



## 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	87.2 m (69%)	-

\*April – September 2017

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: 1) capacity strengthening for improved emergency preparedness and response; and 2) 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	133 m (50%)	47 m (61%)

\*April – September 2017

**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

- WFP has prioritised the start of prevention of acute malnutrition (blanket supplementary feeding) in parts of Turkana and Marsabit.
- WFP urgently requires funding for treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition, and for asset-creation.
- The Government has released USD 6.2 million to support school feeding in drought-hit areas.
- WFP will resume full rations in the refugee camps from April, but more funding for cash-based transfers is required.

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	189.3 m (50%)	11.4 m (23%)

\*April – September 2017

**GENDER MARKER 2A**  PRRO 200737

Through this PRRO, WFP assists eligible refugees living in the Dadaab and Kakuma camps. Assistance is mainly through general distributions: a hybrid of in-kind food and restricted cash-based transfers. Refugees first pass through the 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

**62,500** children and women who will receive nutritious foods to prevent acute malnutrition in April

**USD 6.2 million** that Government has released for provision of school meals

**30 percent** proposed proportion of food that public institutions should buy from smallholder farmers, if cabinet approves

## Operational Updates

A United Nations Flash Appeal for drought response was issued on 10 March.

WFP has prioritized activities for prevention of acute malnutrition in Turkana North & Kibish sub-counties (Turkana) and North Horr & Laisamis sub-counties (Marsabit), where the nutrition situation is dire. Specialized foods are being transported for 47,000 children aged 6-59 months and 15,500 pregnant/lactating women.

From April, WFP will increase cash transferred to families participating in asset creation from USD 20 to USD 25 per month in semi-arid counties; this will help cushion them against further food insecurity or negative coping strategies. In arid counties, WFP continues to provide in-kind food transfers at a 65 percent ration level; assistance will also be provided in July and August (normally the post-harvest months), given the current high food insecurity.

WFP is partnering with the Government for relief cash-based transfers. WFP technical assistance will include support in targeting and registration of households, coordination and providing linkage with the telecom service provider.

The Government has released USD 6.2 million for school meals in arid and semi-arid counties as part of the drought response. In arid counties, funds will provide meals in WFP-supported schools for 30 days in term 2 (May – August), with WFP providing the meals for the remaining 40 days of the term. In semi-arid counties, funds will expand cash transfers to schools adjoining those already receiving government support through the Home Grown School Meals Programme. This “expanded programme” will cover the new areas for 50 days in term 2.

WFP will resume food entitlements at 100 percent for the refugees in Dadaab and Kakuma from April thanks to new contributions. The in-kind food transfers pipeline is secure until the end of July but cash-based transfers are only covered through April. WFP provides 70 percent of refugee entitlements as in-kind food and the rest as cash-based transfers.

WFP met high-level government officials on 14 March on affirmative action for smallholder farmers' access to public procurement opportunities. WFP presented a draft cabinet memo that proposes mandatory purchase of 30 percent of food by public institutions from smallholder farmers. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries committed to finalize the memo for Cabinet approval in April, and to develop an implementation strategy by June.

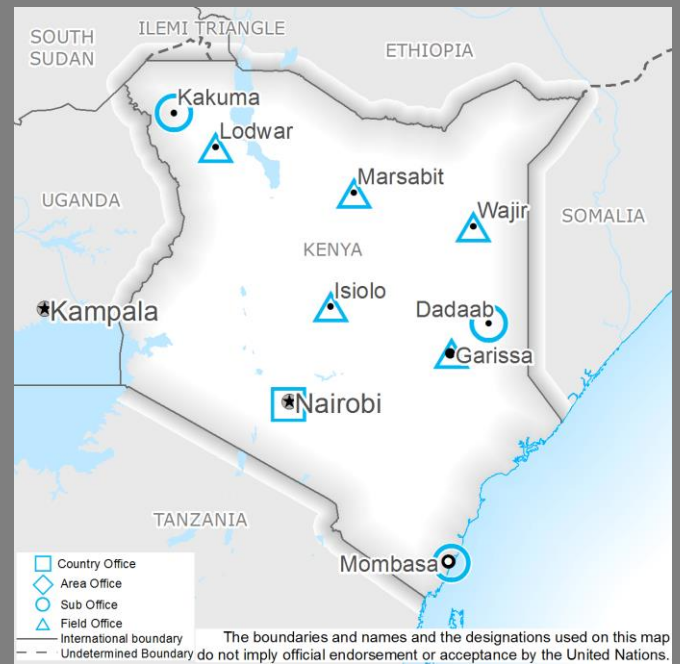
## Challenges

Insufficient funding is the largest challenge affecting WFP's ability to scale-up support in response to the drought. Most urgent is funding for treatment & prevention of acute malnutrition, and for cash-based transfers under asset-creation activities beyond May.

A shortage of funds caused WFP to discontinue school meals between January and March in the arid counties in which it operates, affecting 460,000 children. WFP requires USD360,000 for cash transfers to schools for September-December

For the refugees, WFP urgently requires USD 17.6 million to support cash-based transfers from May to September.

## 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 emergency 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.

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**

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