

WFP Assistance



WFP's support to Zambia has shifted from direct implementation to technical assistance over the last five years. The Country Programme's goal is to provide technical assistance with an emphasis on the implementation of long-term programmes such as social protection, nutrition governance for nutritionsensitive programming and building disaster resilience.

Under the **Home Grown School Feeding (HGSF)**, component, WFP will phase out direct food delivery to produce and procure nutritious foods locally from smallholder farmers. The Government is committed to increasing its financial contribution to the HGSF programme to reach two million primary-school learners by 2020. As a component of the National Social Protection Policy (NSPP), the HGSM programme serves as a social safety net for children from vulnerable households.

The objective of the **Nutrition** component is to support the Government's National Food and Nutrition Policy by building strategic partnerships that foster an integrated multi-sectoral response based on the lifecycle approach to achieve the national target of reducing stunting from 40 to 30 percent by 2021. As part of the Scale Up Nutrition (SUN) movement, WFP aims at fostering strategic partnerships with the government, National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC), UN agencies and civil society to support the national nutrition multi-sectoral response strategy.

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Evin Joyce Caption: Viola Mulenga a female aggregator under the Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA) presented with a silver award for her

Market Alliance (FtMA) presented with a silver award for her performance in the 2016/2017 marketing season. She was also presented with a mobile shed for commodity storage.

Highlights

 WFP has provided financial and technical support to the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) through the Zambia Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZVAC) to conduct part of the chronic vulnerability research using a Livelihood Based Approach "Household Economy Approach". The outcome of the research, which is expected to commence in November, will be key in strengthening appropriate design and implementation of medium to long term resilience programmes within the Government led 7th National Development Plan as well as strategic plans for other development partners.

Cooperating partners will give technical and financial assistance to the implementation of the NSPP for the period 2016-2018.

The Rural Resilience Initiative (R4) component targets poor and food insecure households especially those cultivating less than two hectares of land who are capable of raising their productivity with improved access to yieldenhancing technologies. Half of the assisted households are run by women. Using the R4 approach, WFP provides smallholder farmers (SHFs) with access to conservation agriculture activities supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) 'Conservation Agriculture Scale Up' programme. SHFs are also given access to risk management services such as drought insurance, credit, and savings. WFP also attempts to create market linkages through synergies with the Purchase for Progress (P4P) initiative, and provide climate information services. The above offers households with a set of climate, financial and market services that can stimulate production over time and help them escape poverty and food insecurity.

In Numbers 768,018 People assisted through the Country Programme People Assisted October 2017

October 2017



Operational Updates

Cow Pea Survey: The Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA) facilitated in the evaluation of the WFP cowpeas local procurement from the small holder farmers' initiative in Southern and Central Province of Zambia. Preliminary findings showed that the greatest challenge among small and medium scale aggregators is access to finance which limits their capacity to effectively buy from small scale farmers. The study indicated that the commercial aggregators did not have challenges with trade financing and hence provided spot cash payments to the farmers upon delivery. The study further shows that there has been increase in area planted of cowpeas from the previous season with many citing the availability of a market and good price as the reason for the increase.

Farm to Market Alliance: The FtMA will be holding end of year meetings in Choma (Southern Province) and Kabwe (Central Province) to share its experiences and recognise the contributions of the aggregators in serving the smallholder farmers in the last marketing season. In attendance, will be aggregators, lead farmers, off takers, financial institutions, cooperating partners and seed companies. The meetings will discuss and document program success and challenges experienced by various actors along the value chain and make recommendations and plans for the next marketing season

Long-Lasting Insecticide-Treated Nets (LLINs)

Project: Deliveries of the long-lasting insecticide treated nets (LLINs) under the WFP/Ministry of Health agreement now stands at 56 percent. Currently, two provinces are active: Central and North-Western. Eastern and Western provinces have not yet received their net allocation hence; no distribution is taking place. The Ministry of Health have reported a shortfall of over one million nets to meet the distribution requirements of the nine provinces and they plan to source these through the Global Fund grant.

Country Background & Strategy



Zambia has an annual population growth rate of 2.8 percent. However, strong economic growth in recent years has not resulted in improved nutrition and food security or equitable social development. WFP has adopted strategies to support the country's vision to become an industrial middle income country by 2030.

Zambia's Gini coefficient is 0.65, making it one of the most unequal countries in the world. Additionally, progress on reducing stunting and poverty has stagnated; roughly 40 percent of children between 6-59 months are stunted. Very low population density and challenges in service delivery render the cost of doing business and delivering strong multi-sectoral development support relatively high compared to the rest of the region.

WFP aims to assist one million primary school students in 2017 in an effort to increase attendance and learners' outcomes in the country's poorest districts. WFP also works to safeguard the nutritional status of vulnerable groups through advocacy and the provision of technical assistance from national to district levels and supports smallholder farmers vulnerable to drought through the Rural Resilience Initiative (R4). WFP provides technical assistance to the Government's Disaster Mitigation and Management Unit. WFP is an active member of the Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement and has partnered with other development agencies to reverse stunting trends in the country in Zambia.

WFP has been present in Zambia since 1967.

Population: 15 million	2015 Human Development Index: 139 out of 188
Income Level: Lower middle	Stunting: 40% of children between 6-59 months

Donors

Government of Zambia, Multilaterals, UNICEF, Japan, Private Donors, and Germany.

Contact info: Khatra Elmi (Khatra.Elmi@wfp.org) **Country Director:** Jennifer Bitonde Further information: <u>www.wfp.org/countries/zambia</u>