WFP Global Operational Response Plan 2023
Update #8

June 2023
The largest food and nutrition crisis in history continues to deepen its impact. This year, 345 million people are acutely food insecure, while hundreds of millions of people are at risk of worsening hunger.

Cries further intensify the existing inequalities: the gender gap in food insecurity continues to widen to the detriment of women.

An estimated 40.4 million people across 51 countries are in Emergency or worse levels of acute food insecurity in 2023. Without urgent life-saving action, these populations will be at risk of falling into catastrophe or famine conditions.

The numbers of children suffering from malnutrition is overwhelming: globally, a staggering 45 million children under 5 years of age are estimated to suffer from acute malnutrition.

This year, at least 129,000 people are expected to experience famine in Burkina Faso, Mali, Somalia and South Sudan. This is a significant decrease compared to the estimates of the February edition of this report, not least as a result of the prompt scale-up of humanitarian assistance. These gains risk being lost this year, due to funding gaps and consequent cuts in assistance.

Conflicts, climate change and disasters, economic instability and financial crises – all compounded by the current funding crisis – converge in an overwhelming polycrisis driving the global food crisis.

Executive Summary

THE CRISIS IS DEEPENING ITS IMPACT

WFP continues saving and changing lives

• Between January and March 2023, WFP assisted 94 million people with food, cash and commodity vouchers. This is 10 million more people than the same period last year.
• In many situations people have been assisted with partial rations, reflecting the trade-offs country offices needed to make given unprecedented needs.
• As of 2 June, WFP plans to reach 171.5 million people with full rations for the remainder of this year. This is an increase of 21.9 million people as compared to the February edition of this report.
• WFP's current projected operational requirements for 2023 amount to US$ 25.1 billion. Currently forecasted contributions are at US$ 10 billion, representing a staggering funding shortfall exceeding 60 percent.
• On the ground, this gap translates into hard prioritization calls for country offices, forced to reduce the number of people assisted or reduce the quality of assistance – or both.
• A hungry world is an unstable world; most areas WFP works in are already conflict-ridden, and cutting rations and caseloads risks fuelling instability and posing security risks towards humanitarian partners.

• The Immediate Response Account (IRA) plays an increasing role in enabling timely response in underfunded and sudden onset emergencies, most recently supporting the scale up in Sudan. This year, as of June, WFP has allocated over US$ 206 million from the IRA.

Appeal to decision makers and stakeholders

• Prioritize flexible and non-earmarked contributions to allow WFP to rapidly respond to emergencies: country offices will increasingly need to rely on the Immediate Response Account (IRA) as the "last resort" to fund life-saving activities. The account is depleted down to a critical minimum, urgently needing additional contributions.

• Invest in early warning and anticipatory action: More priority needs to be given to how early warning and anticipatory action can not only protect lives and livelihoods in advance of humanitarian crises, but also reduce their duration and cost.

• Support the strengthening of National Systems: National governments are critical actors in any given crisis, with a reach often extending far beyond that of humanitarian actors. Investing in and supporting nationally owned emergency preparedness, local food, and social protection systems offers WFP a cost-effective means to ensure that immediate needs are met.

• Engage to break the vicious cycle of the polycrisis: Conflicts, climate change and disasters, economic instability and financial fallouts – compounded by the current funding crisis – these factors all converge as drivers and exacerbators of a multifaceted polycrisis. WFP calls on decision makers and stakeholders to support WFP's efforts with partners to scale-up integrated resilience programming; this will contribute to addressing structural drivers of hunger, lifting communities from recurrent cycles of food crisis - and ultimately reducing the burden of humanitarian needs.
Section I: The Global Food Crisis

THE CRISIS DEEPENS

There is no doubt that WFP faces a year like no other – needs are persistently dire, while the current funding gaps are exceeding an overwhelming 60 percent - the highest ever recorded in our 6-decade history.

The world is witnessing the largest food and nutrition crises in modern history, with deepening impacts and dire consequences for millions of people. The outlook for 2023 continues to look alarming, with the crisis spanning all regions, affecting both rural and urban populations, and resulting in high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition. As many as 828 million people do not know where their next meal is coming from.4

2023 is being marked by very hard prioritization calls to be made across all operations. Prioritization – or having to cut rations, case loads, and activities – will lead to an exacerbation of acute food insecurity, and also pose security and safety threats for our staff and partners on the ground.

The drivers and exacerbators of the current crisis are multifaceted, ranging from conflicts and insecurity, climate change and disasters, to economic instability and financial fallout – intensified by a funding crisis that is hampering our ability to meet humanitarian needs. These compounding factors together form a global polycrisis underscoring the urgent need for concerted efforts to address this protracted challenge. In both developing and developed nations, food price inflation persists, accompanied by mounting debt distress in several developing economies amid an expected slow-down of the global economy.

In this context, hundreds of millions of people are at risk of worsening hunger. The grim estimate of the 2023 Global Humanitarian Overview persists: one out of every 23 people on the planet needs humanitarian assistance, a doubling over four years.7 The June – November Hunger Hotspots report10 released in May warns that acute food insecurity is likely to deteriorate further in 18 hunger hotspots – comprising a total of 22 countries. The drivers and impact of this crisis are exacerbated by gender and social inequalities. Women are disproportionately affected due to the deeply entrenched structural inequalities and normative barriers that limit their resilience and ability to respond effectively.11

Fresh estimates from the 79 countries where WFP has an operational presence and where data is available indicate that 345 million people are acutely food insecure in 2023.12 This is an increase of almost 200 million people compared to pre-pandemic levels (early 2020). In many countries, COVID-19 and the ripple effects of the unabated conflict in Ukraine exacerbated pre-existing needs, pushing more people into food insecurity. Crises further intensify the existing inequalities: the gender gap in food insecurity continues to widen to the detriment of women.13

An estimated 40.4 million people across 51 countries14 are in Emergency or worse levels of acute food insecurity in 2023.15

Without urgent life-saving action, these populations will be at risk of falling into catastrophic or famine conditions.16

In 2023, at least 129,000 people are expected to experience Catastrophic conditions (IPC/PHase 5). They are concentrated in 4 countries: Burkina Faso, Mali, Somalia, and South Sudan. This is a decrease compared to the February Global Operational Response Plan, where 846,000 were estimated to be in Catastrophic conditions in 7 countries. This reduction in people experiencing famine-like conditions has been achieved also as a result of the prompt scale-up of humanitarian assistance. These gains now risk being lost this year, due to funding gaps and consequent cuts in assistance.

