



FOOD ASSISTANCE TO Refugees

World Food Programme
NEWSLETTER

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Refugee Operations faces a significant funding shortfall

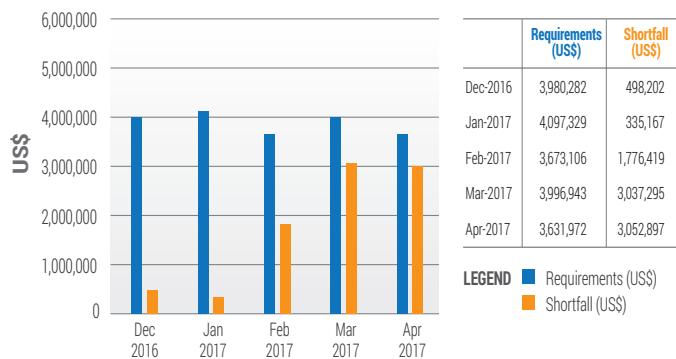
WFP is currently facing a shortfall of US\$13.7 million to cover its refugee operation in Kenya to the end of April 2017.

Some 85 percent of refugees in Dadaab have been receiving reduced rations since June 2015 because of significant funding shortfalls. While we have been able to resume full food rations for smaller families, WFP is still only able to provide 70 percent of the normal food ration to households in Dadaab with 3 or more people.

Further resources are urgently needed to avert deeper cuts. When refugees receive less food, they may skip or eat smaller meals in order to make their supplies last until the next distribution.

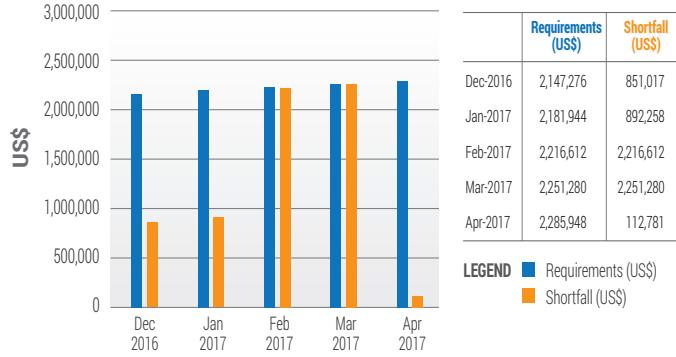
Some may go into debt, borrowing food or money from neighbours or local money lenders. If ration cuts carry on for too long, they could compromise the refugees' food consumption, nutrition and health.

WFP Refugee Food Requirements and Shortfalls



Note: Food requirements for May 2017 are largely covered due to the scheduled arrival of in-kind donor contributions. Food resources would be mobilised quickly through WFP's Global Commodity Management Facility, which holds stocks of the required food commodities in the eastern Africa region.

WFP Refugee Cash-Based Transfer Requirements and Shortfalls



Note: Cash-based transfer requirements for April 2017 are largely covered due to confirmed donor contributions that can be used from April.



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Commercializing briquette production in Dadaab

WFP's Safe Access to Firewood and Alternative Sources of Energy (SAFE) project is looking at how to minimize the risks of violence to women and girls associated with searching for firewood, whilst at the same time considering how to reduce tensions between refugees and the host communities over scarce natural resources.

In Dadaab, the SAFE project has piloted the production of briquettes as a sustainable fuel. Initially, project participants, drawn from the refugee and host communities in Dadaab produced briquettes that were then distributed to the most vulnerable households within the same communities for free. Based on the pilot, the project has the poten-



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tial to produce 7.5 mt of briquettes every month, providing a potential monthly income to the participants of US\$675 in sales.

In the last four months of the extended project, which ended in October, 27 mt of *Prosopis* was harvested to produce 23.5 mt of briquettes. WFP also distributed another 800 stoves to vulnerable families, making the total number of stoves given out 5,800. Sixty-two percent of the recipients of the stoves were female-headed households.

The project has demonstrated that locally produced briquettes can be a viable and environmentally safe source of cooking energy for refugees and the host community. The project has used locally fabricated kilns and is fully run by members of the community, with technical support from WFP and the Relief, Reconstruction and Development Organization.

An environmental impact assessment conducted by WFP and partners prior to the projected showed that *Prosopis juliflora*, an invasive alien evergreen tree that is abundant in and around the Dadaab refugee camps, can be used to produce briquettes sustainably.



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Gender and protection assessment in Kakuma and Kalobeyei

In August, WFP undertook a gender and protection assessment in Kakuma refugee camps and the Kalobeyei settlement. This assessment aimed to:

- review the effect of in-kind and cash transfer (*Bamba Chakula*) food assistance on gender, protection and accountability in affected populations in Kakuma;
- assess the effects of the 100 percent restricted cash transfer on gender, protection and accountability in affected populations in Kalobeyei;
- formulate recommendations to maximize gender and protection and mitigate against potential protection risks.

The assessment found that the cash-based transfers gave refugees more choices with regard to where to buy food and what food types to buy. With cash transfers, refugees reported that they could buy a variety of foods such as sugar, milk, and vegetables.

Overall refugees interviewed reported that *Bamba Chakula* contributed to increased **dignity**, especially for parents of young children and the elderly.

