



Standard Project Report 2015

World Food Programme in Malawi, Republic of (MW)

Food Assistance to Refugees in Malawi

Reporting period: 1 January - 31 December 2015

Project Information	
Project Number	200460
Project Category	Single Country PRRO
Overall Planned Beneficiaries	25,614
Planned Beneficiaries in 2015	25,614
Total Beneficiaries in 2015	24,286

Key Project Dates	
Project Approval Date	August 27, 2013
Planned Start Date	June 01, 2013
Actual Start Date	June 01, 2013
Project End Date	May 31, 2016
Financial Closure Date	N/A

Approved budget in USD	
Food and Related Costs	5,973,876
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	163,000
Direct Support Costs	824,855
Cash-Based Transfers and Related Costs	1,619,204
Indirect Support Costs	600,665
Total	9,181,599

Commodities	Metric Tonnes
Planned Commodities in 2015	3,721
Actual Commodities 2015	2,837
Total Approved Commodities	10,905

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COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Background

Malawi, a small and landlocked sub-Saharan African country, is a UNFPA global population hotspot with a population rapidly expanding at 3 percent per year. Despite significant investments in development, Malawi ranks 173 out of 188 countries in the 2015 Human Development Index.

Poverty is predominantly rural, with female-headed households experiencing higher poverty than those headed by men. Some 51 percent of female-headed households are afflicted by severe food insecurity compared to 38 percent of male-headed households, according to Malawi's latest Integrated Household Panel Survey report (NSO/IHPS 2014). Gender inequality in Malawi continues to be among the worst in the world, ranking fifteenth lowest on the gender inequality index (2015 UNDP Human Development Report). Although the country was on track to partially achieve half of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the end of 2015, MDG1 – halving extreme poverty and hunger – was not realized.

Since 2012, economic shocks such as devaluation of the local currency by 34 percent, its subsequent depreciation by 60 percent compared to the US dollar (much of which took place in the last half of 2015) and inflation of nearly 25 percent have contributed to high living costs. Average incomes were lowest globally for 2015, with a GNI per capita of just USD 250 (World Bank 2015). The worsening economic situation has hit Malawi's poor especially hard, negatively affecting their ability to access wage-earning work or food. Donor budgetary aid also continued to be suspended to Malawi in the wake of the 2013/14 "cashgate" scandal, further destabilizing the economy and public services. This is particularly concerning given that, among the poorest Malawians, half of young women aged 15-24 and a third of young men are illiterate (NSO/IHPS 2014).

Malawi's landholdings are generally small and densely cultivated, causing overuse and degradation of marginally productive agricultural land. The country's quickly-growing population has placed intense pressure on farm-holdings of an average 0.24 hectares, compared with the sub-Saharan African average of 0.40 (World Bank, 2012). At the same time, smallholder farmers contribute to 70 percent of the overall national agricultural sector, and most produce maize on a subsistence basis (Government of Malawi, 2014). This makes most of the population highly vulnerable to the effects of the frequent and intense natural disasters, such as recurrent seasonal dry spells and flooding. In 2015, for example, Malawians have had to cope with the dual impact of the most severe floods disaster in living memory followed by prolonged dry spells in the first half of 2015 – resulting in the worst food insecurity in a decade, further deepened by the second strongest El Niño on the record since 1900. According to an integrated context analysis conducted by WFP, nearly half of Malawi's 28 districts have experienced at least four major shocks in the last decade.

The challenges in the country are compounded by the high HIV infection rate at 10 percent (UNAIDS, 2014), the ninth highest rate in the world. Nutrition insecurity also remains high, linked to, among other factors, poor dietary diversity, a high disease burden and persistent annual food shortages. Some 42 percent of children aged under five are stunted (MICS 2014). According to the 2015 Cost of Hunger in Africa study in Malawi, the annual costs of child undernutrition – which is associated with 23 percent of child mortality cases in the country – are estimated at USD 597 million, equivalent to 10.3 percent of its GDP.

Since 1990, Malawi has hosted a steady influx of refugees, mainly from the Great Lakes Region and more recently from Mozambique. Some 24,300 refugees and asylum seekers were living in Malawi as of 2015.

Summary Of WFP Assistance

In line with the government's priorities and policies and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2012-2016 and which will be extended an additional two years), WFP works to achieve a food and nutrition secure and resilient Malawi. This is operationalised through a 2012-2016 country strategy and five operations in 2015 that prioritised social and nutritional support for vulnerable groups, resilience building and agricultural market support to small-scale farmers, and provision of emergency food assistance and logistical augmentation in times of crisis. WFP has continued its strategic shift towards resilience in Malawi and worked to address the structural drivers of hunger by simultaneously preparing for and responding to shocks, restoring and rebuilding lives and livelihoods, and reducing vulnerability to build lasting resilience.

2015 was a year of unprecedented humanitarian need in Malawi – with devastating floods and dry spells, followed by the driest planting season (from October-December 2015) in 35 years. Coupled with the difficult macroeconomic environment and poor previous growing season, the situation escalated into the country's worst food insecurity in a decade. WFP responded to the emergency needs of Malawi's most vulnerable who were unable to meet their annual food requirements. At the request of the government, WFP provided food or cash transfers to some 1.98 million food insecure people in 2015 under PRRO 200692 and IR-EMOP 200810. Through SO 200865 and IR-EMOP 200810, WFP also provided logistics services on behalf of the humanitarian community in the aftermath of the 2015 floods disaster in order to re-open access to cut-off communities. WFP worked closely with the government, building its capacity to eventually fully operate its national emergency response.

