



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Uganda Country Brief October 2018

In Numbers

15,738 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 2.53 m cash based transfers made

USD 44.5m six months (November 2018 – April 2019) net funding requirements

1.1m people assisted
in October 2018*

51%



49%



WFP
SAYS
NO to
GENDER
BASED
VIOLENCE

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. Peace and stability was largely restored in 2006, but ongoing conflict in neighboring countries in the region brings challenges to Uganda achieving its development priorities. Uganda is now the third largest refugee hosting country in the world with 1.1 million refugees living in settlements.

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

2017 Human Development Index: 162 out of 189

Income Level: Lower income

Chronic malnutrition: 32 percent of children between 6-59 months

Operational Updates

- Biometric verification:** On 29 October 2018, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and UNHCR announced the completion of the biometric verification exercise for refugees and asylum seekers in the country. Approximately 1.1 million refugees were verified, representing 75 percent of the 1.4 million refugees that were estimated to be residing in the country in March 2018 when the verification commenced.
- New food assistance collection procedures:** WFP rolled out new food assistance collection procedures using biometrics in Kyaka II and Kyangwali refugee settlements in South West Uganda in October 2018. WFP now implements the new procedures in 11 out of 13 settlements, and will begin implementation in Palorinya and Adjumani in November and December 2018, respectively. By 30 October 2018, 520,000 refugees had been served using biometric procedures, with over 402,000 receiving in-kind food assistance, and over 118,000 receiving cash transfers. The introduction of the new collection procedure has increased transparency, accountability and drastically reduced the time taken to collect food.
- Donation to school feeding programme:** In October 2018, WFP received an in-kind donation of 286 metric tonnes of locally grown maize from the Government, through the joint Karamoja Feed Karamoja program. The government-led initiative commissioned in 2014 by OPM and Ministry of Karamoja advocates for households and farmers to produce sufficient quantities of varied food to mitigate the recurrent food insecurity faced in the region. WFP will distribute the maize in 304 schools in Karamoja under its school feeding program.
- Ebola preparedness actions:** WFP distributed personal protection equipment to staff and cooperating partners to ensure safety during food assistance distribution. To maintain high preparedness levels within the country, the Ministry of Health and WHO initiated a voluntary vaccination plan for health workers with plans of full roll-out in November 2018.

* based on estimated figures

Photo: WFP/Hugh Rutherford/Health worker in Karamoja assesses the nutrition status of a child through a community-based outreach programme.

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.2 b	186.5m	44.5 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

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

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide food and nutrition assistance to refugees
- Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected households

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

Activities:

- Provide cash and food transfers for community-level asset creation and technical assistance to the Government of Uganda
- Provide nutritious hot meals to school children and technical assistance to the Government of Uganda

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

Activities:

- Provide specialized nutritious food and nutrition-sensitive cash transfers to at risk populations

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

Activities:

- Provide training, post-harvest equipment and aggregation facilities to farmer organizations and technical assistance to the Government of Uganda
- Provide transfers for purchasing affordable household storage and training

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

Activities:

- Provide a single registry to enable government and development partners to coordinate and target programmes
- Provide technical assistance to enable the government and first responders to prepare for and respond to emergencies

Strategic Result 8: Global partnerships

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

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide supply chain services and expertise to enable all partners to deliver humanitarian assistance

WFP worked with Ebola case management subcommittees, UNICEF, WHO and Ministry of Health to increase Ebola prevention awareness among refugees and host communities by displaying posters at food assistance centres and broadcasting spot messages through local radios. The sensitisation activities targeted high risk settlement areas of Kyaka II and Kyangwali settlement areas which host refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Once a suitable site is identified, WFP will support the Government to construct an Ebola Treatment Unit within Kampala or neighbouring urban districts.

- **Pilot Safe Access to Fuel Energy (SAFE) Project:** In October 2018, WFP signed a partnership agreement with International Lifeline Fund to pilot the SAFE project. Through the SAFE initiative, WFP will distribute and monitor the use of household and institutional fuel efficient stoves (FES) in 2,000 households and 20 schools in Napak and Nakapiririt districts in the Karamoja region, and three refugee hosting districts of Koboko in West Nile, Hoima-Kikube in Western region and Isingiro in South West. The provision of FES is aimed at meeting the cooking fuel needs of households while contributing to ongoing inter-agency projects working to reduce deforestation and combat environmental degradation.
- **Monitoring and assessments:** WFP's market monitoring indicates that the price of food commodities decreased over the past three months. The average price of maize grain (a common staple food) in the refugee settlements, declined from UGX 764 (USD 0.2) in June 2018 to UGX 626 (USD 0.17) in September 2018, representing an 18 percent reduction. The reduction in commodity prices is attributed in part to the good harvest in July 2018. The lower prices of food may improve the purchasing power of refugees receiving cash assistance.
- **Impact of funding:** WFP Uganda will require USD 7.4 million to avert an anticipated pipeline break in December 2018 for the maternal and child health nutrition (MCHN) programme in Karamoja. The programme provides specialized nutritious food to prevent and treat prevailing malnutrition among children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and nursing women in the region. A funding shortage to support MCHN could result in severe malnutrition among children, and an opportunity to share critical feeding and child care messages to pregnant and nursing women will be lost.

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