



World Food Programme

SAVING
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WFP Ghana Country Brief

August 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.

Ghana Poverty rate stands at 23.31% in 2025, with 6,77,000 people living in extreme poverty. This trend is informed by factors like the lingering impact of COVID-19, climate shocks, high inflation and unemployment. The Country Strategic plan ,2024-2028, seeks to take on an enabling role by supporting the government with technical capacity to build resilient systems robust enough to deliver at scale and efficiently response to emergency before, during and after. By involving the private sector, WFP aims to enhance food systems, alleviate malnutrition, and fortify social protection programs.

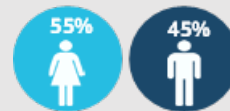


Population: **34.7 million**

Chronic malnutrition:
17% of children aged 6-59 months

Human Development Index: **133**
(2021)

In Numbers



230 youths aged 18-35 trained as part of the Local Fabricator Initiative

6 community consultations held with young women for agriculture mechanization

619 youths interviewed as part of the Mastercard Foundation Youth in Work (YIW) Survey

USD 4.8 million six-month net funding requirement (September- February 2025)

Operational updates

- Resilience and Livelihoods Intervention:** WFP in partnership with ADRA supported refugees and Host communities with guinea fowl and ruminant production livelihood creation starter packs. It included keets, animal feed, feeders and drinkers. The support was given to 40 participants (29 females and 11 males) comprising 25 refugees and 15 host community members received small ruminant breeding.
- Local Fabricator Initiative:** WFP collaborated with Gratis Foundation to strengthen the capacity of local artisans to fabricate post-harvest equipment including threshers. Up to 230 young people between the ages of 18-35 were trained. In total, 28 threshers (14 maize, 14 soya) were produced. Following the successful completion of the training, the artisans were contracted by Gratis Foundation to produce threshers for smallholder farmers to create sustainable jobs.
- Integration of advanced agricultural technologies into agricultural college curricula:** WFP commenced an initiative to strengthen agri-tech capacity within the country's agricultural colleges. The intervention responds to persistent barriers to technology adoption, including limited digital literacy, inadequate practical training, and the absence of localized support systems. This promotes the adoption of agricultural technologies by smallholder farmers across food systems
- Young Women Consultation:** WFP held consultations with young women from 6 communities participating in the agriculture mechanization (Tractor driving and repairs) activity, being implemented in partnership with the Alinea Foundation (WEENORTH) in the northern part of Ghana. This objective was to understand the barriers that impede young women utilization of their skill in mechanization services. Additionally, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) safe accommodation and commuting routes to and from classes were strengthened for all the young women participating in the mechanization training programme.

WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2024–2028) *

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
161.6 million	31 million
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (Apr–Sep 2025) (US\$)
33.2 million	4.4 million

*Based on ongoing budget revision

SDG target 2.1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: 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.

Focus area: Crisis response

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

Strategic Outcome 2: 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.

Focus area: Root causes

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

Strategic Outcome 3: 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.

Focus area: Resilience building

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

Strategic Outcome 4: 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.

Focus area: Resilience building

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

Strategic Outcome 5: Government and other actors are efficient in delivering their mandates through effective partnerships and streamlined on-demand services.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activity 6: Provide on-demand services to government and other actors to enhance efficiency, effectiveness, and coordination in the implementation of interventions.

Monitoring

- Pre-Global Data Festival Ghana High-Level Meeting:** In partnership with the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), WFP showcased innovations such as the Mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM), piloted nationwide to deliver real-time food security insights, and the HungerMap Live. This high-level meeting brought together senior leaders from Ghana, Kenya, and Colombia as a prelude to the 2026 Global Data Festival in Nairobi, highlighted how WFP is bridging data gaps and ensuring timely evidence for decision-making. The mVAM will go live in September 2025, providing critical data to guide policy and programme decisions.
- Mastercard Foundation Youth in Work (YIW) Survey:** The Mastercard foundation project has an overall objective of providing employment for youth in the agricultural value chain. The main indicator is the number of Youth in Work (YIW). Ghana interviewed 619 youth programme participants (70 percent young women and thirty percent young men) to assess potential employment outcomes, the most effective support packages for each context and transition into dignified and fulfilling work. The interviews included fourteen gender-based focus group discussions to unearth key issues in transitioning to dignified and fulfilling work, especially for young women. Following this, a total of 573 youths participant response were analysed mostly involved in production and value addition pathways. Of these, 91% (522) were classified as Youth in Work, and 513 had achieved dignified and fulfilling employment - 22% accessing work and 78% progressing. As a next step, WFP will continue to strengthen monitoring, expand value addition pathway for young women, and targeted youth engagement to improve employment outcomes.

Donors

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