Through PRRO 200460, some 24,300 refugees in Malawi – the highest refugee population in a decade – also received relief assistance from WFP, as one step towards recovery from the conditions of forced migration.

The poorest in Malawi live in highly degraded environments and suffer from the cumulative impact of recurrent shocks. To facilitate the rebuilding of lives and livelihoods following crisis, WFP ensured that many of those receiving emergency assistance were supported with complementary activities to help them recover. Along with partners who have expertise in behavior change communication, WFP worked to enhance knowledge, attitudes and practices around diet diversification, gender equality and agricultural production.

To address chronic food insecurity, WFP scaled-up Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) activities under PRRO 200692 to build the resilience of 44,000 participants in four districts in 2015. WFP also continued to strengthen smallholder-friendly agricultural markets, which the country relies on for sustained economic development, by investing in the agricultural capacities of 71,000 smallholder farmers as part of the Purchase for Progress initiative. Through new climate-smart innovations such as weather-indexed micro-insurance, WFP helped shock-prone farmers to mitigate risk and build resilience.

The above early recovery and resilience-building activities were systematically planned with partners and local authorities, informed by a joint national integrated context analysis of vulnerabilities across the country, as well as multi-sectoral seasonal livelihood calendars and community-owned development action plans completed in four districts.

In response to prevailing high levels of malnutrition and social vulnerabilities, including high rates of student absenteeism and drop-out, WFP provided social support under Country Programme 200287 that helped reduce vulnerabilities. Some 857,000 schoolchildren received at least one nutritious meal per day, including some 89,000 who received diverse, locally sourced foods through WFP's home-grown school feeding programme. Additionally, nearly 140,000 women and children benefited from nutritional supplements that prevented and treated malnutrition. Through the Prevention of Stunting initiative in Malawi, WFP scaled-up nutrition interventions in the critical window of opportunity from a child's birth to second birthday where evidence shows greatest prevention potential. In its second year of operation, this pilot was awarded WFP's 2015 High Impact Innovation Award for pioneering an adaptive near-real-time monitoring and evaluation system in a stunting prevention project.

Recognizing the vital role that women have in promoting lasting solutions to food insecurity and undernutrition, WFP, in line with its Gender Policy (2015-2020), continued to create an enabling environment for gender equality and women's empowerment in Malawi by mainstreaming gender across its work. WFP also worked to ensure accountability to and create a safe environment for women, men, girls and boys by promptly and proactively addressing protection concerns.

WFP's assistance in Malawi supported the government's efforts to attain all eight MDGs, as well as the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) going forward, with a particular emphasis on the Zero Hunger Challenge (SDG2).

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Children (under 5 years)	191,315	197,138	388,453
Children (5-18 years)	673,809	678,826	1,352,635
Adults (18 years plus)	377,245	448,767	826,012
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	1,242,369	1,324,731	2,567,100

Distribution (mt)						
Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Country Programme	507	0	0	9,926	0	10,433
Single Country IR-EMOP	0	0	0	77	0	77
Single Country PRRO	64,055	2,185	9,549	3,604	0	79,393
Total Food Distributed in 2015	64,561	2,185	9,549	13,607	0	89,902

OPERATIONAL SPR

Operational Objectives and Relevance

For more than two decades, the Government of Malawi has hosted refugees mainly from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia and Somalia. In 2015, some 23,500 refugees resided in the Dzaleka camp in the central region. This represented the highest camp population since 1992, when Malawi hosted more than one million refugees. In 2015, the Karonga transit shelter in the north of the country continued to serve as the main transit shelter for asylum seekers entering Malawi. From July 2015 onwards, the asylum seeking population increased further due to new arrivals from Mozambique.

Refugee law in Malawi continues to limit access to tangible means of earning a living. Though the refugees have established means of earning limited income within the camp setting, they are nonetheless heavily dependent on food and other assistance provided by WFP, UNHCR and the Government of Malawi.

PRRO 200460 aims to provide refugees in Malawi with adequate and regular access to food in order to maintain and improve food and nutrition security amongst the targeted populations. The operation also aims to improve the natural environment and physical and social infrastructure of host communities surrounding Dzaleka camp.

While PRRO 200460 was meant to end in May 2015, it was extended for one year until May 2016 to cater for an increased number of refugees and enable the continuation of assistance until a new refugee project is developed. The extension also planned to introduce cash based transfers for certain commodities as per the results of a 2014 market feasibility study, but eventually this did not happen due to resource constraints.

The PRRO 200460 operation is aligned with WFP Strategic Objective 1: Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies, and 2: Support food security and nutrition and rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies. It also aligns with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) II and contributes towards the outcomes of the United Nations Development Framework 2012-2016 and the Sustainable Development Goals of ending hunger (SDG2) and promoting peaceful societies (SDG16).

Results

Beneficiaries, Targeting and Distribution

Under this operation in 2015, WFP provided food to some 24,300 refugees and asylum seekers, including nearly 23,000 beneficiaries in Dzaleka refugee camp and Karonga transit shelter, as well as about 1,300 Mozambican asylum seekers who sought refuge in a local border community, Kapise village, and a former refugee camp, Luwani, in Mwanza and Neno districts, respectively, in southwestern Malawi. Figures in Dzaleka represent an 11 percent increase from 2014, which is attributed primarily to on-going violence in the DRC and civil unrest in Burundi, which prompted a continued influx estimated at 350 new refugee arrivals each month. By the end of 2015, all new arrivals from Mozambique had moved to a settlement in Kapise village in Mwanza district.

