

WFP Uganda Country Brief June 2023

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

Uganda has a longstanding history of hosting refugees, with nearly 1.5 million, mainly from South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi currently residing 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 their daily need. 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.



Income Level: Lower-middle

Population: 45.7 million

Stunting: **29 percent** of children between 6-59 months

Index: 161 out of 191

Contact info: Swalehe Masoud (swalehe.masoud@wfp.org)

Country Director: Abdirahman Meygag (<u>abdirahman.meygag@wfp.org</u>) Further information: <u>https://www.wfp.org/countries/uganda</u> Photo Caption: A breastfeeding mother after receiving corn soya blend porridge for treatment of acute malnutrition from WFP in Nakivale refugee settlement. Photo credit: WFP/Brendah Luyiga

In Numbers



1,547,878 people assisted in June 2023

7,820 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 3.746 million in cash-based transfers distributed

USD 141 million six months (July 2023 – December 2023) net funding requirements.

Operational Updates

Support to refugees

- In June, WFP provided 7,041 mt of in-kind food assistance to 503,505 beneficiaries and USD 3,560,087 was disbursed in cash-based transfers (CBT) to 812,303 beneficiaries.
- WFP also provided nutrition support to children, and pregnant and breastfeeding mothers, distributing a total of **102 mt** of specialised nutritious food under the Maternal Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programme and Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP). A total of **12,942** beneficiaries were treated under the TSFP and **213,177** were supported under the MCHN programme.
- Beneficiaries have been informed about their categories for prioritization which starts in July 2023. In preparation for the rollout of phase 3 prioritisation, all the 13 refugee settlements across the country have completed stakeholder engagements as well as security briefings in preparation for distributions which will officially start mid-July.

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

- Since May 2023, WFP has halted the enrolment of new cash beneficiaries due to funding shortfalls. In June, WFP continued to offer CBT assistance to existing beneficiaries while working with Financial Service Providers (FSPs) to ensure beneficiaries continue to receive their assistance effortlessly.
- To diversify its existing cash delivery channels, enrollments onto mobile money continue with Airtel in the two pilot refugee settlements of Kiryandogo and Kyangwali. A total of 2,696 individuals in Kiryandongo and 401 individuals in Kyangwali settlements will receive their food assistance through Airtel money starting July 2023 cycle.

Asset Creation and Livelihoods

- In June, WFP engaged CIYOTA, a refugee led organization to build the capacity of refugees in Kyaka and Kyangwali refugee settlements on mindset change.
- The Harmonized Cash Transfer (HACT) framework under the memorandum of understanding with ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development and ministry of finance will be signed with the respective DLGs to support the activities.

* Beneficiaries figures are based on estimates.

WFP Country Strategy



Country Strategic Plan (2018-2025)		
Total Requirement (In USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.88 b	931 m	141 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.

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School Meals Programme

- In June, WFP continued to promote climate-smart technologies and practices by scaling up the production of Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP) in communities using schools to promote dietary diversity and as a community of practice. WFP has scaled up OFSP production from 77 to 83 schools, covering 13.33 acres of land. Under this initiative a vine multiplication centre supported by micro-irrigation has been established to ensure further scale up of OFSP in the communities.
- WFP also continued to strengthen systems to enable the institutionalisation and scale up of school feeding as a national program. WFP supported the government of Uganda to participate in the regional launch of school meals coalition in Rwanda, a network that is intended to serve as a community of practice for the strengthening and scale up of government led quality school meals programs in the region. At the sub-national level, WFP has already established and continues to monitor a pilot that has integrated school feeding data into the national education management information system covering 126 out of the current 315 schools.

Nutrition

 In June 2023, WFP continued implementing the Community Based Supplementary Feeding Program (CBSFP) supporting routine nutrition and health activities including screening for malnutrition, treatment using specialised nutritious foods and delivery of complimentary health and nutrition services. A total of 2,573 new admissions (1,427 children 6-59 months and 1,146 pregnant and breastfeeding women) were made into Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP), 102.126 mt of specialized nutritious foods was dispensed to 25,451 community-based supplementary feeding program clients across Karamoja and refugee settlements.

Research, Assessment and Monitoring (RAM)

 The Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries working with WFP, FAO and UNICEF conducted a joint Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (FSNA) for Karamoja, which informed the <u>Integrated Food Security Phase</u> <u>Classification (IPC) report disseminated on June 15</u>. Results indicate 45 percent of households in Karamoja are acutely or severely food insecure. Results are informing WFP's early actions, anticipatory actions for 2023.

Agricultural Market Support (AMS)

• By the end of June, WFP had procured 3,000 silos for 313 schools across nine districts in Karamoja where School Feeding programme takes place. Silo delivery started in June and distribution to the schools will continue into July. Once silos are installed, it is expected to contribute to the reduction of post-harvest losses, transportation, and procurement costs by allowing the school capacity to purchase grains at the lowest price (at harvest) and transport once in a school term instead of several times due to the lack of storage capacity.

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