



WFP Rwanda Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200744 (Jan 2015 - Dec 2017)	89.7 m	46.5 m (52%)	-

*February - July 2017

Highlights

- WFP's main priority is to provide food assistance to refugees and vulnerable host communities, and to build national capacity to design and manage home-grown hunger solutions.
- The prevention of stunting programme under the Country Programme has been discontinued due to lack of funding.

Common Country Programme (CCP)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CCP-200539 (Jul 2013-Jun 2018)	52 m	44 m (85%)	-

*February - July 2017

The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) targets 198,829 people, including Burundian and Congolese refugees, former Rwandan refugees returning home and children from the host communities attending the same schools as refugee children in and around refugee camps.

Refugees living in the camps in Rwanda entirely depend on assistance to meet their food needs, as they have limited access to livelihood activities.

WFP's assistance is provided through in-kind food distributions and safety net interventions such as blanket supplementary feeding, targeted supplementary feeding and school meals. Cash-Based Transfers (CBTs) in lieu of in-kind food distributions are implemented in three out of the six camps, enabling refugees to purchase food of their choice at the local markets, thus contributing to the country's economy.

This refugee operation and its components were formulated based on consultative meetings with partners including the Government of Rwanda, UN agencies and the people that WFP assists.

WFP's portfolio of assistance under the Common Country Programme (CCP) focuses on national capacity development and on modelling innovations in food assistance. WFP's emphasis is on the provision of technical support to the government and enabling it to develop, design, and manage nationally owned, innovative hunger solutions, including school feeding.

WFP enhances resilience and livelihood opportunities for the most vulnerable and food insecure people, and strengthens the capacity of the government to reduce hunger.

WFP builds resilience through community based asset creation activities and is based on WFP's long term experience in asset creation and existing government initiatives such as Vision 2020 Umurenge Programme (VUP), based on a participatory approach.

In Numbers

234,442 people in critical food need were assisted in January 2017.

150,700 people are to be reached under refugee's operation in February 2017, including:

- **138,000** camp-based refugees;
- **12,200** school children from the host community attending same schools as refugees' children;
- **500** Rwandan returnees.

People Assisted
January 2017

55%



45%



Main
Photo

Credit: WFP/Noel Dukuzumuremyi

Caption: Rachel Nyinawumuntu 8 years old. She is in grade three at Ruhororo Primary School in Nyaruguru district and is one of 83,000 schoolchildren who benefit from WFP provided school meals in food insecure areas in Rwanda. Rachel dreams to become a doctor when she grows up to help make her community free from disease.

Operational Updates

- In January, WFP provided food assistance to 234,442 people, vulnerable host populations and refugees in camps through general distributions, nutrition interventions, asset creation activities and school meals programmes in food insecure areas.
- WFP's food assistance through cash-based transfers to Congolese refugees continued in January, using the multi-wallet smart cards which use biometrics for identification checks. In January, WFP transferred USD 352,235 to 45,636 refugees in three camps (Nyabiheke, Gihembe and Kigeme), enabling them to buy food of their choice from the local markets.
- As of 31 January 2017, a total of 84,300 Burundians had arrived in Rwanda since the start of the political crisis in Burundi in April 2015. Of these, 53,300 are hosted in Mahama camp and receive WFP food assistance, while the remainder are living in urban areas. In addition, WFP assists 74,100 Congolese refugees residing in five camps as well as 7,500 Congolese asylum seekers.
- A recent joint mass mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening among children 6-59 months by UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP indicates that the prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) is decreasing over time compared to the last screening (from 4.1% in July 2015 to 2.6 % in December 2016), among camp based Burundian refugees. WFP continues to implement stunting prevention activities, with particular focus on increasing the enrolment of children aged 6-23 months as well as provision of on-site nutritious porridge, where possible. In Mahama camp, 46% of Burundi refugees are children.

Challenges

- Despite the generous contribution from funding partners, WFP continues to face challenges related to insufficient funding which mainly affects the refugee operation. WFP faces a critical shortfall of **USD 13.3 million** (98.5%) to ensure food assistance to camp based refugees for next six months (February-July 2017). New resources are required to avert critical pipeline that breaks in May 2017. Given the protracted crisis in Burundi, with no hope of returnees in the foreseeable future, and the deteriorating security situation in the DRC, which is likely to trigger refugee influxes into Rwanda, it is essential to maintain adequate funding levels to be able to respond to the increased needs.
- Under the Country Programme, the prevention of stunting programme for children aged 6-23 months, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers has been discontinued due to of funding shortfalls. The discontinuation of the programme will erode gains made by the joint UN nutrition project in addressing stunting in Rwanda and will put children at risk in the most food insecure areas with high levels of chronic malnutrition.

Country Background & Strategy



Rwanda has one of the highest population densities in Africa (416 people per square kilometre). It has a limited natural resource base; agriculture is the main sector contributing over 33 percent to the national gross domestic product (GDP) and generates 80 percent of total export revenue. Life expectancy in Rwanda is 64 years and households headed by women or orphans account for 36 percent of the population.

Since the 1994 genocide and the ensuing collapse of the economy and social services, the Government embarked on rebuilding the country and improving the quality of life through long and short term development programmes such as vision 2020 and the second Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS2). Rwanda was the first country to sign the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) compact and to secure funding, thus confirming malnutrition and food insecurity as one of the Government's key priorities.

WFP's strategy is to contribute towards making Rwanda a food secure country, where people are well nourished, able to develop to their full potential and living in resilient communities.

WFP has been present in Rwanda since 1975.

Population: **11.2 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **163 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **37 percent of children between 6-59 months**

Top Five Donors

CP 200539: USDA, Republic of Korea, Multilateral, Private Donors and UN Common Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF).

PRRO 200744: USAID, UK, Japan, European Commission and UN CERF