

Evaluation of Namibia WFP Country Strategic Plan 2017-2023

Terms of reference



April 2022

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1. Background

1. These terms of reference (ToR) were prepared by the WFP Office of Evaluation based upon an initial document review and consultation with stakeholders.

2. The purpose of these terms of reference is to provide key information to stakeholders about the evaluation, to guide the evaluation team and to specify expectations during the various phases of the evaluation. The ToR are structured as follows: Section 1 provides information on the context; Section 2 presents the rationale, objectives, stakeholders and main users of the evaluation; Section 3 presents the WFP portfolio and defines the scope of the evaluation; Section 4 identifies the evaluation approach and methodology; and Section 5 indicates how the evaluation will be organized. The annexes provide additional information.

1.1. INTRODUCTION

3. Country strategic plan evaluations (CSPEs) encompass the entirety of WFP activities during a specific period. Their purpose is twofold: 1) to provide evaluation evidence and learning on WFP performance for country-level strategic decisions, specifically for developing the next country strategic plan (CSP); and 2) to provide accountability for results to WFP stakeholders. These evaluations are mandatory for all CSPs and are carried out in line with the WFP Policy on Country Strategic Plan and the WFP Evaluation Policy.

1.2. CONTEXT

General overview

4. Located on the South-West Atlantic Coast of Africa Namibia is the driest country in the region and is characterized by a variety of landscapes, from the Namib and Kalahari deserts to the central plateau and the woodlands of the Kavango and Caprivi¹. The country is a stable multiparty democracy and has been governed by the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) since its independence from South Africa in 1990².

5. According to the latest demographic survey conducted in 2016, Namibia has a population of 2.3 million³. It is the second least densely populated country in the world with just 3 persons per square kilometre⁴. The majority of the Namibian population (52 percent) lives in rural areas⁵. Life expectancy at birth is 63.7 years⁶, with an under-five mortality rate of 42.4⁷ per 1,000 live births and a maternal mortality ratio of 195 per 100,000 live births⁸. The total fertility rate is 3.3 children per woman⁹, while the adolescent fertility rate is 59.6 births per 1,000 girls¹⁰.

6. Namibia's official language is English. However, according to the 2016 census, Oshiwambo languages were reported as the most spoken (49.7 percent), followed by Nama/Damara (11.0 percent), Kavango languages (10.4 percent) Afrikaans (9.4 percent) and Herero languages (9.2) percent¹¹. The predominant religion is Christianity (97.5 percent)¹².

7. Namibia has a generalized HIV epidemic. In 2020, the HIV prevalence among adults aged 15-49 years was estimated at 11.6 percent¹³. Prevalence is higher among women (14.9 percent) than men (8.3 percent). In terms of mortality, HIV is a leading cause of death¹⁴. Nevertheless, following the launch of the first ever population-based HIV survey¹⁵, Namibia was one of the first countries to exceed many of the 90-90-90

¹ Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, *About Namibia*. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

² Freedom House. 2021. *Namibia*. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

³ NSA. 2016. *Namibia Inter-censal Demographic Survey 2016 Report*.

⁴ World Bank. 2020. *Population density (people per sq. km of land area) – Namibia*. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

⁵ NSA. 2016. *Namibia Inter-censal Demographic Survey 2016 Report*.

⁶ World Bank. 2019. *Life expectancy at birth, total (years) – Namibia*. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

⁷ World Bank. 2019. *Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births) – Namibia*. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

⁸ World Bank. 2017. *Maternal mortality ratio (modeled estimate, per 100,000 live births) – Namibia*. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

⁹ World Bank. 2019. *Fertility rate, total (births per woman) – Namibia*. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

¹⁰ World Bank. 2019. *Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 women ages 15-19) – Namibia*. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

¹¹ NSA. 2016. *Namibia Inter-censal Demographic Survey 2016 Report*.

¹² CIA World Factbook. 2021. *Namibia*.

¹³ UNAIDS. 2020. *Namibia*. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

¹⁴ NSA. 2020. *Report on Mortality and Causes of Deaths in Namibia, 2016 – 2017*.

