



# WFP Malawi Country Brief

## Highlights

- Following the Government's request for support for the 2017/2018 lean season response, WFP and its partners are planning to support approximately 1 million people in IPC phase 3 with relief assistance in 20 districts through cash-transfers along with complementary recovery activities.
- While the provision of lifesaving assistance remains paramount, WFP and partners continue to invest in long-term hunger solutions through the scale up of productive asset creation, building capacity of smallholder farmers, and ensuring educational and nutrition safety nets for the most vulnerable.
- WFP has been supporting the Government of Malawi to conduct an update assessment for the lean season response and results are expected out soon.

### WFP Assistance

Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
DEV 200287 (March 2012 –December 2018)	203 m	137 m	4.3 m

\*December 2017 – May 2018

**DEV 200287:** WFP assists over one million people with this Development Programme (DEV). Under the **Support to Education component**, WFP provides Centralized Model (CM) of school meals and Home Grown School Meals (HGSM) to **966,297** primary and pre-primary students in 13 food insecure districts. From August 2017, a pilot innovation project "Self-Sustainable School Meals Programme (SSSMP) has been implemented at four schools in two districts." Through **Nutrition Support component**, WFP is assisting **104,480** people. WFP provides treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) to children, pregnant/breastfeeding women and people on HIV/Tuberculosis (TB) treatment. For people on HIV/TB treatment, WFP also provides treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). The **Capacity Development related to Disaster Risk Reduction component** focuses on strengthening national capacity to prepare for, respond to and mitigate disasters – this final component is linked to field-level asset creation under Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 200692. The three components are complemented by WFP's support to agricultural markets and smallholder farmers through the Purchase for Progress and a Prevention of Stunting pilot.

Food assistance to Refugees in Malawi	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200460** (June 2013 – June 2019)	28 m	13 m	1.1 m

\*December 2017 – May 2018 \*

**PRRO 200460:** To date, WFP provides food assistance to **33,554** camp-based refugees and asylum seekers resident in Malawi. The goal is to contribute to achieving and maintaining food security among refugees and asylum seekers. Since the beginning of this year and new BR in June 2017, WFP has provided full individual rations to all refugees in both camps. **The current pipeline indicates availability of refugee funds up to December 2017**, which means there is critical need for more support towards this operation.

Responding to Humanitarian Needs and Strengthening Resilience to Restore Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200692 (Dec 2014 – Dec. 2018)	654 m	434 m	21.7m

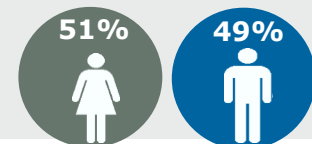
\*\*December 2017 – May 2018

**PRRO 200692:** This PRRO provides a seamless transition between relief response and resilience-building efforts. The project is the vehicle for WFP's lean season response to the effects of El Niño and in 2016/17 lean season food insecurity, targeting **623,093** food insecure people in IPC phase 3 or worse, beginning December 2017. The relief component is implemented through a mixture of food, cash/ voucher transfers and benefits from working with partners to deliver complementary recovery activities to pave the way for a gradual transition to conditional assistance. The recovery component concentrates on multi-sector and multi-year resilience activities that involve nutrition-sensitive productive asset creation and several innovations in risk management and reduction.

## In Numbers

- 966,297** assisted with school meals
- 104,480** treated for malnutrition
- 584,282** people supported with food assistance for assets
- 33,554** refugees/asylum seekers assisted

November 2017



Main Photo

Caption: Thanks to great partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture students in 584 schools receive a daily nutritious porridge. USDA Deputy Administrator Jocelyn Brown visited one of the schools in Malawi. Credit: Cheulekene Mita, WFP



November 2017

## Operational Updates

**Food Security:** Following the Government's request for support from the Humanitarian community for the 2017/2018 lean season response, WFP and its partners are planning to support approximately 1 million people with relief assistance in 20 districts through cash-transfers along with complementary recovery activities. This figure represents nearly 6 percent of the population. Out of the total WFP will be assisting 623,093 people in 15 districts. The rollout will be incremental starting with two districts (Nsanje, Balaka) in December and two more in January then scaling up to 11 districts in February. With an initial funding of USD 4.92 million from DFID which will cover 51 percent of the needs, WFP will be able to start responding in December. WFP's funding gap is at USD 3.5 million.

