



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



# WFP Kenya Country Brief October 2018

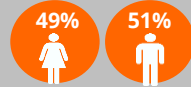
## In Numbers

1,566 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 2.2 m cash-based transfers made

USD 19.5 m six months (November 2018–April 2019) net funding requirements

392 600 people assisted in Aug-Oct 2018



WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

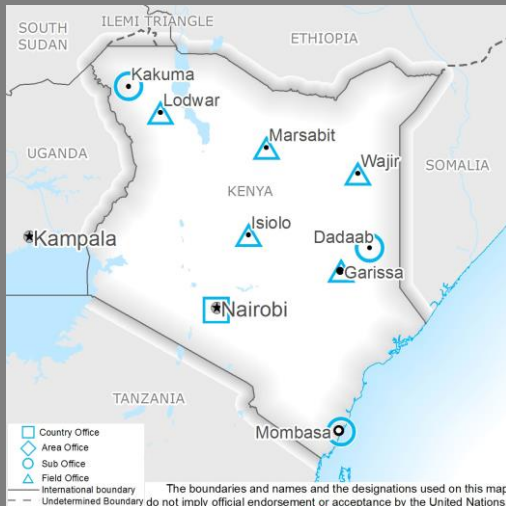
## Operational Context

Kenya is transforming rapidly, and the country achieved lower-middle-income status in 2014. Social and economic inequalities persist, with significant challenges to food and nutrition security driven by rapid population growth, climate change, stagnating agricultural production, gender inequalities and underperforming food systems. Agriculture remains the main economic driver, although 80 percent of the land is either arid or semi-arid.

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 aged 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 the arid counties is still below 50 percent.

Opportunities to address these challenges include increased government investments in agriculture and the social sectors, the devolution of service delivery to counties, implementation of new technologies and an inclusive and equitable policy base.

Kenya hosts a large population of refugees, mainly in camps located in Garissa and Turkana counties. Unable to work or move freely, refugees are highly dependent on international assistance.



Population: 48.5 million

2017 Human Development Index: 142 out of 189

Income Level: Lower middle

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

Main Photo Credit: WFP/Martin Karimi  
Caption: The launch of the Zero Hunger Strategic Review by WFP and partners in Nakuru County

## Operational Updates

The Ministry of Education together with WFP held a ceremony in Isiolo County to officially **hand over the school feeding programme to the Government of Kenya**. The ceremony which was officiated by the Principal Secretary for Education and WFP Kenya County Director had the participation of key government staff and donors. WFP also accompanied a delegation from the ministries of education and agriculture to attend the Global Child Nutrition Forum in Tunisia, where the handover and leadership provided by the Government of Kenya in the school feeding programme was widely recognized.

The number of food-insecure people has reduced from over 3 million to 700,000 due to two consecutive favourable agricultural seasons in 2017 and 2018. Consequently, WFP stopped food and cash distributions in October for beneficiaries involved in resilience-building activities, thus extending the available resources into the next lean season. Despite initially positive forecasts, the latest rainfall projections for November indicate that the southeast and coastal cropping areas that are heavily dependent on the short rains are likely to experience a poor season. So far, rainfall has largely been below average. However, parts of the northeast (Mandera and Wajir) are likely to receive considerable amounts of rainfall over the next month.

WFP is working with 14 county governments in the arid and semi-arid areas to **develop food system strategies** and determine the scope of WFP support to facilitate resilient livelihood activities. Vulnerable communities have been identified. Registration will begin in December for activities to commence in early 2019.

WFP in partnership with UNICEF launched a **social protection learning and development initiative** that will equip practitioners and policy makers with appropriate evidence and skills to design and implement life-cycle oriented social protection programmes and turn innovative ideas into policy and action for the social protection sector. The State Department for Social Protection is providing the overall leadership for this six-month assignment.

In September 2018, **WFP scaled up the proportion of cash transfers** from 30 to 40 percent for refugees in Dadaab and Kakuma. WFP plans to continue providing unconditional food assistance to refugees through a combination of in-kind and cash transfers. Cash transfers will progressively increase to meet up to 70 percent of food requirements in the next five years in line with the WFP Country Strategic Plan.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
97 m	<b>62.5 m</b>	<b>19.5 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Refugees and asylum seekers living in camps and settlements and populations affected by natural and human-caused disasters have access to adequate food to meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year.  
**Focus area:** Strategic outcome 1 focuses on crisis response, is aligned with WFP Strategic Result 1 – “Everyone has access to food” – and SDG target 2.1 and contributes to SDGs 1 and 3.

