



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP NAMIBIA

COUNTRY BRIEF

April 2026



138,013 people assisted in April 2026
(53% female)



11,800 Schoolchildren benefitting from the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme



126,213 Children fed through the Early Childhood Development Centres

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Impact of multi-shocks continue to strain vulnerable households, with food-security needs remaining high even after the national drought-response programme ended.
- WFP is supporting the Government of the Republic of Namibia to reinforce emergency preparedness, social protection, and food-systems resilience under its Country Strategic Plan (2025–2029).
- WFP urgently needs additional funding to sustain food-security, systems-strengthening, and resilience interventions nationwide.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Namibia's vast landscape houses a population of 3 million people across 824,292 Km², earning the distinction of being the world's third least densely populated country. In 2025, Namibia became the only country globally to be reclassified from an Upper-Middle-Income Country (UMIC) to a Lower-Middle-Income Country (LMIC).
- Despite recurring climate and shock related hazards, including floods, severe drought, and outbreaks of African migratory locusts, Namibia's humanitarian and food security situation improved in 2026. This is reflected in the IPC analysis for July to September 2025, with projections through June 2026, which estimated 456,000 people in need, down from 1.15 million during the same period the previous year. The improvement is driven by the combined effects of WFP's El Niño drought response, government led drought relief, support from development partners, and favourable rainfall.
- WFP Country Strategic Plan (CSP) (2025–2029) offers technical support to the Government of the Republic of Namibia to respond to this evolving context through four interlinked strategic outcomes: 1) strengthening programmes and systems for emergency preparedness response and early action (2) support to social protection systems to effectively benefit the most at-risk people; (3) strengthening food systems and improving livelihood of smallholder farmers (4) on-demand services.

Reporting Period: April 2026

Photo Caption & Credit: Zambezi Flood Impact Assessments. WFP/Salufu Nyambe

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Zambezi Flood Impact Assessments

- In response to escalating flooding in the Zambezi Region, WFP participated in a multi stakeholder field mission commissioned by the National Disaster Risk Management Committee (NDRMC) under the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) from 30 March to 2 April 2026. The mission assessed the severity of the floods, validated conditions on the ground, and identified priority humanitarian needs to guide response actions.
- Findings indicate that conditions in affected communities remain critical, with continued deterioration reported in several areas. Widespread damage has been recorded to homesteads, croplands, cattle posts, road networks, and service infrastructure. Seven constituencies have been affected, with households displaced, malaria related deaths increasing, and education services disrupted. Efforts are ongoing to coordinate a system wide United Nations response to support affected populations.

National HGSFP Strengthening Strategy Inception Workshop

- In partnership with the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture (MEIYSAC), WFP convened a broad multisectoral national inception workshop aimed to strengthen Namibia's Home-Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP) and advance the HGSFP scale-up strategy. The workshop brought together over 20 participants from MEIYSAC, including key line ministries, regional programme implementers, UN agencies and development partners.
- Implementation experiences from 29 pilot schools across 7 regions were reviewed, good practices, lessons learned, and operational challenges were consolidated. The outcomes will contribute to the development of a National HGSFP strengthening strategy for a phased and sustainable expansion under government leadership.

School Feeding Policy Dialogue

- WFP and UNICEF participated in a high-level policy dialogue with Honourable Sanet Steenkamp, Minister of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports,

Arts and Culture, the European Union Ambassador, and the Ministry of Finance. Convened within the framework of the EU-funded extension of the National School Feeding Programme (NSFP) to Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres, the dialogue provided an opportunity to review progress in the education sector, align strategic priorities, and explore areas for collaboration under the forthcoming EU programming cycle.

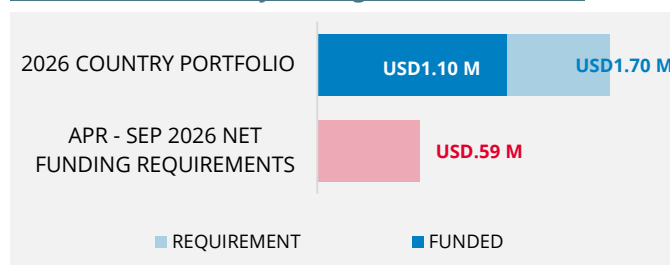
- The dialogue reaffirmed Government leadership and commitment to integrate school feeding to ECD centres. It further confirmed continued coordination between Government, WFP, and development partners to ensure coherent implementation and sustainable financing.

Official Launch and Handover: Building Brighter Tomorrow Project

- In partnership with UNFPA, WFP officially launched *the Building Brighter Tomorrows Project* on 24 April 2026 at Hausiku Selma Nangura Primary School in Mpungu Constituency, Kavango West Region.
- The initiative, co-funded by Commonwealth Heads of Mission in Namibia, WFP and UNFPA, aims to deliver integrated health, protection, nutrition, and education interventions to support vulnerable school children and surrounding communities.
- WFP's support aims to improve the nutritional quality of school meals through an integrated school-based food system that delivers horticulture produce and poultry. This is implemented with support from the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform and GIZ.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

WFP Namibia Country Strategic Plan (2025-2029)



Donors

European Union, Federative Republic of Brazil, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, the Government of the Republic of Namibia and WFP Multilateral (In alphabetical order).