



WFP Kenya Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CP 200680 (July 2014 – Jun 2018)	127 m	89.3 m (69%)	-

*September 2017-February 2018

The main goal of the Country Programme (CP) is to develop national capacity in addressing long-term hunger and nutrition issues in Kenya. It complements the resilience Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 200736 and prioritises: capacity strengthening for improved emergency preparedness and response; and supporting national social protection and safety net systems, including school feeding. This is achieved through: (i) strengthening county governments' capacity to prepare, analyse and respond to shocks and accelerating government leadership and coordination of safety nets; (ii) supporting the national school meals programme; (iii) enhancing market access for smallholder farmers; and (iv) supporting the National Nutrition Action Plan.

Bridging Relief and Resilience in the Arid and Semi-arid Lands	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200736 (May 2015 – Apr 2018)	266 m	149.1 m (56%)	112 m (80%)

*September 2017-February 2018

GENDER MARKER 2A  PRRO 200736

Through this operation, WFP addresses food and nutrition security in the arid and semi-arid lands as county governments enhance their capacity to prevent and respond to sudden and slow-onset disasters. It focuses on: (i) harmonising relief and nutrition support with emerging government safety nets; (ii) strengthening productive assets to improve food security and enhance resilience to climate-related shocks; and (iii) enhancing partnerships to scale and ensure the sustainability of assets. Households receive in-kind or cash-based transfers.

Highlights

- The refugee operation is facing resource shortfalls and may be forced to reduce food rations.
- Long rains assessment has found that 3.4 million people are acutely food insecure, up from 2.6 million in February.
- WFP requires additional resources to respond to the needs of some of the drought-affected Kenyans.
- WFP supported the State Department for Special Programmes to start the second phase on cash-based transfers.

Food assistance for refugees	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200737 (Apr 2015–Mar 2018)	361 m	204.6 m (57%)	16.5 m (30%)

*September 2017-February 2018

GENDER MARKER 2A  PRRO 200737

Through this PRRO, WFP assists eligible refugees living in camps in Dadaab, Kakuma and Kalobeyei. Assistance is mainly through general distributions: a hybrid of in-kind food and restricted cash-based transfers. Refugees first pass through a biometric fingerprinting system to check their eligibility before collecting in-kind food and cash. This system yields efficiency gains and significantly enhances accountability.

Treatment of moderate acute malnutrition is provided to children and mothers. To prevent acute malnutrition, complementary specialised foods are given to all children 6-23 months and pregnant women or mothers with young children. School children receive porridge. WFP also provides support to the host community through asset-creation activities and food-for-training (the latter is also available for refugees).

In Numbers

3.4 million Kenyans who are acutely food insecure

407,000 women and children in the arid and semi-arid lands who are acutely malnourished.

USD 58m million requested in the revised Kenya Flash Appeal to respond to the food security and nutrition needs of Kenyans

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Martin Karimi
Caption: A beneficiary of the government's cash-based transfers receives her cash in Kilifi County in July.



August 2017

Operational Updates

The 2017 long rains assessment conducted in July found 3.4 million Kenyans are acutely food insecure, and 370,000 children and 37,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women are acutely malnourished.

In the revised Kenya Flash Appeal, WFP needs USD 36 million to provide "protection food rations" to 900,000 people from families of children and women identified with acute malnutrition, and continue support to the existing 700,000 beneficiaries enrolled in the livelihood and resilience-building activity. WFP is also appealing for USD 22 million to extend implementation of blanket supplementary feeding (BSF) for children and mothers at high risk of malnutrition from September-December, and include Samburu and West Pokot counties from September, bringing total planned beneficiaries to 780,000.

BSF has been rolled out in four counties (Baringo, Marsabit, Mandera and Turkana), and will start in Isiolo in October, subject to availability of resources. WFP held a two-day training for all the new partners and county nutrition coordinators to ensure knowledge and adherence to the strategy and protocols of BSF.

