



Induction session – School Meals and Social Protection

2024 October



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

School Meals & Social Protection Service

Carmen Burbano
Director

SOCIAL PROTECTION
Giulia Baldi
Head of Unit

Support Regional Bureaux and Country Offices to strengthen national social protection systems for Zero Hunger

SCHOOL MEALS
Peter Holtsberg
Head of Unit

Strengthening programmatic approaches in key areas

SMC DATA & MONITORING INITIATIVE
Marekh Khmaladze
Head of Unit

Sharing knowledge and best practice globally

Ensuring Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning on school meal programmes

SMC SECRETARIAT
Maria Jose Rojas
Head of Unit

Increase sustainable financing for school meals

Position School Health and Nutrition in Global & Regional Agendas

Supporting the coordination of the global School Meals Coalition

SCHOOL MEALS COALITION (SMC)

School Meals and School Meals Coalition

WFP's School Feeding Strategy

WFP'S GOAL: Ensure that all primary schoolchildren have access to good quality meals in school, accompanied by a broader integrated package of health and nutrition services

In crisis or humanitarian settings

WFP will scale up its operational support and strengthen their quality

In stable low and lower middle-income countries

WFP will support the transition and scale up of national programmes

In middle-income countries

WFP will support the consolidation and strengthening of national programmes

At corporate level, four workstreams will support the implementation of the strategy:

Workstream 1 – Sharing knowledge and best practice globally

Workstream 2 – Resources. Increasing the investment in school feeding – a new funding model

Workstream 3 – Acting in partnership to improve and advocate for school health and nutrition

Workstream 4 – Focus areas. Strengthening programmatic approaches in key areas

Strategy [available HERE](#)

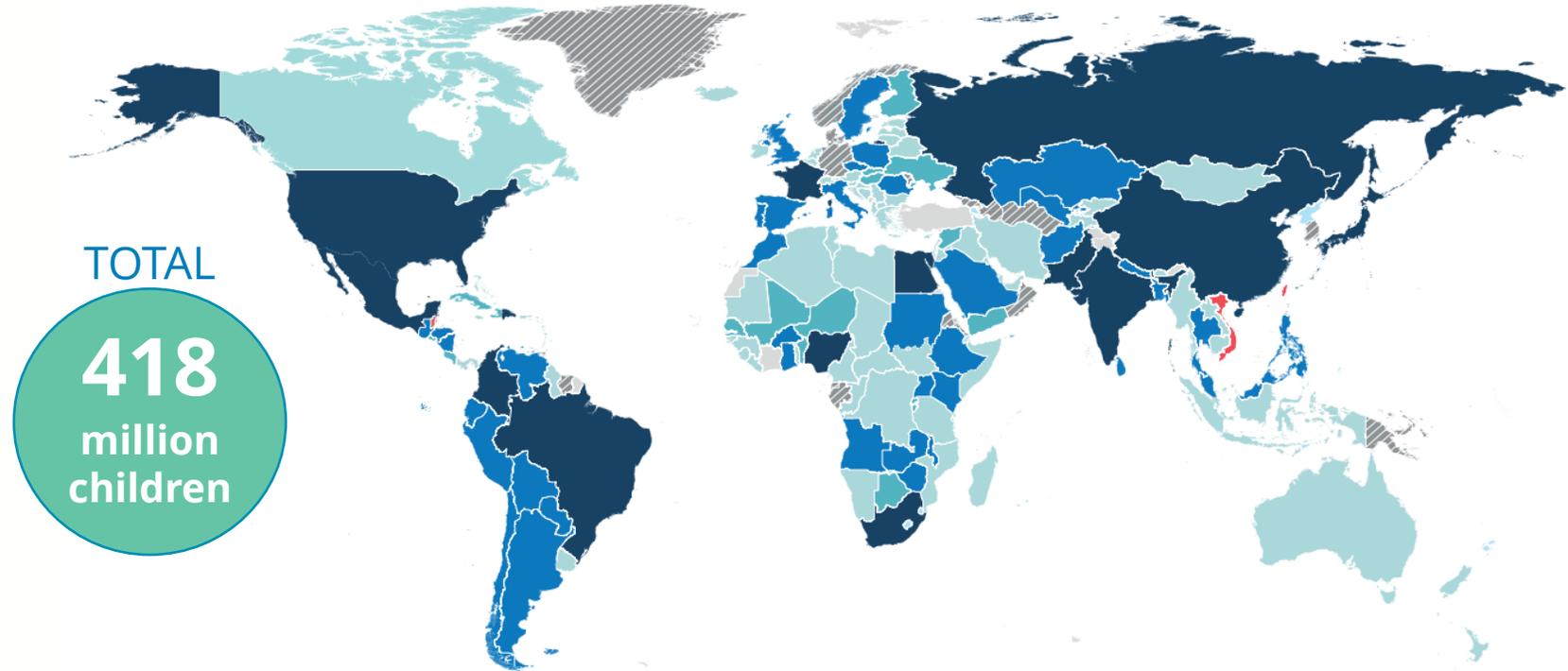
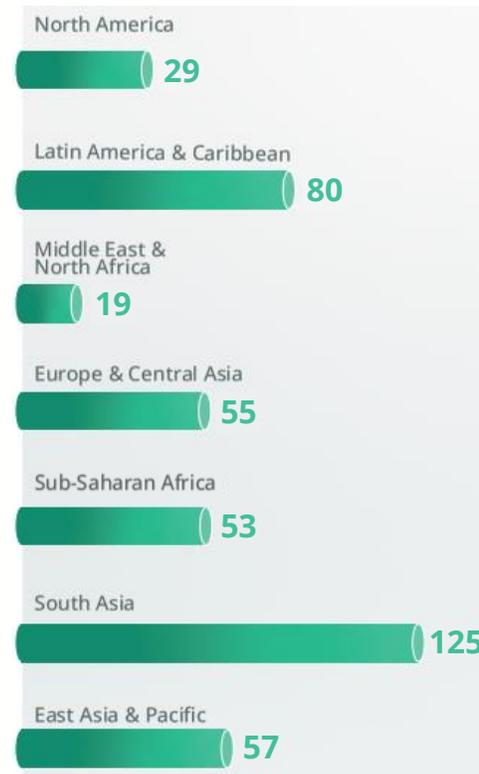
In 2022 school meals have been restored and are expanding to get children back to school and learning; provide a vital safety net for families; and support more sustainable food systems