**Activities:**  
 Activity 1: Provide food assistance and nutrient-rich commodities to refugees, along with Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) and support for self-reliance activities in camps and settlement areas.  
 • Activity 2: Provide food assistance and nutrient-rich commodities – complemented by SBCC – to vulnerable Kenyan populations in order to meet acute food needs.

### Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Targeted smallholder producers and food-insecure, vulnerable populations benefit from more sustainable, inclusive food systems and increased resilience to climate shocks enabling them to meet their food and nutrition needs by 2023.  
**Focus area:** Strategic outcome 2 focuses on resilience, is aligned with WFP Strategic Result 4 and SDG target 2.4 and contributes to the achievement of SDGs 1, 3, 5, 9 and 10.

**Activities:**  
 Activity 3: Create assets and transfer knowledge, skills and climate risk management tools to food-insecure households.  
 • Activity 4: Facilitate access to markets and provide technical expertise in supply chain management to smallholder farmers and retailers

### Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs.

**Strategic Outcome 3:** National and county institutions in Kenya have strengthened capacity and systems to assist food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations by 2023.  
**Focus area:** Strategic outcome 3 focuses on root causes, is aligned with WFP Strategic Result 5 – “Capacity strengthening” – and SDG target 17.9 and contributes to SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10.

**Activities:**  
 • Activity 5: Engage in strengthening the capacities of national and county institutions in the areas of disaster risk management, food assistance programmes, nutrition services and social safety nets.

### Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs.

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Government, humanitarian and development partners in Kenya have access to and benefit from effective and cost-efficient logistics services, including air transport, common coordination platforms and improved commodity supply chains, when needed.  
**Focus area:** Strategic outcome 4 focuses on crisis response and is aligned with WFP Strategic Result 8 – “Partnerships” – and SDG target 17.16.

WFP through its retail engagement initiative participated in a private sector development roundtable which was hosted by Invest in Africa and Tullow Oil. The forum aimed at sharing progress and learning from initiatives implemented in Turkana County and dissemination of key findings from the ‘**Local Content Demand and Supply Gap Analysis**’ study. The forum also brought on board strategic partners to bridge the local content gaps identified in the study and chart out a framework for future engagements.

WFP and East Africa Breweries Limited (EABL) are partnering to support smallholder sorghum farmers access markets. Through the Farm to Market Alliance, WFP is taking the lead on all EABL field activities for sorghum farmers in seven counties. This will help to improve linkages to markets for farmers in the selected counties.

The Government of Kenya, WFP and partners took part in the World Food Day commemorations at the Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organization in Njoro, Nakuru County. Events included a Zero Hunger Trail Run, with Eliud Kipchoge (current marathon world record holder) as guest starter and the launch of the WFP-supported National Zero Hunger Strategic Review. An award was also made to Noah Baraka, a Kenyan school child, who was successful in WFP’s global Children’s Design Competition.

## Monitoring

UNHCR and WFP carried out a gender and protection assessment in Dadaab Refugee Camp. Refugees expressed preference for the mixed modality of food assistance (in-kind and cash) but also advocated for reinstatement of 100 percent of the food basket.

WFP’s complaints and feedback mechanism registered 1,517 cases. Of these 400 were through the helpline, two through SMS and 1,115 through the helpdesks in Kakuma, Dadaab and Kalobeyei. Forty-nine percent of cases were reported by women. Most of the calls were inquiries on distribution for the drought emergency programmes namely; *Chakula Kwa Jamii*, *Linda Lishe Bora* and on *Bamba Chakula* October disbursement and funds retransfers.

WFP pretested a capacity needs mapping tool with officials from Baringo County, one of the WFP recipient counties. The tool will be used in conducting capacity needs mapping and gender analysis to inform design of appropriate capacity strengthening interventions.

## Challenges

Funding for nutrition remains inadequate and WFP has been forced to prioritize general food distribution and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition among mothers and children in refugee camps. Consequently, WFP has suspended prevention of malnutrition support for vulnerable groups. The current funding for cash transfers to refugees will only cover requirements until end of February 2019.

## Donors

Austria, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, EU, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Korea, Norway, OPID, Private Donors, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, UN CERF, USA, Zambia

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