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 agriculture 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, 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.

In Numbers

USD 16 million six-month (July – Dec 2022) net funding requirements for the Country Strategic Plan

202,540 refugees and asylum seekers in camps supported with food assistance

Operational Updates

Smallholder Farmers: WFP signed a contract with the Agriculture Non-State Actors Forum to conduct value chain analysis for sorghum, sunflower, and horticulture in nine regions. The results will help WFP identify key investment areas to increase involvement of youth, particularly young women in agriculture.

WFP conducted an evaluation of its five-year Climate Smart Agriculture project funded by Irish Aid and implemented by Farm Africa. A validation workshop was held in Dodoma. Key highlights include an increment of 30 percent in sorghum productivity from year one of the project, a 12 percent reduction in post-harvest losses compared to the baseline, and a 27 percent increase in income generated from sales from year one. In addition, the evaluation noted that women farmers were given equal opportunities as men to participate in decision-making dialogues on agricultural activities and use of generated income.

The South-South Cooperation Beyond Cotton project design was completed. The project will be managed by WFP and implemented by the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute and the Tanzania Cotton Board. Project launch and related field missions are planned to commence in mid-July.

Under the Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA), 449 farmer service centres (FSC) were identified. Of these, 243 aligned with the FSC criteria and were selected for onboarding onto the programme, 137 FSCs placed on probation and 69 were rejected. Furthermore, in preparation for the commodity aggregation season May-October 2022, 15 off takers have been identified and profiled, and cumulatively they will procure 66,200 mt of paddy rice, 3,100 mt of sunflower, 10,370 mt of white maize, and 5,000 mt of yellow beans from smallholder farmers in Morogoro, Manyara, Singida, Iringa, Njombe and Mbeya.

Nutrition: The Tanzania Milling Census report was completed and validated at the 35th National Fortification Alliance meeting. The members ratified the report and the interactive map which was launched by the WFP Country Director and Representative Ms. Sarah Gordon-Gibson and the Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade Honourable Exaud Kigahe at a ceremony in Dodoma. The report revealed that 33,721 food processing facilities were engaged in processing maize flour, wheat flour, sorghum and cassava flour. The survey also established that 55,801 individual food processing machines with hammer mills (58 percent) are the major type of processing machines followed by dehuller (28.7 percent), rice mills (9.3 percent) and others (3.7 percent) such as pin, roller, and disc.
The results from the census further showed that only about 2 percent of 29,733 maize flour millers surveyed fortified maize flour with vitamins and minerals. Produce packaging was practiced by 36 percent of millers. The predominant staple food milled by majority of the millers was maize flour (50 percent) followed by tubers such as cassava (20 percent), sorghum (14 percent), rice (12 percent), and wheat (4 percent). Practice of safety measures such as wearing protective clothing was observed among only 19 percent of millers. As WFP starts the new CSP these findings are key in determining areas that WFP would support to scale up fortification in Tanzania but also to ensure that food consumed in the country is of required quality and nutritional standards.

WFP initiated an introductory meeting on the Cost of Hunger Analysis (COHA) in Tanzania. The COHA Study is led by WFP, the African Union Commission and its Development Agency and supported by the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. The study aims at estimating the economic and social impact of child undernutrition in the country and would be instrumental in rejuvenating advocacy for nutrition. The meeting introduced the concept and laid out an implementation strategy of how the study will be undertaken.

The government held a briefing for all the chairs and co-chairs of the second National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan II (NMNAPII) four technical working groups. NMNAPII places emphasis on strengthening food systems for prevention and management of malnutrition. NMNAPII seeks to ensure that there is adequate engagement and coordination through a system approach where nutrition interventions will be delivered through key nutrition-sensitive systems (health, food, education, water, sanitation and hygiene and social protection). Private sector engagement is identified as an enabler if well-regulated and coordinated.

Strengthened coordination is also another approach that the government will employ in the implementation of the NMNAPI ensuring that national coordination under the Prime Minister’s Office and Sub-National Levels are optimized. WFP participated in these meetings as a co-chair for the nutrition sensitive technical working group.

Social Protection: WFP supported the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) in the roll-out of community level training conducted by Project Area Authority (PAA) facilitators using enhanced public works manuals that incorporate WFP’s community-based participatory planning approach. Through this exercise, TASAF used 350 revised Kiswahili public works handbook and public works programme technical manual printed through WFP support to capacitate 6,218 public works villages in identifying and implementation of sub-projects at 123 PAs.

Partnerships: USAID is the largest donor to WFP’s refugee operation, providing approximately one-third of its annual refugee budget. A recent contribution of USD 9 million - which is in addition to USD 4 million provided in February 2022 - will be used to purchase over 12,000 metric tonnes of locally produced fortified maize meal to be included in the food basket that support refugees living in Nyarugusu and Nduta camps.

Donors
Canada, European Union, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, One UN, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom, United States of America (in alphabetical order)