



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Kenya Country Brief August 2020



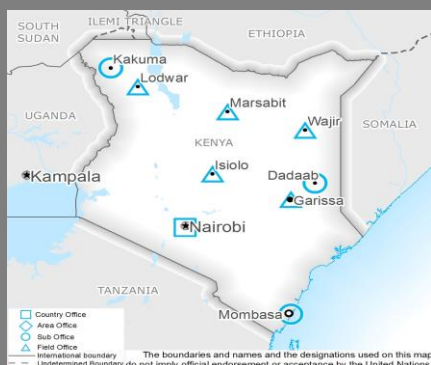
Operational Context

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

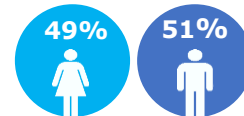
In Numbers

13,325 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 4m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 140.6 m six months (September 2020–February 2021) net funding requirements

695,337 people assisted in August 2020



Operational Updates

Food insecurity in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) counties, at a macro level, is currently at one of the lowest levels in the last 15 years, thanks to the cumulative good performance of the 2019 short rains and 2020 long rains. According to the findings of the long rains assessment, 739,000 people are in need of humanitarian assistance, with 43,000 being severely food insecure. Levels of acute malnutrition remain unacceptably high across the ASAL counties, indicative of the multiple and complex underlying causes. A total of 630,000 children under five and pregnant and nursing women require treatment for acute malnutrition countrywide, of which majority are in the ASALs.

The improved food security situation has been recorded against the backdrop of localised effects of locust infestations, flooding and disruptions to production and market access due to the COVID-19 pandemic. WFP continues to work with the Government of Kenya, sister UN agencies, and partners to respond to these challenges and address the root causes of food insecurity in Kenya.


As of 31 August 2020, Kenya's COVID-19 figures stood at 34,201 confirmed cases, 19,893 recoveries, and 577 fatalities. The cases are spread across all the 47 counties in Kenya. WFP's response to COVID-19 complements the Government of Kenya's efforts and is focused on providing support to Kenyans in the Nairobi's urban informal settlements affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and providing technical support to existing government-led safety nets.

WFP's cash transfer support to families in Nairobi's informal settlements is ongoing, with disbursement of transfers to some 27,270 households in August and plans to scale up to about 70,000 households in September 2020.

Nutrition support to 2,500 women and children in Nairobi's informal settlements commenced and will target 123 facilities in Nairobi informal settlements.

WFP continues to provide food assistance for refugees and the Kenyan population. Food distributions have been adjusted to be bi-monthly to reduce the exposure to the risk of COVID-19 for beneficiaries. The distributions are in full compliance with the guidelines from the Ministry of Health. Cash transfers continue uninterrupted.

Virtual registration of 12,000 households in Makueni and Kitui Counties for access to micro-insurance for the coming agricultural season. [Micro-insurance](#) helps to address climate risk such as drought, which directly affects food systems, and it is at the centre of WFP's efforts to achieve Zero Hunger.

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\$)
182.5 m	83.5m	140.6 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> <p>Activity 7: Provide health supply chain services for partners</p> <p>Activity 8: Provide humanitarian air services in support of DG-ECHO Funded projects</p>		

As the lead for the UNDAF Child and Social protection team, WFP has continued to coordinate the COVID-19 response through fortnightly coordination meetings with the government and UN partners. WFP is also supporting the government in conducting assessment of the socio-economic impact of Covid-19 and the efficacy of Kenya’s social protection system.

WFP participated in the annual review of UN Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Network in collaboration with other UN agencies. A review of the functionality of country SUN Networks and efforts for nutrition both prior to and amidst the COVID-19 pandemic was completed. The findings will be disseminated to 61 countries engaged in the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement.

WFP is working closely with United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) to store and transport the PPEs that UNOPS and TMEA have donated for distribution at all the border points in Kenya and other East African and Southern African countries.

WFP support to partners through the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) continues through the flights to Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps. Global Passenger Service flights that provided support at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic came to an end on 08 August 2020.

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 is supporting the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to carry out post-transfer monitoring of the Inua Jamii Programme to assess the extent to which the COVID-19 preventive payment modalities and hygiene protocols were adhered to by the Payment Service Providers and the beneficiaries.

WFP’s complaint and feedback mechanism received 1,448 cases from beneficiaries, traders and the public. Fifty percent of the cases were from women. Majority of the cases were from the refugee operations and the urban response regarding the cash transfer programme. Eight-four percent of cases were successfully resolved in the month of August 2020.

Challenges

WFP has reviewed its resource requirements upwards to address the needs of refugees and Kenyans affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, food insecurity, flooding, and loss of livelihoods. WFP requires an additional US\$ 140.6 million over the next six months to sustain its current interventions and complement the Government’s response to COVID-19.

Donors

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

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