



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Tanzania Country Brief February 2025



Operational Context

Following 20 years of sustained growth, Tanzania – home to 67 million people – reached an important milestone in 2020, graduating from low-income to lower-middle-income country status. This achievement reflects sustained macroeconomic and political stability combined with the country’s rich natural resources and strategic geographic position. Agriculture remains a cornerstone of the national economy, supporting the majority of Tanzanians. However, climate shocks, environmental degradation, and persistent gender inequalities continue to exacerbate food insecurity and limit development progress. Since its establishment in Tanzania in 1963, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) has continually adapted its efforts to address the country’s evolving needs. Today, WFP focuses on enhancing resilience, improving nutrition, strengthening smallholder productivity, and building national capacity in adaptive social protection, emergency preparedness and response, and sustainable food systems, while also providing support to vulnerable refugees. In collaboration with the Government, WFP works to empower communities and contribute to Tanzania’s long-term food security and



Population: 67 million

2023: Human Development Index:
167 out of 191 countries

Income Level: Lower Middle

Chronic malnutrition: 31.8% of
children aged 6-59 months.

In Numbers

USD 8.5 million six-month net funding requirement (February to July 2025) representing 20 percent of total requirements

23,730 mt of food commodities procured since the beginning of 2025.

199,937 Tanzanians and refugees benefited from WFP’s humanitarian and development interventions



Operational Updates

Refugees: The humanitarian crisis in North Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), continues to worsen due to intensified fighting between the Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) and the March 23 (M23) movement armed group, causing [significant regional displacement](#). Since early 2025, 171 Congolese refugees have arrived in Tanzania, with projections expected to increase due to the ongoing fighting. While the numbers remain low, WFP and UNHCR have developed a contingency plan aligned with trends in Burundi, Rwanda, and Uganda.

Nutrition: WFP continued to support the Government of Tanzania in the data validation process for the [Cost of Hunger in Africa \(COHA\) study](#), which estimates the social and economic costs of child undernutrition and provides critical evidence to guide national investments in nutrition and human capital development. Chaired by the Prime Minister’s Office, the process engaged key government ministries, the African Union Commission, and WFP’s African Union Global Office. Findings have now been presented to the National Multisectoral Nutrition Technical Working Group, and final validation by the High-Level Steering Committee on Nutrition will enable policy action and investment planning.

Food Systems: The Joint Programme (JP) on Food Systems Transformation, implemented by WFP, FAO, and IFAD, has begun following final approval from the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture. Funded by the UN SDG Fund with technical support from the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, it focuses on strengthening national capacity for food systems governance, coordination, and policy integration. The JP aims to increase awareness among stakeholders, especially women and youth, and enhance multisector coordination. It will also support one local government authority in integrating [food systems](#) into annual work plans and budgets. Running until July 2025 in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar, it will contribute to food systems transformation and collaborate on agricultural digitalization for greater impact.

Smallholder Farmers: To strengthen social cohesion in Kigoma, WFP distributed 1,328 peacebuilding and conflict resolution materials in the Nduta and Nyarugusu refugee camps, as well as the surrounding host communities. In Nyarugusu Camp, 300 persons with special needs received charcoal briquettes, reducing reliance on firewood and preventing the loss of 600 trees, supporting environmental sustainability. To enhance local seed production and market linkages, WFP hosted eight [Farmer Field Days](#) in Kasulu, Kibondo, and Kakonko, engaging 1,679 farmers (53 percent women).

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A young child enjoys a meal at Nyarugusu refugee camp.
Photo: WFP



Country Strategic Plan (2022 - 2027)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Funding Shortfall (in USD)
381 m	171 m	8.4 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations in the United Republic of Tanzania can meet their essential food and nutrition needs in anticipation of, during, and in the aftermath of shocks and build resilience to shocks and stressors by 2027.

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

Activities:

- Provide food and/or cash-based transfers and improved access to clean cooking solutions for refugees and other vulnerable populations affected by shocks and stressors.
- Provide capacity strengthening for data analysis and people-centred disaster risk management to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of relevant government institutions to monitor and respond to stressors and crises at the national and sub-national levels.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in prioritised districts consume more diversified and nutrient-rich diets and have improved access to nutrition, health and education services that contribute to human capital development all year round.