Overall, WFP reached more refugee beneficiaries than planned as new arrivals exceeded population projections in 2015. There is a perceived underachievement for children reached under five years old because the planned figure was based on demographic projections for this age group that were much higher than actual refugee children of this age. In operational terms, WFP reached all children under five years old who were presented with their families on distribution days.

With increasing needs and limited funds available, WFP continued to prioritize refugee beneficiaries over those in the host community, as refugees continued to experience a greater risk of having their food security jeopardized with little to no alternative options to accessing food. Therefore, planned food assistance for assets (FFA) activities for some 2,200 beneficiaries (400 households) in host communities were not implemented.

Planned assistance was in the form of monthly general food distributions (GFD) of maize (13.5 kgs), pulses (1.5 kgs), and fortified vegetable oil (.75kgs) per person. In order to help address and reduce micronutrient deficiencies amongst the refugee population, especially among pregnant and lactating women (PLW) or those with HIV, a ration of Super Cereal (1.5 kgs) was included in the general food ration. Due to an in-kind distribution of split peas from Russia, these were distributed as opposed to peas as planned.

Individual rations of Super Cereal Plus, which is an iron rich food with micronutrients, milk powder, sugar and oil, were also planned for children under age two to address micronutrient deficiencies, and anaemia in particular, which was found to be high amongst this part of the population according to 2012 and 2014 Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) findings. While levels of anemia slightly improved from 2012 levels, the 2014 JAM still found that prevalence of anaemia for children under two years old was 56 percent, exceeding the 40 percent critical threshold for emergency intervention according to WHO classification.

With adequate funding for the first part of 2015, WFP was able to provide full food rations as planned for the targeted population. By mid-year however, resource constraints forced WFP to reduce rations in order to extend the duration of assistance. Starting from June 2015, WFP was forced to cut all commodity rations by half over the next four months. Despite these cuts, by the fourth quarter of the year stocks of vegetable oil, Super Cereal and Super Cereal Plus were completely depleted and beneficiaries were only receiving half rations of maize and pulses. The drastic reduction in food assistance resulted in less tonnage distributed than planned.

Based on a series of assessments in 2013-14 which found that cash based transfers would be feasible for some commodities, WFP planned to introduce cash based transfers from September for beneficiaries to purchase maize, pulses and oil from nearby markets. These assessments included a market study, cost-effectiveness analysis and microfinance assessment, while beneficiary preference for cash based modalities was confirmed through focus group discussions. WFP planned to continue providing Super Cereal and Super Cereal Plus as in-kind commodities given their nutritional importance and scarcity in local markets. Due to lack of funding, cash assistance was not provided in 2015 and WFP continued with in-kind rations of the food commodities. Funds and donor restrictions permitting, WFP will introduce cash-based transfers in 2016.

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Total Beneficiaries	13,653	11,961	25,614	13,285	11,001	24,286	97.3%	92.0%	94.8%
By Age-group:									
Children (under 5 years)	3,381	3,816	7,197	2,113	2,404	4,517	62.5%	63.0%	62.8%
Children (5-18 years)	4,354	3,560	7,914	4,711	3,764	8,475	108.2%	105.7%	107.1%
Adults (18 years plus)	5,918	4,585	10,503	6,461	4,833	11,294	109.2%	105.4%	107.5%
By Residence status:									
Refugees	12,478	10,933	23,411	13,284	11,002	24,286	106.5%	100.6%	103.7%
Residents	1,174	1,029	2,203	-	-	-	-	-	-

Activity	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Food	CBT	Total	Food	CBT	Total	Food	CBT	Total
General Distribution (GD)	23,414	23,414	23,414	24,286	-	24,286	103.7%	-	103.7%
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	2,200	-	2,200	-	-	-	-	-	-

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
General Distribution (GD)									

Table 3: Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)									
Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
People participating in general distributions	12,479	10,935	23,414	13,284	11,002	24,286	106.5%	100.6%	103.7%
Total participants	12,479	10,935	23,414	13,284	11,002	24,286	106.5%	100.6%	103.7%
Total beneficiaries	12,479	10,935	23,414	13,284	11,002	24,286	106.5%	100.6%	103.7%
Food-Assistance-for-Assets									
People participating in asset-creation activities	196	204	400	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total participants	196	204	400	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total beneficiaries	1,070	1,130	2,200	-	-	-	-	-	-

The total number of beneficiaries includes all targeted persons who were provided with WFP food/cash/vouchers during the reporting period - either as a recipient/participant or from a household food ration distributed to one of these recipients/participants.

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Corn Soya Blend	472	232	49.1%
Maize	2,671	2,240	83.9%
Peas	440	0	0.1%
Split Peas	-	262	-
Vegetable Oil	138	103	74.4%
Total	3,721	2,837	76.2%

Cash-Based Transfer	Planned Distribution USD	Actual Distribution USD	% Actual v. Planned
Cash	573,433	-	-
Voucher	-	-	-
Total	573,433	-	-

Story Worth Telling

"We cannot be employed, our children cannot be employed, therefore it is difficult to have finances and provide a good life for our children," explains Clementine, a 48-year old community leader and representative of DRC refugees at Dzaleka Refugee Camp in Malawi.

With few income generating options, maintaining a steady income and accessing enough food at Dzaleka is a constant challenge for Clementine. "We rely on WFP entirely," says Clementine of the food assistance provided by WFP.

While WFP's assistance is vital for food security, Clementine and other community leaders have also noticed that when food assistance is consistent, tensions reduce within the camp.

"Provision of food by WFP helps the family to be intact," explains Sonia, a 21-year old community mobiliser and refugee at Dzaleka. "People do not usually fight when there is enough food."

