



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Kenya Country Brief

May 2020



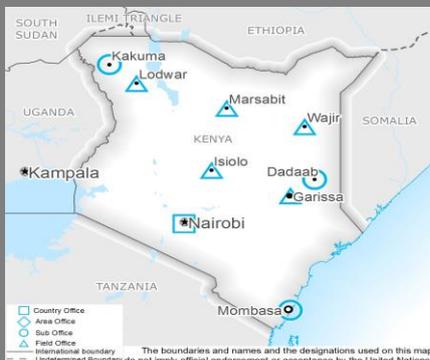
Operational Context

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**

In Numbers

3,070 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 3.3 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 80.3 m six months (June–November 2020) net funding requirements

797,929 people assisted in May 2020



Operational Updates

By the end of May 2020, Kenya had 1,745 confirmed COVID-19 cases. The Government of Kenya continued to enforce measures to curb the risk and spread of COVID-19 in the country. A cessation of movement of persons and vehicles transporting passengers into and out of Kenya through the Kenya-Tanzania and Kenya-Somalia international borders was imposed for 30 days from 17 May. The movement of cargo was exempt. Curfew and containment measures were extended until 6 June.

Cases of COVID-19 were identified in both Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps and there was growing concern over the increasing cases reported in informal urban settlements. Restrictions on movement continued for Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps.

WFP continues to support the Government's COVID response efforts, providing technical support for the expansion of national social safety nets, supporting food security analysis efforts at national and county level and supporting coordination for the Council of Governors. WFP is also participating in the WHO logistics technical meetings and is ready to expand its logistics and supply chain capacities within Kenya to support the Government's response.

WFP is planning an urban response for three months for people living in informal settlements within Nairobi that will complement the urban stipends provided by the Government. The cash assistance will provide relief to 63,300 families facing food and nutrition shortages as a result of loss of livelihoods and income. WFP is working with the State Department for Social Protection to ensure data-sharing with the Single Registry.

In parallel, WFP is also planning to support management of moderate malnutrition in the informal settlements in Nairobi, which will enable children, pregnant lactating women and the elderly to receive specialised nutrition products to treat malnutrition.

WFP is discussing options with the Ministry of Education to distribute food to children, as school opening has been delayed.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
224 m	58.5m	80.3 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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Over 760,000 people have been affected in 30+ counties affected by flooding, of which over 310,000 have been displaced, and over 240 people have lost their lives. Both the national and county governments provided relief assistance in May to affected households. WFP has been requested by both the national and county governments to supplement the flood relief response and a CERF appeal was launched. WFP has deployed trucks to facilitate delivery of Government relief assistance to remote areas.

WFP supports 390,000 vulnerable people to diversify and improve their livelihoods. Cash distributions were completed for vulnerable communities in Isiolo, Samburu and Baringo counties and in-kind distributions commenced to beneficiaries in a further six counties.

WFP is utilizing the newly launched Global Passenger Air Service to connect locations that are restricted due to COVID-19 measures and enable humanitarian agencies to continue to support member states. The Addis Ababa hub established for East Africa will have flights between Nairobi and Addis Ababa twice weekly from the second week in June.

Monitoring

As a member of the Kenya Food Security Steering Group, and part of the Government’s ‘war room’, 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. WFP continues to carry out weekly supply chain and market assessments to monitor the level of food access and availability.

WFP’s complaint and feedback mechanism received 1,597 cases from beneficiaries. Sixty-eight percent of cases were successfully resolved, an improvement on April as a technical issue with Safaricom was resolved.

Challenges

WFP is extending every effort to provide food and nutrition assistance to refugees. WFP was forced to cut rations to 70 percent of the minimum requirements in September 2019 due to lack of resources and has not yet been able to restore these.

The food pipeline is compromised 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 is being adjusted to meet the anticipated gaps between June-August 2020.

Donors

Australia, Brazil, 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.