The State Department for Special Programmes and WFP are currently implementing the second phase of the government programme for cash-based transfers to drought-affected people. One million beneficiaries from Baringo, Garissa, Kitui, Kwale, Lamu, Makueni, Taita Taveta and Tana River counties are targeted to receive cash transfers. The first phase was completed in early August in five counties (Isiolo, Kilifi, Laikipia, Samburu and West Pokot) and reached half a million people. Each family in the semi-arid counties received USD 23 while those in the arid counties received USD 30 per month. Three months of transfers will be made.

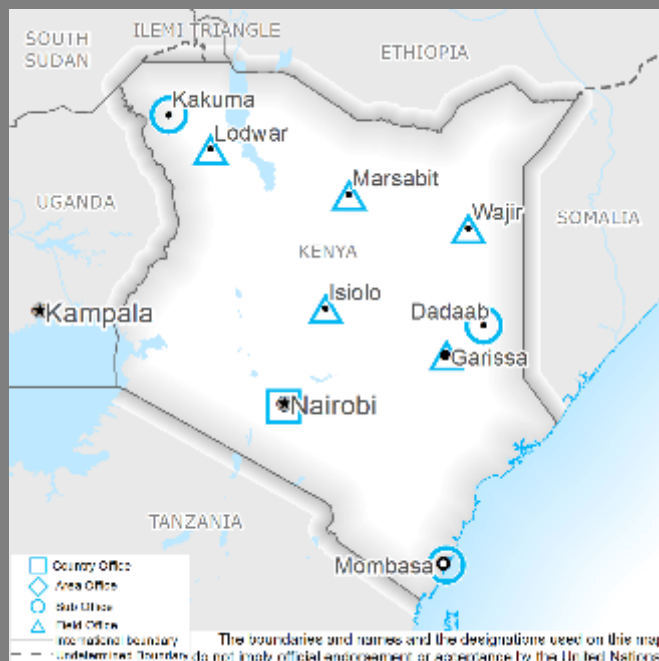
WFP linked 1,000 smallholder farmers in Kitui County with micro insurance for the long rains season (March-May). To determine the season's crop performance and the level of insurance pay-outs, if any, data was collected from sampled farms for calculation of the yield indices. The plan is to expand the scheme to 5,000 farmers for the coming short rains season (October-December).

For the third school term starting in September, the Government is purchasing food for schools in six arid counties under the Home grown schools meal programme (Baringo, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, and West Pokot). This is because market prices are abnormally high as a result of the ongoing drought. Cash transfers to schools will resume in January 2018. Baringo, Marsabit and West Pokot counties have all been transitioned to the national school meals programme earlier than planned in line with the accelerated handover schedule agreed with the government in June.

Challenges

WFP is facing shortfalls in resources for the refugee operation. SuperCereal will not be available from September, cereals from November, and funds for cash-based transfers will run out in December. If no substantial resources are received soon, WFP will be compelled to introduce rations cuts from October in order to stretch available resources through December.

Country Background & Strategy



Kenya has diverse natural resources and highly varied terrain. The country's highlands comprise one of the most successful farming areas in Africa, but 80 percent of Kenya is either arid or semi-arid. Agriculture remains the main economic driver but is highly dependent on seasonal rainfall. Value chains tend to be long, inefficient and unresponsive to farmers' needs.

In 2014, the World Bank reclassified Kenya's economy as lower-middle income. However, poverty, food insecurity, under-nutrition and income inequality remain high; 46 percent of Kenyans live below the national 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 arid counties is still below 50 percent. The 2010 Constitution devolved governance to county level, which is an attempt to address these developmental issues. Kenya hosts thousands of refugees in camps located in Garissa and Turkana counties.

WFP continues its shift from service delivery to country capacity development. The focus is on: (i) helping drought-prone communities to better withstand future shocks; and (ii) strengthening the capacity of national institutions to prepare and implement programmes. Smallholder farmers are assisted to improve their capacity to engage in formal agribusiness. Support to refugees and school children is sustained, and innovative solutions to tackle poverty, hunger and malnutrition explored. Strategic partnerships are being consolidated and expanded. Support is through in-kind and cash-based transfers, and technical assistance.

WFP has been present in Kenya since 1980.

Population: **44 million**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2015 Human Development Index: **145 out of 188**

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