



WFP Namibia Country Brief December 2024

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

Namibia is an upper-middle-income country with a population of 3 million people. The country has experienced recurrent floods and drought, insect and worm invasions, and the COVID-19 pandemic, all impacting profoundly the country's food security, health, and nutrition. Insufficient food production and over-reliance on poorly adapted rain-fed agriculture and external markets for food, result in poor households being highly vulnerable to shocks and food price inflation.

In this context, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), provides food assistance to people at-risk affected by shocks, ensures capacity strengthening to the Government, and facilitates effective policies. In addition, WFP strives to strengthen the country's food systems and increase the production-capacity of smallholder farmers.

WFP has been present in Namibia since 1990 as a technical partner to the Government, facilitating the development and transfer of knowledge, maintaining capacities to supplement food security and nutrition programmes.



Population: **3.02 million**

2022 Human Development Index: **142 out of 193 countries**

Income Level: **Upper-middle income**

2022 Global Hunger Index: **78 out of 121 countries**

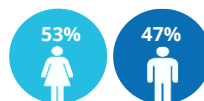
In Numbers

USD 10.6 million net funding requirements for the next six months (January '24 – June '25), representing 60 percent of total requirements.

11,412 school children reached through the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme

1,457 beneficiaries reached through the integrated Community-based Food Systems Projects

24,558 people assisted in December 2024



Operational Updates

The Korea Drought Relief Funding and Launch in the Hardap Region

The cash-based transfers programme was officially launched on December 12th by H.E. Kwang-jin Choi, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Namibia. This programme will provide food assistance to 24,500 beneficiaries in the Hardap and Zambezi regions through redeemable commodity vouchers. The launch validated 24 beneficiaries and featured demonstrations of the voucher redemption process. The programme aims to address undernutrition by offering immediate access to nutritious food and supporting local retailers. Additionally, 3,500 children will receive essential nutrition support through soup kitchens.

Japan Drought Relief Funding and Launch in the Ohangwena Region

The Government of Japan launched a commodity voucher programme on December 5th to address the critical food security needs of 27,000 vulnerable individuals in the Ohangwena and Kunene regions. This initiative targets households most affected by the El Niño-induced drought, with a particular focus on child-headed, female-headed, and elderly-headed households. The vouchers, redeemable at local retailers, are expected to improve dietary diversity, enhance household purchasing power, and ultimately reduce under-five malnutrition rates. This programme aims to mitigate the impacts of prolonged climatic shocks and support recovery efforts in drought-affected communities.

Photo: *Launch of the social protection booklet during Human Rights Day*
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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Namibia

Country Strategic Plan (2017–2024)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
51 m	23.3 m	10.6 m

Strategic Result 01: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 01: Vulnerable populations in Namibia are enabled to meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year.
Focus Area: *Root Causes*

Activities: Provide capacity strengthening to the government entities responsible for national shock-responsive safety net programmes; Provide capacity strengthening and technical assistance to the government entities responsible for school feeding

Strategic Result 05: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 02: Government Policy dialogue and programme design is informed by evidence and enhanced knowledge of hunger issues throughout NDP5 period.
Focus Area: *Resilience building*

Activities: Provide capacity strengthening to government entities involved in hunger-related policy and programming; Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and partners involved in the implementation of the Zero Hunger Road Map

Strategic Result 01: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 03: Targeted food insecure households affected by shocks in Namibia benefit from enhanced access to adequate food and nutrition during and in the aftermath of crises.
Focus Area: *Crisis Response*

Activities: Provide food assistance to vulnerable people affected by shocks

Strategic Result 04: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 04: Governmental institutions in Namibia have capacity to conduct analysis that supports planning towards transformative and resilient food systems by the end of 2023.
Focus Area: *Resilience Building*

Activities: Support government entities to strengthen food systems in the country.

Strategic Result 08: Enhance global partnership

Strategic Outcome 05: Government and development partners in Namibia are supported by an efficient and effective supply chain and digital services and expertise throughout the CSP period.
Focus Area: *Resilience Building*

Activities: Support government and development partners with supply chain and digital services and expertise.

Kaoko-Otavi Combined School

A joint WFP and USAID team visited Kaoko-Otavi in the Kunene region to assess the progress of a Chevron-funded project aimed at improving water access, nutrition, and livelihoods. With financial support from USAID, WFP drilled a solar-powered borehole, at the Kaoko-Otavi Combined School providing clean water access to the school and community. Additionally, WFP installed water tanks for sustainable water management and created a thriving community garden to enhance nutrition and livelihood opportunities for students and the local community.

Human Rights Day- Launch of the Social Protection Booklet

The Acting Country Director of WFP Namibia, Tiwonge Machiwenyika, attended the launch of the Social Protection Booklet during the Human Rights Day and Namibia Women’s Day celebrations in Outapi. The booklet, developed with support from WFP and other United Nations Namibia agencies, serves as a comprehensive guide to building inclusive, resilient, and sustainable social protection systems. It consolidates efforts to ensure that no one is left behind in the pursuit of equity and social justice. It highlighted how WFP continues to play a leading role in driving innovation within Namibia’s social protection system. Through strong partnerships, WFP is advancing equity and resilience, helping to create a more inclusive society that addresses the needs of the most vulnerable. The launch marked a significant milestone in the collaborative efforts of government and development partners to enhance the social protection landscape in Namibia.

Donors

Brazil, British High Commission, Capricorn Foundation, CERF, Japan, Korea, Namibia, NAMIBRE, NAMDIA Foundation, UNAIDS UBRAF, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) *(in alphabetical order)*.