



WFP Uganda Country Brief

May 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.

WFP has been present in Uganda since 1963.



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**

In Numbers

13,701 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 1.9 m cash based transfers made

1.1 million refugees assisted

US\$ 71.8 m six months (June-November 2018) net funding requirements

1.3 million people assisted

Operational Updates

- The Honourable State Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, and the Executive Director and Board Chairperson of the National Agricultural Advisory Services supported WFP to commission a satellite collection point (SCP). This is a collective grain reserve that enable smallholder farmers to reduce post-harvest losses in Kobogo district in central Uganda and Napak district in the Karamoja region.
- For the first time in Uganda, WFP procured 98 mt of food from smallholder farmers in Karamoja to utilize for its school meals programme. This partnership helps to lay the foundation for a home-grown school meals programme in Uganda.
- WFP will provide support to the New Partnership for Africa's Development-Africa Resilience Coordination Hub (NEPAD-ARCH) at Makerere University to use the innovative Three-Pronged Approach (3PA) to improve the livelihoods of smallholder famers and address agriculture and food insecurity risks.
- WFP signed an agreement with Handicap International to assess the food distribution processes and food distribution points to determine how inclusive and convenient they are for people with special needs, including the elderly and disabled. The findings will provide recommendations on how to improve inclusive programming.
- WFP held a dissemination workshop for a study on the environmental impact of settling refugees and their energy use in refugee hosting areas in Uganda. The study was undertaken by WFP, the Government of Uganda's Office of the Prime Minister and The Centre for Research in Energy and Energy Conservation (CREEEC). The study recommends the adoption of sustainable initiatives to mitigate the impact of climate change, including reforestation, promotion of energy efficient stoves and alternative fuels, and enforcement of laws and regulations on use of natural resources.
- During the month of May, UNHCR verified 147,900 refugees, completing the exercise in Imvepi, Nakivale and Palabek. This brings the total number of refugees verified to 330,000.

Main Photo

Caption: Launch of Storytellers project in Bidibidi refugee settlement in West Nile, Uganda

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WFP Country Strategy

Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

1.2 b	142 m	71.8 m
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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

249 m	129 m	65.3 m
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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

12.2 m	4.3 m	0.4 m
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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

15.4 m	7.1 m	1.8 m
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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

5.5 m	1.5 m	2.3 m
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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

2.7 m	0.2 m	1.3 m
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Strategic Result 8: Global partnerships

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

Root causes: Crisis response

1.2 m	0 m	0.6 m
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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 conducted a mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM) survey in Bidibidi, Kiryandongo, Nakivale, Palorinya, Rhino Camp and Rwamwanja. The survey indicated a slight improvement in food security across all surveyed settlements with the exception of Nakivale which recorded the highest level of food insecurity with 44 percent of households reporting not enough food to eat. Concurrently, food security improved amongst host communities.

Communications

- WFP launched its Storytellers project in Bidibidi settlement. The project is integral to WFP Uganda's new communications strategy, which brings the voices of the people we serve to the forefront. The refugees are being trained on using smart phones for photography, video and social media to collect stories from their community, on people who inspire them, food and agricultural issues, and daily life in Bidibidi.

Challenges

- WFP requires all refugees to provide attestation letters and ration cards at food distributions. The Government's Office of the Prime Minister has experienced a backlog in issuing attestation letters, which has resulted in a significant number of refugees unable to receive food assistance. The lack of attestation letters led to a riot in Omugu in Rhino Camp settlement. The Government has agreed to increase security to ensure the safety of staff and refugees during distributions.

Impact of Limited Funding

- WFP Uganda anticipates a pipeline break for food assistance in August 2018. If funding is not urgently received, WFP will be forced to cut rations for refugees.
- 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 only assisting 11,000 out of a planned 50,000 people with agriculture and market support as a result of limited resources. WFP requires additional funding to support 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

