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### Draft Namibia country strategic plan (2025–2029)

Duration	1 January 2025–31 December 2029
Total cost to WFP	USD 17,077,124
Gender and age marker*	4

\* https://gender.manuals.wfp.org/en/gender-toolkit/gender-in-programming/gender-and-age-marker/.

#### **Executive summary**

The Government of Namibia has demonstrated a strong commitment to achieving zero hunger by 2030, but progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 2 remains constrained. Despite its upper-middle-income status, the country faces significant challenges, such as high levels of inequality, unemployment, poverty and food and nutrition insecurity, affecting in particular the most at-risk people. As one of the driest countries in sub-Saharan Africa, Namibia's food system is highly vulnerable to climate shocks. Subsistence farming, a heavy reliance on rain-fed agriculture, and post-harvest losses exacerbate food insecurity. Limited access to markets, capital, climate-resilient crops and modern farming technologies and skills also contribute to a significant dependence on food imports and vulnerability to supply chain volatility, hampering the ability of the people most at-risk, particularly Indigenous Peoples, to afford or otherwise obtain access to nutrient-rich diets.

In this setting, despite the Government's commitment and allocation of increased resources to social sectors, challenges persist in targeting the most at-risk people, impeding efforts to alleviate poverty and reduce inequality. Programmes such as those dedicated to national drought relief and school feeding, historically implemented directly by WFP, have successfully shifted to government ownership. WFP remains a strategic technical partner in ensuring the inclusivity and effectiveness of these programmes and stands ready to support government-led crisis response and provide expert guidance in advancing Namibia's progress towards food security.

#### **Focal points:**

Ms L. Castro Regional Director a.i. Southern Africa email: lola.castro@wfp.org Ms E. Shafudah Officer-in-Charge email: ericah.shafudah@wfp.org<u>mailto:</u> This country strategic plan for 2025–2029 will therefore prioritize the provision of technical assistance to the Government and other actors. In direct alignment with government objectives and the Sixth National Development Plan, the country strategic plan is based on four interconnected and mutually reinforcing outcomes that are centred on emergency response, accelerated human capital development, the transformation towards sustainable climate-resilient food systems, and service provision:

- Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations in Namibia are able to meet their food and nutrition needs in times of crisis.
- Outcome 2: By 2030, national social protection systems in Namibia are strengthened to more effectively benefit the most at-risk people and promote human capital development.
- Outcome 3: By 2030, national food systems in Namibia are strengthened to improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers, ensuring that the most at-risk communities have access to affordable healthy diets.
- Outcome 4: By 2030, the Government and other actors in Namibia, especially those focusing on food systems, have leveraged WFP services and expertise in supply chains, enabling them to effectively support the people and communities most at risk.

This plan is also aligned with WFP's corporate strategic outcomes and the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework for 2025–2029 and incorporates recommendations from Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan for 2020–2030 of the Southern African Development Community.

To achieve these planned outcomes, WFP will collaborate extensively with the Government as its primary partner, along with the private sector, academia, donors and civil society. Emphasizing joint programming and advocacy for funding, WFP will work closely with other United Nations entities, particularly the other Rome-based agencies. The partnerships and resourcing strategy underlying the country strategic plan is designed to diversify resources, drawing from traditional and non-traditional donors, local and international financial institutions, innovative financing mechanisms, the private sector and climate financing.

Cross-cutting issues related to gender equality, the empowerment of young people and women, nutrition integration, protection and accountability to affected people, particularly Indigenous Peoples, will be integrated throughout the design, planning and implementation of interventions. Key enablers of results under all outcomes include digital innovation, strategic partnerships, robust evidence collection and South–South and triangular cooperation.

#### **Draft decision\***

The Board approves the Namibia country strategic plan (2025–2029) (WFP/EB.2/2024/7-A/4) at a total cost to WFP of USD 17,077,124.

<sup>\*</sup> This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the decisions and recommendations document issued at the end of the session.

#### 1. Country analysis

#### 1.1. Country context

- 1. Namibia has a coastline of 1,500 km along the Atlantic Ocean and a population of 3 million people, which is relatively small given its 824,000 km<sup>2</sup> land area.<sup>1</sup> Politically stable, Namibia ranks 142nd of 193 countries in the Human Development Index.<sup>2</sup>
- 2. Despite its upper-middle-income status, Namibia faces persistent socioeconomic challenges and high levels of inequality, making it one of the world's most unequal countries.<sup>3</sup> Namibia aims to become a prosperous and industrialized nation, committed to eradicating poverty and hunger and ensuring a healthy, food-secure population.
- 3. Namibia's gross domestic product has demonstrated resilience, growing by a notable 4.2 percent in 2023, driven primarily by the lucrative mining sector, which is based on the country's abundant mineral resources.<sup>4</sup> However, unemployment rates in 2023 were high, at 19.6 percent in the overall population and 38.4 percent among young people.<sup>5</sup> In the same year, 17.8 percent of the population was living below the international poverty line (at 2017 purchasing power parity),<sup>6</sup> with a significant proportion of the people affected being women, young people or Indigenous Peoples.<sup>7</sup>
- 4. Local food systems meet less than half of the demand for staple foods, resulting in a heavy dependence on imports.<sup>8</sup> Although the agriculture sector employs 22 percent of the population<sup>9</sup> and 70 percent depend on agriculture more broadly for their livelihoods, the sector still falls short of ensuring the country's food and nutrition security.<sup>10</sup> Namibia is grappling with the triple burden of malnutrition, with poor diets being a common factor and difficulties in affording a healthy and nutritious diet a major determinant.
- 5. Namibia is one of the driest countries in sub-Saharan Africa and is highly exposed to climate shocks. With its arid and variable climate and erratic rainfall, Namibia ranked 109th of 185 countries on the index of the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative.<sup>11</sup> Climate change is expected to have significant impacts, including declining livestock production and the deterioration of rangeland. These issues are compounded by unsustainable land management practices, exacerbating land degradation.<sup>12</sup>
- 6. In May 2024, Namibia declared a state of emergency due to a drought induced by El Niño, which affected large parts of the country and was described as the worst drought in a century.<sup>13</sup> Even before that event, more than a quarter of the population was estimated to

<sup>4</sup> Trading Economics. 2023. Namibia Full-Year GDP growth.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Namibia Statistics Agency. 2023. Namibia Population.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2024. *Human Development Report 2023/2024. Breaking the gridlock: Reimagining cooperation in a polarized world.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare. 2021. Social Protection Policy 2021–2030.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> World Bank Data. 2023. Namibia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> World Bank. 2024. Namibia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare. 2021. Social Protection Policy 2021–2030.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> FAOSTAT. Cereal import dependency ratio (percent) (3-year average) (2018–2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Trading Economics. 2022. Namibia - Employment In Agriculture (% Of Total Employment).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> WFP. 2021.Policy Brief: Namibia Food Systems (paper prepared for the United Nations food systems summit in 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> University of Notre Dame. 2021. Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative country index.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> World Bank Group. 2021. Climate Risk country Profile: Namibia; and United Nations. 2023. Common country analysis: Namibia. (unpublished draft).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations. 2024. Namibia – Drought. ECHO daily flash of 29 May 2024.

be food insecure.<sup>14</sup> The Government activated the National Drought Relief Programme and called on the international community to complement its response.

- 7. Namibia's government-funded social protection system is one of the most developed in Africa and comprises a wide range of social protection programmes, although challenges persist in the coverage and inclusiveness of social safety nets.<sup>15</sup> Namibia has attained noteworthy progress in human capital development since the introduction of the national school feeding programme in 1990. Enrolment rates in primary and secondary school have increased significantly and the programme reaches more than half of the children of primary and secondary school age, although it does not include early childhood development centres.
- 8. Environmental conservation is embedded in the national constitution and the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for 2013–2022; the Government recognizes biodiversity and clean energy production as fundamental to sustainable national development.<sup>16</sup> An assessment of the nexus between food, energy and water indicates that providing clean and affordable energy to people, particularly in the agricultural sector, could be an enabler of economic growth.<sup>17</sup>

#### 1.2 Progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- 9. Namibia has fully committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and is implementing the agenda within the framework of its national development plans (NDPs),<sup>18</sup> with the sixth iteration (NDP6) currently in the final stages of development. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been incorporated into a range of national policy documents. NDP6 and its antecedents are aligned with the 2030 Agenda, the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan for 2020–2030 of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).<sup>19</sup>
- 10. The 2023 Sustainable Development Report ranked Namibia 109th of 166 countries, with a score of 64.3 on the SDG index.<sup>20</sup> The country is on track to achieving several of the SDGs, but progress is slow towards some, including SDGs 2 and 17. The most recent draft of the United Nations common country analysis indicates a lack of sustainable access to affordable, safe and nutritious food and insufficient coverage and uptake of social protection schemes.<sup>21</sup>

#### 1.3 Progress towards Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17

#### Progress on Sustainable Development Goal 2 targets

11. The Government of Namibia is committed to achieving zero hunger, including in times of crisis such as the recent drought,<sup>22</sup> and to implementing long-term policies that improve food and nutrition outcomes, such as the Namibia Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP), the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Integrated Food Security Phase Classification. 2023. Namibia: Acute Food Insecurity Situation for July–September 2023 and Projections for October 2023–March 2024 and April–June 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare. 2021. Social Protection Policy 2021–2030.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Ministry of Environment and Tourism. 2014. Namibia's Second National Biodiversity – Strategy and Action Plan 2013–2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Simpson, G.B. and others. 2023. "An African perspective on the Water–Energy–Food nexus" in *Scientific Reports*, 13: 16842.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> National Planning Commission. 2022. Sustainable Development Goals and Fifth National Development Plan Indicator Framework.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Office of the President, National Planning Commission. 2021. *Namibia's Second Voluntary National Review Report on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals Towards Agenda 2030.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Sustainable Development Report. 2023. Namibia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> United Nations. 2023. Common country analysis: Namibia (unpublished draft).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Office of the Prime Minister. 2023. Press release on the launch of the Namibia livelihood vulnerability assessment and analysis.

revised national food and nutrition security policy and the 2019 Namibia school feeding policy. However, despite these policy commitments and Namibia's status as an upper-middle-income country, progress towards SDG 2 is being held back by the following factors.

