

WFP Uganda Country Brief August 2021

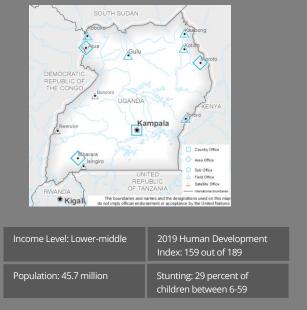


SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

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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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

In Numbers

6,317 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 1.25 million in cash-based transfers

USD 85.82 million six months (September 2021 – February 2022) net funding requirements

1,111,517 people assisted in August 2021

52%



Operational Updates

Support to refugees

- WFP continued to engage with different stakeholders to implement a geographic needs-based resource prioritization for general food assistance (GFA) for refuges: assistance will start from November onwards as an interim solution before a further prioritization of beneficiaries is implemented in collaboration with the UNHCR. An increased ration of 70 percent of the food basket will be provided in the settlements of Bidibidi, Lobule, Palorinya, Imvepi and Rhino. An unchanged ration of 60 percent of the food basket will be provided in Adjumani, Kiryandongo and Palabek. A decreased ration equivalent of 40 percent of the food basket will be provided in Kyaka, Kyangwali, Nakivale, Oruchinga and Rwamwanja. WFP and UNHCR, together with the Joint Hub for Targeting and Programme Excellence, continue to advocate for more resources to ensure refugees receive appropriate food assistance.
- WFP started to implement cash-based transfers (CBT) in the Palorinya refugee settlement where beneficiaries will receive the 60 percent cash assistance (19,000 UGX per person per month (approx. USD5.20)). The introduction of cash assistance was accompanied with sensitization on financial literacy to empower refugees to be self-reliant and to improve their understanding of the various ways of accessing and using financial services, including enabling them to make sound decisions to achieve their financial goals. Market facilitation activities are ongoing in all refugee settlements and host districts through engaging stakeholders, market actors, trader associations, etc to promote market functionality as well as enabling smallholder farmers to benefit from formal markets.

Support in Karamoja Region

 WFP provided a protective ration (provided as a Lean Season Response (LSR) when Food stocks dwindle and poor families regularly skip meals) ration to 63,726 beneficiaries in Kaabong, Kotido, Moroto and Napak through both in-kind food distribution rations and cashbased transfers. A total of 22,014 beneficiaries received in-kind food assistance while 41,712 people received a hybrid assistance.

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 673.9 m 85.82 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 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 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. To prevent moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), WFP provided 174 mt of SuperCereal Plus (CSB++) to a total of 50,773 children aged 6–59 months and 7,363 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG), in Kaabong and Kotido in the Karamoja Regions.

Asset creation and livelihoods

 In collaboration with OXFAM, WFP trained two water user committees from Rushasha and Rugaga sub counties in solid waste management, sanitation, and hygiene at the water sources. In addition, 463 beneficiaries in Masha, Rushasha and Rugaga sub counties received training on financial literacy.

Nutrition

As part of the World Breastfeeding Week (WBW), WFP's supported the Ministry of Health to develop Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials to promote maternal, infant, and young child feeding practices, with a special emphasis on breastfeeding practices. In addition, WFP supported various sensitisation activities in Nakapiripit and Karenga Districts, targeting lactating women and their partners, community health workers and lead mothers through health education drives and breastfeeding demos. Twenty health facilities, 20 district health workers, 12 district administrators and 328 village health team members, including lead mothers, participated in the sensitisation activities.

Support to smallholder farmers

- In August, WFP provided capacity strengthening to smallholder farmers (SHFs) through training, mentorship, and facilitation (e.g., linkages, cross learning visits etc). About 9,709 SHFs received training on postharvest management, bulking and collective marketing. The training was complemented by followup visits and mentorships wherein 1,202 individual SHFs and leaders were mentored.
- Farmer organisations and groups were connected to markets to ensure they can collectively sell their farm produce. Thirty-six farmer groups and two farmer organisations were linked to buyers and as a result, sold 113 mt of assorted farm produce for a total value of USD 47,915.

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 only 60 percent of their entitlements. WFP requires USD 85.82 million within the next six months to continue its support.

Donors (in alphabetical order)

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