The following data is available on the State of School Feeding Worldwide 2022:

<https://www.wfp.org/publications/state-school-feeding-worldwide-2022>

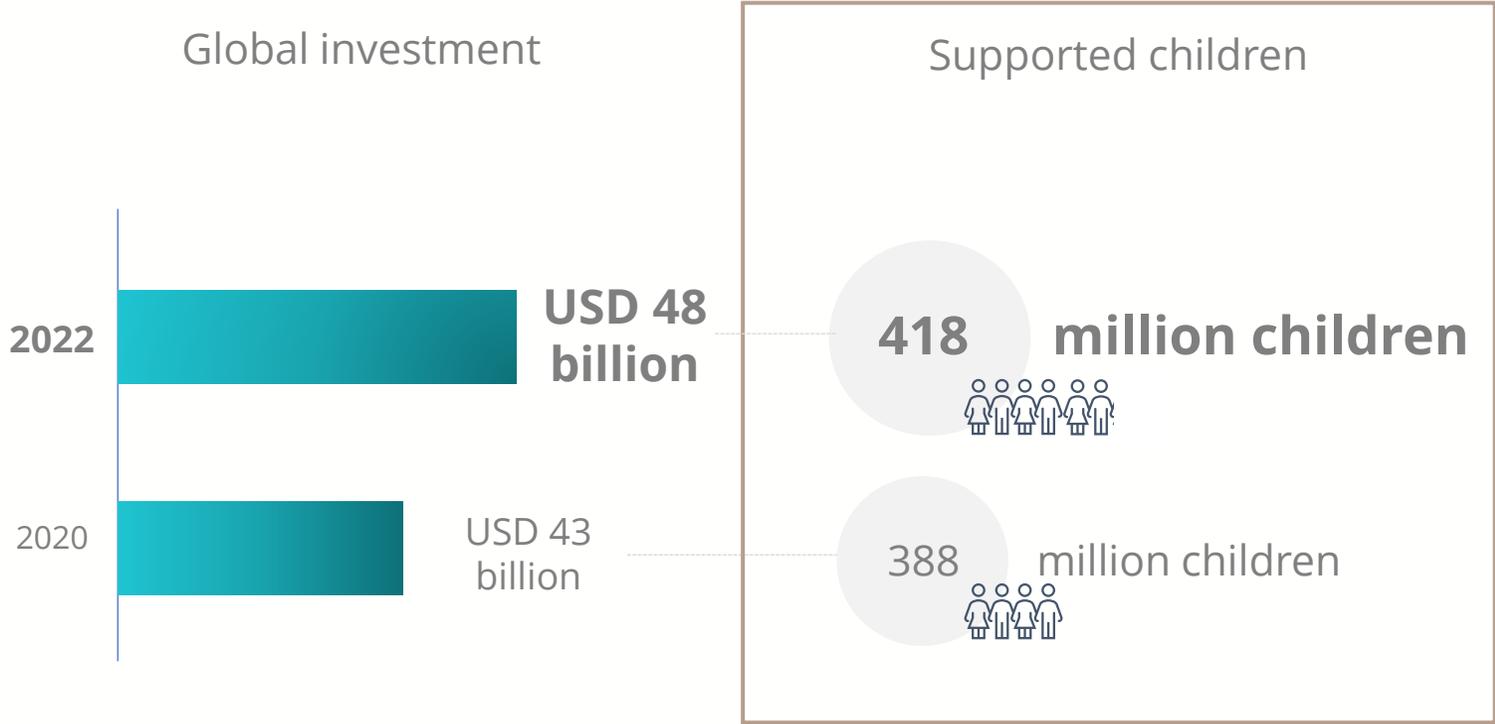
In 2022, 418 million children receiving school meals, up from 388 million in early 2020

► *Map: Children receiving school meals around the world*



**The graphs in this presentation can be found in State of School Feeding Worldwide 2022 available at <https://www.wfp.org/publications/state-school-feeding-worldwide-2022>. Data includes a large contribution from the Global Child Nutrition Foundation. Data was also provided by the World Bank, WFP and the African Union.*

Global investment increased by USD 5 billion (from USD 43 billion to USD 48 billion) 99% of it domestic