THE NUTRITION CRISIS CONTINUES

The global food crisis is also a global malnutrition crisis. The needs for nutrition treatment and prevention services remain staggering as 45 million children under 5 years of age are estimated to suffer from acute malnutrition.17 Around 45 percent of children deaths are linked directly or indirectly to malnutrition.

In East Africa, levels of acute malnutrition are expected to remain high (above 15 percent) in different regions regardless of the performance of the ongoing rainfall season in the Horn of Africa18 in Sudan, even before the recent conflict escalation, 10 out of the 18 states recorded global acute malnutrition (GAM) levels above the 15 percent emergency threshold.19 The nutrition situation among Sudanese refugees arriving in Chad, South Sudan and Ethiopia is also dire with more than 20 percent of newly arrived children acutely malnourished.20 In the region, 11.4 million children are projected to be acutely malnourished in 2023 in only 5 countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, and South Sudan).21

In the DRC, where WFP has declared a Corporate Scale-Up Emergency on 1 June, acute malnutrition is a persistent public health problem, affecting approximately 3.6 million people, including almost a million children in its most severe form.22 In West Africa, the nutrition situation continues to deteriorate as a result of increased food prices and reduced household purchasing power leading to lower access to diverse nutritious foods. In 2023, across the region, 16.5 million children under 5 years are expected to be affected by acute malnutrition, of which 4.8 million are projected to be severely malnourished. This is an 83 percent increase in global acute malnutrition (GAM) compared to the 2015-2022 average, and an over 100 percent increase in GAM cases.

Latest data from Afghanistan showed that 12 out of the 34 provinces have GAM prevalence above 15 percent, in Pakistan, rapid screening showed high proportions of children affected by acute malnutrition in several flood-affected areas.23 Also, recent screening in Balochistan and Sindh provinces from August 2022 to February 2023 showed very high proportions (above 30 percent) of assessed children affected by wasting, in Yemen, 19 out of the 35 zones assessed also have GAM above 15 percent.24 In Latin America, there are growing concerns on increasing cases of wasted children, among refugees and migrants from Venezuela, but also among indigenous populations, albeit not at levels seen in other major crisis contexts. Wasting is also expected to rise in the Central American Dry Corridor with the current El Niño phenomenon. In Haiti, although the national GAM prevalence is relatively low, the Ouest department and a few zones in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area reported GAM prevalence levels above 10 percent.25

The global food crisis has overall worsened the undernutrition situation of adolescent girls and women whose livelihoods, income and access to nutritious food have been disproportionately affected by conflict, climate change, poverty and other economic shocks, including that of the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.
Countries with catastrophic/famine-like conditions (IPC 5 Countries)

As of June this year, at least 129,000 people are in the grips of “Catastrophic” conditions (IPC/CH Phase 5). These people are teetering on the brink of famine, even though no famine has been officially declared. They are concentrated in four countries: Burkina Faso, Mali, Somalia, and South Sudan.

In Burkina Faso, an estimated 3.4 million people, or 15 percent of the population, are projected to be facing crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity during the lean season between June and August 2023. The situation is most acute in the Sahel, Est, Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord and Noire regions, where approximately 605,000 people are projected to be in Emergency (IPC Phase 4), while in the Sahel region close to 4,000 people are projected to experience Catastrophe levels of hunger (CH Phase 5).

In these regions, people are driven into acute food insecurity due to rambunctiously high levels of violence, conflict-related displacement and siege tactics by armed groups depriving the population from access to humanitarian assistance.

The nutrition situation remains dire as 630,000 children are expected to be acutely malnourished this year, 80 percent of which live in very high levels of food insecurity and conflict-affected areas. Internally displaced persons (IDP) are particularly affected as general acute malnutrition (GAM) levels remain high (above 10 percent) in nine of 13 localities in the five most affected regions.

The disruption of markets and basic social services such as primary health care in addition to inflation of food prices has piled on top of this already grave situation.

In Mali, about 1.3 million people, or 6 percent of the population, are projected to be in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 and above) during the lean season between June and August this year. The situation is being driven by rising levels of sub-national violence which also disrupt humanitarian delivery, climatic shocks, low production exacerbated by drier than average conditions, and the impact of global commodity prices on the South Sudanese economy. Around 1.4 million children are expected to be acutely malnourished from July 2022 until June 2023, a 6 percent increase compared to the same period last year. Also, almost 738,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women are projected to be acutely malnourished.

Since the outbreak of the Sudan conflict, the number of South Sudanese returnees and Sudanese refugees entering South Sudan has significantly increased, reaching more than 122,021. This influx is exacerbating the already severe humanitarian situation in South Sudan, placing additional strain on limited humanitarian resources and escalating food and fuel prices.

Compared to the February edition of the Global Operational Response Plan, the list of countries with people on the brink of famine excludes Haiti, Nigeria and Yemen. While in Haiti and Yemen this reduction is due to a scale-up in humanitarian assistance, in Nigeria, where approximately 4,000 people were expected to fall into Catastrophic conditions in the June to August 2023 period, the Catastrophic projections cannot be confirmed due to the lack of evidence on mortality data in the most recent analysis. The situation in Nigeria remains critical showing one of the highest absolute figures, as almost 25 million people are expected to face crisis level of food insecurity or worse (IPC 3 and above) in 2023.
Humanitarian needs continue to outpace resource availability, a trend that may continue. While WFP will prioritize the most acute immediate needs in the short term, due to funding shortfalls, this approach risks contributing to broader vulnerability and growing needs in the medium term. In this context, WFP needs to make durable changes to improve the efficient use of its scarce resources. This will require investing in, and contributing to, innovative solutions to drive sustainable development and reduce overall humanitarian needs over time.