The study found that beneficiaries had adequate **access** to the *Bamba Chakula* markets and that they did not have to wait long in shops. Most of the refugees in Kakuma would prefer to continue with a combination of in-kind food assistance and *Bamba*

Chakula, but would like to see an increase in the amount transferred. In Kalobeyei, refugees were keen to continue receiving their food assistance through the 100 percent cash transfer.

Bamba Chakula was perceived among the refugees to contribute to increased livelihood opportunities and stimulate the local market. When it came to the host community traders though, they felt side-lined compared to the refugee traders and they felt a loss of business from the selling of rations which was occurring before *Bamba Chakula* began. In Kalobeyei, WFP is ensuring that the numbers of traders contracted from each of the host and refugee communities are parallel to provide balanced livelihood opportunities and promote social cohesion.

A complaints and feedback mechanism via WFP's helpline and helpdesks is currently in place for *Bamba Chakula*. But people were dissatisfied with the time it takes for WFP to solve problems, especially those who are unable to receive their cash transfers due to technical glitches. In Kalobeyei, refugees indicated that the helpdesk should be available more frequently – currently, the service is offered once a week. WFP is increasing its helpdesk service to three times a week in Kalobeyei as the population continues to rise.



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Preliminary results of a nutrition survey in Dadaab show a worsening situation

Levels of malnutrition have risen significantly in Dadaab, according to the preliminary findings of a joint WFP–UNHCR nutrition survey conducted in August and September.

In 2015, global acute malnutrition in Dadaab stood at 8.1 percent. The initial findings from the survey show that these levels may have climbed to 10.2 percent. Ifo 2 camp may be the most significantly affected, as the initial results show a current global acute malnutrition rate of 12.5 percent, up from 7.3 percent in 2015.

WFP will strive and maintain the fortified flour (super cereals) in the food basket in order to reduce sharing. This will ensure that the young children and the pregnant and breastfeeding mothers get this highly nutritious commodity.

WFP will also:

- continue sensitizing caregivers on the use of the fortified flour during food distributions and through the supplementary feeding programme;
- use the radio shows and mega phones to emphasize the nutrition messages including diversifying diets through the Bamba Chakula cash;
- build the capacity of partner staff to monitor and report cases of deteriorating nutritional status.



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A similar nutrition survey is planned for Kakuma camp in November.



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Relocation of non-Somali refugees to Kalobeyei settlement commences

Following the Kenyan Government's decision to close the Dadaab refugee camps, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), working with Tripartite Commission, set out a plan to reduce the population of the camps by 150,000 people by the end of 2016.

The plan involves:

- the voluntary return of refugees to Somalia
- the de-registration of Kenyan citizens who had registered as refugees
- the relocation of all the non-Somali refugees from Dadaab to Kalobeyei, near Kakuma

In Dadaab, non-Somali refugees total 16,500, just under 5 percent of the total population. UNHCR and the International

Organization for Migration (IOM) are planning to move the non-Somalis to the new Kalobeyei settlement in November. In preparation for the relocation, WFP is giving the refugees their November food entitlement before they depart Dadaab.

Refugees living in Dadaab still receive a portion of their ration as food, whereas those in Kalobeyei receive their ration in the form of cash, with only fortified flour

given in-kind. Refugees relocating to Kalobeyei from Dadaab will therefore get their November entitlement via Bamba Chakula, with each person receiving 1,400 Kenyan shillings.

WFP and partners are sensitizing the population on this ration change as well as on the services available in Kalobeyei.

The October estimate of the Dadaab camp population is 277,000, and by September, 29,920 refugees had returned to Somalia under the voluntary repatriation scheme.



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Dadaab

- **276,000** – Refugee and asylum seeker population as of October 2016
- **24,920** – Repatriated between January and September 2016

January 2016: WFP introduced restricted cash transfers

Kakuma

- **149,411** – Refugee and asylum seeker population as of October 2016
- **12,250** – New arrivals registered since the beginning of 2016, mostly from South Sudan
- **August 2015:** WFP introduced restricted cash transfers

Kalobeyei

- **7,556** – Refugee and asylum seeker population as of October 2016
- WFP gives a full food basket given in the form of *Bamba Chakula* cash plus fortified flour

Facts

600,000 refugees live in Kenya, out of whom 89 per cent live in the Dadaab and Kakuma camps.

WFP has been **providing food** to refugees in camps since 1991.

It costs WFP about **US\$ 9 million** to provide the refugees food and cash-transfers every month.

WFP **checks the identity** of each refugee collecting food against fingerprint records held by UNHCR.

In 2015, WFP introduced **cash transfers** to refugees.

WFP requires close to **US\$2.5 million** every month for the cash-based transfers.

List of Donors in Alphabetical Order (Since 2011)

Australia	France	Multilateral	Saudi Arabia
Austria	Germany	Norway	Spain
Brazil	Greece	OPEC Fund for International Development	Sweden
Canada	Hungary	Private Donors	Switzerland
Denmark	Ireland	Republic of Zambia	UN CERF
European Commission	Israel	Russian Federation	United Kingdom
Finland	Japan		United States of America

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