

## WFP Uganda Country Brief April 2022

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES



## **Operational Context**

Uganda has a longstanding history of hosting refugees, with 1.42 million currently residing in the country, mainly from South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi. 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 6 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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**Country Director:** Meygag Abdirahman (<u>meygag.abdirahman@wfp.org</u>) Further information: <u>https://www.wfp.org/countries/uganda</u> Photo Caption: A doctor from WFP partner organisation, Medical Teams International, explains to a mother the importance of specialised nutritious food as treatment for malnutrition. Photo credit: Hugh/WFP

## In Numbers



7,328.5 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 3.08 million in cash-based transfers

**USD 57.54 million** six months (May 2022 – October 2022) net funding requirements

**1,536,657 people assisted** in April 2022

## **Operational Updates**

### Support to refugees

- The influx of refugees into Uganda continues to rise, with over 16,000 arriving from the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan in April alone. Despite funding shortfalls, WFP continues to provide high energy biscuits (HEBs) to newly arrived refugees at the points of collections and hot meals at transit/reception centres. About 100,000 new refugees are projected to enter Uganda by December 2022. WFP has contributed to the contingency plan under the food security sector based on this projection.
- The verification and individual profiling exercise, which began in the fourth quarter of 2021, has been completed in Group 3 settlements (Oruchinga, Nakivale, Rwamwanja, and Kyaka) and is still ongoing in Groups 1 and 2. In Group 3 settlements, Phase 2 of prioritisation will begin in June 2022, with 25 percent of the most vulnerable receiving a 60 percent ration and the rest receiving a 40 percent ration.

#### Scale-up of Cash-Based Transfers (CBT):

- Refugees were enrolled in digital cash/Agency Banking with Equity Bank at the Bidi Bidi settlement, with 721 households (4,645 individuals). The June cycle will see the first digital cash distributions.
- Advanced financial literacy training was successfully rolled out to 4,315 individuals in the Nakivale settlement under the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Project (3,081 females and 1,234 males).
- WFP participated in an Inter-Agency cash working group event on the digitalization of saving clubs (DSG). The event, conducted in collaboration with U-Learn, World Vision, UNCDF, and the Livelihoods and Resilience working group, helped participants gain a better grasp of the landscape of savings groups and the criteria that should be followed before they are digitalized.

# Gender, Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

• WFP in collaboration with UN Women had a mission to the Southwest to support the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The mission aimed to understand and document women's experiences with digital payments, identify any hurdles to women's use and uptake of digital payments, their engagement as bank agents, and devise methods to improve women's participation

\* Beneficiaries figures are based on estimates.

## WFP Country Strategy



### Country Strategic Plan (2018-2025)

Total Requirement	Allocated Contributions	Six Month Net Funding
(In USD)	(in USD)	Requirements (in USD)
1.8 b	779.86 m	57.54 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 to deliver livelihood and resilience building programmes
- Provide nutritious hot meals to children attending school and technical assistance to the Government through South–South cooperation, for increased national ownership

#### 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 in post-harvest management and link smallholder farmers to markets.

#### 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 and their underlying systems to provide direct income support
- Strengthen the capacity of selected national and subnational institutions and their underlying systems 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.

as bank agents. The mission also interacted with men to learn about their perspectives on women's economic empowerment, the support they provide, and their anxieties and concerns.

## Strengthening national capacity for Emergency Preparedness and Response

- In Karamoja, pro-resilience and nutrition-sensitive asset creation and livelihoods (ACL) activities were implemented. The establishment of orange-fleshed sweet potato multiplication gardens in five districts, apiary farming (where 650 beehives were procured and delivered), aquaculture (where 18 fishponds were excavated in Labalangit sub-county and stocked with fish), and household vegetable gardening were among the activities.
- WFP carried out preparatory activities for the establishment of two incubation centres for livelihood activities in the Southwest area. Non-food items comprising farm tools and solar stoves for project activities were procured and delivered.
- Furthermore, project participants in Kyaka II refugee camp were elected and profiled. Approximately six acres of land has been allocated for ACL activities following stakeholder engagement in Kyaka II.

#### **Home Grown School Feeding**

- WFP procured tablets for the school feeding digitisation program, which targeted 315 schools, under the Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) program. WFP established a management strategy for the devices that would be used by the schools, including protocols for dealing with device losses, damages, and repairs. WFP is collaborating with technical teams from the Ministry of Education and Sports for project execution.
- On April 15, 2022, schools closed for Term One. 314 schools (280 elementary schools, 26 secondary schools, and eight tertiary institutions) received food supplies. In term one, 204,556 beneficiaries received hot meals, including 198,817 students and 5,739 support workers, teachers, and cooks. Primary school children accounted for 92 percent (182,894) of students who benefited, secondary schools accounted for 7 percent (14,056), and tertiary institutions accounted for 1 percent (1,867).
  46.7 percent of the schoolchildren were females, while 53.3 percent were boys.
- In Term One, WFP distributed 2,923.23 mt of food items (cereals 2,315.26 mt, pulses 460.19 mt, and vegetable oil 147.78 mt) to schools. Primary schools received 89 percent of the food, secondary schools received 9.3 percent, and tertiary institutions 1.7 percent.

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

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