



WFP Kenya Country Brief

April 2018

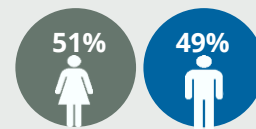
In Numbers

6,418 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 4.3 m cash based transfers made

US\$ 29.6 m six months (May- October 2018) net funding requirements.

1.11 m people assisted in April 2018

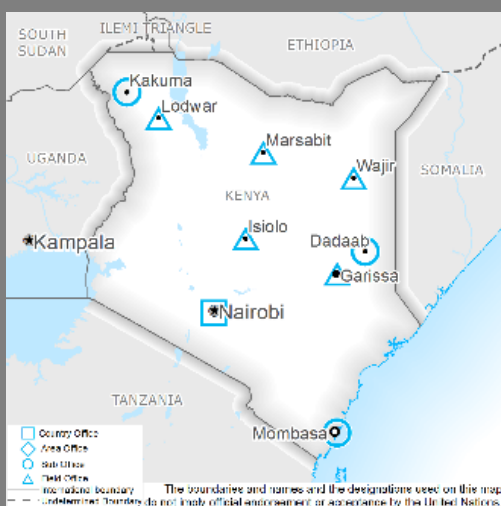


Operational Context

Kenya has diverse natural resources and a highly varied terrain. Agriculture remains the main economic driver, although 80 percent of the land is either arid or semi-arid. Kenya's fast-growing population, and increasingly frequent climate shocks are contributing to natural resource scarcity and land degradation. Inefficient value chains do not respond to the needs of smallholder farmers and poorer consumers.

In 2014, the World Bank reclassified Kenya's economy as lower-middle income. However, poverty, food insecurity, under-nutrition and income inequality remain high; over one-third of Kenyans live below the poverty line. The most severe conditions exist in the arid north, which is underdeveloped, drought-prone and often disrupted by local conflicts. There is high undernourishment, with global acute malnutrition among children 6 - 59 months often exceeding the "critical" threshold of 15 percent. Stunting is above 25 percent in some counties. Net enrolment in primary education in arid counties is still below 50 percent. Kenya hosts thousands of refugees in camps located in Garissa and Turkana counties.

WFP has been present in Kenya since 1980.



Population: 48.5 million

2016 Human Development Index: 146 out of 188

Income Level: Lower middle

Chronic malnutrition: 26% of children between 6-59 months

Operational Updates

The National Disaster Operations Centre has reported that floods have displaced at least 300,000 people and killed 100 people across Kenya as of 30 April. Houses have been destroyed and infrastructure - such as roads, schools and health facilities damaged. At least 8,500 hectares of farmland were submerged and 6,000 livestock killed. Forty of Kenya's 47 counties have been affected by flooding to some extent but the most-affected counties are Garissa, Isiolo, Kisumu, Mandera, Marsabit, Narok, Samburu, Taita, Tana River, Turkana, Wajir and West Pokot. The Kenya Meteorological Department has warned that heavy rains are expected to continue throughout the already affected counties, with the risk of additional flooding over the coming weeks.

WFP is in close consultation with national and county level authorities in monitoring the developments and impact of the floods. Should the situation develop beyond the capacity of national institutions to respond, WFP will consider interventions in the targeted areas. WFP is planning unconditional in-kind assistance to food assistance for assets (FFA) beneficiaries to promote recovery in affected counties.

WFP continued to provide cash-based transfers as "protection rations" for families with pregnant, nursing women or children being treated for acute malnutrition in health centres. In April, the assistance was expanded to Baringo and West Pokot counties, in addition to the original four counties (Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana and Wajir). By end of June, WFP will also reach additional households in Garissa, Isiolo, Samburu and Tana River counties, with either cash or in-kind transfers.

WFP distributed food to 5,500 asylum seekers from Ethiopia who fled into Moyale in Marsabit County in March 2018. However, many of the asylum seekers had returned by end of April, and only 4,000 have remained.

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Vincent Ngicho
Caption: Mwelekeo Mpya Youth Group's farm in Kilifi County destroyed by the flooding in April.

Contact info: Paul Turnbull (WFP.Kenya@wfp.org)
Country Director: Annalisa Conte
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Kenya

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) *
Country Programme Kenya			
CP 200680 (July 2014 – Jun 2018)	129 m	92.7m (72%)	Nil
Bridging Relief and Resilience in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands			
PRRO 200736 (May 2015 – Apr 2018)	295 m	277.7 m (74%)	10.8 m
Food assistance for refugees			
PRRO 200737 (Apr 2015–Mar 2018)	376.7 m	255 m (68%)	18.8 m

May- October 2018

WFP, government counterparts, and Cooperating Partners held the first of the three validation workshops for the technical design and facilitators' guide for food assistance for assets activities, redesigned by the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. The facilitators' guide contains a decision tree to help field practitioners select the most appropriate soil and water conservation and climate-smart agriculture techniques, as well as the technical specifications for their implementation.

WFP and UNDP held sensitization workshops on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)/Climate Change Adaptation for Baringo, Marsabit, Samburu and Wajir counties, targeting members of county cabinets, technical officers and members of county assemblies (the legislative arm of county governments). This sensitized the executives on activities related to DRR so that they can localize them in their respective counties. There was also dialogue on how county governments will be assuming more leadership roles in the implementation of food assistance for assets activities from July 2018.

WFP is engaging with other development partners in government consultations on strengthening social protection delivery systems, including increasing linkages to social and economic inclusion interventions and improving the shock responsiveness of the social protection system.

Two after-action-reviews were held with farmers in Rift Valley. Recommendations included advising farmer organisations to use existing market information systems and to be vigilant in identifying market opportunities to profitably access other market outlets. Lead farmers were tasked with cascading the trainings to their members and other farmers from their communities.

Monitoring

A review meeting with the West Pokot county team was held for the protection ration activity, followed by a joint monitoring exercise with United States Agency for International Development (USAID), that gathered feedback from the beneficiaries and other stakeholders. Beneficiaries are appreciative of this support, citing that it enabled them to meet their food and nutrition needs in a difficult period due to the 2017 drought. The activity is designed in response to acute household food insecurity, and to protect malnourished beneficiaries in the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition programmes by preventing sharing of nutrient supplements provided for treatment of acute malnutrition.

WFP's complaints-and-feedback mechanism through the toll-free hotline registered 2,900 calls (68 percent female), mainly dealing with information and or queries across WFP's activities. 100 percent of the cases were resolved and closed within two weeks.

Challenges

In April, an increase in the food ration for the refugee programme was realized. However, WFP was not able to provide the Super Cereal normally provided through the general distributions nor the Super Cereal Plus for the prevention of acute malnutrition amongst children and women due to insufficient commodities.

While the cash-based transfers to refugees were not affected in April, the current funding will only cover the cash requirements until the end of May unless additional funding is received.

An outbreak of scurvy was confirmed in Kakuma refugee camp by the Center for Disease Control. Initial findings show that most of the cases reported were adolescent boys aged between 13-22 years who were living and cooking together. A joint mission is planned in May by WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, International Rescue Committee and the Kenya Red Cross Society to jointly review the micronutrient deficiency situation in Kakuma and to draw up prevention and control strategies.

The increased flooding experienced in April has hampered WFP staff movement and access to food distribution points in Isiolo, Kilifi, Tana River, Turkana, and Wajir counties.

Top 5 Donors:

CP 200680: USA, Canada, Sweden, Private Donors, Germany
PRRO 200736: USA, Sweden, Canada, Multilateral, UK
PRRO 200737: USA, UK, Germany, European Commission, Multilateral