- 12. *Food systems.*<sup>23</sup> Namibia's food system produces only 43 percent of the country's food demand, with the remainder being imported, including staple cereals such as maize, wheat, millet and sorghum.<sup>24</sup> Meanwhile, 39 percent of households, particularly in rural areas, lack the means to ensure access to a nutrient-rich diet, which can cost three times as much as a diet that meets only energy requirements.<sup>25</sup>
- 13. *Smallholder productivity and incomes.* Smallholder farmers face challenges in obtaining access to essential resources such as land, technology, water and markets. Their reliance on rain-fed agriculture makes smallholders highly susceptible to the effects of frequent droughts. The Government acknowledges the significant contribution that support for smallholder farming makes to the realization of Namibia's vision of eradicating hunger and ensuring a healthy, food-secure nation.
- 14. Access to food. Unemployment, inflation, climate shocks, import dependency and fluctuations in import prices over past years continue to be major factors limiting people's access to food.<sup>26</sup> People in drought-prone areas, including the regions of Kunene, Erongo, Omusati, Omaheke and Karas, face a heightened risk of food insecurity. Over the past five years, during the lean season, the number of people affected by food insecurity measured as phase 3 or above in the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification has ranged from 257,000 in 2018/19 to 750,000 in 2021/22, indicating that even in years of good rainfall, significant food insecurity persists.<sup>27</sup> Food price inflation in Namibia has increased in the past two years, reaching 7.4 percent in December 2023 and further exacerbating the challenges in obtaining access to food.<sup>28</sup>
- 15. *End malnutrition.* Addressing malnutrition is a pressing concern for Namibia, which faces the triple burden of malnutrition.<sup>29</sup> Notably, 16.8 percent of children under 5 years of age are stunted, 7.1 percent are wasted and 5.3 percent are overweight,<sup>30</sup> while 25 percent of women and girls of reproductive age suffer from anaemia.<sup>31</sup> The number of severely malnourished children under 5 admitted to programmes for the treatment of malnutrition increased by 66 percent from January to December 2022.<sup>32</sup> Indigenous Peoples are disproportionately affected, with rates of severe acute malnutrition at least three times higher than in other groups.<sup>33.</sup> Poor diet and public health factors contribute to these high malnutrition rates, particularly micronutrient deficiencies. Improving nutrition requires coordinated action from multiple stakeholders, including awareness raising on the

<sup>33</sup> United Nations. 2023. Common Country Analysis Namibia (unpublished draft).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> WFP. 2021.Policy Brief: Namibia Food Systems (paper prepared for the United Nations food systems summit in 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> German Agency for International Cooperation. 2022. Sector brief Namibia: Agriculture.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> National Planning Commission and WFP. 2021. Fill the Nutrient Gap – Namibia: Report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Namibia Vulnerability Assessment Committee. 2023. Namibia 2022/23 Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (VAA) Findings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> In the period between April and June 2024, 491,000 people were forecast to face crisis levels of food insecurity. Source: Integrated Food Security Phase Classification. *2023*. Namibia: Acute Food Insecurity Situation for July–September 2023 and Projections for October 2023–March 2024 and April–June 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Trading Economics. 2024. Namibia Food Inflation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Nutrition and Food Security Alliance of Namibia. 2022. *The Cost of Hunger in Africa: The Social and Economic Impact of Child Undernutrition in Namibia.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> United Nations Children's Fund, World Health Organization and World Bank. 2023. Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates (JME) – 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Global Nutrition Report. Country Nutrition Profiles Namibia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Namibia Vulnerability Assessment Committee. 2023. Namibia 2022/23 Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (VAA) Findings.

consumption of nutritious foods. Namibia imports about 95 percent of its fruit and 45 percent of its vegetable demand, leading to low consumption of fruit and vegetables due to affordability issues, especially among Indigenous Peoples, who rely mainly on cereal-based foods for their daily energy.

#### Progress on Sustainable Development Goal 17 targets

- 16. *Diversified resourcing.* Half of the Government's budget in the 2024/25 fiscal year amounting to USD 2.69 billion has been allocated to education, gender equality, health, nutrition and the improvement of national social safety net programmes.<sup>34</sup> Against this backdrop, the country grapples with a persistent fiscal deficit and high levels of debt, making it essential to establish financially sustainable pathways and diversify funding sources.
- 17. Enhanced global partnerships. The Government aims to enhance access to skills and technology transfer through development cooperation and to foster multistakeholder partnerships, including with United Nations entities and international financial institutions. South–South and triangular cooperation plays a critical role and is strengthened through bilateral visits and technical agreements. There has been increasing growth in investments, technical assistance and technology transfer from other countries.<sup>35</sup>

#### 1.4 Hunger gaps and challenges

- 18. Institutional frameworks and capacities. Namibia is fully committed to ending hunger by 2030. This commitment is reflected in all the development documents in which zero hunger is a key priority. The institutional frameworks that underpin these documents aim to accelerate agricultural transformation, economic growth and poverty reduction and reflect recognition of the importance of food and nutrition security in Namibia.<sup>36</sup>
- 19. The Namibia Hunger Map for 2016–2020<sup>37</sup> and its preliminary review highlight the need to strengthen systems, implementation capacity, multisectoral coordination, resilient food systems, disaster risk management programmes and financing for the delivery of social protection that supports the achievement of SDG 2. While policy planning is well coordinated at the central level, there is room for improvement in the multisectoral coordination of policy implementation at the national, regional and local levels. The following areas require further strengthening:
  - > technical and functional capacity at the national, regional and local levels;
  - functional coherence, in order to addresses weaknesses in the implementation of national and sectoral policies and plans;
  - the convergence of service delivery from various sectors at the regional level, which brings co-benefits for food security and nutrition;
  - budget allocations for the implementation of nutrition-sensitive interventions in the agriculture and social protection sectors; and
  - up-to-date, high-quality data and strong analytical capacities that better inform policy and operational decisions and enhance funding proposals.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Ministry of Finance and Public Enterprises. 2024. *Budget Statement for the 2024/25 Financial Year*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Office of the President, National Planning Commission. 2021. *Namibia's Second Voluntary National Review Report on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals towards Agenda 2030.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Namibia's Vision 2030, NDP 5, NDP 6 (currently under development), the NAIP, the national zero hunger strategy, Harambee Prosperity Plan II, the Namibia Agriculture Policy, the revised national food and nutrition security policy and Namibia's Second Voluntary National Review Report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Nutrition and Food Security Alliance of Namibia. Namibia Zero Hunger Road Map (2016–2020).

- 20. *Food availability.* Although Namibia registered a 56 percent reduction in extreme poverty rates between 2003 and 2015,<sup>38</sup> almost a fifth of the population is classified as poor.<sup>39</sup> Access to nutritious foods in subsistence-based households is hindered by poverty, income inequality, recurrent drought, water shortages, soil erosion, land degradation, limited income opportunities and restrictions on women's access to land.
- 21. *Disaster response systems and policy implementation*. Climate shocks continue to undermine food and nutrition security, with rural communities and subsistence farmers particularly at risk. Established by the Office of the Prime Minister in 2012, the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management is tasked with strengthening and coordinating disaster risk management in Namibia. The country has made significant strides in implementing the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030). Since 2021, the National Drought Relief Programme has supported 314,855 households a year during the lean season.<sup>40</sup> Despite this progress, however, challenges persist in targeting and in forecasting the capabilities of national meteorological centres, implementing emergency operation centres and obtaining disaster risk financing, including for the development and coordination of anticipatory action and preparedness measures.
- 22. Social safety nets. Namibia has more than 50 social protection programmes providing cash transfers, in-kind food assistance and subsidized services. These initiatives address immediate food needs during droughts and provide school meals and support for nutrition and agriculture.<sup>41</sup> However, despite robust governance frameworks and a new social protection policy aimed at making social protection more adaptive, challenges persist. Fragmentation and inadequate coordination among ministries hinder effective implementation and are exacerbated by a lack of integration among information management systems with impacts on the targeting, prioritization and monitoring of programmes. Existing programmes focus on food consumption rather than resilience building, limiting their effectiveness as productive safety nets.<sup>42</sup> Moreover, spending on social protection programmes and only limited data on the coverage of other at-risk people are available.<sup>43</sup>
- 23. *National school feeding.* The school feeding programme is the most widespread social safety net in Namibia. It was initially established by WFP and successfully handed over to the Government in 1996.<sup>44</sup> In 2023, the programme reached 466,860 children of primary school age, covering 86 percent of all children in that age group.<sup>45</sup> To demonstrate the impact on learning, health and local incomes, WFP supported the Government in implementing a home-grown school feeding (HGSF) model, which had reached 10,985 primary schoolchildren by 2023. However, challenges in sectoral coordination and the ownership of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup>World Bank data. 2022. Country Profile Namibia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Office of the President, National Planning Commission. 2021. *Namibia's Second Voluntary National Review Report on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals Towards Agenda 2030.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia. Letter to WFP Namibia country director, dated 10 June 2024 (unpublished).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare. 2024. Social protection programmes booklet. 2024 (unpublished).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare. 2022. *Social Protection Policy 2021–2030*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> United Nations Children's Fund . 2023. Social protection: Namibia budget brief.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture. 2020. Namibian School Feeding Policy Implementation Action Plan (2019–2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Government of Namibia. 2012. *The Namibian School Feeding Programme: A Case Study*.

programmes<sup>46</sup> hindered the expansion of HGSF under the previous country strategic plan (CSP).<sup>47</sup>

- 24. *Food systems.* A major impediment to people's access to healthy diets is Namibia's reliance on food imports, which exposes it to the dynamics of international food markets, including price volatility. This disproportionately affects the most at-risk people owing to high poverty rates and inequality. Limited access to markets, capital, climate-resilient crops, modern farming technologies and regenerative practices hampers domestic food systems, especially in rural areas. Post-harvest losses along the distribution and consumption chains, including during storage and transportation, exacerbate the issue.<sup>48</sup>
- 25. *Supply chains.* The Government recognizes the importance of making strategic investments in enhancing supply chain capabilities and performance in order to improve food security and economic development. As highlighted in an assessment of national supply chains, Namibia faces various capacity issues in its supply chains particularly inadequate infrastructure, inefficient warehousing practices and insufficient capacity for managing temperature-sensitive logistics which hinder the strengthening of sustainable food systems.<sup>49</sup>
- 26. *Gender inequality.* As highlighted in an integrated context analysis and risk assessment of gender and protection matters carried out by the Regional Bureau for Southern Africa in 2023, some indicators of women's empowerment in Namibia are high, but gender inequalities persist. Social norms are often patriarchal, and households headed by women are more likely to be food-insecure than those headed by men. In 2020, 8.3 percent of the population was living with HIV.<sup>50</sup> Gender-based violence and the risk of HIV infection affect women and girls disproportionately, particularly adolescent girls.

