



PHOTO: WFP/Martin Karimi

## Highlights

- ⇒ 30 percent fewer people require assistance after food security improves across Kenya.
- ⇒ WFP is reducing its general food distributions (GFD) coverage in the ASAL taking into consideration coverage of the Government's safety net programme, food security improvements and funding availability.
- ⇒ The first cash-based transfers for refugees Kakuma happened in late-August, while in Dadaab they will begin in November. The cash replaces 10 percent of the cereals ration, empowering recipients to purchase food of their choice from approved traders.
- ⇒ WFP plans to transfer cash to schools in Nairobi starting in September to boost local economies and help initiate dialogue on how the programme can be transitioned into the national model.
- ⇒ The 2015 October – December rains in Kenya are likely to be enhanced because of the El Niño weather conditions.
- ⇒ WFP requires USD54 million to cover shortfalls for the next six months. Insufficient funding has forced WFP to cut rations for refugees since mid-June, reduce GFD coverage in the ASAL, reduce the number of feeding days in schools and fail to fortify the schools meals with micronutrient powders.

## In numbers



- 1.1 million** people found to require assistance through February 2016
- 647,000** people reached in arid and semi arid lands (ASAL)
- >480,000** refugees assisted
- >3,600** Somali refugees repatriated
- 892,000** children served with school meals
- 205,000** children and women receive specialized nutrition products to treat or prevent malnutrition
- 43,200** mt of food distributed
- US\$3.4 million** cash transferred to beneficiaries
- 7,000** smallholder farmers trained on how to engage in the formal grain markets such as schools
- US\$53.9 million** needed for 6 months



World Food Programme

## Country: Kenya

### Food Security and Nutrition Situation



The Government and partners completed food security assessments in August after the long rains season (usually March to May). The assessment concluded that 1.1 million people in the arid and semi arid lands (ASAL) are acutely food insecure and cannot meet their basic dietary requirements. This represents a 31 percent decline in the number of food-insecure people since the last assessment (of the short rains season) in February. The general food security situation has improved because of good rainfall received in most parts of the country.

Increased availability of rangeland resources (pasture, browse and water) has boosted productivity in arid areas, and enhanced milk production and consumption by families. Pastoralists are also earning more money from the sale of their animals. Increased income supports food access, household food consumption and nutritional status. However, in parts of Isiolo and Wajir - where significant rainfall deficits were recorded - food security conditions have not improved.

The nutrition status has generally improved in most of the arid counties where acute malnutrition is prevalently high. However, in Mandera and parts of Turkana, prevalence of global acute malnutrition among children remains very critical (>20 percent). This is to some extent attributed to the prevailing insecurity, which has made access to health facilities difficult.

The IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre, in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization and partners, has predicted that the Greater Horn of Africa region is likely to receive high amount of rainfall during the upcoming rainfall season (normally October to December). If this forecast holds and there is no severe flooding, food security is likely to improve even further. The areas most at risk of flooding include Nairobi as well as eastern and western Kenya, particularly the Tana River and Lake Victoria basins.

### Responding to the Food Insecure in the ASAL



A new three-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) started on 1 May. For the first five months, WFP aimed to reach a maximum of 1.3 million people through food-assistance-for-assets (FFA), general food distributions (GFD) and targeted

supplementary feeding (TSF). GFD and FFA utilised both food and cash for different beneficiaries. From October, GFD will be discontinued in counties or sub-counties where the Government's Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP) coverage has expanded sufficiently (the HSNP operates in Mandera, Marsabit, Turkana and Wajir). Further reduction of GFD is envisaged as food security improves, households become more self-reliant and county governments assume increased responsibility.

There was no food assistance planned in May and June in the arid counties as per the seasonal livelihood calendar. In July, GFD was not possible because of resource shortfalls. Available food was prioritized to households in Isiolo and Wajir, which were considered the most food-insecure areas. Food distributions resumed in August with a ration reduced by 33 percent (down from a partial ration that was planned to cover 75 percent of 2,100 kilocalories/day).

WFP switched from providing in-kind food to cash for FFA participants in Makueni, a semi-arid county. The cash transfers in the five cash-based transfer counties (including Kilifi, Kitui, Kwale and Taita Taveta) were delayed because of funding constraints. Timely donor funding remains a critical factor to prevent accruing debts to beneficiaries and to continue building resilience through asset creation.

