



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Kenya Country Brief July 2024



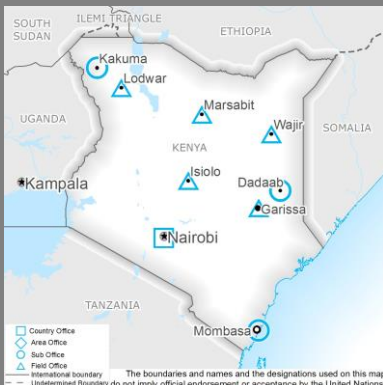
Operational Context

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 1million, an improvement from the 2 million people in February. Approximately 760,488 children aged 6 to 59 months and 112,401 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

In Numbers

1 million people assisted



2,973 MT of food commodities distributed

USD 4.6 million cash transfers made

USD 145.7 million net funding requirements across all activities for the next six months (October 2024-March 2025)

Food Security Situation


- Results of the Long Rains Food Security and Nutrition Assessment released in August 2024 indicate that Kenya's food security situation has further improved due to three consecutive above-average rainfall seasons. The number of people facing acute food insecurity has declined from 2 million in February 2024 to an estimated one million people. However, this figure is projected to rise to 1.7 million by January 2025 due to the anticipated La Niña weather pattern. Factors contributing to this positive trend include increased household food stocks, favourable stable food prices due to regional imports, improved livestock health, and replenished water sources.

Operational Updates

Refugee Operations

- WFP Kenya's Differentiated Assistance Approach:** WFP in collaboration with UNHCR and the Department of Refugee Services (DRS), plans to implement a Differentiated Assistance framework that tailors support to the specific needs of refugees. This innovative approach departs from the traditional one-size-fits-all model by categorizing refugees based on their vulnerability and capacity to meet basic needs. The framework provides the most vulnerable refugees with comprehensive humanitarian assistance, while those with potential for self-reliance receive targeted support through livelihood programmes, skills training, and access to economic resources. This strategy not only optimizes the use of resources but also promotes long-term sustainability and self-reliance among refugee populations.
- WFP finalizing the rollout of this framework across all refugee camps in the country. Upcoming activities include community consultations to validate refugee profiles and eligibility criteria, the development of tailored assistance packages, and the implementation of a graduation and transition framework to help refugees move towards self-reliance. WFP will also continue working closely with donors and partners to ensure that this differentiated assistance model is fully supported and effectively implemented, enhancing its impact on the ground.
- Food Assistance to Refugees:** WFP provided food assistance to 652,739 refugees and asylum seekers in the Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps, and the Kalobeyei settlement (324,411 women). The assistance comprised in-

Caption: Photo credit: © WFP/ Dennis Matendechere
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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	221.7 m	145.7 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.

kind food and cash transfers. In addition, WFP provided hot meals to 102,206 boys and girls attending primary and pre-primary schools to promote enrolment and attendance. Of these, 19,324 were supported through a government-led homegrown school meals programme in Kalobeyei. Furthermore, WFP provided specialized nutritious food for moderate acute malnutrition supplementation to 709 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls and 7,636 children aged 6 to 59 months. Due to resource constraints, malnutrition prevention programme will only be implemented during lean seasons (May-September) and when the Global Acute Malnutrition level exceeds 10 percent, if funding is available.

Climate-Friendly School Feeding and Social Protection:

- WFP is supporting the Government in scaling up its school feeding programme to reach 10 million children and adopt a climate-friendly approach to procuring food locally. This approach aims to promote the consumption of diversified nutrient-dense food among school children, and the use of drought-tolerant crops and vegetables as well as promote clean cooking initiatives for school feeding.
- In July, WFP piloted the use of orange-fleshed sweet potato (OFSP) for school feeding in Tana River and Migori Counties, in line with the Government's vision for scaling up school feeding in a climate-friendly way. The OFSP has high nutritional value, can withstand prolonged dry periods, and is highly resistant to pests and diseases. Additionally, it can be harvested severally over the year, ensuring consistent supply to schools despite climate change shocks. This initiative is being undertaken through the South-South Triangular Cooperation (SSTC), in collaboration with the Government of Kenya, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China, Egerton University, Technical University of Kenya and the International Potato Centre (CIP).
- A joint UN Programme on Child and Social Protection was initiated following the signing of the joint programme in June 2024. The Joint Programme brings on board FAO, ILO, UNICEF with WFP taking the lead role in supporting the Government to invest in inclusive, shock-responsive and coordinated child protection and social protection systems. This aims to address different dimensions of poverty and deprivation, aiming to reduce vulnerability across the life cycle, build sustainable and resilient families and communities and ensure cumulative benefits across generations. Following the commitment by H.E the President of the Republic of Kenya, the Joint Programme will support the Government with processes required to actualize the scale-up, to increase the social assistance coverage from 1.2 to 2.5 million households, thereby reaching more people at risk of being left behind.