



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

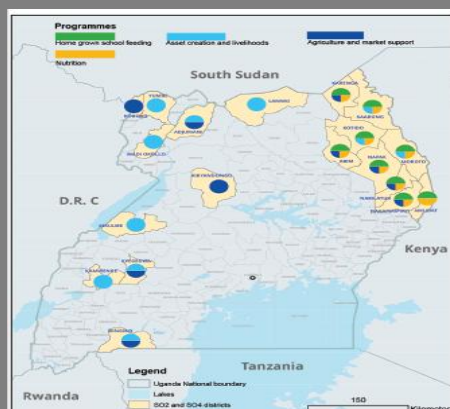
WFP Uganda Country Brief September 2025



Operational Context

Uganda has a longstanding history of hosting refugees, with more than 1.9 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 2025 Global Hunger Index with 22 percent of the population undernourished. Malnutrition is widespread across the country: 24 percent of children under the age of 5 years are stunted and 3 percent are wasted and at risk of not reaching their full mental and physical potential.

WFP's Country Strategic Plan 2018-2025 has six 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.



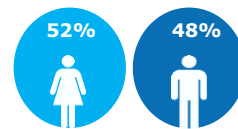
Income Level: **Lower-middle**

2023 Human Development Index: **157 out of 191**

Population: **45.9 million**

Stunting: **24 percent of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers



909,666 people assisted in September 2025

3,605 mt of in-kind food distributed

USD 3.6 million in cash-based transfers distributed

USD 46.1 million six months (Oct 2025 – Mar 2026) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

Support to Refugees.

- WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to 713,000 refugees in 13 refugee settlements across Uganda. Due to resource constraints, ration levels varied based on vulnerability and arrival status: newly arrived refugees received 60 percent of the full ration, the most vulnerable settlement-based refugees received 40 percent, and those considered less vulnerable received 22 percent.
- WFP supported supplementary feeding programmes in seven refugee settlements and five transit/reception centres to address moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), reaching 3,889 children under five and 2,533 pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWGs). WFP provided specialised nutritious foods (SNFs) to 3,148 children aged 6–23 months (57 percent) and 2,346 PBWGs (43 percent) to prevent further deterioration from malnutrition.
- Programme performance for the supplementation programme exceeded Sphere standards, with recovery rates of 94.3 percent in settlements and 80 percent in transit/reception centres. Coverage under the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) dropped sharply from 4,289 in the previous month to 928 due to reduced refugee influx, with 80 percent of beneficiaries being children under five.

Scale up and Digitization of Cash-based Transfers (CBT):

- To reduce operational costs, WFP delivered a two-month cash-based transfer entitlement in September. WFP reached more than 496,000 refugees through CBT. Of these, 46 percent were served via agency banking, 35 percent through cash-in-hand, and 19 percent via mobile money.

Social Protection and Systems Capacity Strengthening

- WFP supported the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development to launch the Social Cash Transfer for Elderly Refugees (SCTER) pilot (extending old age pension benefits to refugees). The initiative, led by the Minister for Elderly Affairs, represents a major milestone in Uganda's social protection efforts and aligns with the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). During the launch month, WFP disbursed USD 14,938 to 296 refugees (aged 80 and above). Key recommendations at the launch event included increasing coverage, joint resource mobilization, integrating refugees into national socio-economic programmes, and lowering the social pension eligibility age.
- WFP also reached 2,156 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under the age of two with Nutricash worth USD 99,317 cash assistance to meet their food and nutrition needs. This was complemented by social behaviour change communication on maternal and child health, care, and nutrition as well as financial literacy training.

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Further information: <https://www.wfp.org/countries/uganda>

Photo Caption: Members of flood prone households receive anticipatory cash to enable them to prepare for flooding events in Ntoroko District.

Photo credit: WFP/Moureen ATIM.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2025)

Total Requirement (In USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
2.0 b	1.38 b	46.1 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.

Strengthening National Capacity for Emergency Preparedness and Response

- In its efforts to strengthen national capacity for disaster preparedness and response, WFP conducted an Anticipatory Action simulation exercise in Karamoja. The exercise brought together stakeholders from across Karamoja, the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, the Department of Meteorological Services, National Planning Authority, National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre (NECOC), and Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS). The exercise tested the operational readiness of WFP's approved drought Anticipatory Action Plan (AAP), focusing on coordination mechanisms, stakeholder roles, targeting protocols, and activation procedures. It provided a platform to validate the AAP, refine preparedness strategies, and enhance integration of anticipatory action into national disaster risk management systems.

School Meals

- To effectively coordinate, implement, and monitor Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF), in alignment with Uganda's National Frameworks and the Karamoja Feeds Karamoja Phase II Implementation Plan, WFP conducted an orientation meeting in partnership with the Ministry of Education & Sports (MOES) and Ministry of Karamoja Affairs (MoKA) targeting the District Education Sector Working Group in Karamoja sub region with the aim of operationalizing district level coordination structures. These included Chief Administrative Officers, District Education Officers, District Inspectors of Schools, Resident District Commissioners, District Community Development Officers, and District Planners of the nine districts of Karamoja, including the Programme Management Unit.

Nutrition

- WFP implements integrated nutrition activities focused on community-based screening, nutrition support, and building long-term resilience through production of nutrient-dense foods and rearing of animals across Karamoja sub-region. A total of 8,239 (4,704 children under the age of five and 3,535 PBWGs) MAM clients were reached with nutrition treatment services, receiving 34.38 mt of SNFs. Health workers and community volunteers delivered health education to 12,269 (10,291 females) community members as well as Vitamin A supplementation to 413 individuals, deworming to 329, immunisation to 896, and antenatal care services to 137.
- WFP also conducted nutrition-sensitive activities such as the promotion of nutrient-dense foods to improve diet diversification for improved healthy diets, in which 395 fruit trees were planted in schools and communities, and 3,961 mushroom beds were distributed to households. Schools continue to consume orange fleshed sweet potatoes and iron rich beans.

Agriculture and Market Support (AMS)

- Through its Youth in Work initiative, WFP provided financial literacy training to 2,290 young people (1,509 women) across 83 community-based financial institutions. This training empowered Village Savings and Loans Associations and Savings and Credit Cooperative Organizations to mobilize USD 12,749 in savings and facilitate USD 14,683 in credit access, helping youth expand their enterprises and strengthen financial management.

Donors (in alphabetical order)

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