



WFP Kenya

COVID-19 Situation Report # 1

18 April 2020

In Numbers

- **14.3 million** people affected
- **225** confirmed COVID-19 cases in Kenya*
- **11 counties** affected
- **5 million** people in need of food security and livelihood support

*As of 15 April 2020

Highlights

- WFP is adapting its delivery mechanisms to maintain existing life-saving assistance to the most food and nutritionally vulnerable groups in society in the new COVID-19 context. The Government of Kenya has requested support from WFP to provide food assistance to people living in informal settlements.
- WFP is providing technical assistance to the Government Inter-agency Committee on COVID-19 Relief Assistance; as well as to response efforts of the Ministry of Health; the Ministry of Education; the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and the Council of Governors.

WFP 6-month Net Funding Requirements (April –September 2020)

Relief assistance to informal settlements **USD 29.5 million**

Food assistance for refugees and Kenyan population **USD 20.3 million**

Nutrition **USD 13.7 million**

Social Protection **USD 750,000**

Situation Update

- The Government has adopted and is enforcing enhanced COVID-19 prevention measures.
- The President announced a 21-day containment plan. This includes the cessation of movement by road, rail and air in and out of the Nairobi metropolitan area, Kilifi, Kwale and Mombasa counties and has extended the ban on all international flights for another 30 days with effect from 6 April 2020.
- COVID-19 hot spot counties in Kenya are Busia, Garissa, Kajiado, Kiambu, Kilifi, Kisumu, Machakos, Migori, Mombasa, Nairobi, Nakuru, Siaya, Uasin Gishu and Wajir.
- The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to weaken the economy and increase food insecurity, resulting in increased humanitarian needs.
- An estimated 1.3 million Kenyans are already

severely food insecure (IPC 3 or 4) and in need of immediate humanitarian assistance according to the 2019 Short Rains Food Security conducted in February 2020 in 23 arid and semi-arid counties.

- The long rains (March to May) season is forecast to be normal to above normal. However, the negative impacts on food and nutrition security of the ongoing locust invasion and the current COVID-19 pandemic are expected to increase household food insecurity, resulting in 5 million people needing food and livelihood support.
- The United Nations and partners launched an [Emergency Appeal](#) on 9 April to respond to the immediate needs of 10.1 million people, including refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya. WFP has requested USD 64 million to meet additional COVID-19 needs for nutrition, food security and livelihoods, and social protection sectors.

WFP Response

- WFP is making every effort to sustain vital humanitarian assistance to existing programmes that target the most food and nutritionally vulnerable groups in society and who are also likely to be most affected by the COVID-19 crisis. This includes refugees, populations affected by acute malnutrition, and vulnerable food-insecure people whose livelihoods need protecting.
- WFP is mobilizing resources to support the Government to reach additional identified populations affected by the pandemic based on Government request and in collaboration with UN agencies and partners.

- Market and supply chain assessments are ongoing, and a weekly summary report on key trends is available for external partners.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP continues to collaborate with UNHCR, local authorities, the Refugee Affairs Secretariat, police and partners to ensure all refugees continue to receive lifesaving food assistance, adapting delivery and monitoring to a COVID-19 context and disseminating Ministry of Health messaging on COVID-19 in the refugee camps and Kalobeyei settlement.
- A preparedness and response plan to expand nutrition support across 14 priority counties has been developed by the nutrition sector.
- Cash has been transferred to beneficiaries in Isiolo, Samburu and Baringo counties to cover food needs for March and April.
- Planning for further lean season food and cash distributions for vulnerable communities is underway, including for May and June when communities would normally not receive transfers, in anticipation of deteriorating access to food resulting from the impact of movement restrictions on markets. This includes additional equipment and adaptation of distribution modalities to mitigate the risk of corona virus transmission.
- Support is also being adapted to ensure liquidity and functioning supply chains for agricultural input suppliers and traders for the ongoing planting season, in line with the Government's priority to maintain productivity and food supply to markets as a key component in mitigating the impact of COVID-19.



Supply Chain

- WFP is committed to securing the logistics and supply chain network required to enable WFP and humanitarian and health partners to be able to move cargo.
- Mombasa port operations continue uninterrupted, respecting the stringent measures that have been put in place to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Both WFP overland and inland deliveries have continued with ease and all planned commodities have left Mombasa port; however, journey times of trucks are increasing due to border crossing requirements of COVID-19 screening and testing.
- WFP is participating in the Ministry of Health logistics technical meetings together with WHO and other agencies. WFP is ready to expand its logistics services and supply chain capacities within Kenya to support

the Government's response to COVID-19.

Clusters and Common Services



UN Humanitarian Air Service

- In line with the presidential directive that restricts movement out of and into the Nairobi metropolitan area, there are no UNHAS passenger flights. However, UNHAS continues to operate cargo flights to Kakuma and Dadaab every week. UNHAS remains available to operate emergency and medical evacuations where approval from the authorities will be required.

Capacity Strengthening

- WFP is supporting the Government plan and deliver relief assistance to COVID-19 affected populations through the Inter-agency Committee on COVID-19 Relief Assistance. Areas of WFP's technical support include food assistance planning, logistics, warehousing and data management. Through its strong field presence WFP is supporting the ASAL county governments in identifying and communicating food security support needs and providing technical assistance to the Council of Governors.
- WFP coordinates the UN response and support to the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to expand and strengthen national social protection programmes.
- Schools were closed on 16 March, nearly four weeks before the scheduled school break. This resulted in an interruption in delivery of the national school meals programme. WFP is supporting the Ministry of Education in safe management of food stocks during school closure – and re-opening of schools – as well as identifying possible alternatives to ensure that school children will have access to school meals.

Contacts

- Country Director: Annalisa Conte
- Lara Fossi- DCD- Head of Programmes- WFP.Kenya@wfp.org
- Antonio Salort-Pons – Head of External Relations & Innovations Antonio.salort-pons@wfp.org
- For further information, visit www.wfp.org/countries/Kenya