



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Namibia Country Brief June 2022



Operational Context

An upper-middle-income country, Namibia has a population of 2.5 million people. The country has experienced recurrent floods and drought, insect, and worm invasions, and recently the COVID-19 pandemic, all having 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 vulnerable to shocks and 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**

Contact: Luise Shikongo (luise.shikongo@wfp.org)
Country Director: Dr George Fedha
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Namibia

In Numbers

Net Funding Requirements:

USD 6.7 m (July – December 2022)

People Assisted in May 2022

Home Grown School Feeding Programme: 11,730 school children

Integrated Community-based Food Systems

Projects: 1,457 beneficiaries

Operational Updates

Nutrition Support

WFP in collaboration with the Omaheke Regional Council has set up five soup kitchens, targeting children under the age of five years. These soup kitchens are designed to reduce the number of children with severe and moderate acute malnutrition and improve their overall nutritional status, food security and forthcoming education outcomes. A total of 834 vulnerable children are currently benefiting from this initiative.

Integrated Community-Based Food Systems Projects

WFP in partnership with the Oshikoto Regional Council supported the first pilot of wheat production at Ondera Resettlement Farm on a 10 hectare piece of land projected to produce 60 tonnes of wheat. With the support of an irrigation system, agricultural extension support and quality seeds and fertilizer, over 400 San community members are projected to achieve optimal nutrition. A portion of the harvest is set to penetrate readily available markets of which the proceeds will incentivise the community's effort, improving their livelihoods and socio-economic outcomes.

Fundraising

For the successful implementation of phase 1 activities envisioned for Ondera Resettlement Farm, WFP steered a fundraising luncheon for monetary and in-kind pledges. The launch, as attended by over 150 guests including community members, regional governments, development partners, state-owned enterprises and private sector companies raised over NAD 2.3 million (USD 140,000).

Partnerships

On 20 June 2022, WFP and the Mobile Telecommunications Company in Namibia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which will establish a framework for collaboration on state-of-the-art and tech-enabled solutions for smallholder farmers such as early warning systems, monitoring and evaluation applications, e-capacity strengthening and market access. WFP further signed an MOU with the Oshana and Omusati Regional Council for the implementation of sustainable food systems aimed to

Photo: Wheat growing at Ondera Resettlement Farm. 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)
46 m	18.3 m	6.7 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

formalise its engagement with rural communities at the regional level for increased food production. WFP continued to engage other private sector institutions for funding and joint programming.

Country Strategic Plan Evaluation

The implementation of WFP Namibia's 2017 – 2023 Country Strategic Plan, including five budget revisions, is currently being evaluated by an assessment team from its headquarters in Rome. The mission consulted various government stakeholders, UN agencies and donors, e.g., the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, FAO, UNICEF and the European Union. The consultation aimed to garner insights on internal and external processes, experiences, successes, challenges and learning outcomes between WFP and its stakeholders to inform the design of its new Country Strategic Plan.



Uncultivated land before planting wheat at Ondera Resettlement Farm. WFP/Luise Shikongo



3 weeks old wheat sprouts at Ondera Resettlement Farm. WFP/Luise Shikongo

Donors

2021-2022 Donors: Brazil, European Union, Japan, African Group of Ambassadors, Government of the Republic of Namibia