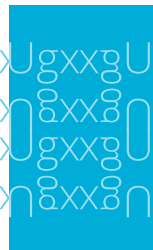




World Food
Programme

Meeting Needs & Empowering People

WFP'S CASH-BASED FOOD ASSISTANCE IN UGANDA





Cash transfers can empower the people most vulnerable to meet their household essential needs on local markets according to their priorities, while stimulating the local economy

what

is the deal with cash





Responding to humanitarian emergencies is a primary focus of WFP. The choice of the assistance modality (food or cash) is based on feasibility and appropriateness. WFP brings food to places where markets are disrupted and less functional, while cash-based assistance is preferred in places where food is available and markets are well integrated. WFP Uganda is providing cash transfers to refugees residing in refugee settlements in West Nile and the South-Western regions of the country. Refugees need relief assistance to guarantee minimum food consumption and prevent malnutrition.

WFP's cash assistance not only grants households greater agency in determining the makeup of their meals - an important social, psychological and cultural anchor for families living in uncertain times - it can also provide a substantial boost to local economies. A study conducted in Uganda in 2016 by researchers from the University of California at Davis, has shown that every US\$ 1 given in cash to a refugee translates into about US\$ 1.5 pumped into the local economy, compared to an average of approximately US\$ 1 when food rations are provided.

how


much cash does it take



As part of its General Food Assistance (GFA) to refugees in Uganda, is currently providing unrestricted monthly cash transfers to almost 400,000 refugees across nine settlements (as of November 2019), representing about one-third of the total assisted refugee population. This amounts to an overall transfer volume of US\$ 3.2 million into refugee hosting districts every month. Refugees enrolled for CBT currently receive UGX 31,000 (US\$ 8.46) per person per month, to meet the minimum caloric requirements of 2,100 kcal per person per day. This amount is based on how much it costs refugees to buy WFP's in-kind food basket on the local market. For equity reasons within WFP's general food assistance response and given the high levels of cross-country mobility of refugees, cash beneficiaries receive the equivalent monetary value of what WFP's in-kind food beneficiaries receive in the form of commodities.

Expansion of cash transfers within WFP's GFA to refugees is being implemented on a gradual basis, based on voluntary enrolments, ensuring market functionality, accountability to affected populations and adhering to the overall policy environment of the Government. By the end of 2020, resources permitting and unless markets become severely disrupted due to factors over which WFP has little control (e.g. insecurity, conflict, economic crisis, natural disasters, etc.), cash transfers will be scaled up to reach over 600,000 refugees in Uganda.

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WFP uses the power of data and digital technologies to maximize efficiency, flexibility and agility of service delivery. WFP helps people fully participate in the world around them by connecting them to providers of essential goods and services through constantly evolving technology.

and

just how is this being done



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