

7 WAYS WFP Uganda Is Changing and Saving Lives During COVID-19

On the 22nd of March 2020, the first case of coronavirus, or COVID-19, was announced in Uganda. The presidential directive and health guidance on movement restrictions have kept most of the population safe. However, they have presented challenges in the flow of assistance provided to the 1.2 million refugees across the country and the 200,000 people of Karamoja that the UN World Food Programme (WFP) serves. These challenging times compel humanitarian and development agencies, like WFP, to lean on innovation, efficiency, and perseverance to meet the needs of vulnerable populations through the delivery of quality services. As such, WFP in Uganda has been working closely with its partners and the Government of Uganda to ensure the delivery of essential services such as food and cash, as well as logistical support, are unhindered during this unprecedented global pandemic. Here are just of few of the ways WFP has continued to support Ugandans and those seeking refuge in Uganda on their quest to achieve zero hunger across the country during the COVID-19 response.

LOCAL PURCHASES

US\$24.5M for local food during January-June of 2020



70,000 metric tons of local food purchased during COVID-19 period

January through June this year, WFP Uganda purchased 70,000 metric tons of food on the Uganda market at a value of US \$24.5M. Purchasing local produce to feed the people we serve has not only saved WFP a cumulative estimate of US\$3,390,900 in the first half of 2020, but it has also pumped billions of shillings into the Ugandan economy--even during the pandemic period.

2 TEMPORARY SCREENING FACILITIES ACROSS UGANDA



WFP Uganda built five large COVID-19 screening facilities across Uganda. One 900 sq. meter facility was built at the Entebbe International Airport with the capacity to accommodate at least 1,000 incoming travellers per day. The facility was commissioned by the Ministry of Health and funded by UKAid. We also built one screening facility at each of the following border points; Busia, Elegu, Malaba, and Matukula.

LOGISTICS COORDINATION SUPPORT



To assure the continued flow of goods into, and throughout the country, WFP offered its knowledge of logistics by co-leading the COVID -19 logistics cluster of the National Response Taskforce alongside the Ministry of Health, WHO and other UN agencies to sustain the national supply chain. WFP also seconded one of its international logistics staff members to the Ministry of Health full-time and the organization currently co-chairs the Logistics Cluster.

5 LOGISTICS SUPPORT TO

TRANSPORT OF GOODS

WFP lent ten trucks with capacity of 100 metric tonnes and availed one 5,000MT warehouse for food storage for a period of four months. The presidential initiative on urban feeding programme targets 1.5Million.

THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH



Jack Ma Foundation and Alibaba have provided PPE support to 54 African countries through the African Union. WFP has transported all the donated materials and equipment to countries on the continent. WFP Uganda helped the Minsitry of Health in the clearance and storage of the items and availed three trucks with a capacity of five metric tonnes each for transportation and distribution.

6 | PROVISION OF PPE 240,000 ITEMS

7 TREATMENT FOR MALNUTRITION





WFP delivered nearly 240,000 items of personal protective equipment (PPE) to staff, partners, and government nationwide, so that they would be able to carry out duties safely, without any interruptions. PPE items were donated, in part, by the Jack Ma Foundation of China.

CONTINUING TREATMENT FOR MALNUTRITION

WFP's COVID-19-specific standard operating procedures have helped us reach a monthly average of 13,000 pregnant and nursing women, in addition to children with treatment for life-threatening malnutrition across the Karamoja region.

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