



Feed the Future Country Fact Sheet

Online Version: <https://feedthefuture.gov/country/uganda>

COUNTRY PROFILE



Uganda

In Uganda, Feed the Future is targeting investments in specific regions for maximum impact. These statistics reflect the realities of Uganda and the results of Feed the Future's work there.

POPULATION	POVERTY	STUNTING	RURAL	GDP
14.6 Million Number of people living in Feed the Future target regions	32.1 Percent* Percentage of people living in poverty in Feed the Future target regions in FY15	29.2 Percent* Percentage of children under 5 suffering from stunting in Feed the Future target regions in FY15	83.6 Percent Percentage of population living in rural Uganda (World Bank, 2016)	4.6 Percent Annual GDP growth; agriculture accounts for 24.4% of value added (World Bank, 2016)
FARMERS	SALES	NUTRITION	LAND	INVESTMENT
632 Thousand Producers using new technology and practices with Feed the Future's help in FY16	\$97 Million Income earned by Feed the Future farmers in FY16 from agricultural sales	882 Thousand Children under 5 reached with nutrition help in FY16 across Uganda	497 Thousand Hectares tended with improved technologies or management practices in FY16	\$7.8 Million New private investment leveraged by Feed the Future in FY16

Approach

Agriculture is the mainstay of the Ugandan economy, accounting for 24 percent of gross domestic product (GDP), employing two-thirds of the labor force, and providing half of export earnings. With 84 percent of the population still living in rural areas, agriculture is the main source of income and, by extension, the main pathway out of poverty for the majority of Ugandans. The vast majority of refugees also rely on agriculture for their livelihoods.

Unfortunately, in a country rich with agricultural potential, the sector substantially underperforms. Almost all crops are produced on smallholder farms where the limited use of modern technology and inputs result in yields averaging less than 40 percent of those realized on research stations. From 2010 to 2014, the sector had a 2.2 percent average annual growth rate, well below the 5.2 percent GDP growth rate and short of matching the 3 percent growth in population. Over 30 percent of the total population faces some level of chronic food insecurity, and malnutrition directly or indirectly contributes to 60 percent of child mortality. The causes of undernutrition among women and children in Uganda vary depending on the region, but include availability of food, cultural and social traditions, and poverty levels.

Uganda's population growth rate is one of the highest in the world, and the majority of women and youth engage in some form of agriculture or agribusiness.

With more than half of the population under the age of 15, Uganda has the world's second-youngest population. Economic opportunities are limited: the private sector is unable to generate enough jobs to employ the rising youth population and Uganda's youth face distressing levels of unemployment.

Improvements in the agriculture sector are necessary to further expand Uganda's economy, reduce poverty and provide jobs. Feed the Future aims to raise farmer incomes and improve the nutritional status of Ugandans in 42 core focus districts plus seven districts in Karamoja. Feed the Future works to increase agricultural productivity and farmers' access to competitive markets; improve the policy environment for private sector-led agricultural development; widen market openings for agriculture input and machinery suppliers; and improve public sector institutional and human resource capacity.

The U.S. Government selected Uganda as one of 12 Feed the Future target countries for focused investment under the new [U.S. Government Global Food Security Strategy](#). A country plan is forthcoming.

Strategy

Goal: Reduce [prevalence of poverty](#) in Feed the Future target regions by 20 percent.

- 2011 baseline: 32.9 percent
- 2017 target: 24.65 percent

Goal: Reduce [prevalence of stunting in children](#) under 5 years old in Feed the Future target regions by 20 percent.

- 2011 baseline: 33 percent
- 2017 target: 26.4 percent

To achieve its goals, Feed the Future is making key investments to:

- Improve nutrition
- Increase agricultural productivity and expand access to competitive markets
- Integrate agriculture and nutrition at the household level
- Strengthen public sector capacity, producer organizations and support services

Feed the Future is focusing its efforts in targeted regions and value chains to maximize impact.

Value Chains

- Beans
- Coffee
- Maize

Target Regions

Primary

- Northern Uganda
- Central "Maize Belt"
- Southwest Uganda

Secondary Resilience Zone

- Karamoja

Program Highlights

Value Chain Approach. In support of the Government of Uganda's food security and nutrition priorities, Feed the Future focuses its investments in Uganda in the maize, bean and coffee value chains, given their significant market potential, nutritional benefits and income potential for farming families. Feed the Future is helping Uganda address constraints to raising both the quality and production in these value chains by supporting efforts to improve the enabling policy environment, building the capacity of farmer organizations and the private sector, supporting agricultural research, and helping connect smallholder farmers to inputs and markets.

