

## **Eastern Africa, Regional Overview**

Michael Dunford, Regional Director for Eastern Africa (RBN) First Regular Session of the WFP Executive Board SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

## EASTERN AFRICA OVERVIEW



Nearly **58M** food insecure across Eastern Africa



**Conflict**, **natural hazards** and **economic shocks** are intersecting to drive food insecurity regionally

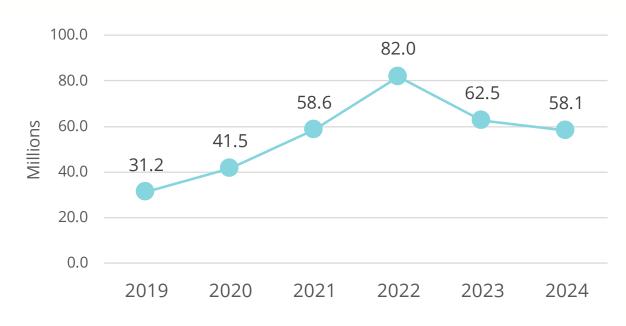


Nearly **19M** people forcibly displacedexacerbated by Sudan crisis



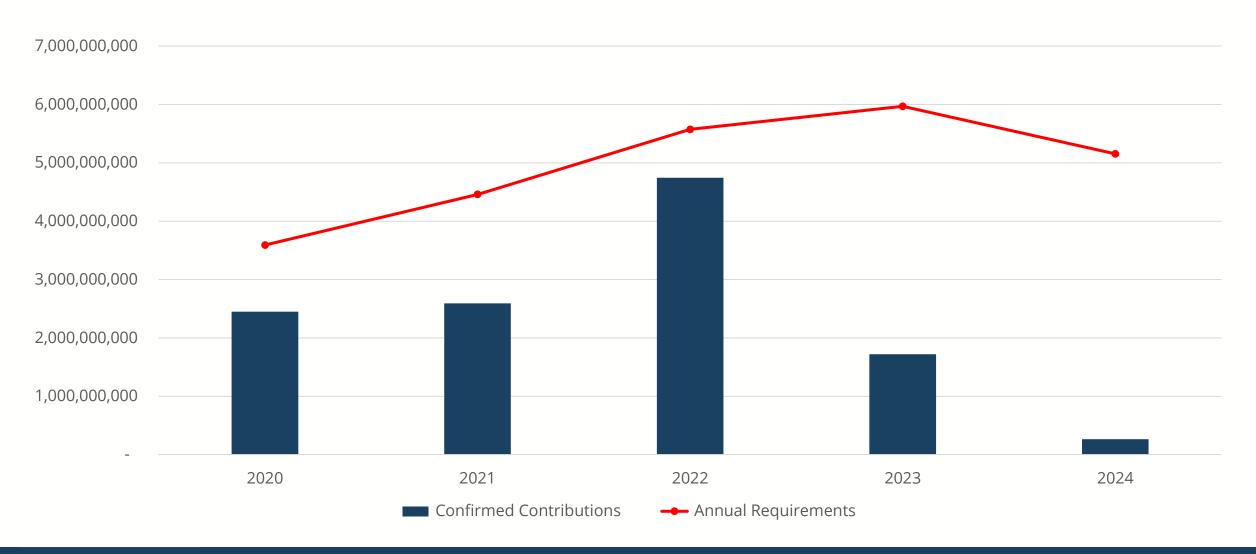
Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan among the most severe global food crises

#### **FOOD INSECURITY TRENDS SINCE 2019**



The number of food insecure people in Eastern Africa nearly **DOUBLED** in only 5 years (2019-2024)

# FUNDING ANNUAL REQUIREMENTS VS CONFIRMED CONTRIBUTIONS



### THE IMPLICATIONS OF PRIORITIZATION IN EASTERN AFRICA

#### **EFFECTS ON HUNGER**



Reduction in assistance risks **moving households from IPC3 to IPC4** in 2024 with an expected **30% increase in hunger** 