## Building Resilience through Assets Creation



WFP hosted a national learning and experience sharing event on building resilience in Kenya's arid and semi-arid lands in Baringo County in May. The event brought together policy makers from 15 counties, donors and practitioners supporting the Comprehensive Framework for implementing the Ending Drought Emergencies (EDE) in Kenya. It was organized under the auspices of the ASAL Donor Working Group, which aims to increase coordinated and harmonized approaches in addressing climate change-related hazards in the ASAL. The main lessons learned were that:

- ⇒ devolution and the EDE framework provide excellent opportunities for the ASAL counties to emerge as transformative growth areas;
- ⇒ successful community projects need to be scaled-up through layering and integration with other programmes, and firmly guided and supported by county governments;
- ⇒ project success is contingent upon linking supported communities to markets;
- ⇒ clarity is needed on the appropriate policy and institutional structures for implementing the EDE at the county level;
- ⇒ a common resilience measurement methodology and good data to support community projects planning and design are important;
- ⇒ community participation and empowerment is key to achieving food security; and
- ⇒ better coordination between national and

county governments, and with all development partners is needed for successful implementation of EDE.

WFP has contracted the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to design an impact evaluation of the asset-creation activities in Kenya. The evaluation's primary objective is to assess and strengthen WFP's ability to contribute to resilience building and self-reliance among the assisted households. Emphasis will be placed on learning, including how identified challenges and lessons will improve future programming. The evaluation report will be action-oriented to ensure that the households and communities supported by FFA projects become increasingly independent of external support.



Women picking kales (Sukuma wiki) and spinach from an FFA-supported farm in Turkana County  
PHOTOS:WFP/Martin Karimi

## Supporting Refugees Living in Camps



The number of refugees reached was stable at about 480,000. WFP reduced food rations for all refugees by 30 percent in mid-June because of severe funding shortfalls. WFP expects the ration cuts to continue through December, while exploring how food and can be further prioritised. To support further targeted assistance, WFP, UNHCR and partners have identified a private firm to conduct an analytical study to determine the level of vulnerability among refugees living in camps in Kenya. Primary data will be collected from September in Kakuma, with a report available by the end of 2015. In Dadaab however, the timing of the data collection is contingent on the security situation.

WFP and partners completed several activities in readiness for the introduction of cash-based transfers for refugees in Kakuma. They included: selecting and contracting traders, equipping 34,000 heads of households with mobile phone SIM cards, launching a communication campaign and monitoring markets. The cash will replace 10 percent of the cereals ration initially. It will be restricted to purchasing food from approved traders. The transfer value will be increased gradually, based on how the local markets respond and availability of funds from donors. The cash transfers began in late-August in Kakuma, and will expand to Dadaab in November.

Through the Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) initiative, WFP is implementing a combination of sustainable energy-related activities in the camps. The activities address the risks faced by people when collecting fuelwood, and protecting a fragile environment. The activities target both refugee and host communities, and include:

- ⇒ Testing the production of briquettes, targeting to support 20,000 households in Dadaab to produce briquettes as an alternative fuel and establish briquette production units;
- ⇒ Distributing fuel-efficient stoves to 50,000 households in Kakuma; and
- ⇒ Establishing tree-seedlings nurseries in Kakuma, which will be distributed to families to plant.



Refugees queuing for food in Dadaab camps PHOTO: WFP/ Martin Karimi

The County Government of Turkana allocated land for building of the Kalobeyei settlement scheme, 20 km from Kakuma. It will resettle 80,000 – 100,000 refugees, including some of those in Kakuma. The scheme will have a residential area for the refugees and a site for farming that integrates the host community to boost their economic opportunities. Infrastructure, such as hospitals and schools, will be funded jointly by the county government and international development and humanitarian partners, offering services to both refugees and their hosts.