Gender Integration. Women make up the majority of smallholder farmers in Uganda and are responsible for 70 percent of overall agriculture GDP in the country. Feed the Future is implementing gender-sensitive programs to address the specific needs of Ugandan women farmers and using the innovative [Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index](#) to measure empowerment and track how interventions are impacting it.

Youth. Young people will dominate the future social and economic development of Uganda, with 50 percent of the

population under 15 and 78 percent under 30. Feed the Future aims to increase economic opportunities for youth as agricultural producers and entrepreneurs by building their leadership, work readiness, and business skills.

Nutrition. Feed the Future is helping improve nutrition in facility and community settings in the areas in Uganda with the highest chronic undernutrition by supporting the scaling up of essential nutrition actions through key district-based programs in these areas. The initiative is also targeting nutrition service delivery and building the capacity of the Ugandan health sector to prevent and treat undernutrition, particularly among children under five and pregnant and lactating women. Feed the Future connects nutrition investments to those in agriculture to maximize impact on food security and undernutrition as well as reduce household vulnerability to production and income shocks.

Capacity Building. Feed the Future is working to strengthen local systems in Uganda by building capacity in policy, statistics, and research and development to ensure long-term growth. Feed the Future is also helping build the capacity of the next generation of leaders in Uganda by providing fellowships, postgraduate support, training, and research opportunities for students to growth their skills, particularly in nutrition.

Research. Uganda has abundant rainfall, arable land, and two growing seasons; yet agricultural yields are below potential, in part because of pests and disease and post-harvest losses are high. To address these constraints, Feed the Future supports research in biotechnology to protect food crops, particularly cassava and banana, from serious disease threats, and is investing in breeding to increase stress tolerance and disease resistance in targeted value chains. Feed the Future is also helping scale up the production and marketing of biofortified varieties like orange-fleshed sweet potato rich in vitamin A and beans biofortified with zinc and iron.

Scaling Innovations. Feed the Future in Uganda is focused on scaling up proven technologies and practices that benefit smallholder farmers, including technologies such as improved seeds that combat and prevent coffee wilt disease. Feed the Future also is working with partners to scale orange fleshed sweet potato, a nutrient-rich food that can help reduce undernutrition in Uganda.

Results

Results by the Numbers

- Nearly **632,000 farmers and other producers** applied new technologies and management practices for the first time with Feed the Future's help last year.
- Producers applied improved technologies and management practices on more than **497,000 hectares** of land with Feed the Future's help last year.
- Feed the Future-supported farmers and producers achieved total agricultural sales of more than **\$97 million** last year.
- Feed the Future leveraged more than **\$7.8 million** in new private investment in food and agriculture in Uganda.
- U.S. Government programs reached more than **882,000 children** under 5 years old to improve their nutrition.

Impact

**The change in prevalence of poverty or stunting for this country was not statistically significant, meaning the margin of error of the survey sample was too great to conclusively demonstrate change. For more details on impact data, view the [Feed the Future 2016 progress report](#).*

Key achievements in 2014

- Feed the Future and other members of the Nutrition Development Partners platform strengthened partnerships and leveraged resources to help Uganda develop a National Nutrition Policy and a National Advocacy and Communication Strategy. At the sub-national level, Feed the Future helped operationalize the District Nutrition Coordination Committees and complete the National Nutrition Planning Guidelines.
- Feed the Future partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries and the Uganda National Bureau for Standards to implement a new e-verification system that uses scratch tags to authenticate agricultural inputs on the market. This system gives farmers the confidence to buy improved inputs, knowing that their purchases are guaranteed by the government. Private input firms now willingly purchase the tags for placement on their products. The partnership is a crucial first step in recovering the estimated \$1.5 billion in losses from counterfeit inputs that Uganda suffers each year.
- Feed the Future helped the Government of Uganda finalized a national agriculture extension policy, which embraces a

- pluralistic, dual public and private approach to agriculture extension.
- Feed the Future successfully demonstrated the value of the village agent approach to value chain actors, as well as national and local government stakeholders. The village agent model converts “middle men” into trusted market actors who provide goods and services to farmers. Farmers receiving services from village agents under Feed the Future have achieved gross margins (sales revenue minus the cost of goods sold) of \$1,004 in coffee, \$680 in maize, and \$315 in beans.
 - Recognizing the opportunities presented by the village agent model, Uganda’s Ministry of Agriculture has adopted the model as a means to broaden the reach of its 3,500 extension officers countrywide, demonstrating country ownership of development efforts.

