



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Kenya Country Brief

April 2020



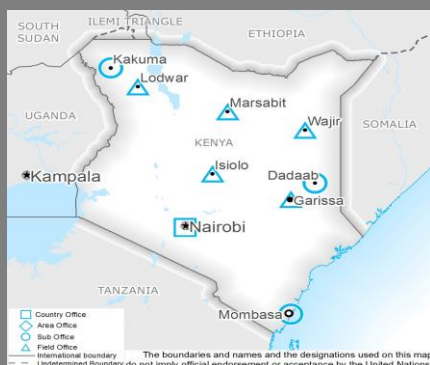
Operational Context

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

Main Photo

Credit: WFP Kenya
Caption: Children in Kalobeyei receiving school lunch. Millions of children in Kenya would have resumed school but due to COVID-19 they cannot. For many, a guaranteed hot meal would have been a big reason for returning.

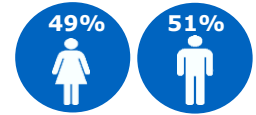
In Numbers

4,119 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 2.8m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 98 m six months (May–October 2020) net funding requirements

563,769 people assisted in April 2020



Operational Updates

By the end of April 2020, Kenya had close to 400 COVID-19 cases, The Government of Kenya continues to enforce measures to curb the risk and spread of COVID-19 in the country. In April, the curfew and containment measures were extended for an additional 21 days. School closure was extended by an additional month, and restrictions on movement put in place for Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps. Mass testing of the Kenyan population commenced including for truck drivers at transit points.

UN and partners launched a US\$ 267 million Emergency Appeal on 9 April 2020 to respond to the immediate needs of 10.1 million people, including refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya. WFP requested US\$ 64 million to meet additional needs for urban and nutrition responses, food security and livelihoods and enhance technical assistance in social protection.


With the onset of the March-May long rains, most of the country has received above-average rains, with the ASALS averaging about 105 percent of normal rainfall amounts. Flooding has affected over 100,000 people across 29 counties and resulted in damage to property and infrastructure, coupled with increased displacement and loss of lives.

The flooding coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic and the threat of the locust invasion has many Kenyans vulnerable and in need of humanitarian assistance. The impact of a dwindling economy and loss of economic opportunities has further exacerbated these vulnerabilities and calls for increased support to help the Kenyan population survive from the shocks.

As part of the Government's Interagency Committee on COVID-19 Relief Assistance, WFP continues to collaborate with the line ministries led by the Ministry of Devolution and the ASALS in coordinating the national relief assistance. WFP is also working closely with the Council of Governors to respond to the needs at the county level and providing technical assistance for expansion of national social safety nets in response to COVID-19.

WFP is extending every effort to ensure continuity of its ongoing life-saving humanitarian assistance to refugees, to children and to pregnant and nursing mothers affected by acute malnutrition, while also maintaining assistance to protect livelihoods of the most vulnerable food insecure people.

Refugees received two-months food assistance (April-May 2020) through a modified distribution process, in collaboration with UNHCR, cooperating partners and the government of Kenya to incorporate the Ministry of Health guidelines and protocols.

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\$)
224 m	58.5m	98 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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Support to the Kenyan population through nutrition treatment services and support to smallholder farmers is ongoing in line with the Ministry of Health’s COVID-19 measures. WFP is on stand-by to support the Government’s response to the flooding in the most affected areas.

Through its supply chain, WFP is airlifting cargo and supporting over 20 partners organisations to deliver lifesaving assistance to the most affected. Additionally, WFP has prepositioned 6x6 trucks to support county responses to floods, as a preparedness measures in the event that it will be required.

WFP is also participating in the WHO logistics technical meetings and is ready to expand its logistics services and supply chain capacities within Kenya to support the Government’s response to COVID-19. WFP has reconfirmed with the Ministry of Health the ability to deploy technical expertise at central and county level, avail warehouse capacity in Nairobi, JKIA and Mombasa, and deploy mobile storage units where required.

Monitoring

As a member of the Kenya Food Security Steering Group, WFP is working with the Government of Kenya to monitor the impact of COVID-19, desert locust invasion, and flooding on the food security and nutrition status of the Kenyan population including refugees and asylum seekers at national and county levels. WFP continues to carry out supply chain and market assessments to monitor the level of food access and availability.

WFP’s complaint and feedback mechanism received a total of 1,059 cases from beneficiaries; 71 percent were received through the help desk, and 29 percent through the helpline. Of these, 48 percent were from women. 93 percent of the feedback received was on our refugee operations particularly *Bamba Chakula* programme while the rest were from resilient livelihoods programme, relief and unrelated WFP complaints. Of all the feedback received 97 percent was from beneficiaries, with the rest being from non-beneficiaries, alternates and traders. 497 cases were successfully resolved within the month of April. Majority of the pending cases are technical issues related to SIM cards, WFP is working with communities and the telecommunication service provider to resolve them.

Challenges

The Kenya country office is facing the risk of a food pipeline break in the period from June to August 2020 due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on global supply chains, which is resulting in delays in the arrival of shipments of confirmed contributions. Currently, in-kind transfers constitute 50 percent of refugee general rations. To compensate for the delays in the arrival of in-kind food, the cash proportion of the general ration will be adjusted to meet the anticipated gaps in the period June-August 2020. For this, WFP has requested US\$12.5 million as part of the UN Appeal to cover the additional cash requirements and additional operational costs.

Donors

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