"We also have less school drop outs and teenage pregnancies when there is enough food," adds Clementine.

Both Clementine and Sonia were participants in a 2015 training on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) prevention through a joint UN project, funded by WFP. Similar to other training participants, both Clementine and

Sonia finished the training with a better understanding of sexuality and gender roles within their communities as well as the tools to fight SGBV cases in the camp. This is part of WFP's commitment to not only provide consistent and adequate food, but also to work in partnership to increase protection and safety of the human rights of all.

Progress Towards Gender Equality

Indications of gender-based vulnerabilities are evident across Malawi and are equally concerning among the country's refugee population. In Dzaleka, women are more likely to experience discrimination across all spheres of private and public life. This operation was therefore designed to take gender issues into account throughout the project cycle and has been coded with gender marker 2A, which indicates that gender is fully mainstreamed throughout the project and that it has the potential to contribute significantly to gender equality.

Following a 2013/14 joint WFP-UNHCR-UN Women survey and report on the prevalence of SGBV in Dzaleka, which found troubling levels of violence in the camp, WFP worked in partnership with UN Women to design and manage a joint UN SGBV prevention project in Dzaleka. The project was a joint effort between WFP, UN Women, UNHCR and Plan Malawi, and sought to put in place results-oriented interventions that would lead to initial short-term solutions as well as longer term follow-up actions that would help reduce SGBV in Dzaleka. The project included a Training of Trainers and subsequent trainings for police officers, government officials, camp community leaders, members of a camp SGBV committee, as well as a committee of pastors and covered topics that promoted and enhanced knowledge and awareness of gender and women's rights issues. By November 2015, the project implementers had observed increased awareness on SGBV issues throughout the camp as well as strengthened understanding of the referral mechanism for reporting SGBV cases.

The joint project also focused on fostering economic independence for refugee women through laying the groundwork for more income-generating activities (IGA) in the camp. This is important given that the SGBV survey found that economically dependent women are more likely to be victims of violence versus women who have their own source of income. The joint UN project will support a group of 30 women in 2016 to fine tune their tailoring skills and to work at a clothing shop.

Despite these efforts, WFP struggled to meet the gender indicator targets under this operation. While gender-sensitive implementation and the trainings through the joint UN project were helpful, experience has proved that gender dynamics are ultimately affected by the predictability and level of food assistance provided, and WFP was unable to provide full food assistance due to limited funding in 2015. During the time of data collection, refugees were only receiving two of five commodities, both of which were at half ration.

WFP's post-distribution monitoring found that joint decision-making over the use of food only occurred in about 27 percent of households, while the proportion of households where the decisions were made only by men or only by women both increased. Typically, increased food insecurity with reduced rations leads to higher tensions within families, consequently straining relationships between spouses, and this may have contributed to less joint decision-making. The majority of decisions however were made by women, which is significant considering the gender inequities in the camp. While the latest follow-up figures appear to be far from the base values (collected in 2014), the two sets of data were collected from different sample sizes and are therefore not strictly comparable. The 2015 data is more representative of the refugee population and will be used as a benchmark for comparison in future reports.

While not meeting the 50 percent target, women beneficiaries held about 44 percent of leadership positions in project management committees. This is a slight decrease from 2014 as the committee gained new members, but not in equal gender proportions. WFP will increase advocacy to reach gender parity in these committees in 2016. Frequent turnover of committee members also meant that fewer women committee members were trained on modalities of food distribution than planned. With a new dedicated refugee programme officer in 2016, WFP plans to increase the frequency of project committee trainings to ensure that all members are trained.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD) , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2014.12 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=40.00	70.40		26.60

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD) , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2014.12 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=30.00	24.80		52.80
Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD) , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2014.11 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=30.00	4.80		20.60
Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees				
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD) , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2014.12 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	>50.00	50.00		43.70
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD) , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2014.12 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	>60.00	29.00		18.90

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

WFP continued to apply practices that ensured assistance to the refugee population was provided in a safe and dignified manner. At Dzaleka Camp, food distributions continued to take place in an easily accessible, central location, and were organized in a staggered manner based on family size, starting with largest households first. This organization of distributions helped to avoid overcrowding, long lines and extended waiting times at the distribution site. The food management committee also helped maintain order on distribution days.

Beneficiaries continued to experience few safety problems travelling to, from and/or at the WFP distribution point. However, when compared to the 2014 data, there was a slight increase of both female (7.5 percent) and male beneficiaries (6 percent) reporting safety problems. This uptick was likely due to the provision of reduced rations during the time of data collection (December 2015) and increasing uncertainty over the food security situation, which can increase resentment amongst refugees and other tensions that can contribute to higher occurrence of bullying and petty theft. To mitigate and address any such safety problems, protection officers and camp police were available during all distributions.

At the same time, messages on protection rights and prevention of SGBV continued to be disseminated to make certain the entire population was aware of their rights and to discourage violations. This included storytelling in public settings and educational posters designed by camp artists that illustrated localized protection messages, as part of the joint UN SGBV prevention project in Dzaleka.

Beneficiary feedback on distribution days was enabled through a help desk and a suggestion box managed by WFP and UNHCR's local NGO partner, Participatory Rural Development Organization (PRDO). The information received by PRDO was then communicated during food committee meetings so that follow up actions could be agreed upon and taken. Food committee meetings were chaired and held regularly by WFP, after which refugee leaders were directed to hold follow up meetings with their communities to share the information, including schedule of distributions and any ration cuts that had been jointly agreed upon by stakeholders, including refugees. These in-person interactions with community leaders provided a channel for beneficiaries to raise concerns and for the partners to explain and address any immediate concerns directly. Beneficiaries could also provide complaints and feedback directly at the PRDO office in Dzaleka camp at any time.

