

In Numbers

Funding resources remained critically low for the implementation of the Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan – 16 percent.

USD 14.7 m six months (May-Oct 2018) net funding requirements.

Operational Updates

Strategic Outcome 1: Activity 2 School meals - Out of the planned 212.5 mt of rice and oil, WFP Liberia distributed 191.6 mt of rice and vegetable oil as take-home rations for April-June 2018 for 3,611 of the 4,000 girls. The food distribution targets 4,000 adolescent girls in WFP-assisted schools in nine counties which have food security and gender parity issues. As this is an incentive for both girls and families, an additional 16,000 household members also benefit from the rations. The need for USD 2.2 million to meet the needs of the daily on-site meals to the targeted 120,000 beneficiaries for the remaining school year until June 2018 remains a challenge for the country office.

Strategic Outcome 4: Activity 7 Home-Grown School Meals - Programming of USD 700,000 SRAC allocation to home-grown school meals was completed. The implementation is planned through cash-based transfer (CBT) in three districts in Nimba County, targeting 20,000 schoolchildren.

Strategic Outcome 4: Activity 8 Individual Capacity Strengthening - Under the RWE (rural women economic empowerment) project, 200 rural women (from Margibi and Grand Bassa counties) have been trained in the establishment and management of village savings and loan association (VSLA) schemes. Led by WFP's cooperating partner, EduCare, the training aims to boost savings, increase their capacity to borrow or take loans, and support small scale businesses and increase income generation. The training will also enable the women to develop their by-laws and constitutions for their respective groups and organize leadership elections thus enhancing governance within their groups and increasing women participation in decision-making in communities.

Strategic Outcomes 4: Activity 6 Provide communication and education promoting agriculture sector - With support from the Regional Bureau Dakar, WFP Liberia conducted workshop for 15 Liberian journalists in food security and nutrition reporting methodologies. Over 20 staff members were orientated in the new WFP branding/visibility products and how to communicate what WFP does in Liberia with different audiences. This is to better position WFP to manage its communications, reports and donor relations activities in a more strategic, effective and effective manner. At the end of the workshop, the journalists organized themselves into FOSENAL (Food Security and Nutrition Reporters Association of Liberia). The group will work towards highlighting food security issues and achievements while enhancing their own professional growth. They will operate on a cross-sectoral, broad-based basis collaborating and networking with all sector stakeholders, partners, NGOs, government, the Press Union of Liberia and farmers alike.



WFP Liberia Country Brief

April 2018

Operational Context

Liberia suffered violent conflicts spanning almost three decades, from 1979 to 2003: a military coup d'état in 1980, widespread violence during military rule (1980–1990), and two civil wars (1989–1996 and 1999–2003). Because of these conflicts, national GDP fell by 90 percent between 1987 and 1995, one of the biggest economic collapses ever recorded in the world (Liberia PRS 2008). In addition, an Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak from mid-2014 to end-2015, caused significant socio-economic disruptions. The World Bank estimates that the outbreak could have cost Liberia as much as USD 234 million or 12 percent of the GDP. Although Liberia has reduced chronic malnutrition rates among children under 5 from “critical” to “serious”, according to WHO classification, 6 of Liberia's 15 counties still have critical levels of chronic malnutrition. To improve infrastructure and social service delivery, the Government has embarked on a national plan to make Liberia a middle-income country by 2030. Liberia country office made the shift to a transitional interim country strategic plan (T-ICSP) beginning in January 2018. Activities under the T-ICSP focus on school meals, livelihood/resilience, nutrition intervention, capacity strengthening of national institutions, and supply chain services for development and humanitarian actors. WFP has been present in Liberia since 1968.



Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **32% of children between 6-59 months**

Main Photo

Credit: Kabeh Enders/WFP Liberia
Caption: Folley Town, Bomi County- Field Trip of Food Security & Nutrition Reporting Workshop for Journalist

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WFP Country Strategy

Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
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Liberia Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (01 Jan.-31 Dec. 2018)

29.4 m	4.6 m	14.7m
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Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Refugees and other crisis-affected populations are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises across the country. Focus area: Crisis Response
Strategic Outcome 2: School-aged children and populations affected by HIV/TB in targeted areas have Access to adequate, safe and nutritious food all year. Focus area: Root Causes

15.1 m	0.6m	9.6m
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Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Targeted populations (pregnant and lactating women as well as children) have reduced malnutrition, including reduced stunting rates in line with national targets by 2025. Focus area: Root Causes

1.1m	0	0.6m
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Strategic Result 3: – Smallholder productivity and incomes (SDG Target 2.3)

Strategic Outcome 4: Food-insecure smallholders and communities in targeted areas have enhanced livelihoods to better meet food security and nutrition needs by 2030. Focus area: Resilience Building

5.8 m	4.0 m	2.8 m
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Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome 5: National and Sub-national institutions have strengthened capacity to manage food security and nutrition policies and programmes by 2025. Focus area: Root Causes

0.9 m	0	0.5 m
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Strategic Result 8: Enhance global partnerships

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian and development partners have access to common services throughout the year. Root causes

6.5 m	0	3.3 m
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WFP Country Activities

- SO 1** 1. Provide general food assistance to vulnerable households affected by disasters and/or other disruption
- SO 2** 2. Provide safe, adequate and nutritious school meals to targeted school age children and monthly take-home rations to adolescent girls
- SO 2** 3. Provide food and nutritional support to targeted groups (PLHIV, TB patients) and their affected households
- SO 3** 4. Provide nutritious foods to households with PLW and children aged 6-23 months in counties with highest prevalence of stunting, and provide nutrition education and sensitization to different groups and stakeholders

- 5. Build, rehabilitate and maintain productive assets including climate adaptation measures for targeted smallholders
- 6. Provide communications and education promoting the agricultural sector to community members, including women, youth and schoolchildren
- SO 4** 7. Provide agricultural market support (including HGSP) to smallholder farmers
- 8. Support development and management of Community Food Reserves (CFRs) and other forms of insurance for rural women groups and smallholders

- 9. Provide support to strengthen coordination mechanisms and information management systems for the Government and its partners, and provide support for the implementation of the disaster management policy with focus on early warning system
- SO 5**

- 10. Provide supply chain services to humanitarian and development partners
- SO 6**

Monitoring

N/A

Challenges

- The country office's critically low funding outlook for the implementation of the T-ICSP as reported in the last months has not improved. As at the end of April, only strategic objectives 2 and 4 have received limited funding, leaving the other strategic objectives (1, 3 and 6) with no funding and the overall with a short fall of 84 per cent.

Partnerships

- Joint UN programme-Human Security Trust:** A team from Human Security Unit in New York, on a monitoring mission, visited Liberia and toured two project sites in Nimba County and met with beneficiaries, local government officials and UN agencies. WFP and FAO were a part of the tour. The project ended in March 2018. It catered to 15,467 persons (7,888 women and 7,579 men) direct beneficiaries and nearly 774,500 indirect beneficiaries in Nimba, Grand Gedeh, River Gee and Maryland counties. It focused on fostering social cohesion and peacebuilding; strengthening agriculture-based livelihoods and enhancing food security; enhancing comprehensive prevention, management and response to sexual and gender-based violence as well as improve the safety and security of children; and strengthening health security.

Donors

USA, Japan, Multilateral, Liberia, and Switzerland

