



WFP Uganda Country Brief

February 2018

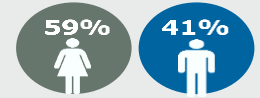
In Numbers

11,700 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$1.8 m cash based transfers made
897,000 refugees assisted

US\$53.6 m six months (March-August 2018)
net funding requirements

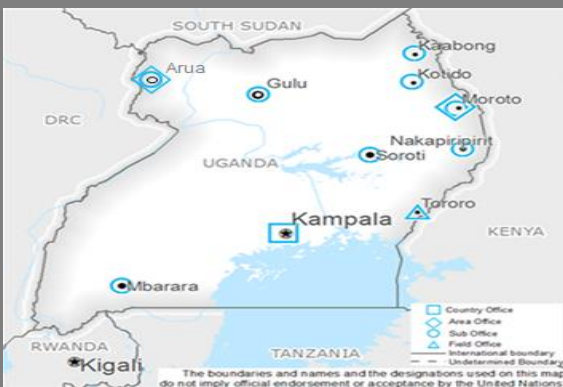
1 m people assisted
in February 2018



Operational Context

Despite being East Africa's breadbasket and a major exporter of grains, levels of food insecurity were still classified as 'serious' by the 2017 Global Hunger Index. While the poverty rate of 19.7 percent indicates a significant decline in the past decade, the country's population growth has led to the absolute number of people living in poverty remaining constant. Uganda is now the third largest refugee hosting country in the world with 1.3 million refugees living in settlements. Peace and stability was largely restored in 2006, but ongoing conflict in neighbouring countries in the region brings challenges to Uganda achieving its development priorities.

WFP's portfolio of assistance in Uganda meets the humanitarian needs of people in crisis while supporting the Government to host the growing number of refugees, address the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition and strengthen the national social protection system. WFP assistance is provided through direct implementation, evidence generation, knowledge sharing and capacity strengthening, while building strategic partnerships including through South-South Cooperation.



Operational Updates

- From January to February 2018, over 45,000 refugees arrived in Uganda from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) due to conflict, bringing the total of DRC refugees in the country to 251,000. WFP supported these refugees with high energy biscuits (HEBs) and hot meals upon arrival and monthly food rations before their relocation to refugee settlements. The two-month surge in refugees from DRC already accounts for 75 percent (60,000) of the planned DRC refugees for 2018. With the increasing numbers, the needs are expected to increase. WFP and partners are revising their planning figures to reflect the increased need for assistance.
- In response to the high Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates amongst refugees arriving from DRC, WFP will provide nutrition assistance through a malnutrition prevention program for women and children (blanket supplementary feeding) in Kyangwali settlement. The program will prevent further deterioration of nutrition status among the affected population through provision of fortified foods.
- On 23 February, the Ministry of Health declared a cholera outbreak in Kyaka II and Kyangwali refugee settlements. 1,000 suspected cases and 29 deaths were reported, a majority of which were children under 9 years. A multi-agency Cholera Task Force was established to coordinate the response, with WHO and UNICEF providing cholera kits, enhanced screening at border entry points and surveillance amongst at-risk communities. However, limited provision of safe drinking water in the settlements remains a challenge.
- In February 2018, WFP registered 4,300 refugee households (35 percent of planned households) in a new 'mixed modality' transfer model where recipients receive a combination of in-kind and cash transfers to meet their food and nutritional needs. Based on the uptake of the new model, WFP will continue to explore different business models to implement cash transfers.
- WFP launched a digital application Logistic execution support system (LESS) to track, monitor and manage WFP commodities. The system will address the 'last mile' gap for food assistance at delivery points allowing WFP to capture all food movement within Uganda, from when food is received by WFP to when it is delivered to cooperating partners for delivery to people in need.

Population: **34.6 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **163 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower income**

Chronic malnutrition: **32% of children between 6-59 months**

WFP Country Strategy

Total Requirement
(in USD)

Confirmed Contributions
(in USD)

Six Month
Net Funding
Requirements
(in USD)

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

1.2 b

94.3 m

53.6 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Refugees and other crisis affected people in Uganda have access to adequate and nutritious food in times of crisis

Focus area: Crisis response

1.0 b

85.8 m

43.3 m

Strategic Outcome 2: Food-insecure populations in areas affected by climate shocks have access to adequate and nutritious food all year

Focus area: Resilience building

68.2 m

3.4 m

3.3 m

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Children aged 6-59 months in food-insecure areas have acute malnutrition rates in line with national targets by 2030

Focus area: Root causes

87.2 m

5.1 m

3.7 m

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and income

Strategic Outcome 4: Smallholder farmers, especially women, in targeted areas have enhanced and resilient livelihoods by 2030

Focus area: Root causes

27 m

0 m

1.8 m

Strategic Result 5: Capacity strengthening

Strategic Outcome 5: Institutions have increased capacity to coordinate and manage food security and nutrition programmes and respond to shocks by 2030

Focus area: Root causes

8.9 m

0 m

0.8 m

Strategic Result 8: Global partnerships

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian actors have access to cost-efficient supply chain services when needed

Root causes: Crisis response

5.4 m

0 m

0.6 m

WFP Country Activities

SO 1 Food and nutrition assistance to refugees; food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected households.

SO 2 Cash and food transfers to participants of community-level asset creation projects, and technical assistance to government; micro-nutrient fortified hot meals to children attending school and technical assistance to government.

SO 3 Specialized nutritious food and cash transfers to caregivers of children 6-59 months and pregnant and nursing women.

SO 4 Training, post-harvest equipment and aggregation facilities to farmers and technical assistance to the government; transfers to farmers for purchasing affordable household storage and training.

SO 5 Single registry platform to government and development partners to coordinate and target programs; technical assistance and services to enable the government and first responders to prepare for and respond to emergencies

SO 6 Supply chain services and expertise to enable all partners to deliver humanitarian assistance.

Monitoring

- WFP Uganda introduced mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping (mVAM) in six refugee settlements (Bidibidi, Kiryandongo, Nakivale, Palorinya, Rhino Camp and Rwamwanja) at the end of 2017. This involves remote data collection through mobile phone interviews. There was an overall improvement in household food security between September 2017 and January 2018, which can, in part, be attributed to a decline in the price of staple foods as well as the recently concluded harvest.

Challenges

- Since the introduction of the mixed modality in December 2017, WFP has faced challenges in the uptake amongst refugees. The scale-up has been slower than planned as people assisted by WFP have indicated they prefer full in-kind or full cash rations. Therefore, the transition to mixed modality approach has generated uncertainty amongst refugees. WFP continues to augment sensitisation activities to ensure beneficiaries are fully aware of their entitlements.

Impact of Limited Funding

- Due to a lack of funding, WFP was forced to suspend food assistance for assets program in the Karamoja region in mid-2017 and has yet to receive funding to resume activities aimed to increase resilience in the highly vulnerable region.
- WFP is assisting 11,000 out of the planned 50,000 people with agriculture and market support as a result of limited resources. WFP requires additional funding to support additional smallholder farmers to reduce post-harvest loss and access markets to improve production and increase incomes.

Donors

Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Norway, Switzerland, Uganda, UN CERF, UK, USA and multilateral and private donors