Despite these measures, Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) in 2015 revealed a significant drop in the percentage of refugees who were informed about the food assistance programme. While 100 percent of beneficiaries surveyed reported knowing who was entitled to food assistance, only about half reported knowing what ration would be received, bringing down the overall score of the indicator. This reduction was likely due to frequent changes to the ration size with limited resources during the second half of 2015. The finding also suggests that information shared at the food committee meetings did not trickle down to the refugee population at large. Going forward, WFP will

explore ways to address this communication gap, such as following up more frequently with leaders to ensure meetings are held with their communities and identifying additional communication channels.

In response to the newly arrived Mozambican asylum seekers residing in a border village in Mwanza district, WFP and partners conducted a joint multi-sectoral assessment in December 2015, which included the identification of any protection concerns and appropriate actions to address them. Physical security, especially for women at night, violence and SGBV, and unaccompanied children at the camp were among the highest observed protection concerns. Following this assessment, a recreation center was set up by UNICEF as a protection measure for children under five to provide a safe place to play and spend time. Should the population remain in this area in 2016, additional protection measures will need to be taken by partners including providing large families with separate shelters, offering psychosocial counseling services and providing mandatory education for all children.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of assisted people (men) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site				
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.06, Base value: 2014.11, Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=90.00	100.00		94.00
Proportion of assisted people (women) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme sites				
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.12, Base value: 2014.11, Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=90.00	100.00		92.50
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.06, Base value: 2014.12, Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=80.00	100.00		62.43
Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site				
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2016.06, Base value: 2014.12, Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=80.00	100.00		93.30

Outputs

From January to May 2015, WFP distributed food assistance during the first week of each month to ensure predictable and timely food distribution. This was made possible by on-site warehouses large enough to store an entire month's requirement of food at a time. Good storage also enabled WFP to continue proper planning and consistent distribution dates during the first part of the year which, in turn, helped families better manage their monthly household food supplies.

By June 2015, in the midst of constrained resources and resulting ration cuts, distributions occurred during different weeks of each month, depending on availability of commodities. Still, WFP managed to provide all beneficiaries who presented themselves on distribution days with food rations every month in 2015. This was the result of careful adjustments to the programme to make certain that the available resources were used to meet basic needs, even if it meant having to cut certain rations at some point. All programme adjustments were made in consultation with refugee community leaders during monthly food committee meetings, to ensure that changes were understood and agreed upon by the refugee population.

This refugee operation continued to be complemented by WFP's Country Programme 200287 in 2015, through which a Supplementary Feeding Programme to treat moderate acute malnutrition amongst children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) was implemented at a WFP-supported health centre on the perimeter of the camp. In 2015, supplementary feeding at the Dzaleka health centre treated 127 malnourished patients, of whom five were also HIV positive, with an impressive cure rate exceeding that of surrounding health centres at just over 99 percent. The centre also continued to make available routine medication and complementary services free-of-charge, including provision of supplements like vitamin A and iron, antenatal and maternal care, growth monitoring for children less than five years, immunization, rapid diagnostic tests for malaria, tuberculosis treatment, and HIV

testing and counseling. Health services and supplementary feeding at the centre were available to both the refugee population and surrounding villages of Malawian nationals, helping to further promote cooperation between refugees and their host community by ensuring equity of benefits.

Due to funding constraints, WFP prioritized food for the refugee population over asset creation. Food Assistance for Assets activities for the host community were therefore not implemented, resulting in no outputs achieved under this component.

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
SO3: Food-Assistance-for-Assets				
Hectares (ha) of cultivated land treated and conserved with physical soil and water conservation measures only	Ha	5	0	0
Hectares (ha) of forests planted and established	Ha	5	0	0
Number of tree seedlings produced	tree seedling	20,000	0	0

Outcomes

Despite encouraging trends in recent years, severe funding constraints in the latter half of the year compromised the ability to achieve desired food security outcomes in 2015. Ration cuts were necessitated starting from June 2015, including a complete suspension of vegetable oil and Super Cereal Plus distributions from October and of Super Cereal from November. This meant that refugees only received 39 percent of the recommended minimum daily kilocalories by the end of year, compromising long-standing efforts to achieve food security in Dzaleka where WFP food assistance makes up 90 percent of food consumed by refugees. While refugees have limited options for self-sufficiency in the camp, including markets, restaurants, and small livelihood opportunities, they are still heavily dependent on WFP food assistance.

Latest outcomes for this PRRO were collected through a Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) carried out in December 2015 when ration cuts were at their most extreme. The results have been compared to previous follow-ups which include a Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) by WFP/UNHCR/Government in 2012 and a follow-up JAM in November 2014 at a time when full rations were being provided. Household nutrition surveys are carried out every second year in conjunction with the JAM, so the next nutrition survey is planned for 2016.

With drastically reduced food assistance, only 47 percent of the refugee population had an acceptable food consumption score (FCS) in 2015. This is a decline from the baseline (51 percent) and demonstrates a reversal in gains made in 2014, when 92 percent of the population had an acceptable FCS due to good funding levels which enabled full rations for the majority of the year. At 53 percent, the majority of the assisted refugee population fell into either the borderline or poor food consumption categories, greatly underachieving the target values for these outcomes. Consumption of micronutrient-rich foods such as meat and fish was especially poor, with around half of refugees not consuming heme iron - an important micronutrient necessary for a strong immune system and sustained productive capacity.