WFP must continue to save lives that are in imminent danger due to severe food insecurity and, where possible, simultaneously ensure that programmes address the structural drivers of hunger—thereby preventing potential relapse into and deterioration of food insecurity over the long term.

Such actions must leverage WFP's operational footprint and unparalleled knowledge of the most vulnerable; through complimentary investments and partnerships, people's resilience to recurrent shocks and stressors will be strengthened—thereby lifting communities from continuing cycles of food crisis. As articulated throughout previous editions of the GORP, this approach has shaped WFP's response to recent global crises and continues to be increasingly institutionalized across its programming.

UPDATE ON THE FOOD, FUEL AND FERTILIZER CRISIS

Global food prices are starting to decline, although still elevated compared to pre-pandemic levels; the FAO Food Price Index of May 2023 stood 23 percent above that of December 2019, but 22 percent below its peak in March 2022. Despite the overall decline in international food prices, the same effect has not been felt equally across domestic markets. Over the past year, inflation of food prices climbed 15 percent or more in 51 countries, including Argentina, Lebanon, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe, where prices more than doubled. Inflation further reduces access to food for many poor households worldwide.

The crisis in Ukraine continues to impact global grain supplies, with Ukrainian wheat and corn projections for 2023 at half of the 2021 harvest. Despite strong production prospects in other regions, tighter availability of stocks leaves global commodity markets more vulnerable to shocks.

Black Sea Grain Initiative

WFP continues to work with its partners and the wider humanitarian community to ensure a steady supply of grain and other food products to consumers worldwide under the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI). Since the agreement was established in July 2022, more than 32 million mt of grain and foodstuffs have been moved to 45 countries, helping push global food prices down from their peak. As of 19 June this year, WFP has successfully loaded and sent 22 vessels through the safe maritime corridor, carrying a total of 655,000 mt. So far, a total of 595,000 mt of this has been delivered or allocated to Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. On 17 May, the BSGI was continued for another two months, now to expire in July this year.

Improved outlooks for fertilizer and fuel prices

Following the 2022 price shock, pressure on fertilizer markets is easing with prices steadily decreasing. Nevertheless, Fertilizers are still expensive and in May 2023 were trading at a 138 percent premium over pre-COVID levels (December 2019). The trend in nitrogen markets, the most important among the major fertilizers, is positive after the sector experienced significant challenges in 2022. This prospect depends on the fallen prices for natural gas, which is essential for nitrogen fertilizer production.

In parallel to the BSGI, UNCTAD-led diplomatic efforts are facilitating free movement of 260,000 mt of Russian and Ukrainian fertilizer products. While WFP was not involved in negotiation of this agreement, in late 2022 WFP was requested by the UN Secretary General to provide supply chain services to assist in unblocking fertilizers. To date, WFP has transported 20,000 mt of fertilizer to Malawi from the Netherlands, 34,000 mt of fertilizer to Kenya from Latvia, and is supporting the next shipment of 34,000 mt destined for Nigeria to sail from Latvia and Belgium, at the time of writing.

On a positive note, fuel prices have progressively decreased in 2023, reaching levels similar to the fourth quarter of 2021. This follows the record highs experienced in the second and third quarters of 2022. However, energy prices are still well above pre-COVID levels. The International Monetary Fund's energy index stood 29 percent higher in May 2023 compared to December 2019.

Increasing efficiency and agility in the face of volatility

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CASH-BASED TRANSFERS IN ECONOMIC INSTABILITY

Localized food price increases, currency fluctuations, liquidity shortages, disruptions in banking systems, and trade restrictions—all continue to threaten the soundness of cash-based transfers (CBT). In this context compounded by funding shortfalls, WFP engaged in contingency planning to increase the agility of cash operations.

An example of this is Afghanistan, where WFP is producing a contingency plan for economic risks with a possible impact on cash operations. Risks have been identified and analysed, and implications and mitigation or preparedness measures for each risk have been mapped. The analysis takes into account gender considerations, recognizing the criticality within the Afghan context.

In times of economic volatility, contracts with financial service providers may need to be adjusted; a cross-functional taskforce has been created and is currently supporting and accelerating critical contract amendment decisions.

Assistance provided in less than 3 minutes

CBT has also been stepping up its use of the self-registration system first used in Lebanon and scaled up during Ukraine, now also being used to provide rapid assistance to Sudanese refugees arriving into Egypt. The new Identity Management in emergencies approach enables a single process to register and distribute cash to people in less than 3 minutes, showcasing the efficiency of cash as a modality in emergency situations.

From January to April 2023, CBT accounted for 39 percent of WFP's total assistance portfolio and 37 percent of its corporate emergency operations. WFP distributed a total of US$ 1.1 billion in 68 countries during this period, representing a 43 percent increase compared to the same timeframe in 2022. Up to 79 percent of the CBT assistance was distributed in emergency operations, with Somalia leading at US$ 169 million, followed by Ukraine at US$ 149 million, and Afghanistan at US$ 122 million.

RENEWED APPROACH TO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The deepening complexity of crises and the growing gap between humanitarian needs and available resources requires a paradigm shift in how WFP anticipates, prepares for, and responds to emergencies. In response, WFP renews its commitment to implementing a tailored, proactive, and risk-informed emergency preparedness approach. Emergency preparedness is a proven tool and a key strategic investment to achieve faster, more effective, and more cost-efficient emergency responses.

