



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Namibia Country Brief November 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**

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In Numbers

Net Funding Requirements:

USD 3.2 m (December 2022 – May 2023)

People Assisted in November 2022:

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

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

Operational Updates

Food Systems - Ondera First Wheat Harvest

WFP, in collaboration with Oshikoto Regional Council and Ondera Constituency Settlement Committee, is supporting the implementation of the Ondera Resettlement Farm Sustainable Food System Project in the Oshikoto Region. In mid-2022 – and in response to food price inflation and wheat shortages resulting from the Russia-Ukraine war – WFP assisted in the procurement and planting of wheat under the 11 hectares of centre pivot irrigated land.

During the reporting period 12.5 tons of wheat were harvested. Community engagement discussions concluded that 80% of the revenue from the wheat sale would be divided among the 245 volunteers (228 farm volunteers, 17 security volunteers) and the remaining 20% of the revenue would be reinvestment in the farm.

To strengthen food system components, the community recommended the installation of milling machinery and the building of a bakery add value to the wheat. Additionally, the community suggested improvements in community feedback mechanisms and governance structures.

Stampriet School Integrated Food Systems Project

WFP, in partnership with Roots – a private sector farm – implemented a sustainable food systems school feeding model in the Hardap Region aimed at transformation of rural areas through linkages of food systems and people's skills development. In November 2022, the project harvested 812 kilograms of beetroot and 248 kilograms of carrots. Additionally, through a school-based chicken coop, 500 chickens were slaughtered. A portion of the poultry and vegetables is retained for school feeding, and another portion is sold for profit at local supermarkets and farmers' markets. To date, the project has earned a revenue of NAD27,000 (USD1,500). The profits are managed by a steering committee of 3 parents and 3 teachers. The project is self-sustaining and is a positive example of implementing WFP's three-pillar approach of rural transformation, food system infrastructure and human capital development.

Photo: Community engagement session in Ondera farm. © WFP/ Ndaindila Haindongo

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	3.2 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.

Cash Based Transfers (CBT) and Supply Chain - Retail Assessments

As a result of successful negotiations, the Government of Namibia, through the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) Directorate of Disaster Risk Management (DDRM), has adopted the utilisation of WFP's voucher intervention rather than in-kind relief for its national drought relief programme.

During November, a retail assessment was finalized in the three targeted regions Kunene, Omaheke, and Oshikoto to determine the capacity of retailers and the feasibility for using vouchers as a transfer modality. The results were conclusively positive for the voucher programme in all dimensions and the onboarding is in progress.

The first food voucher is scheduled for redemption by beneficiaries from the selected retailers in January 2022. The redemption of commodity vouchers from selected local retailers is expected to create an immediate stimulatory effect on the local economies of the three targeted regions.

Digital Transformation

WFP in coordination with [Tololi Online Shop](#) developed an e-commerce platform (Tololi Market) aimed to link smallholder farmers to the school feeding programme as an entry point to diversify school meals for vulnerable school children.

The benefits of using e-commerce for agricultural produce include: no queues (ease of access to local markets), stimulation of the local economy, healthy and nutritious foods and supporting job creation through a youth-led initiative.

Partnerships

Olushandja Horticultural Association

On 4 November 2022, WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Olushandja Horticulture Producers Association to support smallholder farmers on market access, value addition and preservation.

Otjiwarongo Municipality

WFP signed an MoU with Otjiwarongo Municipality on 29 November 2022 to promote urban agriculture and capacitate smallholder farmers on the upscaling of food production and the facilitation of market access. This signing was historic as this is the first MoU between WFP and a local authority.

Namibia Agronomic Board

On 30 November 2022, WFP signed an MoU with the Namibian Agronomic Board to jointly collaborate on food and nutrition security interventions through crop value chain research and development and strengthen food safety and quality management systems for the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme and at the farm level.

Donors

2021-2022 Donors: [Brazil](#), [Deloitte](#), [Japan](#), [African Group of Ambassadors](#), [Government of the Republic of Namibia](#).