In July, the Tripartite Commission released an operational guide for UNHCR and its partners in Kenya and Somalia to strengthen the refugees' voluntary repatriation from Kenya and their reintegration in Somalia. By end of August, 3,600 Somali refugees from Dadaab had returned home with support from UNHCR. Return flights were organized to Mogadishu since road conditions were affected by ongoing rains. UNHCR has noted an increase in the number of refugees seeking to register for voluntary return in Dadaab. This may be attributed to opening the entire Somalia for return and to the introduction of the flights to Mogadishu. WFP is providing high-energy biscuits to Somali refugees returning home under the voluntary repatriation programme.

WFP requires about USD 5 million urgently in order to purchase and store food in the camps before the rains start; storage capacity is adequate for 3-months of food. WFP also needs to contract all-wheel drive trucks, discuss with traders to inform on potential difficulties in accessing food from markets, and buy pallets to keep stored food above the water line.

## Supporting the National School Meals Programme



The second school term started on 4 May and ended on 7 August for the holidays. WFP had funding for only 70 percent of the meals (50 out of 70 days) for schools receiving in-kind food. Due to late issuance of Government budgets to facilitate food deliveries, some food was carried over into the third term in some counties. In Samburu, the cash transferred to the schools was adequate to cover meals for the entire term. The children returned to school on 31 August 2015 for the third term, amidst a national teachers strike over pay dispute. If the strike is prolonged, it may affect the performance of children in public schools during the national examinations scheduled for November.

Starting September 2015, WFP will switch from in-kind school meals to the cash-based model in Nairobi. The 92 primary schools targeted provide education to 82,000 children in some of the poorest neighbourhoods of Nairobi - education and food security indicators are considerably below the national average and are comparable to the arid lands. In readiness, WFP trained school management committees and other education stakeholders (53 percent female) on the programme guidelines and roles/responsibilities of each stakeholder. WFP also trained 67 traders (34 percent female) on government procurement procedures, food quality requirements and stores management. This provides an opportunity to learn how the cash-based model works in an urban context, and launches the dialogue to gradually integrate the programme into the county and national government budgets and policies.

WFP constructed kitchens, stores and installed fuel-efficient stoves in four schools in Turkana. The plan is to install stoves in 400 schools across six counties (Garissa, Marsabit, Samburu, Tana River, Turkana and Wajir) to support environmental conservation.

## Supporting the National Nutrition Action Plan



WFP continued implementing TSF uninterrupted, with 63,000 women and children identified with moderate acute malnutrition receiving specialised nutrition food products. WFP is now extending the TSF to acutely malnourished people living with HIV in Garissa, Mandera, Samburu and Turkana, counties which are considered to have a high

prevalence burden. HIV clients will be assisted in health facilities, and will follow the national guidelines and proposals for the management of moderate acute malnutrition. The integration will start in Samburu, which has a low coverage for HIV clients of only 7 percent.

The Government released preliminary results of the 2014 Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (KDHS), which was co-funded by various organizations including WFP. Stunting, which is the result of failure to receive adequate nutrition over an extended period is high in Kenya. About one-quarter (26 percent) of Kenyan children are stunted. West Pokot and Kitui counties have the highest prevalence (46 percent) of stunted children. Other counties reporting high prevalence of stunting include Kilifi (39 percent), Mandera (36 percent), and Bomet (36 percent).

WFP has extended provision of micronutrient powders (MNPs) to children aged 6-23 months in West Pokot to address high prevalence of the micronutrient deficiencies and poor quality of diet among young children. This is in addition to those in Garissa, Isiolo, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Turkana and Wajir. By the end of July 2015, 36,000 children had been reached out of the planned 149,000. The uptake of MNPs has been slow since the roll out in the second half of 2014. WFP has trained about 1,000 community health workers to support community sensitization and mobilization, and diversified community awareness strategies; coverage is increasing steadily. However, the provision of MNPs to school-going children has not materialised in 2015 because of lack of funds.

WFP, together with the County Government of Kilifi, and partners, has initiated a nutrition-sensitive programme for 2,500 households engaged in WFP's asset-creation projects. The aim is to improve dietary diversity of households and prevent malnutrition amongst the young children through nutrition education. The nutrition sessions will address issues of food utilisation, food choices, preparation, storage, preservation, budgeting. It also includes nutrition-sensitive production, in particular, transferring skills on intercropping, multi-storey gardens and promotion of high-value crops.

