



WFP Malawi Country Brief

September 2019

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

Malawi is a small landlocked country in sub-Saharan Africa with a population expanding rapidly at 3 percent per year. With the majority of livelihoods dependent on agriculture, the population is highly vulnerable to the effects of natural disasters.

Malawi's challenges are compounded by a volatile economy, high rates of HIV infection of nearly 10 percent, low primary school completion rate at 51 percent, and high level of stunting at 37 percent for children under five. Given these challenges, WFP's operations support the government in attaining a food and nutrition secure and resilient future, which is guided by the Sustainable Development Goals with particular emphasis on reaching zero hunger (SDG 2).

WFP has been present in Malawi since 1965.



Population: **17.5 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **171 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low**

Stunting: **37% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

1,216 mt of commodities distributed

USD 27 million net funding requirements for six months (October 2019 - March 2020)

25,000 households participating in early recovery activities supported by WFP following Cyclone Idai

1.2 million people assisted (food and cash)



Operational Updates

Lean Season Response: Final findings of the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) show that 1 million people will be food insecure during the 2019/2020 lean season. WFP plans to target 415,000 people from November to March by targeting districts with 10% or more of the population in IPC phase 3.

Recovery Strategy: WFP is implementing recovery activities in six districts (Phalombe, Chikwawa, Nsanje, Zomba, Mangochi and Machinga) through rehabilitation of damaged access roads and community structures. This month, 25,000 households have been prioritized and have received cash or food transfers.

Refugees: Due to limited funding, WFP continued to distribute half rations to refugees in September. Food commodities of maize, beans, vegetable oil and Super Cereal plus were distributed to a total of 38,399 refugees in Dzaleka camp. Thanks to USAID, unconditional rations of Super Cereal (6kg) will be provided for 5,700 children under the age of two, pregnant and lactating women (PLW), people living with HIV/TB, and those who are chronically ill.

School Feeding. As children are back to school in September, WFP provided school meals to 763,440 students in both primary and early childhood development centers. WFP requires an USD 6 million to continue providing meals to schoolchildren for the entire 2019/2020 academic year to five priority districts of Nsanje, Mulanje, Chikwawa, Phalombe and Zomba with a focus on Home Grown School Feeding and linkages with livelihood programmes.

Nutrition Prevention and treatment: The treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) continued in September, reaching a total of 67,548 patients, with children and pregnant and lactating women under the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) activity and adolescents and adults with HIV/Aids under the Nutrition Care Support Treatment (NCST) programme for both moderate and severe acute malnutrition. In addition, WFP reached 127,835 people with micronutrient deficiency prevention services to prevent stunting in young children.

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
57 m	14 m	27 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Shock-affected people vulnerable to seasonal and climatic shocks and refugees in Malawi have access to all year long.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activity 1: Provide cash and/or food transfers to refugees, malnourished people and the most vulnerable populations affected by seasonal shocks

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in food-insecure communities, benefit from strengthened shock-responsive social protection systems and efficient supply chains to ensure access to safe, nutritious food all year round.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity 2. Support national social protection systems to become increasingly shock-responsive and hunger- and nutrition-sensitive

Activity 3. Provide nutritious meals to schoolchildren in food-insecure areas.

Strategic Result 2: End Malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Targeted populations, especially children under 5, adolescents, PLWG, and TB & HIV/AIDS clients, in Malawi, have improved nutritional status in line with national targets.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity 4: Provide chronic malnutrition and micronutrient deficiency prevention services to at-risk populations in targeted areas

Strategic Result 4: Sustainable Food Systems

Strategic Outcome 4: Smallholder producers in Malawi have enhanced resilience, through diversified livelihoods, increased marketable surpluses and access to well-functioning food systems and efficient supply chains by 2030.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity 5: Provide resilience-building support, education and systems-strengthening services to smallholder farmers and value chain actors.

Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening

Strategic Outcome 5: National and local institutions, agencies and enterprises in Malawi have increased capacity and improved supply chain systems to achieve SDG 2 by 2030.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity 6. Provide capacity strengthening, skills transfer, partnership activities and logistics and procurement services to national and local institutions and private-sector enterprises involved in food security, nutrition, food safety, disaster risk management and emergency response

Activity 7. Provide services through the Logistics Cluster to National Disaster Management Offices and other relevant partners to improve emergency logistics coordination, access to services and supply chain management

Activity 8. Provide on-demand services to humanitarian and other relevant partners to ensure effective emergency assistance.

Sustainable Food Systems:

- Under Food Assistance for Assets, 154,639 households continued to create different land resources management (swales, composting), forestation (tree nursery establishment), homestead activities (waste disposal pits, dish rack, backyard gardens), livestock production (goat production). WFP provides food and cash to these participants to meet their immediate food needs while these assets build their capacity to face weather shocks.
- WFP, in collaboration with FAO and UNDP, supported the Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services to produce the national seasonal rainfall forecast and the downscaled seasonal rainfall forecast for the 28 districts in Malawi, which was completed this month. The seasonal rainfall forecast is used as a basis for the development of seasonal agro-advisories disseminated to farmers.
- With funding from Flanders International Cooperation Agency, WFP has trained 61,000 members of farmer organizations, 49 percent of whom were women, in post-harvest seed handling, seed grading, seed storage, bagging, warehouse management and financial management. Through this project, participating farmers learned new skills and were advised on how to access markets. As a result, farmers like members of the Gwiritse Cooperative in Lilongwe have managed to leap out of poverty and hunger and are now equipped to be competitive players on the markets. Want to see this project in action? Check out our [story](#) and [video](#)



Amina Hassan is a Community Care Group leader in Nkhata Bay on her way for a nutritious cooking demonstration. Care group members are volunteers sharing best practices to their peers on good nutrition, hygiene and many other topics. Photo: WFP/Badre Bahajj

Donors

Canada, CERF, Education Cannot Wait, Flanders, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malawi, Norway, UK (DFID), Sweden, Swiss Development Cooperation, USAID, USDA.

Cover picture: Food for Asset participant in her backyard garden. WFP/Simon-Pierre Diouf