



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Uganda Country Brief January 2025



In Numbers

1,344,110 people assisted in January 2025

2,734 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 4.2 million in cash-based transfers

USD 70 million six months (Feb – July 2025) net funding requirements.

Operational Updates

Support to Refugees.

- In January WFP provided food assistance to more than 1.3 million settlement-based refugees hosted in Uganda. A total of 388,911 beneficiaries received 2709 metric tons (mt) of in-kind food assistance while 946,077 received cash-based transfers (CBT) worth USD 4.2 million.
- Maternal Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programme and targeted supplementary feeding programme (TSFP) were also implemented to manage and prevent acute malnutrition in 13 refugee settlements across Uganda where close to 6,700 children under five years received nutrition support to supplement moderate acute malnutrition. Under the MCHN programme, 89,098 children under the age of five as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls received 400 mt of specialized nutritious foods (SNFs).

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

- WFP provides digital and financial Literacy trainings to equip cash beneficiaries with knowledge and skills to manage their finances while making informed decisions on utilization of financial products and services. By the end of January, WFP had provided digital financial literacy training to 72,782 (85 percent) of the 2024 target of 85,625 using the Bank of Uganda curriculum to complement CBT programme.

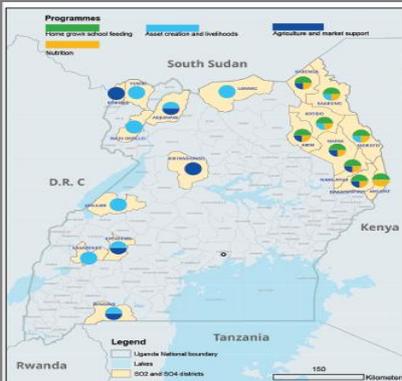
Social Protection and Systems Capacity Strengthening

- In January 2025, a total of 8,211 pregnant and breastfeeding mothers from refugee settlements and host communities in West Nile received their savings to support their livelihoods, promoting sustainability for the programme's benefits. The intervention seeks to promote community and household resilience among refugees and host communities in West Nile.
- The Savings Group component of Uganda's Child-Sensitive Social Protection (CSSP) Programme aimed to enhance the financial resilience of vulnerable households, particularly those with children mobilized families into community-based savings and loan groups, providing financial literacy training, access to small loans, and emergency social funds for child-related expenses such as school fees and healthcare. By promoting a 30 percent savings allocation per transfer, linking groups to formal financial services, and fostering economic empowerment, especially among women, these groups have contributed to reducing child poverty, improving household food security, and ensuring better access to essential services, ultimately strengthening child well-being and community resilience.

Operational Context

Uganda has a longstanding history of hosting refugees, with more than 1.7 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: **45.9 million**

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

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 Photo Caption: A WFP beneficiary under Agriculture and market Support using solar powered irrigation to water his vegetable garden in Koboko, Uganda.
 Photo credit: WFP/Moses Oguti.

* 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)
1.99 b	1.30 b	70 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.

Self-Reliance Model

- To enable refugees transition from a dependence on food assistance to self-reliance, WFP distributed 1,892 goats to 1,599 households (70 percent refugees, 30 percent host communities) in West Nile subregion. After the distribution, WFP also carried out massive vaccination against Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) disease across Refugee Settlements and host communities in West Nile. This was done for both self-reliance model participants and local communities in partnership with district local government veterinary offices.
- WFP provided three off-farm refugee groups in Nakivale settlement with 67 percent grant subsidies, totalling USD 5,300, to upgrade storage facilities and milling production units. The support included materials such as iron sheets, iron bars, cement, and ridges.

Nutrition

- WFP implemented targeted nutrition programmes to manage moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) among children (6–59 months) and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW&G). As part of this effort, WFP distributed 25 mt of specialized nutritious food to 5,012 PBW&G enrolled in the MAM programme.
- WFP also promoted production of Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP) by establishing seven OFSP vine multiplication centres in seven districts across Karamoja to improve access to clean OFSP planting materials within the region. Planting of OFSP vine seeds commenced in Kotido, Abim and Karenga districts through the labour-intensive Public Works approach and by the end of January 2025, 95 percent of planting had been done across the districts.
- WFP working with teachers and selected care-group members (especially mothers) across Karamoja sub-region set up nursery beds for assorted vegetable seeds in some greenhouses that were established at schools by WFP in October 2024. By end of January a total of six nursery beds had been established and planted with different varieties of vegetable seeds including onions, eggplants, tomatoes, green pepper, cabbage and spinach. Participants were also trained on basic horticultural practices including pest and disease identification and management, harvesting and post-harvest handling best practices.

Agriculture and Market Support (AMS)

- WFP supported 65 smallholder farmers in Kiryandongo and Adjumani districts, to bulked food commodities (maize, dry cassava chips, eggplants, and tomatoes), collectively earning a total of USD 1,500. This is a result of various training sessions conducted for the farmers, focusing on the diversification of income streams, including the production of vegetables. This has increased small holder farmers' productivity and income, contributing to improved livelihoods.
- WFP conducted a 4-day training session on energy saving stoves and briquette making for 50 smallholder farmers (29 Female) from 10 farmer groups in Adjumani and Kiryandongo districts. The training aimed to equip participants with practical skills and knowledge to adopt sustainable energy solutions, thereby reducing reliance on traditional firewood and charcoal.

Donors (in alphabetical order)

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