An inter-agency return-on-investment study conducted in 2017 confirmed that every US$ 1 invested in emergency preparedness saves US$ 2.60 in future response costs. Investing in preparedness activities was found to result in a 14-day reduction in the time it takes to respond after a crisis occurs, resulting in the faster delivery of assistance. A USAID study in 2018 confirmed that these cost savings and averted losses are even greater when combined with social assistance programming. Emergency preparedness was also found to yield significant time and cost savings in subsequent emergency responses, better preserving development gains from future shocks.

As part of this renewed approach, the Preparedness Cell was established in September last year to offer coordinated and focused technical and operational support to priority country offices to strengthen WFP’s readiness.

Tunisia and Peru, where near-term risks were identified, were the first Country Offices supported by the Preparedness Cell. In Peru, WFP’s initiative contributed to national-level emergency preparedness led by the Government and triggered inter-sectoral coordination in national preparedness planning. Lessons learned are being captured for organizational learning and the renewed approach will be implemented in more countries.

WFP GLOBAL OPERATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN 2023 UPDATE #8, JUNE 2023

WFP GLOBAL OPERATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN 2023 UPDATE #8, JUNE 2023
WFP is racing to support the most food insecure families whose lives have been upended by the current fighting in Sudan. WFP is scaling up to provide immediate, life-saving assistance to 5.9 million in Sudan and thousands more who have fled to neighbouring countries.

Clashes between Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have been ongoing since 15 April, leading to more than 1.97 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) as of 13 June and adding to 3.8 million already internally displaced before this conflict.42 UNHCR estimates that 522,707 people43 have fled Sudan into neighbouring countries as of 19 June. To date, the most significant cross-border movements are towards Chad, Egypt, Libya, South Sudan, Central African Republic, and Ethiopia.

Compounding the large-scale displacement, the conflict has shattered access to food, water, cash, fuel, health care, and other essential services. As of March 2023, 14.8 million households could not afford the local food basket. The cost of the basket is projected to rise by an additional 25 percent over the next three to six months.45 Due to supply chain disruptions and the subsequent increase in food prices, WFP’s Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment (CFSVA) estimates that at least 2.5 million additional people will become acutely food insecure in the next three to six months, pushing the total to a forecasted record of 19 million.46

With the onset of the rainy season and inability of farmers to access fields, the situation is expected to deteriorate further. The highest food insecurity levels are expected in West Darfur, West Kordofan, Blue Nile, Red Sea, and North Darfur. The recent conflict exacerbated the already dire nutrition situation in Sudan, with an estimated increase of up to 30 percent of children affected by acute malnutrition in hotspot areas such as the Darfur.

The Sudan crisis cost three WFP staff their lives. During the first days of the conflict, they were killed while carrying out their duties to help provide life-saving food to millions of their countrymen. Their dedication will not be forgotten.

After a temporary suspension, WFP resumed operations in Sudan on 1 May and activated a Corporate Scale-Up, the organization’s highest level of emergency response, for six months. WFP’s response aims to meet the immediate needs of around six million people, including internally displaced persons (IDPs), host communities, and refugees in Sudan. WFP has reconfigured its presence across Sudan, operating mainly from Port Sudan to continue its support.

Immediate Response Account allocations totaling US$ 90.9 million47 have allowed WFP to respond rapidly in Chad, Egypt, and Sudan. However, WFP Sudan needs US$ 601 million48 to cover its net funding requirements for the next six months.
Cyclone Freddy’s Devastating Impact

Devastating cyclones, storms, torrential rains, and flash floods were recorded in Malawi, Madagascar, Mozambique, and Zambia, affecting 3.6 million people. Between February and March 2023, Tropical Cyclone Freddy – the most energetic cyclone ever recorded – battered Malawi, Madagascar, and Mozambique. At the same time, Zambia experienced destructive storms and torrential rains that resulted in severe flooding, affecting large swaths of inhabited and cropped lands. Critical social and economic infrastructure, livelihoods, and hundreds of thousands of hectares of crops have been lost.

In southern Malawi, Cyclone Freddy’s second landfall caused a trail of destruction, resulting in the loss of critical infrastructure, and 1.4 million people were affected, of whom 280,000 require emergency assistance. In Madagascar, just weeks after Tropical Storm Cheneso wreaked havoc on local communities, Freddy made landfall, where powerful winds and heavy rainfall destroyed homes, infrastructure, and crops. This affected over 2.1 million people – of whom 1.9 million require emergency assistance as they were dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods and food security.

In Mozambique, the compounding effects of the protracted conflict in Cabo Delgado and the impact of Cyclone Freddy on households’ assets, livelihoods, and agricultural production have exacerbated food insecurity in the country; the last IPC analysis, conducted before Cyclone Freddy, has already ascertained a ten-fold increase of population in IPC4 across the country, with the situation expected to worsen even further in the next lean season.

Cyclone Mocha Striking Millions of People Vulnerable to Food Insecurity

Cyclone Mocha, the strongest storm to strike the Bay of Bengal in over a decade, has wreaked havoc on millions of people vulnerable to food insecurity, particularly in Myanmar. It has disrupted some very critical assistance for thousands of people in both Bangladesh and Myanmar. Heavy rains and winds triggered flash floods and landslides, washing away thousands of homes and agricultural land, and causing widespread damage to infrastructure in Myanmar.

In Myanmar, 3.4 million people were living in the highest impact zone. By prepositioning food stocks as a part of its cyclone preparedness measures, WFP was able to respond to Cyclone Mocha within the very first hours of landfall. More than 360,300 people across Rakhine State and Magway Region have received emergency food assistance. With the planting season starting in June, the cyclone has added significant pressure to Rakhine’s precarious food security situation.

This calamity is striking amid a severe funding crisis. WFP Myanmar urgently requires US$ 60 million to deliver emergency food and nutrition assistance to 2.1 million highly food-insecure people until the end of the year throughout the country. This includes US$ 23.5 million to support 440,000 new beneficiaries affected by the cyclone. Unless additional funding is confirmed soon, all of WFP’s life-saving programmes in Myanmar will be interrupted by August 2023.

