

Lesotho Country Strategic Plan 2024-2028

Presentation for Executive Board Approval

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

Context Analysis



HIGH LEVELS OF POVERTY

50% of people live in poverty, coupled with high malnutrition rates (**34%** stunting)



SUBSISTENCE AGRICULTURE

70% of the rural population engages in subsistence rain-fed agriculture and **90%** of the national food supply is imported



HIGH FOOD INSECURITY

15% of the population is chronically food insecure



HIGH ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

24% of the land is degraded and only **10%** of the land is arable



COORDINATION

Humanitarian and development challenges



HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

22.5% unemployment rate, highest among youth, standing at 33%



LANDLOCKED COUNTRY

The landlocked nature of the country magnifies its vulnerability, as it relies heavily on external trade routes



GENDER INEQUALITY

Women earn **40%** less than men, one of the highest gaps in the world

Evaluation & Learning: Use of CSPE evidence in CSP design

Management Response to the CSP Evaluation of Lesotho Country Office

Rec 1. Capacity strengthening

Agreed

Key actions

- Align capacity needs mapping for the new CSP and design new capacity strengthening strategies.
- Develop country office capacity strengthening implementation plan.
- Hold internal and external quarterly reviews of capacity strengthening activities.

Rec 2. Theory of change

Agreed

Key actions

- Develop a theory of change for the new CSP.
- Conduct a gender analysis to inform the formulation of the CSP.
- Develop and implement a monitoring, evaluation and learning strategy.

Rec 3. Resilience building & humanitarian development nexus

Agreed

Key actions

- Conduct an in-depth study of the livelihoods and coping strategies of shock-affected people.
- Conduct a study of the effectiveness of national resilience interventions and identify those that can be scaled up.
- Support the Government in establishing a single registry for resilience interventions.

Rec 4. Targeting

Agreed

Key actions

- Support vulnerability assessments technically and financially.
- Enhance the targeting capacity of line ministries.

Rec 5. Social protection systems

Agreed

Key actions

- Facilitate coordination between the Disaster Risk management and the Department of Social Development.
- Facilitate development of standard operating procedures for shock-responsive social protection.
- Support the development of scalability frameworks for the programmes identified.
- ✓ Target beneficiaries of social assistance for resilience building and income-generating activities.

Rec 6. CO capacity

Agreed

Key actions

- Undertake a staffing review exercise.
- Build capacity of staff for new roles.
- Request support from the regional bureau and headquarters; engage consultants and staff on temporary duty assignment; and work with academic institutions.

CSP cross-cutting

CSP cross-cutting

CSP Activity 1,2,3,5 & 6

CSP Activity 1 & 2

CSP Activity 1 & 2

CSP cross-cutting

2nd Generation CSP Alignment

NATIONAL PRIORITIES

National Development Plan

- National Strategy/policy for:
- Disaster risk management
- Climate change & early warning
- Resilience & social protection
- School feeding & nutrition
- Gender protection

UNSDCF PRIORITIES

- Strategic Pillar 1:
 Good Governance and social equity
- Strategic Pillar 2: Equitable food systems, environmental sustainability, and climate resilience
- Strategic Pillar 3:
 People's wellbeing and economic development

Strategic Outcome 1

Strategic Outcome 2

Strategic Outcome 3

Strategic
Outcome
4

Food-insecure and crisis-affected people in Lesotho are able to meet their essential needs before, during, and after crises, including through anticipatory actions and shock-responsive national social protection programmes.

By 2029, national systems and programmes for nutrition security and school-based programming in Lesotho are strengthened.

By 2029, populations at risk in Lesotho benefit from strengthened, climate-resilient food systems and sustainable livelihoods.

The Government, development partners, civil society and private sector organizations in Lesotho have improved access to innovative, effective and cost-efficient ondemand WFP services by 2029.

2G Strategic & Programmatic Shifts

Strategic Vision

Enhance climate-resilient & equitable food systems, environmental sustainability, human capital development, social protection and emergency preparedness and response

Emergency Preparedness

Assist the Government in:

- ✓ Disaster Risk Management
- ✓ Capacity strengthening
- ✓ Direct implementation of assistance, focusing on scaling up anticipatory action
- ✓ Improving shock-responsive social protection and mitigating the impact of shocks

Human Capital Development

Strengthen and support the Government's capacity to/with:

- ✓ Address all forms of malnutrition
- ✓ Implement school-based programme/ transition strategy and HGSF
- ✓ Improve policy frameworks to implement and monitor nutrition programmes
- ✓ Implement food fortification legislation, monitoring and testing

Resilience

Assist the Government to:

- ✓ Adopt an integrated package of rural-urban assistance on transformational practices
- ✓ Implement multi-year integrated strategies to enhance resilience to climate shocks
- ✓ Strengthen capacities to address depletion of natural resources and chronic food insecurity

Food Systems

Support the Government in:

- ✓ Promoting increased adoption of ecosystem restoration practices
- ✓ Improving decentralized food aggregation and storage facilities
- ✓ In addressing issues related to food safety and quality



THAIK YOU