Dietary diversity also declined, with refugees consuming on average one food group less per week when compared to 2014. Primary foods consumed at the time of monitoring were staples (cereals), vegetables, pulses and fats (typically homemade oil). While not as positive as previous years, dietary diversity has still improved from the baseline because, despite ration cuts, beneficiaries were still able to eat from the food groups provided by WFP and supplemented with seasonal vegetables and fruits.

The calculation modules for FCS and dietary diversity scores do not consider blended foods like Super Cereal and Super Cereal Plus, which, if factored in, may have otherwise contributed to better food security outcomes.

Gender disaggregated data for FCS and dietary diversity showed that female-headed households fared slightly better than male-headed households in terms of food security, unlike in previous years when the reverse was the case. This may be attributed to the strengthened gender focus in the camp with the start of the joint UN SGBV prevention project, where WFP, UNHCR and UN Women teamed up to enhance efforts increase protection and

empower women.

Despite worsening FCS and dietary diversity scores under this PRRO, results of the PDM show that households adopted coping strategies to meet their food needs to a lesser extent compared to last year (represented by a lower Coping Strategy Index score). This improvement however only considers coping mechanisms within the parameters of the CSI calculation, which includes strategies such as reducing the number of meals per day or relying on less expensive food. Complementary data from the PDM revealed that despite a lower CSI, beneficiaries continued to employ coping mechanisms outside the CSI calculation. For instance, results of the PDM found concerning statistics of nearly 93 percent of the sampled population reporting that they turned to begging in order to make ends meet and 90 to 96 percent of beneficiaries having to spend their savings or borrow money, respectively. Some sampled beneficiaries also reported having to resort to risky coping mechanisms that jeopardized their safety (such as theft and prostitution) or their long-term coping abilities (such as selling of productive assets or withdrawing children from school).

While recognizing that fundraising efforts are taking place in a context of increased humanitarian need across the country, WFP will continue strong resource mobilization efforts with a view to providing the full commodity basket for the entire 2016 to improve food security outcomes in 2016.

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
SO1 Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies				
Stabilized or improved food consumption over assistance period for targeted households and/or individuals				
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score				
<i>DOWA , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2012.09 Joint survey , Previous Follow-up: 2014.11 Joint survey , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12 WFP survey PDM</i>	<1.34	6.70	2.10	16.70
FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score				
<i>DOWA , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2012.09 Joint survey , Previous Follow-up: 2014.11 Joint survey , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12 WFP survey</i>	<8.38	41.90	6.10	36.10
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
<i>DOWA , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2012.09 Joint survey , Previous Follow-up: 2014.11 Joint survey , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12 WFP survey PDM</i>	<1.38	6.90	5.10	14.00
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
<i>DOWA , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2012.09 Joint survey , Previous Follow-up: 2014.11 Joint survey , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12 WFP survey PDM</i>	>1.24	6.50	1.10	20.60
FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
<i>DOWA , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2012.09 Joint survey , Previous Follow-up: 2014.11 Joint survey , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12 WFP survey</i>	<6.64	43.20	9.40	34.00
FCS: percentage of households with borderline Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
<i>DOWA , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2012.09 Joint survey , Previous Follow-up: 2014.11 Joint survey , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12 WFP survey</i>	<8.12	40.60	5.00	39.20

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Diet Diversity Score				
<i>DOWA , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2014.11 Joint survey , Previous Follow-up: 2014.11 Joint survey , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12 WFP survey PDM</i>	>4.10	4.10	5.22	4.21
Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)				
<i>DOWA , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2014.11 Joint survey , Previous Follow-up: 2014.11 Joint survey , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12 WFP survey PDM</i>	>3.90	3.90	4.99	4.41
Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)				
<i>DOWA , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2014.11 Joint survey , Previous Follow-up: 2014.11 Joint survey , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12 Joint survey PDM</i>	>4.20	4.20	5.45	3.90
CSI (Food): Coping Strategy Index (average)				
<i>DOWA , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Base value: 2012.09 Joint survey , Previous Follow-up: 2014.11 Joint survey 2014 JAM , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12 WFP survey Dec 2015 PDM</i>	<43.00	43.00	40.00	25.79

Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

While refugees are able to sell goods and services within the camp, the opportunities are not widespread and offer minimal incomes. Some also receive inputs as part of complementary services provided by other organisations, enabling them to grow certain foods and maintain livestock; the camp also runs and operates its own restaurants and markets, from which refugees can purchase other foods. While these sources provide small incomes to purchase various foods, they are not significant enough to provide the refugees with full livelihoods or self-sufficiency.

The WFP-constructed community centre continued to provide a space where refugees, and women and youth in particular, could engage in livelihood projects, educational courses and technical trainings with a view to fostering greater sustainability in the refugee programme in Dzaleka. In 2015, the centre was also used for trainings under the joint UN SGBV prevention project, which included supporting a start-up tailoring shop that should help create sustainable livelihoods for participating women going forward.

WFP and UNHCR's partner, Participatory Rural Development Organization (PRDO), provided additional livelihood support including the provision of seeds and fertilizer to some 475 refugees who had small parcels of land and a training for refugee youth in carpentry, which will contribute to their self-reliance.

While these income-generating activity trainings continued to help refugees start and run small businesses, the approach to livelihood support in Dzaleka camp was reviewed in 2015 ahead of strategic shift that UNHCR will initiate in 2016. The shift will focus on creating more opportunities for community-wide livelihood support and creating income-earning prospects along each stage of an eventual product's value chain.

