

Regional Bureau for **Eastern Africa**

AGILE Regional Procurement



World Food
Programme

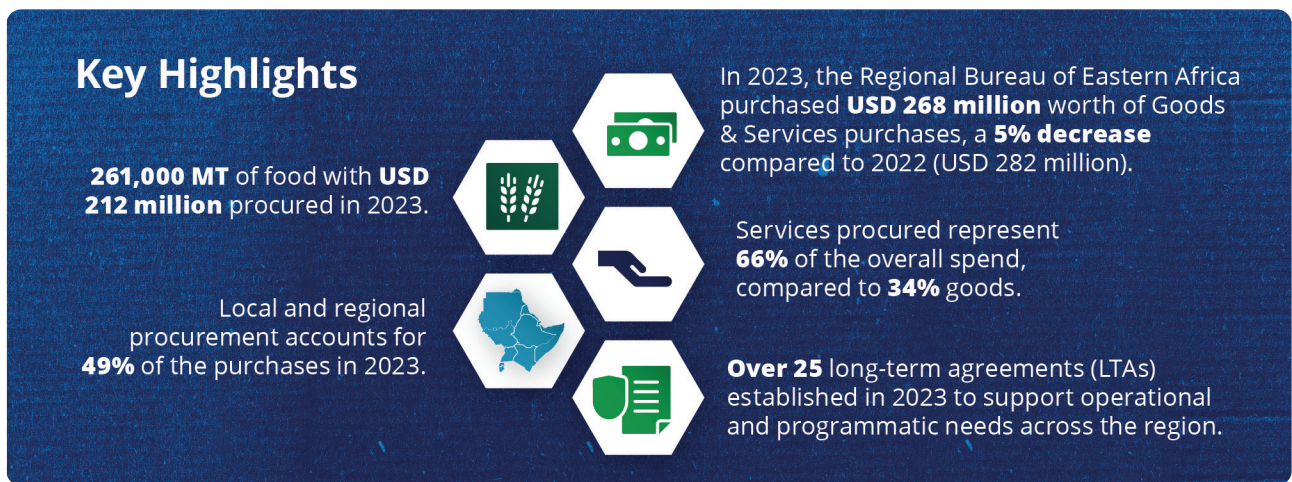
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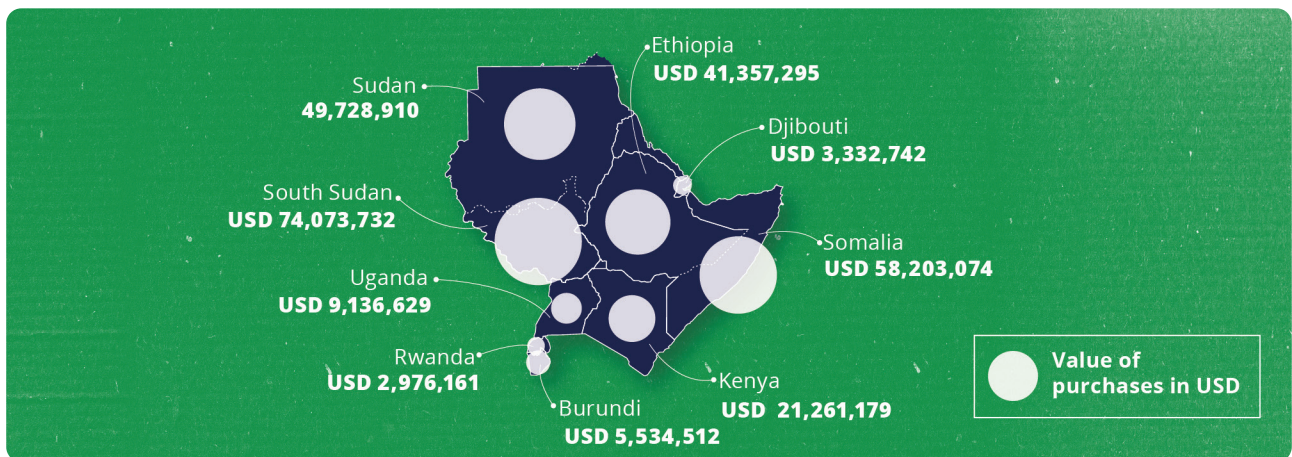
Overview

WFP navigated through a dynamic landscape, overcoming numerous challenges such as supply chain disruptions, funding gaps to logistical hurdles to ensure the effective procurement of essential goods and services for humanitarian operations regionally. Despite these obstacles, WFP remained steadfast in its commitment to delivering timely and efficient procurement services, contributing to the organization’s mission of addressing hunger and food insecurity.

The Regional Bureau of Eastern Africa injected over USD 900 million into the local economies where WFP operates through food procurement, goods and services procurement, and CBT activities. Due to increased commodities prices, WFP spent more on fewer goods in 2023. WFP procured 261,000 MT of food in 2023, compared to 2022, this represented a 19 percent drop in tonnage procured owing to compounded and concurrent crises limiting the purchase of food.



