



# WFP Kenya Country Brief

## July 2020

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



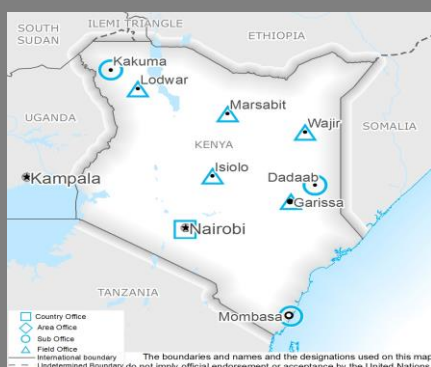
### Operational Context

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

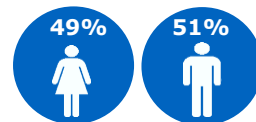
### In Numbers

1,836 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 4.9 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 54.9 m six months (August 2020–January 2021) net funding requirements

717,257 people assisted in July 2020



### Operational Updates

The number of new COVID-19 cases continued to increase in July. All the counties in Kenya are affected by the pandemic. WFP is complementing the Government's efforts in addressing the evolving COVID-19 situation in Kenya. In collaboration with the Government at national and county levels and other UN agencies and partners, WFP is supporting food security and markets analysis, the expansion of national social safety nets and services, and providing logistical support and UNHAS services including ECHO flights.

WFP launched its urban response in Nairobi's informal settlements and released the first and second tranches of cash-based transfers to 27, 270 households out of a targeted 70,500 households. This support will continue for three months and will contribute to 50 percent of the minimum food basket.

WFP has expanded the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition Programme (IMAM) to Nairobi County. A training targeting sub-county nutrition teams from 90 facilities was completed. The teams were trained on Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition, commodity management and reporting. The expansion is targeting children under five, pregnant lactating women, and the elderly in 123 facilities in Nairobi informal settlements.

COVID-19 cases in the refugee camps and settlements are on the increase. The increase and transmission has now affected humanitarian staff. This is likely to impact on how services will be delivered. Plans to start testing of humanitarian staff, refugees and host community are underway. WFP continues to provide food assistance to around 400,000 refugees in Dadaab, Kakuma, and Kalobeyei. WFP is also supporting 129 refugees in quarantine/isolation centres in the camps.

Food and livelihoods assistance for 390,000 vulnerable Kenyans is ongoing in nine counties to diversify and improve their livelihoods. WFP has complied with guidelines on distributions in the context of COVID-19 to protect beneficiaries and staff.

Flood response activities were concluded in Garissa, Mandera, Tana River and Turkana reaching 9,000 households with 1,000mt of assorted commodities (cereals, pulses and vegetable oil).

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)		
Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
173 m	83.5m	54.9 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 supported Wajir County with the finalization of their County Nutrition Action Plan (CNAP). The Wajir CNAP was officially launched in July by the Deputy Governor of Wajir County, with the heads of nutrition from the Ministry of Health, UNICEF, WFP and other representatives from the nutrition agencies in attendance. The CNAP aims to contribute to the Kenya National Nutrition action plan, whose goal is ‘to achieve optimal nutrition for a healthier and better quality of life and improved productivity for the country’s accelerated social and economic growth’.

Following the decision by the Government of Kenya to re-open schools in January 2021, WFP supported the Ministry of Education to undertake a food assessment exercise in Baringo, Isiolo, Garissa, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana and West Pokot counties. The objective was to ascertain the quantities and quality of food held at the school level.

WFP (through the Farm to Market Alliance), in partnership with SNV, Rabobank, and Agriwallet, presented the COVID-19 response proposal to support smallholder liquidity to the Agriculture and Rural Development donor group. The main request was for a liquidity and guarantee scheme support. The aim of the fund is to improve access to finances across the rural value chain stakeholders by lending to over 100,000 farmers and aggregators.

WFP has partnered with the United Nations Office for Project Services and TradeMark East Africa to offer supply chain services in warehousing and transportation of personal protective equipment (PPE) to all border points within Kenya. A total of 250mt of PPEs and 56mt of assorted handwashing items have been delivered from Nairobi to Malaba and Busia border points (both the Kenyan and Ugandan sides) to support measures against the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Monitoring**

As a member of the Kenya Food Security Steering Group, and part of the Government’s ‘war room’ efforts, WFP is working with the Government of Kenya to monitor the impact of COVID-19, the desert locust invasion and flooding on the food security and nutrition status of the Kenyan population, including refugees and asylum seekers. WFP is carrying out weekly supply chain and market assessments to monitor the level of food access and availability.

WFP’s complaint and feedback mechanism received 1,893 cases from beneficiaries, traders and the public. Majority of the cases were from the refugee operation regarding SIM card related issues. Seventy-six percent of cases were successfully resolved in the month of July.

**Challenges**

The combined effect of the COVID-19 pandemic, food insecurity, flooding and loss of livelihoods is increasing the vulnerabilities among affected populations in Kenya. WFP requires an additional US\$54.9 million to meet needs until the end of the year.

**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.