#### 2. Strategic implications for WFP

#### 2.1 Achievements, lessons learned and strategic changes for WFP

- 27. Drawing on past achievements, lessons learned, assessments, the evaluation of the previous CSP for 2017–2024<sup>51</sup> and a regional vulnerability assessment and analysis carried out by SADC,<sup>52</sup> WFP will leverage its global expertise to enhance the functionality and synergy of key national systems,<sup>53</sup> particularly those involved in food and nutrition security, social protection, and emergency preparedness and response. This will improve the accessibility, availability and consumption of healthy and diverse diets, reduce the risk of food insecurity and ensure that the most at-risk people are reached effectively.
- 28. *Crisis response*. In 2022/23 WFP successfully delivered food assistance in the regions of Kunene, Omaheke and Oshikoto as part of its drought response operations. From the outset, government officials were involved in setting and implementing criteria for the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> "Summary report on the evaluation of the country strategic plan for Namibia" (WFP/EB.2/2023/6-A/8).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> WFP. 2024. Namibia Annual Country Report 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Office of the President, National Planning Commission. 2021. *Namibia Zero Hunger Strategic Review Report.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Levenger, M., Ongeri, B., Wolde, A. and Kagoya, H.R. (Supply Chain Management System). 2013. *Namibia National Supply Chain Assessment Results: Capability and Performance*; WFP. 2024.CSP Supply chain strategy (unpublished).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. 2020. *Namibia Country Operational Plan (COP) 2020: Strategic Direction Summary.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> "Management response to the recommendations from the summary report on the evaluation of the country strategic plan for Namibia (2017–2023)" (WFP/EB.2/2023/6-A/8/Add.1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Southern African Development Community, Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Landell Mills and WFP. 2022. *Joint Evaluation of the SADC Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (RVAA) Programme (2017–2022).* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> In line with the recommendations of the evaluation of the previous CSP, WFP has undertaken a comprehensive assessment of country capacities, identified gaps and leveraged its comparative advantage to fill those gaps.

targeting and prioritization of people at risk. In Kunene, the share of assisted households facing food insecurity dropped from 74 percent to 11 percent following WFP's assistance.<sup>54</sup> Given the effectiveness of these efforts, the Government has requested that WFP expand them and provide technical assistance on targeting and prioritization in other regions. While WFP will continue to support the Government-led crisis response, ensuring that the most at-risk people can meet their food and nutrition needs, the number of people directly assisted by WFP is expected to gradually decrease each year as the Government's capacity increases.

- 29. Strengthening programmes and systems for anticipatory action, emergency preparedness and response. Interventions that address food insecurity in Namibia are owned and implemented by the Government and receive substantial funding from the national budget.<sup>55</sup> WFP's contribution under the previous CSP was most effective in building national capacities, contributing to policy frameworks and developing the commodity and beneficiary management information system. Building on increased government capacity, WFP will work with the Government to prioritize actions that address the remaining gaps in targeting and eligibility, national forecasting and early warning and anticipatory disaster response systems and mitigate climate risks for the communities at greatest risk.
- 30. Social protection systems. Building directly on the success of the commodity and beneficiary management information system, lessons learned will be used to strengthen social safety net programmes by ensuring that they work smoothly together, improving the integration of information systems, targeting and eligibility monitoring and avoiding duplication.<sup>56</sup> Given that a large portion of the Government's 2024/25 budget is dedicated to the social sector, systems such as the commodity and beneficiary management information system will be instrumental in ensuring efficiency in public administration. In addition, WFP has enhanced the capacity and coordination of the government entities that oversee national shock-responsive safety net programmes. Capitalizing on these achievements, WFP will focus on working with other United Nations entities and partners to enhance coordination capacity at the national and regional levels.
- 31. *Expansion of home-grown school feeding.* In July 2021, with support from WFP, the Government launched a pilot HGSF programme in 29 schools in seven regions,<sup>57</sup> drawing on the findings of a decentralized evaluation of the Namibia national school feeding programme to inform the design of the programme.<sup>58</sup> As a result of this initiative and capacity strengthening efforts by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, smallholder farmers have gained access to markets, reduced their post-harvest losses through improved storage and transportation protocols and increased their awareness of food safety matters. In 2023, WFP's support focused on enhancing the Namibia school feeding information management system by reviewing, upgrading and implementing the system and incorporating specific indicators for the HGSF programme.
- 32. Looking ahead, WFP plans to draw on its global expertise to expand the coverage of HGSF from its current 2 percent to 10 percent of primary and secondary schoolchildren. The expansion will also include 301 early childhood development centres where WFP will work

<sup>58</sup> WFP. 2020. *Evaluation of Namibia National School Feeding Programme (2012–2018), Vol. 2 Annexes.* The evaluation recommended supporting the testing and implementation of home-grown school feeding programmes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> WFP. 2023. Post-Distribution Monitoring Assessment in Kunene, Oshikoto and Omaheke Regions, May–June 2023 (unpublished).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup>Office of the President National Planning Commission. 2024. *Development Programmes. Medium-Term Expenditure Framework* 2024/25 – 2026/27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> "Summary report on the evaluation of the country strategic plan for Namibia (2017–2023)" (WFP/EB.2/2023/6-A/8).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture. 2021. *Education Management Information System Education Statistics, 2021*. The report underscores how the school feeding programme has significantly contributed to the retention in school of the children at greatest risk of malnutrition.

in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). WFP aims to strengthen connections at the grassroots level among schools, small and medium-sized enterprises, farmer associations and the Government. The HGSF programme will help to enhance strategic planning, secure financing and mobilize resources through partnerships with donors and the private sector. Schools will also be used as centres for other programmes, providing additional opportunities to promote health and nutrition among students.

- 33. *Enhancing food systems.* In 2021, in response to a request from the Government, WFP initiated 35 integrated food system projects aimed at improving livelihoods, building resilience and enhancing market access, particularly for at-risk communities. As a result of those efforts, more than 100 mt of nutritious foods have been produced and 368 full-time jobs have been created, with a strong emphasis on empowering women and young people. In addition, WFP facilitated the secondment of three technical experts in agriculture from Egypt to Namibia's Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform for three years. Building on these achievements, WFP plans to expand capacity-strengthening efforts for food system actors and promote regenerative agronomic practices. Together with its partners, WFP will prioritize the strengthening of national food systems by enhancing existing programmes, governance frameworks and policies to ensure that they translate into inclusive and gender-responsive initiatives for food security and nutrition. WFP will continue to leverage South-South and triangular cooperation to complement these initiatives.
- 34. *Service provision.* The Government has indicated a strong interest in leveraging WFP's global expertise and service provision to strengthen national supply chains. This collaboration aims to enhance efficiency and resilience within Namibia's supply chain infrastructure.
- 35. *Cross-cutting issues.* WFP will design a comprehensive people-centred strategy and action plan for addressing cross-cutting priorities. As recommended in the evaluation of the previous CSP, consideration of cross-cutting issues has been integrated and fully mainstreamed into the design, planning and implementation of interventions under this new CSP.

## 2.2 Alignment with national development plans, the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework and other frameworks

- 36. WFP's strategic direction builds on and is aligned with the following:
  - the national priorities proposed in the draft NDP6 economic recovery, transformation and resilience, human development and community resilience, sustainable development and green growth opportunities, and effective governance and public service delivery;<sup>59</sup>
  - relevant policy frameworks, including the NAIP, the social protection policy for 2021–2030, the revised national food and nutrition security policy and the school feeding policy implementation action plan for 2019–2024, and considerations from the white paper on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, which is currently under government review; and
  - the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework (UNSDCF) for 2025–2029 for Namibia and its four strategic priority areas, which are aligned with NDP6 – effective governance and public service delivery; economic recovery, transformation and resilience; sustainable development and green growth opportunities; and human development and community resilience.<sup>60</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> National Planning Commission. 2023. The Sixth National Development Plan (NDP6) Formulation White Paper.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Analysis of the UNSDCF, comprehensive mapping by other United Nations entities and extensive engagement with United Nations partners have been instrumental in identifying the areas where WFP will contribute to joint efforts through this CSP.

#### 2.3 Engagement with key stakeholders

- 37. Consultations on the CSP commenced in 2022, engaging stakeholders from the Government, donors, other United Nations entities, the private sector, civil society, non-governmental organizations, women's organizations and organizations supporting local communities and persons with disabilities. WFP actively engaged with communities to inform the design and strategic focus of the CSP, emphasizing the needs of at-risk people. The aim was to assess priorities, identify gaps, understand needs, explore partnership opportunities and track funding trends.
- 38. Substantial inputs were gathered from discussions with the Government at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference and during the CSP validation workshop held in February 2024. WFP played an active role in consultations on the NDP6 white paper and the formulation of the UNSDCF for 2025–2029, and contributed to the common country analysis. This has helped to ensure that the CSP is aligned with national and United Nations priorities.

