



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Kenya Country Brief June 2024



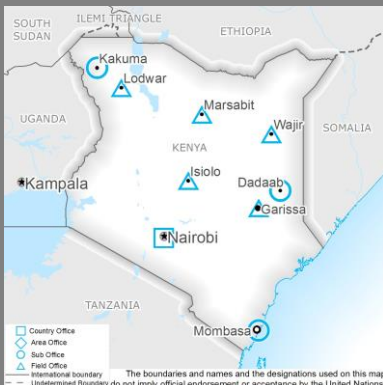
## Operational Context

Kenya, a lower-middle-income economy, is transforming rapidly. Social and economic inequalities persist, and more than one third of Kenyans grapple with multidimensional poverty. The agricultural sector remains central to Kenya's economy and provides livelihoods for more than 80 percent of the population, especially in rural areas. However, 80 percent of Kenya's landmass is either arid or semi-arid. Rapid population growth, climate shocks, underperforming food systems, gender inequalities and insecurity are the most significant challenges to food and nutrition security.

The most severe living conditions exist in the eight arid and semi-arid (ASAL) counties: Turkana, Marsabit, Samburu, Isiolo, Wajir, Mandera, Garissa and Tana River, which are underdeveloped, drought-prone and affected by frequent tribal and resource-based conflicts. The number of people in need of food assistance is 1.9 million, an improvement from the 2.8 million people in 2023. Approximately 847,932 children aged 6 to 59 months and 124,359 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWGs) face acute malnutrition.

Investing in mitigation and adaptation measures including anticipatory-actions, community-based disaster risk reduction and resilience-building activities can greatly reduce the need for humanitarian assistance when crises strike.

WFP has field offices across the ASALs and in urban settings, providing both immediate support for vulnerable people and implementing longer-term initiatives to build resilience, improve diets, and bolster the capacity of national and county governments to withstand shocks.



Population: **50 million**

2022 Human Development Index: **150 out of 191**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

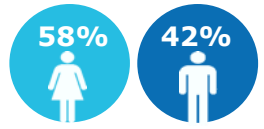
Chronic malnutrition: **18 percent of children between 6 and 59**

## June in Numbers

**1.1 million people** assisted

58%

42%



**4,442 MT** of food commodities distributed

**USD 638,032** cash transfers made

**USD 144.3 million** net funding requirements across all activities for the next six months (August 2024-January 2025)

## Food Security Situation

- Climate change is a real threat to global food systems, jeopardizing livelihoods, and food and nutrition security, particularly for vulnerable populations. In Kenya, as in much of Sub-Saharan Africa, food systems are acutely exposed to and impacted by climate change and variability. Rising temperatures, and erratic rainfall patterns – from prolonged droughts to devastating floods – combine with socioeconomic and political factors heightening community vulnerability. This situation is dire in the Arid and Semi-arid lands (ASALs) where drought and floods have intensified in recent years. Due to climate-induced shocks and other drivers, 1.9 million Kenyans were acutely food insecure by quarter one. A Long Rains Assessment is ongoing to determine the current food insecurity levels.

## Operational Updates

### Climate-resilient impact hubs


- WFP has traditionally provided life-saving relief food to assist vulnerable populations in the ASALs and refugees. However, with the rising frequency and severity of climate shocks, this approach is no longer sustainable. To build long-term resilience, WFP is actively implementing its "changing lives" agenda through diversified and innovative approaches to solutions in close collaboration with the national and county governments and partners.
- The **climate-resilient impact hub model** tackles food security challenges at the local level. This area-based approach is focusing on a defined geographic zone within a county. In the 41 hubs already identified across counties, WFP will work to layer, integrate, and sequence various interventions including ecosystem restoration, water management solutions, and the creation of alternative livelihood options. The model promotes climate-smart agricultural and pastoral practices, fosters market opportunities, and strengthens climate-adapted social protection programmes. Knowledge exchange, a focus on gender and youth empowerment, and collaboration with private sector partners are all integrated within the hub model.
- The hub approach optimizes investments and maximizes impact, empowering communities to achieve greater resilience, progressively reducing reliance on humanitarian assistance. At least 330,000 host community beneficiaries (56,600 households) and 650,000 refugees (130,000 households) will be supported in the integrated programme.

Caption: Photo credit: © WFP/ William Orleale

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WFP Country Strategy		Gender and Age Marker 
Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)		
2024 Total Requirement (in USD)	2024 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
347.5 m	137.8 m	143 m

**Corporate strategic outcome 1:** People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs.

**CSP Strategic Outcome 1:** Refugees, asylum seekers and food-insecure populations in emergency contexts in Kenya have equitable access to adequate, safe, and nutritious food and inclusive, gender-responsive and nutrition-sensitive pathways to self-reliance by 2027.

**Focus area:** Crisis response, is aligned with SDG target 2.1 (access to food), is derived from UNSDCF strategic priority 1 (SP 1) (people and peace) and contributes to UNSDCF outcome 1.2

**Activity 1:** Provide food assistance and nutrient-rich commodities to refugees in camps and settlements and surrounding host communities.

**Activity 2:** Provide capacity strengthening and technical support to refugees in the settlements and surrounding host communities to enhance self-reliance.

