

Criteria. Researchers correlated families' income, social status and location as being major factors that explain the level and extent of household hunger.

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KAMPALA. Uganda has been categorised among countries living in serious hunger, according to a 2017 report by a consortium of international organisations.

Titled, "Global hunger index; inequalities of hunger," the report has been authored by Welt Hunger Hilfe, International Food Policy Research Institute and Concern Worldwide.

Other categories are moderate, alarming and extremely alarming, which the country has skipped.

Uganda, according to the report, continues to fare badly in the region, being in position number 103, behind Kenya at 70, Tanzania at 97 and Rwanda at 300 on what the researchers call "global hunger index scores by rank."

The report nonetheless notes Uganda's strides over the years, posting an improvement, albeit undesirable, at 24 per cent, a classification of the slowest progress in the report.

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Uganda's hunger situation serious, says new report

GLOBAL HUNGER INDEX SCORES BY RANK

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being major factors that explain the level and extent of household hunger.

"Families' income, social status, and location often appear to play a greater role in determining whether children are stunted than does gender as data for East Africa show," notes the report in part.

Town dwellers, who the report classified as living "close to the centres of

power" are less susceptible to suffer hunger than their counterparts in the countryside.

"In Ethiopia, Tanzania, and Uganda, for instance, children are less likely to be stunted if they live in the capital city, close to the centres of power," notes the report.

This is blamed on the concentration of economic activities at the cen-

tre and therefore the distribution of resources.

Sector review

At a recent government sector review conducted at the Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries revealed that households that have three meals a day have decreased from 83 per cent in the Financial Year 2015/2016 to 69 per cent 2016/2017.

The government report was informed by a survey conducted by government, in which 30 districts were sampled.

The government report, which blamed rising household hunger on "prolonged dry spells, crop and animal pests coupled with inadequate knowledge on water harvesting" noted that the Operation Wealth Creation Programme is steadily salvaging the hunger situation.

National households that simply ac-

cess one meal a day has also increased from 16 to 27 per cent of the population, according to the government report.

The government report places at 4.6 per cent, the number of households facing food crisis by going without any meals in a day.

Regions most bedevilled by hunger in the world, according to the report, include South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

The regions of the world struggling most with hunger are South Asia and Africa south of the Sahara, with scores in the serious range (30.9 and 29.4, respectively).

83

Government view. Households that have three meals a day have decreased to 69 per cent from 83 per cent in the Financial Year 2015/2016, according to recent government sector review.

The scores of East and Southeast Asia, the Near East and North Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States range from low to moderate.