Operational Context

Following 20 years of sustained growth, Tanzania – home to 60 million people – reached an important milestone in 2020, when it formally graduated from low-income to lower-middle-income country status. This achievement reflects sustained macroeconomic and political stability combined with the country’s rich natural resources and strategic geographic position. Tanzania has also registered significant gains in poverty reduction with the national poverty rate falling from 34.4 percent in 2007 to 26.4 percent in 2018. Agriculture is a critical element of the national economy and provides a livelihood for most of the population. Despite sustained progress, a significant share of the population remains food insecure and malnourished. Climate change and environmental degradation threaten the achievement of long-term development objectives and gender inequalities continue to prevent the country from realizing its full economic potential.

WFP has been present in Tanzania since 1963.

Operational Updates

Disaster Risk Management: The World Food Programme (WFP) convened the United Nations (UN) Emergency Coordination Group meeting whereby the Tanzanian Meteorological Authority (TMA) and the Prime Minister’s Office - Disaster Management Department (PMO-DMD) were invited to discuss El Niño forecast and its potential effects on various sectors. TMA presented the likelihood (95 percent) of El Niño influencing seasonal rainfall from October to December 2023. PMO-DMD shared the draft El Niño Contingency Plan (September 2023–June 2024) developed at a workshop supported by WFP which had brought together a team of technical experts from the Government, UN and non-governmental organisations.

Support to smallholders: Under the Climate Smart Agriculture Project, WFP, in collaboration with Farm Africa, provided training on income generating activities to 56 groups (2,476 farmers 75 percent women) in Dodoma region. The groups engage in off-season activities, including horticultural farming, beekeeping, tree nursery planting and poultry farming which enable them to not only secure additional income but also meet their nutritional needs.

WFP, in partnership with World Vision Tanzania under the Kilimo Tija Kigoma Project, conducted a training of trainers on post-harvest handling and storage (PHHS) for 574 lead farmers and 38 extension officers. Following this, lead farmers and extension officers trained smallholder farmers at the village level which aimed at equipping farmers with skills and knowledge to prevent crop loss during and after the harvest. Private sector companies providing PHHS tools, such as PICS, AgroZ, participated in the training to demonstrate the use of the tools, and at the same time, facilitated the ordering of the tools for interested farmers.

Under the climate resilience project in Kigoma, which is jointly implemented by WFP and UNHCR, WFP supported asset creation activities including composting-making, contour ridge, gully treatment and Charco dam construction. These assets will improve community resilience and adaptation to climate change. At least 1,505 households participated in the asset creation activities (50 percent of the participants were women).

In Numbers

USD 21.7 million six-month (September 2023 – February 2024) net funding requirements

21,200 metric tons of food commodities procured since January 2023

207,300 refugees and asylum seekers in camps supported with food assistance

Photo: Smallholder farmers, supported by WFP, reap yields from horticultural farming in Dodoma. WFP/Desta Laiser

Contact info: Fizza Moloo (fizza.moloo@wfp.org)
Country Director: Sarah Gordon-Gibson
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Tanzania
Operational Updates (continued)

WFP, in partnership with Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute, established garden beds in three schools under the Beyond Cotton Project. The garden beds are dedicated to horticultural crops, which will serve as source of micronutrients for school children in targeted districts in Mwanza region. In addition, 170 farmers in the project were trained on the use of labour-saving techniques including the use of the hand-push seeder, which will enhance efficiency in seed planting in the farms.

Nutrition: WFP provided technical support to the Ministry of Health for the review of the Food Fortification Regulations of 2011. This is part of WFP’s efforts to support the Government to increase the availability of and access to nutritious commodities in communities. Fortification regulations currently cover large scale millers, and with the ongoing review, this mandate will be expanded to small and medium scale millers to increase the coverage of fortification and reduce the burden of micronutrient deficiency in the country.

 Refugee Operation: WFP distributed rations at 60 percent of the daily kilocalorie requirement to refugees and asylum seekers hosted in Nduta and Nyarugusu camps in north-west Tanzania. The influx of new arrivals from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) continued, albeit at lower levels, compared to previous months. As of 28 August, new arrivals from DRC at Nyarugusu camp stood at 12,848 individuals with 412 having arrived in month of August. WFP reached 1,766 households with kitchen garden support in the camps. WFP’s cooperating partner, World Vision Tanzania donated 45 kg of vegetables harvested from demonstration plots in Nyarugusu camp to Tanzania Red Cross Society to support Inpatient meals at the camp hospital.

M&E/VAM: WFP has conducted the Community and Household Surveillance (CHS) which covered 760 households in Nyarugusu and Nduta camps. Preliminary findings indicate a deteriorating food security situation in the camps with reduced food consumption, increased use of coping strategies and rising number of households that are food insecure. The Standard Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS), led by UNHCR, has commenced and is expected to be completed by the end of September. Findings from SENS and CHS will serve as core inputs into October 2023 Joint Assessment Mission.

Supply Chain (Logistics & Procurement): WFP is procuring 11,000 mt of maize and 1,700 mt of white sorghum from Tanzania for operations in the East and Southern African region, thus creating market opportunities for Tanzania. White sorghum is being sourced directly from smallholder farmers, as part of WFP’s efforts to provide market opportunities to smallholders.

Donors

Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, the European Union, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Mastercard Foundation, Norway, One UN, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, and the United States of America (in alphabetical order).