#### **EFFECTS ON BENEFICIARIES**



**Ethiopia**, **Somalia**, **Sudan** and **Uganda** have been forced to reduce the number of beneficiaries

10 million beneficiaries will be excluded due to prioritisation



**74%** Reduction



**48%** Reduction



UGANDA

31%
Reduction



SUDAN

9%
Reduction

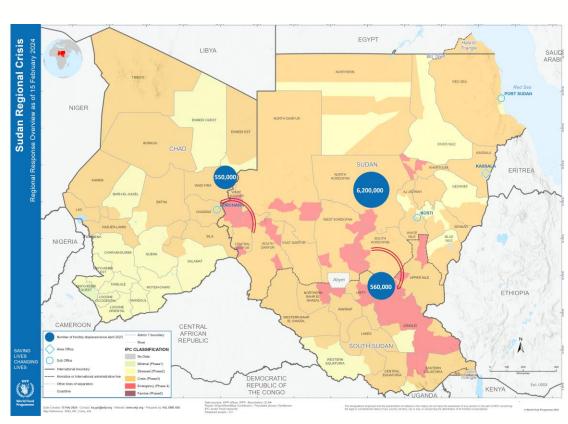


- **18 million** acutely food insecure, up from **9 million** in 2022. Lean season approaching.
- World's largest displacement crisis. 6 million new IDPs since April on top of 3 million pre-existing.
- Persistent challenges around humanitarian access, bureaucratic impediments, security.
- WFP assisted **6.9 million people** since April 2023 but can now only reach 1 out of 10 acutely food insecure Sudanese.
- Risk of becoming forgotten crisis urgent establishment of lasting ceasefire and cross-border assistance critical.



## SUDAN REGIONAL CRISIS

- Conflict further undermines security and stability in an already volatile regional context.
- Nearly 1.7 million people fled to neighbouring countries (CAR, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia and South Sudan) with limited absorption capacity.
- Crisis fuelled by geopolitical drivers: Shifting relationships in the Gulf; Gaza conflict; insecurity in the Red Sea increasingly interlinked and impact the Horn.
- Sudan's economic collapse and trade disruptions will continue to lead to commodity price spikes affecting regional food security.
- Regional response at scale required to prevent spreading food insecurity and displacement.





- Nearly 16 million in need of life-saving relief food assistance. WFP reached over 1.2 million since resumption on 9 December 2023.
- WFP deeply concerned about deteriorating food insecurity in Tigray and other parts of Northern Ethiopia.
- WFP has reinforced controls through a comprehensive Reassurance Project addressing end-to-end processes.
- Dire humanitarian situation reaffirms the need for life saving assistance.





- 4 M people face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC3+) between Jan–March 2024.
- Devastating floods now affected 2.4 million people and displaced 1.2 million across the country.
- Investments in longer-term, climate smart solutions are critical to change lives - WFP partner of choice to the Government.
- Ongoing multi-phased drawdown of the foreign military force (ATMIS) may lead to a rise in localized violence by Al-Shabab and other armed groups.
- Recent MoU signed between Somaliland and Ethiopia is fuelling regional tensions.



## FORCED DISPLACEMENT

- Millions on the move: nearly 19M forcibly displaced regionally, up from 16M in January 2023.
- Displaced hosted in some of the most food insecure countries in the world. 88% of forcibly displaced globally are in low- and middle-income countries.
- Food ration cuts of up to 70 percent affect all refugees in the region (except new arrivals in some operations).
- Aiming to support **4.4 million** refugees outstanding shortfall of **USD 360 million** the next 6 months.
- Regional leadership in self-reliance and social protection for protracted populations with UNHCR.



## **BRIGHT SPOTS FROM THE REGION**



**Launch of R&D Lab** 



Flagship Partnership with the Novo Nordisk Foundation



**Sustainable Supply Chain** 



**Evidence-based Targeting** and Prioritization



**Partnerships for Research** 

