



WFP

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WFP Zimbabwe Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Responding to Humanitarian Needs and Strengthening Resilience to Food Insecurity	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
PRRO 200944 (July 2016 - June 2018)	230 m	89.7 m (39%)	30.2 m (42%)

*January – June 2017

GENDER MARKER **2A**  PRRO 200944

Lean Season Assistance (LSA)

WFP provides targeted food assistance to address the immediate food and nutrition needs of households during the peak hunger months prior to harvest. Prompted by the El Niño-induced drought, the 2016/17 LSA cycle began in May, six months earlier than usual. The programme targeted 1.5 million people between October to December 2016. Taking into account the government and other partners' responses, the programme now plans to gradually scale-up to assist 1.9 million people between January-March 2017 (compared to the initially planned 2.3 million). In November, WFP was able to reach 68 percent of its targeted food insecure population. WFP also provides communities with training to improve livelihoods, including basic financial literacy.

Support to Refugees

Together with UNHCR and Christian Care, WFP originally planned to assist 8,510 refugees in Tongogara refugee camp through December 2016, but the number has increased to 9,213, following the relocation of refugees at the border between Zimbabwe and Mozambique who are fleeing clashes between the Mozambican government forces and Renamo. WFP provides cash-based assistance to the general refugee population and in-kind food to new arrivals. The ration allows refugees to meet their full daily caloric needs. The programme was funded up to December 2016, but with an increased influx of new arrivals, additional resources are urgently needed.

Productive Asset Creation (PAC)

From May to November 2016, WFP provided food- and/or cash-based assistance to 18,800 food-insecure households (95,000 people) in seven out of the initially planned 13 districts in exchange for labour inputs to create or rehabilitate productive assets. The PAC 2016 cycle ended in November, and the new cycle will begin in May. Sites are selected through a community-based process, focusing on assets such as dams, irrigation schemes and nutrition

Main Credit: WFP/Tatenda Macheke

Photo Caption: WFP PAC beneficiaries stand in their maize field in Chiredzi

Highlights

- WFP's El Niño response scales up to reach one million people in December.
- Additional contributions from China, Finland and Russia now allow WFP to continue providing rations to over 1 million people throughout the peak of the Lean Season (January to March), but still below the 1.9 million people target.
- Over the last month, an additional 645 people have fled clashes in Mozambique and are now hosted in the Tongogara Refugee Camp.

gardens to help households to generate income, reduce reliance on food assistance, and improve resilience to environmental hazards over time.

Health and Nutrition Promotion

In partnership with the Ministry of Health and Child Care, and funded by PEPFAR, WFP plans to treat 26,000 moderately acute malnourished people living with HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (TB), pregnant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age each month at select clinics across the country. A stunting prevention pilot supports 5,300 children in Mutasa through a joint programme with UNICEF, FAO, and WHO. Under the framework of the Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, WFP supports the Government in implementing its micronutrient and fortification strategies. With NGO partners, WFP is integrating social and behavioural change communication activities across all of its programmes to promote positive nutrition outcomes. WFP will also implement the Moderate Acute Malnutrition treatment programme under LSA in 22 districts, targeting children under the age of five through clinics in rural districts with Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates above 5 percent.

Electronic Vouchers

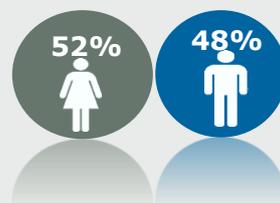
WFP is evolving its response to hunger, using technology and cash-based transfers (CBT) to reach more people and make their lives better. New delivery platforms, such as smart cards, open up possibilities for more effective humanitarian assistance. 45,000 people will have received assistance through this modality in the December cycle.

In Numbers

3.4 m people are food insecure

1,017,923 received lean season assistance

9,213 refugees assisted



People Assisted December 2016



December 2016

Operational Updates

- Through the LSA, in December, WFP provided assistance to 1,017,923 people affected by the El Niño-induced drought. Of these, 398,518 people received their assistance through the cash transfer modality, either through cash in transit, mobile money, electronic vouchers or a combination of cash and in-kind assistance. WFP's cash transfers now reach 40 percent people assisted under the LSA programme.
- Of the estimated 2,500 refugees who camped at the border between Zimbabwe and Mozambique after fleeing clashes in Mozambique between government forces and Renamo, 645 were relocated to Tongogara refugee camp in December. WFP in partnership with UNHCR and the Government will temporarily halt further relocation efforts due to resource constraints, but assistance will continue to be provided to the refugees in the camp.
- In December, distributions of specialized foods for the treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) commenced in six of the 22 districts with Global Acute Malnutrition rates above five percent, with the remaining 16 districts expected to receive support from January.
- In partnership with FAO and the Government of Zimbabwe, WFP is supporting 5,389 smallholder farmers in Mudzi and Rushinga districts, strengthening their resilience by increasing production and productivity of drought-tolerant small grains; and developing market linkages and a predictable demand. Farmers started planting in December, with 93 percent of the planned 646 hectares planted by the end of that month. AGRITEX is supporting farmers with extension services.
- The Emergency School Feeding Programme assisted 76,477 children in the first week of December before school closure. The programme will resume as schools re-open in January.

Challenges

- Due to liquidity challenges, delays were experienced in the distribution of cash in transit in some districts, caused by delayed approval of cash allocations.

Partnerships

- To support the Government on Sustainable Development Goal 2 ([SDG 2](#)) to end hunger, WFP works with other UN agencies, NGOs, academia, and the private sector to ensure a multi-sectorial and sustainable approach. In line with the 2016-2020 Zimbabwe UN Development Assistance Framework, WFP is working with FAO to build the resilience of farmers in Mudzi and Rushinga. WFP is strengthening its partnership with UNFPA by providing food support to patients accessing free fistula repair services at the obstetric fistula treatment camps being supported by UNFPA. With UNICEF and the World Bank, WFP supports government efforts to strengthen systems for social protection.

Country Background & Strategy



Over the last decade, Zimbabwe has experienced a number of unprecedented economic, environmental and political shocks and stresses, contributing to a 2015 Global Hunger Index classified as 'serious.' An estimated 62.6 percent of Zimbabweans live below the poverty line. Following a poor 2014-15 harvest season, severe drought in 2015-16 has further undermined the agricultural sector, with dire consequences for a population in which 80 percent of people derive a significant proportion of their livelihoods from rain-fed agriculture and livestock production. Micronutrient deficiencies are prevalent, including a 70 percent prevalence of anaemia among children under two, largely driven by poor dietary diversity. Although declining, the prevalence of HIV remains the fifth highest in the world, at 13.7 percent.

WFP's Country Strategic Plan (2016-2020) targets the multiple root causes of chronic food insecurity and poverty in Zimbabwe. While preserving WFP's humanitarian response capacity, it promotes a shift towards resilience-building efforts, and includes emphasis on reducing stunting, strengthening social protection systems, and empowering smallholder farmers. WFP has been present in Zimbabwe since 2002.

Population: **14 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
155 out of 188

Income Level: **Low income**

Chronic malnutrition: **27% of children between 6-59 months**

Top Donors (2015-2016)

United States, UN Central Emergency Fund, Japan, Zimbabwe, Switzerland, Canada, the Netherlands, ECHO, Australia, Russia