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, use of technologies and innovation 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.

In Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,251 mt of food commodities distributed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US$ 5.7m cash-based transfers made</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US$ 80.2 m six months (November 2020–April 2021) net funding requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,029,930 people assisted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operational Updates

COVID Response

WFP continues to complement the Government of Kenya’s response to the COVID-19 situation. In October 2020, WFP expanded its cash-based COVID-19 response in Mombasa in collaboration with Mombasa County and the National Government, targeting 96,000 residents from low-income areas who had not yet been targeted by the Government or other humanitarian partners with cash transfers and nutritional support. Training of health workers in nutrition and commodity management was completed and the first disbursement of the cash transfers completed.

As a member of the Kenya Food Security Steering Group, and part of the Government of Kenya’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.

Obtaining clearance for truck drivers amidst COVID-19 pandemic remains a requirement at border points. A Regional Electronic Cargo and Driver Tracking System (RECDTS) was established to facilitate this in the East African region. However, the roll out of the system in the Northern Corridor (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi) is still ongoing. WFP supported a mission led by the Ministry of Health to jointly assess the proposed sites and validate the draft concept for establishment of COVID-19 testing laboratories along the Northern Corridor.

Partners of the WFP-supported Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA) continue to support farmers who have faced economic difficulties following the outbreak of COVID-19. Around 80mt of maize seeds has been donated to assist farmers in Meru and Tharaka Nithi Counties for the upcoming planting season. FtMA will oversee the seed distribution.

Additionally, by the end of November, there were over 83,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Kenya and over 1.7 million Kenyans affected by loss of livelihoods due to the COVID-19 pandemic. WFP is complementing the Government’s response and will require US $ 52.5 million to provide nutrition assistance for the treatment of malnutrition among Kenyans (in the ASALs counties and informal settlements) and to meet acute food needs (Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food) in the informal settlements in Nairobi and Mombasa.
Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in US$)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in US$)</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirement (in US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>160.3 m</td>
<td>80.1m</td>
<td>80.2m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 10.

**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
- Activity 7: Provide health supply chain services for partners
- Activity 8: Provide humanitarian air services in support of DG-ECHO Funded projects

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Country Director: Lauren Landis
Further Information: www.wfp.org/countries/Kenya

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October 2020

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**Market Support**

The Turkana County Government in collaboration with WFP launched three additional fresh food markets in Kakuma. The fresh food markets are part of joint efforts to promote self-reliance, boost livelihoods, as well as improve access to a nutritional diet among refugees and host communities. The three markets will support 330 traders in Kakuma and Kalobeyei comprising both refugees and members of the host community.

**Capacity Strengthening**

WFP at the request of the Government has been leading UN efforts in the development of a National Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Policy and Bill and has also developed a joint position paper aimed at improving structures for coordination and establishment of a DRM fund.

WFP supported the launch of the Social Protection Community of Practice for sharing of knowledge and skills and best practices in Social Protection. The platform will enhance coordination and build efficiency and visibility in the social protection sector in which WFP is a lead for UN agencies.

**Royal Visit**

WFP hosted Her Royal Highness (HRH) Princess Sarah Zeid of Jordan, WFP's special adviser on maternal and new-born health and nutrition. She visited the COVID-19 cash and nutrition response in Nairobi’s informal settlements and a demonstration site producing Orange Fleshad Sweet Potatoes in Isiolo. The Princess met with local leaders, Government, heads of UN agencies and members of the diplomatic community with whom she advocated for increased focus on maternal health and nutrition.

WFP also facilitated the Finnish Ambassador to Kenya's visit to Nairobi's informal settlements to see WFP's cash transfer and nutrition response.

**Monitoring**

WFP's beneficiary outreach and engagement strategy aims to harmonise engagement with communities. Improve ownership of projects and create strong social connections in its areas of operation. In October 2020, WFP's complaints and feedback mechanism received 1,434 cases from beneficiaries, traders and the public. Fifty-two percent of the cases were from women. Out of all the cases, 31 percent came from refugee assistance beneficiaries, 56 percent from relief beneficiaries, seven percent from resilient livelihoods beneficiaries and one percent came from school meals programmes. Eighty-three percent of cases were successfully resolved in October 2020.

**Resource Challenges**

Refugees in Dadaab, Kakuma and Kalobeyei have only received 60 percent of their normal rations since October 2020 due to resource constraints. WFP requires US$ 45.6 million to provide refugees with food and nutrition support for the next six months.

**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.