



Feed the Future Country Fact Sheet

Online Version: <https://www.feedthefuture.gov/country/zambia>

COUNTRY PROFILE				
Zambia				
In Zambia, Feed the Future is targeting investments in specific regions for maximum impact. These statistics reflect the realities of Zambia and the results of Feed the Future's work there.				
POPULATION	POVERTY	STUNTING	RURAL	GDP
1.51 Million Number of people living in Feed the Future target regions	79.7 Percent Percentage of people living in poverty in Feed the Future target regions	45.5 Percent Percentage of children under 5 suffering from stunting in Feed the Future target regions	60 Percent Percentage of population living in rural Zambia (World Bank, 2013)	6.7 Percent Annual GDP growth; agriculture accounts for 9.6% of added value (World Bank, 2013)
FARMERS	SALES	NUTRITION	LAND	INVESTMENT
154 Thousand Producers using new technology and practices with Feed the Future's help in FY14	\$31 Million New income earned by Feed the Future farmers in FY14 from agricultural product sales	19.8 Million Children under 5 reached with nutrition help in FY14 across Zambia	115 Thousand Hectares tended with improved technologies or management practices in FY14	\$8.7 Million New private investment leveraged by Feed the Future in FY14

Approach

Zambia is a landlocked country in southern Africa that has experienced relative stability, setting it apart from many of its neighbors. Good macroeconomic performance over the last decade coupled with consistent, rapid growth in mining, construction, telecommunications and tourism has helped spur strong growth in gross domestic product. In fact, the World Bank reclassified Zambia as a lower-middle-income country in 2011—an upward adjustment—due to increased foreign investment and surging copper prices.

Yet the majority of Zambians have not benefitted from this economic growth and stability. Poverty remains high in rural areas, near 80 percent, and Zambia ranks among the top 20 countries in the world for relative income inequality. Malnutrition is a major burden on the Zambian health care delivery system and contributes to low human capital. Chronic undernutrition remains a major challenge as well, particularly in rural areas where 60 percent of the population lives.

Despite significant challenges, Zambia's human and natural resources provide opportunities to boost food security and improve nutrition. Relative to other countries in the region, Zambia has an abundance of water and fertile land as well as a generally favorable climate for agricultural production. The country has the potential to be a breadbasket for southern Africa.

The World Bank ranked Zambia among the top 10 reformers in its *Doing Business 2011* report, indicating the potential for private sector growth. Zambia's large, well-educated and rapidly growing urban population can also spur opportunities such as an increased flow of agricultural products from rural areas to a growing number of high-income urban consumers.

Strategy

Goal: Reduce prevalence of poverty in Feed the Future target regions by 20 percent.

- 2011 baseline: 79.75 percent
- 2017 target: 63.8 percent
- [How we calculate](#)

Goal: Reduce prevalence of stunting in children under 5 years old in Feed the Future target regions by 15 percent.

- 2011 baseline: 45.52 percent
- 2017 target: 38.7 percent
- [How we calculate](#)

To achieve its goals, Feed the Future is making key investments to:

- Increase smallholder agricultural productivity and diversification
- Improve markets and trade, including the enabling policy environment
- Improve sustainable natural resource management
- Improve the resilience of vulnerable households
- Improve nutrition

Feed the Future is focusing its efforts in targeted regions and value chains to maximize impact.

Value Chains

- Legumes
- Maize
- Horticulture
- Oilseeds

Target Regions

- Five districts in Eastern Province: Chipata, Lundazi, Katete, Petauke and Nyimba
- Peri-urban Lusaka
- Lusaka-Eastern Province Economic Corridor

Program Highlights

Value Chain Approach. Feed the Future investments in legumes, maize, horticulture and oilseeds are helping increase and diversify productivity, expand markets and trade, and increase incomes in Zambia. Investments in research and development are helping farmers increase their productivity, as well as adapt to climate change, increase food quality and safety, and improve nutrition. For example, Feed the Future is helping develop and scale up vitamin A-rich and drought-tolerant maize varieties. The initiative is also teaching farmers how to manage aflatoxin (a fungal toxin that contaminates crops) in maize and groundnuts (peanuts). Feed the Future is strengthening the entire agricultural value chain by linking smallholders to input and output markets as well as building the technical and business skills of farmers, agri-suppliers, and farmer associations so they can operate more profitably in their relationships with the private sector. This includes linking a greater number of small-scale farmers to buyers and processors and other key private sector partners in Eastern Province and ensuring these farmers meet market demands for production quantity and quality. Feed the Future also is increasing farmers' access to improved technologies, such as the dissemination of improved seeds from labs to stores to smallholder farmers via rural agri-suppliers. These interventions help farmers improve their yields, food security and incomes as they build their agronomic and business skills.

Resilience. Feed the Future is helping vulnerable households that fall below the poverty line in rural areas build assets and reduce risk to increase their incomes and reduce undernutrition. Feed the Future is helping link these vulnerable farmers to agricultural value chain activities and to community, district and provincial health systems. As the initiative helps these households increase their agricultural production and diversification, it is also helping them strike a balance between what they eat at home and sell at market. Feed the Future promotes better nutrition and growth by helping families build the knowledge and skills necessary to produce and preserve sufficient quantities of diverse, nutritious and quality foods at home and in the field.

