

# **WFP Uganda Country Brief July 2021**

**World Food** Programme

SAVING

CHANGING

LIVES

LIVES

# **Operational Context**

Uganda has a longstanding history of hosting refugees, with 1.42 million of them, mainly from South Sudan, 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 2018-2025 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.



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# In Numbers

5.452 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 7.3 million in cash-based transfers made

USD 96.4 million six months (August 2021 – January 2022) net funding requirements

1,286,308 people assisted in July 2021

# **Operational Updates**

Support to refugees



WFP provided hot meals to 2,900 asylum seekers from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in Bubukwanga transit centre in Bundibugyo district. To assess the nutrition situation at the transit centre, WFP, UNHCR and health partners conducted a joint mass screening exercise. Results indicated that prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) stood at 5.8 percent and 28.6 percent among children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women respectively. This prompted WFP and partners to enrol 43 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition. WFP plans to implement blanket prevention of acute malnutrition for 450 beneficiaries.

# Support in Karamoja region

An Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Analysis released in July 2021 revealed critical levels of food insecurity and acute malnutrition in Karamoja. Based on this, WFP provided targeted food assistance to 50,616 nutritionally vulnerable people in Kaabong, Moroto and Kotido districts in Karamoja using nutritionbased targeting. Of these, 28,692 received food assistance in the form of cash-based transfers (CBT) under the Pro-Resilience Action (Pro-Act) project while 21,924 received in-kind food assistance. These districts have high prevalence of GAM and experienced the greatest shock during the lean season. The food assistance will be provided for four months until the harvest season which is expected in October. The Pro-Act project seeks to strengthen shock-responsive systems in Karamoja and utilizes the Karamoja Social Registry database for registering beneficiary households, including managing and reconciling transfers.

# Asset creation and livelihoods

WFP distributed USD 69,956 of cash-based transfers to 1,113 households (5,565 people) from the refugee and host communities that participated in asset creation activities in Isingiro district. The cash-based transfers helped the food insecure households to address their

\* Beneficiaries figures are based on estimates. Photo Caption: A mother in Oruchinga, SW Uganda, taking the MUAC (Mid Upper Arm Circumference) of her child to assess the nutrition status.

Photo credit: WFP/ © WFP/Hugh Rutherford

# WFP Country Strategy



Country Strategic Plan (2018-2025)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.8 b	646.2 m	96.4 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 and promote financial
- inclusion of refugeesProvide 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 technical assistance to the Government, women and men participating in community-level asset creation projects and strengthen the national social protection system
- Provide nutritious meals to children attending school and technical assistance to the Government through South–South cooperation

### 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 interventions to populations at risk

### 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:

- Strengthen the capacity of the Government, smallholder farmers, micro and small enterprises in post-harvest management, agroprocessing and link smallholder farmers to markets
- 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:

- Strengthen the capacity of selected national and subnational institutions to provide direct income support
- Strengthen the capacity of selected national and subnational institutions to respond to shocks

#### 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.

WFP Uganda Country Brief July 2021 food consumption gaps as they create assets that contribute to strengthening their productive capacity and resilience to shocks.

• WFP and Makerere University signed an agreement to implement technical cooperation and coordination for strengthening resilience building capacities through the three-pronged approach in Uganda. Activities under this partnership will focus on developing and integrating community action plans into district development plans in Karamoja, developing national and urban integrated context analyses and seasonal livelihoods plans, and documenting lessons learned.

### Child-sensitive social protection programme

To mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing countrywide movement restrictions on food security of vulnerable people, the childsensitive social protection programme distributed USD 1,259,572 as cash-based transfers to 46,421 vulnerable people in the West Nile region to help them meet the cost of a nutritious diet for two months. The programme targeted 61,886 children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women who were already enrolled in government's Maternal and Child Health (MCH) programme—supported by WFP in refugee settlement districts-and the Government-led **Development Response to Displacement Impacts** Project (DRDIP). Beneficiaries that were not reached during the second round will be reached through a separate exercise.

### Support to smallholder farmers

 WFP continued to strengthen the capacity of smallholder farmers in post-harvest management through 25 farmer organisations and 930 farmer groups in the Southwest, North and Karamoja regions. Farmers received training on harvesting, household storage, collective marketing, business management, record keeping, and store management. This helped them to improve their handling of farm produce, bulk and sell it collectively for best prices available to improve incomes. The acquired skills also sought to help farmers reduce post-harvest losses.

### Challenges

 Due to critical funding constraints, WFP has not been providing a full ration food-basket to refugees since April 2020. From February 2021, WFP implemented a further reduction of ration, with refugees receiving 60 percent of their entitlements. WFP requires USD 96.4 million within the next six months to continue its operations.

### **Donors (in alphabetical order)**

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