



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Kenya Country Brief



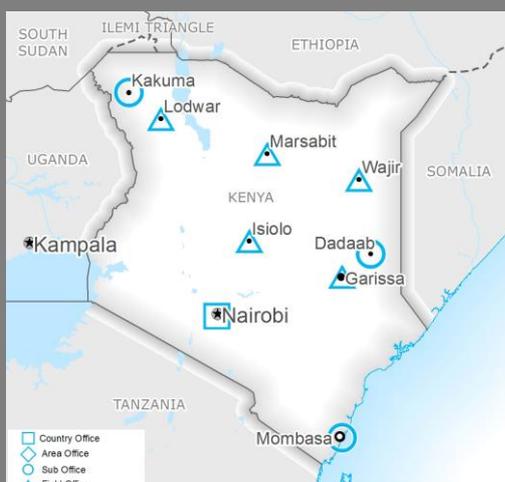
Operational Context

Kenya is transforming rapidly, and the country achieved lower-middle-income status in 2014. Social and economic inequalities persist, with significant challenges to food and nutrition security driven by rapid population growth, climate change, stagnating agricultural production, gender inequalities and underperforming food systems. Agriculture remains the main economic driver, although 80 percent of the land is either arid or semi-arid.

Over one third of Kenyans live below the poverty line. The most severe conditions exist in the arid north, which is underdeveloped, drought prone and often disrupted by local conflicts. There is high undernourishment, with global acute malnutrition among children aged 6-59 months often exceeding the "critical" threshold of 15 percent. Stunting is above 25 percent in some counties. Net enrolment in primary education in the arid counties is still below 50 percent.

Opportunities to address these challenges include increased government investments in agriculture and the social sectors, the devolution of service delivery to counties, implementation of new technologies and an inclusive and equitable policy base.

Kenya hosts a large population of refugees, mainly in camps located in Garissa and Turkana counties. Unable to work or move freely, refugees are highly dependent on international assistance.



Population: **48.5 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **142 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **26% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

3,463 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 1.9 m cash-based transfers made

USD 10.1 m six months (January–June 2019) net funding requirements

384,057 people assisted in December 2018



Operational Updates

The National Drought Management Authority (NDMA), FEWSNET, and WFP released the latest food security outlook covering December 2018 to May 2019 based on the analysis of the October to December short rains season. Overall, rainfall was significantly below average and crop production is expected to be 70 percent of average. However, it is projected that the agricultural surplus from the long rains season, replanting of short rain crops combined with high demand for agricultural labour and above average terms of trade, will facilitate food access for vulnerable populations and delay deterioration. Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are anticipated to be widespread in the February to May 2019 period.

One of the main shifts in WFP's Country Strategic Plan in Kenya is to implement activities that address food system challenges directly through the county governments as opposed to through NGOs. In December, WFP supported the County Government of Isiolo to plan, target and electronically register beneficiaries that will receive cash-based transfers and technical support in the coming months. After the modelling in Isiolo, WFP will support seven other county governments to conduct beneficiary targeting and registration in the first quarter of 2019. Registration is being done electronically into SCOPE, WFP's digital solution for management of identities and entitlements of beneficiaries.

UNHCR and WFP developed a joint operational plan in 2018 to facilitate the move to unrestricted cash assistance for refugees in Kenya. This is part of WFP's Country Strategic Plan to meet up to 70 percent of food requirements through cash in the next five years to increase beneficiaries' self-reliance and boost the local economy. WFP will provide unrestricted cash in the first quarter of 2019 to 5,000 beneficiaries in Kalobeyei. If successful, the lessons learnt will be used to inform the scale up to 30,000 beneficiaries by the end of 2019.

Main Credit: Martin Karimi/WFP Kenya

Photo Caption: WFP together with Makueni County Government is engaging youth groups in nutrition and HIV with the goal of encouraging families to produce and utilize foods efficiently and access income through diversifying economic activities.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
97 m	62.5 m	11.5 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Refugees and asylum seekers living in camps and settlements and populations affected by natural and human-caused disasters have access to adequate food to meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year.