Nutrition. Feed the Future is training community- and clinic-based health workers to improve nutrition services and education. Feed the Future is also working through trained volunteers to help mothers, fathers and caregivers of young children learn essential care, feeding and hygiene practices that promote optimal nutrition for pregnant and breastfeeding women and young children. Feed the Future investments in key value chains are also contributing to improved nutrition, as oilseeds and groundnuts provide important nutrients such as protein. Zambia has also been selected as an "early riser"

under the [Scaling Up Nutrition Movement](#).

Policy. Feed the Future is supporting the development and implementation of agricultural policies that maximize the impact of investments in Zambia. For example, the U.S. Government is engaging the Government of Zambia to improve the effectiveness of Zambia's trade policies and to increase smallholder farmers' access to agricultural inputs. Feed the Future is also supporting rigorous policy research and outreach so that policy decisions can be made using a sound evidence base.

Gender. Feed the Future strives to positively impact female farmers and ensure equitable benefits for men and women. Feed the Future-funded programs are promoting women's participation in economic activities throughout key value chains. Research and capacity development ensure farm technologies are appropriate for both men and women. In-depth gender analysis and impact evaluation are underway to track how increased commercialization of groundnuts affects gender relations. The impact evaluation will specifically study how increased commercialization is affecting women's control of income, household decision making, and asset ownership.

Scaling Innovations. Feed the Future in Zambia is focusing on scaling the adoption and use of technologies and practices that benefit smallholder farmers and improve nutrition including:

- New models for promoting conservation and climate-smart agriculture through pay-for-performance and other incentive- and market-based systems
- Vitamin A-enriched crops like [orange maize](#) and [orange-fleshed sweet potato](#)
- Aflatoxin biocontrols

Results

Results by the numbers

- More than **154,000 farmers and other producers** applied new technologies and management practices for the first time last year with Feed the Future's help.
- Producers applied improved technologies and management practices on nearly **115,000 hectares** of land with Feed the Future's help.
- Feed the Future-supported farmers and producers increased the value of their agricultural product sales last year by more than **\$31.3 million**.
- Feed the Future leveraged more than **\$8.7 million** in new private investment in food and agriculture in Zambia.
- U.S. Government programs reached more than **19,800 children** under 5 to improve their nutrition.

Key achievements in 2014

- Feed the Future activities have benefited more than 88 percent of households in target regions by helping improve their access to new yield-boosting technologies, nutritious foods, and output markets, as well as increased incomes and entrepreneurial skills.
- Feed the Future has also promoted crop diversification in Zambia, helping to test and prepare for release two new varieties of groundnut and five varieties of soy last year.
- Feed the Future has helped 150,000 households increase their legume yields by 55 percent since 2011.

What you need to know about these results

These results reflect information from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Peace Corps, the U.S. African Development Foundation, and the U.S. Department of Treasury (through the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program) reported into Feed the Future's central monitoring system for fiscal year 2014 (FY14). For more information on the indicators above, please view our [FY14 Feed the Future progress report](#). All dollar amounts are in U.S. dollars.

Opportunities

Recognizing that broad-based economic growth is needed to reduce poverty and improve food security for millions of Zambians, the Government of Zambia is focusing on increasing farmer incomes, particularly for smallholder farmers who depend heavily on subsistence agriculture. Thanks to a successful [Global Agriculture and Food Security Program](#) proposal, the Government of Zambia is investing over \$31 million in irrigation that will benefit smallholder farmers.

Feed the Future's investments support Zambia's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) Compact. Through its CAADP Compact, the Government of Zambia has committed to:

- Agriculture marketing and credit acts
- Fertilizer distribution reform, e-vouchers
- Reduction of maize subsidies to millers
- Increasing the role of the private sector

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If you're a [private sector](#) company interested in a partnership with Feed the Future agencies in the areas of food security and nutrition in Zambia, use our [interactive online tool](#) to learn more, register your partnership ideas with us, and get connected to a partnership expert who can help address your interest.

Activities

Feed the Future supports the following programs, partnerships and organizations in Zambia.

- [Africa LEAD](#)
- Africa RISING
- Better Life Alliance Global Development Alliance
- [Commercial Agribusiness for Sustainable Horticulture \(CASH\)](#) Partnership
- [Development Credit Authority](#)
- [Enabling Agricultural Trade](#)
- [Famine Early Warning Systems Network \(FEWSNET\)](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Grain Legumes](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Horticulture](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Integrated Pest Management](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Peanut Productivity and Mycotoxin Control](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Soybean Value Chain Research](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy](#)
- [Feed the Future Partnering for Innovation](#)
- Feed The Future Zambia Policy Strengthening Project
- Food Security and Crisis Mitigation Research and Development Program
- [Food Security Research Project \(FSRP\)](#)
- [Global Agriculture and Food Security Program](#)
- [International Fertilizer Development Center](#)
- [Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services](#)
- [Partners in Food Solutions](#) Partnership
- [Peace Corps](#)
- [Production, Finance and Improved Technology Plus \(PROFIT+\)](#)
- [Southern Africa Trade Hub](#)
- Strengthening Agricultural Input and Output Markets in Africa (SAIOMA)
- Thrive
- [U.S. African Development Foundation](#)
- [USDA Cochran Fellowship Program](#)
- Zambia Economic Resilience Program for Improved Food Security Program (MAWA)
- [Zambia Integrated Systems Strengthening Program \(ZISSP\)](#)

Target Regions

Funding