¹⁵ CDC. 2017. *Namibia Population-Based Hiv Impact Assessment Namphia 2017*.

targets set by UNAIDS in 2014¹⁶. In 2020, 90 percent of people living with HIV knew their status. Similarly, 88 percent of Namibians living with HIV were taking antiretroviral drugs (ART). Finally, 80 percent of people on treatment reported to have suppressed viral loads¹⁷.

National policies and the SDGs

8. The Vision 2030 is Namibia's overarching policy framework for long-term national development that was launched in June 2004 in order to improve the quality of life of the Namibian people by the year 2030¹⁸. As a broad and unifying instrument, it provides guidance for the country's five-year national development plans (NDP) and the Harambee Prosperity Plans (HPP).

9. Specifically, the 5th National Development Plan (NDP5) 2017/18-2021/22 builds on the previous NDPs and seeks to realize four strategic goals: achieve inclusive, sustainable, and equitable economic growth; build capable and healthy human resources; ensure sustainable environment and enhance resilience; and promote good governance through effective institutions¹⁹. The NDP5 is complemented by the Harambee Prosperity Plan I (2016-2020)²⁰ and Harambee Prosperity Plan II (2021-2025)²¹. The HPP is a focused and targeted action plan. Both the NDP5 and the HPP II have fully absorbed the Agenda 2030. Moreover, in implementing the national development agenda, Namibia is working toward the realization of the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063²² and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP)²³.

10. Namibia completed two Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) in 2018 and 2021. While its first VNR targeted a selected number of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)²⁴, the second VNR focused on the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of the SDGs²⁵.

Macroeconomic Overview, Poverty and Inequality

11. Namibia has been classified as an upper-middle-income country since 2009. Its economy is driven by foreign direct investments in the mining sector, by manufacturing, and public services²⁶. While it recorded an average annual growth of 4.4 percent between 1991 and 2015²⁷, in 2016, the trend of economic growth started reversing and the real GDP contracted²⁸. In 2018, Namibia recorded one of the highest unemployment rates in the region (33.4 percent), the highest being amongst the youth (46.1 percent)²⁹. The Covid-19 pandemic further hit the economy hard. In 2020 the GDP contracted by 8.5 percent driven by sharp declines in all key industries of the country (*i.e.*, services, mining, tourism, transport, manufacturing, trade and construction)³⁰. In 2021 and 2022, the economy was projected to grow respectively by 1.5 percent and by 3.3 percent, mainly due to better prospects for the mining industry and most of the tertiary sector³¹.

12. In 2020, Namibia ranked 130th out of 189 countries in the Human Development Index (HDI)³². Following years of sustained growth, Namibia experienced a significant reduction of poverty, from 27.6 in 2004 to 17.4 percent in 2016. However, based on data from the latest Namibian Household Income and Expenditure Survey (NHIES)³³, 43.3 percent of the population are affected by multidimensional poverty with a higher chance of experiencing multiple deprivations in rural (59.3 percent) than in urban areas (25.3

¹⁶ Sophie Edwards. *Inside Namibia's HIV success story*. DEVEX. 14 August 2018.

¹⁷ UNAIDS. 2020. Namibia. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

¹⁸ Office of the President. 2004. *Namibia Vision 2030*.

¹⁹ Republic of Namibia. 2017. *Namibia's 5th National Development Plan (NDP5)*.

²⁰ Republic of Namibia. 2016. *Harambee Prosperity Plan I*.

²¹ Republic of Namibia. 2021. *Harambee Prosperity Plan II 2021-2025*.

²² African Union. 2015. *Agenda 2063*.

²³ SADC. 2020. *SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030*.

²⁴ National Planning Commission. 2018. *Voluntary National Review 2018*.

²⁵ 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*.

²⁶ Humavindu, M. N., & Stage, J. 2013. *Key sectors of the Namibian economy*. Journal of Economic structures, 2(1), 1-15.

²⁷ World Bank. 2021. *The World Bank in Namibia*.

²⁸ Bank of Namibia. 2019. *20th Annual Symposium Escaping the Middle-Income Trap: A Perspective from Namibia*.