With increased support to livelihood opportunities, WFP and UNHCR will carry out a vulnerability profiling exercise to explore the possibility of prioritizing often limited food stocks to the most vulnerable refugees who have no alternative source of food or income. This should eventually lead to a more sustainable food assistance pipeline.

Livelihood support is likely to remain camp-based for the short to medium term as national efforts to remove restrictions on wage earning employment and freedom of movement for refugees have made minimal headway. A refugee or migration policy that is envisaged to lift at least some restrictions remains a work in progress, falling low amongst competing national priorities.

As in previous years, WFP was unable to support surrounding host communities with FFA activities due to resource constraints. This continued to test relations between host and refugee communities and impeded longer-term efforts for sustainable food security, especially since Dzaleka is located in a food insecure district efforts where pressure on trees and other natural resources, as well as locally available food is high.

However, other refugee-driven initiatives were pursued to improve refugee and host community relations, such as the second annual Dzaleka Cultural Festival, which provided an opportunity for refugees to promote their businesses, sell goods, and to showcase their musical and cultural dance talents to the general public. The festival further provided a platform for elevating refugee issues in national media and gave the surrounding host communities the opportunity to appreciate refugees' positive contributions to society.

In 2015, UNHCR found durable solutions primarily through resettlement for more than 1,000 refugees, while an additional 762 physically departed Malawi having been granted resettlement in previous years. The cessation clause for Rwandan refugees, expected to affect about 800 people who left the country prior to 1998, remained under dispute and therefore no refugees left the country in 2015 under the clause. For the first time in three years, however, the refugee status determination committee met in 2015 to decide on status applications. Some 5,000 applications for refugee status were reviewed from asylum seekers in Malawi, and the majority were approved. This is significant for sustainability efforts as becoming a bona fide refugee is a prerequisite step in seeking durable solutions.

The resources of the Government of Malawi continue to be insufficient to provide sustained food assistance to refugees in the country, due to limited financial capacity and other overriding national priorities. As such, WFP will continue supporting the government through the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) with provision of food assistance to refugees, while working with partners to explore sustainable solutions for strengthening food security of the refugee population and enhance efforts towards self-reliance.

Inputs

Resource Inputs

The continuous influx of refugees into the country put pressure on the already limited resources available to assist the refugee population. The operational impact of limited funding was cushioned by allocations of multilateral funds, which paired with two other contributions, helped WFP to still reach all camp-based refugees with the very basic food needs, though at times with reduced rations. The Government of Malawi, through its Ministry of Home Affairs, continued to provide storage facilities, manage receiving and storing of all food at the camp and provide a storekeeper.

Donor	2015 Resourced (mt)		2015 Shipped/Purchased (mt)
	In-Kind	Cash	
Canada	0	68	692
MULTILATERAL	0	1,275	378
USA	0	785	460
Total	0	2,129	1,530

See Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors for breakdown by commodity and contribution reference number

Food Purchases and In-Kind Receipts

Under this PRRO in 2015 all purchases were made either from other countries or through WFP's Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF) to take advantage of most competitive prices and shortest lead time, as well as due to the unavailability of Super Cereal Plus and vegetable oil that meets quality standards in local markets.

The GCMF, formerly known as the Forward Purchase Facility, allows WFP to make advance purchases of cereals and other food items at favourable prices to provide for future food assistance needs. About 40 percent of GCMF forward purchases were made locally, while the remainder was purchased from stocks in Zambia. Of the local GCMF purchases, some 38 mt was bought from Malawian smallholders as part of WFP's Purchase for Progress (P4P) initiative through the Agricultural Commodity Exchange.

Other food purchases from developing country economies included vegetable oil and Super Cereal from South Africa and Zambia.

Commodities	Local (mt)	Developing Country (mt)	Other International (mt)	GCMF (mt)
Corn Soya Blend	0	68	19	0
Maize	0	0	0	1,437
Vegetable Oil	0	74	0	0
Total	0	142	19	1,437

Food Transport, Delivery and Handling

Food supplies were delivered directly to the WFP central warehouses in Lilongwe. WFP then contracted commercial transporters at competitive rates to deliver food requirements to the three final delivery points in Dzaleka refugee camp, Karonga transit shelter and Kapise village, where asylum seekers resided in Mwanza District. Due to the inaccessible nature of Kapise caused by poor roads and bridges, WFP first employed larger trucks to move food to central Mwanza, and then smaller all-terrain trucks to ensure food could reach the asylum seekers in Kapise village.

Post-Delivery Losses

In 2015, this operation continued to experience very minimal post-delivery losses. This was due to continued strengthening of food management processes followed by WFP and partners, partnering with reliable transporters and close monitoring of food deliveries. In addition a short delivery distance between the central warehouse and final distribution points aided in minimizing post-delivery losses. These same good practices were used in mitigating losses during transportation of food to reach Kapise village, a new delivery point in 2015.

Management

Partnerships

WFP continued to partner with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), UNHCR and local NGO Participatory Rural Development Organisation (PRDO), as well as UN Women - a new partner for 2015 - to safeguard the food security of refugees under this operation. The government continued its role in warehouse management and camp administration, while PRDO worked for its second year as WFP's cooperating partner for food distributions. In 2015, WFP finalized a draft agreement between WFP, UNHCR, the Government of Malawi and PRDO, which will be reviewed by partners' legal departments and entered into force in 2016. Once signed, the agreement will formally govern the coordination of activities and responsibilities of partners within the camp.

