



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Namibia Country Brief September 2022



Operational Context

An upper-middle-income country, Namibia has a population of 2.5 million people. The country has experienced recurrent floods and drought, insect and worm invasions, and the COVID-19 pandemic, which all have had a profound impact on food security, health, and nutrition. Insufficient food production and reliance on poorly adapted rain-fed agriculture and external markets for food suggest that poor households are vulnerable to shocks and food price inflation.

Through the Namibia Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2017–2023, WFP provides food assistance to vulnerable people affected by shock, ensures adequate capacity strengthening to the Government, and facilitates effective policies and best practices. The addition of strategic outcome 4 to the current CSP aims to strengthen food systems and increase the production capacity of smallholder farmers.

WFP has been present in Namibia since 1990 as a technical partner to the Government, facilitating the development and transfer of knowledge, maintaining capacities to supplement food security and nutrition programmes.



Population: **2.5 million**

2021 Human Development Index: **139 out of 191 countries**

Income Level: **Upper-middle income**

2020 Global Hunger Index: **70 out of 107 countries**

Contacts: luise.shikongo@wfp.org rawan.taha@wfp.org
Country Director: Dr George Fedha
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Namibia

In Numbers

Net Funding Requirements:

USD 3.5 m (October 2022 – February 2023)

People Assisted in September 2022:

Home-Grown School Feeding Programme: 11,730 school children

Integrated Community-based Food Systems Projects: 1,457 beneficiaries

Operational Updates

WFP in partnership with the Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation, the Embassy of Brazil, the African Group of Ambassadors, and the Otjozondjupa Regional and local government, conducted a monitoring visit for the Tsumkwe Community Based Integrated Food Systems Project in Otjozondjupa Region. The Tsumkwe Integrated Food Systems project was launched in August 2021 to stimulate the local economy and improve livelihoods through the production of healthy food.

Key achievements of this project funded by the Brazilian Government and the African Group of Ambassadors are: introducing 2 hectares around the Tsumkwe clinic for growing vegetables- spinach, cabbage, beetroot, and onions, the construction of a poultry house with support from FAO, clearing of 65ha for project expansion, generating employment for youth, and starting community-led backyard projects.

Ondera Resettlement Farm Digital Hub - On 25 August, WFP handed over 60 Information Technology (IT) items, including computers, printers, and ergonomic office furniture, to the Ondera Resettlement Farm in Oshikoto region. In September, 40 youth were trained (47% male, 53% female) on basic computer usage and provided with certificates. In addition, WFP trained 7 trainers on computer basics to adopt a Training of Trainers approach for building the digital capacity of the remaining youth in Ondera.

Partnerships

Cassie Platform - WFP in partnership with Tololi, a tech start-up, is piloting an e-commerce platform for Home Grown School Feeding (HGFS) and smallholder farmers (SHF) countrywide. This platform identifies SHF near HGFS schools in search of local fresh produce. The platform is being piloted in 5 regions (Kunene, Omaheke, Hardap, Kavango West, and Kavango East).

Photo: Tsumkwe monitoring visit. © WFP/Luise Shikongo

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2017–2023)		
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
46 m	20.5 m	3.5 m

Strategic Result 01: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 01: Vulnerable populations in Namibia are enabled to meet their food and nutrition needs throughout the year.

Focus Area: *Root Causes*

Activities: Provide capacity strengthening to the government entities responsible for national shock-responsive safety net programmes; Provide capacity strengthening and technical assistance to the government entities responsible for school feeding

Strategic Result 05: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 02: Government Policy dialogue and programme design is informed by evidence and enhanced knowledge of hunger issues throughout NDP5 period

Focus Area: *Resilience building*

Activities: Provide capacity strengthening to government entities involved in hunger-related policy and programming; Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and partners involved in the implementation of the Zero Hunger Road Map

Strategic Result 01: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 03: Targeted food insecure households affected by shocks in Namibia benefit from enhanced access to adequate food and nutrition during and in the aftermath of crises

Focus Area: *Crisis Response*

Activities: Provide food assistance to vulnerable people affected by shocks

Strategic Result 04: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 04: Governmental institutions in Namibia have capacity to conduct analysis that supports planning towards transformative and resilient food systems by the end of 2023.

Focus Area: *Resilience Building*

Activities: Support government entities to strengthen food systems in the country.

Strategic Result 08: Enhance global partnership

Strategic Outcome 05: Government and development partners in Namibia are supported by an efficient and effective supply chain and digital services and expertise throughout the CSP period.

Focus Area: *Resilience Building*

Activities: Support government and development partners with supply chain and digital services and expertise.

Zambezi Horticultural Planters Association (ZAHOPA) -

To strengthen the partnership with ZAHOPA, WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding. Critical to this partnership is the ongoing establishment of an e-marketplace to support informal markets for food and the reduction of food waste.

WFP also established partnerships with **Impact for Africa** (IFA), and **Lithon Holdings** from the private sector. WFP, Lithon and IFA are currently discussing the possibility of co-investments or full sponsorships on integrated food systems projects supported by WFP. Lithon and IFA are keen to pilot some crops at a site of the Namibia Correctional Service before the end of 2022, while WFP will play the technical advisor role to NCS.

The partnership with the **Namibia Correctional Service** is to scale production at the Hardap Correctional Facility. This will kick-off with a 50 hectares pilot/feasibility site whilst developing a medium- and long-term strategy. Another partnership was established with the **National Planning Commission**, ensuring the coordination of program activities with government priorities.

Events and High-Level Participation

International Cooperation Forum (ICF) in Egypt- From September 7-12, the WFP country director Dr George Fedha attended the ICF along with global policymakers, ministers, development partners, private sector, civil society, and academics, ahead of COP27, to discuss priority subjects including climate action and the green transition, innovative and blended finance, food security, and South-South cooperation; all with a special focus on Africa.

Women in Agriculture Summit - At the Women in Agriculture Summit on the 22nd of September, WFP's Country Director presented a sustainable food systems approach to promote climate-smart agriculture, especially amongst women by promoting diversified crop production and increasing access to markets for improving livelihoods.

Blue Carpet Event - On the 29th of September, WFP held a blue carpet event showcasing its impactful programmes via short films around Namibia on food systems and school feeding. The event was attended by government officials, heads of diplomatic missions, and international, public, and private sector organisations. There was a special representation of the two Namibian Olympians: Christine Mboma and Beatrice Masilingi, who united to promote nutritious diets.

Donors

2021-2022 Donors: Brazil, European Union, Japan, African Group of Ambassadors, Government of the Republic of Namibia.