



WFP Zimbabwe Country Brief

Highlights

- WFP’s El Niño Response running through March 2017, continues to face a USD 142 million shortfall.
- WFP is prioritizing its assistance to meet the emergency needs of affected people, however, without sufficient funding, WFP will be unable to continue providing this life saving assistance.
- The Seasonal Livelihood Programming is being extended into two additional districts to strengthen resilience activities in the country.
- In July, WFP assisted 299,000 people through the Lean Season Assistance programme.

WFP Assistance

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Responding to Humanitarian Needs and Strengthening Resilience to Food Insecurity			
PRRO 200944 (July 2016-June 2018)	232 m	27 m (12%)	85.2 m
Responding to Humanitarian Needs and Strengthening Resilience to Food Insecurity			
PRRO 200453** (May 2013 – June 2016)	322 m	178 m (56%)	N/A

*August 2016 – January 2017 **project ended in June

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 normal. The programme is targeting 1.3 million people between July-September 2016. The programme plans to gradually scale-up to assist 2.3 million people between January-March 2017. WFP also provides communities with trainings to improve livelihoods, including basic financial literacy for those who receive cash-based assistance.

Support to Refugees

In partnership with UNHCR and Christian Care, WFP plans to assist 8,510 refugees (at peak) residing in Tongagara refugee camp through December 2016. There are currently 8,150 refugees residing in the camp, with a continued influx of new arrivals. WFP provides cash-based assistance to the general refugee population and in-kind food to new arrivals. The rations allow refugees to meet their full daily caloric needs. The programme is fully funded up to October 2016.

Productive Asset Creation (PAC)

From May to October 2016, WFP plans to provide food-and/or cash-based assistance to 18,800 food-insecure households (95,000 people) in 7 out of the initially planned 13 districts in exchange for labour inputs to create or rehabilitate productive assets. Selected through a community-based process, assets such as dams, irrigation schemes and nutrition gardens 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, WFP plans to treat 26,000 moderately acute malnourished HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (TB) patients, 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.

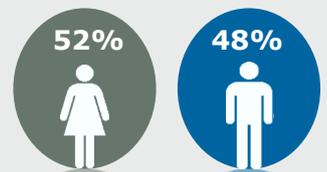
Climate Resilience

In partnership with the Government and FAO, WFP piloted the Food Security Climate Resilience (FoodSECuRE) Facility in Zimbabwe in 2015, a multi-year funding mechanism that releases financing based on climate forecasts. Funding triggered by FoodSECuRE supported a small grains production project in Mwenezi district in October 2015. In partnership with the Government’s Agricultural Technical and Extension Services (Agritex), WFP provided 550 smallholders with climate-smart agriculture trainings and inputs for drought-resistant small grains. Despite the late and poor rainfall in the 2015/16 season, 79 percent of farmers under the project have been able to plant, and on average produce 1.5 mt per hectare, compared to 0.9 last season.

In Numbers

- 4.1 million** people are food-insecure*
- 299,000** people received lean season assistance
- 8,150** refugees assisted in July

People Assisted



*through March 2017

Operational Updates

- WFP's El Niño response, has received USD 40 million, through contributions from USAID, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden and WFP internal resources.
- In July, WFP assisted 299,000 people in 11 districts under the Lean Season Assistance. In August, WFP will scale-up its assistance to 344,000 food-insecure people using both food and cash assistance. The programme is still trailing behind its target for the quarter of 1.3 million people, due to funding constraints.
- In July, the Productive Asset Creation programme assisted 95,000 people in 7 districts through its dual role of meeting the immediate food needs of food insecure households, while also rehabilitating/creating community assets that enhance livelihoods and build resilience to future shocks. Fifty-two assets will be created and rehabilitated during 2016.
- With the Government, WFP provided one hot meal of fortified corn-soya blend per day to primary school children under the Emergency School Feeding Programme (ESFP). In July, the programme reached 10,000 pupils in two of the most food-insecure rural districts (Mbire and Zvishavane, under LSA).
- WFP plans to extend its Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP) to two additional districts in August - a total of districts where the exercise has been undertaken. The SLP is part of the three-pronged approach to resilience building: a consultative process aimed at designing an integrated multi-year, multi-sectorial operational plan using seasonal and gender lenses.
- With the transition to the new PPRO 200944 in July, WFP increased the refugee cash ration from USD 11 to USD 13. In July, WFP assisted 8,150 refugees with USD 99,450, whilst new arrivals received food assistance.
- The Prevention of Stunting project provided nutritional supplements to 5,725 children aged between 6-23 months in Mutasa District. The Moderate Acute Malnutrition treatment component of the Health and Nutrition Programme assisted 2,348 adults and children through clinics in Mutasa district, Harare, and Bulawayo Metropolitan Provinces.

Challenges

- USD 142 million is urgently needed for WFP to scale-up its El Niño response through March 2017, with an aim to reach 2.3 million people at peak. For the Refugees and Health and Nutrition programmes, an additional USD 852,000 and USD 1.1 million respectively is required to ensure continued assistance through January 2017.

Partnerships

- To support the Government on SDG2, WFP works with other UN agencies, NGOs, academia, and the private sector to ensure a multi-sectoral and sustainable approach. In line with the 2016-2020 Zimbabwe UN Development Assistance Framework, WFP works with FAO to improve market access and productive capacities of smallholder farmers. WFP has begun a partnership with UNFPA to address maternal and infant mortality through the provision of micronutrient powders at maternity waiting homes. 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 mainly 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 an increasing 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

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