



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES



## WFP GHANA Country Brief August 2023.

### In Numbers



20,927 people assisted

US\$1,058,935 million cash-based transfers made

US\$ 6.2 million six-month (September-February 2024) net funding requirement

### Operational Context

Despite progress in reducing malnutrition in Ghana at the national level, high rates of poverty and stunting persist in the Northern Savannah Ecological Zone, at 21 and 28 percent respectively. Food insecurity is increasing in number and intensity; 1.37 million people are projected to be food insecure (in Phases 3 and 4 of the Cadre Harmonisé), during the planting season from June to August 2023.

Persistent activity of non-state armed groups in the Sahel region, notably Mali and Burkina Faso, and the recent military coup in Niger, continue to threaten the peace and security of West African countries, including Ghana. As part of WFP's sub-regional strategy, WFP Ghana plans to meet urgent food security, nutrition, and essential needs of asylum seekers and host communities. WFP will continue working with the Government of Ghana to prevent and reduce humanitarian needs, lessen existing fragilities, build communities' resilience, and increase access to social services and infrastructure.

WFP's interventions include provision of value vouchers to improve the nutritional status of targeted populations, ensuring vulnerable communities benefit from efficient and resilient food systems which support nutritional value chains, and capacity-strengthening interventions to manage food security, nutrition, and social protection programmes. WFP has been present in Ghana since 1963.



2021 Human Development Index: 133

Chronic malnutrition: **18 percent of children between 6-59 months**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Population: **34 million**

### Operational Updates

- **Support for small-medium scale processors:** WFP supported the expansion of the production capacity, food safety and quality operations of two Ghanaian female-owned medium scale food processors and one community-based women's processing group. The support entailed the construction of new food processing facilities and installation of equipment with the ability to produce daily volumes of 1.5 mt of nutritious cereal-based foods per production facility. The overall objective is to enable these processors improve nutrition in their communities and beyond. Continued support will be provided to improve their food safety and quality, business management and marketing.
- **Supplementary Targeting and cash support for USAID Farmer Support Activity:** Following the successful targeting of 16,373 farmers, over 98 percent of which received their monthly cash entitlements for the month of June 2023, WFP undertook a supplementary targeting exercise to address the shortfall of the project target of reaching 17,000 farmers. Across 14 new communities, over 650 additional farmers who met the eligibility criteria for the project were enrolled. A total of over \$1m cash was disbursed in the August distribution cycle.
- **Livelihood Support:** As part of efforts to improve efficiency of village savings and loans associations (VSLA) and promote digital financial inclusion in rural areas, a smartphone application to digitize bookkeeping has been introduced to 18 pilot groups. Eighteen app secretaries comprising 9 men and 9 women per group, were trained on the features of the application, and sensitized on the importance of using it. The secretaries were excited to learn how the new tool would improve the experience of VSLA members.
- **'Catalyzing Good Food through School Feeding Programs' Project:** Ahead of the pilot Rockefeller Foundation-funded school meals fortification initiative in Ghana, WFP embarked on a joint mission in the Upper East, Northern, Ashanti and Greater Accra regions with Ghana Education Service and the Ghana School Feeding Programme. This mission offered a platform for constructive engagements on the project with relevant stakeholders including Regional Coordination Councils, Education Directorates, Municipal and District Assemblies, selected school, caterers, School Management Committees and Parent Teacher Associations. Key highlights of the mission were that some students were already familiar with parboiled rice, others expressed eagerness to serve as ambassadors for the project and there was high female involvement in the management of the schools visited.

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Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/Ghana](http://www.wfp.org/countries/Ghana)

**Photo Caption:** Onsite training for the "Batuisa Ayaachap women Cooperatives group in Fumbisi, Upper East. Ghana.

**WFP/Photographer:** George AKONOR (Food technologist)

## WFP Country Strategy

### Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

| Total Requirements (US\$) | Total Received (US\$)  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 94.1 million              | 46.6 million   |
| 2023 Requirements (US\$)  | Six-Month Net Funding Requirement (in US\$) (September –February 2024) |
| 15.4 million              | 6.2 million  |

#### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Vulnerable populations including children and women of reproductive age in high burden regions have improved nutritious status in line with National targets by 2025.

**Focus area:** *Root Causes*

##### Activities:

- Provide cash and vouchers for specialized nutritious foods and/or micronutrient-dense fresh foods for vulnerable children aged 6-23 months, adolescent girls, pregnant and breastfeeding women under government safety nets, and support the Ghana Health Service on social and behavior change communication to promote healthy diets in high burden areas.

#### Strategic Result 4: Sustainable food systems

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Targeted populations and communities in Ghana benefit from more efficient, inclusive, and resilient food systems that support nutrition value chains by 2030.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

##### Activities:

- Provide technical support for community and industrial production of fortified flour and for food safety and quality assurance. This includes technical support on food safety and quality for up to 30 community milling and blending women's groups, and financial and technical support for two industrial fortified flour producers in the Bono and Ashanti regions.
- Provide support and link smallholder farmers with the One District, One Warehouse programme by providing training and equipment to minimize post-harvest losses and facilitate quality assurance and market linkages with processors and institutional customers (Smallholder Agricultural Market Support activities (SAMS)).

#### Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Local and national institutions have enhanced capacity to target and manage food security, nutrition, and social protection programmes by 2030

**Focus area:** *Root Causes*

##### Activities:

- Provide technical support, including through South-South cooperation, for the national school meals programme, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the National Disaster Management Organization, the Food and Drugs Authority and the Ghana Health Service, to optimize the nutritional quality of school meals, food security and nutrition monitoring, early-warning systems, disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness, food safety and quality, and food-based dietary guidelines.

##### Activities:

- Advocate for the promulgation and enforcement of policies and legislation on school feeding, gender equality, nutrition, food safety, weights, measures and standards, smallholder-friendly public procurement, and market support. (CSI: Institutional capacity strengthening activities)

#### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 5:** Crisis-affected populations can meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of shocks.

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

##### Activities:

- Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations including COVID-19 crisis-affected patients in containment and quarantine centers, refugees, adolescent girls to return to school and other vulnerable groups.

## Monitoring

Monitoring visits were undertaken in the Karaga district of the Northern Region in Ghana where the Nutrition intervention is being implemented through Food assistance and Livelihood support.

## Challenges

- Migration of community members for work elsewhere negatively affected redemption rates of the nutrition CBT assistance.
- Heavy rains in some communities broke down fences which had been constructed to protect farms under the Nutrition Livelihoods Programme.

## Voice from the Field

The financial support I received has helped me purchase seeds and other inputs for farming this season.



**Bavia Mohammed Fuseina, Farmer, Sissala East district. Upper West Region.**

*Photo credit: Derrick Botchway*

## Donors

Donors to WFP Ghana CSP (2019 – 2023) include Australia, Canada, France, Ghana, Japan, Private Donors, Rockefeller Foundation, Master Card Foundation, UN Other Funds and Agencies and the United States of America.