



WFP Zambia Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CP 200891 (2016-2020)	36.6 m	10.7 m (29%)	-

*May 2017 – October 2017

GENDER MARKER 2A  CP 200891

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

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Daniel Mubanga

Caption: Micro Nutrient Powder (MNPs) been loaded onto a truck destined for Petauke the district where the project will be implemented.

Highlights

- The 2017 Crop Forecast Survey results have been released. Zambia has recorded its highest maize production in recorded history, amounting to 3.6 million mt. With carry-over stock of 570,000 mt from the previous year, the overall maize stocks stand at 4.17 million mt, which is expected to leave a surplus of more than 1 million mt taking into consideration national food consumption requirements and allocation to the national strategic food reserves.

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 yield-enhancing 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

300,000 People assisted through the Country Programme

People Assisted
May 2017

49%



51%



Operational Updates

Social Cash Transfer: WFP has seen a massive increase in the Government's commitment to Social Cash Transfers, resulting in the programme more than doubling its caseload by the end of 2017, from 252,000 households to approximately 600,000 households. This commitment has been coupled with a request from the Government of Zambia, for WFP to quadruple its support to the programme's registration system, expanding support from an initial pilot of 10 districts to all 106 districts, effectively taking the system nationwide and conducting any new registration electronically. This move is a welcome progression in the development of WFP's relationship with the Government of Zambia as a key supporter to implementation systems in Social Protection, the culmination of a four year long relationship of support to the programme. Additionally, WFP and the Ministry of Community Development have jointly concluded a series of financial literacy training sessions, educating 8,898 beneficiaries on the use of the new VISA prepaid card payment system being piloted with Zambia National Commercial Bank (ZANACO). Lusaka is first in a series of 10 districts that the electronic payment system will roll-out.

Farmer to Market Alliance (FtMA): Two meetings were facilitated in Central and Southern Provinces to introduce two financial institutions to aggregators. A total of 30 high performing aggregators were linked to ZANACO Bank and Madison Finance – a micro finance institution. As a result of the two meetings eight aggregators have obtained loans amounting to a total of ZMW 690,000 (USD 73,400). The loan facilities will accelerate commodity aggregation and cash payment to smallholder farmers.

SBN: The SUN Business Network (SBN) Zambia in collaboration with SBN Global Office hosted the SBN Africa Gathering from 16 to 18 May 2017 in Lusaka. Over thirty participants were in attendance during the gathering which brought together several national SBNs from across Africa including Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nigeria and Tanzania. Country networks were able to share ideas, successes and challenges on respective work streams as well as exchange inter-network feedback. A range of topics were discussed including how the SBN can engage businesses, consumers and donors, investment options for SBN business members, monitoring and learning, and how country networks can take their respective networks to the next level.

Operational Partnerships

WFP partnered with the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU), the Ministry of Agriculture, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET) and several International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) to collect data on food security. The monitoring of key market variables such as prices of staples, direction of trade, marketing conditions will have enabled the Government of Zambia and partners to adequately plan and design interventions to respond to the effects of the El Niño.

WFP also partnered with Mobile Accord Incorporated and PREMISE mobile data to collect real time information on household food security and markets.

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.

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