In addition to WFP's four cooperating partners, services to complement WFP food assistance were also provided by three other organizations including Plan Malawi, Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) and Mary's Meals under this PRRO. Through quarterly meetings facilitated by the MoHA, WFP regularly met with all partners to share operational updates and identify key areas of collaboration to avoid duplication.

To complement WFP general food distributions, UNHCR and Plan Malawi provided specialized food assistance to selected people with special needs (e.g. people living with HIV/AIDS, the elderly, the chronically ill) to help cover their higher nutritional needs. Food provided included items like dried fish, eggs, milk and corn soya blend. Due to funding constraints, UNHCR was only able to provide this assistance in varying amounts throughout the year. Meanwhile, PRDO continued to facilitate beneficiary feedback and also partnered with UNHCR to provide non-food items, including shelter materials, blankets, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, soap and basins, among others, to more than 23,000 refugees by the end of 2015.

UNHCR spearheaded the protection services in the camp in partnership with PRDO and Plan Malawi, which continued to focus on child protection, human rights and in 2015 organized girls' clubs to give young women a space to freely discuss their challenges and collectively support each other. Meanwhile, the MoHA continued to oversee security within the camp and, together with UNHCR, continued to support the 'neighbourhood watch' team that monitors and reports any incidences of violence in the camp. In 2015, UNHCR also conducted numerous

trainings related to child protection, targeting refugee leaders, refugee and host community members, police, government officials and partner staff to enhance their awareness of and obligations to uphold child rights. Protection efforts were reinforced through the joint UN SGBV prevention project in Dzaleka in 2015, where WFP, UNHCR and UN Women teamed up, in collaboration with Plan Malawi, to deliver a number of trainings and accelerate community initiatives to raise awareness and discourage SGBV.

Education services continued to be run by JRS in 2015, which included primary, secondary and tertiary education through distance learning courses, as well as sustained opportunities to enroll in accelerated learning, special needs education, or English as a second language. Some of the extra circular courses continued to be held in the WFP-constructed community centre in Dzaleka camp. Mary's Meals also maintained its school meals programme in Dzaleka in 2015, which helped all schoolchildren, regardless of their families' financial situation, actively participate in classes by having the energy they needed to concentrate and learn.

In 2015, this operation benefited from complementary funds from all seven partners, as well as a non-WFP budget of USD 270,000 dedicated to refugee support under the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

Partnership	NGO		Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement	UN/IO
	National	International		
Total	1			2

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Latest Follow-up
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, civil society, private sector organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks)		
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD) , Project End Target: 2015.12 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=270,000.00	270,000.00
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services		
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD) , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=6.00	7.00
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners		
<i>DOWA, General Distribution (GD) , Project End Target: 2016.06 , Latest Follow-up: 2015.12</i>	=100.00	100.00

Lessons Learned

As the population of refugees in Malawi grew steadily through 2015, WFP continued to make the most of available resources, and careful pipeline management meant that all refugees received at least some food assistance on a monthly basis.

WFP will continue to strongly advocate for increased and multiyear contributions for this operation that can be flexibly used to transition to cash based assistance; however, at a time of unprecedented global need, funding is likely to remain a challenge. Refugee food needs will continue to be prioritized with available resources, and therefore implementation of FFA activities may be not be possible as planned under this operation. Recognizing that support to these communities can be an important measure to maintaining a positive relationship between the refugee and local populations, WFP will explore possibilities for complementary livelihood assistance through NGO partners in lieu of FFA.

Despite advocacy efforts, funding shortfalls experienced for the last several months of 2015 affirmed that an unpredictable pipeline is correlated to not only poor food and nutrition security, but also to a worsened protection situation. Recognizing this relationship, WFP took action with partners to implement the joint UN SGBV project at Dzaleka in 2015, which further built on lessons from the 2013 SGBV survey by supporting awareness-raising initiatives around gender and protection and IGAs opportunities. Going forward, WFP will work with UN Women and UNHCR to explore a second phase of the project that would have a greater emphasis on measuring results.

In the midst of an influx of Mozambican asylum seekers entering Malawi starting in July 2015, WFP exhibited good practices in providing food assistance and responding to unforeseen circumstances. The presence of WFP staff on the ground was key to being able to respond quickly given the evolving situation. However, the sudden influx of asylum seekers also underscored the importance of reviewing and revising standard operating procedures (SOPs)

with partners to guide coordination, communication and sequencing of key actions to swiftly advocate for and provide appropriate assistance.

With protracted unrest prompting people to seek refuge in Malawi and limited national sources to support the population, refugees in Dzaleka will continue to rely on WFP for food assistance. Efforts towards self-reliance will continue to be explored, but their success will likely be relatively marginal without a shift in national regulations. Given the increased humanitarian needs in the country and across the entire southern region of Africa, WFP and partners must continue to enhance advocacy efforts to place refugees high on the national agenda with a continued focus on a longer-term strategy.

Operational Statistics

Annex: Participants by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Food	CBT	Total	Food	CBT	Total	Food	CBT	Total
General Distribution (GD)	23,414	23,414	23,414	24,286	-	24,286	103.7%	-	103.7%
Food-Assistance-for-Assets	400	-	400	-	-	-	-	-	-

Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No.	Commodity	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/Purchased in 2015 (mt)
			In-Kind	Cash	
Canada		Corn Soya Blend	0	68	0
Canada		Maize	0	0	692
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Maize	0	1,202	304
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Vegetable Oil	0	74	74
USA	USA-C-01146-01	Corn Soya Blend	0	344	19
USA	USA-C-01146-01	Maize	0	441	441
Total			0	2,129	1,530