



World Food
Programme



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CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Operational Plan Global Response to COVID-19 March 2020



World Food Programme

COVID-19: global emergency



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COVID-19: Situation Overview

- Hospitalization and intensive care is required for those with severe symptoms
- Fatality rate globally is 3.4% with peaks of 5%
- Vulnerable populations, including WFP beneficiaries, will be especially impacted by COVID-2019 due to:
 - Poverty/Living conditions
 - Poor health
 - Food insecurity/Malnutrition
 - Scarcity and/or inadequacy of health facilities in residence countries

COVID-19: indirect impact

While battling with the health impact of the virus countries will be facing numerous indirect consequences affecting their:

- Economy
- Social and political instability
- Security
- Supply Chain
- Livelihoods

COVID-19: Economic Impact

Stagnant demand and supply

Food prices plunging

Drop in the stock markets and in government bond yields

Fragile countries with weaker economies and social systems, and those affected by social unrest and terrorism, may face more severe consequences, including upheavals

WFP Operational Plan



1. Ensure the safety and wellness of WFP staff



2. Sustain (and Scale-Up) WFP Operations



3. Leverage WFP Expertise to enable:

- a. Humanitarian response
- b. Health response



4. Work with and support governments to maintain commercial supply chains

Actions



1. STAFF WELLNESS and SAFETY

- Continue to test and improve business continuity plan globally to minimize contagion risk for our staff, while continuing to support our operations globally.
- Procure protection equipment needed to continue operations.
- Review policies to ensure staff wellness and safety globally.

Actions



2. SUSTAIN WFP OPERATIONS

- Procure and preposition three-month stocks as close as possible to our beneficiaries.
- Prepare for potential changes in delivery mechanisms (cash-based transfers/in-kind) in anticipation of any eventuality.
- Reinforce and establish regional staging areas, capitalizing on the existing network and establishing additional strategic hubs as needed, in coordination with partners.

Actions



3. ENABLE THE HUMANITARIAN and HEALTH RESPONSE

- Ensure supply corridors remain open and ensure effective transport of cargo and personnel.
- Secure dedicated & strategic aviation services, charter vessels, overland fleet to ensure continued movement of humanitarian and health cargo between global, regional and country hubs when commercial traffic is impacted.
- Preposition of emergency supplies to support operations scale up.

Actions



4. ADVISE AND SUPPORT GOVERNMENTS

- Develop a framework to guide the engagement with authorities.
- Evaluate on a case-by-case basis with governments and health partners whether WFP food assistance is required to support the health effort to reduce transmission and provide optimal treatment.
- Review with authorities current corridor capacities and put in place actions to ensure airports, ports, and border crossings remain open for commercial and humanitarian cargo.

WFP competitive advantage

WFP can offer the humanitarian and health community the most far reaching platforms of comprehensive services capitalizing on:

- **Deep field footprint**
- **Global logistics network**
- **Clusters leadership**
- **Enabler role**
- **Expansive partners network**

Country prioritization

CATEGORY 1

High fragility countries with weak health systems, low preparedness, low capacity to cope (lower income), weak logistics performance, and large-scale WFP lifesaving operations.

(including Level 2/3 emergencies & top 10 operations)

CATEGORY 2

Medium fragility countries with smaller WFP operations more focused on resilience that will require capacity reinforcement if asked to support humanitarian, health and government partners

CATEGORY 3

Countries without WFP operations or with small-scale resilience/root cause operations, but where there is a likelihood for WFP to be asked to provide additional support or services

CATEGORY 4

Countries where we are not likely to intervene unless called upon by the community

Implemented actions

1. Established Special Account (advance financing USD 10 ml)
2. Mobilized USD 4.5 ml through the wellness fund for purchase of Office Hygiene Items
3. Identified 70 staff as first wave to deploy globally to key countries and corridors
4. Critical analysis of programme needs and pipelines globally
5. Established a dedicated Cell, in coordination with key divisions in HQ and Regional Bureaux
6. Deployed staff to the interagency cell dedicated to health supply chain for COVID-19, established within WHO
7. Appointed the Senior Director of Operations as Global COVID-19 Coordinator

Implemented actions

8. Validated Operational Plan with Regional Directors

9. Analysing to inform planning, response adjustments and preparedness measures

- Remote vulnerability monitoring

- Economic analysis to understand impact of COVID-19, at the national level

10. Reviewing delivery mechanisms and engagement and awareness-raising with beneficiaries and cooperating partners

11. Reviewing distribution modalities – shifts between cash and in-kind transfer modalities will also be supported if and where needed

Needs

1. **WFP needs 1.9 bn to meet the 3-months prepositioning pipeline requirements**
2. **Flexible Funding**
3. **Advance Financing**