Focus area: Strategic outcome 1 focuses on crisis response, is aligned with WFP Strategic Result 1 – “Everyone has access to food” – and SDG target 2.1 and contributes to SDGs 1 and 3.

Activities:

Activity 1: Provide food assistance and nutrient-rich commodities to refugees, along with Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) and support for self-reliance activities in camps and settlement areas.

Activity 2: Provide food assistance and nutrient-rich commodities – complemented by SBCC – to vulnerable Kenyan populations in order to meet acute food needs.

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 2: Targeted smallholder producers and food-insecure, vulnerable populations benefit from more sustainable, inclusive food systems and increased resilience to climate shocks enabling them to meet their food and nutrition needs by 2023.

Focus area: Strategic outcome 2 focuses on resilience, is aligned with WFP Strategic Result 4 and SDG target 2.4 and contributes to the achievement of SDGs 1, 3, 5, 9 and 10.

Activities:

Activity 3: Create assets and transfer knowledge, skills and climate risk management tools to food-insecure households.

- Activity 4: Facilitate access to markets and provide technical expertise in supply chain management to smallholder farmers and retailers

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs.

Strategic Outcome 3: National and county institutions in Kenya have strengthened capacity and systems to assist food-insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations by 2023.

Focus area: Strategic outcome 3 focuses on root causes, is aligned with WFP Strategic Result 5 – “Capacity strengthening” – and SDG target 17.9 and contributes to SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10.

Activities:

- Activity 5: Engage in strengthening the capacities of national and county institutions in the areas of disaster risk management, food assistance programmes, nutrition services and social safety nets.

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

Strategic Outcome 4: Government, humanitarian and development partners in Kenya have access to and benefit from effective and cost-efficient logistics services, including air transport, common coordination platforms and improved commodity supply chains, when needed.

Focus area: Strategic outcome 4 focuses on crisis response and is aligned with WFP Strategic Result 8 – “Partnerships” – and SDG target 17.16.

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WFP will roll out an interactive voice response system in the first quarter of 2019 to facilitate increased accountability to beneficiaries in its areas of operation. The system, funded by KOICA, is a two-way communication system that will facilitate sharing of information with beneficiaries and collecting their feedback and complaints in an automated way. It is expected to provide a record of all missed calls that are made to the number and play recorded messages on the various programmes being implemented by WFP. Additionally, it will provide an option for callers to leave voice messages. The helpline will be functional after office working hours, on weekends and holidays to ensure that beneficiaries can always share their feedback.

Training of public health officers on food safety and quality was carried out in Baringo, Garissa, Mandera, Makueni and Wajir counties in December 2018. Handover of equipment for mini laboratories is underway. Capacity strengthening and advocacy for budget commitments by counties towards food safety and quality will continue in 2019.

WFP’s SOLVE (Supply Optimization through Logistics, Visibility and Evolution) initiative hosted a visit from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and facilitated high level engagement with the Ministry of Health to discuss the ministry’s health supply chain challenges and align key priorities under the Universal Health Coverage initiative. This was in addition to WFP’s continued engagement with key partners such as USAID, World Bank, DFID, Kenya Medical Supply Agency and UNFPA to discuss common supply chain challenges and possible collaborative approaches. WFP’s SOLVE initiative was established in 2017 to accelerate progress toward the Family Planning 2020 goal of enabling access to modern contraceptives to an additional 120 million women and girls.

Monitoring

WFP’s complaints and feedback mechanism registered 319 cases in December 2018. This included 168 cases through the helpdesks in Dadaab, Kakuma and Kalobeyei, 146 through the helpline, four through SMS and one through email. Forty-eight percent of cases were reported by women. Fifty-four percent of the calls were on the cash transfer programme *Chakula Kwa Jamii* and included requests for PINs, information on distribution dates and follow up on fund transfers or missed disbursements. Ten percent of the calls were general inquiries on how to access WFP’s assistance and testing the helpline.

Challenges

WFP requires USD 11.5 million to fund all its activities in the first half of 2019 under the new Country Strategic Plan. Due to funding constraints, WFP is only able to provide 85 percent of the overall food ration required for refugees.

Donors

Austria, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, EU, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Korea, Norway, OPID, Private Donors, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, UN CERF, USA, Zambia