In Bangladesh, the cyclone severely affected 780,000 people, including 536,000 Rohingya refugees and 243,000 Bangladeshis. Before the cyclone hit, WFP activated its forecast-based financing and provided 28,000 Bangladeshis with cash, enabling families to protect their assets against the forecasted storm surge flooding. WFP needs US$ 56 million until the end of the year to provide life-saving food to Rohingya refugees. In June, WFP was forced to reduce its lifesaving food voucher value for the Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar and will have to cut assistance further unless funding is secured.
The rapid expansion of the current Sahelian crisis into Gulf of Guinea (GoG) littoral nations presents enormous challenges. The four GoG countries, Benin, Togo, Ghana and Cote d’Ivoire, share a border with Burkina Faso, where the levels of insecurity have continuously increased and have rapidly moved southwards in the past year, with the highest levels of violent attacks recorded in 2022 in the eastern regions. Around 100,000 people have been displaced due to the insecurity, including some 63,000 asylum seekers and around 37,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs). Furthermore, over 3.3 million people are projected to be in food insecurity during the lean season (June-August 2023) in the four countries, according to the last Cadre Harmonisé results. This marks a continued deterioration compared to the last 5 years (2019=0.13 million, 2020=0.48 million, 2020=1.5 million and 2022=2.2 million people).

The fast-evolving insecurity conditions are projected to create large-scale disruptions in the sub-region and trigger escalating needs. The capacity to host displaced persons in local communities would not be sufficient, and it may jeopardize social cohesion and increase competition over resources. Governments in the GoG countries are putting in place measures to contain these threats.

WFP has developed a regional strategy to prevent, prepare and respond to the impact of the Burkina’ crisis in support of Government response plans. In Togo, WFP has started an emergency cash response for 52,000 Burkinabé refugees, IDPs and host communities, while the other GoG countries are putting measures in place to start assisting displaced people in the north. USD 20.6 million are required to deliver on this strategy across the four countries and assist 0.21 million people over the next six months (June to November 2023).

**Section II: WFP’s Global Response**

**Beneficiaries Reached January – March 2023**

Thanks to the generous contributions of its partners, WFP was able to reach an estimated 94 million people with food, cash, and commodity vouchers between January and March 2023. This is 10 million more people reached than the same period last year.

In many cases people have been assisted with partial rations, reflecting the trade-offs country offices needed to make to ensure unprecedented needs and mounting funding gaps.

**Latest Targeting Figures for 2023**

As of 2 June 2023, WFP plans to reach 171.5 million people with full rations in 2023. The increased needs are reflected in the additional 21.9 million people compared to the February edition of the Global Operational Response Plan. Projected operational requirements for 2023 are currently US$ 25.1 billion with net funding requirements for the next six months (June - November 2023) standing at US$ 8.7 billion.

**Prioritization in Effect**

This year, WFP’s current projected operational requirements amount to US$ 25.1 billion. With the currently forecasted contribution expected to total at US$ 10 billion this represents a shortfall of more than 60.3 percent. On the ground, this translates into hard prioritization calls for country offices, forced to reduce the number of people assisted, or reduce the quality of assistance - or both.

WFP continues to invest to increase effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian operations and help limited resources stretch further.

We do so in different ways, for example:

- Leveraging Cash-Based Transfers and market-based solutions that support and stabilise markets during emergencies
- Complementary approaches between relief and resilience interventions
- Maximising local and regional procurement options
- Leveraging global tools such as the Global Commodity Management Facility and the Immediate Response Account, that can provide, at scale, better efficiency in the use of corporate resources

Still, hard choices are being made under the title of “prioritization” who receives assistance, how much, who does not.

To make ends meet, country offices have four main options:

- Maintaining the ration size and reducing the caseload, leaving people vulnerable to food insecurity in need without assistance,
- Reducing the ration size to keep the caseload, which reduces the effectiveness of the provided assistance,
- Reducing the duration of planned assistance before the food security situation has improved sufficiently to justify a discontinuation, or
- Prioritizing nutrition treatment programmes over prevention and nutrition sensitive activities; which risks deepening the vulnerability of some of the most at-risk groups.

None of these choices are easy, and they all imply that people needing food will go hungry.
When funds are scarce, should we focus only on IPC Phases 4 and 5? The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification system (IPC) is an analytical framework used for informing geographic targeting of food insecure populations; it is not intended as a tool for targeting households to receive assistance.

Populations classified in IPC Phase 3 may skip meals entirely or sell what little they own to buy food; these people are still living on the margins. Without assistance, the food insecurity of populations vulnerable to food insecurity in IPC Phase 3 could exacerbate, given their weak capacity to withstand shocks. Populations disproportionally affected by malnutrition and food insecurity, such as children, the elderly, or pregnant and breastfeeding women could be left behind, and reducing assistance can perpetuate existing inequalities and further marginalize them.

Social unrest and conflict underpin food insecurity in many crisis countries. Focusing assistance to those living in IPC Phases 4 and 5, while ignoring or limiting assistance to populations vulnerable to food insecurity in IPC Phase 3, could increase frustration, in turn fueling tensions within communities. In extreme cases, this can expand and deepen conflicts or worsen access to populations in need. Moreover, the nutrition situation may deteriorate, especially among populations in IPC Phase 3 with high levels of acute malnutrition.

Most of WFP’s investments in resilience programmes are focused on people in IPC Phase 3. As such, consistent, multi-year investments are critical to their success. Halting these programmes undermines significant progress and investments made to date.

In order to prevent communities from relapsing or deteriorating into acute food insecurity, it is important WFP continues to build on its emergency efforts to save lives with innovative programming that can help build resilience to shocks in the future. This will be crucial to ensuring that more people on the brink of acute hunger are not pushed over the edge.

### Hard prioritization calls

This year, the unmatched funding gap has already forced many country offices to prioritize.