#### 3. WFP strategic portfolio

#### 3.1 Direction, focus and intended impacts

- 39. WFP aims to deliver transformative support that contributes to Namibia's goal of eradicating poverty and hunger and ensuring a healthy and food-secure nation. WFP seeks to strengthen systems, particularly those governing food security, social protection and emergency preparedness. Building on past achievements, WFP aims to ensure that the most at-risk people are reached more effectively. Under this CSP, WFP will prioritize the provision of technical assistance to the Government and other actors and stands ready to support government-led crisis response and provide expert guidance in advancing Namibia's progress towards food security.
- 40. This CSP is based on four interconnected and mutually reinforcing CSP outcomes focused on emergency response; accelerated human capital development; transformation towards sustainable, climate-resilient food systems; and service provision. In consultation with the Government, the country office has elaborated a theory of change<sup>61</sup> that describes the logic of interventions and the assumptions that underpin the CSP outcomes and activities. Digital innovation, strategic partnerships, the collection of robust evidence, innovative financing and South–South and triangular cooperation are key enablers of results under all outcomes.
- 41. In line with the Government's request, and complementing the national response, WFP will focus on providing nutrition-sensitive assistance, targeting at-risk people. WFP will support efforts to address the gaps in national emergency response systems by enhancing the inclusiveness of national emergency response programmes through improved targeting and prioritization, supporting the implementation of emergency operation centres and strengthening anticipatory action and early warning systems.
- 42. Recognizing human capital as a driver of long-term economic growth, WFP will support the Government in strengthening systems for social protection, including school feeding. To address coordination challenges and ensure that benefits reach the communities most at risk, WFP will continue to build on its track record in strengthening national social protection systems, together with partners, by facilitating linkages and policy coherence among multiple ministries and at the regional level. WFP will also advocate productive social safety nets that enhance the productive capacity and resilience of at-risk communities. It will strengthen the national school feeding programme, with a particular focus on expanding HGSF enabled by WFP-supported farmer organizations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> WFP. 2023. Theory of change: WFP Namibia second-generation country strategic plan (2025–2029) (unpublished).

43. Together with its partners, WFP will use efforts to transform and de-risk food systems as entry points for building climate resilience. The goal is to build inclusive, sustainable and resilient local food systems that improve access to healthy diets. This will involve strengthening the capacity of food system actors and promoting regenerative agronomic practices. Emphasis will be placed on evidence generation, monitoring, evaluation and the integration of Indigenous knowledge into food systems.<sup>62</sup> WFP will enhance national programmes, governance and policies to ensure that they translate into people-centred, inclusive and gender-responsive food and nutrition security programming. WFP aims to be a service provider of choice for the Government and other development or humanitarian actors by increasing access to its supply chain services while establishing strategic partnerships, particularly those that can strengthen the resilience of national food systems.

## 3.2 Country strategic plan outcomes, WFP strategic outcomes, focus areas, expected outputs and key activities

## Country strategic plan outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations in Namibia are able to meet their food and nutrition needs in times of crises

- 44. Under CSP outcome 1, WFP aims to complement national efforts to ensure that targeted people affected by shocks, such as those induced by El Niño in May 2024, receive adequate and timely assistance that meets their daily food and nutrition needs. WFP will also support government entities in promptly anticipating and responding to unpredictable climate events.
- 45. CSP outcome 1 contributes to SDG target 2.1 and to SDGs 1 and 13.

#### WFP strategic outcome

46. CSP outcome 1 is aligned with WFP strategic outcome 1: People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs.

#### Focus area

47. The focus area of CSP outcome 1 is crisis response.

#### Alignment with national priorities

48. CSP outcome 1 is aligned with the draft NAIP, particularly the pillar on food and nutrition security; NDP6, particularly the pillar on economic recovery and resilience; and outcome 3, on natural resources, of the UNSDCF for 2025–2029.

#### **Excepted outputs**

- 49. The following outputs will contribute to the achievement of CSP outcome 1:
  - Output 1.1: Populations at risk receive assistance that adequately meets their food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises.
  - Output 2.1: Shock-affected women, men and children benefit from the enhanced implementation capacity of the Government and stakeholders to anticipate, prepare for and respond to emergencies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Namibia's Indigenous Peoples are diverse, have various sources of livelihood, such as pastoralism, hunting and gathering and nomadism, and face distinct challenges, such as extreme poverty, low literacy rates, high mobility, social stigmatization and landlessness. The majority of Indigenous Peoples are San, who experience severe socioeconomic challenges, relying heavily on State-run food aid and having a life expectancy that is 22 percent lower than the national average. Ombudsman Namibia. 2022. *Guide to Indigenous Peoples' Rights in Namibia*.

#### Key activities

Activity 1: Provide unconditional resource transfers to crisis-affected populations, in line with the Government's response

- 50. WFP will complement national crisis response programming by providing shock-affected people with nutrition-sensitive food assistance that enables them to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements. Interventions will complement the Government's food assistance programme, focusing on the most at-risk people, including Indigenous Peoples, who are often disproportionately affected by shocks.
- 51. WFP will provide cash-based transfers, predominantly nutrition-sensitive value vouchers where feasible, based on market functionality and infrastructure and beneficiary preferences. All transfers will be complemented by social and behaviour change components that promote appropriate nutrition and health practices, especially among the people most at risk.
- 52. Transfers will be provided in partnership with the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Health and Social Services. Beneficiaries will be identified from the Government's registry. Pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, and children under 5 years of age will be prioritized, verified and enrolled through health facilities, in collaboration with UNICEF.

Activity 2: Provide capacity strengthening to the Government for the anticipation of and response to shocks, leveraging early warning and emergency preparedness

- 53. WFP will support the national Government and regional entities in ensuring robust emergency preparedness, targeting and prioritization, anticipatory action and crisis response. This will involve enhancing the forecasting capabilities of national meteorological centres, improving the implementation capacities of emergency operation centres, and supporting the Government in the development and implementation of disaster risk financing strategies.
- 54. Drawing on its global expertise and incorporating the perspectives and requirements of people most at risk, WFP will provide technical support to the Government aimed at strengthening national preparedness and response to climate shocks, emergencies and other crises.
- 55. WFP will leverage its regional and global experience in the implementation of disaster risk financing mechanisms as part of its integrated programming at the national and regional levels.

#### Partnerships

56. WFP will work with the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management and other government entities and partners, including the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Health and Social Services. At the United Nations country team level, WFP – as chair of the United Nations emergency humanitarian focal points team – and the United Nations Resident Coordinator have been requested by the Prime Minister to coordinate the development partners forum to complement the Government's response.

#### Assumptions

- 57. The Government continues to prioritize and implement social protection programmes that ensure that crisis-affected people can meet their food and nutrition needs, including through the provision of food assistance.
- 58. Within the period covered by the CSP, a climate or other shock occurs at a scale that exceeds national response capacity.

#### Transition/handover strategy

59. WFP's work on strengthening national capacity and systems for social protection and human capital development under CSP outcome 2 and food systems under CSP outcome 3 will enable the Government to anticipate and respond to shocks without WFP's direct provision of emergency assistance.

# Country strategic plan outcome 2: By 2030, national social protection systems in Namibia are strengthened to more effectively benefit the most at-risk people and promote human capital development

- 60. Under this outcome, WFP will support the Government in strengthening systems for social protection, including school feeding, so as to ensure that the people at greatest risk of being "left behind" especially women, young people, children, people living with HIV, persons with disabilities, pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls and Indigenous Peoples have access to better nutrition.
- 61. This outcome contributes to SDG targets 17.9, on capacity strengthening, 2.1, on access to safe and nutritious foods, and 2.2, end malnutrition. It will also contribute to SDGs 1 and 4.

#### WFP strategic outcome

62. CSP outcome 2 is aligned with WFP strategic outcome 4: National programmes and systems are strengthened.

#### Focus area

63. The focus area of CSP outcome 2 is root causes.

#### Alignment with national priorities

64. CSP outcome 2 is aligned with the NAIP through its focus on enhancing food and nutrition security while fostering human capital development; the national social protection policy; the national school feeding policy; NDP6, particularly the pillar on human development and community resilience; and outcome 4, on basic social services, of the UNSDCF for 2025–2029.

#### **Expected** outputs

- 65. The following outputs will contribute to the achievement of CSP outcome 2:
  - Output 3.1: Communities in rural areas benefit from effective, inclusive, and integrated government social protection systems that enable them to meet their basic food needs.
  - Output 3.2: Girls and boys of school going age benefit from strengthened government systems that improve their nutrition and food security.
  - Output 3.3: Young people, women, men and children benefit from improved knowledge on consuming nutritious food for better health and well-being.

#### Key activities

Activity 3: Provide technical assistance, facilitate coordination, and generate evidence for government institutions aimed at strengthening inclusive and gender-responsive safety nets and social protection and promote diversified household food consumption

- 66. Under this activity, WFP will support the Government in strengthening systems for social protection, including school feeding.
- 67. *Adaptive social protection.* WFP will continue to build on its record in strengthening national social protection systems to make them more adaptive by facilitating linkages and policy coherence between multiple ministries and strengthening the coordination and implementation of safety net and cash transfer programmes at the regional level to ensure

that the benefits reach the communities most at risk. This work will include the use of digital solutions for information exchange, such as the commodity and beneficiary management information system, which will enable different programmes to work together seamlessly while avoiding duplication.

- 68. WFP will also advocate productive social safety nets aimed at enhancing the productive capacity and resilience of communities at risk, including through engagement and technical assistance for the integration of cross-cutting priorities with the Government, service providers and target communities, ensuring inclusive participation for young people, women and Indigenous Peoples.
- 69. *Strengthened school feeding*. WFP will strengthen systems for the national school feeding programme, including HGSF interventions. This will enable the Government to provide safe, nutritious, locally sourced and culturally appropriate meals for girls and boys. WFP will also collaborate with the Government on developing a school feeding strategy, with the engagement of partners in the School Meals Coalition, and formulating a financing strategy that leverages the sustainable financing initiative. To complement these efforts, tools such as the Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) will be used to help assess and identify gaps in school feeding programmes and develop road maps for strengthening the programmes. SABER also offers policymakers and stakeholders at various levels a structured framework for multi-sectoral analysis, coordination, policy discussions and action planning, enabling informed decision-making.
- 70. Enhanced integration of the home-grown school feeding programme. Leveraging the capacity strengthening efforts outlined under CSP outcome 3, WFP aims to further incentivize the local production of diverse, safe and nutritious food by linking smallholder farmers, farmer associations and outgrower associations to schools as markets for their produce. WFP will also assist the Government in enhancing local regulatory frameworks and standardizing food products in order to prevent food safety challenges. In collaboration with actors such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, the Namibian Agronomic Board, the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the Namibian Standards Institution, efforts will be made to support smallholder farmers in ensuring that food safety standards are always upheld. To facilitate seamless procurement and monitoring activities, WFP will support the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture in selecting and introducing digital solutions for the local producers.
- 71. WFP will support the Government in implementing the Namibia school feeding information management system which enables fully digitized, real-time monitoring of, and reporting and feedback on, the impact of home-grown school meals. Through the integration of social and behaviour change activities, which include the revision of school menus, cookery demonstrations and nutrition education sessions, WFP will increase the awareness and knowledge of young people, women, men and children in the community regarding the production and consumption of nutritious food. Gender-transformative and culturally appropriate communication materials will be used to shift social norms related to gender by sensitizing community leaders.
- 72. In following this approach, WFP aims to assist the Government in expanding HGSF to cover 10 percent of primary and secondary schoolchildren and to enhance nutrition in early childhood development centres for boys and girls from 0 to 7 years of age, in collaboration with UNICEF. This comprehensive approach will support schools in becoming centres for programmes aimed at improving learning, nutrition and rural economies.
- 73. *Strengthened gender-responsive programming linked to school feeding.* WFP will support the Government in exploring best practices for the promotion of decent working conditions and

equitable economic empowerment, creating income-generating opportunities for women and men as cooks, and encouraging the participation of fathers in school feeding activities.

