



WFP Kenya Country Brief

September 2019

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



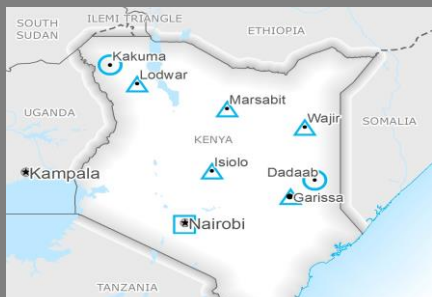
Operational Context

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

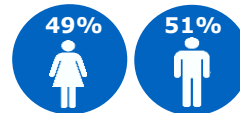
In Numbers

5,357 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 2.85 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 100 m six months (October 2019–March 2020) net funding requirements

616,000 people assisted in September 2019



Operational Updates

WFP took part in a high-level stakeholder consultation on the Garissa Integrated Socio-Economic Development Plan in Nairobi. The plan puts the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework and the Nairobi Declaration and Action Plan into practice in Garissa. The plan aims to address the socio-economic needs of both refugee and host communities in a sustainable manner. WFP is well positioned to the realisation of this and will leverage on experience from Kalobeyei as well as resilience building initiatives in the county.

WFP completed the first cycle of disbursements of unrestricted cash to refugees using a mobile money platform to more than 1,500 households in 'village 2' in Kalobeyei settlement. This complements the unrestricted cash provided through the bank disbursement model that started in June. WFP plans to scale up unrestricted cash transfers in Kalobeyei, setting the foundation for an approach which looks at the basic needs of beneficiaries. So far, about 2,500 households have benefited from this approach.

With support from USDA, WFP provided technical assistance to the County Government of Baringo to review, validate and finalize the Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) policy and feeding implementation guidelines. The policy and feeding guidelines will support the county government in ensuring funds allocation to the programme and effective management of the ECDE meals programme in the county. WFP will continue to provide ECDE policy support to Marsabit County Government in October 2019.

WFP participated in the Second Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) Conference, hosted by the Ministry of Devolution and ASALs and County Government of Kajiado in Amboseli from 10 – 12 September. The workshop brought together 29 county governors with a view to deliberate on enhancing opportunities and areas of strategic partnership to achieve economic empowerment in the ASALs. WFP staff participated in panels on food and nutrition security and partnership and coordination, as well as displaying a booth jointly with other Rome-Based Agencies. While resolutions of the Conference are still being considered, a key outcome will be further work on establishing a partnership and coordination framework for the ASALs, which WFP is supporting through a developing partnership with the State Department.

WFP participated in the national dialogue platform on early warning early action from 24-25 September 2019. WFP Country Director delivered opening remarks alongside Dr. Abbas-KRC Secretary General, Col. (ret) Owino-NDOC Director and Mr. Mwangi- Dep. Director Meteorological Services. WFP expressed its support for forecast-based financing to reduce losses and damages in the livelihoods of people who are faced with increasing climate extremes. WFP continues working with the Government as part of the technical working group to establish forecast-based financing in Kenya.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
198 m	103.2m	100 m

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.

Activities:

Activity 6: Provide humanitarian air services for partners

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WFP attended the launch of the Ending Drought Emergencies (EDE) Kenya Country Programme implementation plan, hosted by NDMA on Thursday 26 September. The EDE had been approved by the IGAD Summit in Nairobi earlier in September. Coordination structures and lessons learned were reviewed with pillars refining their priority areas of work, including a planned mid-term review of the EDE.

WFP is carrying out feasibility studies and operational preparatory work ahead of the roll out of the R4 micro-insurance programme in Makueni and Taita Taveta Counties in 2020. WFP is working with Kenya Cereals Enhancement Programme (KCEP-CRAL), Rome-based Agencies and the Ministry of Agriculture to ensure that the agricultural insurance models are complimentary and draw on WFP’s lessons learnt through implementation of R4 micro-insurance in Kitui county.

Following the approval of the Kenya proposal to the Joint SDG Fund, WFP is leading the preparation of the joint programme document with the other participating UN agencies, namely FAO, ILO and UNICEF. The Joint Programme will support the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to develop a roadmap for the realization of Universal Social Protection in Kenya in the next two years.

WFP together with the Ministry of Education trained 510 (450M, 60F) school level managers and 50 (39m,11F) government officials from the ministries of Education, Health and Agriculture in Marsabit county. These training will greatly strengthen management and coordination of the national School Meals Programme at all levels.

Monitoring

WFP’s complaints and feedback mechanism registered 997 cases; 421 through the helpline, 572 through the help desks and the rest through SMS and email. Of all the cases reported, 36 percent were from women. Majority of the cases were related to WFP’s refugee assistance (91 percent), while eight percent related to the food systems activities and one percent to other activities. Fifty-four 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

Over three million people in Kenya are projected to be severely food insecure by October 2019 due to drought conditions. The failure of consecutive rainfall seasons has hampered recovery and contributed to high levels of acute malnutrition.

WFP requires **US\$2.9 million** to provide nutrition support to 107,000 children aged 6-59 months and 39,000 pregnant and nursing mothers for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in nine of the worst affected arid counties up to 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