**Food Assistance for Assets (FFA):** Project implementation continued at an increased pace at the peak of the FFA season which runs from June to December, with FFA participants creating different household, group and community owned productive assets. Following the training that was conducted in June 2017 and subsequent follow up by the cooperating partners and Government counterparts, all districts have adopted and exercised the principle of integrated watershed approaches. During the month of November, over 15 micro watershed projects were selected and activities meant to protect and enrich the health of the watershed are being implemented across the 10 FFA districts.

**Purchase for Progress (P4P):** A partnership with the Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Africa (ACE) was renewed in November. Through this partnership, ACE will implement a set of transitional activities for six farmer organizations operating the Warehouse Receipt System.

**Climate Services:** WFP in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture, irrigation and water development (MoAIWD), the department of climate change and Met Services (DCCMS), Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) and other stakeholders continued to facilitate co-production of agro-advisories based on the 2017/2018 downscaled seasonal forecast in five of the 10 districts implementing Resilience programmes. The messages are disseminated through radio, SMS and extension officers to vulnerable households for their consideration in making farming decisions.

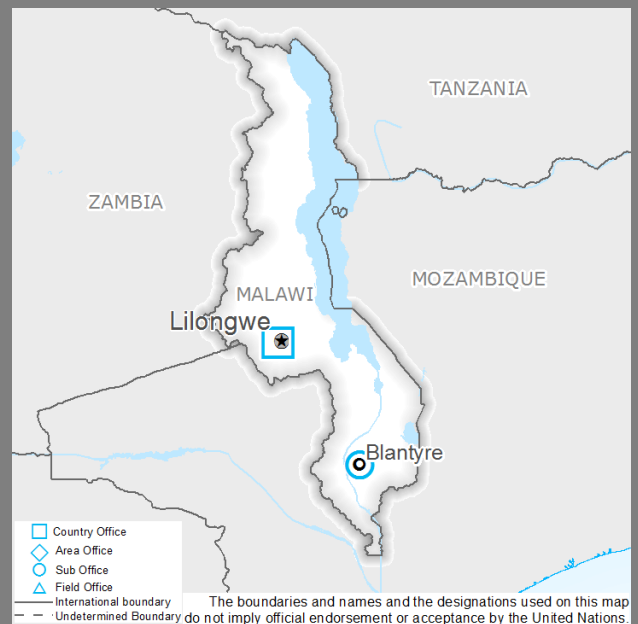
**Social Protection:** WFP advanced implementation of its shock sensitive social protection model, linking forecasting to triggers for seasonal activities with beneficiaries, and defining contingency financing thresholds for the upcoming humanitarian response. Discussion began on testing a 'vertical expansion' mechanism for social cash transfer mechanism for the upcoming humanitarian response with UNICEF and the Government.

**School Meals:** At the start of a new academic year school meals resumed for over 966,000 students in 13 districts across the country.

**Nutrition:** Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) continued reaching 104,480 children, pregnant and lactating women, adolescents and adults.

**Refugees:** Conflict in the DRC Kasai region has forced a refugee inflow of 500 people monthly at the Karonga transit centre. As of end November UNHCR had recorded 34,668 asylum seekers in Malawi.

## Country Background & Strategy



Malawi, a small landlocked country in sub-Saharan Africa, is a UNFPA global population hotspot with a population expanding rapidly at 3 percent per year. Despite significant investments in development, a quarter of Malawians live in extreme poverty. With the majority of livelihoods dependent on agriculture, the population is highly vulnerable to the effects of natural disasters. For the past two consecutive growing seasons, the country has seen major drops in year-on-year maize production, leaving significant proportions of the population without enough food, thereby necessitating large-scale and nearly year-round humanitarian responses to food insecurity. However in the 2016/17 growing season the country realized a better crop production an increase of 37 percent compared to the same round last year. With the good cereal output, headline inflation is now in single digits (at 8.3 percent) for the first time in nearly six years.

Malawi's challenges are compounded by a volatile economy, high rates of HIV infection (at 8.8 percent), school drop-out (at 15 percent) and chronic undernutrition (at 37 percent for children under five). According to the Cost of Hunger in Africa study in Malawi, the annual costs of child undernutrition are some USD 597 million, equivalent to 10.3 percent of GDP. Given these challenges, WFP's operations work to support the Government in attaining a food and nutrition secure and resilient future, which is guided by the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals with a particular emphasis on reaching zero hunger (SDG 2).

WFP has been present in Malawi since 1965.

Population: **17 million**

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

Income Level: **Low**

Stunting Rate: **37% of children under 5**

## Donors

Australia, ECHO, Egypt, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Lithuania, Malawi, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, World Bank, UK, UN CERF, USDA, USAID, Belgium, Private Donors (CIFF)