74. *Effective monitoring and evaluation*. WFP will strengthen the Government's accountability and transparency by providing technical assistance. It will support monitoring and evaluation interventions, stakeholder engagement, gender equality, the inclusion of people at risk, and the evaluation of the Blueprint on Wealth Redistribution and Poverty Eradication.<sup>63</sup>

#### **Partnerships**

- WFP will continue to strengthen its relationship with the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty 75. Eradication and Social Welfare as the owner of social protection interventions, and with the Ministry of Education Arts and Culture as the custodian of the national school feeding programme. WFP will work with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, school committees, the WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil, the School Meals Coalition, its partners and other initiatives aimed at enhancing HGSF. WFP will seek opportunities for joint programming, resource mobilization and policy implementation with other United Nations entities, particularly the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- 76. UNICEF's strategic focus in Namibia includes a comprehensive range of ongoing initiatives aimed at addressing nutrition challenges, advocating data availability, advancing policy frameworks for improving the well-being of children and communities, and supporting early childhood development centres. WFP will strengthen its partnerships with UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO) on joint nutrition programming, advocacy and resource mobilization with a view to effectively complementing each other's efforts. WFP will also collaborate with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on enhancing the coordination of national social protection initiatives.
- WFP will leverage its position as a trusted coalition builder to foster effective policy 77. coordination among ministries, working through the National Planning Commission and the agencies that implement social protection programmes.
- 78. WFP will engage representatives of at-risk people, including individuals with disabilities, so as to ensure that the technical assistance it provides to governments makes social protection programmes more inclusive.
- 79. Recognizing the private sector's vital role in promoting nutritious diets, especially by enhancing the uptake and availability of locally grown foods, WFP will enter into partnerships that make use of the expertise, resources and distribution networks of private sector bodies. This collaboration aims to make nutritious foods accessible and affordable and is aligned with efforts under CSP outcome 3.

#### Assumptions

The Government continues to prioritize social protection, HGSF, efforts to address 80. malnutrition, and accelerated rural transformation. The Government's sustained commitment, including its financial support for programmes in these areas, remains consistent.

#### Transition/handover strategy

Throughout the implementation of this CSP, WFP will gradually strengthen national social 81. protection systems and provide technical assistance that empowers local entities in independently managing programmes and coordinating initiatives. WFP will develop a phased, evidence-based transition strategy in alignment with the Government and other partners. The strategy will underscore the importance of empowering local actors,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare. 2016. Blue Print on Wealth Redistribution and Poverty Eradication.

knowledge and systems for inclusive social protection, ensuring sustained local ownership beyond 2029.

# Country strategic plan outcome 3: By 2030, national food systems in Namibia are strengthened to improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers, ensuring the most at-risk communities have access to affordable healthy diets

- 82. Under this outcome, WFP will focus on strengthening food systems, including by enhancing national programmes, governance and policies so that they translate into people-centred, inclusive and gender-responsive food and nutrition security programming.
- 83. Together with its partners, especially the other Rome-based agencies, WFP will leverage the de-risking and transformation of food systems as entry points for climate resilience by collaboratively empowering farmer associations and promoting regenerative agronomic practices. Emphasis will be placed on evidence generation, monitoring, evaluation and the integration of Indigenous knowledge systems.
- 84. WFP focuses on ensuring that the most at-risk people including children, unemployed women and young people, pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV and older people have access to diverse, safe and affordable healthy diets. It will achieve this by improving food self-sufficiency, reducing post-harvest losses and addressing inequality in access to, and the distribution of, nutritious food and agricultural incomes. WFP will engage academia and the private sector in promoting fortified and Indigenous foods to encourage the consumption of diverse diets.
- 85. South–South and triangular cooperation, partnerships, including with the private sector, and innovation are key enablers of efficiency gains, skill transfers and sustainable financing.
- 86. This outcome will contribute to SDG target 17.9, capacity strengthening, and SDG targets 2.3 and 2.4.

#### WFP strategic outcome

87. CSP outcome 3 is aligned with WFP strategic outcome 4: National programmes and systems are strengthened.

#### Focus area

88. The focus area of CSP outcome 3 is resilience building.

#### Alignment with national priorities

89. CSP outcome 3 is aligned with the NAIP, particularly pillar 1 on agricultural production and pillar 2 on food and nutrition security and human capacity; NDPs, particularly the NDP6 pillar on economic recovery, transformation and resilience; and outcomes 2, on economy, and 3, on natural resources, of the UNSDCF for 2025–2029.

#### **Expected** outputs

- 90. The following outputs will contribute to the achievement of CSP outcome 3:
  - Output 4.1: Women and men smallholder farmers benefit from the enhanced capacity of food systems actors in regenerative agronomic practices and post-harvest management for improved access to markets and healthy diets.
  - Output 4.2: National institutions and relevant actors benefit from South–South and triangular cooperation aimed at improving food systems through skill transfers, strategic partnerships and sustainable financing.

#### Key activities

Activity 4: Enhance partnerships, policies and technical assistance to the Government, other actors, and communities to build inclusive, sustainable, and resilient local food systems to improve access to healthy diets

- 91. Strengthened governance, policies and programmes. As part of the United Nations working group on food security and nutrition, WFP will provide the Government with technical advice on enhancing the design, governance and implementation of food and nutrition programmes and policies. WFP will focus on strengthening the regulatory framework and ensuring the translation of policies into people-centred, inclusive and gender-responsive food security programming, while building on the food systems of Indigenous Peoples and integrating Indigenous knowledge. Capacity strengthening for the Government on evidence generation, monitoring and evaluation is aimed at ensuring effective implementation.
- 92. Capacity strengthening for food system actors. WFP will work with the Government to strengthen the capacity of women and men smallholder farmers, young people, Indigenous Peoples and people living with HIV through the revitalization of farmer organizations. WFP will enhance the capacity of food system actors by offering a holistic package that focuses on fresh food value chains that increase access to healthy diets. Initiatives will include the management of post-harvest losses through the provision of technical guidance on food preservation and food safety and quality standards. WFP will also strengthen the links between HGSF and supply chain activities under CSP outcome 4, including through the aggregation of smallholder farmers' produce to supply schools. WFP will promote regenerative agronomic practices, working with farmer associations to increase the adoption of such techniques. Low-cost infrastructure improvements, such as water-efficient irrigation systems and the use of shade nets, will be promoted to mitigate the impacts of climate variability. WFP will support associations in their marketing efforts, including in the packaging and branding of Indigenous foods and the linking of those foods to markets; programmes will be integrated with those that support HGSF under CSP outcome 2. WFP will ensure the long-term sustainability of government-led initiatives by supporting the Government's governance systems and financial literacy.
- 93. *Rural transformation.* WFP seeks to promote agricultural innovation through the Namibia rapid rural transformation programme. WFP has already successfully implemented the rapid rural transformation model in five countries in the Southern Africa region and is applying it in Namibia to establish solar-powered modular community hubs aimed at addressing the intricate dynamics at the water–energy–food nexus. The initiative will provide an entry point for offering many of the services needed to drive rural transformation, such as water-efficient irrigation systems and internet services for schools, that enhance the management of HGSF programmes under CSP outcome 2.
- 94. *South–South and triangular cooperation.* WFP will leverage South–South and triangular cooperation to reinforce its strategies for strengthening food systems, national strategic food reserves, skill transfers, strategic partnerships and sustainable financing.

#### Partnerships

95. WFP will strengthen existing partnerships with various government institutions. WFP is well placed to work with the Directorate of Agricultural Production, Extension and Engineering Services on strengthening the targeting criteria for interventions aimed at smallholder farmers. Working with the Namibia Agronomic Board, WFP can promote policy implementation at the grassroots level by leveraging its access to 121 villages through community-level outreach structures. With the Office of the Prime Minister, WFP will continue to provide technical advice and digital solutions for early warning systems in emergency operation centres.

- 96. To enhance skill-building opportunities for smallholder farmers, WFP will maintain its collaboration with the Namibian Correctional Service, particularly the food systems department, leveraging the department's expertise in food production. WFP will also collaborate with the Ministry of Higher Education and the National Youth Service on a skills development programme focused on practical skills that are relevant to smallholder farmers.
- 97. WFP will seek opportunities for joint programming, resource mobilization and policy implementation with other United Nations entities, particularly the other Rome-based agencies.
- 98. WFP will leverage its strong ties with SADC and utilize interregional exchanges to establish partnerships focused on harnessing the potential of Indigenous knowledge systems. WFP will engage with the SADC Indigenous food value chains development programme.
- 99. WFP will enhance its collaboration with the private sector through financial and technical partnerships aimed at increasing access to financing and expertise for young people, at-risk communities, Indigenous Peoples and women and men smallholder farmers. Together with the Government, WFP will also engage the private sector in increasing consumers' awareness of nutritious food consumption, promoting fortified foods and providing capacity-strengthening support for smallholder farmers and farmer associations. These initiatives will focus on private sector actors that have identified support for food and nutrition security as part of their corporate social responsibility efforts.

#### Assumptions

100. The Government continues to prioritize inclusive and climate-resilient food systems. The Government maintains its commitment to relevant programmes, including its financial commitment.

#### Transition/handover strategy

101. Throughout the implementation of this CSP, WFP will gradually strengthen national food systems and provide technical assistance that empowers local entities in independently managing programmes and coordinating initiatives. WFP will leverage its memoranda of understanding with regional councils and local authorities, and its established partnerships with village development centres and community-based organizations, gradually transferring the ownership of initiatives to the community level so as to ensure sustained local ownership beyond 2029.

