



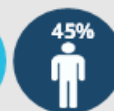
World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

## WFP Ghana Country Brief May 2025



## In Numbers



20,236 people assisted in May

US\$ 367,186 cash-based transfers distributed

US\$ 1.8 million six-month net funding requirements (June – November 2025)

## Operational Context

Ghana, situated in West Africa, exhibits significant disparities between its northern and southern regions, as well as between rural and urban areas. Despite national-level improvements, hunger and malnutrition persist, particularly in northern Ghana and rural communities. In the north, where agriculture is the primary livelihood for 90 percent of families, numerous challenges such as climate change, low prices, poor infrastructure, and inadequate education prevail. Varying food availability leads to price fluctuations countrywide, impacting affordability, especially considering Ghana's status as a food deficit nation vulnerable to global price spikes, like those of imported rice.

Ghana faces the triple burden of malnutrition, with stunting among children under 5 decreasing nationally but remaining high in the Northern Region. Vitamin and mineral deficiencies, notably anaemia, disproportionately affect women and children, with higher rates in the north. The Cost of Hunger in Africa study underscores the economic toll of child undernutrition, with Ghana losing 6.4 percent of its GDP annually.

Since 1963, WFP has collaborated with the Ghanaian government to tackle food security and nutrition challenges. Over the past five years, WFP has advocated for food fortification standards and promoted the consumption of fortified foods nationwide, particularly through Ghana's School Feeding Programme, which provided food vouchers as part of livelihood support and social behavioural change solutions, benefitting 5,000 vulnerable pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls. In 2024, WFP provided direct cash assistance to thousands in need and supported institutional capacities amid various challenges, including climate change and food price hikes. By involving the private sector, WFP aims to enhance food systems, alleviate malnutrition, and fortify social protection programs.



Human Development Index:  
133 (2021)

Chronic malnutrition:  
17% of children aged 6-59

Population: 34.7 million

Income Level: Lower middle

## Operational Updates

- **Assistance to Refugees and Host Communities:** WFP supported 3,127 refugees and 3,970 individuals from host communities in Bono East, Upper East, and Upper West regions with mobile unconditional cash transfers. Additionally, 1,156 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls and 405 children aged 6-23 months received nutrition top-ups. WFP supports only the refugees in the 5 settlements as per the Government's directive. **So far, 17,620 refugees and asylum seekers have been registered**, whilst an estimated 7,840 Burkinabe citizens remain unregistered.
- **Lean Season Response:** WFP began a six-month intervention (May to October 2025) in four regions—Northern, Oti, Savannah, and Upper West—covering nineteen districts. In May alone, 2,655 households (including 924 female-headed households) received mobile unconditional cash transfers.
- **Resilience and Livelihoods:** Through a joint UN programme, 15 female refugees received vocational training, 3 aquaculture groups underwent group dynamics training, 75 participants trained in onion and cabbage farming, and 65 individuals received technical training in cereal and legume production. Next steps include providing starter packs and farm inputs.
- **Empowering Youth Agroforestry Farmers (AgYE Programme):** WFP and MoFA trained 2,013 young smallholder farmers in Bono and Bono East in maize-based agroforestry. Support included access to shelling services and storage equipment to reduce post-harvest losses and improve incomes.
- **Post-Harvest Loss (PHL) Competition:** WFP partnered with Broadspectrum Limited and Agrospectrum Ghana to launch a PHL innovation competition, mentoring 30 innovators in 10 teams. The programme reached over 3,000 farmers across multiple regions.
- **DFAT Resilience and Livelihood Project:** In Karaga District, 449 beneficiaries people benefited from Food for Assets assistance including technical visits for land rehabilitation, gardening, agroforestry, and water harvesting. Project is expected to end by June.
- **Empowering Women Farmers Through Community-Based Milling Solutions:** WFP supported three medium-scale processing facilities in Northern, Upper West, and Upper East Ghana with about 70 hammer mills, improving postharvest milling for smallholder farmers. To increase impact, WFP and District Agriculture Departments conducted sensitization campaigns in over 10 communities, reaching approximately 1,500 farmers—primarily young women and adult females. The mills are cutting down labor time and creating new income streams by offering faster, more accessible processing services.

WFP COUNTRY STRATEGY

Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2024–2028) *	
Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
161.6 million	53 million
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (Jun–Nov 2025) (US\$)
41.8 million	1.8 million

\*Based on ongoing budget revision

SDG target 2.1: Access to food
<p><b>Strategic Outcome 1:</b> Crisis-affected populations (including refugees and internally displaced) in Ghana can meet their essential needs (food, nutrition and non-food) before, during and in the aftermath of crises.</p> <p><b>Focus area:</b> <i>Crisis response</i></p>

**Activity 1:** Work with actors at the national, institutional, community and individual levels to strengthen their capacity to enhance gender-sensitive, evidence-based early warning analysis for informed anticipatory action, preparedness, disaster risk reduction and response, including disaster risk financing mechanisms like climate insurance.