In Afghanistan, more than 20 million people do not know where their next meal will come from; 6 million of them are one step away from famine. In 2023, an acute funding crisis is already upon us, and WFP was forced to cut 8 million highly vulnerable to food insecurity from our emergency programme. Such cutbacks in humanitarian food assistance will have a devastating impact especially on women, young children and the elderly.

WFP Bangladesh was forced to cut back its life-saving assistance to Rohingya refugees who are entirely dependent on humanitarian assistance; they cannot leave the camps to earn a living or grow food.

Weeks after the cyclone, funding shortages are forcing WFP to cut food vouchers for a second time in three months. In March, vouchers were cut from US$ 12 to US$ 10 per person per month.

With the funding gap persisting, vouchers have been cut again to US$ 8 since 1 June. Ration cuts mean refugees are more vulnerable to crime, extremist groups and human traffickers.

In 2023, three-quarters of the population in Yemen (21.6 million people) need humanitarian assistance. In 2023, WFP is targeting 15 million people with emergency food assistance as well as providing 4.3 million women and children with nutrition support to treat and prevent moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Currently, funding shortfalls have impacted all activities, reducing general food distribution rations to 60 percent. Without new funding, WFP is considering making a 50 percent reduction of its general food assistance caseload to save resources for the most vulnerable.

WFP’s critical food aid to vulnerable families in Palestine is also in peril due to severe funding shortages. To protect the most at-risk families, WFP cut the value of food vouchers for all recipients in May from US$ 12.4 to US$ 10.3. Without funding by June, over 200,000 people will lose their lifeline, and by August, WFP will be forced to cease operations entirely. Following the ration cuts, protests have been ongoing in front of WFP office Gaza for weeks.

In 2023, WFP will target 1.5 million people in Niger with emergency food assistance. Ration reduction, already standing at 80 percent, and caseload reduction by 30 percent will be implemented during the lean season due to funding constraints.

In Mali, WFP is planning to reach 1.2 million people during the lean season but will be forced to implement reduced rations because of critical funding gaps. IPC 3 populations in the North, Central and South are already only covered up to 50 percent. Without adequate funding, WFP will be forced to put in place even deeper cuts during June.

In Syria, 12.1 million people (55 percent of the population) are food insecure, of whom 2.6 million were severely food insecure (pre-earthquake). Currently, 98 percent of beneficiaries are receiving a reduced ration size. From July onwards, WFP will be forced to cut assistance for up to 2.5 million out of the 5.5 million food- insecure people it supports across the country each month.

In Colombia, against a backdrop of increasing humanitarian needs, WFP’s emergency operations are severely underfunded. Unless urgent needed, new allocations are received, WFP will be compelled to significantly reduce its levels of emergency assistance, which will result in increasing numbers of vulnerable people (displaced and affected populations, migrants and other vulnerable groups) being cut off WFP’s lifesaving humanitarian support, due to a re-prioritization of scarce resources.26

### Guidance and impact assessment

WFP developed a short guide20 to support country offices, recommending the use of a combination of methodologies and data sources, including WFP needs assessments with the Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators (CARI) Console of Food Security, to inform geographic- as well as household-level targeting and prioritization decisions.

To specifically monitor the impact of prioritized assistance on food security outcomes, country offices are recommended to conduct rapid assessments with samples of households who will remain assisted as well as those who will see their assistance reduced or cut. Conducting such extended outcome monitoring exercises allows WFP to stay on top of any significant deterioration of food security and provides critical evidence in support of escalation and advocacy efforts.

### Alleviating the impact of de-prioritization

WFP is doing its best to alleviate the impact on de-prioritized relief caseload by leveraging key programmatic tools:

- Evidence-based monitoring and advocacy to maximize the impact of available resources.
- Prioritization of relief beneficiaries for available livelihoods and resilience programmes where possible and where appropriate.
- Making use of referral systems and informing beneficiaries on other partners / other agencies running complementary programmes.
- Conducting final multi-month transfer to provide capital to invest in livelihoods assets beyond the minimum expenditure basket allowing for resilience investments.
- Ensuring systems are in place for community engagement and feedback, to inform on re-targeting and prioritization.

Lacking the necessary funding to offer the needed assistance, the transition will ultimately be very difficult for many families. In 2023, with the projected funding gaps, many vulnerable households will not receive any assistance at all. In some areas, there may not be complementary services / national safety net programmes to close food consumption gaps.

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1. Phases 1 to 5 are defined based on the level of food consumption gaps.
2. IPC (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification) is an analytical framework used for informing geographic targeting of food insecure populations.
3. WFP denotes the World Food Programme.

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**Phase name and description**

**Priority response objectives**

**Phase 1**

None/Minimal Households are able to meet essential food and non-food needs without engaging in atypical and unsustainable strategies to access food and income.

Action required to build resilience and for disaster risk reduction.

**Phase 2**

Stressed Households have minimally adequate food consumption but are unable to afford some essential non-food expenditures without engaging in stress-coping strategies.

Action required for disaster risk reduction and to protect livelihoods.

**Phase 3**

Crisis Households either:

- Have food consumption gaps that are reflected by high or above-usual acute malnutrition; or
- Are marginally able to meet minimal food needs but only by depleting essential livelihood assets or through crisis-coping strategies.

Urgent action required to:

- Protect livelihoods and reduce food consumption gaps.
- Save lives and livelihoods.

**Phase 4**

Emergency Households either:

- Have large food consumption gaps which are reflected in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality; or
- Are able to mitigate large food consumption gaps but only by employing emergency livelihood strategies and asset liquidation.

**Phase 5**

Catastrophe/Famine Households have an extreme lack of food and/or other basic needs.

- Have food consumption gaps that are reflected by high or above-usual acute malnutrition; or
- Are marginally able to meet minimal food needs but only by depleting essential livelihood assets or through crisis-coping strategies.

- Urgent action required to:

  - Protect livelihoods and reduce food consumption gaps.
- Save lives and livelihoods.

