



WFP Zimbabwe Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Responding to Humanitarian Needs and Strengthening Resilience to Food Insecurity	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200944 (July 2016 - June 2018)	230 m	85 m (37%)	7.1 (67%)

*April - September 2017

GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200944

Lean Season Assistance (LSA)

WFP provides targeted food assistance to address the immediate food and nutrition needs of households during the peak hunger months prior to harvest. Prompted by the El Niño-induced drought, the 2016/17 LSA cycle began in May, six months earlier than usual. The programme targeted 1.9 million people between January and March 2017. Taking into account the government and other partner responses, the programme assisted 1.1 million people per month of the planned 1.9 million people through March 2017. In March, recognising delayed planting and subsequent delays in harvesting, WFP extended the LSA in some identified districts by one month. WFP was able to reach 57 percent of the targeted food insecure population. WFP also provides communities with training to improve livelihoods, including basic financial literacy.

Support to Refugees

Together with UNHCR and Christian Care, WFP originally planned to assist 8,510 refugees in Tongogara Refugee Camp until December 2016. However, the number has increased to 8,903 refugees following the relocation of refugees at the border between Zimbabwe and Mozambique, who are fleeing clashes between the Mozambican government forces and Renamo. WFP provides cash-based assistance to the general refugee population and in-kind food to new arrivals. The ration allows refugees to meet their full daily caloric needs. With an increased influx of new arrivals, additional resources continue to be required to complement the internal resources that have been used to cover the gap.

Small holder farmers

In partnership with FAO and the Government of Zimbabwe, WFP is supporting 5,389 smallholder farmers in Mudzi and Rushinga districts, strengthening their resilience by increasing production and productivity of drought-tolerant small grains; and developing market linkages and a predictable demand. The project is being

Main Photo

Caption: RC. Bishow Parajuli, Mr. Ozias Hove of the OPC and WFP CD, Mr. Eddie Rowe officially launch WFP's 5 year CSP

Highlights

- WFP launches its five-year Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021), strengthening its resilience and social protection work in the country.
- WFP extends Lean Season Assistance (LSA) by a month to April 2017 in 13 Districts, in order to discourage early yield and consumption of immature crops.
- WFP urgently requires USD 2.5 million in additional resources to continue providing assistance to the increasing refugee inflows at Tongogara Camp.

implemented during the 2016/17 agricultural season targeting 646 hectares with small grains.

Health and Nutrition Promotion

In partnership with the Ministry of Health and Child Care, and funded by PEPFAR, WFP is implementing a MAM treatment programme focusing on HIV and TB clients in three selected districts. The programme targets to treat 26,000 moderately acute malnourished people living with HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (TB), pregnant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age each month at selected clinics across the country. A stunting prevention pilot supports 5,300 children in Mutasa through a joint programme with UNICEF, FAO, and WHO. Under the framework of the Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, WFP supports the Government in implementing its micronutrient and fortification strategies. With NGO partners, WFP is integrating social and behavioural change communication activities across all of its programmes to promote positive nutrition outcomes. WFP is also implementing the Moderate Acute Malnutrition Treatment programme under LSA in 22 districts, targeting children under the age of five through clinics in rural districts with Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates above 5 percent.

WFP's Country Strategic Plan

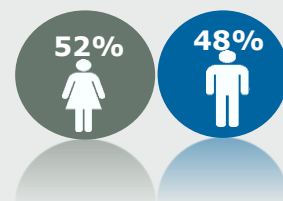
WFP began implementing its activities under the Zimbabwe Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2017-2021, a five year plan which replaces previous humanitarian and development programme categories. WFP is increasingly focusing on longer-term national social protection and resilience-building to achieve Zero Hunger, while maintaining strong humanitarian assistance capacity.

In Numbers

4.1m people are food insecure

1.1m received lean season assistance

8,900 refugees assisted



People Assisted March 2017



March 2017

Operational Updates

- Guided by the findings of the Rapid Rural Assessment, in close consultation with partners and donors, WFP extended LSA by an additional month (to April) in 13 selected districts, in order to discourage early yield and consumption of immature crops. WFP will extend its assistance to 581,635 people, 200,480 of these receiving their assistance through cash-based transfers (CBT).
- In March, the Lean Season Assistance (LSA) programme assisted 1,099,121 people in 28 districts, with 300,184 people receiving their assistance through CBT.
- WFP assisted 8,903 refugees in March. WFP requires an additional USD 2.5 million to meet the needs of this increased Tongogara Camp population through December 2017. Given that there are refugees still located at the border with Mozambique, WFP will support the UNHCR-led to relocate the Mozambican refugees to Tongogara Camp.
- WFP continued to strengthen its Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) treatment programme being implemented in 22 districts. WFP assisted 21,639 children aged 6 to 59 months with Super Cereal plus in March. In addition, 5,160 children were assisted through the prevention of stunting project in Mutasa District.
- The Emergency School Feeding (ESP) programme assisted 81,648 children in Mbire, Zvishavane and Binga districts. School feeding activities improved with the cessation of rains in most of the districts. This led to increased attendance in school and subsequently to the provision of Super Cereal for morning meals at schools.
- Crops grown under the support to smallholder farmers are now at grain filling and hardening stages. Field days aimed at raising awareness on the benefits of small grains and effective growing methods will start in early April.
- Humanitarian partners under the food sector assisted 2.04 million people with food assistance in February, an increase from 1.9 million in January. The increases are critical in meeting the high needs at this time of the year, where 4.1 million people are estimated to be food insecure since January through March 2017.
- In preparation for the 2016 PAC Cycle, WFP has begun the processes of identifying partners and finalising plans for the launch in May.

Partnerships

- To support the Government on Sustainable Development Goal 2 ([SDG 2](#)) to end hunger, WFP works with other UN agencies, NGOs, academia, and the private sector to ensure a multi-sectorial and sustainable approach. In line with the 2016-2020 Zimbabwe UN Development Assistance Framework, WFP is working with FAO to build the resilience of smallholder farmers. WFP is strengthening its partnership with UNFPA by providing food support to patients accessing free fistula repair services at the obstetric fistula treatment camps being supported by UNFPA. With UNICEF and the World Bank, WFP supports government efforts to strengthen systems for social protection.

Country Background & Strategy



Over the last decade, Zimbabwe has experienced a number of unprecedented economic, environmental and political shocks and stresses, contributing to a 2015 Global Hunger Index classified as 'serious.' 62.6 percent of Zimbabweans live below the poverty line. Following a poor 2014-15 harvest season, severe drought in 2015-16 has 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 70 percent prevalence of anaemia among children under two, largely driven by poor dietary diversity. Although declining, the prevalence of HIV remains the fifth highest in the world, at 13.7 percent.

WFP's Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021) targets the multiple root causes of chronic food insecurity and poverty in Zimbabwe. While preserving WFP's humanitarian response capacity, it promotes a shift towards resilience-building efforts, and includes emphasis on reducing stunting, strengthening social protection systems, and empowering smallholder farmers. WFP has been present in Zimbabwe since 2002.

Population: **14 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **155 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low income**

Chronic malnutrition: **27% of children between 6-59 months**

Top Donors (2015-2016)

United States, UN Central Emergency Fund, Japan, Zimbabwe, Switzerland, Canada, the Netherlands, ECHO, Australia, Russia, China

Contact info: Tinashe Mubaira (Tinashe.Mubaira@wfp.org)

Country Director: Eddie Rowe

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/zimbabwe