

# WFP Uganda Country Brief November 2023

World Food Programme

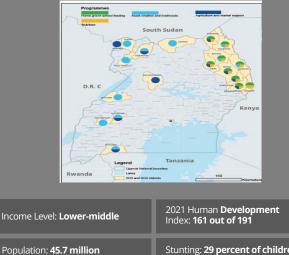
### SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES



# **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 Cooperation.



Stunting: 29 percent of children between 6-59 months

Contact info: Swalehe Masoud (swalehe.masoud@wfp.org) Country Director: Abdirahman Meygag (abdirahman.meygag@wfp.org) Further information: https://www.wfp.org/countries/uganda Photo Caption: Learners having lunch at Loodoi Primary School in Karamoja subregion where WFP provides hot meals to learners. Photo credit: WFP/Aidah Nanyonjo

# In Numbers



1,480,636 people assisted in November 2023

3,515 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 3.361 million in cash-based transfers

**USD 104 million** six months (December 2023 – May 2024) net funding requirements.

# **Operational Updates**

### Support to refugees

- In November, WFP provided 3,162.4 mt of in-kind food assistance to 484,621 refugee beneficiaries and disbursed USD 3,167,275 in cash-based transfers (CBT) to 782,025 refugee beneficiaries.
- WFP provided nutrition support to children, and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, distributing a total of 263 mt of specialised nutritious food under the maternal child health and nutrition (MCHN) programme and targeted supplementary feeding programme (TSFP). A total of 8,996 beneficiaries received treatment for malnutrition under the TSFP while 104,028 others were supported under MCHN programme.
- After implementing phase three prioritization to provide food assistance to refugees in line with household vulnerability, WFP together with other stakeholders established a prioritization review mechanism. The results from the analysis of the prioritisation review mechanism were presented to the review committee and approved for re-categorisation. Out of the total **21,933** claims analysed, **1,191** were re-categorised. Of these, 136 households were assigned to category one and will receive 60 percent ration, while 1,055 households were assigned to category 2 and will receive 30 percent rations. Results were further disseminated to all key stakeholders within the refugee settlements to support the successful roll out of the changes.

## Scaling up of Digital Cash-Based Transfers (CBT):

• WFP continues to scale up digital cash through mobile money in the two settlements of Kiryandongo and Kyangwali. In November 2023, WFP reached 757 households (3,655 people) compared to 1,034 HHs (4,883 people) in October 2023 through the mobile money payment solution. The drop was linked to the implementation of quarterly verifications where households did not turn up for verification. Voluntary enrolments continue in Kyangwali and Kiryandongo refugee settlements.

### **Social Protection**

- WFP through the child sensitive social protection (CSSP) programme continued to support local governments in the eight refugee-hosting districts of West Nile sub-region to implement nutrition-sensitive cash transfers (NutriCash). During the month of November, USD 164,563 was paid to 9,342 beneficiaries through direct cash payments, representing 84 percent of the targeted beneficiaries. The cash assistance was complemented with backyard gardening support to 8,077 people, social and behavior change to 3,376
  - \* Beneficiaries figures are based on estimates.



Country Strategic Plan (2018-2025)		
Total Requirement (In USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.94 b	963 m	104 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.

people, and financial literacy to 9,513 individuals to optimize impact.

WFP successfully transferred USD 199,302 to the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to facilitate implementation of social protection system strengthening activities for the quarter October – December 2023. Under this framework, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development conducted a training of trainers on the newly developed social protection capacity development strategy for local governments, targeting 26 technical officers from the Ministry of Public Service, Ministry of Local Government, Office of the Prime Minister and 16 technical officers from the eight refugee-hosting district local governments of West Nile.

#### **School Meals Programme**

 In November, WFP conducted a physical head count in all 315 WFP-supported schools under the school meals programme across Karamoja sub-region. The headcount produced a total of 216,000 learners which is the same number as the last headcount. The head count was conducted to ascertain the number of learners in the schools for planning purposes ahead of the first school term of 2024, and to take stock of the available food stocks in the various school stores. The third school term for 2023 officially closed in early December 2023. Due to funding shortfalls, WFP still plans to maintain the 20 percent ration cut (implemented in the second school term of 2023) for the 2024 first school term. WFP will work with schools to monitor storage facilities during the school holidays to ensure food quality.

#### Nutrition

• WFP continued implementing its supplementary feeding program within Karamoja subregion targeting malnourished children under 5 and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls. In November 2023, 115,918 children aged 6–59 months across Karamoja were screened for malnutrition of which 18,180 were referred supplementary feeding program outreach sites. Of the referred, 7,112 were confirmed as moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) cases (4,595 children and 2,517 PBWGs). A total of 84 mt of specialised nutritious foods (SNFs) was dispensed to 20,969 integrated maternal child health and nutrition beneficiaries (13,218 children and 7,751 PBW&Gs) in supplementary feeding care. A total of 6,817 children under 5 received essential nutrition and health services including immunisation, vaccination, antenatal care.

#### Agriculture and Market Support (AMS)

• WFP hosted and shared with the Agriculture Community of Practice (CoP) members on "Access to agricultural input and output markets", including WFP's approaches to increasing demand and supply of agro-inputs, impact on youth and women, challenges and lessons learnt. The CoP is a technical working group for Mastercard Foundation partners implementing agriculture activities. The community hosts monthly sessions to provide a platform for members to share their experiences, learnings, and trigger discussions for possible strategic collaborations in the AMS programme work under the Foundation.

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

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