  - Revert/prevent widespread death and total collapse of livelihoods.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Priority response objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phase 1</td>
<td>None/Minimal</td>
<td>Action required to build resilience and for disaster risk reduction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 2</td>
<td>Stressed</td>
<td>Action required for disaster risk reduction and to protect livelihoods.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phase 3</td>
<td>Crisis</td>
<td>Urgent action required to: Protect livelihoods and reduce food consumption gaps. Save lives and livelihoods. Revert/prevent widespread death and total collapse of livelihoods.</td>
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<td>Phase 4</td>
<td>Emergency</td>
<td>Action required to build resilience and for disaster risk reduction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phase 5</td>
<td>Catastrophe/Famine</td>
<td>Urgent action required to: Protect livelihoods and reduce food consumption gaps. Save lives and livelihoods. Revert/prevent widespread death and total collapse of livelihoods.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A hungry world is an unstable world

Most areas WFP works in are already conflict-ridden and unstable. Reducing caseloads and rations risks contributing to increased regional instability and heightened security risks; cuts are likely to trigger protests directed towards WFP and humanitarian partners, and to fuel animosities between groups fighting over scarcer resources.

Examples include Syria, where beneficiaries held demonstrations outside a number of WFP offices requesting assistance to be reinstated following a first round of cuts. Further reductions in assistance over the next three months are likely to trigger further protests. Similarly, in May, a group of beneficiaries in Gaza, affected by the suspension of aid, staged a sit-in demonstration in front of the WFP office. In Bangladesh’s Rohingya camps of Cox’s Bazar, the world’s largest refugee camp, WFP Security unit conducts regular assessments to timely identify any potential security threat from recent ration cuts.

Significant scale downs can create or exacerbate protection risks, conflict and social divisions. They can also amplify existing gender inequalities, discrimination and reinforce barriers to accessing assistance.

Resolution 2417

Conflict remains the primary driver of hunger across most of the world’s food crises. The ground-breaking United Nations Security Council resolution 2417 highlights that responding to the threat of conflict-induced famine and food insecurity in situations of armed conflict requires respect for international humanitarian law and the unimpeded passage of impartial humanitarian relief. This has not been the case in most of the conflict-ridden contexts WFP operates in.

The resolution condemns the unlawful denial of humanitarian access and depriving civilians of objects indispensable to their survival including facilities for the production and storage of food. This continues to occur in the countries with the highest caseload of food insecure people.

Based on regular WFP and FAO updates to the Security Council evidence is being placed officially on the record alongside calls for: intensified engagement of all stakeholders to ensure access; the opening of additional border crossings and corridors along blocked routes to import food; requests for regional organisations to increase efforts to stabilize security situations; and a continued plea to respect International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Human Rights Law (HRL) and the sources of food.

The successful application of this resolution and strengthened humanitarian diplomacy is critical to stemming and sustainably reducing the rising tide of hungry people across the world.

Operating in complex and hostile environments

Armed hostilities, criminality and bureaucratic impediments continue to limit access to many of the world’s food insecure. WFP’s Operational Access (OA) and Humanitarian-Military Interaction (HMI) teams are present in the field, using their expertise to enable WFP operations in such complex environments.

WFP’s investment in civil-military coordination and humanitarian access is rendering success in reaching communities affected by conflict. This is evident in sudden onset emergencies like Sudan where the HMI and OA team works with the Logistics Cluster to facilitate the movement of life-saving assistance out of Port Sudan and support humanitarian negotiation efforts. In the aftermath of the Turkey-Syria earthquake, HMI and OA facilitated inter-agency and WFP’s first independent mission into North-Western Syria and supported developing a strategy to establish long-term humanitarian presence in North-Western Syria.

In protracted and complex crises like DRC, Yemen, South Sudan and the Central Sahel, where famine is an evident and present risk, WFP’s HMI and OA teams continue humanitarian negotiations with relevant stakeholders and develop access strategies to enable humanitarian operations. In Cabo Delgado, operations expanded to a district that had long been inaccessible. In Myanmar and Afghanistan, WFP continues to support collective humanitarian advocacy efforts to ease bureaucratic impediments and maintain a safe humanitarian space.

The gender perspective of prioritization

Food insecurity hits women and girls harder: existing evidence confirms that structural drivers of food insecurity are highly gendered, and that crises not only disproportionately impact women’s assets, livelihoods, and well-being, but further intensify gender gaps.

Prioritization choices must recognize the widening gender gap in food insecurity, as well as the structural vulnerabilities and gender-based inequalities as risk drivers. Inclusive dialogue with diverse members of local communities, including women – rather than merely with governments or local leaders – can be an important mechanism to mitigate intentional or unintentional biases and gatekeeping, and ensuring an accurate picture of who in the community has the most acute needs.

Protecting the programmes supporting gender equality is also critical to stop the spiraling effect of hunger and inequality and prevent further widening of gender gap in food security. While the pressure to deprioritize gender is exacerbated in settings where funding for humanitarian operations is severely limited, evidence shows that that directing funding toward programming that promotes gender equality and women’s empowerment pays off in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

Leveraging key programmatic tools

National social protection systems and food systems are a critical means through which WFP can help governments build ownership to better manage humanitarian preparedness and response while also strengthening resilience. Through these systems, WFP can help empower governments to manage humanitarian responses, limit future humanitarian needs, prevent populations from relapsing into high levels of food insecurity, and reduce the costs of humanitarian response.

Furthermore, school feeding programmes are a long-term investment, and in more stable contexts there is a need to keep working on establishing strong safety nets that contribute to future stability and prosperity through the development of human capital. Demand from our government partners to support the building of effective and accountable national systems has never been higher. Now is the time for WFP to step up to this challenge and prioritize investments to reduce the needs of the future. Furthermore, school feeding programmes are a lifeline to millions of children in emergencies, and in more stable contexts there is a need to keep working on establishing strong safety nets that contribute to future stability and prosperity, through the development of human capital.
Innovative solutions called for
Especially during the current deepening of the food and funding crisis, innovation is critical to enable WFP to deliver on its mandate to reach Zero Hunger. The need for innovative solutions and collaboration is crucial to improving the lives of people vulnerable to food insecurity.

