

- WFP Namibia provided technical support in training of enumerators on Food and Nutrition Security Monitoring and data collection at the National and Regional level. The training enhanced the capacity of government officials in coordinating food and nutrition security issues, data analysis and reporting on food and nutrition security monitoring.
- On 20 September 2017 WFP hosted Woolworths South Africa on a school feeding visit. The visit was aimed at exploring future partnerships between Woolworths and the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture in support of the Namibian School Feeding Programme.

WFP Namibia Country Brief

WFP Assistance

| Technical assistance to strengthen the Namibian School Feeding Programme (June 2015 – May 2018) | Total Requirements (in USD) | Total Received (in USD) |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | 1.2 m | 103, 6, 113 (82 %) |

School feeding is an important food safety net in Namibia, where 330,000 learners receive a daily nutritious mid-morning meal. WFP supports the Namibian School Feeding Programme (NSFP) by providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MoEAC) in areas of policy and strategic guidance, knowledge generation and management, systems development and strengthening, as well as capacity building.

WFP's technical assistance to the school feeding programme includes working with the MoEAC to develop various tools, including a school feeding manual, a monitoring and evaluation plan and a web-based information management system to improve programme efficiency and effectiveness. WFP has assisted the Ministry in undertaking studies and surveys to identify and address bottlenecks in the school feeding programme and to inform programme design and budget processes. These studies and surveys have generated benchmarks for measuring progress and programme results.

WFP and the MoEAC collaborate in training officials at the national and regional level to build management and implementation capacity for school feeding. In addition, WFP is supporting the Ministry to enhance partnerships with actors including the private sector in order to expand the school feeding resource base and support the network in Namibia.

WFP and the MoEAC are jointly exploring the possibility of integrating smallholder farmers into the school feeding supply chain to diversify school meals, create jobs and promote economic development in the country. WFP is also assisting the Ministry with the development of a school feeding policy to mainstream the NSFP into national frameworks.

Under its partnership agreement with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), WFP provides technical assistance to improve capacity in Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) Monitoring and Analysis. WFP also helps strengthen systems for monitoring food and nutrition security at the household level. This assists in developing situational analyses to inform response initiatives.

Given the recurrence of floods and droughts in Namibia, WFP also provides programme support to enhance the Government's capacity to assess, prevent, plan and respond to emergency food needs. This assistance includes the development of FNS monitoring systems and tools for food security data collection, analysis and reporting. To support the sustainable implementation of food security activities and instil best practices in programming, WFP provides training to government officials and has facilitated peer learning and knowledge sharing through South-South Cooperation.

To this end, WFP's collaboration with OPM has resulted in the launch of Namibia's Food and Nutrition Security Monitoring Plan, which aims to guide current and future food and nutrition security monitoring activities in Namibia. These collaborative efforts are helping to enhance evidence-based planning and policy decision making and emergency responsiveness.

WFP has supported the Government in the urban vulnerability assessments through the development of data collection and analysis tools. WFP also supported the 'Namibia Zero Hunger Strategic Review,' which was led by the government and resulted in the development of the Zero Hunger Road Map in line with Sustainable Development Goal 2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture). The Strategic Review provides a deeper analysis of the food security and nutrition situation in the country, identifies areas that require strengthening and provides recommendations that will promote a multi-sectoral approach and guide results-oriented actions.

Operational Updates

- WFP Namibia and selected Government Officials from the Ministry of Health and Social Services, Office of the Prime Minister and City of Windhoek facilitated an enumerator training on Food and Nutrition Security Monitoring from 11 – 15 September. A total of 29 participants from Regional Councils and Local Authorities were trained. The purpose of this training was to capacitate enumerators on programming android devices for data collection and analysis on Food and Nutrition Security. Through this training, the trainers were able to conduct data collection assessment on food and nutrition security in both Urban and Rural areas. The assessment was undertaken from 18 - 29 September 2017 in Windhoek and in other regions of the Country.
- Representatives from Woolworths Headquarters in South Africa visited Namibia to learn more about the Namibian School Feeding Programme (NSFP). School feeding is one area that Woolworths is interested in supporting and as such, WFP (Regional and Namibia Country Office) arranged for the retailer to visit a school and meet with the Ministry of Education Arts, and Culture (MOEAC) about the School Feeding Programme. The mission took place on 20 September 2017. The discussions and future partnership between Woolworths and the MoEAC will fall within the auspices of the MOEAC's Friends of Education Initiative and more specifically within the School Feeding Programme Public Private Partnership Strategy, which is currently being developed.
- WFP in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture conducted a training workshop for 63 school feeding focal persons including Secretaries in the Khomas region from 5 – 8 September 2017. The training aimed at enhancing knowledge on the Namibian School Feeding Information System (NaSIS) and its functionalities; build the foundation for the decentralization of data entry into NaSIS to schools and empower circuit level MoEAC staff to manage and take ownership of the system as well as to demonstrate the importance of NaSIS within the monitoring and evaluation framework of the Namibian School Feeding Programme.

Challenge

- Funding constraints continue to affect the implementation of WFP Namibia technical support activities. However, the country office is engaging with the Government and other donors for possible partnerships.

Country Background & Strategy



Namibia is an upper middle income country with a population of 2.3 million people. On the UNDP Human Development Index, it is ranked 125 out of 188 countries (2016). An estimated 42.3 percent of the population is undernourished due to high rates of poverty at 18 percent, unemployment, 34 percent, HIV and AIDS (16.9 percent) and general household income disparities. Approximately, 70 percent of the population depends on agriculture for all or part of their livelihoods, while 40 percent are smallholder farmers growing grain crops mainly for their own consumption. Cropping conditions are generally poor and characterised by erratic rainfall and frequent floods and droughts. Namibia imports an average of 60 percent of its food requirements which leaves it vulnerable to external price increases. The poor are often unable to meet their food requirements, and the Namibian Government, on average, provides food assistance to 300,000 people annually and nearly double or more in times of severe drought, as in 2015 and 2016.

WFP's focus in Namibia has shifted from food assistance to providing technical assistance to the Government. The aim is to strengthen national capacities to end hunger by improving the efficiency and effectiveness of food safety net programmes, such as school feeding and relief operations, and to enhance the Government's capacity to assess, plan and respond to food security needs.

WFP has been present in Namibia since 1990.

Population: **2.3 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **126 out of 188**

Income Level: **Upper Middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **23.8% of children between 6-59**

Donors

Government of Namibia

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