Source

These results reflect information from the U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. African Development Foundation and Peace Corps, reported into Feed the Future’s central monitoring system for fiscal year 2016 (FY16). For more information on the indicators above, please view our [Feed the Future Indicator Handbook](#). All dollar amounts are listed in U.S. dollars.

Opportunities

Uganda has nearly half the arable land in East Africa, abundant rainfall, and two growing seasons over much of the country. Processing local produce accounts for 40 percent of total manufacturing. Nonetheless, agricultural yields are significantly below potential and post-harvest losses are high. Raising agricultural output and quality standards would not only pull millions out of poverty but also help improve nutrition.

The Government of Uganda has demonstrated commitment to agricultural development, signing a Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program compact in 2010. Its National Development Plan and Agriculture Development Sector Investment Plan provide the framework for Feed the Future’s strategic focus on nutrition and agriculture in the country. Feed the Future and other development and private sector partners have aligned their efforts with the priorities of the Government of Uganda to address nutrition, agriculture and food security.

Activities

Feed the Future supports the following programs, partnerships and organizations in Uganda.

- Africa Agriculture Technology Foundation
- Africa Lead II
- African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD)
- Agribusiness Development Facility to the African Agricultural Capital Fund
- Agribusiness Initiative (ABi Trust)
- Agricultural Biotechnology Support Program (ABSP II)
- Alur Highlands Coffee Alliance
- Apolou
- Banana Bacterial Wilt Resistance
- Benchmarking the Business of Agriculture
- Borlaug Higher Education for Agriculture Research and Development
- Borlaug 21st Century Leadership Program
- Capacity Development in the Agriculture Sector
- CGIAR Fund Core Grant with the World Bank
- Deploying Vegetable Seed Kits to Tackle Malnutrition
- Drought Tolerant Maize for Africa (DTMA)/Drought Tolerant Maize Seed Scaling (DTMASS)
- Economic Empowerment and Livelihoods Activity
- Education and Research to Improve Climate Adaptation
- Enhancing Climate-Resilience of Agricultural Livelihoods
- The John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter Farmer-to-Farmer Program
- Feed the Future Biosafety Activity
- Feed the Future Commodity Production and Marketing

- Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Agriculture
- Feed the Future FEEDBACK
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Aquaculture & Fisheries](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Assets and Market Access](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Grain Legumes](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Horticulture](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Nutrition](#)
- [Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Peanut Productivity & Mycotoxin](#)
- [Feed the Future Partnering for Innovation](#)
- Feed the Future Producer Organizations
- Feed the Future Youth Leadership in Agriculture
- Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance (FANTA III)
- Food Safety Training Modules and Networks
- Gender-Based Advocacy for Ugandan National Coffee Policy Activity
- Gender Randomized Control Trial
- [Global Agriculture and Food Security Program](#)
- Governance Accountability Performance and Participation (GAPP)
- HarvestPlus Partnership
- Improving Local Stakeholders Readiness to Adapt to Climate Change in Agriculture Activity
- Innovation in Agricultural Training and Education (InnovATE)
- International Fertilizer Development Center
- Karamoja Growth, Health and Governance Activity
- Karamoja Resilience Support Unit
- Knowledge-Driven Agricultural Development
- Maize/Bean Research
- Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services
- Norman Borlaug Commemorative Research Initiative (NBCRI)
- Norman E. Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (Borlaug LEAP)
- Nuyok
- [Peace Corps Interagency Food Security Partnership](#)
- Policy Advancement for Climate Change Adaptation and Agricultural Development Activity
- Production for Improved Nutrition
- Program for Biosafety Systems
- Solutions for African Food Enterprises (SAFE)
- Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovation in Nutrition Globally (SPRING)
- [U.S. African Development Foundation](#)
- U.S. Borlaug Global Food Security Fellows Program
- USDA Food for Progress Program
- Virus Resistant Cassava for Africa

Target Regions

Funding

