



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Kenya Country Brief August 2019



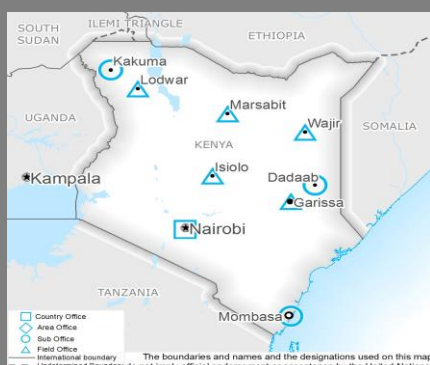
Operational Context

Kenya, a lower-middle-income economy is transforming rapidly. However, social and economic inequalities persist and more than one third of Kenyans live below the poverty line. Agriculture remains the main economic driver, although 80 percent of the land is either arid or semi-arid. Rapid population growth, climate change, stagnating agricultural production, gender inequalities and underperforming food systems are the most significant challenges to food and nutrition security.

The most severe living conditions exist in the arid north, which is underdeveloped, drought prone and affected by frequent tribal conflicts. The prevalence of wasting among children aged 6-59 months often exceeds 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 in 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**

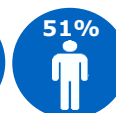
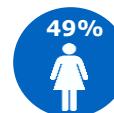
In Numbers

9,000mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 2.4 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 17.2m six months (September 2019–February 2020) net funding requirements

776,000 people assisted
in August 2019



Operational Updates

The 2019 Long Rains Assessment findings indicated that the food and nutrition security in the country has deteriorated and the number of people requiring food assistance has increased to 2.6 million. An estimated 623,000 children require treatment for acute malnutrition - 133,000 for severe acute malnutrition and 490,000 for moderate acute malnutrition. A further 69,000 pregnant and nursing mothers also require specific nutrition support. The situation is likely to deteriorate further in the coming months. The Government of Kenya reported US\$7 million had been released to the Ministry of Devolution and ASALs in August for drought response, to procure and deliver food assistance to those affected.

WFP continues to provide technical support to national and county governments – the first-line responders in emergencies – to create permanent capacity within responsible government institutions to manage cash-based relief responses. WFP has been nominated to join a government task force to put in place a digital cash transfer platform for relief assistance in Kenya. Other representatives include: the Ministry of Devolution and ASALs, Ministry for Labour and Social Protection, the National Drought Management Authority, National Treasury, Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology. WFP will leverage on its vast experience in cash programming across its operations in Kenya as well as experience in supporting both emergency cash transfers (such as *Chakula kwa Jamii*) and other Government-supported cash programmes.

Every month, refugees receive a general food ration from WFP consisting of a combination of in-kind and cash-based transfers (50:50). Beginning September, WFP will be forced to further cut in-kind rations for refugees, due to resource shortfalls. Beneficiaries will receive 70 percent of the recommended overall ration. Refugees have been receiving reduced rations since September 2017 due to insufficient funding.

The Farm to Market Alliance – which is a unique public private partnership with the goal of making markets work better for farmers – held its first Country Coordination Committee meeting in Nairobi. The meeting was attended by representatives from agricultural input companies, off-takers and processors, financial institutions, insurance providers, tech partners, WFP and donors. FtMA in Kenya is reaching over 30,000 farmers with access to quality inputs, affordable finance, access to markets and digital solutions and has generated US\$ 5 million in crop sales in the 2018/19 agricultural season. Expansion plans include more digitisation of services and new value chains e.g. potatoes in addition to soya bean and sorghum.

| WFP Country Strategy | | Gender and Age Marker  |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023) | | |
| Total Requirement (in US\$) | Allocated Contributions (in US\$) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) |
| 198 m | 103.2m | 17.2 m |
| Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food | | |
| <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> | | |
| <p>Activities:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Activity 2: Provide food assistance and nutrient-rich commodities – complemented by SBCC – to vulnerable Kenyan populations in order to meet acute food needs.</p> | | |
| Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable | | |
| <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> | | |
| <p>Activities:</p> <p>Activity 3: Create assets and transfer knowledge, skills and climate risk management tools to food-insecure households.</p> <p>Activity 4: Facilitate access to markets and provide technical expertise in supply chain management to smallholder farmers and retailers</p> | | |
| Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs. | | |
| <p>Strategic Outcome 3: National and county institutions in Kenya have strengthened capacity and systems to assist food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations by 2023.</p> <p>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.</p> | | |
| <p>Activities:</p> <p>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.</p> | | |
| Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs. | | |
| <p>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.</p> <p>Focus area: Strategic outcome 4 focuses on crisis response and is aligned with WFP Strategic Result 8 – “Partnerships” – and SDG target 17.16.</p> | | |
| <p>Activities:</p> <p>Activity 6: Provide humanitarian air services for partners</p> | | |

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WFP held a learning event in collaboration with the University of Nairobi and other partners on the development of cold storage technologies using local solutions e.g. brick and charcoal. These solutions were developed by University of Nairobi with WFP support, to extend the shelf-life and ultimately availability, affordability and consumption of fresh foods. The storage units will be installed in the Kalobeyei and Kakuma refugee camps in the coming weeks. Their use and effectiveness will be monitored, with the view of expanding their use in non-refugee remote market settings. Participants from arid county governments attended and showed interest in replication.

WFP, in partnership with Caritas, Pula Insurance Advisors and the Kitui County Government, is currently offering agricultural micro-insurance for Rural Resilience (R4) to 10,000 farmers in Kitui. The insurance scheme will shield the farmers from weather-related shocks during the short rains season (Oct-Nov) of 2019. WFP is also carrying out a feasibility study to inform the roll-out of the insurance model into Makueni and Taita Taveta counties.

As a result of WFP's technical assistance to the Ministry of Education, the coordination of the national school feeding programme has significantly strengthened. Following the inauguration of the National level inter-Ministerial committee (the Ministries of Education, Health, Agriculture, Social Protection, Water, the National Treasury, NGOs, WFP and UNICEF) in June 2019, similar inter-Ministerial coordination committees have been established in nine arid counties namely; Garissa, Tana River, Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu, Wajir, Turkana, West Pokot and Baringo. The county governments are in the process of extending the coordination structures to the sub-county levels. Roll-out to the 15 targeted semi-arid counties is planned in 2020.

Monitoring

WFP's complaints and feedback mechanism registered 687 cases; 235 through the helpline, 450 through the help desks and the rest through SMS. Of all the cases reported, 44 percent were from women. Sixty-eight percent of the cases were related to WFP's refugee assistance, 26 percent related to the food systems activities and six percent to other activities. Fifty-six percent of cases were resolved within two weeks. Majority of the issues were related to SIM card related challenges (for refugee assistance beneficiaries) and missed cash disbursements due to incomplete beneficiary details (for the resilient livelihoods beneficiaries). WFP is working with the telecommunications service provider to resolve the SIM card related issues, and with communities to ensure that beneficiaries details are updated and accurate.

Challenges

Beginning September, WFP will be forced to further cut general rations for refugees, due to resource shortfalls. WFP requires US\$22.6 million to continue to provide food assistance support to refugees in Kenya until March 2020.

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