



WFP Zimbabwe Country Brief

APRIL 2018

Operational Context

Over the last decade, Zimbabwe has experienced a number of unprecedented economic, environmental and political shocks and stressors, contributing to a 2017 Global Hunger Index classified as 'serious.' 62.6 percent of Zimbabweans live below the poverty line.

Consecutive poor agricultural seasons have further undermined the agricultural sector, with dire consequences for a population in which 80 percent of people derive a significant proportion of their livelihoods from rain-fed agriculture and livestock production.

Micronutrient deficiencies are prevalent, including a 66 percent prevalence of anaemia among children of ages 6 to 8 months, largely driven by poor dietary diversity.

Working through a Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021) jointly with the Government of Zimbabwe and partners, while preserving its humanitarian response capacity, WFP is promoting a shift towards resilience-building efforts, which includes emphasis on reducing stunting, strengthening social protection systems, and empowering smallholder farmers.

WFP has been present in Zimbabwe since 2002.



Population: **15.6 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **155 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower income**

Chronic malnutrition: **31% of children between 6-59 months**

Main Photo Credit: WFP/Tatenda Macheke
Caption: Women in Mudzi who have participated in WFP-supported small grains training for smallholder farmers.

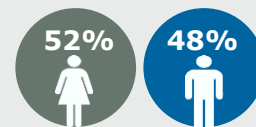
In Numbers

2,569 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$0.5 m cash-based transfers made

US\$20.1 m six months (June–November 2018) net funding requirements, representing 55% of total

307,097 people assisted in April 2018



Operational Updates

- Lean Season Assistance distributions for the April extension were completed in the planned 15 districts. Although WFP had initially intended to extend in 16 districts, resourcing restrictions necessitated a limited extension.
- As part of its support to smallholder farmers, WFP in partnership with AGRITEX, World Vision, SNV Netherlands Development Organization and USAID conducted trainings for Post-Harvest Handling (PHH) to the Enhancing Nutrition, Stepping Up Resilience and Enterprise (ENSURE) Consortium farmers in Buhera and Chivi, reaching 256 farmers in five wards. Building on this, 5,020 Shona-language small grains manuals were distributed to smallholder farmers being supported by WFP.
- WFP's Vulnerability and Analysis Unit supported the 2018 Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZIMVAC) Rural Livelihoods Assessment preparations and data collection exercise in April. The results of the assessment, expected in May, will provide guidance on the nature and level of support required for the rural population in 2018 and 2019.
- As part of the tripartite nutrition agreement between WFP, FAO and UNICEF, a joint field mission to Mutasa District was undertaken by the three UN heads of agency together with Directors from Government departments (Ministry of Health and Child Care, Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanization and Irrigation Development, and Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare). Highlights from the mission point to the need for partners to redirect and strengthen efforts around food and nutrition security and the integration of nutrition-sensitive interventions within the Multi-Sector Community Based Stunting Reduction Model.
- R4 Rural Resilience activities are underway with preparatory work having progressed well. Contractual discussions with Old Mutual Insurance Company are ongoing, and a Letter of intent with Blue Marble has been finalized, paving the way for development of the insurance component.

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WFP Country Strategy		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)		
272.3 m	66.3m	20.1 m
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food		
Strategic Outcome 1: Food-insecure people, including refugees, in the most affected districts are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements during severe seasonal shocks or other disruptions		
139.1 m	35.4 m	7.5 m
Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition		
Strategic Outcome 2: Children in prioritized districts have stunting rate trends in line with the achievement of national and global targets by 2025		
15.8 m	1.5 m	1.2 m
Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition		
Strategic Outcome 3: Smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe have increased access to well-functioning agricultural markets by 2030		
7.5 m	0.4 m	0.6 m
Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable		
Strategic Outcome 4: Food-insecure rural households and smallholder farmers achieve food security and resilience to repeated exposure to multiple shocks and stressors		
94.4 m	17.1 m	9.7 m
Strategic Result 5: Developing Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs		
Strategic Outcome 5: The social protection system ensures that chronically vulnerable populations throughout the country are able to meet their basic needs all year round		
10.9 m	1.3 m	0.7 m
Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology to strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs – SDG Target 17.16		
Strategic Outcome 6: Partners in Zimbabwe are reliably supported by world-class, cost-effective and efficient supply chain services		
4.7 m	9.8 m	0.3 m

WFP Country Activities

SO 1	<p>Activity 1.1: Provide cash and/or food transfers to the most vulnerable households affected by seasonal food shortages.</p> <p>Activity 1.2: Provide unconditional cash and/or food transfers and livelihood support for refugees in camps</p>
SO 2	<p>Activity 2.1: Build evidence for nutrition advocacy, policy direction and programme decision-making</p> <p>Activity 2.2: Support the Government's nutrition programming at the national and sub-national levels</p>
SO 3	<p>Activity 3.1: Support the development of an efficient local food marketing and procurement mechanism</p> <p>Activity 3.2: Enable farmer organizations to aggregate and market surplus production</p>
SO 4	<p>Activity 4.1: Support the creation and rehabilitation of assets for sustainable food and nutrition security</p> <p>Activity 4.2: Enhance the capacity of prioritized districts to plan and manage resilience building</p>

SO 5	<p>Activity 5.1: Provide analytical expertise to support the evidence-based planning and management of context-specific solutions and responses</p> <p>Activity 5.2: Support innovative risk management, insurance and financing mechanisms</p> <p>Activity 5.3: Support the consolidation, administration and implementation of social transfer programmes under the national social protection system</p> <p>Activity 5.4: Support re-establishment of the national school meals programme</p>
SO 6	<p>Activity 6.1: Provide logistics and procurement expertise and services.</p>

Monitoring

- Preparatory work for the 2018 Productive Assets Creation (PAC) season are at an advanced stage with the finalisation of contractual processes with partners. Inception training and implementation will commence in May as scheduled.
- The CO hosted the ZimVAC tools standardization and training of the National Supervisors in preparation for the ZimVAC data collection. The three-day training aimed to standardize the interpretation of the assessment tools and to agree on the methodological and analytical frameworks.
- WFP continues to produce the bi-weekly markets monitoring report whose findings are used to inform cash transfer values for the cash-based transfer modalities. Findings from these monitoring exercises in April showed that maize grain prices decreased by 12% (from \$0.34/kg reported at the end of March to the current average price of \$0.30/kg). Maize meal price remain relatively stable at an average price of \$0.56/kg, whilst small grain prices increased by 31% from \$0.42/kg to \$0.55/kg. Prices of pulses (cowpeas and sugar beans) are decreasing due to increased availability and reduced demand as a result of the incoming 2017/18 harvest.
- With support from the Government, WFP is carrying out a Fill the Nutrient Gap study to be guided by data from the Poverty Income Consumption Expenditure Survey (PICES) generated by the Zimbabwe Statistical Agency. The FNG will contain an analysis of the nutrition situation in Zimbabwe, comparing the potential impact of interventions, and identifying programme and policy entry points to ensure consumption of an adequately nutritious diet.

Challenges

- Resourcing constraints have affected WFP's capacity to fully implement the LSA extension and will restrict the geographic coverage of the 2018 PAC cycle.

Donors (2015 – 2018)

Australia, Canada, China, ECHO, France, Japan, Japan Association for WFP, the Netherlands, Russia, Switzerland, UN Central Emergency Fund, United States of America, Zimbabwe.