# Country strategic plan outcome 4: By 2030, the Government and other actors in Namibia, especially those focusing on food systems, have leveraged WFP services and expertise in supply chains, enabling them to effectively support the people and communities most at risk

- 102. Under this outcome, WFP aims to be a service provider of choice for the Government and other development or humanitarian actors in increasing access to supply chain services, while establishing strategic partnerships that strengthen the resilience of national food systems.
- 103. The outcome will be achieved, where possible, through the provision of on-demand services, including technical assistance, that support the Government and other actors in developing and improving supply chains in Namibia. For example, WFP logistics support could enhance the use of currently underutilized harbours in Walvis Bay and Lüderitz through connections to existing land transport corridors, which could also serve the landlocked countries that neighbour Namibia. WFP's extensive experience in temperature-sensitive logistics can benefit the Government in the transport, storage and handling of fresh produce.

- 104. There are also opportunities to provide the Government with on-demand services that can accelerate human capital development initiatives under CSP outcome 2 and strengthen the transformation of food systems under CSP outcome 3. Such services include those for irrigation and energy systems, value chain development, improved seed systems, and climate adaptation and mitigation, facilitating the promotion of the food–energy–water nexus approach by leveraging renewable energy, good agronomic practices, the efficient use of natural resources, and access to healthy diets.
- 105. This outcome will contribute to SDG target 17.16, enhance global partnerships, particularly by reinforcing the supply chains that support food systems transformation. It will also contribute to SDGs 8 and 9.

#### WFP strategic outcome

106. CSP outcome 4 is aligned with WFP strategic outcome 5: Humanitarian and development actors are more efficient and effective.

#### Focus area

107. The focus area of CSP outcome 4 is resilience building.

#### Alignment with national priorities

108. CSP outcome 4 is aligned with the NAIP, particularly the pillar on fostering an enabling environment and responsive institutions; NDP6, particularly the pillar on effective governance and public service delivery; and outcomes 2, on economy, and 1, on governance, of the UNSDCF for 2025–2029.

#### **Expected** outputs

- 109. The following outputs will contribute to the achievement of CSP outcome 4:
  - Output 5.1: The Government and other partners utilize on-demand services and supply chain solutions that augment their capacity, ensuring efficient, effective and coordinated interventions in resilient food systems and sustainable logistics and ultimately benefiting the communities most at risk.

#### Key activities

Activity 5: Provide on-demand services and supply chain solutions to the Government and other partners working on the food–energy–water nexus

- 110. The on-demand services and solutions that WFP provides at the global level will support the Government and other partners in developing sustainable solutions in Namibia. The services will augment partners' capacity to fill existing gaps in supply chains and contribute to the innovative solutions that the Government is exploring. WFP will leverage its supply chain expertise to complement national supply chain projects, including sustainable warehousing practices and inland and temperature-sensitive logistics systems, and to strengthen food system infrastructure.
- 111. On request, WFP will enhance the capacities of the Government and partners to carry out their programmes independently.
- 112. WFP will strengthen the capacity of Namibia's Agro-Marketing and Trade Agency to manage and sustain the national strategic food reserve and use it as a tool for emergency preparedness and response.
- 113. This work builds on activities under the previous CSP, such as the port capacity assessment carried out at Walvis Bay and Lüderitz ports in conjunction with WFP's Regional Bureau for Southern Africa and the logistics service provider, BLG Logistics, and the supply chain strategy for 2025–2029, which is focused on enhancing food system value chains.

114. WFP's provision of on-demand services and solutions is aimed at strengthening the ongoing project on saving lives and livelihoods being implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Services, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention and the Mastercard Foundation.

#### Partnerships

- 115. WFP will leverage existing partnerships with relevant government bodies, including the Agro-Marketing and Trade Agency, the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the Namibia Ports Authority, and private sector actors such as BLG Logistics and Maersk. As the range of its partnerships evolves, WFP will continue to work with the Government on engaging other potential partners, making use of the global expertise available across the organization, for example to assist the Namibia Ports Authority in reducing carbon emissions from port operations, in accordance with the letter of intent signed during the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- 116. WFP will leverage opportunities to engage with other United Nations entities whose work is linked to national supply chains and food systems, such as FAO and UNICEF.

#### Assumptions

117. The Government and the private sector continue to pursue innovation and increased efficiency in national supply chains. WFP's portfolio of services continues to be relevant to the needs of those stakeholders, with sufficient demand to justify maintaining the current cost recovery funding model for service provision.

#### Transition/handover strategy

118. The supply chain activities under CSP outcome 4 are not expected to remain under WFP ownership in the long term. The on-demand supply chain services provided should enable the Government to increase its contributions to the strengthening of supply chains and resilient food systems, which will gradually reduce the demand for WFP's services in this area.

#### 4. Implementation arrangements

#### 4.1 Beneficiary analysis

- 119. Under this CSP, significant emphasis is placed on indirect (tier 2 and 3) beneficiaries, in line with WFP's prioritization of the provision of technical assistance to the Government and other actors in Namibia. However, WFP will continue to complement government programmes by providing direct assistance to a limited number of direct (tier 1) beneficiaries.
- 120. Under CSP outcome 1, WFP will target 110,000 beneficiaries over the course of the CSP 53 percent women and girls and 47 percent men and boys (see annex II). The number of beneficiaries assisted directly by WFP is expected to decrease gradually each year as a result of increased government capacity. As WFP complements the Government's responses, targeting will be based on joint food security and vulnerability assessments carried out in coordination with the Government and other partners. WFP ensures that such processes take into consideration the unique needs of all individuals, including those with disabilities or other risk factors, and that gender sensitivity and protection considerations are integrated into programme targeting and delivery.

- 121. Under CSP outcome 2, WFP will support the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare in strengthening social protection systems. WFP will continue to support the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture in developing and implementing the national school feeding programme, with a focus on HGSF. CSP outcome 2 will also include social and behaviour change communication activities.
- 122. Under CSP outcome 3, WFP will collaborate with the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform and the Directorate of Disaster Risk Management on empowering smallholder farmers, particularly women, young people and Indigenous Peoples.
- 123. Under CSP outcome 4, WFP is committed to strengthening the systems of the Government and other food system actors by offering access to its supply chain services and expertise.

#### 4.2 Transfers

124. Under activity 1, WFP will provide cash-based transfers, predominantly nutrition-sensitive value vouchers where feasible, based on market functionality and infrastructure and beneficiary preferences. All transfers will be complemented by social and behaviour change components that promote appropriate nutrition and health practices. WFP will continue to provide technical support and support for the strengthening of strategic systems through a capacity strengthening modality under CSP outcomes 1, 2 and 3, and including a service delivery modality under CSP outcomes 2, 3 and 4.

#### 4.3 Country office capacity and profile

- 125. WFP will balance internal expertise with external partnerships to ensure the requisite technical capabilities for the successful implementation of the CSP. To achieve this, WFP will adopt a strategic approach to talent acquisition, prioritizing gender parity and providing opportunities for persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples.
- 126. WFP will ensure that all staff and cooperating partners are sensitized to diversity and inclusion issues, encompassing gender matters, engagement with Indigenous Peoples and the needs of persons with disabilities.
- 127. The country office has established a standby partner arrangement to secure the services of a head of supply chain. Technical experts will be deployed from Brazil, Canada and Egypt as part of ongoing South–South and triangular cooperation arrangements.
- 128. The Ministry of Urban and Rural Development will fund regional agriculture officers tasked with supporting WFP-initiated programmes in selected regions. The officers will report directly to WFP's country office monitoring and evaluation team, playing a crucial role in capacity building at the community level while minimizing the operational costs for WFP.
- 129. WFP will conduct periodic reviews of its capacity and staffing structure; requirements are expected to change over time.

#### 4.4 Partnerships

- 130. This CSP is aligned with NDPs and has strong synergies with multilateral and bilateral donors in Namibia and beyond. To address the challenges associated with resource mobilization in an upper-middle-income country such as Namibia, WFP has developed a partnerships and resourcing strategy focused on engagement with the Government and the private sector, joint programming and advocacy, and engagement with international financial institutions, building on new ways of financing:
  - > The Government is a key strategic partner of WFP in Namibia. WFP will leverage government planning, financial and budget systems and will enhance partnerships with the private sector to capitalize on the opportunities identified.

- ➢ WFP will continue to engage local private sector actors as strategic development partners offering innovative tools, resources, knowledge and technologies that reinforce WFP's value proposition and impact. In addition, private sector partners can help to promote national ownership and long-term engagement, strengthening national systems.
- WFP will increase inter-agency collaboration, advocacy and joint resource mobilization with the other Rome-based agencies, UNICEF, WHO, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and UNDP.
- WFP will continue to explore modalities for partnerships with international financial institutions, especially the African Development Bank with its extensive portfolio in Namibia and its strong partnership with the Government.
- 131. WFP will prioritize the diversification of funding sources by leveraging innovative financing mechanisms, such as blended finance, debt swaps, climate finance and private sector investments, with a strong emphasis on multi-year financial contributions.
- 132. Partnerships with local non-governmental and civil society organizations will contribute to WFP's localization agenda.

#### 5. Performance management and evaluation

#### 5.1 Monitoring and evaluation arrangements

- 133. Guided by the indicators of WFP's corporate results framework and the UNSDCF, WFP will develop a monitoring, review and evaluation plan that ensures regular and gender-responsive monitoring and the timely generation of evidence to support programme adjustments, learning and accountability. A mid-term review of the CSP is scheduled for 2027, followed by a full CSP evaluation in 2028. In 2025, a decentralized evaluation assessing the food systems approach will be carried out in collaboration with the Government. WFP will partner with local and international universities on data collection, analysis and research.
- 134. The strengthening of monitoring and evaluation systems is integrated into all CSP outcomes, as recommended in the evaluation of the previous CSP. WFP will explore efficient methods for joint monitoring with regional government entities, thereby leveraging rural development committees, and will help to strengthen national monitoring and evaluation systems in various ministries, focusing on the national food and nutrition security policy, the national school feeding programme and the disaster risk management action plan.
- 135. The monitoring and evaluation approach will adhere to WFP's ethical guidelines and ensure cultural sensitivity by engaging with affected people. For tier 2 and tier 3 beneficiaries, WFP will promote gender-responsive monitoring and the disaggregation of data by age, sex, Indigenous group and disability, working with government ministries and agencies, particularly the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare and the National Statistics Agency.
- 136. WFP will enhance the monitoring of its capacity strengthening activities by using updated corporate indicators and approaches such as qualitative studies, and will develop robust knowledge management processes to support effective programme outcomes, improvement and innovation.

