WFP Tanzania
Country Brief
November 2021

Operational Context
While Tanzania is largely food secure and at times 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 the sector only contributes to 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 generally lack 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 and 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.

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In Numbers

USD 9.3 million six-month (December 2021-May 2022) net funding requirements for the Country Strategic Plan

234,810 refugees and asylum seekers in camps supported with food assistance

Operational Updates

Support to refugee population: WFP is currently revising its beneficiary planning figures for the refugee operation following a decline in voluntary repatriation over the past few months. The revision will result in increased resource needs in comparison to previous plans.

WFP maintains the general food distribution rations at 68 percent of the minimum required kilocalories due to funding shortfalls. Full rations continue to be provided to beneficiaries of the supplementary feeding programme. COVID-19 prevention and control measures have been maintained.

Nutrition: WFP took part in a national joint multisectoral nutrition review meeting held in Tanga. Stakeholders discussed achievements and challenges encountered during the implementation of nutrition activities and shared recommendations for improved results. As part of the meeting, the second National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan (NMNAP II, 2021-2026) was launched by the Prime Minister, Honourable Kassim Majaliwa. NMNAP-II is organized into four key result areas: undernutrition; micronutrient deficiency; overweight and obesity; and enabling environment.

It is expected that during NMNAP’s implementation, there will be: i) increased coverage of adequate equitable and quality nutrition services at community and facility level; ii) more women, men, children and adolescents practicing appropriate nutrition behaviours; iii) effective multisectoral, public-private partnerships and an enabling environment (adequate policies and frameworks) that is supportive of adequate human and financial resources for nutrition; and iv) sustainable resilient food systems that are responsive to nutrition needs. WFP’s work is aligned to this plan and will support its implementation.

Smallholder Farmers: Under the Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA), a total of 29,000 farmers (female 45 percent) were linked to one or more providers of key services including 26 input suppliers/agro-dealers, 43 off-takers and three financial institutions. Meetings were conducted between service providers and smallholder farmers to access different services, such as financing, markets for outputs, and collective purchase of inputs via digital input demand aggregation platforms of Bizy tech and Mkulima hub.

Through the Kigoma Joint Programme, WFP facilitated the formation and registration of five Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Society (AMCOS) and provided capacity strengthening on cooperative laws leadership and entrepreneurship. The newly formulated AMCOS will spearhead the collective marketing approach in the region.
Operational Updates (continued)

Efforts are underway to link them with financial institutions so they can access loans to spur aggregation for the coming harvesting season. Training on gross margin analysis has been conducted for 345 farmers (196 female) to help farmers better manage their farming business.

Social Protection: A five-day workshop on Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP) was conducted in Mtwara municipality with a focus on urban livelihood. The workshop brought together 35 participants from various disciplines including technical staff from Mtwara government private sector notably petty traders, traditional healers, stockists, representatives from non-governmental organisations, religious leaders, micro-credits financiers and social service providers.

Using the SLP approach, the workshop identified livelihood activities in Mtwara Mikindani and linked them to September–August seasonality. Major shocks and hazards such as drought, floods, price fluctuations linked to food-based inflation and seasonality were also discussed. Cashew nut was singled out as a major source of income and livelihood for the majority of the people in Mtwara Municipality. This export-oriented crop greatly influences people's lifestyles including family relations notably during harvesting and the marketing period. The SLP report will provide a foundation for resilience planning, bringing together both humanitarian and development partners for better understanding of local shocks, their impacts on livelihoods and possible interventions for building resilience.

M&E/VAM: WFP has carried out a baseline of essential needs of the urban poor under the Productive Social Safety Net Project II (PSSN2) programme of the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF). The baseline assessed the situation in households before the provision of cash transfers and will enable an evaluation of the changes post-transfer. The baseline was carried out in regions that TASAF identified as areas of high-density urban poor.

WFP also conducted a post distribution monitoring exercise in Mtwendi, Nduta and Nyarugusu refugee camps to collect process and outcome data for nutrition indicators. The exercise included collecting beneficiary perceptions on gender, protection and accountability.

Supply Chain: Since January, WFP procured 76,000 MT of food for its operations in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan and Tanzania. The amount procured is valued at approximately USD 25 million, representing a significant investment in the local economy. Of this, 20,000 MT valued at USD 6.3 was procured either directly or indirectly from smallholder farmers.

Commodities procured included white maize, white sorghum and beans. The total amount invested in the local economy through logistics services from January to November 2021 is USD 20 million of which 79 percent covers food transport cost.

Donors
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