



WFP Rwanda Country Brief

Highlights

- WFP’s main priority is to provide food assistance to refugees and vulnerable host communities, and to build national capacity to design and manage home-grown hunger solutions.
- The refugee operation is currently experiencing significant funding shortfalls which may lead to breaks in the provision of food assistance.
- 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	51.8m (58%)	12.6 m (86%)

*June – November 2017

The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) targets 186, 305 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 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 three 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)	52 m	44 m (85%)	-

*June – November 2017

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

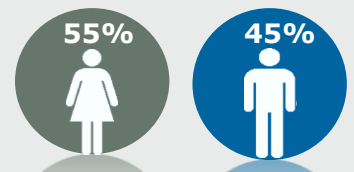
243,945 people were reached with WFP food assistance in May 2017.

USD 427,296 were transferred to refugees in camps and vulnerable households participating asset creation activities.

1,612mt of food were distributed.

Over **50%** of food distributed was purchased locally.

People Assisted
May 2017



Main Photo Credit: WFP/JohnPaul Sesonga
Caption: WFP’s Nutrition Education and counselling initiative contributes to good feeding practices in refugee camps.



May 2017

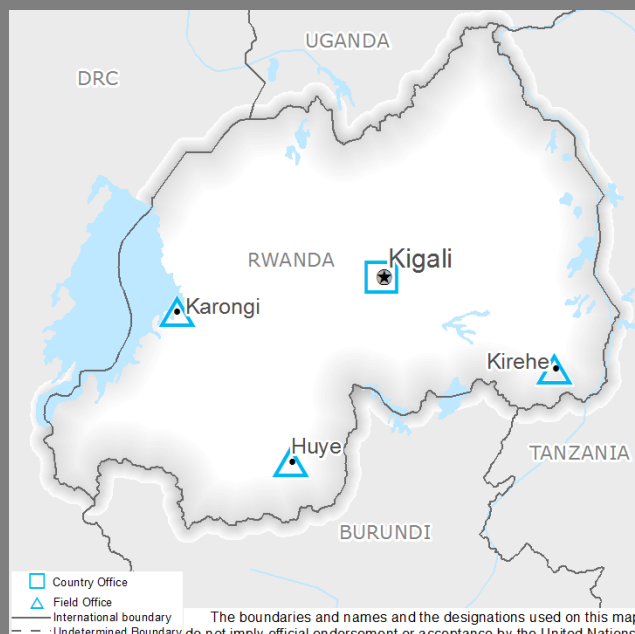
Operational Updates

- In May, WFP provided food assistance to 243,945 people, including vulnerable host populations and refugees in camps through general distributions, nutrition interventions, asset creation activities and school meals programmes in food insecure areas.
- WFP's food assistance through cash-based transfers to Congolese refugees continued in May, using the multi-wallet smart cards which use biometrics for identification checks. In May, WFP transferred USD 387,898 to 45,772 refugees in three camps (Nyabiheke, Gihembe and Kigeme), enabling them to buy food of their choice from the local markets. In addition, WFP transferred USD 39,398 to 19,010 local households participating in asset creation activities. In addition to the cash-based transfers, WFP provided 1,612 mt of assorted food commodities to refugees and school children in food insecure districts.
- As part of WFP's efforts to support small-holder farmers in Rwanda, WFP is training 8,500 smallholder farmers in farmers' cooperatives on post-harvest handling and storage ahead of the harvest season, in order to prepare them to meet partner private-sector buyers' requirements. Over 50 percent of the food distributed in May was purchased locally.

Challenges

- The refugee operation is facing serious resource shortfalls. WFP requires USD 12.6 million to meet the needs of the refugees in the next six months (June-Nov 2017). The operation risks breaks in the provision of in-kind and cash-based transfers to refugees, if new contributions are not received soon. Given the protracted crisis in Burundi and the deteriorating security situation in the DRC, which is likely to trigger 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 (416 people per square kilometre). It has a limited natural resource base; agriculture is the main sector contributing over 33 percent to the national gross domestic product (GDP) and generates 80 percent of total export revenue. Life expectancy in Rwanda is 64 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: **11.2 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
163 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, Private Donors and UN Common Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF).

PRRO 200744: USAID, UK, Japan, European Commission and UN CERF