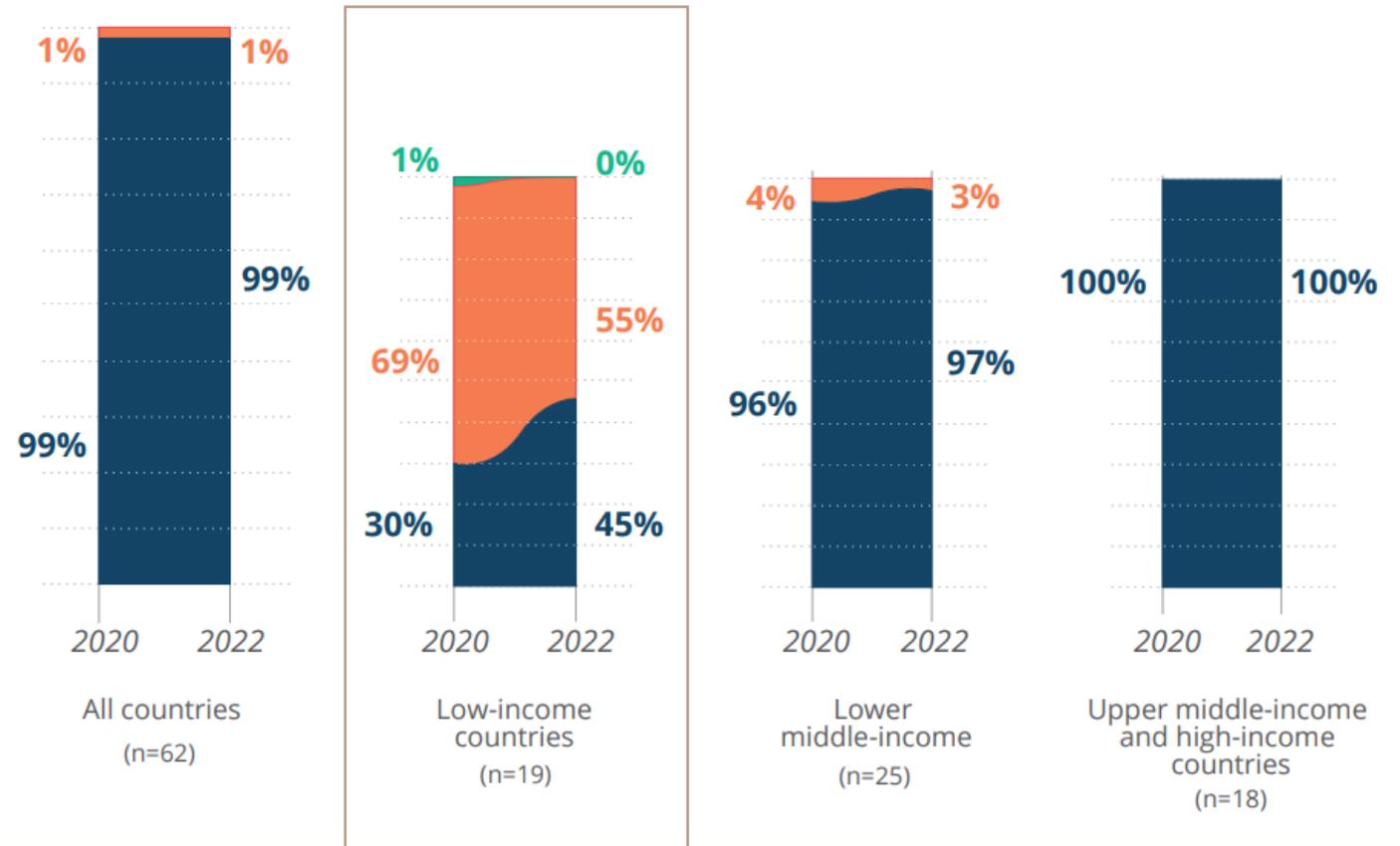


Low-income countries have increased their domestic financing - currently spend \$392 million

► Breakdown of aggregate expenditure by source of funding in 2020 and 2022

● International donors ● National budget expenditure ● National donors and private sector

Low-income countries have increased their investment by 15% despite fiscal crunch

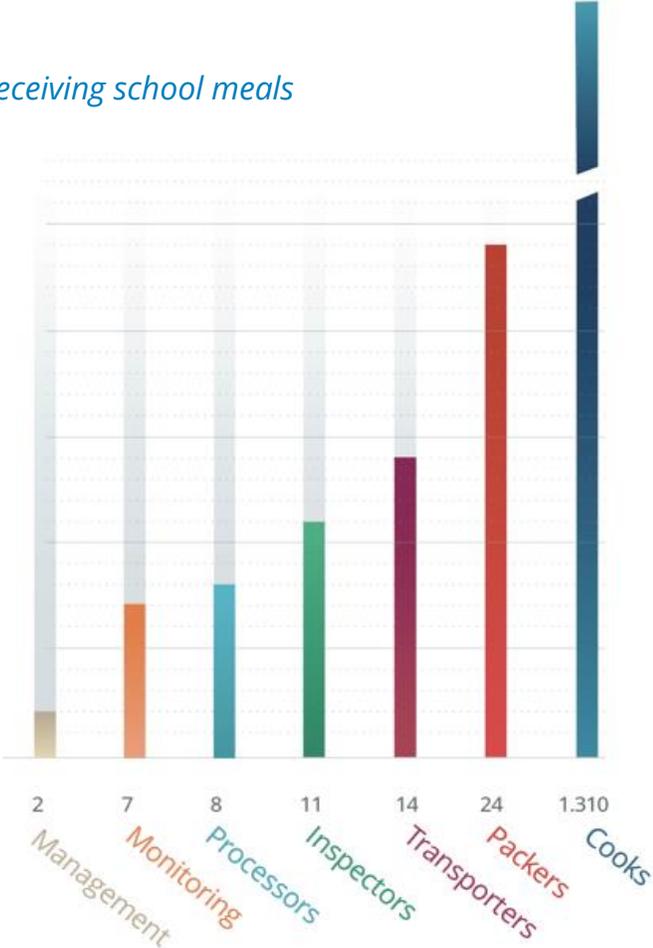


School meal programmes have created about four million direct jobs in 85 countries, most of them for women

