



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Uganda Country Brief January 2021



In Numbers

7,890 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 6.3 million in cash transfers made

USD 108 million six months (January – June 2021) net funding requirements

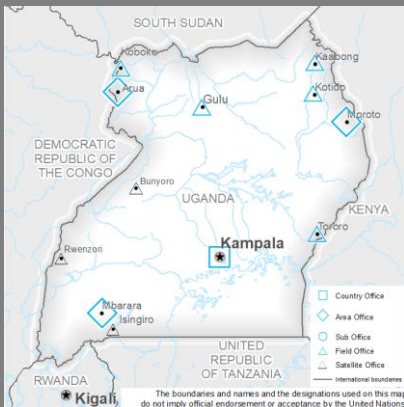
1,216,180 people assisted
in January 2021



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

Operational Updates

Support to refugee communities

- As part of WFP’s expansion of the cash-based transfer (CBT) modality for food assistance and its digitalization, refugees in Kyangwali and Nakivale refugee settlements were trained to improve their financial literacy. The training aimed at empowering refugees to be self-reliant as well as improving their understanding on how to access and use financial services, enabling them to make sound decisions to achieve their financial goals. As WFP is including an increasing number of refugees to benefit from CBT, training and sensitization appears crucial in order to mitigate risks related to financial transactions and to address protection concerns about the potential misuse of cash by the recipients. The training programme targets 31,336 groups (313,364 individuals) in one year through six training cycles. An assessment of the financial literacy of the targeted population surveyed over 1,200 households (600 households per settlement). In total 460 groups were trained, and WFP intends to translate into local languages the different sensitization material to ensure a broad understanding by all the refugees.
- Due to funding shortages, WFP decided to further reduce food rations to 60 percent of the full ration for both CBT and in-kind food assistances to refugees from February onwards. This is a 10-percen reduction from the 70 percent ration that was introduced in April 2020. WFP in partnership with UNHCR and the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) sensitised refugees in all settlements on this ration reduction. Through engagement with refugee leaders such as refugee welfare councils (RWC), block leaders, Food Management Committees, religious and community opinion leaders in the West Nile, key actions were taken to mitigate protection issues that emerge in families due reduction of rations.

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* Beneficiaries figures are based on estimates.
Photo Caption: Candidate class students from Karamoja region receive hot meals at school.
Photo credit: WFP/ © WFP/Hugh Rutherford

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.2 b	655 m	108 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

- Under its food assistance for assets (FFA) programme, WFP received funding from Germany/BMZ to implement the Isingiro Irrigation Project aiming at irrigation to three villages: Rushasha, Rugaga and Masha in Isingiro District. WFP works together with the Isingiro District local Government and engages with prospective vendors to undertake hydrological studies and drilling works. The works commenced in January and are being executed by ICON Projects Limited.

Support in Karamoja region

- As candidate classes resumed studies for term three, WFP delivered food commodities to different schools for onsite feeding to 11,634 learners (59.7 percent boys and 40.3 percent girls) who were supported in the previous term out of the initial planned 12,434 learners. WFP engaged with the Ministry of Education to establish dates for reopening of schools and discuss the resources available for the school feeding programme.
- WFP registered 29,000 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs) and children aged 6-59 months under the prevention of acute malnutrition (MAM) programme in Moroto and Napak Districts in the Karamoja sub-region. Food Security and Nutrition Assessment results indicate that global acute malnutrition (GAM) prevalence had increased beyond the emergency threshold of 15 percent and that the PLWG and children under 5 years in these districts required immediate nutrition assistance. A ration of 100g of Super Cereal Plus per person per day has been distributed since November and will continue until April. In addition to providing nutritious food items to prevent a further increase of malnutrition rates, the intervention included other activities such as screening, counselling, referrals to other key programmes and activities, social and behaviour change communication (SBCC), micro-nutrients supplementation, immunization, and deworming of children, addressing a wide range of underlying causes of malnutrition.

Challenges

- The election period disrupted planned activities and distributions in Rwamwanja were postponed to February.
- Importation of food commodities was delayed due high standards and quality checks at the customs. This resulted into delays in arrival of pulses from Mombasa.

Donors (in alphabetical order)

Canada, Germany, , European Commission, Republic of Ireland, Republic of Korea, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America.