#### 5.2 Risk management

137. WFP will implement the WFP global reassurance framework, ensuring that the assurance standards and measures included in the framework are in place, and will establish a reassurance action plan aimed at enhancing programming, strengthening internal controls and addressing the gaps identified. The country office risk register will be reviewed

periodically to maintain a risk-aware and risk-informed operational environment. Ongoing monitoring will determine the effectiveness of risk response measures and verify compliance.

#### Strategic risks

138. As an upper-middle-income country, Namibia faces a challenging funding environment. Heightened global competition for funding may lead to limited interest from traditional donors, and shifts in the Government's priorities could affect existing commitments. There is a need for stable, predictable investments in policy engagement and technical assistance interventions, the results of which may not be immediately visible or directly attributable to WFP. WFP will strengthen its joint advocacy efforts and its proactive communication with donors and partners, and will continue to seek funding from existing donors while diversifying its funding sources and pursuing innovative financing opportunities with the Government, international financial institutions and the private sector.

#### **Operational risks**

- 139. Persistent social, economic and gender inequalities may undermine efforts to achieve food security and nutrition. To mitigate this risk, the mainstreaming of safe and gender-responsive programming throughout the CSP will address the specific challenges faced by women and girls and take into consideration the needs, priorities and interests of men and women in sustainable development outcomes.
- 140. Protection, including from sexual exploitation and abuse, accountability to affected people and deliberate efforts to include at-risk people will be required in order to mitigate the risk of eligible people being excluded from CSP initiatives.

#### Fiduciary risks

141. The interconnections between its financial systems and programme implementation expose WFP to potential risks such as fraud and corruption. To address such risks, and in accordance with its anti-fraud and anti-corruption policy, WFP will strengthen internal controls by reinforcing fraud and corruption detection and prevention measures. WFP will also conduct regular checks of its financial and programmatic operations and take corrective action as necessary to mitigate any risks and ensure compliance with financial regulations and standard operating procedures.

#### 5.3 Social and environmental safeguards

- 142. Guided by the eight environmental and social standards enshrined in WFP's environmental and social sustainability framework, WFP will screen all its activities to ensure social equity, impartiality, consideration of the physical environment and sustainability of its interventions. Any potentially negative impacts will be mitigated through environmental and social management plans.
- 143. The CSP outcomes highlight numerous foreseeable environmental and social risks. In collaboration with relevant government agencies and the private sector, WFP will ensure that adequate risk management measures are incorporated into the design and implementation of CSP activities.
- 144. Particular attention will be given to avoiding the risk of perpetuating or exacerbating the marginalization of Indigenous Peoples, in accordance with the principles of meaningful participation and free, prior and informed consent, and with WFP Environmental and Social Standards 5, on protection and human rights; 6, on gender equality; and 7, on community health, safety and security.

145. WFP will develop plans for engaging with communities and will strengthen established community feedback mechanisms, ensuring that they are culturally and gender-sensitive so as to enhance effective participation, access to information and WFP's accountability to affected people.

#### 6. Resources for results

#### 6.1 Country portfolio budget

- 146. The total budget for the CSP is USD 17,007,124, of which 20 percent<sup>64</sup> is allocated to the implementation of gender-transformative approaches designed to reduce the gender gap in digital and financial inclusion, and knowledge and skills interventions that improve women's economic opportunities and well-being. Monitoring and evaluation will account for 10.5 percent of the budget throughout the CSP period.
- 147. The budget for the CSP period has been reduced compared with the previous CSP for 2017–2024, reflecting WFP's new role as an "enabler" providing capacity strengthening and technical support rather than the direct implementation of assistance programmes.

		CO	UNTRY PORT	FOLIO BUDGI	ET <i>(USD)</i>		
Country strategic plan outcome	Activity	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Total
1	1	843 605	573 331	484 812	464 712	325 793	2 692 252
	2	336 725	88 339	103 183	102 099	101 354	731 700
2	3	791 262	836 784	770 199	787 826	712 505	3 898 576
3	4	1 785 650	2 364 042	1 625 193	2 024 356	1 550 180	9 349 421
4	5	252 430	55 397	36 505	31 029	29 814	405 176
Total		4 009 672	3 917 893	3 019 891	3 410 022	2 719 646	17 077 124

148. The reduction in the budget over time also reflects this shift and will be complemented by the phased transition strategy.

#### 6.2 Resourcing outlook and strategy

- 149. An analysis of the funding patterns under the previous CSP indicates a reliance on traditional donors, along with growing support from the Government and the private sector. Projections for the current CSP suggest similar trends. WFP is committed to addressing its reliance on traditional donors by prioritizing efforts to diversify the donor base and to secure more flexible, multi-year funding.
- 150. In line with the United Nations country team's resource mobilization strategy and the Government's plans for strengthening financial support for work towards the SDGs, WFP's resourcing strategy involves collaboration with various ministries and other government entities aimed at facilitating domestic and joint resource mobilization to fund the new CSP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Based on pilot guidance on gender-responsive budgeting, in place since May 2024.

- 151. Through WFP's partnerships, resourcing strategy and funding pipeline, in the first year of CSP implementation, activities under CSP outcome 2 are projected to receive more than 80 percent of their planned funding, and activities under CSP outcomes 3 and 4 more than 60 percent. A considerable portion of this funding is expected to be provided by the Government of Namibia, while WFP emphasizes the increasing role of international financial institutions and innovative finance as enablers.
- 152. In the event of funding shortfalls, WFP will prioritize life-saving assistance, the strengthening of systems for emergency preparedness, such as national forecasting and disaster response systems, and the mitigation of climate risks for the communities at greatest risk. The overarching goal is to enhance the synergy and functionality of the national systems that enable the Government to provide life-saving assistance.

#### **ANNEX I**

#### LOGICAL FRAMEWORK FOR NAMIBIA COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN (2025-2029)

SDG 2: Zero hunger

#### SDG Target 1: Access to food

Country strategic plan outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations in Namibia are able to meet their food and nutrition needs in times of crises

WFP strategic outcome 1: People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs

Focus area: crisis response

#### Assumptions

Within the CSP period, a climate or other shock occurs at a scale that exceeds national response capacity.

#### **Outcome indicators**

- 1.1.1 Food consumption score
- 1.1.2 Food consumption score nutrition
- 1.1.3 Consumption-based coping strategy index (average)
- 1.1.40 Emergency preparedness capacity index

#### Activities and outputs

### 1: Provide unconditional resource transfers to crisis-affected populations, in line with the Government's response

1.1: Populations at risk receive assistance that adequately meets their food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crises

Activity category URT-1.2: Unconditional resource transfer

Output standard 1.1: Food insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs

2: Provide capacity strengthening to the Government for the anticipation of and response to shocks, leveraging early warning and emergency preparedness	Activity category EPA-1.1: Eme
2.1: Shock-affected women, men and children benefit from the enhanced implementation capacity of the Government and stakeholders to anticipate, prepare for and respond to emergencies	Output standard 1.2: Crisis-af and new mothers, and other benefit from programmes to improve diets
SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals	
SDG target 9: Capacity building	
Country strategic plan outcome 2: By 2030, national social protection systems in Namibia are strengthened to more effectively benefit the most at-risk people and	WFP strategic outcome 4: Nat strengthened
promote human capital development	Focus area: root causes

#### Assumptions

The Government continues to prioritize expanding home-grown school feeding, implementing social protection, ending all forms of malnutrition, and accelerating rural transformation. The Government's commitment, including its financial commitment, to the respective programmes is sustained.

#### **Outcome indicators**

5.4.37 Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP capacity strengthening support

5.4.41 Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components relating to school health and nutrition/including school feeding enhanced/developed with WFP capacity strengthening support and/or advocacy

5.4.43 SABER school feeding index

5.4.44 Number of people covered (WFP indirect beneficiaries) by national social protection systems or programmes to which WFP provided support

Activity category EPA-1.1: Emergency preparedness and early action

Output standard 1.2: Crisis-affected children, pregnant women and girls and new mothers, and other nutritionally vulnerable populations benefit from programmes to prevent and treat malnutrition and mprove diets

WFP strategic outcome 4: National programmes and systems are strengthened

5.4.85 Transition strategy for programmes or other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs fully implemented by national stakeholder and WFP

5.4.86 Number of new or adapted national social protection programme made HIV/TB-sensitive as result of WFP's support

5.4.96 Percentage of Milestones in SABER-based implementation plan (related to full SABER exercise or Pre-Screening Tool) that have been fully met

#### **Activities and outputs**

## 3: Provide technical assistance, facilitate coordination, and generate evidence for government institutions aimed at strengthening inclusive and gender-responsive safety nets and social protection and promote diversified household food consumption

3.1: Communities in rural areas benefit from effective, inclusive, and integrated government social protection systems that enable them to meet their basic food needs

3.2: Girls and boys of school going age benefit from strengthened government systems that improve their nutrition and food security

3.3: Young people, women, men and children benefit from improved knowledge on consuming nutritious food for better health and well-being

3.3: Young people, women, men and children benefit from improved knowledge on consuming nutritious food for better health and well-being

Country strategic plan outcome 3: By 2030, national food systems in Namibia are strengthened to improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers, ensuring the most at-risk communities have access to affordable healthy diets

Activity category SPS-1.10: Social protection sector support

Output standard 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes, contributing to the achievement of zero hunger and other SDGs

Output standard 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes, contributing to the achievement of zero hunger and other SDGs

Output standard 4.2: Components of national emergency preparedness and response, social protection and food systems are strengthened

Output standard 4.2: Components of national emergency preparedness and response, social protection and food systems are strengthened

WFP strategic outcome 4: National programmes and systems are strengthened

Focus area: resilience building

#### Assumptions

The Government continues to prioritize more inclusive and climate-resilient food systems and more effective response to shocks at national and grassroots level. The Government's commitment, including its financial commitment, to the relevant programmes is sustained. The Government continues and sustains the Directorate Disaster Risk Management in the Office of the Prime Minister and ownership of emergency response.