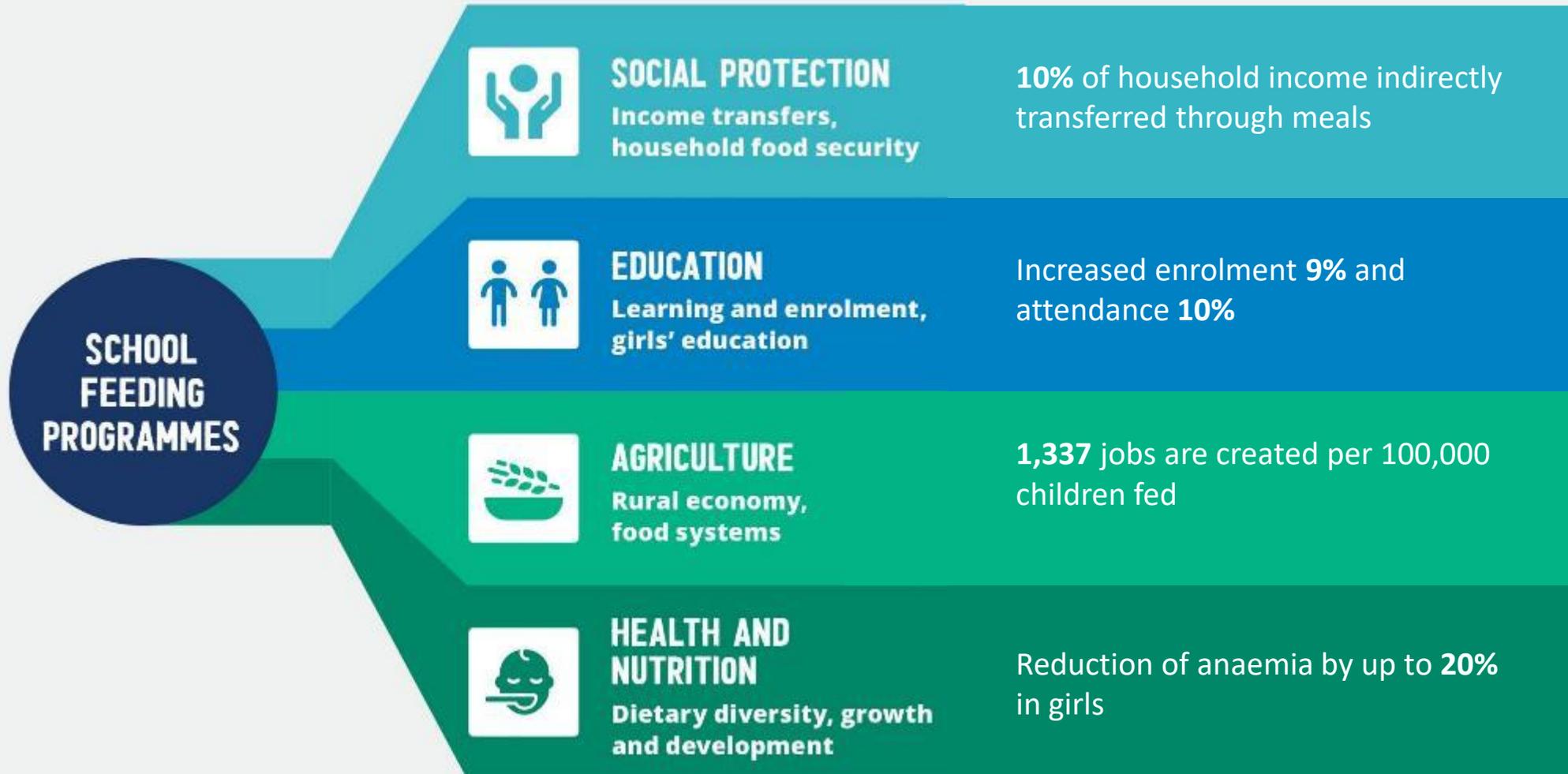
► Jobs created for every 100,000 children receiving school meals

