



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Uganda Country Brief December 2018



Operational Context

Despite its agricultural potential and significant agricultural exports, levels of food insecurity remain classified as 'serious' by the 2018 Global Hunger Index. The northern and eastern parts of the country are most vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition and in some areas stunting and wasting reach 40 and 20 percent, respectively. Uganda is the third largest refugee hosting country in the world with 1.1 million refugees living in settlements. Studies estimate the prevalence of food insecurity to be 90 percent in the refugee population.

WFP's operations in Uganda are guided by the country strategic plan (CSP, 2018-2022) that is aligned to National Development Plan II and Vision 2040 towards the achievement of the sustainable development goals 2 and 17. Through the CSP, WFP continues to address root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition, support the refugee response and strengthen social protection systems. 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% of children between 6-59**

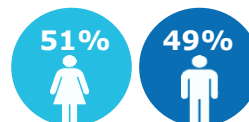
In Numbers

15,365 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 2.1 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 30.5 m six months (January – June 2019) net funding requirements

1.2 m people assisted
in December 2018*



Operational Updates

- Three-year Karamoja Nutrition Programme (KNP) launched:** WFP started implementing a three-year nutrition programme in Karamoja aimed at reducing recurrent acute malnutrition among children aged 6-59 months, and pregnant and nursing women through an adaptive approach that strengthens local health systems and ensures that Government takes leadership and ownership of the results. The launch of the project follows a nine-month pilot implemented between February and September 2018 across the eight districts through WFP's mother-to-child health and nutrition and community-based supplementary feeding programmes. The Karamoja nutrition programme will be implemented through a joint partnership with the local health centres, district local Governments and United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).
- Roll out of biometric food assistance collection procedures:** In order to complete the roll out of the new food assistance collection procedures across all the thirteen rural settlement areas, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and WFP started implementing the new procedures in Adjumani settlement area in Northern Uganda in December 2018. Refugees are biometrically verified by scanning their iris and fingerprints before their food assistance entitlement is issued ensuring effectiveness, accountability and transparency.
- The roll-out of the new food assistance collection procedures in the remaining zones (1 and 3) of Bidibidi settlement in West Nile was delayed after localized violence broke out. The OPM, UNHCR and WFP have initiated dialogue to address concerns of some refugees that are related to the reduction of food assistance centres. Due to the greater infrastructure requirements of the new food assistance collection procedures, the initial 189 food assistance centres were consolidated into 87, in line with a SPHERE standard of keeping distance moved by refugees below 10 km. WFP is working with refugee communities and its partners to accommodate refugee needs while maintaining cost-efficiency.

* based on estimated figures

Photo: WFP/Hugh Rutherford/Health officer assesses the nutrition status of a child in Karamoja sub region through the community

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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	248 m	30.5 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 served 979,773 refugees using the new food assistance procedures in December 2018, with 215,185 refugees receiving unconditional cash transfers and 764,688 refugees receiving in-kind food assistance.
- **Ebola preparedness actions:** No Ebola cases were reported in Uganda as of 31 December 2018, however, people showing symptoms similar to Ebola were isolated, tested and treated before discharge. In addition, a joint monitoring mission was conducted by United Nations World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and WFP to assess levels of Ebola preparedness in Western Uganda. The mission noted that adequate preparedness measures are in place in the five high risk districts of Bundibugyo, Bunyangabu, Kabarole, Kasese and Ntoroko in the region. Moreover, the mission also highlighted that districts closer to Uganda's border with the Democratic Republic of Congo including Kisoro, Kanungu and Rukungiri require more monitoring and screening facilities to reduce the risk of spread.
- In December 2018, WFP continued to operationalize standard operating procedures for Ebola preparedness related to food assistance by training cooperating partners and WFP staff on infection prevention and control (IPC). Through the WFP Health Advisor, an assessment was made to establish the levels of IPC adherence at food assistance centers in Kyangwali settlement area in Western Uganda. Kyaka II and Kyangwali settlement areas were identified as high risk since both host large numbers of Congolese refugees.
- **Launch of three pronged approach (3PA) at community level:** Isingiro district local Government in partnership with WFP hosted the first ever community-based participatory planning session as part of the last series of the 3PA roll out in December 2018. Over 450 technical leaders from 10 sub counties participated in the workshop in which community action plans were developed to guide livelihood programming in Isingiro, a hosting district of Nakivale settlement area in Western Uganda.

Research and Assessments

- In partnership with OPM, Ministry of Health, UNHCR and the Department of Population at Makerere University, WFP started the process of data collection for the annual Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (FSNA) in the thirteen refugee settlement areas and host communities. Findings and recommendations will be used by partners to design and guide the implementation of food security and nutrition strategies in the humanitarian space while jointly strengthening self-reliance capacities of refugees and their host communities.

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