



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Uganda Country Brief February 2020



Operational Context

Uganda has a longstanding history of hosting refugees, with more than 1.4 million refugees and asylum seekers mainly from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Burundi. Despite its agricultural potential and significant exports, Uganda's food insecurity levels remain classified as 'serious' by the 2018 Global Hunger Index. Ugandans consume 400 kcal less than they need each day. Malnutrition is widespread across the country: 29 percent of children under the age of 5 years are stunted and 53 percent are anaemic and at risk of not reaching their full mental and physical potential.

WFP's Country Strategic Plan 2018-2022 has six strategic outcomes and is fully aligned with national policy objectives, including Uganda's Vision 2040 and the National Development Plan II (NDPII). Through the CSP, WFP addresses the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition, supports the refugee response and strengthens social protection systems. WFP assistance is provided through



Population: **40.3 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **159 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower-middle**

Stunting: **29 percent of children between 6-59 months**

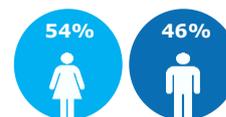
In Numbers

12,506 mt of food assistance distributed*

US\$ 4.2m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 74m six months (March 2020 – August 2020) net funding requirements

1.4m people assisted* in February 2020



Operational Updates

- In February, WFP assisted a total of 1.4 million people across its activities in Uganda. WFP provided unconditional food and cash transfers to 1.2 million refugees, providing a lifeline to especially vulnerable people. WFP reached approximately 505,000 refugees with US\$ 4.2 million cash assistance.
- In February 2020, desert locust swarms arrived in north-eastern Uganda, near Amudat. WFP handed over five trucks to the government to transport equipment to affected districts. The trucks, received by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, will be operating in the Karamoja region and eastern Uganda.
- Following a request from the Ministry of Health to support COVID-19 preparedness and response, WFP procured five incinerators to support the management of hazardous waste in health facilities located in the central, south-western and northern regions. In addition, WFP is working to provide equipment to support the setup of border screening and isolation units at Vurra and Cyanika border crossing points.
- In a continued effort to support the Government of Uganda to establish and maintain a nationally-owned school feeding programme linked to local agriculture production, a delegation from WFP participated in a meeting with the First Lady of Uganda and Minister of Education and Sports to discuss the second phase of the "Karamoja feeds Karamoja" programme, guiding the government in procuring food for schools from smallholder farmers. The First Lady expressed her gratitude to WFP for its support in improving production, productivity and post-harvest management of smallholder farmers in the Karamoja region.
- In Karamoja, together with UNICEF and The AIDS Support Organization (TASO), WFP supported the

* Beneficiaries figures are based on estimated figures

Photo Caption: A mother and her child after collecting food assistance in the Oruchinga refugee settlement. Credits: WFP/Claire Nevill

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.2b	431m	74m

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

training of health workers on health information management systems to improve the HIV and nutrition data reporting and enhance evidence-based planning for districts in the region.

- Under the Karamoja Nutrition Programme, WFP and UNICEF agreed to increase screening and referral by improving the Village Health Teams (VHT) functionality and supporting the development of district-specific action plans. This will allow the design of a concrete engagement plan for the entire programme.
- Within the multi-year strategic partnership with UNICEF to strengthen social protection systems in refugee-hosting districts of the West Nile region, WFP participated in the first Steering Committee to discuss priorities for 2020. NUSAF3, DRDIP and SAGE were recognised as national social protection entry points for improving refugee and host communities' access to food and nutrition.

Impact of Limited Funding

- WFP Uganda foresees a reduction in the contributions for its refugee response in 2020 with severe implications on its operation and the food security situation of the refugee population. Based on the probability of planned contributions, WFP has prepared two scenarios: the medium funding scenario and the worst-case scenario – respectively valued at US\$ 176 million and US\$ 141 million. The very optimistic funding scenario, equivalent to the full needs-based plan of US\$ 219 million for 2020, is regrettably deemed unrealistic. To ensure continuation of lifesaving food assistance operations despite resources shortfalls, WFP intends to reduce general food assistance rations to all refugees for the foreseeable future, starting in April 2020.
- Due to limited funding, WFP suspended the Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programme in the Karamoja region, one of Uganda's poorest areas. The programme's target population, including children and pregnant and lactating women, are those most at risk of malnutrition. WFP needs US\$ 5.5 million to resume and maintain the programme for the next six months (March 2020 – August 2020).

Donors

The work of WFP in Uganda is funded by: Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, UN CERF, UK, USA, multilateral and private donors.