



WFP Eswatini Country Brief July 2022

World Food Programme

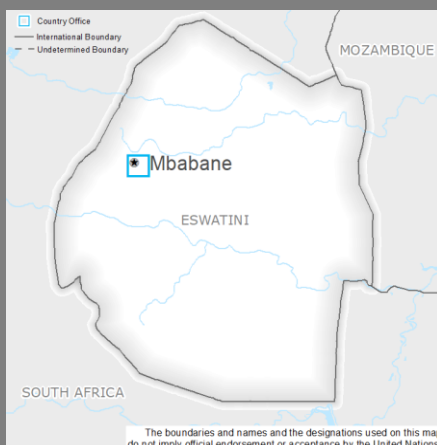
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

Despite its status as a lower middle-income country, 69 percent of the rural population in Eswatini live below the national poverty line and 25 percent are extremely poor. Eswatini has a very high HIV prevalence, affecting 26 percent of the population between the ages of 15 and 49. Life expectancy is 49 years, and 45 percent of children are orphaned or vulnerable. Chronic malnutrition is a main concern in Eswatini; stunting affects 26 percent of children under the age of five. Eswatini is vulnerable to drought in the south-east. Smallholder agriculture remains the backbone of rural livelihoods in the country, with over 70 percent of the country's total population (60 percent of whom are women) relying on subsistence farming.

WFP has been present in Eswatini since the late 1960s, providing emergency relief and implementing development projects to strengthen the education and health sectors. Today, WFP supports the Government of Eswatini in improving food and nutrition security and creating safety nets for the most vulnerable people impacted by poverty, and HIV and AIDS.



Population: **1.1 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **138 out of 189 countries**

Income Level: **Lower Middle**

2021 Global Hunger Index: **69 out of 116 countries**

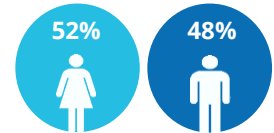
In Numbers

195.3 mt food assistance distributed in July 2022

US\$ 30,653 cash-based transfers made in July 2022, for cash for work.

US\$ 1 million six-month (August 2022 - January 2023) net funding requirements

83,470 people received food assistance in July 2022



Operational Updates

- WFP provides social safety nets for 59,000 orphans and vulnerable children under 5 years at the 1,700 Neighbourhood Care Points (NCPs) in Eswatini through access to food. NCP partners continued with monthly monitoring, captured distributors reports in COMET and shared their monthly narrative reports.
- Under NCP food production, the harvesting season continues. Some NCPs have also received fruit trees, vegetable seedlings and fertilizers. Smallholder farmers continue to receive trainings and practice of conservation agriculture (CA) concepts at NCPs and household level, to ensure the provision of diverse and nutritious meals to the children.
- WFP works with the Government, through the Ministry of Education and Training in implementing a sustainable, nutrition-sensitive, and national school feeding programme. The Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) project started in September 2019, targeting 50 schools and 24,392 students. WFP works with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to empower local smallholder farmers to provide schoolchildren with food that is safe, diverse, nutritious, and local. The basket now comprises rice, maize, beans, vegetables and eggs. WFP is currently undertaking an evaluation of the pilot
- Staff members, alongside cooperating partners conducted a field visit to beneficiaries of poultry and cash crop production livelihood project for People Living with HIV (PLHIV), Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) and Key Populations, supported by UNAIDS.
- WFP together with the Government under the Ministry of Agriculture is supporting a project titled "Eswatini Integrated Agricultural Information Management System" (IAMIS). The IAMIS is designed to improve the performance management information systems for

Country Strategic Plan (2020–2025)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
49.94m	25m	1M

Strategic Result 01: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 01: Vulnerable populations in shock-affected areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during times of crisis

Focus Area: *Crisis Response*

Activity 1: Provide food and/or cash-based transfers to food insecure populations including children, affected by shocks.

Strategic Result 03: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes

Strategic Outcome 02: Smallholder farmers, particularly women, have enhanced capacities to supply structured markets with nutritious foods

Focus Area: *Resilience Building*

Activity 2: Strengthen the capacities of smallholder farmers, particularly women, to supply nutritious foods to structured markets, including schools.

Strategic Result 05: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 03: Vulnerable populations, particularly women, children, adolescent girls and people living with HIV, have access to integrated and shock-responsive social protection systems by 2030

Focus Area: *Resilience Building*

Activity 3: Provide evidence and strengthen national systems and capacities for designing and implementing nutrition-sensitive and shock-responsive social protection programmes, including school feeding.

monitoring, evaluation and performance of food systems and livelihood programmes, through the design and development of an integrated online (web-enabled) system. The pilot support has been extended to December 2022.

- Staff and implementing partners were trained on mainstreaming gender across all their activities. Implementing partners were also trained on the WFP gender policy, protection and accountability to affected populations, protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, and monitoring approaches.

Crisis Response

- In preparation of the lean season, WFP engaged enumerators to conduct a beneficiary verification and data cleaning exercise, to ensure that the correct people are reached, and no one is left behind. Twenty constituencies have been targeted for this exercise.
- WFP supported the Government to produce the Eswatini Vulnerability Assessment Committee (EVAC) for July 2022 – March 2023. The office also continues to monitor the commodity price increase due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Donors



and Multilateral.