



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Kenya Country Brief August 2024



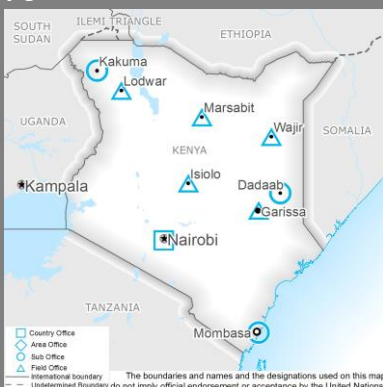
## Operational Context

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 million, 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**

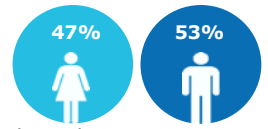
## In Numbers

**1 million people** assisted

**3,899 MT** of food commodities distributed

**USD 4.7** 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

- The Long Rains Food Security and Nutrition Assessment, released in August 2024, revealed an improvement in Kenya's food security situation. The number of people facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) has decreased from 2 million in February to 1 million in July, primarily due to three consecutive above-average rainfall seasons. However, the food security situation is projected to deteriorate affecting 1.8 million people between October 2024 and January 2025 due to the anticipated La Niña weather pattern. Nutrition situation has improved with 971,499 women and children suffering from malnutrition compared to the previous 872,889, however, malnutrition remains a concern in arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) like Turkana, Isiolo, Marsabit, Wajir, Garissa, and Tana River. Factors such as poor childcare practices, limited healthcare access, and the cumulative impact of past droughts continue to contribute to malnutrition.

## Operational Updates


- Approval of the Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for Wajir and Marsabit counties:** WFP Kenya has achieved a significant milestone with the approval of its Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP) for Wajir and Marsabit counties. This proactive approach aims to mitigate the impacts of recurrent droughts, a pressing issue in these ASALs. By closely monitoring the weather and utilizing tailored forecasts to access pre-arranged funding, WFP aims to swiftly implement early interventions to protect vulnerable communities from food insecurity and malnutrition. This initiative is crucial in enhancing Kenya's resilience to climate-related shocks and ensuring timely support for those most in need. WFP will use the AAP during the 2024 October to December season to implement pre-agreed actions once forecast triggers meet the threshold for the activation of the anticipatory actions. The anticipatory actions will aim to better protect people and resilience investments from the impacts of predictable drought shocks.
- WFP Kenya has made strides in advancing the differentiated assistance model for refugee assistance. Key workstreams, including profiling and categorization, assistance packages, and recourse mechanisms, have held productive meetings to finalize plans and develop tools for effective implementation. Collaborative efforts with UNHCR, and other stakeholders have ensured a comprehensive approach to data collection and engagement with refugee communities. In August, various preliminary efforts were ongoing including the review of data collection tools and methodologies for profiling, particularly in Dadaab camp, mapping of livelihood and economic inclusion opportunities in refugee hosting areas, and discussions on developing standard operating procedures for recourse mechanisms. The successful completion of these initiatives will enable WFP Kenya to provide more targeted and tailored support to refugees, enhancing their well-being and resilience.

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	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.

- Kenya is hosting over 770,000 refugees and asylum seekers, with Dadaab, Kakuma and Kalobeyi settlement being home to over 670,000 of these. The refugees and asylum seekers rely on humanitarian assistance as they cannot work or move freely. Working with cooperating partners, WFP distributed food to 659,057 refugees in August, in-kind and cash transfers.

## Climate-Friendly School Feeding and Social Protection

- WFP has played a pivotal role in the design of the World Bank's Kenya Economic and Social Inclusion Program Phase II (KSEIP II), providing technical assistance to the Government's State Department for Social Protection, and the National Drought Management Authority. Building on the successes of KSEIP I, KSEIP II aims to promote the economic empowerment of the most vulnerable people in Kenya – particularly women who are receiving social protection cash transfers through providing access to mentorship, business skills, asset transfers to invest in a chosen livelihood, and employment opportunities in green value chains. This way, the poorest members of society and their households can protect their hard-won development gains and become more resilient to climate change. The programme seeks to reach 50,000 vulnerable households, scaling up from 5 to 25 counties in Kenya, including ASALs and non-ASAL regions. The Government has submitted the final design of KSEIP II to the World Bank for approval. It is expected to start in 2025.
- WFP Kenya, in partnership with the Ministry of Education through the National Council for Nomadic Education in Kenya is testing a climate-smart approach to school meals in Embu and Tharaka Nithi counties through Government's new "Aggregator Model". Instead of the existing approach, whereby the Government sends money to schools to purchase food locally, this model empowers farmer organization groups (aggregators) to source and bundle food items directly from local smallholder farmers and supply them to local markets including schools. They can then provide a more steady supply, sell at better prices and enhance the profits and livelihoods of vulnerable smallholders. It forms part of the Government's vision for climate-friendly school feeding, which includes a shift away from importing food to sourcing food locally, and promoting the uptake of drought-tolerant crops and vegetables. The Aggregator Model promotes climate-smart agriculture.

## Empowering the next generation of agri-entrepreneurs through Vijana in Kilimo Biz Project

- WFP's Vijana in Kilimo Biz National Youth Forum successfully empowered young people in agriculture. The three-day event in Nakuru provided a platform for youth to learn from successful youth agri-preneurs, exchange ideas, and co-create solutions. Through interactive exhibitions, field visits, and mentorship opportunities, participants gained valuable insights into leveraging technology for market access, and the importance of improved agro-processing capabilities through collaborations. This forum reinforced WFP's commitment to engaging youth meaningfully in agricultural initiatives.