



Operational Context

Ghana is a lower middle-income and food-deficit country, with an estimated population of 24.2 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: **28 million.**

2017 Human Development Index: **140 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **31% of children between 6-59 months**

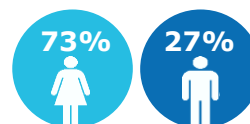
In Numbers

45,000 beneficiaries targeted for Nutrition support in 2019.

22,020 smallholder farmers targeted for capacity strengthening and market linkages in 2019

US\$548,738 six months (April-September 2019) net funding requirements

11,464 people assisted in March 2019



Operational Updates

- Stakeholders' consultation workshop on the voluntary national review (VNR) of the SDGs was held in Tamale with a focus on "leaving no one behind". Under the coordination of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), the workshop reviewed the progress of Ghana's implementation of the SDGs and identified the populations at risk of being left behind, with a view to determining what can be done to address the situation. Emphasis was made on the Ghana Zero Hunger Review, and how the recommendations outlined to address gaps in food security and nutrition. Participants were drawn from academia, policy think-thanks, government agencies and departments, NGOs, Persons with Disability, and children with special needs among others. The VNR report will be presented at the high-level forum of the UN in July 2019.
- Under the first cycle distribution under the nutrition programme of the CSP, 11,464 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) were enrolled in WFP's corporate digital beneficiary and transfer-management platform (SCOPE) to receive locally produced SuperCereal, fortified vegetable oil and iodized salt.
- The social behaviour and change communication (SBCC) activities led by Ghana Health Service (GHS) continued in all the 50 health facilities, where nutrition and health education, and targeted counselling were given to the beneficiaries on general health and nutrition practices and the benefits. WFP visibility in the field was also given prominence.
- The availability of the beneficiary feedback mechanism was emphasized to all beneficiaries to communicate any feedback to WFP for enhanced programming. This is always done during distributions.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
16.1 m	7.735 m	0.548m

Strategic Result 2: Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 1: Addressing the triple burden of malnutrition Vulnerable populations including children and women of reproductive age in high burden regions have improved nutritious status in line with National targets.

Activity:

- Provide cash and vouchers for specialized nutritious foods and/or micronutrient-dense fresh foods for vulnerable children aged 6-23 months, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women under government safety nets, and support the Ghana Health Service about social and behaviour change communication to promote healthy diets in high burden areas

Strategic Result 4: Sustainable food systems

Strategic Outcome 2: Targeted populations and communities in Ghana benefit from more efficient, inclusive and resilient food systems that support nutrition value chains by 2030

Activities:

- Provide technical support for community and industrial production of fortified flour and for food safety and quality assurance. This includes technical support on food safety and quality for up to 30 community milling and blending women's groups, and financial and technical support for two industrial fortified flour producers in Brong Ahafo and Ashanti regions
- Provide support and Link smallholder farmers with the One District, One Warehouse programme by providing training and equipment to minimize post-harvest losses and facilitate quality assurance and market linkages with processors and institutional customers (SMS: Smallholder agricultural market support activities)

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome 3: Local and national institutions have enhanced capacity to target and manage food security, nutrition and social protection programmes by 2030

Activity:

- Provide technical support, including through South-South cooperation, for the national school meals programme, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the National Disaster Management Organization, the Food and Drugs Authority and the Ghana Health Service to optimize the nutritional quality of school meals; food security monitoring; the early-warning system; disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness, food safety and quality, and food-based dietary guidelines.

Strategic Result 6: policy coherence.

Strategic Outcome 4: Government efforts to achieve zero hunger by 2030 are supported by advocacy and coherent policy frameworks

Activity:

- 5. Advocate for the promulgation and enforcement of policies and legislation on school feeding, gender equality, nutrition, food safety, weights, measures and standards, smallholder-friendly public procurement and market support (CSI: Institutional capacity strengthening activities)

Monitoring.

- Distribution to PLWs was carried out in all the seven implementing districts, while distribution to children took place in three districts, including in the conflict zone (Chereponi district). In all, 34 sites have been visited out of the 50 implementing sites. Support was provided to retailers on both biometric and manual redemption processes. Health staff were also educated on the eligibility criteria for the cycle as there were challenges during the enrolment of beneficiaries and so not all beneficiaries received e-vouchers.
- The National Communication Authority has assisted WFP in acquiring a toll-free number for beneficiary feedback enhancement. The number is 0800-100-500.

Challenges

- Depreciation of the Cedi against the US dollar has affected the purchasing power of most Ghanaians, especially the poor and vulnerable. A review of the transfer values to beneficiaries must be undertaken to provide transfers that are commensurate with the price increases.
- GN Bank who was the lead financial service provider for WFP Ghana was recently downgraded to a savings and loan institution caused by the banks' inability to meet the minimum capital requirements set by Bank of Ghana. Because of this, WFP has dissolved its contract with the Bank and in the process of striking an agreement with Ecobank to handle its financial delivery to beneficiaries.

Partnerships

- 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 will continue to participate 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 school feeding and nutrition using the Ghana Cost Benefit Analysis for school feeding, and the Ghana Cost of Hunger Africa Analysis.

Funding opportunities for CSP

Canada, China, EU – DEVCO Funds & Foundations (WFP 2030 Fund etc), Germany (BMZ), AfDB, Ghana - Government Counterpart Cash Contributions, Japan, KOICA, Private Sector and World Bank.