



World Food Programme

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## WFP Ghana Country Brief October 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 percent in 2025, with 16.5 million 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 respond 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**

Income Level: **lower-middle income**

Chronic malnutrition: **17 percent of children aged 6-59 months**

2025 Human Development Report: **Ranked 143 out of 193 countries**

### In Numbers



**63,865 people** assisted

**US\$ 1.3 million** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 4.8 million** six-month net funding requirement (November 2025 - April 2026)

### Operational updates

- WFP and ADRA supported refugees and host communities in Bawku West District through a **Guinea Fowl Production initiative** with 83 percent of women's participation. Each received keets, feed, and equipment. Post-distribution monitoring of 245 beneficiaries found the project efficiently implemented and participant friendly.
- WFP's three-month **lean season response** reached **3,746 households** including 2,393 male-headed and 1,353 female-headed households with unconditional **cash transfers** and **2,753 households** with **value vouchers**. Additionally, WFP supported 1,049 refugee households (319 male-headed and 730 female-headed) across three refugee sites in Ghana's Upper East, Upper West, and Bono East regions with 45 percent transfer values due to funding constraints.
- WFP works on **rice fortification** to support the Ghana School Feeding Programme and to improve nutrition among pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW), children and adolescent girls. In October, a mission from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) visited one of WFP's rice milling partners, Max Industries, to witness the production of 4,000 bags of fortified rice for an upcoming nutrition intervention. A cost-benefit analysis for rice fortification was commissioned to make a case for local fortified rice investments to boost local economies.
- WFP assisted 59,000 children with daily **school meals** as part of its US-funded school feeding programme.
- In partnership with SOCODEVI and SWIDA, WFP targeted and verified 491 **Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA)** in 12 project districts across 6 regions. Over 11,000 participants are being trained on financial literacy.
- Through the **Climate and Livelihoods Through Forestry (CLTF) initiative** WFP provided 3,212 farmers—46 percent women, 23 percent youth, and 5 percent persons with disabilities—with cashew, mango, and moringa seedlings. The project is aligned with Ghana's climate priorities and promotes income generation through regenerative agriculture.

# WFP Country Strategy

## Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2024–2028)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
160.7 million	55.9 million
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$) (Nov 2025–Apr 2026)
41.9 million	4.8 million

### 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.

- WFP collaborated with the Regional Department of Agriculture to establish 6 maize demonstration fields in 3 regions (3 fields in Upper West, 1 in Bono and 2 in Ashanti) to increase yield and improve productivity under the Abinbev project. The CO is providing capacity support to ensure the adoption of best farming practices to increase yield and post-harvest management practices to reduce losses.
- Under the Mastercard Foundation project, WFP collaborated with stakeholders and value chain actors to create jobs for youth. Seven agribusinesses received 21 post-harvest equipment, delivered and installed, enabling youth farmers to reduce losses and improve market access through strengthened partnerships with agribusinesses.
- Through KOICA funding, WFP fostered strategic partnerships to leverage digital solutions for resilient food and nutrition security and improved livelihoods to promote youth economic empowerment.

## Monitoring

- Mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM):** A survey of 3,003 households across Ghana's 16 regions revealed significant food security challenges, especially in the north and rural areas with 39.5 percent of households using medium to high coping strategies for food shortages. Western, Central, Bono East, and Eastern regions showed good food consumption, while Greater Accra had high coping adaptation. An estimated 29.5 percent engaged in crisis or emergency strategies, 39.4 percent used none, and the Northeast had the highest reliance on emergency strategies (43.8 percent), indicating severe vulnerability.
- WFP, in partnership with MOFA-SRID and the Ghana Health Service (GHS), conducted nationwide refresher training of field offices who will carry out the **Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring Survey (FSNMS)** with GAFSP funding. The FSNMS findings will inform the Cadre Harmonisé (CH) analysis, strengthening Ghana's capacity for data-driven decision-making.
- WFP's monitoring of the Japan Value Voucher (**JVV**) in Tolon District improved standardization of groundnut oil measurement and grain quality control. The initiative assessed food quality, optimized retailer storage practices, and ensured timely distribution. WFP also collected commodity price data to inform evidence-based planning for the November distribution cycle.

## Donors

Donors to WFP Ghana's CSP (2024 – 2028) include: the Government of Ghana, FCDO, US Government, KOICA, the Government of Korea, Japan, the MasterCard Foundation, Australia, ABINBEV, France, Germany, dsm-firmenich and the Rockefeller Foundation