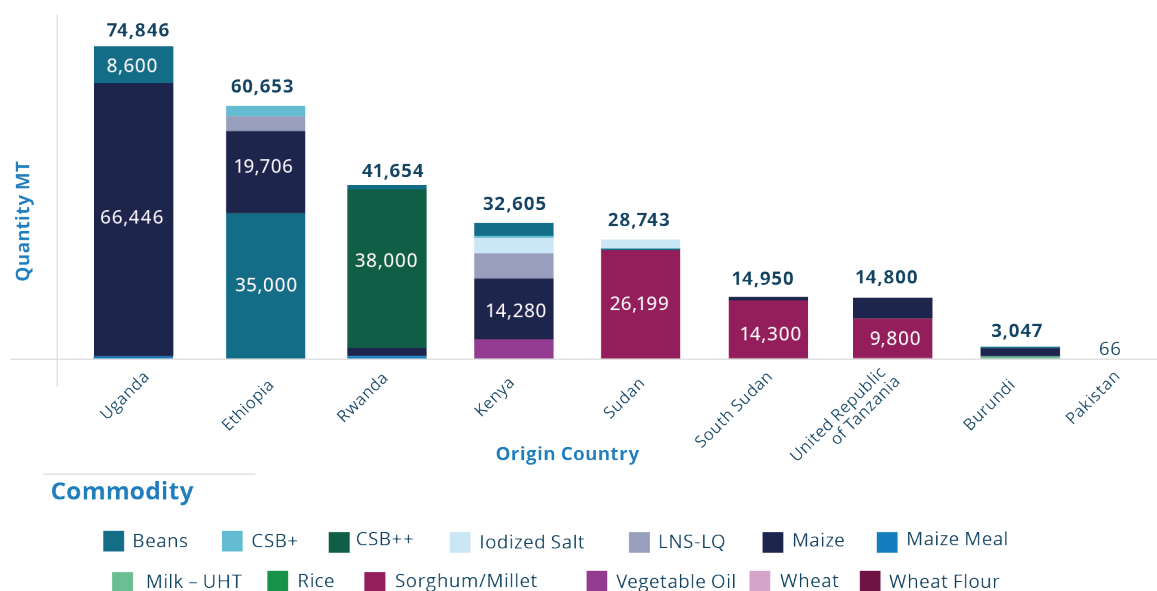
USD Value of Goods and Services Purchases by Country



Breakdown of Purchases by Commodity, Comparing 2023 to 2022

Commodity		Qty MTN.	Average of USD/MT
Beans	2023	12,729	1,151
	2022	22,923	891
Corn soya blend	2023	41,000	1,479
	2022	53,774	1,465
Iodised salt	2023	6,160	156
	2022	3,946	147
LNS	2023	9,514	3,151
	2022	11,088	2,822
Maize	2023	109,169	528
	2022	129,705	459
Maize meal	2023	1,186	878
	2022	1,738	781
Rice	2023	752	1,141
	2022	1,859	1,294
Sorghum/Millet	2023	40,499	545
	2022	100,630	424
UHT Milk	2023	400	1,070
	2022	2,026	1,070
Vegetable oil	2023	5,000	1,560
	2022	13,506	2,016
Wheat	2023	35,000	500
	2022	-	-
Wheat flour	2023	150	550
	2022	-	-
Grand Total	2023	261,563	815
	2022	341,195	

Purchased Food by Origin Country MT (Jan - Dec 2023)



Local Regional Food Procurement

The WFP Local Regional Food Procurement Policy (LRFPP) aims to optimise local commodity purchases by working and empowering smallholder farmers and strengthening local food systems. WFP sought to increase the volume and value of regional purchases through commodity import substitution and increase regional sourcing capacity for specialised nutritious foods. Local and regional procurement accounts for 49 percent of the purchases in 2023.

In the Eastern Africa region, **22 percent** of the total food was sourced from smallholder farmers within the region in 2023, injecting **USD 31 million** into the local economies. Efforts of substituting imports for similar locally available foods or with different commodities were realised. For instance in Ethiopia, where 35,000 metric tons of wheat were locally sourced injecting **USD 17.5 million** into the local economy.

A regional evaluation of local and regional food procurement pilots in Uganda, Ethiopia and Sudan found that integration of procurement and programming interventions was key for the local procurement to address bottlenecks in value chains and have a wider effect on local food systems, livelihoods and resilience of smallholder farmers. As an example, the evaluation found demonstrable evidence that through integrated efforts, particularly related to direct procurements, smallholder farmers' capacity, yields, and crop quality was improved, and they received between **5-15 percent above market value** for their grains, increasing their incomes.

The evaluation highlighted that when using indirect procurement modalities through traders, it is necessary to incentivize pro-smallholder farmer purchases. Success in doing so is constrained by challenges in traceability, lack of definitional clarity on characteristics of smallholder farmers, and contextualization of conditionality thresholds (as the level of existing purchases from smallholder farmers varies significantly among different countries).

The evaluation also identified a challenge in the limited application of value chain analysis findings to design targeted interventions and the use of monitoring data and evidence to measure the impact of local procurement efforts. As the implementation of the policy moves into its next phase, the findings in this evaluation point to important and practical areas for adjustment to maximise the positive effect of LRFPP on the ground.

Gender Responsive Procurement in South Sudan

South Sudan Country office contracted a woman-owned business to supply 3,000mt of white sorghum through local food procurement. The woman-owned business won the contract through competition and demonstrated remarkable resilience by persistently participating in WFP tenders. This is a first for the country office which has a limited supplier base often dominated by large, men-owned, trading companies.



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