



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Uganda Country Brief April 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 direct implementation, evidence generation, knowledge sharing and capacity strengthening, while building strategic partnerships including through South-South and Triangular Cooperation.



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

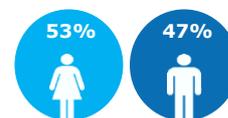
### In Numbers

8,460 mt of food assistance distributed\*

US\$ 2.9m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 79.2m six months (May 2020 – October 2020) net funding requirements

1.2m people assisted\*  
in April 2020



### Operational Updates

- Following the COVID-19 outbreak and the containment measures undertaken by the Government of Uganda, WFP adapted its ways of operating to ensure uninterrupted lifesaving assistance to the most vulnerable populations while curbing the spread of the virus. In this context, WFP put in place different mitigation measures at refugee distribution centres, such as providing double rations and prepacked food to cover the months of May and June, and enforcing physical distancing to avoid congestion during distributions. WFP also scaled up cash-based assistance, reaching a record of 516,232 refugees and increasing efforts in market facilitation, ensuring that refugees receiving cash transfers had access to fresh and nutritious food available at fair prices.
- WFP engaged with the Uganda Red Cross Society and the Uganda Virus Research Institute to provide training on dealing with COVID-19 to district local government workers, WFP staff, cooperating partners and volunteers.
- Following the government's request to support urban refugees in Kampala, WFP is working to provide a 3-months cash distribution to approximately 80,000 people using mobile money. WFP is part of a task force together with UNHCR and the Office of the Prime Minister, and is participating in bi-weekly meetings to prepare for the distribution.
- WFP is supporting the district local governments in West Nile to incorporate new categories of vulnerable people in need into a short-term safety-net programme.
- WFP is maintaining acute malnutrition treatment programmes in the Karamoja region and in refugee settlements, changing the distribution frequency from bi-weekly to monthly to limit the risk of spreading the coronavirus and expanding the criteria for entry. Likewise, in the refugee response, WFP resumed and adjusted the Maternal Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) Programme aimed at the prevention of stunting among pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-23 months, distributing 2-months rations of Super Cereal Plus.
- Because of the COVID pandemic, a nationwide closure of schools is in force. Nearly 130,000 children in the Karamoja region are missing out on school meals on which they

\* Beneficiaries figures are based on estimated figures

Photo Caption: A woman has her temperature checked before entering the food distribution point in BidiBidi. Credits: WFP/Petroc Wilton

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**Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)**

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>1.2b</b>	<b>492m</b>	<b>79.2m</b>

**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

depend. WFP is considering the possibility of providing take-home rations to ensure that school children continue to receive support that addresses their food and nutritional requirements.

- WFP is mounting a regional passenger air service to ferry humanitarian and health workers across East Africa to overcome disruptions to commercial air services. The flight service, which will link Entebbe to Addis Ababa, will be running on a weekly basis from May.
- WFP provided cash livelihood support to 7,500 households in the Moroto and Kotido districts in return for their participation in establishing orchards in more than 20 schools, and building soil and water conservation structures.

**Monitoring and Assessments**

- To minimise the risk to WFP beneficiaries, staff and other stakeholders, WFP’s substantial in-person data collection has been reduced to a minimum. A remote monitoring system is in place, collecting data from households located in refugee settlements, refugee-hosting communities, Karamoja and 14 urban centres to understand the food security situation and the ability to meet essential needs. Post-distribution monitoring of general food assistance has also shifted to phone-based data collection from May. Most other in-person programme monitoring will be suspended, with the exception of distribution monitoring of lifesaving activities.
- WFP has intensified market monitoring to detect shocks to supply chains and markets as early as possible and to adjust operations to the dynamic situation, including reviewing the amount of cash-based transfers against the market price of the food that refugees receive.
- In April, WFP conducted a rapid food security and essential needs assessment to inform a decision to provide food assistance to refugees in Kampala. The assessment revealed that economic activity had been severely impacted by the pandemic and the containment measures, with 87 percent of respondents reporting a major impact. Half of the sample population reported having lost over 75 percent of household income.

**Donors**

Top donors since 2019: European Commission, Republic of Ireland, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, United States of America.