Operational Context

As an upper-middle-income country, Namibia has a population of 2.4 million. The country has experienced several emergencies such as recurrent floods and drought, insect and worm invasions and recently the COVID-19 pandemic which has had a profound impact on food security, health and nutrition. Insufficient food production and reliance on poorly adapted rain-fed agriculture and external markets for food suggests that poor households are particularly less resilient to shocks and vulnerable to food price inflation.

Through the Namibia Country Strategic Plan (2017–2023), WFP provides food assistance to vulnerable people affected by shock, ensures adequate capacity strengthening to the Government, and facilitates effective policies and best practices. The addition of Strategic Outcome 4 to the current CSP aims to strengthen food systems and increase the production capacity of smallholder farmers.

WFP has been present in Namibia since 1990 as a technical partner to the Government, facilitating the development and transfer of knowledge, maintaining capacities to supplement food security and nutrition programmes.

In Numbers

Net Funding Requirements:
US$ 6.1 m six-month (September 2021 – February 2022)

People Assisted in August 2021
Cash Based Transfers: 1,775 households in Omusati Region
Food Voucher Programme: A total of 2,700 households in Kunene and Ohangwena Region
Home Grown School Feeding Programme: 1,472 learners from HGSFP four pilot schools in Kunene Region.
Community-based Livelihood Projects: 355 households benefitting from three community-based food systems projects, including 110 prisoners from the Windhoek Correctional Service.

Operational Updates

United Nations Food Systems Summit
The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) as the leading national convener for the United Nations Food Systems Summit with support from WFP and FAO Namibia coordinated a total of six national dialogues during the month of August.

These themed dialogues ranged from: a) Food Policies, Research & Development, and Strategies for Food Systems in Namibia: Promoting innovations, entrepreneurship, and inclusivity for positive food system transformation; b) Food Production, Consumption, and Processing Systems in Namibia: Fostering Sustainable, Healthy, Accessible and Nutritious Diets; c) Regional Consultations on Food System: Fostering sustainable diets, equitable livelihoods, and nature positive production in Namibia; d) The role of the private sector in transforming food systems in Namibia; e) Partnerships and strategies for transforming food systems in Namibia for sustainable diets and building climate, social and economy resiliency.

Namibia Home Grown School Feeding Programme
WFP with support from the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MoEAC) commenced with the pilot phase of the HGSFP at four selected schools in Kunene Region. Schools will buy produce directly from local smallholder farmers as part of the school feeding programme to diversify the meals of learners. The HGSFP is a vehicle to involve rural farmers to provide produce to schools, improve their market access and supplement their income. The project will benefit 24 schools with a combined total of 7,521 learners across the country.

Food Assistance Programme: Vouchers
WFP as a technical partner to the Office of the Prime Minister, alongside the Namibian Red Cross Society launched its three months Japan funded food voucher programme in Sesfontein constituency, Kunene Region.

The generous contribution of US$ 500,000 (N$7,460,000) from the Government of Japan through the Japanese Embassy in Namibia was timely to address
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2017–2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23.7 m</td>
<td>17.3 m</td>
<td>6.1 m</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Strategic Result 01: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 01: Vulnerable populations in Namibia are enabled to meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year.

Focus Area: Root Causes

Activities:
- Provide capacity strengthening to the government entities responsible for national shock-responsive safety net programmes
- Provide capacity strengthening and technical assistance to the government entities responsible for school feeding

Strategic Result 05: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 02: Government Policy dialogue and programme design is informed by evidence and enhanced knowledge of hunger issues throughout NDP5 period

Focus Area: Resilience building

Activities:
- Provide capacity strengthening to government entities involved in hunger-related policy and programming
- Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and partners involved in the implementation of the Zero Hunger Road Map

Strategic Result 01: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 03: Targeted food insecure households affected by shocks in Namibia benefit from enhanced access to adequate food and nutrition during and in the aftermath of crises

Focus Area: Crisis Response

Activities:
- Provide food assistance to vulnerable people affected by shocks.

Food Assistance Programme: Cash-Based Transfer (CBT)

WFP and the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare (MGEPESW) launched a Cash-Based Transfer (CBT) programme in Onamatanga Village in Omusati Region made possible by a generous contribution of €1 Million (N$17,610,019) from the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

The contribution has enabled WFP to strengthen the Government’s response and delivery mechanisms to vulnerable people affected by devastating droughts and COVID-19 through the innovative approach of CBT. The regions of Omusati and Khomas, with marginalized households of 1,775 and 5,125 respectively, were identified to benefit from this approach. The ECHO contribution improves livelihoods through enhanced household purchasing power, increased dietary diversity, reduced levels of under-five malnutrition, and supports local retailers with the end-benefit of stimulating the local economy.

Integrated Community-Based Food Systems Projects

WFP in partnership with the African Group of Ambassadors and the Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil launched an Integrated Community-Based Food systems Project in the rural constituency of Tsumkwe, Otjozondjupa Region. The initial raw materials and input to this project was purchased through a generous contribution of US$ 9,600 (N$ 146,000) from the African Group Head of Missions in partnership with Standard Bank Namibia. The Embassy of the Federative Republic of Brazil contributed US$100,000 (N$1.4 million) for the expansion of the current project with horticulture and poultry production.

The food systems approach aims to enhance inclusiveness, empower communities, ensure economic and social inclusion for local smallholder farmers including women and minimize negative environmental impacts. The approach aims to assist in changing the marginalized status of the San community, improve their livelihoods and strengthen resilience against future climatic shocks.

Biotechnology and Food Fortification

To cement the CO and enhance food transformation systems at the grassroots and complement the Namibian Government in its journey to achieve zero hunger and interrelated SDGs by 2030, the CO developed a general Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for planned engagements with all 14 Regional Council offices on the design and implementation of Sustainable Food Systems Programme (SFSP). The subsequent collaborations seek to identify key drivers of food, nutrition insecurity and stunting, long-term trends of rising hunger, emergency preparedness actions and market access strategies.

Donors
2020-2021 Donors: Brazil, European Union, Germany, Japan, and United States of America, UNICEF, and USAID
**Partnership**

WFP continues to engage potential donors and partners by expanding its partnership base with government and international financial institutions such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Environment Investment Fund (EIF).

**Baseline Assessments**

WFP in collaboration with Regional Councils, Catholic Aids Action and Namibia Red Cross Society conducted baseline assessments in three regions, examining indicators for basic food insecurity, food consumption scores, household hunger scores and nutrition for the food voucher programme, the soup kitchen and HGSFP in Kunene and Ohangwena Region. Similarly, a baseline assessment for CBT was conducted in Omusati Region. Key findings are aimed to fill gaps in the Country Strategic Plan (CSP), Annual Performance Plan (APP), Annual Country Report (ACR) and other corporate reporting documents.