4 million
Jobs

1,377 jobs created for every 100,000 children fed



The transformative potential of school meal programmes

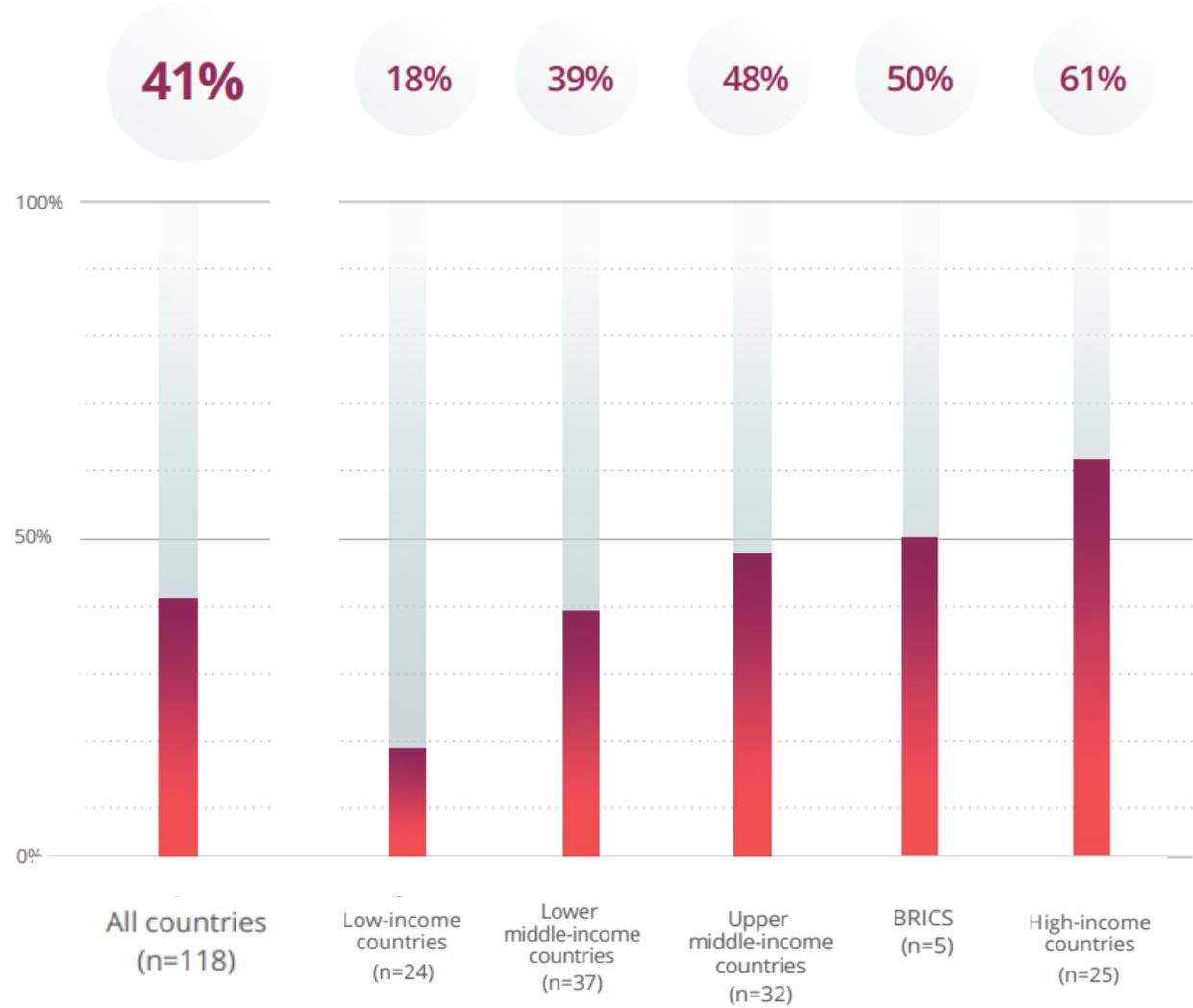


Despite this progress coverage is lowest where it is needed the most

Coverage remains lowest in low-income countries



Coverage in 2022, as a percentage of primary school children, by income category

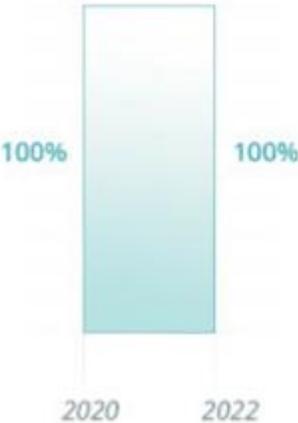


The increase in domestic funding is offset by a decrease in donor funding

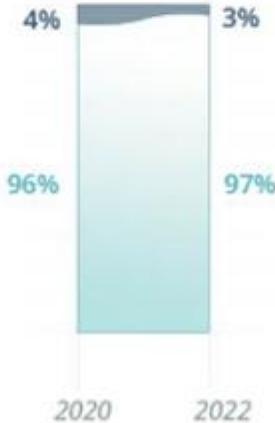
► Breakdown of aggregate expenditure by source of funding in 2020 and 2022

● National budget expenditure ● International Donors

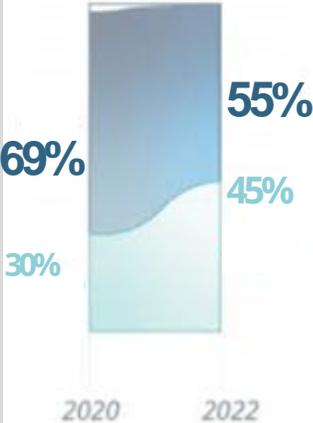
Upper middle-income countries



Lower middle-income and high-income countries



Low-income countries



-6%

Reduction of international donors



To tackle these challenges countries are rallying behind the School Meals Coalition to drive global momentum and accelerate change at national level

The Global School Meals Coalition Goals and Objectives

GOAL Every child has the opportunity to receive a healthy, nutritious meal in school by 2030

OBJECTIVES

1

Restore what we had (by 2023):

Support all countries to re-establish effective school meal programmes and repair what was lost during the pandemic.

2

Reach those we missed (by 2030):

Reach the most vulnerable, in low and lower middle-income countries, that were not being reached even before. Increase efficiency of programs to enable countries become more self-reliant.

3

Improve our approach (by 2030):

Improve quality and efficiency of existing school meals programmes in all countries by facilitating a healthy food environment and promoting safe, nutritious and sustainably produced food, diverse and balanced diets linking to local and seasonal production, where appropriate.

A government led Coalition with big momentum

103 countries have joined

Regional Bodies (3): African Union; ECOWAS; European Union / East Asia and the Pacific (9): Cambodia; China; Japan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Mongolia; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Thailand; Timor Leste / Europe & Central Asia (19): Armenia; Belgium, Denmark, Finland; France; Georgia; Germany; Iceland; Italy; Kyrgyz Republic; Latvia; Luxembourg; Monaco; Norway; Poland; Spain; Sweden; Tajikistan; Ukraine / Latin America and the Caribbean (20): Argentina; Belize; Bolivia; Brazil; Chile; Colombia; Cuba; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; El Salvador; Guatemala; Guyana; Haiti; Honduras; Mexico; Panama; Peru; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Suriname; Uruguay / Middle East & North Africa (7): Egypt; Iraq; Jordan; Lebanon; Libya; Morocco; United Arab Emirates / North America (2): Canada; United States / South Asia (5): Bangladesh, Bhutan; Nepal; Pakistan; Sri Lanka / Sub-Saharan Africa (41): Angola; Benin; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Chad; Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo; Djibouti; Ethiopia; Eswatini; Gambia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea Bissau; Kenya; Lesotho; Liberia; Madagascar; Malawi; Mali; Mauritania; Mozambique; Namibia; Niger; Nigeria; Republic of Congo; Rwanda; Sao Tome and Principe; Senegal; Sierra Leone; Somalia; South Africa; South Sudan; Sudan; Tanzania; Togo; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe.

132 partners are supporting governments

from academia, NGO's, civil society, international financial institutions, multilateral development banks and the UN.

48 Countries have put forward national commitments

Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Dominican Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, USA and Zambia.

WFP is proud to host the Secretariat of the Coalition and leverages its presence through country, regional and global offices to support government efforts.



