The **Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation** (PRRO) focuses on two distinct populations in Uganda: refugees and severely food insecure populations in the Karamoja region. The operation focuses on meeting the food and nutrition needs of crisis-affected populations in the Karamoja region as they transition to durable solutions and become more resilient to shocks and stresses. The objectives of the PRRO are to: (i) ensure refugees and vulnerable groups in Karamoja have access to food to meet their immediate needs and enable participation in programmes to increase their self-reliance; and (ii) support the Government and vulnerable communities to have reliable safety-net systems that increase resilience to shocks and improve human development trends.

WFP’s resilience-building efforts, implemented through conditional asset creation and training, function as an immediate and reliable food safety net for the most food insecure in the Karamoja region. This targeted, seasonal humanitarian assistance complements WFP’s support to government-run education and health system services in Karamoja implemented under the accompanying Country Programme.

WFP provides food assistance to refugees in settlement areas in the form of food and cash-based transfers; treatment and prevention of malnutrition; prevention of stunting and addressing micronutrient deficiencies through mother-and-child health and nutrition (MCHN) programmes; and asset creation and rehabilitation schemes.

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### In Numbers

- **1,366,000** assisted in Uganda, including:
  - **1.2 million** refugees in settlements
  - **166,000** Ugandans in Karamoja

**People Assisted**

September 2017

- **56%** women
- **44%** men
Operational Updates

- WFP is running out of funds to provide food and nutrition assistance to 1.2 million refugees. Despite the continued support from traditional and new donors, and new contributions received in recent months, the operation requires USD 51.2 million for the next six months (October 2017 - March 2018) to meet the increasing refugee needs. Expected contributions, if made available in time, will enable WFP to purchase food from the local markets during the harvest season.

- In a recent livelihoods assessment conducted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and World Vision among refugees in the settlements of Imvepi and Rhino Camp, 89 percent of the respondents said their number-one concern was reduction of rations (usually due to insufficient funding or supply chain challenges). This highlights refugees’ dependence on WFP’s food assistance until they have the means to provide for themselves.

- WFP issued eight contracts to small-scale farmer groups to supply 340 metric tons of maize grain through its first direct food purchase in Uganda. WFP began the direct purchase modality to increase small-scale farmers’ access to the premium grain market, which includes WFP. This is aimed at supporting smallholder farmers’ groups improve their income. WFP’s food vendor short-list has 29 small-scale groups, 17 of which are managing the WFP-established agricultural business centres, which include grain stores. The groups have received training in agricultural marketing, including collective marketing, farming as a business and how to do business with WFP.

- WFP continues to provide technical support to the Government in setting up the single registry, which is expected to improve delivery of social protection programmes. Registration has been finalized in Moroto, Napak and Ka’abong districts, and is ongoing in Kotido District. It is expected that registration of 1 million people in all the seven districts will be completed by the end of the year. The registration exercise adopts a clustered – census style approach and captures details of all household members as well as taking biometrics and photos of people aged 5 years and above.

Partnerships

- In support of SDG2 to end hunger, WFP works with other UN agencies, international and national NGOs, academia and the private sector to ensure a multi-sectoral and sustainable approach to programming.

Country Background & Strategy

Despite being East Africa’s breadbasket and a major exporter of grains, levels of food insecurity were still classified as ‘serious’ by the 2015 Global Hunger Index. While the poverty rate of 19.7 percent indicates a significant decline in the past decade, the country’s population growth has led to the absolute number of people living in poverty remaining constant. Levels of malnutrition have improved in the country, but the stunting prevalence remains high at 27 percent with pockets of the country at over 40 percent. Peace and stability in Uganda was largely restored in 2006, but ongoing conflict in neighbouring countries in the region brings challenges to Uganda in achieving its development priorities. Uganda is now the third largest refugee hosting country in the world with 1.3 million refugees living in settlements.

WFP’s portfolio of assistance in Uganda meets the humanitarian needs of people in crisis while supporting the Government to host the growing number of refugees, address the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition, and strengthen the national social protection system. WFP assistance is provided through direct implementation; evidence generation, knowledge sharing and capacity strengthening, and building strategic partnerships including through South-South cooperation.

Donors

Belgium, Canada, Denmark, ECHO, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Norway, UN CERF, United Kingdom, USA and multilateral and private donors.

Contact info: lydia.wamala@wfp.org
Country Director: El Khidir Daloum
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Uganda

Population: 34.6 million
2015 Human Development Index: 163 out of 188
Income Level: Lower Income
Chronic malnutrition: 29% of children between 6-59 months