

How Sahelians boost
their resilience:

EVIDENCE FROM THE GROUND AND SKY

**Side event and
multimedia exhibition**
on the margins
of the First Session
of the Executive Board

**TUESDAY,
28 FEBRUARY 2023
08:45 – 09:30 AM**

Red Foyer, WFP Headquarters

The exhibition can be visited from
the 27th February to the 10th of March



WFP/en Haut:

Speakers

David Beasley

Executive Director, WFP

Limam Abdawa

Deputy Commissioner for Food Security,
Government of Mauritania

Elke Löbel

Director for Displacement and Migration, Crisis
Prevention and Management, Government of Germany

Chris Nikoi

Regional Director, Western Africa, WFP

Moderator: **George Fominyen**

Chief, Global Media Unit, WFP



CONTEXT

In a region affected by complex and protracted crises, we can tackle the root causes of hunger while responding to immediate needs. With this vision, WFP joined forces with governments and partners to implement an integrated resilience programme across the Sahelian countries of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger. The approach combines land rehabilitation and livelihood activities, school feeding, nutrition interventions, support to smallholder farmers, and institutional capacity strengthening.

Four years into implementation, the programme has become one of WFP's flagship resilience initiatives. It has demonstrated positive outcomes in terms of food security and nutrition, natural regeneration, access to social services and education, women's empowerment and reduction of hardships, as well as social cohesion – all of which are crucial to break the cycle of hunger, reduce humanitarian needs, and pave the way for resilient food systems. Most importantly, beneficiaries' food consumption remained stable or improved in most countries and years despite the various shocks and stressors affecting the region.

Now is the time to multiply our efforts. Building upon the achievements made and lessons learned so far, WFP and partners embark on a second phase of the programme to be implemented over the next five years. The way forward aims to i) consolidate resilience gains and evolve support packages in existing sites, ii) expand activities to new sites, iii) further programme integration by leveraging linkages with social protection and iv) reinforce complementarity with operational partners.

OBJECTIVES

The multi-media exhibition will make the results achieved accessible through high-quality photo and video material telling captivating personal stories, drone shots and satellite imagery showing large-scale land transformation, and WFP's latest virtual reality production allowing to step into a WFP resilience site. Together, the exhibition will tell the story of WFP's resilience work in areas that are difficult to access and are largely underreported. More specifically, the exhibition and opening event aim to:

- Deepen the understanding of WFP's resilience building approach of the organization's flagship programmes.
- Reflect on the need for longer-term programmes to complement and over time reduce the need for humanitarian assistance.
- Take stock of the challenges, achievements and lessons learned since the scale-up of resilience programming in the Sahel.
- Launch the Operational Roadmap (2023-2028) for the Integrated Resilience Programme in the Sahel and inform about WFP's vision for the programme's future.
- Promote stronger complementarity with operational partners to maximize outcomes in terms of access to land, social cohesion, water and energy.