More information at: <https://schoolmealscoalition.org/>

Government early successes with the Coalition



President Lula da Silva of Brazil committed to exercising global leadership on school meals as co-chair School Meals Coalition's Task Force and through international cooperation.



President William Ruto of Kenya committed to introduce universal coverage, meaning a scale up from 1.8 million to 10 million children by 2030. The country is incorporating school meals into its national climate change efforts, integrating planet-friendly measures such as clean cooking initiatives.



President Paul Kagame of Rwanda scaled up the national school meals program from 660,000 million children in 2020 to 3.8 million children in 2022.



Government of Sri Lanka committed to establishing a sustainable financing initiative by 2030, featuring a cross-ministerial budget line for the school meal program and increasing the annual allocation from US\$61 million to US\$204 million. The target includes all public schools, covering Grades 1 to 9 (ages 5-14).



Government of Tajikistan committed to double the budget for school meals for the school year 2023/2024 and to reach more than 50% of primary students with nutritious hot meals by 2027.



President Biden of USA of the United States announced in 2022 the provision of US\$1 billion in additional funds to national school meals.



Government of France will expand initiatives like the "1€ school meal" and "free school breakfast". France has increased financial support for school feeding in vulnerable countries and commits to maintaining or exceeding the 2024 funding level.



Federal Government of Germany committed €22 million in multi-year funding to support holistic home-grown school feeding programmes in Laos and Sierra Leone to catalyze food systems transformation, promote clean cooking in schools and advance gender equity.



Government of Norway committed to support a US\$40 million multi-year funded project that aims to leverage home-grown school meals to accelerate food systems transformation in Ethiopia, Malawi and Niger.



Government of United Arab Emirates launched their School Meals Initiative, aimed at providing free nutritious school meals to all students in public schools within the next two years, moving from 0% to 100% national coverage.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

Social Protection and Zero Hunger

- National social protection programmes—cash transfers, school meals, in-kind food distributions—are key tools in reducing poverty and hunger at scale
- There is evidence that social protection has reduced extreme poverty **by 36%**
- In 2024, **one in ten** out of the world's population (783 million people) goes to bed hungry
- There are **increasing** food security and nutrition needs driven by conflict, climate shocks and inequalities.
- WFP provides direct food and nutrition assistance to **152 million** people
- By supporting national governments to strengthen their social protection systems, WFP can contribute to scale up efforts to reach zero hunger

The Global Social Protection 'Challenge'

“For the first time, more than half of the world’s population (**52.4%**) are covered by some form of social protection. While this is welcome progress, the unvarnished reality is that **3.8 billion** people are still entirely unprotected.”

Source: [World Social Protection Report 2024-2026: Universal social protection for climate action and just transition](#)

The Global Social Protection 'Challenge'

The world is currently on two very different **social protection trajectories**



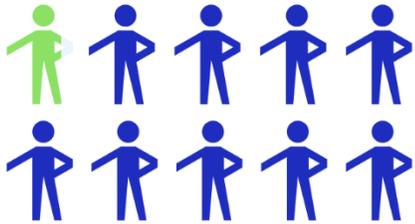
For low-income countries to reach a basic level of social protection they would need to invest

US\$308.5 billion per year



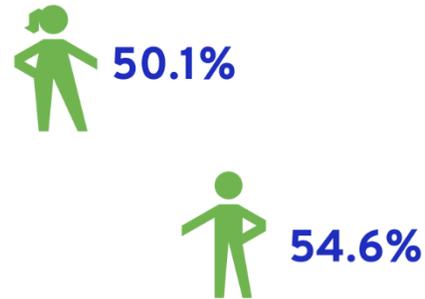
The following data is available on the [World Social Protection Report 2024-2026: Universal social protection for climate action and just transition](#)

The Global Social Protection 'Challenge'



Less than **1 in every 10 persons** has access to social protection in the 20 countries most vulnerable to climate change

Gender gaps in effective social protection coverage:

