



World Food Programme

WFP Uganda

Country Brief

January 2019

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

Despite its agricultural potential and significant agricultural exports, Uganda's food insecurity levels remain classified as 'serious' by the 2018 Global Hunger Index. The northern and eastern parts of the country are most vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition. In some areas, stunting and wasting reach 40 and 20 percent, respectively. Uganda is the third largest refugee hosting country in the world with 1.1 million refugees living in settlements. Studies estimate that the prevalence of food insecurity to be 90 percent in the refugee population.

WFP's operations in Uganda are guided by the country strategic plan (CSP, 2018-2022) which is aligned to National Development Plan II and Vision 2040 towards the achievement of sustainable development goals 2 and 17. Through the CSP, WFP addresses 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 Cooperation.



Population: **34.6 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **162 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower income**

Chronic malnutrition: **32% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

11,937 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 0.9m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 53.3m six months (February – July 2019) net funding requirements

938,000 **people assisted** in January 2019*



Operational Updates

- Overview of response:** In January 2019, WFP assisted around 938,000 people in Uganda. WFP's operations focused mainly on supporting 734,000 refugees who received food and nutrition assistance. In partnership with the Ministry of Education, WFP also distributed school meals to 129,000 children. In Karamoja, WFP worked with the Ministry of Health to provide special nutritious food to treat malnutrition among 49,000 children aged 6-59 month and pregnant and nursing women. Food assistance for asset creation activities targeted approximately 3,500 beneficiaries, while 22,500 smallholder farmers were assisted through agricultural and market support activities.
- New food assistance collection procedures:** In January 2019, WFP completed the roll-out of its new food assistance collection procedures in all refugee settlement areas. Henceforth, each refugee receiving WFP assistance is validated through iris and fingerprint scan before being served. The new procedures mitigate the risk of fraud, ensuring that assistance is well managed and provided only to eligible refugees. The roll-out was conducted in collaboration with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).
- Launch of Health Sector Integrated Refugee Response Plan:** In January 2019, the Government of Uganda launched a five-year (2019-2024) Health Sector Integrated Refugee Response Plan (HSIRRP) aimed at improving access to and utilization of quality health services for refugees and host community. WFP will contribute to the HSIRRP through its mother-and-child health and nutrition (MCHN) and community based supplementary feeding programmes (CBSFP). Through MCHN and CBSFP, WFP strengthens the capacities of health workers to screen refugees for acute malnutrition in refugee settlement areas and host communities while also providing specialized nutritious foods to those diagnosed with severe or moderate acute malnutrition.

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* based on estimated figures

Photo: WFP/Lydia Wamala: Tents deployed by WFP-WHO-MOH at Mpondwe border in Kasese district to host health workers during Ebola screening.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.2 b	244.4m	53.3m

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 to 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 cash and food transfers for community-level asset creation and technical assistance to the Government of Uganda
- Provide nutritious hot meals to school children and technical assistance to the Government of Uganda

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 cash transfers to at risk populations

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:

- Provide training, post-harvest equipment and aggregation facilities to farmer organizations and technical assistance to the Government of Uganda
- Provide transfers for purchasing affordable household storage and training

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:

- Provide a single registry to enable government and development partners to coordinate and target programmes
- Provide technical assistance to enable the government and first responders to prepare for and respond to emergencies

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

- **Ebola preparedness actions:** In January 2019, WFP continued to provide logistics and engineering services to maintain a continuum of the Ebola preparedness actions. In partnership with National Medical Stores (NMS) and Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS), WFP coordinated last mile deliveries of infection prevention and control (IPC) items to 236 health centres in the five districts prioritized as at high-risk: Bundibugyo, Bunyangabo, Kabarole, Kasese and Ntoroko. In addition to the three ambulances deployed in October 2018, WFP delivered two more ambulances to the Ministry of Health (MOH) to meet the frequent transportation needs of blood samples from health centres to laboratories in Kampala.
- While the number of Ebola cases increased in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), no Ebola case was reported in January 2019 in Uganda. To ensure effective and accurate screening of people crossing into Uganda from DRC, WFP aims to construct a mobile shelter to accommodate the thermo-scanner at Mpondwe border in Kasese district in south western Uganda. Mpondwe remains a priority point of entry because of its proximity to DRC and frequent usage by traders and refugees. More than 1,000 people use the border every day.

Assessments

- The WFP December 2018 Market Bulletin indicated that the average retail prices for maize grain, sorghum, and beans were below average compared to 2017. The average retail prices for these commodities decreased by 38 percent, 25 percent and 11 percent, respectively. The market analysis also indicated that staple foods prices will likely remain stable through February 2019 as a result of the ongoing November-to-January harvest.

Impact of Limited Funding

- WFP urgently needs US\$ 1.6 million to continue its MCHN programme in Karamoja region. If no further funding is received, WFP will be forced to interrupt its MCHN programme in March 2019. The programme provides specialized nutritious food to prevent and treat malnutrition among 55,000 children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and nursing women in the region. The interruption of the programme could result in severe malnutrition among children.

Donors

Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Norway, Switzerland, Uganda, UN CERF, UK, USA and multilateral and private donors