**Activity 3:** Provide food assistance, nutrient-rich commodities and social and behaviour change communication to vulnerable Kenyan populations in emergency contexts.

**Corporate Strategic Outcome 3:** People have improved and sustainable livelihoods.

**CSP Strategic Outcome 2:** Food-insecure and risk-prone populations, especially women and youth, in targeted rural and urban communities are more resilient with regard to climate change and other shocks and benefit from more inclusive food systems, improved livelihoods and better access to safe, healthy and sustainable diets by 2030.

**Focus area:** Resilience, is derived from UNSDCF SP 2 (prosperity and planet) and contributes to UNSDCF outcomes 2.1 and 2.2. It aligns with Government's MTP IV, and SDG targets 2.4, 2.1, 2.3, 8.6, 12.3, 13.1, 17.16 and 17.17.

**Activity 4:** Provide integrated climate-adaptive support to enable communities at risk, including smallholder producers and other value chain actors, to produce, aggregate, add value, access markets, reduce food losses and consume safe and healthy food.

**Corporate Strategic Outcome 4:** National programmes and systems are strengthened.

**CSP Strategic Outcome 3:** By 2027, national and county institutions have in place stronger, more inclusive innovative policies, systems and capacities, especially through Kenya's own social protection and disaster risk management systems and relief programmes, to expand coverage and better assist populations vulnerable to food and nutrition insecurity.

**Focus area:** Root causes, is aligned with SDG target 17.9 (capacity strengthening), is derived from UNSDCF strategic priority 1 (people and peace) and contributes to UNSDCF outcome 1.2. It is also aligned with the Government's MTP IV and contributes to progress towards SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10.

**Activity 5:** Provide technical advice, assistance and capacity strengthening (including South-South and triangular cooperation) support to national and county institutions and partners for Kenya's inclusive, gender-transformative, nutrition-sensitive and shock-responsive social safety nets and social protection systems and programmes and to strengthen Kenya's adaptive capacity to prepare for and respond to shocks.

**Activity 6:** Provide technical assistance to enable innovative, scalable and transformative approaches among government and other food security, nutrition and social protection actors and private sector actors at the national and subnational levels.

**Corporate Strategic Outcome 5:** Humanitarian and development actors are more efficient and effective

**CSP Strategic Outcome 4:** By 2027, government at the national and county levels, United Nations agencies and humanitarian and development actors have access to, and benefit from effective and efficient supply chain services.

**Focus area:** Crisis response and is aligned with SDG target 17.16 (enhance global partnership), is derived from the UNSDCF strategic enabler (partnership) and contributes to UNSDCF outcome 3.1.

**Activity 7:** Provide UNHAS services to all humanitarian and development actors.

**Activity 8:** Provide humanitarian air services in support of projects funded by DG-ECHO.

**Activity 9:** Provide on-demand services to the humanitarian and development community.

## Government Donors

Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, European Commission, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United Nations CERF, and United States of America.

## Differentiated Assistance

- WFP is in the process of rolling out the differentiated assistance approach to refugee assistance in collaboration with UNHCR and the Department of Refugee Services. This means transitioning from assisting all registered refugee households the same way to one that assists based on needs/vulnerabilities. This shift will ensure beneficiaries receive support tailored to their specific vulnerabilities and needs, ensuring equity, effectiveness, maximizing impact with limited resources, and empowerment.

## Adaptive social protection

- Moving beyond emergency food assistance, WFP is actively promoting social protection programmes as a strategic approach to combat chronic hunger. These programmes empower vulnerable populations by addressing the root causes of food insecurity, building long-term resilience, and fostering self-sufficiency.
- To this end, WFP has played a key role in enabling national and county governments to strengthen their social protection systems. We have provided both financial and technical support over the years, with notable successes in:
  - Policy and Legislation:** WFP supported the development of social protection policies and legislation at national and county levels. This ensures interventions are financed and embedded within government institutions for long-term sustainability.
  - Management Information Systems (MIS):** Information drives quality and impactful decisions. To facilitate efficient programme delivery, WFP provided technical assistance to develop and enhance key MIS like the Enhanced Single Registry (ESR), the Consolidated Cash Transfer Programme MIS, and the Community Development Management Information System. The **ESR** is now the centralized government database, holding data for vulnerable households in 36 counties (77 percent of the counties in Kenya), acting as a one-stop shop for social protection interventions by government and humanitarian actors. It provides crucial information for determining eligibility for short-term or long-term social protection services.
  - As the Government expands its social protection programme to reach 2.5 million households by 2026 (approximately 15 million people), WFP is collaborating with the Government to enhance the interoperability of information management systems and train government social protection staff to effectively register people in the ESR ensuring targeted social protection interventions.

## Life-saving food assistance and nutrition support

- In June, WFP provided in-kind and cash transfer food assistance and nutrition support to over 1.1 million people, including 648,876 refugees. Notably, 157,849 women and children received nutrition support to address moderate acute malnutrition in ASALs. Thanks to donors' generous contributions, in July, WFP resumed cash transfers (Bamba Chakula) in the camps and increase food rations and cash transfers in Kalobeyei to 60 percent of the minimum food basket (MFB). Due to funding constrains, WFP reduced rations to 40 percent and suspend Bamba Chakula in May.