#### **Outcome indicators**

5.4.29 Percentage of targeted smallholders selling through WFP-supported farmer aggregation systems

5.4.30 Average percentage of smallholder post-harvest losses at the storage stage

5.4.37 Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP capacity strengthening support

5.4.45 Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP-facilitated South–South and triangular cooperation support

5.4.48 Value of smallholder sales through WFP-supported aggregation systems (USD)

5.4.49 Volume of smallholder sales through WFP-supported aggregation systems (MT)

5.4.85 Transition strategy for programmes or other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs fully implemented by national stakeholder and WFP

5.4.91 Number of new or existing legislative instruments, standards or policies for fortified staple foods endorsed as result of WFP capacity strengthening support

#### **Activities and outputs**

## 4: Enhance partnerships, policies and technical assistance to the Government, other actors, and communities to build inclusive, sustainable, and resilient local food systems to improve access to healthy diets

4.1: Women and men smallholder farmers benefit from the enhanced capacity of food systems actors in regenerative agronomic practices and post-harvest management for improved access to markets and healthy diets

4.1: Women and men smallholder farmers benefit from the enhanced capacity of food systems actors in regenerative agronomic practices and post-harvest management for improved access to markets and healthy diets

4.2: National institutions and relevant actors benefit from South–South and triangular cooperation aimed at improving food systems through skill transfers, strategic partnerships and sustainable financing

Activity category SMS-1.8: Smallholder agricultural market support programmes

Output standard 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes, contributing to the achievement of zero hunger and other SDGs

Output standard 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes, contributing to the achievement of zero hunger and other SDGs

Output standard 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes, contributing to the achievement of zero hunger and other SDGs SDG target 16: Global partnership

Country strategic plan outcome 4: By 2030, the Government and other actors in Namibia, especially those focusing on food systems, have leveraged WFP services and expertise in supply chains, enabling them to effectively support the people and communities most at risk WFP strategic outcome 5: Humanitarian and development actors are more efficient and effective

Focus area: resilience building

#### Assumptions

The Government and the private sector continue to pursue innovation and increase efficiency in national supply chains. WFP's portfolio of services continues to be relevant to the needs of these stakeholders, with sufficient demand to justify ongoing provision on a cost recovery basis.

#### **Outcome indicators**

8.5.46 Percentage of users satisfied with services provided

#### Activities and outputs

### 5: Provide on-demand services and supply chain solutions to the Government and other partners working on the food-energy-water nexus

5.1: The Government and other partners utilize on-demand services and supply chain solutions that augment their capacity, ensuring efficient, effective and coordinated interventions in resilient food systems and sustainable logistics and ultimately benefiting the communities most at risk

Activity category ODS-2.4: On-demand services

Output standard 5.2: Partners utilize on-demand services to augment their capacity and ensure more efficient, effective and coordinated interventions

#### SDG 2: Zero hunger

#### **CC.1.** Protection

#### **Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.1.1: Percentage of beneficiaries reporting no safety concerns experienced as a result of their engagement in WFP programmes

- CC.1.2: Percentage of beneficiaries who report they experienced no barriers to accessing food and nutrition assistance
- CC.1.3: Percentage of beneficiaries who report being treated with respect as a result of their engagement in programmes
- CC.1.4: Number of women, men, boys and girls with disabilities accessing food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening services
- CC.1.5: Country office meets or exceeds UNDIS entity accountability framework standards concerning accessibility (QCPR)

#### CC.2. Accountability

#### **Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.2.2: Country office meets or exceeds United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) standards on consulting organizations of persons with disabilities (QCPR)

CC.2.3: Country office has a functioning community feedback mechanism

#### CC.3. Gender equality and women's empowerment

#### **Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.3.4: Proportion of women and men in decision-making entities who report meaningful participation

CC.3.5: Proportion of women and men reporting economic empowerment

#### **CC.4. Environmental sustainability**

#### **Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.4.1: Proportion of field-level agreements (FLAs)/memorandums of understanding (MOUs)/construction contracts (CCs) for CSP activities screened for environmental and social risks

#### **CC.5.** Nutrition integration

#### **Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.5.1: Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification

CC.5.2: Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component

CC.5.3: Nutrition-sensitive score

#### SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

#### **CC.1. Protection**

#### **Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.1.1: Percentage of beneficiaries reporting no safety concerns experienced as a result of their engagement in WFP programmes

CC.1.2: Percentage of beneficiaries who report they experienced no barriers to accessing food and nutrition assistance

CC.1.3: Percentage of beneficiaries who report being treated with respect as a result of their engagement in programmes

CC.1.4: Number of women, men, boys and girls with disabilities accessing food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening services

CC.1.5: Country office meets or exceeds UNDIS entity accountability framework standards concerning accessibility (QCPR)

#### CC.2. Accountability

#### **Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.2.2: Country office meets or exceeds United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) standards on consulting organizations of persons with disabilities (QCPR)

CC.2.3: Country office has a functioning community feedback mechanism

#### CC.3. Gender equality and women's empowerment

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CC.3.4: Proportion of women and men in decision-making entities who report meaningful participation

CC.3.5: Proportion of women and men reporting economic empowerment

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#### **Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.4.1: Proportion of field-level agreements (FLAs)/memorandums of understanding (MOUs)/construction contracts (CCs) for CSP activities screened for environmental and social risks

#### **CC.5.** Nutrition integration

#### **Cross-cutting indicators**

CC.5.1: Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification

CC.5.2: Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component

CC.5.3: Nutrition-sensitive score

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BENEFICIARIES BY COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME, ACTIVITY AND OUTPUT TIER 1 BENEFICIARIES									
Country strategic plan outcome	Activity	Output	Beneficiary group	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Total
1	1	1 1	Girls	9 440	5 900	4 722	3 541	2 358	25 964
			Boys	8 373	5 223	4 186	3 139	2 094	23 024
			Women	11 759	7 350	5 878	4 410	2 941	32 336
			Men	10 428	6 517	5 214	3 910	2 607	28 676
Total (without overl	Total (without overlap)			40 000	25 000	20 000	15 000	10 000	110 000

This table indicates estimates of the number of people who could potentially benefit indirectly from WFP's interventions. WFP will not be reporting against these numbers. Many of these beneficiaries are expected to overlap, including beneficiaries of human capital development, food systems strengthening and supply chain activities.

BENEFICIARIES BY COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME, ACTIVITY AND OUTPUT TIER 2 AND TIER 3 BENEFICIARIES				
Country strategic plan outcome	Activity	Beneficiaries		
1	2	314,855 (tier 3) <sup>a</sup> people benefiting from the National Drought Relief Programme 50 (tier 2) government officials involved in emergency operation centres		
2	3	<ul> <li>347,031 people benefiting from social grants, encompassing individuals benefiting indirectly (tier 3) from WFP's system strengthening efforts and associated programmes<sup>a,b</sup></li> <li>456,916 (tier 3) children receiving school feeding in Namibia<sup>c</sup></li> <li>38,642 (tier 2) children benefiting from home-grown school feeding: <ul> <li>10,985 from previous CSP</li> <li>18,000 additional secondary schoolchildren<sup>d</sup></li> <li>9,657 in 301 early childhood development centres (tier 2)</li> </ul> </li> <li>3,300 people benefiting from social and behaviour change communication (tier 2)</li> </ul>		
3	4	491,000 people (tier 3) <sup>e</sup> reported to be food-insecure according to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification report of April–June 2024		

*Sources:* <sup>a</sup> Letter from the Office of the Prime Minister, 10 June 2024; <sup>b</sup> Letter from the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, 4 June 2024; <sup>c</sup> Evaluation Management Information Systems report; <sup>d</sup> WFP. 2023. Annual Country Report 2023 Namibia; <sup>e</sup> Integrated Food Security Phase Classification. 2023. *Namibia: Acute Food Insecurity Situation for July–September 2023 and Projections for October 2023–March 2024 and April–June 2024*; <sup>f</sup> Namibia labour force survey report 2018.

FOOD RATION (g/person/day) AND (	CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/p	erson/day) BY COUNTRY STRATEGI	C PLAN OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY	
		Country strategic plan outcome	21	
		Activity 1		
Beneficiary type	Children aged 6–23 months	Children aged 24–59 months	Pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls	
Modality	Cash-based transfers	Cash-based transfers	Cash-based transfers	
Total kcal/day*	300	450	1 000	
% kcal from protein	10.9	10.9	10.9	
Cash-based transfers	0.3	0.3	0.3	
Number of feeding days per year	45	45	45	

\* Calculated in line with WFP guidelines using the NutVal food basket. WFP will complement the Government's food basket and social grants with WFP contributing 28 percent of the cost of a nutritious diet per beneficiary per day while social grants contribute 11 percent and drought relief 19 percent. Beneficiaries can afford only 17 percent of the cost of a nutritious diet. These calculations take into account the impact of drought on agriculture, assuming that beneficiaries can afford only half of their usual contributions during climate shocks such as droughts.

#### **ANNEX III**

#### **ANNEX IV**

TOTAL CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUE				
Cash-based transferTotal ( <i>mt</i> )Total (USD)				
Cash-based transfers	-	1 386 000		
Total – 1 386 000				

#### ANNEX V

INDICATIVE COST BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME (USD)						
	SDG target 2.1/WFP strategic outcome 1	SDG target 17.9/WFP strategic outcome 4	SDG target 17.9/WFP strategic outcome 4	SDG target 17.16/WFP strategic outcome 5	Total	
	CSP outcome 1	CSP outcome 2	CSP outcome 3	CSP outcome 4		
Focus area	Crisis response	Root causes	Resilience building	Resilience building		
Transfers	2 208 573	2 404 954	5 932 722	294 770	10 841 018	
Implementation costs	526 350	698 735	1 512 441	51 793	2 789 319	
Adjusted direct support costs	480 056	556 946	1 333 636	58 613	2 429 250	
Subtotal	3 214 978	3 660 635	8 778 799	405 176	16 059 588	
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	208 974	237 941	570 622	0	1 017 537	
Total	3 423 952	3 898 576	9 349 421	405 176	17 077 124	

#### Acronyms

CSP	country strategic plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HGSF	home-grown school feeding
NAIP	Namibia Agriculture Investment Plan
NDP	National Development Plan
SABER	Systems Approach for Better Education Results
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSDCF	United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework
WHO	World Health Organization