



# WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME ZIMBABWE

## 2020 Annual Country Report Highlights



PEOPLE ASSISTED  
**4.2 million**



FOOD DISTRIBUTED  
**229,870 mt**



CASH TRANSFERRED  
**USD 32.3 million**

### WFP'S RESILIENCE INITIATIVES HELP ALLAY WATER WOES

A lot has changed for fifty four year old Jephias Sithole from Rumwanjiva, Mwenezi, since water has become more accessible as a result of the weir dams constructed through WFP's Food Assistance for Assets programme (FFA). In Zimbabwe, drought is the most prevalent climate-related hazard. Its frequent occurrence has had significant consequences on access, livelihoods, and food security. In the last decade, dry spells have increased in frequency, intensity and extended impact due to climate change and have directly impacted farmers like Jephias' daily lives. "Before the weir dam was built, I used to travel as far as 15 kilometers every day to fetch water for my livestock, and this was difficult but they're the main source of my income, so I did what I had to do", says Jephias.

The weir dams have increased access and availability of water and improved the natural environment around water basins. With improved access to water, Jephias saves both time and energy and he is able to spend more time working in his family garden and participating in other livelihood activities, such as those offered under the Zambuko Livelihoods Initiative. In Zimbabwe, WFP rolls out programmes that improve the food security of communities and enhance resilience to shocks. Not only have the people of Rumwanjiva received FFA support; they have also benefitted from Lean Season Complementary Activities under which a livestock dip tank and borehole were drilled, following consultations with the community. More than 1,500 cattle use this dip tank.

With continuous support from donors, Jephias and the community of Rumwanjiva receive support through WFP's Zambuko Livelihoods Initiative, which focuses on increased social cohesion, improved agricultural production (crops and livestock), and improved access to finance and markets. WFP promotes an integrated approach to resilience building and seeks to improve smallholder farmers' production, income and food security. Farmers now have access to village savings and loans associations, market linkages and trainings on appropriate seeds and agricultural practices.

### CONTRIBUTIONS

**USD 320 million**

**[Complete Zimbabwe Annual Report](#)**

### COVID-19 IMPACT AND ADAPTATION



Access to food for most households is constrained by poverty, poor economic growth, high prices, liquidity challenges, low productivity, limited employment opportunities, and recurring climate shocks — all of which have been compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictive measures implemented to curb the spread of the virus. In 2019, Zimbabwe ranked 109 of 117 countries in the Global Hunger Index (GHI), while the 2020 GHI provisionally classifies the hunger situation in Zimbabwe as 'serious'. At the peak of the 2019/2020 lean season, 7.7 million people were projected to be food insecure (5.5 million in rural areas and 2.2 million in urban domains).



To curb the spread of COVID-19, the Government implemented a nationwide lockdown on 30 March 2020, which was downgraded to less stringent protocols for the last quarter of the year. The lockdown mandated the closure of all informal sectors, including food markets. Consequently, informal workers struggled to make a living for several months, and access to food became more challenging for poor urban and rural households. Thus, WFP scaled up its urban social assistance to support households affected by COVID-19 induced lockdowns and subsequent disruptions to local economies.

### CROSS-CUTTING RESULTS



WFP strengthened its gender awareness campaigns to ensure equal participation of men and women in decision-making related to food assistance. Programmes aimed at increasing resilience have reduced the burden of labour on women. Evidence from Asset Benefit Indicator surveys has revealed that asset-creation projects such as dams, weirs, and boreholes have increased efficiency and reduced the time taken by women and girls to fetch water, freeing up time for other productive activities. The construction of energy efficient stoves also helped women save and use time effectively.



WFP maintained high levels of accountability for the people it serves through information provision on programme processes, ration sizes, feedback mechanisms etc. through various platforms such as bulk text messaging, Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD)-based system (a protocol used to send text messages), posters, in-person consultations. WFP also maintained helpdesks, and a toll-free line to document feedback and queries. Most of the calls were from women and girls (70 percent), and all issues reported through the various channels were followed up in confidentiality.

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**Strategic outcome 1: Food insecure people including refugees in the most affected districts are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements during severe seasonal shocks or other disruptions**



3.7 million people reached through food assistance



326,000 people were assisted through cash based transfers under the Urban Social Assistance Programme



18,000 children received food assistance to support the Government's national school feeding programme

**Strategic outcome 2: Children in prioritised districts have stunting rate trends in line with the achievement of national and global targets by 2025**



22,300 pregnant women were supported in maternity waiting homes



5,860 children received assistance under the stunting prevention programme in Mutasa District



Partnered with the Ministry of Health and Childcare and UNFPA on social and behaviour change communication

**Strategic outcome 3: Smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe have increased access to well-functioning agricultural markets by 2030**



27,400 smallholder farmers received agricultural inputs



59,272 mt of food commodities of Zimbabwean origin were procured



18 local traders are now in WFP's food supplier database

**Strategic outcome 4: Food insecure rural households and smallholder farmers achieve food security and resilience to repeated exposure to multiple shocks and stressors**



112,300 people were assisted under the Food Assistance for Assets Programme



2 community based participatory planning consultations were carried out in Masvingo and Rushinga Districts



Strengthened partnerships with academia towards the Three Pronged Approach objective

**Strategic outcome 5: The social protection system ensures that chronically vulnerable populations throughout the country are able to meet their basic needs all year round**



USD 598,400 in microinsurance was provided to 7550 smallholder farmers



27 schools benefitted from solar powered boreholes, serving 10,800 pupils and surrounding communities with safe water

**Strategic outcome 6: Partners in Zimbabwe are reliably supported by world-class, cost-effective and efficient supply chain services**



USD 82 million worth goods were handled by WFP for partners



Services were provided to 5 UN agencies and 1 NGO



## PARTNERS

African Risk Capacity (ARC), Canada, China, China Aid Agriculture Technology Demonstration Centre, Econet Wireless, European Commission, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Food and Nutrition Council, France, Germany, Japan, Knowledge Transfer Africa, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Old Mutual, Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing, Ministry of Health and Child Care, Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, National University of Science and Technology, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UN Women, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United States Agency for International Development, Western Union, World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank, University of Zimbabwe,

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