**Operational Context**

While Tanzania is largely food secure and is oftentimes a commodity exporter, there are occasional pockets of food shortages at the regional, district and household levels. This is mainly due to dependence on rain-fed agriculture and limited use of modern farming techniques. Seventy-four percent of rural Tanzanians are engaged in agriculture while agriculture only contributes 28 percent of the country’s GDP. One in ten Tanzanians live below the food poverty line, and one in three children is chronically malnourished. Diets are generally lacking diversity, and nutritious diets remain unaffordable for the majority of households. Over the last three years, Tanzania’s economy has grown at a rate of 7 percent annually, driven mainly by telecommunications, financial services, tourism, transport and construction. The discovery of large reserves of natural gas and crude oil offers promise of a new and significant revenue stream for the Tanzanian economy.

WFP has been present in Tanzania since 1963.

- **Population:** 58 million
- **2019 Human Development Index:** 163 out of 189 countries
- **Income Level:** Lower-Middle
- **2019 Human Development Index:** 163 out of 189 countries
- **Chronic malnutrition:** 31.8% of children aged 6-59 months

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**In Numbers**

- **USD 13 million** six-month funding shortfall for the Country Strategic Plan
- **USD 10.4 million** six-month funding shortfall for refugee assistance
- **234,810** refugees and asylum seekers in camps supported with food assistance

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**Operational Updates**

**Support to refugee communities:** The 2020 Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) has been approved by the Government. A UNHCR-WFP Joint Action Plan has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs for approval. The plan will guide WFP and UNHCR in their advocacy work related to refugee assistance during 2021 and 2022. Rations for refugees remain at 68 percent of the minimum required kilocalories because of the continuing funding shortages.

**Smallholder Farmers:** Beneficiaries under the climate smart agriculture project implemented in Dodoma attended an International Women’s Day (IWD) event. IWD is a global day to celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women, while making a call to action for strengthening gender equality and accelerating women’s empowerment. The commemorations were attended by the district commissioner of Bahi and the theme was women in agribusiness.

In the Kigoma Joint Programme, eight local agro dealers provided last-mile services on postharvest handling and storage equipment to farmers. A total of 1,507 hermetic bags were sold directly to farmers, which help prevent post-harvest losses, therefore improving farmers’ incomes and resilience. The programme also facilitated the formation of 12 farmer groups for maize and beans collective marketing.

**Nutrition:** Under the Boresha Lishe project, radio programmes were developed and started airing with support from WFP’s implementing partner Farmradio and the district nutrition officers. The radio sessions will ensure that nutrition social and behaviour change communication continues to reach beyond the direct project beneficiaries.

The Government of Tanzania started the development of the second national multisectoral nutrition action plan, including a clear theory of change. WFP is an active participant in this development.

WFP has been leading the technical and strategic teams from the UN organizations to support the national food system summit convener in preparing for the national dialogues. A meeting was convened where a taskforce was established, a background planning was officiated, and critical documents were drafted.

**Innovation:** A WFP-X Moonshot event successfully took place in April. The two-day event included a physical event where more than 50 participants from the government, the private sector, and development partners attended. The second day was virtual and hosted 100 participants, allowing innovators to pitch their solutions to the public.

**Photo:** A Boresha Lishe beneficiary harvesting some fresh spinach from her kitchen garden. Photo Credit: WFP/Mawazo Millinga
Operational Updates (continued)

mVAM/M&E: WFP’s M&E team conducted a post-distribution monitoring exercise in the three refugee camps. Results have shown that with the prolonged ration cuts, food security indicators are slightly deteriorating.

The team has also supported the inception phase of the Country Strategic Plan evaluation, and an inception report is expected by early May. An end line assessment for the Boresha Lishe project will be launched in May.

WFP’s VAM team has started the expansion of the mVAM remote surveys by including nutrition indicators in the questionnaire and training new operators.

Social Protection: WFP has provided support to Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) in strengthening the community planning process for the public works implementation under the productive Social Safety Net Programme. WFP, in collaboration with Ardhi University, developed a hybrid community planning tool by integrating WFP’s Community-Based Participatory Planning tool with TASAF’s existing methodology. This process aims to empower farming communities towards enriched food and nutrition security and natural resource management through the community based public works.

Supply Chain: 42,000 mt of locally purchased food (32,000 mt of maize, 8,000 mt of sorghum, and 2,000 mt of beans) were dispatched to South Sudan. An additional 12,000 mt of local maize will be procured for regional programmes under WFP’s Global Commodity Management Facility.

Strategic Partnerships: WFP’s Innovation Hub has partnered with Imara Tech, a Tanzanian start-up. Imara Tech has built a mobile multi-crop thresher that can be carried on a motorcycle from village to village. Threshing that is normally done by hand on the ground with sticks will be done now in a much shorter time and more hygienically. This will free up time for the farmer to engage in other activities and preserves the quality of the crop, therefore potentially delivering higher prices. The goal is to reduce the time it takes to thresh crops for farmers from 3hrs/90kg to 2.5mins/90kg. Imara Tech intends to set up a business model, so the thresher will generate income for the operators while simultaneously saving time and labour for smallholder farmers. The first thresher has already been sold in Kigoma to a local farmer and entrepreneur.

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