



Highlights

- A national consultation has been held with government partners as part of preparatory activities towards the 2019/23 Country Strategic Plan.
- Senior technical, policy planning, monitoring and evaluation directors of about 30 key Ministries, Departments and agencies identified their priority areas for collaboration with WFP in achieving zero hunger, as well as the indicators and targets to be met under SDG 2.



WFP Ghana Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Ghana Country Programme CP 200247 (Jan 2012 – Dec 2017)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	78 m	55.4 m (71%)	0.7 m

* November 2017 – April 2018

Support for Primary Education and Girl's Education:

A total of 30,000 girls in Junior High School from food-insecure areas receive take-home rations to improve gender parity in education. The programme also provides capacity strengthening to the Ghana school meals programme to improve the nutritional content of the meals and 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.

Nutrition support for vulnerable groups: This focuses on prevention of stunting and micronutrient deficiencies among children, leveraging the Enhanced Nutrition and Value Chain (ENVAC) programme, through commodity vouchers. The ENVAC supports smallholder farmers to produce quality crops to be used by food processors to produce specialised nutritious foods for women and children. The stunting prevention programme targets 20,000 pregnant and lactating women and 20,000 children aged 6 to 23 months for 2017. WFP also supports 3,000 people living with HIV/AIDS 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 to 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, and 13 mt of Small-Quantity Lipid-based Nutrient Supplements (SQ-LNS) being used in a stunting prevention pilot. The response also provides increased capacity strengthening to government, including support to policy development and implementation. In alignment with the full CBT operation, local processors are being supported to produce specialised nutritious foods for stunting prevention.

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

Periodic commodity price monitoring is undertaken to update transfer values transferred under commodity vouchers. Assessment tools are developed to reflect gender perspectives to enhance data collection and analysis.



Credit: WFP/Vera Boohene

Caption: Government participants actively engaged at the national consultations for the WFP Ghana Country Strategic Plan

Main Photo
Credit: WFP/Vera Boohene
Caption: National consultations for the Ghana CSP; From R-L: Ms. Rukia Yacoub, WFP CD; Prof. Gyan Baffour, Minister of Planning; Ms. Grace Bediako, Commissioner, National Development Planning Commission; and Prof. Mathilda Steiner ZHSR Team Leader.



Operational Updates

- The finalized Ghana Zero Hunger Strategic Review (ZHSR) report is expected to be launched in January 2018, under the auspices of the President of Ghana.
- The key recommendations from the ZHSR to be prioritized are: promotion of nutrition through education and use of local foods and fortification; addressing post-harvest handling, reduction of production costs and education on environmentally smart practices; supporting government capacity on food security data, supply chain and logistical management and emergency preparedness; and, promotion of nutrition monitoring and assessment, local standards and weights, procurement systems and appropriate legislation as required.
- An agreement will be reached with the Lead Convener/Research team to undertake periodic reviews of the ZHSR.
- A cross-functional mission from HQ and the Regional Bureau have met with representatives of government's key flagship programmes – Planting for Food and Jobs; One Village One Dam; One District on Factory – to support the new ministry to map out its mandate to empower smallholder farmers, under the Infrastructure for Poverty Eradication Programme (IPEP). WFP will leverage expertise to support these programmes in the CSP.
- WFP Ghana is yet to receive Government Counterpart Cash Contributions (GCCC) to the operation since 2009; this forms a significant part of the funding forecast for the Interim Country Strategic Plan (I-CSP) which starts in January 2018. The Country Office and Regional Bureau continue to advocate for the release of the funds.

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.



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.