

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME NAMIBIA2021 Annual Country Report Highlights





PEOPLE ASSISTED **64,631**



FOOD DISTRIBUTED

85 mt



CASH TRANSFERRED

USD 110,996



COMMODITY VOUCHERS
TRANSFERRED
USD 411.553

A MEAL A DAY IS A STRONG INCENTIVE FOR CHILDREN TO GO TO SCHOOL AND ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

Diaz Primary School, in the town of Lüderitz on Namibia's southwestern coast, is one of more than 1,500 schools in the country providing meals to learners from food insecure families. Nearly 500 girls and boys go to the school, and know they'll get a warm, nutritious meal – for many, their only meal of the day – consisting of maize meal, fish and fresh bread.

"A child who regularly receives a nutritious meal has better grades than those who don't", says Clara Boer, coordinator of Namibia's National School Feeding Programme. Indeed, that government-led enterprise, supported by WFP, yields dividends beyond the curbing of hunger. By helping to keep children alert, it fosters their interest in, and focus on lessons, enabling them to better retain what they're taught, thereby building and enriching Namibia's human capital. Crucially, the programme also helps shield its recipients from potentially debilitating infections.

While a national COVID-19 resultant lockdown forced the closure of schools - and the suspension of the school meals - for the first quarter of 2021, Diaz Primary converted its maize stocks into take-home rations for learners.

Thanks to that, Phillipus Mulamba, a 13-year-old seventh grade pupil, had one meal a day at home during lockdown. His mother, Vicky, who has four other children, simply couldn't afford any more, even when the entire family tested positive for COVID and was advised to eat healthy.

CONTRIBUTIONS

USD 4.22 million

Full Namibia Annual Report

KEY RISK AND MITIGATION EFFORTS



The COVID-19 crisis has exacerbated the impact of three years of economic contraction, high levels of unemployment, income inequality and public debt. The impact of climate change, coupled with COVID-19, deepened and increased the scale of deprivation, food insecurity and malnutrition among vulnerable rural and urban communities.



WFP adjusted its operations to consider COVID-19 regulations and guidelines, introducing cashbased transfers instead of in-kind food distributions. WFP prioritised women as recipients of the cash assistance.

CROSS-CUTTING RESULTS



WFP advocated for the involvement of women and young people programmes, and for them to make use of the community feedback platforms that inform the design of future activities. In collaboration with the Government, WFP identified farmer groups to participate in community-based food system initiatives, and provided training to more than 800 smallholders in 12 regions of the country, prioritising women and young people. Through partners, WFP organized women into support groups that encouraged and facilitated life-skills training, the pursuit of income generating opportunities, and entrepreneurship more broadly.

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME NAMIBIA

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Strategic outcome 1: Vulnerable populations in Namibia are enabled to meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year



11,600 school learners in 29 primary schools benefitted from the WFP-supported homegrown school feeding pilot programme



3,000 school learners in 19 schools supported with take-home rations as part of WFP-supported emergency school feeding in drought-affected areas Strategic outcome 2: Government Policy dialogue and programme design in Namibia is informed by evidence and enhanced knowledge of hunger issues throughout NDP5 period



WFP supported the Government to revise and launch the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy proposing strategies to achieve zero hunger by 2030



WFP conducted the Cost of Hunger study and the Fill the Nutrient Gap analysis highlighting economic losses linked to undernutrition



Over 800 smallholder farmers have benefitted from communitybased food systems projects

Strategic outcome 3: 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



25,000 severely food insecure people impacted by COVID-19 and recurrent drought were reached with cashbased transfers and commodity vouchers



38,000 children aged 6 to 59 months received treatment for moderate acute malnutrition using Ready to use Supplementary Food



1,000 households in communities that have migrated to urban areas due to drought in Kunene Region reached through an emergency soup kitchen

PARTNERS

Host Government partners

Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform

Donors

European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, Government of Japan, African Group of Ambassadors, Embassy of Brazil in Namibia

Multilateral partners

United Nations Children's Fund, African Development Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, the International Fund for Agricultural Development