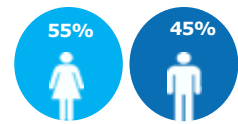




World Food Programme

WFP Uganda Country Brief

January 2024



In Numbers

1,513,004 people assisted in January 2024

3,822 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 3.319 million distributed through cash-based transfers

USD 114 million six months (February – July 2024) net funding requirements.

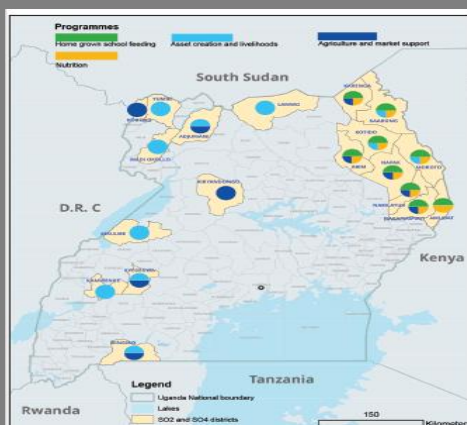


SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

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**

2021 Human Development Index: **161 out of 191**

Population: **45.7 million**

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

Operational Updates

Support to refugees

- In January, WFP provided food and nutrition support through **2,925 mt** of in-kind food assistance to **479,351** beneficiaries and **USD 3,059,142** in cash-based transfers (CBT) to **770,808** beneficiaries.
- WFP provided nutrition support to children, and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, distributing a total of **187 mt** of specialised nutritious food under the Maternal Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programme and Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP). A total of **8,186** beneficiaries were treated under the TSFP and **86,146** were supported under MCHN programme.
- As a WFP priority to digitize cash transfers, enrolments on agency banking, a digital platform for delivering cash assistance were resumed. A total of 5,255 households (24,519 individuals) were supported to open fully fledged beneficiary owned bank accounts. These beneficiaries will be facilitated to receive their cash assistance using the opened bank accounts in the following cash disbursement cycles. As a result, refugees will have access to other financial services such as credit facilities, hence advancing their financial inclusion.

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

- WFP continues to scale up digital cash through mobile money voluntarily in the two settlements of Kiryandongo and Kyangwali. In January 2023, the mobile money payment solution was used to disburse assistance to over 5,137 individuals.
- Financial Literacy education promotion activities resumed in January 2024 targeting 152,436 refugees. During the month of January, stakeholder engagements across the thirteen refugee settlements were conducted. This follows a halt on financial literacy trainings in May 2023 that resulted from resource constraints. To align with the Government of Uganda, the Bank of Uganda curriculum for financial literacy trainings has been adopted to guide financial literacy trainings across programmes. Following this, a new financial literacy implementation approach was developed and adopted. Financial literacy trainings aim at equipping target beneficiaries with knowledge and skills in the management of their own finances.

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Photo Caption: A refugee mother preparing a meal for her family in Bidibidi Refugee Settlement.

Photo credit: WFP/Caroline Ariba

* 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	988 m	114 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.

Refugee Self Reliance Model

- In January, WFP conducted Environmental and Social Screening as a risk mitigation strategy to ensure that the activities do not negatively impact on the environment and mitigate risks for the smooth implementation of the model. Out of the 326 groups targeted under cohort one, 82 groups have so far been taken through Social Empowerment and Mindset Change sessions. Community engagements on the Self Reliance Model continued alongside group listing, profiling and enterprise validation and selection. The Self Reliance Model Monitoring and Evaluation framework was finalized and consultations with cooperating partners took place on Beneficiaries Assistance Information Management System under development by WFP.

School Meals Programme

- In January, WFP completed deliveries of food meant for the first school term of 2024 which included local procurement of 50 mt of maize grain from farmer groups in Karamoja injecting more than USD 320,000 into the local economy. In its efforts to promote homegrown school feeding, a half of the 315 schools enrolled in the school meals programme in Karamoja region will supplement their WFP food rations with orange fleshed sweet potatoes from their gardens. For the first school term of 2024, the 20 percent ration cut implemented in the second half of 2023 due to resource constraints will remain in place.

Nutrition

- WFP continued to implement the Integrated Maternal, Child Health and Nutrition feeding program within Karamoja subregion targeting malnourished children under 5 and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW&Gs). In January, 120,298 children aged 6-59 months across Karamoja were screened for malnutrition of which 18,801 were referred to Supplementary Feeding Program (SFP) outreach sites. A total of 72.51 mt of specialised nutritious foods was dispensed to 21,389 Integrated Maternal Child Health and Nutrition beneficiaries (14,033 children and 7,356 PBW&Gs) in supplementary feeding care. Using the Integrated Maternal Child Health and Nutrition community platforms, WFP facilitated the nine Karamoja region district local administrations to provide complimentary health services through an integrated health outreach model. The services included Immunization, malaria testing, and treatment, antenatal care, and de-worming of 13,569 clients, caregivers, and community members. A total of 1,247 children received vitamin A supplementation and 1,741 while 788 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls received antenatal services at the outreach posts.

Agriculture and Market Support (AMS)

- In WFP supported smallholder farmers and farmer groups on post-harvest management in preparation for the harvest season. WFP mentored and coached 87 smallholder farmers (57 females and 20 males) and 11 farmer groups on the promoted post-harvest practices that focused on proper drying, use of hermetic storage materials and equipment. The smallholder farmers were linked to the agro distributors to support their access to Post Harvest Management materials and equipment. WFP also engaged four women groups to build their capacity in business plan development that target value chains affordable to women such as vegetable growing.

Donors (in alphabetical order)

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