



WFP Kenya Country Brief

November 2019

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



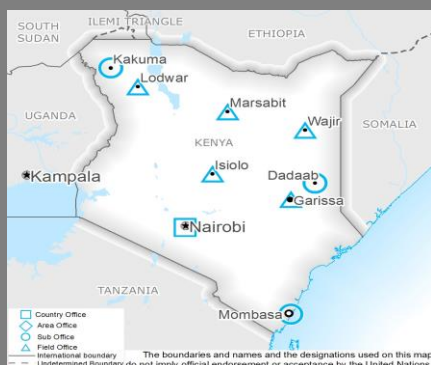
Operational Context

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: **47.5 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **147 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

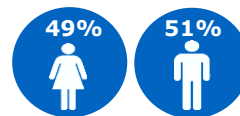
In Numbers

5,762 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 2.8 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 20.4 m six months (December 2019–May 2020) net funding requirements

693,000 people assisted in November 2019



Operational Updates

Floods and landslides in Kenya in the last quarter of the year have resulted in deaths displacement of families and have affected more than 300,000 people. Some of the most affected areas are the same regions ravaged by a long drought following two consecutive failed rains. Following a request from the Government of Kenya for logistics support, WFP contracted a Mi-8 helicopter through UNHAS and airlifted 67 mt of Government relief food reaching beneficiaries in 33 locations in flood affected areas. Additionally, WFP has pre-positioned nutrition and food stocks that could be used to fill a three-month emergency food gap in many of the affected counties if needed. In Turkana, WFP has distributed 2-months' worth of food supplies to 2,000 families (12,000 people) and is providing farmers with inputs such as seeds and tools to unblock irrigation canals and resume crop production.

In the context of the Global Compact for Refugees (GCR) and implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) in Kenya, UNHCR has been working with Garissa County Government to develop a three-year (2020 – 2022) strategy for refugee self-reliance and host community integration in North East Garissa. WFP participated in the development of the strategy and a workshop during which the sector roadmaps were discussed and finalized. WFP also committed to support critical areas linked to food security and nutrition by leveraging its expertise in the food supply chain and market development, resilience building, nutrition and school feeding, its long-standing relationship with Garissa county government and ongoing investments in the county.

The Cost of Hunger in Africa study launched in November quantified the social and economic costs of undernutrition in Kenya. According to the findings, Kenya is losing an equivalent of KES 373.9 billion/year (6.9 percent of GDP) due to undernutrition. The study provided policy and programme recommendations to reduce the burden of undernutrition sustainably. The importance of tax relief for nutrition commodities, universal school meals programme and the need to increase investment to improve food security and nutrition was emphasized. WFP Kenya supported the Government of Kenya with the completion and dissemination of the study, with Kenya being the 17th country in Africa to undertake the COHA assessment.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
198 m	103.2m	20.4 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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As part of its efforts to strengthen food security and nutrition at the county level, WFP gathered 36 county officers from Samburu and Isiolo counties (health, agriculture and nutrition sectors) to support the design of detailed 2020 work plans for nutrition-sensitive programming in these two counties. Key value chains were identified for support to improve consumption of nutritious foods. The approach will address root causes of food insecurity and nutrition through social behaviour change communication, knowledge and skills transfer and layering of nutrition and health services.

In November, the Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA) embarked on piloting the WFP *Farm2Go* App with eight FtMA Farmer Service Centers (FSCs) in Tharaka Nithi County. The precursor to this was the FtMA Application, which Farm2Go has replaced and enhanced, enabling FSCs to collect digital, real-time data from smallholder farmers. The application has multiple functionalities to increase effectiveness and efficiency across the value chains. The pilot will last until January 2020 and learning will inform optimizing and contextualizing the application to suit the Kenyan context.

The Government of Kenya, WFP and ILO participated in the ILO’s Global Social Protection week in Geneva Switzerland on 25-28 November 2019. Besides learning from other countries’ experience in social protection, WFP Kenya presented Kenya’s experience of the Government and UN system “Delivering as One for Results” and its potential for achieving the SDG target commitments. The event brought together governments, workers’ and employers’ organizations, development partners, international financing institutions, regional bodies, UN agencies, private sector, academia and civil society to focus on the Universal Social Protection in the context of the Future of Work.

WFP convened a “write shop” in Machakos to facilitate counties to finalize and standardize their Food Systems Strategy documents under their County Investment Development Plans (CIDPs). The plans will guide interventions with WFP support and also help to mobilize resources from multiple sources.

Monitoring

WFP’s complaints and feedback mechanism registered 1,593 cases in November 2019; 1,514 through help desks, 76 through the helpline, and the rest through SMS. Women reported 46 percent of the cases. Of these, 97 percent of the cases were related to WFP’s refugee assistance through e-vouchers, and the rest were from the resilient livelihoods and capacity strengthening programme. WFP managed to resolve 55 percent of the cases within two weeks.

Challenges

WFP supports 400,000 refugees in Kenya with food assistance to safeguard their food security and nutritional status. While the long-term focus is on improving the self-reliance of refugees, every month, refugees receive a general food ration from WFP consisting of a combination of in-kind and cash-based transfers. WFP requires US\$27.3 million to continue to provide this support, as well as school meals and nutrition treatment and prevention commodities to refugees in Kenya until mid-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