



WFP Ghana Country Brief

April 2018

Operational Context

Ghana is a lower middle-income and food-deficit country, with an estimated population of 27 million, and a gross domestic product per capita of USD 1,340 in 2015. Despite progress in reducing acute malnutrition and stunting at the national level in recent years, high rates of poverty and stunting persist in the Northern Savannah Ecological Zone.

WFP's long-term vision in Ghana includes improved food security and reduction of stunting and micronutrient deficiencies in the northern regions. This will be achieved through technical and policy support for the scale up of nutrition-sensitive social protection programming, as well as through public-private sector partnerships.

WFP has been present in Ghana since 1963.



Population: 27 million	2016 Human Development Index: 139 out of 188
Income Level: Lower middle	Chronic malnutrition: 31% of children between 6-59 months

In Numbers

- 43,000** beneficiaries targeted for Nutrition support
- 30,000** adolescent girls receive take-home rations as incentive for school attendance
- 10,000** smallholder farmers targeted for capacity strengthening and market linkages

US\$ 0.28 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 5.1m six months (May-Oct 2018) net funding requirements, representing 50% of total

47,420 people assisted in April 2018



Operational Updates

- WFP Ghana has signed a MoU with the Ghana Food and Drugs Authority (FDA). This MoU will see FDA support the implementation of the "Enhanced Nutrition and Value Chains" (ENVAC) project by overseeing the safety and quality management, post-production and market surveillance of targeted agro-food processing companies as well as selected community level food processors.
- Under the stunting prevention programme, distribution of specialised and non-specialised food commodities for pregnant and lactating women was carried out in five districts in Northern Ghana. Trainings on Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) and the use of Mobile Data Collection Analytics (MDCA) were conducted for health facilities' staff in four districts. Beneficiary registrations targeting children, pregnant and lactating women were done in two districts.
- Take-home ration distributions for adolescent girls in junior high schools were done in the Northern region of Ghana as part of WFP's continued effort to incentivise girls to remain in school.
- Profiling of Farmer Based Organizations (FBOs), their needs assessment and resource mapping were completed in April. The FBOs' profiling and resource mapping reports have been shared and discussed with stakeholders and farmers. This will guide WFP in linking FBOs to the right resources e.g. tractors, drying facilities, warehouses, among other services.
- The two selected industrial food processors under the Enhanced Nutrition and Value Chains project continue to receive technical capacity support to upgrade their Food Safety Management Systems from WFP Ghana's food technologist.

Main Photo Credit: WFP/Tanko Abudu
Caption: A beneficiary of the Take Home Ration programme carrying her food ration home.

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WFP Country Strategy		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018)		
10.2 m	10.2 m	5.1 m
Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition		
Strategic Outcome 1: Vulnerable women, adolescent girls, people living with HIV and children aged 6-23 months in targeted areas have enhanced nutritional status all year-round <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
6.9 m	6.9 m	3.45 m
Strategic Result 4: Sustainable food systems		
Strategic Outcome 2: Targeted populations and communities benefit from enhanced food systems which support nutrition Value Chains by 2020 <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
2.8 m	2.8 m	1.4 m
Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities		
Strategic Outcome 3: National institutions have strengthened capacity to manage food security and safety nets programmes by 2020 <i>Focus Area: Root Causes</i>		
0.28 m	0.28 m	0.14 m
Strategic Result 6: Policy Coherence		
Strategic Outcome 4: Government efforts towards achieving Zero Hunger by 2030 are supported by effective and coherent policy frameworks. <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
0.21 m	0.21 m	0.10 m

WFP Country Activities

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| SO 1 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide take-home rations, nutrition education and Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Education to adolescent girls in junior high school. 2. Provide commodity vouchers to access locally produced specialised nutritious foods to pregnant and lactating women and girls, people living with HIV and children aged 6-23 months. 3. Provide capacity strengthening to Ghana Health Service for Nutrition Counselling, and Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC). |
| SO 2 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Provide technical support to selected community-level processors of blended flours. 5. Provide financial and technical support to two industrial processors for equipment upgrade. 6. Provide capacity development and equipment support for smallholder farmers on good agricultural practices, post-harvest handling and quality assurance. |
| SO 3 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Provide technical support to the National School Feeding Programme on policy implementation and monitoring, targeting, nutritious quality of school meals and linkages to smallholder farmers. |
| SO 4 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Provide technical support for policies and legislation related to social protection, nutrition, local fortification and smallholder farmers to the Government. |

Monitoring

Monitoring coverage

All the 73 sites planned for monitoring visits in April were covered. This represents 100 percent of the sites monitored against the monthly plan.

Beneficiary Feedback

In April, three calls were received. One of them was from a parent to a beneficiary girl (take-home ration) who called to compliment WFP for the good programme. The other two calls were in reference to the stunting prevention programme, seeking information on registration and receipt of a beneficiary card respectively.

Challenges

There were no major challenges experienced in April.

Partnerships

- Under the ENVAC project, WFP signed MoUs with various partners that clearly specify areas of collaboration. The latest MoU signed in April is between WFP and FDA.
- Preparations are ongoing to formalize additional partnerships with other government agencies on the implementation of activities under SO 3.
- WFP Ghana maintains an active collaboration with government partners, civil society organizations, private sector, academia, development partners and other United Nations Agencies, particularly the Rome-based Agencies, to ensure the harmonization of activities in food security and nutrition. WFP maintains active partnership in UN thematic groups on Gender, Communication, HIV and Emergencies.
- WFP participates in working groups in key sectors such as Education, Social Protection, Agriculture, Health and Nutrition. WFP also collaborates with the National Development Planning Commission to advocate for increased investment in nutrition using the Ghana Cost of Hunger Analysis.
- WFP Ghana is finalizing the development of a partnerships Action Plan that will guide partner engagements during the implementation of the Country Strategic Plan.

Donors

Canada, Japan, Private Donors, Multilateral