female and 3,941 male) from 2,176 households each received cash-based transfers of K170 (US\$ 9) for their monthly food basket.

Strengthened Livelihoods and Building Self-Reliance

(SLABS) Project in Mantapala- As one of the components the SLABS project, WFP installed drip irrigation systems for the lead farmers in Mantapala refugee settlement. In addition, they have created hydroponic gardens at Mantapala B school and Kampampi school in the host community. Furthermore, WFP, in collaboration with AAH, has conducted training sessions for volunteers in Mantapala to form savings groups for change. A total of 66 volunteers have been successfully trained so far.

Nutrition improvement support

Training of Trainers for Nutrition-Sensitive Social

Protection Guidelines: WFP collaborated with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS) to train trainers and disseminate the Nutrition-Sensitive Social Protection (NSSP) guidelines. NSSP integrates social protection measures with nutrition-specific interventions to address the multifaceted causes of malnutrition. In order to enhance the effectiveness of social protection programs in improving nutrition, WFP provided technical and financial assistance to the MCDSS. This support was used to arrange a half-day orientation meeting for 7 Directors and a follow-up two-day orientation workshop for 32 nutrition focal point staff from different line ministries.

Photo: Clementina, a WFP-supported smallholder farmer and member of the Hope Savings group in Monze district, counterchecks group contributions during their regular savings group meetings. @WFP/Nkole Mwape

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

Country Director: Cissy Byenkyia

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	1.6 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

Scaling Up Nutrition II (SUN II) programme: As part of the SUN II programme, WFP connected 45 savings groups in Choma (24) and Monze (21) to KickStart International. Kickstart International is a non-profit social enterprise involved in designing and developing climate-smart, highly affordable, and reliable irrigation tools that enable farmers to transform their livelihoods and build lasting food security. Through this partnership, KickStart and CARE International aim to improve access to irrigation equipment for women in the saving groups in Choma, Monze, Kalomo, and Zimba districts. A total of 697 beneficiaries were trained on the use of treadle pumps, out of which 102 were men and 595 were women. This linkage will allow women in the saving groups to obtain irrigation equipment at affordable prices on a loan basis. Members will be required to pay a 50% down payment and collect the equipment while paying the balance within three months.

Smallholder support

WFP and Zambian Breweries train Government Staff in Sorghum production, savings for change and market access: WFP and Zambian Breweries, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and Zambia Agriculture Research Institute (ZARI), organized a training session for 66 MOA and Ministry of Community Development and Social Services staff from 10 districts. The training aimed to enhance the livelihood opportunities and income of smallholder farmers in the sorghum value chain. The districts covered in the training were Gwembe, Namwala, Chirundu, Kazungula, Pemba, Monze, Kalomo, Chikankata, Zimba and Choma. The trained staff are expected to train smallholder farmers in their respective districts in production, savings, market linkages, and entrepreneurship. During the same training, 49 Aggregators were trained in entrepreneurship and business management. The training covered aspects such as budgeting, visioning, business financing, and developing a business plan. The aggregators were linked to off-takers such as Zambian Breweries, Kalomo Grain Marketing, 260 Brands, and Standa Enterprises, as well as financial institutions like Vision Fund and Zambia Industrial Commercial Bank.

Capacity Building

To support the government's efforts in implementing the resolutions made at COP-27 and the progress achieved so far, WFP organized a two-day meeting. The meeting brought together 30 participants from key ministries, government departments, institutions, and civil society organizations. The outcome of the meeting was a Country Position Paper that will be presented at the global summit in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from November 30th to December 12th, 2023. The Position Paper highlights key issues related to adaptation and mitigation measures of the Paris Agreement in Zambia and the African Continent, as well as the progress made in the architecture of the Loss and Damage Fund agreed at COP-27.

Donors

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