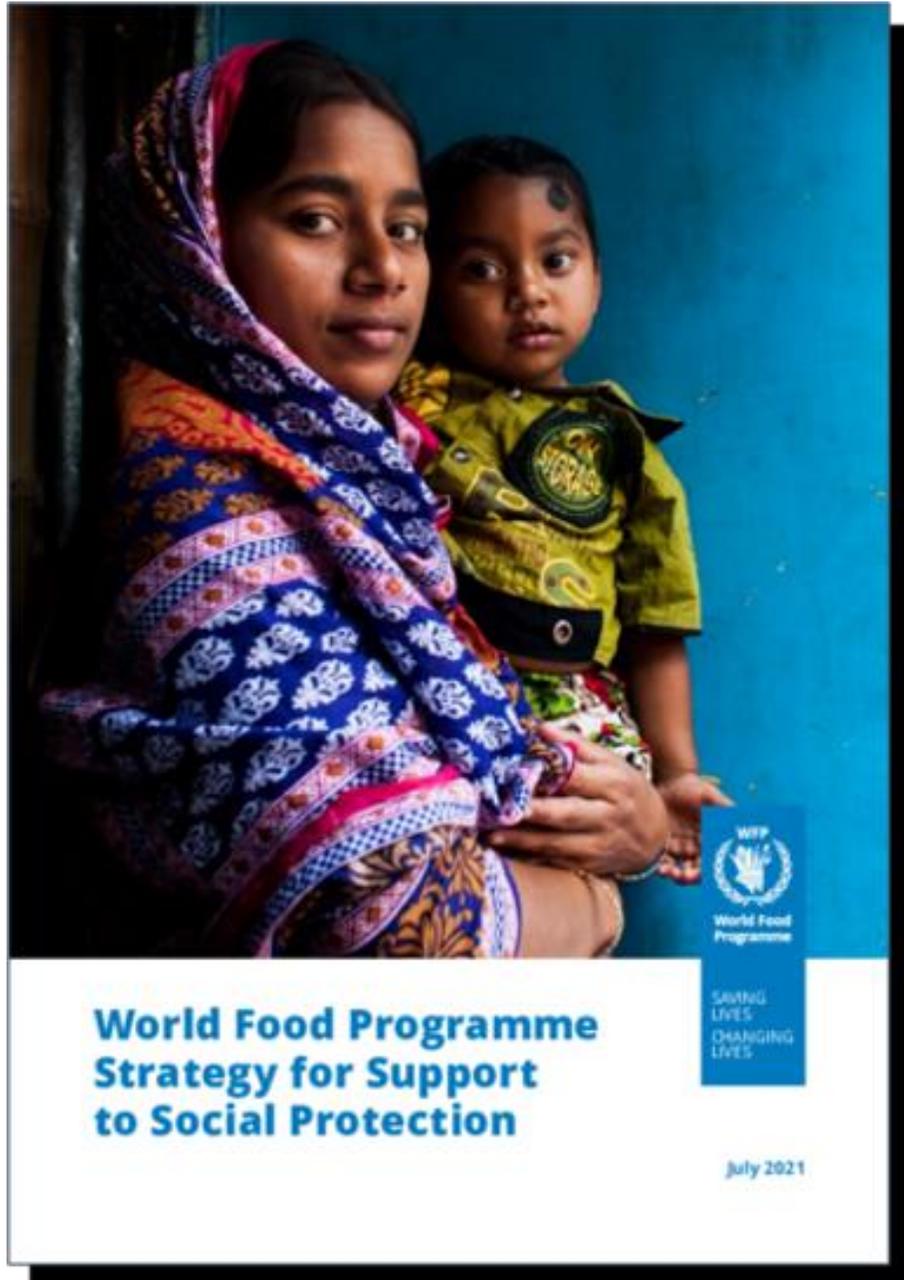


Only **1 out of 4 people** are covered by social protection in the 50 countries most vulnerable to climate change

The following data is available on the [World Social Protection Report 2024-2026: Universal social protection for climate action and just transition](#)

Our corporate strategy

WFP's vision is that by 2030 people will have substantially increased access to national social protection systems that safeguard and foster their ability to meet their food security, nutrition and associated essential needs, and to manage the risks and shocks they face



Scan to access our Strategy



Two interlinked priorities & four areas of work

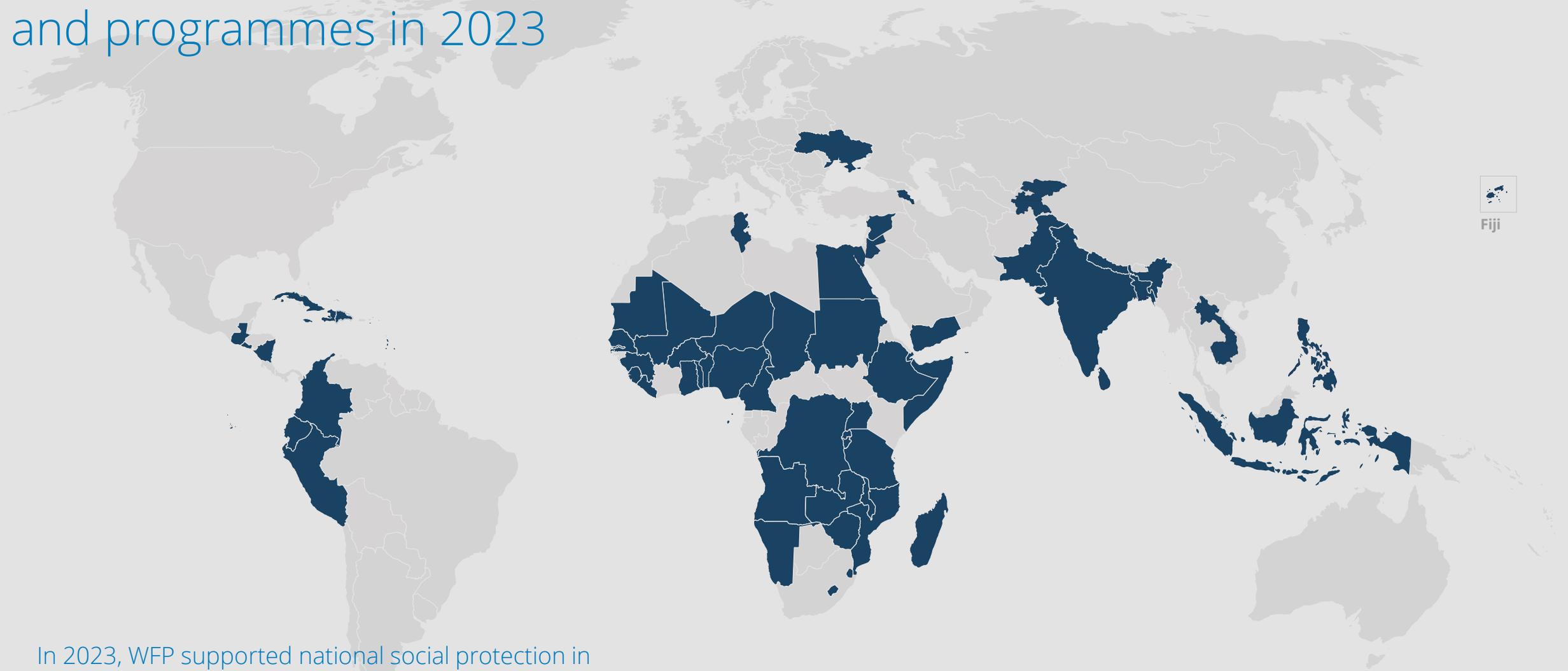
Social protection that helps people to:

- 1** meet their food security, nutrition and associated essential needs
- 2** manage risks and shocks

How do we implement our strategy?

