



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Namibia Country Brief October 2021



Operational Context

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.



Population: **2.5 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **130 out of 189 countries**

Income Level: **Upper-middle income**

2020 Global Hunger Index: **70 out of 107 countries**

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In Numbers

Net Funding Requirements:

USD 7.5 m (November 2021 – April 2022)

People Assisted in September 2021

Food Voucher Programme: 2,700 households in Kunene and Ohangwena Region

Home Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP): 1,472 learners from HGSFP four pilot schools in Kunene Region.

Community-based Livelihood Projects: 1,659 beneficiaries

Operational Updates

Namibia Home Grown School Feeding Programme & Nutrition

To ensure everyone has access to food and in fulfilment of its CSP Activity 2 and 6: WFP partnered with the Namibia University of Science and Technology providing tailored training to the HGSFP volunteers/cooks in Kunene and Omaheke Region. The training equipped participants with knowledge on the preparation of meals, food hygiene, food storage and food serving.

Namibia works to address food insecurity and malnutrition nationally. It is on this basis that WFP, other UN agencies, government ministries and the Office of the Prime Minister comprise the technical and coordination committee for the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy scheduled for a high-level launch on 12 November 2021 in Oshana Region.

Cash Based Transfers (CBT): Food Vouchers

WFP as a technical partner to the Office of the Prime Minister, alongside cooperating partner the Namibian Red Cross Society, continued with the second cycle of CBT.

This programme, as aligned to WFP Namibia's CSP Activity 5 and Strategic Result 1, aims to provide food assistance to vulnerable people affected by shocks with an overarching goal to improve livelihoods and mandatory food nutrients.

Photo: Delegates at WFP's Regional Country Directors' Leadership Meeting. WFP/ Luise Shikongo

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2017–2023)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
23.7 m	17.3 m	7.5 m

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.

Integrated Community-Based Food Systems Projects

As an addition to the revised CSP Activity 7, Strategic Result 4, which necessitates that food systems are sustainable in Namibia, WFP partnered with Roots to provide technical advice to support the Stampriet Integrated Community project in Hardap region. This school-centred project at Stampriet Primary School focuses on healthy diets, productive and efficient practices to produce reasonably priced food within an integrated food systems approach.

Memorandum of Understanding

To implement sustainable food system programmes, WFP signed Memoranda of Understanding with Omaheke Regional Council and Oshikoto Regional Council to address key drivers of food and nutrition insecurity, stunting and malnutrition in efforts to support healthy consumption, forge institutional market access and create livelihood opportunities. WFP intends to strengthen food systems in the country with all fourteen regions of Namibia.

WFP Regional Country Director's Leadership Meeting

The Country Office hosted a WFP Regional Country Directors' leadership meeting from 26 to 29 October aimed to exchange ideas on food systems, digitalization, e-Commerce, data analysis and evidence building, UN Reform, emergency response, resource mobilization & strategic partnership, and government engagement.

The partakers comprised of WFP's Assistant Executive Directors and Directors from Rome, Country Directors from the Southern Africa region, senior officials, and expertise from various sectors. Among other outcomes, delegates emphasised the importance of augmenting government engagement and partnerships, enlarge the government and private sector funding pool and leverage technology to achieve zero hunger within their respective settings.

Donors

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