



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

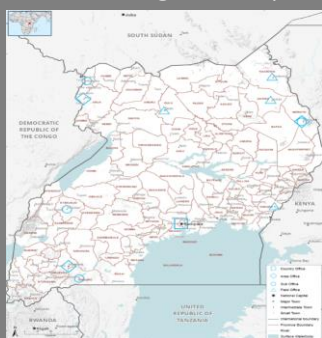
WFP Uganda Country Brief



Operational Context

Uganda has a longstanding history of hosting refugees, with 1.42 million of them, mainly natives of South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi currently resident in the country. Despite its agricultural potential and significant exports, Uganda's food insecurity levels remain classified as 'serious' by the 2019 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 Third National Development Plan (NDP III). 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 Co-operation.



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

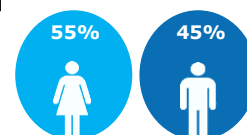
In Numbers

9982.703 mt of food assistance
distributed

US\$ 7.1 million cash-based transfers
made

US\$ 94 million six months (October 2020
– March 2021) net funding requirements

1.13 million people assisted
in September 2020



Operational Updates

Throughout the month of September, WFP continued to deliver on its mandate by distributing relief food items and cash transfers to over 1.13 million refugees. WFP also assisted children, pregnant and breastfeeding mothers in Karamoja and refugee hosting districts that underwent treatment for acute malnutrition with special foods to aid recovery.

To support early case identification and management, WFP supported the government of Uganda's efforts towards containing the COVID-19 pandemic by installing screening facilities and a multi storage unit at Namboole isolation centre. Other screening facilities were installed at the busiest points of entry along the borders with Tanzania, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and South Sudan to facilitate COVID 19 screening.

Following the government's decision to re-open schools for candidate classes in October, WFP supported government to develop standard operating procedures to support provision of hot meals to the school children in Karamoja region. WFP will also resume supply of food commodities to the schools while considering a second round of take-home rations to about 115,897 children in non-candidate classes. This will enable children, especially girls, to remain in school and take advantage of alternative schooling introduced by government in May 2020.

To strengthen designing, planning and implementing of programmes in resilience building, safety nets, disaster preparedness and risk reduction, WFP in partnership with Makerere University rolled out a three-pronged approach in the districts of Kaabong and Kikuube; areas identified as most prone to drought and environmental degradation. As a result, community action plans have been developed to define community-driven resilience agenda and vision for the current and future generations. The plans were also adopted for inclusion in the district development plan.

WFP supported the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) to draft the very first Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Business Network strategy to be used as a benchmark document to engage the private sector in scaling up nutrition. The draft is being reviewed by the relevant stakeholders.

* Beneficiaries figures are based on estimates.

Photo Caption: School feeding is changing lives in Africa.
Photo credit: WFP/Dixon

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

| Total Requirement (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 1.2b | 582.7m | 94 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

In Isingiro, Moroto and Kotido districts, communities were engaged in creating household and institutional assets. A total of 1,500 men and women participated in establishing orchards in 20 schools and constructing soil and water conservation structures in degraded lands in Karamoja. In Isingiro, 1,350 households participated in establishing irrigation facilities complemented by woodlots, tree and fruit tree nursery beds and vegetable gardens. This will reduce the risk of disaster by restoring degraded lands, strengthening livelihoods and building resilience.

WFP worked with the Ministry of Health to monitor the implementation of nutrition assessment counselling and support at the Anti-Retroviral (ART) service sites in the refugee hosting districts in South-western Uganda. It also carried out onsite mentorship of health service providers and generated evidence to inform decision making for improved provision of nutrition services at ART sites. As a result, 25 ART sites developed improvement action plans to address gaps in adhering to ART treatment, retention in care and viral load suppression among People Living with HIV and AIDS.

Registration for the COVID-19 cash-based transfer response targeting pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and children under two years was completed. Approximately 28,000 refugees and 15,000 host community, pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and children aged under two years were registered under WFP's mother and child health and nutrition (MCHN) intervention. A total of 13,000 PLW and children within refugee hosting communities were registered under the development response to displacement impact projects (DRDIP) and NUSAF3. Each of the women and children on the MCHN programme will receive a two-months' equivalent of UGS 96,000. Payments will be distributed in October.

WFP, in collaboration with FAO and OPM signed a multi-year project (2020-2022), titled "Strengthening Shock-responsive Systems in Karamoja" with the European Union. The project will strengthen the Government of Uganda's capacity to reduce, anticipate and rapidly respond to the effects of shocks and sustain climate-resilient rural development in an integrated manner.

WFP carried out a protection and gender risk assessment for digital migration from regular cash transfers to digital cash (Mobile Money) in Kiyandongo Refugee Settlement. This intends to identify risks and mitigation measures to ensure the transition does no harm and that assistance is provided safely and respecting of the dignity of beneficiaries.

Challenges

Due to COVID-19 and the measure put in place to curb its spread, activities requiring group gatherings such as community-based participatory planning workshops, asset creation and Agriculture and Market Support activities have experienced delays in implementation.

Impact of Limited Funding

The effects of COVID-19, coupled with floods and desert locusts have resulted in high levels of food insecurity and loss of livelihood in refugee hosting districts and Karamoja and the impact was also seen among urban populations. WFP needs nearly US\$15.3 million to be able to provide full rations for refugees in the settlements until the end of 2020.

Donors Top donors in 2020: United States of America, United Kingdom, European Commission, Republic of Korea, Canada, Germany, Sweden and Ireland.