Focus area: *Root Causes*

Activities:

- Provide food and/or cash-based transfers to vulnerable populations and technical assistance to strengthen national systems for the effective delivery of nutrition services, social and behaviour change communication, and generation of demand for nutritious and fortified foods.
- Provide policy-level advocacy and technical assistance to national systems for the rollout of the national school feeding guidelines and implementation of home-grown school feeding models in prioritized districts.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Populations in targeted districts achieve climate-resilient rural livelihoods and improved food security and nutrition through sustained smallholder access to markets, enhanced value chains and sustainable management of natural resources by 2030.

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance to support smallholder men and women producers to diversify livelihoods, reduce post-harvest loss and improve access to information, technologies, and markets.
- Provide capacity strengthening and technical assistance to improve the efficiency and quality control of food and nutrition value chain actors, including enhanced handling, storage, fortification, packaging, and delivery practices.
- Provide cash-based transfers to vulnerable communities and technical assistance to local institutions to support integrated resilience building that enables them to mitigate and prevent environmental degradation and promote climate change adaptation.

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology to strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 4: Government institutions and development partners in the United Republic of Tanzania have improved access to on-demand services and innovation platforms throughout the year.

Focus area: *Resilience Building*

Activities:

- Provide on-demand services for innovation, supply chain and operations support to national government counterparts, development partners and the private sector.

Operational Updates (continued)

Resilience Building: Under the Agroecosystem Restoration Project (MUKI), WFP held a kick-off meeting with the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF) to initiate technical support for the development of climate-smart public works and climate-smart agriculture manuals. These resources will help guide sustainable agricultural practices and climate adaptation efforts. ICRAF collaborates with WFP and other partners to integrate agroforestry practices into resilience-building initiatives, supporting smallholder farmers in improving productivity and sustainability.

For the Kigoma Resilience Project, the field-level agreement with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) has been formalized, leading to cascading training and the establishment of permagardens and kitchen gardens in collaboration with lead farmers and DRC staff. In Kalimungoma village, 15 farmers were trained on climate-smart agricultural approaches under the supervision of DRC staff. To enhance food security and support diversified household diets, a total of 180 kitchen gardens and 21 permagardens were established across six host community villages in Kibondo district and three in Kasulu district, providing various vegetables at the household level.

Research, Assessment, and Monitoring: WFP supported the Government in conducting a comprehensive Food and Nutrition Security Assessment, building on findings from the Preliminary Food Crop Production Assessment led by the Ministry of Agriculture which identified 23 District Councils at risk of crop production shortages in 2024. To further examine the impact, the Food and Nutrition Security Assessment focused on 16 of the most affected districts, including nine Mainland districts where WFP is establishing [anticipatory action](#) measures. WFP will further support data analysis and reporting using the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) approach. This will enhance the understanding of food security trends and help guide national and regional response strategies.

Logistics and Supply Chain: Since the start of the year, a total of 23,730 metric tonnes (mt) of food commodities have been locally procured, with 25 percent sourced from smallholder farmers (5,933 mt). This approach strengthens local food systems, supports smallholder livelihoods, and enhances regional supply chain resilience, ensuring timely food assistance where it is needed most.

Partnerships: WFP's Country Director, Mr. Ronald Tran Ba Huy, met with the Minister of Finance, Hon. Dr. Mwigulu Lameck Nchemba, in Dodoma to brief him on WFP's ongoing support for national development priorities. The discussion covered key areas where WFP is supporting including resilience and climate adaptation, nutrition and food security, smallholder productivity, social protection, emergency preparedness, sustainable food systems, and assistance to vulnerable refugees. The meeting also emphasized potential collaboration, particularly in advancing clean cooking solutions, in line with the national clean cooking agenda.

Donors: Belgium, the European Union, Germany, Ireland, Korea, Mastercard Foundation, Norway, One UN, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Republic of Tanzania, and the United States of America. *(in alphabetical order)*