1. Contribute to strengthening **the national social protection system architecture**
2. Support enhancements to the **quantity and quality** of the national social protection programming
3. Collaboration, coherence, and complementarity **across the nexus**
4. Build social protection **partnership** and **evidence** globally

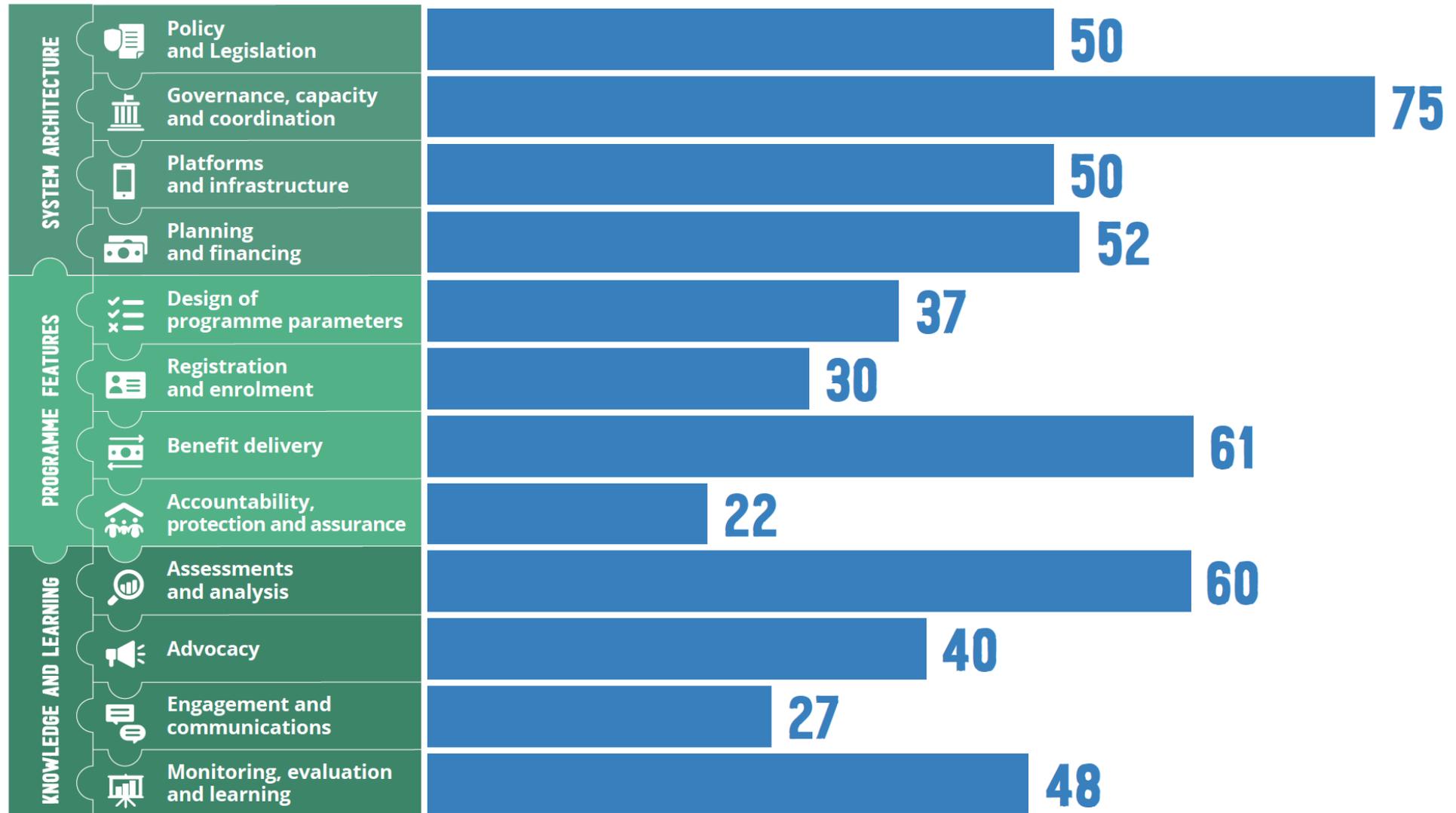
WFP supported nationally led social protection systems and programmes in 2023



In 2023, WFP supported national social protection in

98 COUNTRIES

No. of countries and how WFP supported social protection in 2023



**Implementing
the strategy
and tailoring to
context:
Country
examples**



Enhancing the largest food-based social protection programme in India

In **India**, WFP helps the government to improve the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) which ensures the food and nutrition security of vulnerable people every month.

- **Type of support:** subsidized grains such as wheat, rice, and millet
- **Coverage: Over 834 million** programme participants
- **WFP's support:** Supply chain optimisation, digitisation and automation, piloting innovative solutions and strengthening government staff capacities



Supporting nutrition-sensitive social protection in Pakistan

WFP partnered with the government to implement the **Benazir Nashonuma Programme**, aimed at preventing stunting during the first 1,000 days. WFP provides technical oversight, collaborating with the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) and government health departments.

- **Programme Participants:** children (6-23 months) and pregnant and breastfeeding women from the poorest households.
- **Type of Support:** conditional cash transfers, health services, and nutritious foods.
- **Coverage:** 158 of 171 districts nationwide; the programme aims to reach **1.7 million** women and children by June 2024.



Establishing a national social protection programme in Somalia

The government, WFP and partners rapidly built a social protection system from scratch, with WFP implementing and strengthening the nationwide Shock-Responsive Safety Net for Human Capital Project (SNHCP), also known as Baxnaano, on the government's behalf.

- **Coverage:** 200k households across 893 villages in 21 districts, or 1.2 million people (2023)
- **Types of support:** cash-based transfers and contributing to improved food security, self-reliance and resilience to shocks.
- **Women** have been identified as the **primary recipients**.
- WFP provides capacity strengthening to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and is aiming to making the programme more nutrition-sensitive.



A healthy meal
→ every day for
every child.



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