



World Food Programme

WFP Malawi

Country Brief

November 2018



In Numbers

35,359 refugees received food

170,000 households targeted by Food for Assets

39,000 participants targeted by R4 Rural Initiative

85,980 children, adolescents and adults treated for acute malnutrition



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 (at 8.8 percent), low primary school completion rate (at 51 percent) and chronic under-nutrition (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: **17.2 million**

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

Income Level: **Low**

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

Operational Updates

Refugee Programme

- WFP together with UNHCR and the Government are conducting vulnerability profiling of refugees expected to be completed in December.
- A total of 35,359 refugees received food in Dzaleka camp in November. The camp continues to receive an average of 500 new refugees every month.
- In December 2018, WFP will maintain a full ration of the commodities in the food basket (maize, supercereal, pulses and vegetable oil).

Resilience Programme

- **Food Assistance for Assets (FFA):** GIZ visited the WFP FFA sites in Zomba to learn how WFP works with local authorities and communities where the integrated resilience approach is implemented.
- **R4 Rural Resilience Initiative:** With the weather index insurance product finalized for the 2018/19 season, the R4 team organized training to orient field staff from the six R4 districts on the new technical parameters of the Weather Index Insurance intervention and plan community sensitisation for participating households.
- **Climate Services:** As part of enhancing integration, Climate Services and Home-Grown School Meals (HGSM) held a joint assessment of 13 Farmer Organisations (FO) that supply food to 40 schools under the HGSM programme in Mangochi district. This was done to deliver relevant weather and climate information to the FOs for their use in decision-making regarding crop production, to ultimately improve production levels, ensuring constant food supply to these schools.
- **Smallholder Agriculture Market Support (SAMS):** Preliminary analysis of Farmer Organisations' (FOs) sales to schools indicates that three FOs have sold food commodities worth USD 12,147 to nine primary schools participating in home-grown school meals in Dedza district. The value of FO sales is likely to increase when reports from Salima and Mangochi districts are finalised.

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WFP Operations

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Relief and Resilience			
PRRO 200692 (2012-2018)	67.1 m	27.8m (40%)	39.3m (60%)
School Meals & Nutrition			
CP 200287 (2012-2018)	20.2m	12.6m (62%)	7.6m (38%)
Refugee Operation			
PRRO 200460 (2012-2018)	1.9m	-	2m

* December 2018 to May 2019

School Meals Programme

- In November, the school meals programme reached 822 schools and over 993,910 school children under the centralised and home-grown school meals (HGSM) models including 28,000 pre-school children in 93 Early Childhood Development centres.
- WFP held meetings with government and donors to mobilise resources for school meals including the HGSM programme.
- Norway has indicated that it will support the centralised school meals programme with USD 3.7 million (NOK 32 million).

Nutrition programme

- Geographical coverage for treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) for children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) under Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) was maintained at 94 percent countrywide, while that of adolescents and adults under the Nutrition Care Support Treatment (NCST) framework was maintained at 41 percent in 21 districts in November.
- There is an increase in the trends of admissions since September 2018 for children, adolescents and adults, coinciding with the start of the lean season. This might be an indication of shortage of food and an increase in incidence of infectious diseases.
- In November, WFP provided nutritious treatment commodities to 44,921 children for the supplementary feeding programme (SFP) and 41,059 adults for the NCST. Ninety percent of the adolescents and adults that received this support are on ART/TB treatment.
- Capacity building efforts for treatment services continued with the support to the roll-out of new CMAM guidelines in Chikwawa and Nsanje reaching about 385 health workers.
- WFP continued its support to the roll-out of Micro Nutrient Powder (MNP) supplementation for children aged 6 to 23 months in Dedza, Mchinji, Nkhotakota and Ntchisi. The current coverage for the four districts is at 58 percent. WFP and partners continue with community sensitisation using various channels to

facilitate demand for MNPs and increase programme coverage.

Food Security Update

- The 2018 IPC Analysis report was officially released by the Government on 05 October through a gazette notice and presented to the Humanitarian Country Team as well as the Humanitarian Response committee. The report indicates that 3.3 million people are food insecure requiring food assistance from October 2018 to March 2019. The two committees adopted the report and the response has commenced.
- Malawi is one of the countries in the region where El Nino occurrence is projected at more than 90 percent. The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) plans to conduct food security monitoring in January 2019 to provide an early estimation of project impact of El Nino and fall army worm.
- The Government's lean season response will provide maize to the 3.3 million people in 27 districts beginning in December 2018. The Government has however requested technical support and contributions to meet the non-cereal component to complement the maize distributions.
- With support from USAID, WFP will provide technical support in the areas of targeting, coordination, monitoring and evaluation and logistics in all 27 districts.
- In addition, WFP will provide cash-based transfers (CBT) to 715,367 beneficiaries in the seven most-affected districts covering the non-cereal component from December 2018 to March 2019.
- WFP is also strengthening the resilience response with additional support from DFID while simultaneously strengthening its nutrition response targeting acutely malnourished people in certain districts in the south.
- Currently, WFP and MVAC are undertaking a desk review of the available information to estimate the likely effects of the projected El Nino. The analysis is planned to be completed by mid-December 2018.

Donors

[Flanders](#), [Germany](#), [Iceland](#), [Ireland](#), [Japan](#), [Malawi](#), [Norway](#), [UK \(DFID\)](#), [USAID](#), [USDA](#), [Swiss Cooperation](#)