



WFP Rwanda Country Brief

Highlights

- WFP continues to support a growing number of Burundian and Congolese refugees hosted in six camps in Rwanda. Additionally, WFP is building national capacity to design and manage home grown hunger solutions.
- Despite generous contributions from donors, the refugee operation urgently requires USD 11.4 million to avert possible supply chain breaks expected at the end of November. WFP will most likely implement ration reductions starting November if additional resources are not forthcoming.
- A new phase of the prevention of stunting programme under the Country Programme was not initiated at the beginning of the year because of funding shortfalls.

WFP Assistance

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200744 (Jan 2015 - Dec 2017)	89.7 m	57.6m (64%)	11.4 m (81%)

*Oct 2017-Mar 2018

The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) targets 186,300 people, including Burundian and Congolese refugees, former Rwandan refugees returning home and children from the host communities attending the same schools as refugee children in and around refugee camps.

Refugees living in the camps in Rwanda entirely depend on assistance to meet their food needs, as they have limited access to livelihood activities.

WFP's assistance is provided through in-kind food and cash distributions and safety net interventions such as blanket supplementary feeding, targeted supplementary feeding and school meals. Cash-Based Transfers (CBTs) in lieu of in-kind food distributions are implemented in five out of the six camps, enabling refugees to purchase food of their choice at the local markets, thus contributing to the country's economy.

This refugee operation and its components were formulated based on consultative meetings with partners including the Government of Rwanda, UN agencies and the people that WFP assists.

Common Country Programme (CCP)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CCP-200539 (Jul 2013-Jun 2018)	51.9 m	44.2 m (85%)	-

*Oct 2017-Mar 2018

WFP's portfolio of assistance under the Common Country Programme (CCP) focuses on national capacity development and on modelling innovations in food assistance. WFP's emphasis is on the provision of technical support to the government and enabling it to develop, design, and manage nationally owned, innovative hunger solutions, including school feeding.

WFP enhances resilience and livelihood opportunities for the most vulnerable and food insecure people, and strengthens the capacity of the government to reduce hunger.

WFP builds resilience through community based asset creation activities and is based on WFP's long term experience in asset creation and existing government initiatives such as Vision 2020 Umurenge Programme (VUP), based on a participatory approach.

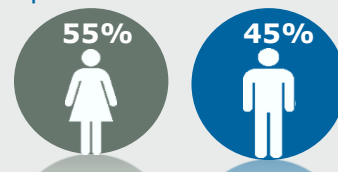
In Numbers

254,900 people were reached with WFP food assistance in September 2017.

USD 749,000 were transferred to refugees in camps and vulnerable households participating asset creation activities.

1,600 mt of food commodities were distributed, to hungry people.

People Assisted
September 2017



Main Photo

Credit: WFP/ Rein Skullerud

Caption: Albeit at lower rates, Burundian refugees continued to cross borders into Rwanda. As of September the number of Burundian refugees in Mahama camp has reached over 55,000 people, who depend solely on WFP monthly food distributions to survive.



September 2017

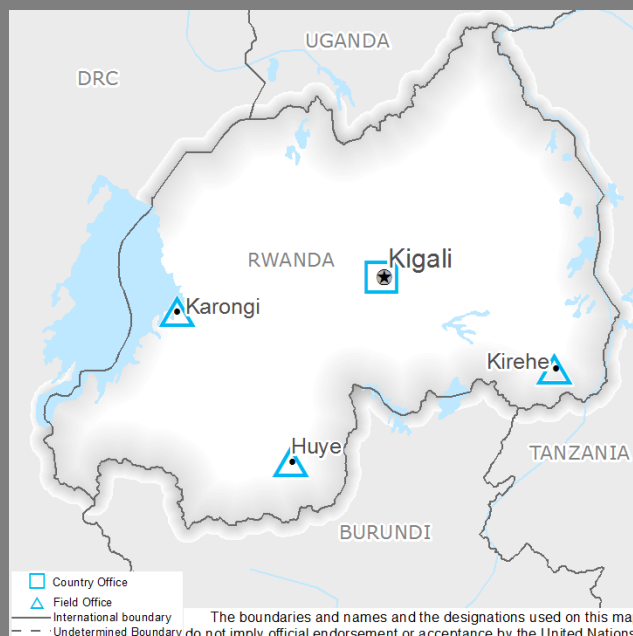
Operational Updates

- In September, WFP extended cash transfers to the fifth camp – Mugombwa refugee camp. Cash transfers allow refugees to purchase food of their choice from local markets, using the multi-wallet smart cards, which include biometrics for identification checks.
- In September, WFP provided food assistance to 254,900 people, including vulnerable host populations and refugees in camps through general distributions and cash transfers, nutrition interventions, asset creation activities and school meals programmes in food insecure areas. WFP transferred USD 659,390 to 71,442 camp based refugees. Under the country programme, WFP transferred USD 89,600 to 25,000 people participating in asset creation activities in the most food insecure areas.
- WFP provided 1,554 mt of assorted food commodities to refugees in camps, to former Rwandans returning home, and to school children in food insecure districts of Nyamagabe, Nyaruguru, Rutsiro and Karongi.
- WFP continues to support small-holder farmers in Rwanda, providing training and linking them with buyers and agriculture service providers, including banks and crop insurance companies.

Challenges

- The refugee operation is facing serious funding shortfalls. WFP requires **USD 11.4 million** to meet the needs of the camp based refugees in the next six months (October 2017-March 2018). Food stocks and cash transfers are running low. As a result, WFP will most likely implement ration reductions, starting November, if additional resources are not received soon. Given the protracted crisis in Burundi and the deteriorating security situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), which is likely to trigger further refugee influxes into Rwanda, it is essential to maintain adequate funding levels to be able to respond to the increased needs.
- Under the Country Programme, a new phase of the prevention of stunting programme for children aged 6-23 months, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers has been discontinued due to lack of new funding. The discontinuation of the programme will erode gains made by the joint UN nutrition project in addressing stunting in Rwanda and will put children at risk in the most food insecure areas with high levels of chronic malnutrition.

Country Background & Strategy



Rwanda has one of the highest population densities in Africa (471 people per square kilometre). It has a limited natural resource base; agriculture comes second of the main sectors contributing to the national gross domestic product (GDP) with over 31 percent after service sector (45 percent). Agriculture generates over 50 percent of total export revenue. Life expectancy in Rwanda is 66 years and households headed by women or orphans account for 36 percent of the population.

Since the 1994 genocide and the ensuing collapse of the economy and social services, the Government embarked on rebuilding the country and improving the quality of life through long and short term development programmes such as vision 2020 and the second Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS2). Rwanda was the first country to sign the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) compact and to secure funding, thus confirming malnutrition and food insecurity as one of the Government's key priorities.

WFP's strategy is to contribute towards making Rwanda a food secure country, where people are well nourished, able to develop to their full potential and living in resilient communities.

WFP has been present in Rwanda since 1975.

Population: **11.8 million**

2016 Human Development Index:
162 out of 188

Income Level: **Low**

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

Top Five Donors

CP 200539: USDA, Republic of Korea, Multilateral, MasterCard and UN Common Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF).

PRRO 200744: USAID, UK, Japan, EU and Canada