



WFP Ghana Country Brief

Highlights

- As part of Ghana Zero Hunger Strategic Review process, stakeholders in food and nutrition security from all the regions in Ghana have participated in consultations to discuss ways to address the key challenges in the sector, and proffer sustainable measures to attain zero hunger.
- WFP Ghana is initiating discussions with National AIDS Control Programme to leverage the SCOPE platform in a capacity development assistance programme, for the effective implementation of the HIV programme in the Eastern Region.

WFP Assistance

Ghana Country Programme CP200247 (Jan 2012 – Dec 2017)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	78.7 m	55.4 m (70%)	-

*May - October 2017

Support for Primary Education and Girl's Education: The programme provides capacity strengthening to the Ghana School Feeding Programme to legislate on school meals in Ghana, and to improve its operational performance. In line with the hand-over strategy agreed with the Government, schoolchildren assisted by WFP under the school meals programme have been handed over onto the national programme. A total of 30,000 girls in Junior High School from food-insecure areas receive take-home rations to improve gender parity in education.

Nutrition support for vulnerable groups: This focuses on prevention of stunting and micronutrient deficiencies among children, leveraging the Enhanced Nutrition and Value Chains (ENVAC) programme, using vouchers. The ENVAC supports smallholder farmers to produce quality crops to be used by food processors to produce specialised nutritious foods for use by women and children. The stunting prevention programme targets 32,000 pregnant and nursing women and 57,000 children aged 6-23 months for 2017. WFP also supports 3,000 people living with HIV and their households to promote anti-retroviral therapy (ART) adherence while also promoting Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission. This component also includes a small pilot on prevention of stunting and micronutrient deficiencies among children aged 6-23 months using vouchers. In addition, 490 farmers and their households are targeted with nutrition-sensitive interventions under Capacity Development and Augmentation.

Resilience to climate shocks and support for livelihoods: The Country Programme also focuses on livelihood support targeting 98,725 people with food assistance for assets implemented through cash transfers.

How WFP targets its response: The country office operates a full cash-based transfer (CBT) operation, with the exception of 13 mt of Small-Quantity Lipid-based Nutrient Supplements (SQ-LNS) currently being used in a stunting prevention pilot programme. In alignment with the full CBT operation, local processors are being supported to produce specialised nutritious foods to be used with vouchers by women, children and people living with HIV.

WFP prioritizes the Northern Savannah Ecological Zones (NSEZ), which have been assessed to have high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition, as well as the Eastern Region which has high HIV/AIDS prevalence.

Periodic commodity price monitoring is undertaken to check whether transfer values are still relevant and adjust them as necessary. Assessment tools are developed to reflect gender perspectives to enhance data collection and analysis.



Credit: WFP/Emma Anaman

Caption: Professor Mathilda Steiner – Research Team leader from the J. A. Kufuor Foundation – leading discussions with a multisectoral stakeholder group on food and nutrition security at the Central Region zonal consultative meeting.

Main Photo Credit: WFP/Emma Anaman.
Caption: Participants at a zonal consultative meeting on food and nutrition security as part of the Ghana Zero Hunger Strategic Review process in the Eastern Region.



April 2017

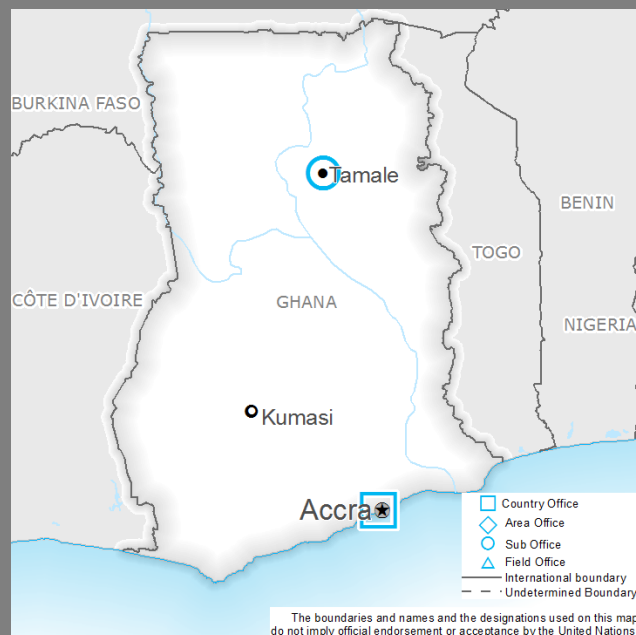
Operational Updates

- The Zero Hunger Strategic Review has undertaken nationwide consultations with multi-sectoral stakeholder groups from all the regions of Ghana. Participants were drawn from the Ministries of Finance and Economic Planning, Health, as well as Food and Agriculture. Policy Development Institutes, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations in food security participated in the discussions on the challenges to food and nutrition security, and proffered sustainable solutions to the attainment of zero hunger by 2030.
- Following a successful pilot take-home rations programme using the CBT modality, the programme is poised for a full roll-out of the entire beneficiary people onto the programme. Supply chain processes are being finalized for this expansion.
- WFP is initiating a capacity transfer initiative with the Government to leverage the use of SCOPE in managing the people targeted for assistance in four facilities in the Eastern Region under the HIV programme. This support may also be extended to government partners in the wider nutrition programme, for better management of people targeted for assistance and programme sustainability.

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.
- Under a special partnership with the office of Former President J. A. Kufour, the Kufour Foundation is coordinating the Zero Hunger Strategic Review. An inception report has been issued and forms the basis for national consultations that will feed into the desk review, and ultimately into the final report.

Country Background & Strategy



Ghana is listed by FAO as a low-income food deficit country. Agriculture which used to be the basis of the economy, and accounted for over one-third of the GDP and about 55 percent of formal employment, currently accounts for a fifth of GDP. Cash crops consist primarily of cocoa and cocoa products, which typically provide about one-third of export revenue.

Ghana was the first country in Sub-Saharan Africa to meet the MDG 1 target of halving extreme poverty by 2015 but food security remains a challenge, especially in the deprived three northern regions. Northern, Upper East and Upper West together make up 70 percent of the poor at the national level. Food insecurity rates in these regions range from 20 percent to 37 percent of the population (Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis 2012). Over 45 percent of the population still lives on less than USD 1.25 per day. Stunting rates in Northern, Upper East and Upper West regions are 33.1, 14.4 and 22.2 percent respectively. High food prices and marked disparities in national wealth have increased communities' vulnerability to further food insecurity and malnutrition.

WFP has been present in Ghana since 1963.

Population: **24 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
140 out of 189

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **18% of children between 6-59 months**

Donors

Top donors for DEV 200247: Canada, Japan, Private Donors, Multilateral, Saudi Arabia.

Contact info: Emma Anaman (emma.anaman@wfp.org)
Country Director (a.i): Magdalena Owusu-Moshi
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/ghana