²⁹ NSA. 2018. *The Namibia Labour Force Survey 2018 Report*.

³⁰ Bank of Namibia. 2020. *Economic Outlook Update*. December 2020.

³¹ Bank of Namibia. 2021. *Economic Outlook Update*. December 2021.

³² UNDP. 2020. *Human Development Report*.

³³ NSA. 2016. *Namibia Household Income and Expenditure Survey (NHIES) 2015/2016 Report*.

percent)³⁴. The country has experienced a steady reduction of income inequality (Gini coefficient from 64.6 in 1993 to 59.1 in 2015)³⁵ but remains one of the most unequal countries in the world³⁶.

13. As of 31 December 2021, Namibia recorded 146,459 cases of Covid-19 and 3,613 deaths since the first case reported on March 13, 2020³⁷. Only 13.3 percent of the population is fully vaccinated.

Climate change, disasters, and vulnerability

14. Namibia's climate consists of unpredictable and variable rainfall patterns, high temperature variability and scarcity of water³⁸. As many countries of the region, it is prone to floods, droughts, and wild and man-induced fires. Flooding is the most regularly occurring hazard. For instance, in 2011 floods impacted nearly 500,000 people, with over 60,000 displaced and 65 deaths³⁹. Between 2013 and 2016, 450,000 people were affected by drought, which in 2015 and 2016 was also exacerbated by the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)⁴⁰. In 2018 and 2019, the country was affected by the most severe drought event of the last 90 years. The combination of low rainfall and low soil moisture exposed one third of Namibia's population to food insecurity and led to the death of nearly 90,000 livestock⁴¹.

15. Namibia is further prone to wild and man-induced fires. It is estimated that more than 1 million hectares of forest and open land is burned every year, which results in environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity and economic disruption for local communities⁴². Future climate projections indicate that the temperatures are expected to increase progressively by 2.0°C to as much as 5.4°C throughout the end of the century. Conversely, the precipitation rates are likely to decrease by as much as 19 percent by the 2080s. Overall, the estimated effects of climate change and vulnerability could result in an annual decrease of 6.5 percent of the country's GDP⁴³.

Food and nutrition security

16. In the 2021 Global Hunger Index (GHI), Namibia ranks 80th out of 116 countries with a GHI of 20.2 labelled as "serious"⁴⁴. The prevalence of undernourishment has increased in the last 15 years from 18.2 percent in the period 2004-2006 to 19.8 percent in 2018-2020⁴⁵. Likewise, severe food insecurity has increased from 29.9 percent in the years 2014-2016 to 32.1 percent in the period 2018-2020⁴⁶.

17. According to IPC reports, key drivers of food insecurity include recurrent natural hazards, such as droughts and floods, reduced agricultural production and, lastly, the Covid-19 pandemic and price shocks. Between October and November 2021, approximately 659,000 people (26 percent of the population) were facing high levels of acute food insecurity with a projected increase up to 750,000 for the period December 2021 – March 2022 (Figure 1)⁴⁷.

³⁴ NSA. 2021. *Namibia Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) REPORT 2021*.

³⁵ World Bank. 2021. *The World Bank in Namibia*.

³⁶ Caelainn Barr. 2017. *Inequality index: where are the world's most unequal countries?* The Guardian.

³⁷ WHO. 2021. *Namibia*. Accessed on 31/12/2021.

³⁸ World Bank Group. 2021. *Climate Risk Profile: Namibia*.

³⁹ Kapuka, A., & Hlásny, T. 2020. *Social Vulnerability to Natural Hazards in Namibia: A District-Based Analysis*. Sustainability, 12(12), 4910.

⁴⁰ Kapuka, A., & Hlásny, T. 2020. *Social Vulnerability to Natural Hazards in Namibia: A District-Based Analysis*. Sustainability, 12(12), 4910.

⁴¹ Shikangalah, R. N. 2020. *The 2019 drought in Namibia: an overview*. J. Namibian Stud, 27, 37-58.

⁴² Kapuka, A., & Hlásny, T. 2020. *Social Vulnerability to Natural Hazards in Namibia: A District-Based Analysis*. Sustainability, 12(12), 4910.

