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 the COVID-19 pandemic, which all have 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.

**In Numbers**

**Net Funding Requirements:**
USD 5.3 m (September 2022 – February 2023)

**People Assisted in August 2022:**

- Home-Grown School Feeding Programme: 11,730 school children
- Integrated Community-based Food Systems Projects: 1,457 beneficiaries

**Operational Updates**

**Smallholder Agriculture Market Support**

WFP and the Ohangwena Regional Council have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish sustainable food systems for food security. This partnership resulted in an Agri-Food Conference-EXPO (ConfEX) from 10 to 13 August 2022, attended by major stakeholders such as government, food and agricultural sectors, consumers, and service providers to showcase products and innovations while developing partnerships. The event, the first of its kind, exhibited local products and produce and offered information sessions on value-addition, marketing, and finance management amongst others.

The ConfEX was a crucial opportunity for WFP to advocate on agriculture and sustainable food systems as an important pillar to achieve zero hunger, boost regional economic development and improve livelihoods.

**Changing Lives Through Digital Transformation**

**Ondera Resettlement Farm Digital Hub**

On 25 August, WFP handed over 60 Information Technology (IT) items including computers, printers, and ergonomic office furniture to the Ondera Resettlement Farm in Oshikoto region.

The training curriculum will initially entail basic IT literacy such as how to use the computer with its peripherals, the internet, Microsoft Office, and how to send and receive emails. Advancing groups will receive further training on specific skills and technologies in demand.

Overall, the digital hub aims to transform the rural township of Oshikoto Region – whose inhabitants are predominantly of San descent – through the effective use of computers as a steppingstone.

In partnership with public and private sectors, the hub will transfer financial literacy skills, foster business, and entrepreneurial skills, and enhance leadership capabilities.
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2017–2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>46 m</td>
<td>20.5 m</td>
<td>5.3 m</td>
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**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

**Drone Hub**

WFP handed over two drones to the Office of the Prime Minister, Directorate of Disaster Risk Management Offices in Namibia. The aerial vehicles – worth USD 36,600 – are funded by the European Union (EU) to develop capacities in governments and non-governmental organizations to use drones effectively and responsibly for emergency preparedness and response.

**Donor Support – Japan Government**

WFP has mobilized USD 500,000 from the Government of Japan for food assistance through vouchers. The programme will impact a total of 21,600 beneficiaries (51% women and 49% men), including 3,680 malnourished children under the age of five in the regions of Omaheke, Kunene and Oshikoto. According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), the target population are found to be in IPC3, depicting a food crisis status highly vulnerable to shocks, thus requiring urgent assistance.

**Country Strategic Plan (CSP)**

WFP has launched its CSP covering the period 2024 to 2028. Through this roadmap, WFP will align its strategic direction for food security and zero hunger while providing support to the Government to achieve its sustainable development goals.

Concurrently, the United Nations (UN) system has moved towards a new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, currently defined in the UN Partnership Framework (UNPAF) 2019-2023, directing all joint efforts of UN agencies to support the Government of Namibia to reach the Sustainable Development Goals. This is a unique opportunity to foster WFP’s role at the country level and carve out the necessary space for food system programmes, while ensuring operational capacity to adequately prepare and respond to any emergency occurring in the country.

**Donors**