## Capacity Strengthening of National and County Governments

WFP held initial workshops to identify capacity gaps and needs in disaster risk management and resilience building in Baringo and Samburu. The results will inform WFP's capacity development strategies and act as a reference point for measuring progress in the envisaged investments in capacity strengthening. The adopted approach ensures enhanced knowledge management and engagement processes, with a desired outcome of enhanced dialogue and working relations with relevant national stakeholders. WFP held discussions with county governments of Baringo and West Pokot about the planned handover of the supplementary feeding

programmes. The counties acknowledged that they had the capacity to transport the nutrition products through the Kenya Medical Supplies Authority. However, they needed capacity in infrastructure (stores) and in supply chain processes such as procurement of good quality products, store management and reporting. Similar discussions will be held with Kajiado and Machakos and agreements signed by end of 2015.

WFP is continuing to support the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Services to establish a robust social protection single registry, a management information system for all social protection programmes. In June, the new system integrated the databases of the four largest national safety net programmes, and established an automated link to the Government's Integrated Population Registration System, immeasurably improving accountability and controls for safety net programmes. WFP's programme database is scheduled to come on-line in the single registry later this year, at which point data for all of the large-scale safety net programmes in the country will be visible to implementers, programme managers, and policy makers, marking a significant step forward in coordination and setting the stage for programme harmonization.

## Agricultural Market Access and Linkage for Smallholder Farmers



WFP purchased 477 mt of maize and sorghum (valued at USD 463,000 or KES 46.3 million) from 10 farmer organizations in Uasin Gishu, Trans Nzoia and Tharaka counties. WFP also trained close to 7,000 farmers (56 percent women) on good agronomic practices, leadership, financial literacy and gender. Over the next financial year (2015/2016), WFP and the State Department for Agriculture will focus on group governance and access to finance by farmer organizations. There will also be an emphasis on policy and legislation issues to enhance participation by smallholder farmers in public procurement.



A smallholder farmer in Tharaka Nithi County, with her green grams harvests. She is a member of WFP supported group that sells their food to schools in their county. PHOTO: WFP/Martin Karimi

In June, WFP supported a workshop to start developing an aflatoxin management strategy for food grains in Kenya. The strategy will be a source of reference for all partners working on linking smallholder farmers to markets. The strategy and

operational guidelines are being developed in conjunction with the State Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and other players. The guidelines will include procedures to be used in managing the quality of food supplied to the Home Grown School Meals Programme.

## High Level Missions to the Field



The following high level missions visited field operations during the reporting period:

- ⇒ On 27 May, H.E. Mr. Johan Borgstam, Ambassador of Sweden to Kenya opened the learning event on resilience and EDE plan held in Baringo and funded by Sweden and USA. In attendance were donor representatives from the Australia, European Commission, Switzerland, Japan and other development partners such as United Nations agencies.
- ⇒ From 12 – 14 July, Mr. Luke Myers, Counsellor (Development) and Head of Cooperation, Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development at the Canadian High Commission in Nairobi visited Tharaka Nithi and Samburu. WFP is empowering and linking smallholder farmers in Tharaka Nithi to schools in Samburu. It emerged that WFP needs to advocate for more timely disbursement of cash to schools to enable smallholder farmers to plan and benefit from the schools market.
- ⇒ From 17-19 August, Mr. Sami Yusuf, a WFP Ambassador Against Hunger, and a British singer-songwriter, producer and musician, visited Kenya. He toured project sites inside Kakuma refugee camp where he also held a musical concert, as well as projects elsewhere in Turkana.
- ⇒ On 27 August, H.E. Mr. John Feakes, Australian High Commissioner to Kenya and Ms. Natasha Stott Despoja, the Australian Global Ambassador's for Women and Girls visited Stara Rescue Centre and School in Kibera, Nairobi. Children at the centre benefit from WFP's school meals programmes.

## Pipeline and Resourcing Situation



The WFP Executive Board approved two protracted relief and recovery operations (PRROs) for Kenya with a combined budget of USD710 million. Each of the two operations will run for three years with the refugee operation having started on 1 April and the drought relief/resilience PRRO on 1 May. Their design was informed by evaluations, assessments, analytical studies, pilot testing and consultations with communities, cooperating partners, the Government, United Nations partners and donors.