⁴³ World Bank Group. 2021. *Climate Risk Profile: Namibia*.

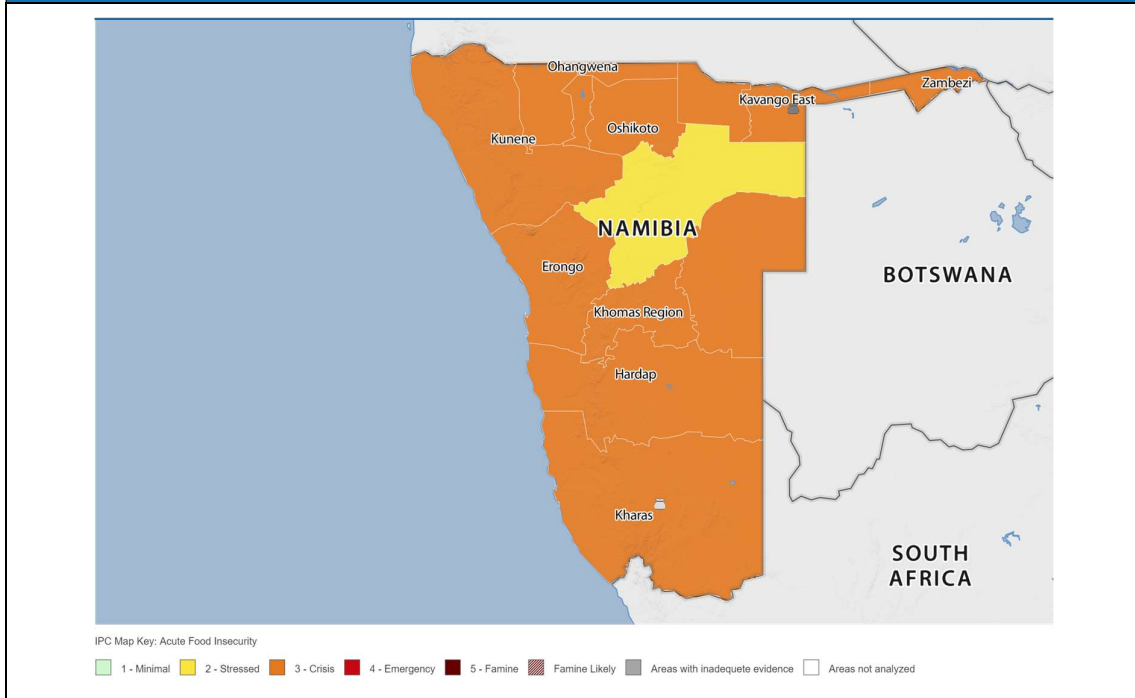
⁴⁴ GHI. 2021. *Namibia*. Accessed on 05/01/2022.

⁴⁵ FAO. 2021. *The state of food security and nutrition in the world*.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁷ IPC. 2021. *Namibia: IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis*, October 2021 - March 2022.

Figure 1: Namibia, IPC acute food insecurity situation (projection December 2021 – March 2022)



Source: Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC).

18. The percentage of stunted children under five years old has slightly improved over the last years, decreasing from 24.1 percent in 2012 to 18.4 percent in 2020 while the percentage of overweight in children under five years old has increased from 4.3 percent to 5.0 percent⁴⁸. In the period 2014-2020, 7.0 percent of the children under five years old were wasted, while 3.0 percent was severely wasted⁴⁹.

Agriculture

19. In the third quarter of 2021, the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sector accounted for 7.6 percent of Namibia's GDP and the sector employed 21.85 percent of the total labour force 2019⁵⁰. Namibia produces cereal crops, such as white maize, wheat, and mahangu/pearl millet, however, in the third quarter of 2021, it recorded a trade deficit in cereal grain (N\$227.6 million), a deterioration compared to the corresponding quarter of 2020 (N\$171.6 million)⁵¹.

20. According to the latest Census of Agriculture, 66 percent of Namibia's farms were owned by males. The majority of farms (61 percent) were reported as commercial and further used land for grazing (74.7 percent).

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