



WFP Kenya Country Brief

June 2019

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



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**

2018 Human Development Index: **142 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **26 percent of children between 6 and 59 months**

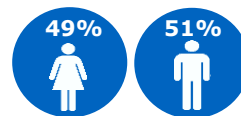
In Numbers

6,796 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 1.8 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 21 m six months (July–December 2019) net funding requirements

587,100 people assisted in June 2019



Operational Updates

- Following the poor performance of long rains season the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) estimates that 1.6 million people are currently in need of assistance, an increase from 1.1 million in February. This number is expected to further increase to over two million by September 2019. WFP is providing food and cash transfers to 390,000 people affected by the drought who participate in the resilient livelihoods programme. WFP is also supporting over 66,000 children aged 6-59 months, and pregnant and nursing women with nutrition treatment support and plans to scale this up in the coming months. WFP will provide technical support to the National Drought Management Authority for the long rains assessment scheduled for July 2019.
- WFP rolled out the first cycle of unrestricted cash transfers to 1,064 households in Kalobeyei settlement that benefitted 6,010 refugees. The phasing in of the remaining beneficiaries in Kalobeyei is expected to take place in September 2019, at which point more than 7,000 households (40,000 beneficiaries) will receive unrestricted cash. The beneficiaries' utilization of the cash transfers as well as the systems enabling unrestricted cash transfers (including the use of SCOPE) will be monitored closely in the coming months and adjustments made where necessary to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.
- WFP Kenya supply chain and nutrition teams facilitated the Technical and Operational Performance Support (TOPS) training on management of specialized nutritious foods in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. The TOPS Program is a USAID/Food for Peace funded participatory learning mechanism that generates, captures, disseminates and applies the highest quality of information, knowledge and promising practices in food security programs.
- WFP hosted a learning event dubbed 'Dialogue on Climate Risk Management in Kenya: Supporting Vulnerable and Food Insecure Households through an Area Yield Index Insurance in Kitui'. The learning event was attended by representatives from the Government, donors and UN partners. Some of the key lessons from the event included: that microinsurance – is a relevant and effective tool in protecting against climatic shocks and promoting investment and productivity. Particularly, strong results were demonstrated in reduction in debt, increased school attendance and livelihoods diversification. It was also noted that there is room for expansion, ensuring that more smallholders have access to appropriate and affordable microinsurance products.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
198 m	103.2m	21m

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.

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- WFP signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Makueni and Mandera County Governments in June 2018. The MoUs will guide collaboration and partnership in addressing food security and nutrition issues in the counties for the period of the CSP implementation (2018-2023). The MoUs will be complemented by joint annual work plans outlining activities, outputs and resources needed to achieve commitments.
- In partnership with the Government of Kenya and UNICEF, WFP engaged Maastricht University and UNU-MERIT in research that resulted in a study “Linking Social Protection in Kenya to Improved Productivity: Including Livelihoods, Social Services, Skills or Asset Development, Graduation and Labour Market Activities” and a policy brief to provide guidance to the Government and to be utilized as an advocacy tool for the UN. The report was disseminated through a workshop attended by various government departments, UN and development partner agencies.
- The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and SisterSky International visited Kenya to gather information to report to the US Congress on the successful handover of the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme to the Government of Kenya. The team visited Turkana County and interacted with the schools and farmer organizations within the county. While in Nairobi, the mission interacted with the Ministry of Education and WFP school meals team. The mission appreciated the programme, taking note of how the programme has not only positively impacted children’s lives, but also the surrounding community through the empowerment of farmers who supply the food.
- Following the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation strategy shift and phase out from East Africa, WFP did a transition and phase out workshop for the SOLVE initiative with all stakeholders. WFP shared evidence generated in the past year and recommendations for the improvement of the health supply chain which provides a sound base for future interventions towards reforming the health supply chain in Kenya.

Monitoring

WFP’s complaints and feedback mechanism registered 942 cases: 326 through the helpline, 605 through the helpdesks and the rest through email. Majority of the cases were related to the refugee operations. Close to 60 percent of the cases reported were resolved during the reporting period.

Challenges

WFP has embedded nutrition-sensitive activities within its food systems and resilience-building strategic outcome and requires US\$ 800,000 from June to November 2019. These activities are implemented to the benefit of food-insecure communities in eight arid counties.

Donors

Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, European Union, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxemburg, Poland, Private Sector, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United Nations and United States of America