**Activity 2:** Provide unconditional assistance, including social and behaviour change activities to crisis affected populations.

SDG target 2.2: End malnutrition
<p><b>Strategic Outcome 2:</b> Nutritionally vulnerable populations in Ghana, including pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, children, people with disabilities and people living with HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, have improved diets by 2028.</p> <p><b>Focus area:</b> <i>Root causes</i></p>

**Activity 3:** Promote nutrition-sensitive policies, programmes, and social and behaviour change initiatives at the national, local, institutional, and individual levels to create an enabling environment that supports people in Ghana to have healthy diets and healthy lifestyles.

SDG target 2.4: Sustainable food systems
<p><b>Strategic Outcome 3:</b> Food systems in Ghana, including for nutritious food value chains, are inclusive, provide sustainable livelihoods, meet essential nutrient needs for all, and are more resilient to local and global financial, climate, and geopolitical shocks and value chain disruptions, by 2028.</p> <p><b>Focus area:</b> <i>Resilience building</i></p>

**Activity 4:** Work with national actors to equitably provide knowledge, skills, tools, de-risking instruments, and links that will enable them to strengthen food systems and agrifood value chains, in accordance with demand and in line with national priorities.

SDG target 17.9: Capacity building
<p><b>Strategic Outcome 4:</b> Ghana’s social protection system is gender-transformative, nutrition-sensitive, shock-responsive, and inclusive and reaches its target beneficiaries more effectively and efficiently by 2028.</p> <p><b>Focus area:</b> <i>Resilience building</i></p>

**Activity 5:** Work with relevant actors to strengthen capacity at the national, community and individual levels to assist in creating an environment that fosters policy coherence and efficiency in the implementation of equitable and inclusive national social protection systems, including the Ghana school feeding programme.

SDG target 17.3: Diversified resources
<p><b>Strategic Outcome 5:</b> Government and other actors are efficient in delivering their mandates through effective partnerships and streamlined on-demand services.</p> <p><b>Focus area:</b> <i>Resilience building</i></p> <p><b>Activity 6:</b> Provide on-demand services to government and other actors to enhance efficiency, effectiveness, and coordination in the implementation of interventions.</p>

- **BRIDGE Initiative:** Capacity strengthening activities reached 7 out of 10 institutions during the review period. Outreach activities involved about 9,000 students and staff. All ten institutions received essential tools, and five—KNUST, UCC, Ho Technical University, University of Ghana, and Damongo Agricultural College, each received a tractor to enhance agricultural training.

Monitoring

- **Joint Evaluation of National School Meals Programme in Ghana:** As part of efforts to strengthen Ghana’s school feeding systems and advance evidence-based decision-making, the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP), in collaboration with WFP has commissioned the first-ever comprehensive evaluation of the Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP) since its inception in 2008. Covering the implementation period from 2020 to 2025, the evaluation aims to assess the programme’s relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, coherence, and impact in delivering school meals and supporting national development goals. In the context of escalating food insecurity and deepening vulnerability among school-aged children and their households, the evaluation will provide critical, actionable evidence to guide strategic investments, enhance programme delivery, and inform high-level policy dialogue, ultimately contributing to a more resilient and inclusive school feeding system in Ghana.
- **Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis (CFSVA) 2025:** The 2025 CFSVA aims to assess the current state of food security and nutrition in Ghana, following previous rounds in 2009, 2014, and 2020. The last analysis revealed that 3.6 million Ghanaians, 12 percent of the population, were food insecure, with higher rates in rural areas and the northern regions. Since then, macroeconomic instability, inflation, and climate-related shocks have worsened food insecurity, as confirmed by the Cadre Harmonise which showed increased levels of food insecurity since 2020. The upcoming CFSVA will cover all 261 districts and integrate new dimensions, including agricultural census data, poverty, WASH, and health, to better understand the drivers of food insecurity. Led by the Ghana Statistical Service, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, and Ghana Health Service, the assessment will receive technical support from WFP, FAO, and UNICEF. Findings from the CFSVA will inform the next edition of the Cadre Harmonise analysis, scheduled for October/November 2025.

Donors

Donors to WFP Ghana’s CSP (2024 – 2028) include: the Government of Ghana, FCDO, USAID, KOICA, the Republic of Korea, Japan, the MasterCard Foundation, Australia, ABINBEV, France, Germany and the Rockefeller Foundation.