



WFP Ghana Country Brief

March 2018

Operational Context

Ghana is a lower middle-income and food-deficit country, with an estimated population of 27 million, and a gross domestic product per capita of USD 1,340 in 2015. Despite progress in reducing acute malnutrition and stunting at the national level in recent years, high rates of poverty and stunting persist in the Northern Savannah Ecological Zone.

WFP's long-term vision in Ghana includes improved food security and reduction of stunting and micronutrient deficiencies in the northern regions. This will be achieved through technical and policy support for the scale up of nutrition-sensitive social protection programming, as well as through public-private sector partnerships.

WFP has been present in Ghana since 1963.



Population: **27 million**

2016 Human Development Index:
139 out of 188

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **31% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

43,000 beneficiaries targeted for Nutrition support
30,000 adolescent girls receive take-home rations as incentive for school attendance
10,000 smallholder farmers targeted for capacity strengthening and market linkages

US\$ 0.17m cash based transfers made

US\$ 5.1m six months (April-Sept 2018) net funding requirements, representing 50% of total

29,006 people
assisted
 in March 2018



Operational Updates

- A new fortified nutritious food (Maizoya) for pregnant and lactating women was introduced in the scale-up districts targeted for stunting prevention in February/March.
- Distribution of specialised and non-specialised food commodities for pregnant and lactating women continued in three out of the seven target districts in Northern Ghana (Sagnarigu, Yendi and Central Gonja); conducted in 38 health facilities.
- Mop-up registration of beneficiaries (pregnant and lactating women) was done in two districts (Yendi and Central Gonja) in March. After the mop-up registration, WFP has achieved 98 percent and 109 percent beneficiary registration in Yendi and Central Gonja respectively, based on planned target beneficiaries vs actual registered.
- Take-home ration distributions to adolescent girls in junior high schools were done in Northern, Upper East and Upper West regions in March as part of WFP's continued effort to incentivise girls to remain in school.
- Assessment and selection of community-level women food processing groups is ongoing in selected regions. In partnership with Food and Drugs Authority, WFP Ghana will enhance the capacity of community-level processors on food safety and quality in order for them to produce high quality blended foods to support stunting prevention.
- The two selected industrial food processors under the Enhanced Nutrition and Value Chains project continue to receive technical capacity support to upgrade their Food Safety Management Systems from WFP Ghana's food technologist.

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Christian Asilevi
 Caption: A beneficiary receiving a fortified nutritious commodity from a health facility

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WFP Country Strategy		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018)		
10.2 m	10.2 m	5.1 m
Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition		
Strategic Outcome 1: Vulnerable women, adolescent girls, people living with HIV and children aged 6-23 months in targeted areas have enhanced nutritional status all year-round <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
6.9 m	6.9 m	3.45 m
Strategic Result 4: Sustainable food systems		
Strategic Outcome 2: Targeted populations and communities benefit from enhanced food systems which support nutrition Value Chains by 2020 <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
2.8 m	2.8 m	1.4 m
Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities		
Strategic Outcome 3: National institutions have strengthened capacity to manage food security and safety nets programmes by 2020 <i>Focus Area: Root Causes</i>		
0.28 m	0.28 m	0.14 m
Strategic Result 6: Policy Coherence		
Strategic Outcome 4: Government efforts towards achieving Zero Hunger by 2030 are supported by effective and coherent policy frameworks. <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
0.21 m	0.21 m	0.10 m

Monitoring

Monitoring coverage

Out of the 135 sites planned for monitoring visits in March, 130 were covered. This represents 96.2 percent of the sites monitored against the monthly plan.

Beneficiary Feedback

Out of the four calls recorded in March, three were compliments in reference to the take-home ration programme while one was reporting a lost beneficiary SCOPE card which was taken to the girl's school. No complaints recorded in March.

Challenges

There were no major challenges experienced in March.

Partnerships

- WFP Ghana maintains an active collaboration with government partners, civil society organizations, private sector, academia, development partners and other United Nations Agencies, particularly the Rome-based Agencies, to ensure the harmonization of activities in food security and nutrition.
- WFP participates in working groups in key sectors such as Education, Social Protection, Agriculture, Health and Nutrition. WFP also collaborates with the National Development Planning Commission to advocate for increased investment in nutrition using the Ghana Cost of Hunger Analysis.
- WFP Ghana is finalizing the development of a partnerships Action Plan that will guide partner engagements during the implementation of the Country Strategic Plan.

WFP Country Activities

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|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SO 1 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide take-home rations, nutrition education and Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Education to adolescent girls in junior high school. Provide commodity vouchers to access locally produced specialised nutritious foods to pregnant and lactating women and girls, people living with HIV and children aged 6-23 months. Provide capacity strengthening to Ghana Health Service for Nutrition Counselling, and Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC). |
| SO 2 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical support to selected community-level processors of blended flours. Provide financial and technical support to two industrial processors for equipment upgrade. Provide capacity development and equipment support for smallholder farmers on good agricultural practices, post-harvest handling and quality assurance. |
| SO 3 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical support to the National School Feeding Programme on policy implementation and monitoring, targeting, nutritious quality of school meals and linkages to smallholder farmers. |
| SO 4 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical support for policies and legislation related to social protection, nutrition, local fortification and smallholder farmers to the Government. |

Donors

Canada, Japan, Donor C, Private Donors, Multilateral

