



# WFP Kenya Country Brief

## Highlights

- WFP is preparing to register and provide cash transfers to families with being treated for acute malnutrition.
- The State Department for Special Programmes released a further USD 6.2 million to WFP for the drought response.
- WFP is providing technical and financial assistance to counties as they prepare their next 5-year plans.
- WFP and UNHCR conducted a joint assessment mission in the refugee camps.

## 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)	129 m	91.4 m (71%)	-

\*December 2017 – May 2018

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)	376.7 m	250.7 m (67%)	19.8 m (36%)

\*December 2017 – May 2018

**GENDER MARKER 2A** PRRO 200737

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 meals. 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.

Through this PRRO, WFP assists eligible refugees living in camps in Dadaab, Kakuma and Kalobeyi. Assistance is mainly through general distributions: a hybrid of in-kind food and restricted cash 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. Schoolchildren 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).

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)	295 m	217.5 m (74%)	44.2 m (42%)

\*December 2017 – May 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 transfers.

## In Numbers

**1.2 million** people reached by WFP  
In November

**425,000** people WFP hopes to reach with  
protection rations

**USD 6.2 million** released by the government  
for the second round of cash transfers

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Martin Karimi

Caption: Community members in Kitui County during a sensitization meeting on the importance and opportunity of signing up for micro-insurance for their crops



November 2017

## Country Background & Strategy

### Operational Updates

WFP is preparing to register and provide relief food assistance as “protection rations” for families of children and women identified with acute malnutrition. Given the concentration of treatment of acute malnutrition in Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana and Wajir, available resources WFP is targeting these four counties. Overall, 425,000 beneficiaries are expected to receive three monthly entitlements of KES 4,000 (USD 39) each, providing 65 percent of food equivalent based on local prices.

The State Department for Special Programmes released USD 6.2 million as additional money for the drought -relief response, to be delivered through the mobile money platform that WFP helped to establish. This second round of cash was transferred to 1.5 million drought-affected people in 13 counties in November. The final round of disbursement is expected in December.

WFP hosted a dialogue with partners interested or engaged in developing and scaling-up an integrated climate risk management framework in rural Kenya. Participants, drawn from the Government, donors, United Nations, NGOs and private sector specialists shared knowledge and lessons learned on innovative insurance solutions for resource-poor smallholder farmers.

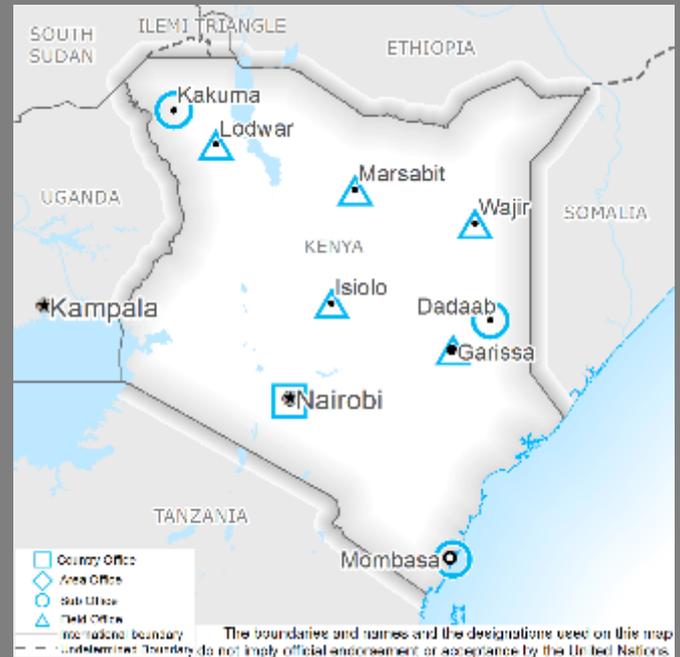
WFP and UNDP provided technical and financial support to selected arid counties to prepare county integrated development plans for 2018-2022. WFP also facilitated a transformative leadership training for mainstreaming gender in food security and nutrition in Baringo, Marsabit, Samburu and Wajir. WFP will continue offering support and mentorship to ensure that gender issues are considered in both county governments’ leadership positions and programme planning and implementation.

WFP supported the Ministry of Education to train education officers, teachers and parents’ representatives in Baringo and West Pokot counties. The aim was to equip them with knowledge and skills to manage the national school meals programme. The 721 participants were trained on programme management, food procurement procedures, roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders, food quality, as well as nutrition and hygiene promotion.

WFP and UNHCR conducted a Joint Assessment Mission to assess the food and non-food needs of refugees living in camps. Overall, the mission found that cash-based transfers had increased the opportunities to diversify the diets, and reduced sale of in-kind food. However, provision of non-preferred cereals (such as sorghum) and inadequate essential non-food items meant that refugees still sold some in-kind food rations. In Kalobeyei settlement, limited access to water hampered implementation of livelihood activities with the potential to improve refugees’ self-reliance. In Dadaab, the repatriation of Somalis had reduced the population size, albeit at a slower pace than initially expected. There are also unregistered new arrivals trickling into the Dadaab camps.

### Challenges

WFP is still facing a critical shortage of resources for the refugees. Ration cuts for the in-kind transfer introduced in October continued, and funds for cash-based transfers will run out from February 2018.



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: 46 **million**

2016 Human Development Index:  
**146 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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