WFP requires **USD 53.9 million of** additional food/cash resources for all its operations in Kenya for **September 2015–February 2016** as outlined below.

**PRRO 200737 - Refugee operation:** Even with the current ration cuts, current resources will start running out soon, starting with SuperCereal in October and ready-to-use supplementary foods in December. The **funding shortfall is USD4.3 million through February 2016**, when the operation will run out of resources completely.

**PRRO 200736 - Relief/Resilience operation:** Because of funding shortfalls, WFP is reducing food and cash transfers to people in arid and semi-arid areas. Of most concern is the supplementary feeding programme that provides nutrient-rich foods to women and children identified with acute malnutrition. Based on the approved project budget, **the six-month shortfall is USD42.5 million**, of which **USD22 million is for cash transfers**, while the **rest is for food transfers**. WFP is reviewing the requirements based on the results of the recently released assessments; a budget revision will be prepared to reflect the reduced changes in needs.

**Country Programme 200680:** Currently, WFP has adequate resources to provide lunches for 45 out of 55 days (80 percent) for the third term (August–November). The shortfall is **USD6.6 million**. The coverage will become even worse in 2016 unless the funding situation improves. The children receive a hot meal every day that serve to not only alleviate short term hunger but also serve as an incentive for children to attend school. For the nutrition component, WFP has been forced to undertake a budget revision to reduce plans to scale-up the provision of MNPs in 2015 and 2016 because funding is not forthcoming. The capacity development activities require about **USD 525,000**.

## Annex 1: People reached and food/cash distributed: May-August 2015



PRRO 200736: Bridging Relief and Resilience in the ASAL							
Activity	Transfer	People		Tonnage (mt)		Cash Transfers (US\$)	
		Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
GFD	Food	389,500	105,414 (27%)	9,932	3,853 (39%)		
	Cash	10,500	10,391 (99%)			126,000	122,675 (98%)
FFA	Food	371,000	189,892 (51%)	14,190	5,631 (40%)		
	Cash	372,000	342,138 (92%)			5,691,600	2,862,400 (26%)
TSFP	Food	65,000	67,110 (103%)	1,267	900 (70%)		
<b>Total excl. TSFP overlap)</b>		<b>1,143,000</b>	<b>647,835 (57%)</b>	<b>25,398</b>	<b>10,384 (41%)</b>	<b>5,817,600</b>	<b>2,985,074 (51%)</b>

*The 80,000 children assisted with MNPs are excluded because the activity is currently funded through a global trust fund.*

PRRO 200737: Food Assistance for Refugees						
Activity	People		Tonnage (mt)		Cash Transfers (US\$)	
	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
GFD	500,000	480,647 (96%)	33,033	26,792 (81%)	405,000	25,040
Nutrition— treatment of malnutrition (women and children)	11,000	8,972 (82%)	157	112 (71%)		
Complementary feeding — prevention of malnutrition (women and children)	50,000	49,190 (98%)	930	822 (88%)		
School meals	130,000	135,667 (104%)	653	275 (42%)		
Institutional feeding programmes (hospital patients and caregivers)	2,500	2,690 (108%)	75	31 (41%)		
PLHIV, TB, chronically ill people	1,500	1,193 (80%)	17	21 (124%)		
FFA and food-for-training (mostly host)	37,600	1,383 (4%)	677	11 (2%)		
<b>Total (refugee and host communities)</b>	<b>536,000</b>	<b>480,647 (90%)</b>	<b>35,542</b>	<b>28,064 (79%)</b>	<b>405,000</b>	<b>25,040 (6%)</b>

CP 200680: Country Programme Kenya (2014-2018)							
Activity	Transfer	People		Tonnage (mt)		Cash Transfers (US\$)	
		Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
School meals	Food	726,000	698,191 (96%)	9,865	4,712 (48%)		
	Cash	65,000	58,233 (89%)			646,100	420,160 (65%)
Micronutrient powders	Food	500,000	0	14	0		
<b>Total (excl. MNP overlap)</b>		<b>791,000</b>	<b>756,424 (96%)</b>	<b>9,879</b>	<b>4,712 (48%)</b>	<b>646,100</b>	<b>420,160 (65%)</b>

