



World Food Programme

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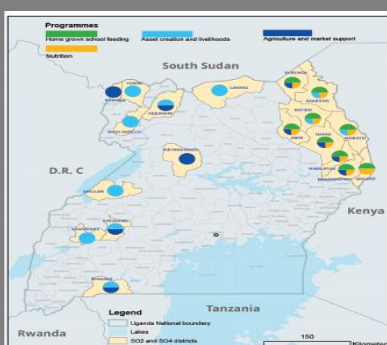
WFP Uganda Country Brief June 2025



Operational Context

Uganda has a longstanding history of hosting refugees based on its refugee open-door policy. Currently, there are over 1.8 million refugees residing in settlements in Uganda mainly from South Sudan (52 percent) Democratic Republic of Congo (32 percent) and Sudan (4.4 percent). 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.



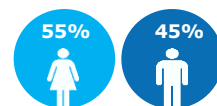
Income Level: **Lower-middle**

2021 Human Development Index:
161 out of 191

Population: **45.9 million**

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

In Numbers



1,012,885 people assisted in June 2025

1,343 mt of in-kind food distributed

USD 4.2 million in cash-based transfers

USD 53.3 million six months (July – Dec 2025) net funding requirements.

Operational Updates

Support to Refugees

- To optimize available resources while ensuring that refugees receive timely assistance, WFP conducted a double cycle food distribution in May, covering May and June 2025. In the same month, WFP and partners implemented a re-categorization exercise to provide assistance to the most vulnerable refugees. Refugee households were grouped into three categories based on households' vulnerability: the most vulnerable (24 percent), moderately vulnerable (13 percent) and the least vulnerable households (63 percent).
- Following the completion of the recategorization exercise, WFP introduced appeal mechanisms which offers an opportunity for refugees receiving the lowest rations and those removed from food assistance to request review of their classification. Analysis of the appeals is ongoing, with results expected in August. The most critical cases will be considered for reintegration into food assistance based on resource availability.
- WFP also implemented supplementary feeding programmes in five refugee settlements, and three transit and reception centres to provide nutrition support to 4,800 children under 5 years of age and 2,034 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWG). Of these, 5,176 children and women (67 percent children) received specialised nutritious foods to manage moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), whereas 1,658 people (80.1 percent children) were reached with blanket supplementary feeding programme to prevent malnutrition.

Digitization of Cash-Based Transfers (CBT)

- To ensure that WFP's assistance reaches the intended beneficiaries, WFP conducted a quarterly beneficiary verification exercise in June. This exercise verified 35,472 households in Nakivale, Kyaka II, Kyangwali, Oruchinga, and Rwamwanja refugee settlements. The WFP also enrolled 16,384 refugee households in mobile money in the five refugee settlements, as part of its strategy to transition refugees from traditional cash-in-hand to digital delivery mechanisms.

Social Protection and Systems Capacity Strengthening

- In partnership with the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development (MGLSD), WFP is piloting the expansion of the national social pension scheme known as the Senior Citizens Grant (SCG) targeting refugees aged 80 and above in the West Nile sub-region. In June, 204 eligible refugees received their quarterly transfer, totalling USD 4,270, to support their food, nutrition, and essential needs. Work is on-going to extend the programme to all refugees aged 80 and above in the targeted settlements, with a plan to reach 600 individuals.

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Photo Caption: WFP beneficiaries pose with bags of rice received for the lean season response in Kotido district in Karamoja.

Photo credit: WFP/Ensiniwetyo Turakira.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2025)

| Total Requirement (In USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1.99 b | 1.94 b | 53.3 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.

Anticipatory Actions (AA)

- To strengthen Uganda's anticipatory action governance architecture and enhance the country's readiness to act ahead of predictable shocks, WFP in partnership with Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS), facilitated a comprehensive multi-sectoral infrastructure and risk assessment in flood-prone districts of Kisoro, Bundibugyo, Ntoroko, and Kasese. This included community-based consultations to capture local knowledge on flood impacts and resilience capacities, evaluation of existing early warning systems (EWS) and their operational readiness, as well as identification and prioritization of context-specific anticipatory actions to mitigate flood-related risks.
- WFP provided technical and coordination support to the Department of Meteorological Services (DMS) in the validation of the National Framework for Climate and Weather Services (NFCWS), ensuring alignment with global standards and aligning it with early warning for all initiative.

School Meals

- WFP held community engagements and feedback sessions in five schools and their neighbouring communities, reaching 709 (58 percent female) community members and approximately 1,500 learners across Karamoja. These sessions brought together several stakeholders, including the District Inspector of Schools, Chief Administrative Officers, teachers, learners, parents, and political leaders. This exercise ensured the last-mile delivery of information on the significance of school feeding, raised awareness on entitlements, and informed communities of their right to provide feedback through existing WFP and government channels. The sessions also secured public commitment for increased community accountability, participation and ownership of school feeding programme.

Nutrition

- WFP continued to support the scale-up of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive services across Karamoja sub-region. WFP provided specialised nutritious foods for management of acute malnutrition in 59 community outreach reaching 8,376 moderately malnourished women and children (1,081 PBWG and 1,748 children between 6 – 59 months). The programme achieved a 79 percent recovery rate, which is slightly higher than the sphere threshold. However, optimal recovery rates are limited due to high food insecurity and high magnitude of common childhood illnesses in Karamoja. Through integrated outreaches, WFP through its implementing partners provided deworming, Vitamin A supplements and Antenatal Care to 1,244 people.

Agriculture and Market Support (AMS)

- As part of its Local regional food procurement policy (LRFPP) WFP procured 220 mt of beans from Ethur and Sangar Farmers' Cooperatives in Karamoja. The beans will be used in school meals for 255,000 learners across 320 WFP-supported schools across the region. By sourcing food locally from smallholder farmers, WFP injects revenue into the economy, empowering smallholder farmers, and strengthening local food systems.

Donors (in alphabetical order)

Austria, Canada, China, Denmark, Germany, European Commission, Italy, Japan, Norway, Private Donors, Republic of Ireland, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Uganda, UN CERF, United Kingdom, and USA.