The WFP Innovation Accelerator team and its network of innovation hubs and units together with global WFP colleagues and collaborators have different innovation programs and portfolio projects that address these challenges.

One example of an innovative activity launched in April is the successful conclusion of the WFP South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) Innovation Challenge, which garnered 42 applications from 25 country offices across all regions, including Yemen, Somalia, and Afghanistan.

Under this activity, the WFP Innovation Accelerator ran an Innovation Challenge and will implement an agile sprint program that encompasses mentor guidance, project management support, and funding for 4 projects under the thematic areas of emergency response and preparedness, resilience building, climate adaptation & social protection.

On average, each of these 4 projects has the potential to positively impact around 250,000 people, collectively amassing a potential positive impact on up to 1 million people.

Making more with less – leveraging partners’ skills
Through the Standby Partnership programme, WFP liaises with NGOs, governments, and private sector partners, tapping into expertise for urgent scale-ups and meeting technical needs in prolonged crises. The experts come as in-kind contributions to the response, enabling WFP to multiply the results that can be achieved. In the first half of 2023, WFP’s Standby Partnerships have deployed 48 new experts in support of emergencies. These experts deployed in support of WFP’s programmes, operational needs as well as cluster coordination accountabilities.

The range of experts available is broad: WFP selected candidates for needs in Cash Based Transfers and Social Protection, Nutrition and Food Security, Emergency Coordination, Logistics, Communications with Communities, Information Management and Mapping, Construction, Medical Training, Energy and Climate Change, Telecommunications, Gender and Protection.

The deployment of experts represents an in-kind contribution to these responses of US$ 5.47 million.

The risks we take
Conflict remains the main driver of hunger in most of the world’s food crises. Zero hunger cannot be achieved without stability – this is why WFP plays a key role in building pathways to peace.

This decisive role WFP plays led to being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020; for its efforts to combat hunger, for its contribution to bettering conditions for peace in conflict affected areas, and for acting as a driving force in efforts to prevent the use of hunger as a method of war and conflict.

These laudable efforts are borne by WFP’s more than 23,000 employees, of whom 87 percent are field based. They often live and work under challenging circumstances in the most conflict-ridden places of the globe, working round the clock to bring food and assistance to the most vulnerable and food insecure.

WFP’s work is made possible by the generosity of our donors who trust WFP’s ability to put their investment to good use towards achieving zero hunger and de-escalate conflicts.

Despite all possible measures in place to prevent and mitigate risks, the nature of our work and where we operate makes it impossible to avoid risks completely. When the worst imaginable tragedy hits us, all of WFP is struck. During the first days of the Sudan crisis, three WFP staff lost their lives in the conflict. Our warmest thoughts, sympathies and condolences continue with their families.

During the ongoing fighting in Sudan, several looting of WFP warehouses and offices have taken place. One of WFP’s largest logistics bases on the African continent in El Obeid, a vital lifeline for operations in Sudan and South Sudan, has been repeatedly attacked and looted – devaluing food assistance for millions of conflict-affected people.

In Ethiopia, food intended for people vulnerable to food insecurity has been diverted and sold in local markets. It is being thoroughly investigated how this was possible, while WFP incessantly puts measures in place to continuously improve and optimize internal monitoring and accountability systems – also in the face of the broader contextual issues that go beyond the scope of our operations.

Though these risks are inherent to the conditions under which we operate, WFP continuously strives to make them the very rare exception.

Section III: Appeal to Decision Makers
THE IMMEDIATE RESPONSE ACCOUNT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

The Immediate Response Account (IRA) is WFP’s funding source to initiate an urgent response or as a “last resort” for critical life-saving activities. Operating under the principle that it is better to act now to save lives than regret not having done so afterwards, WFP uses the IRA to quickly allocate funds for emergency assistance when donor contributions are not yet available or forecasted.

It is an indispensable component of WFP’s frontline role in an initial response; reinforcing key principles of timeliness, predictability, and flexibility.

As of 12 June 2023, WFP has allocated over US$ 206 million from the IRA. This includes the release of over US$ 70 million to our operations in Türkiye and Syria within 72 hours of the earthquakes as well as US$ 20 million to support the recent Corporate Scale-Up in Sudan.

In 2023, there is a growing gap between needs and contributions. This will cause country offices to increasingly rely on the IRA to fund life-saving activities. Current projections are that “last resort” funding requests for IRA allocations could reach US$ 500 million in 2023, an increase of nearly 30 percent compared to 2022.

As of 12 June 2023, the IRA has only received US$ 3.8 billion in contributions, a mere 15 percent of requirements. As a result, WFP operations worldwide are already forced to cut rations and reduce beneficiary coverage, thereby further exacerbating food insecurity and hunger. These anticipated shortfalls will severely impede WFP’s potential to prevent situations from deteriorating into crisis, emergency and famine conditions, let alone allowing to build resilience and ensure sustainable solutions.

To date this year, WFP has only received US$ 3.8 billion in contributions, a mere 15 percent of requirements. As a result, WFP operations worldwide are already forced to cut rations and reduce beneficiary coverage, thereby further exacerbating food insecurity and hunger. These anticipated shortfalls will severely impede WFP’s potential to prevent situations from deteriorating into crisis, emergency and famine conditions, let alone allowing to build resilience and ensure sustainable solutions.

CATASTROPHE LOOMING

The humanitarian system continues to face unprecedented challenges in a context where existing resources are too scarce to address or even significantly mitigate the deteriorating situation. Humanitarian agencies are preparing for a significant funding crisis that will gravely impact the continued, full provision of life-saving assistance to the most people vulnerable to food insecurity worldwide.

Donors are not on track to match the record funding levels of 2022, when US$ 14.1 billion were mobilized to meet growing needs. This year, WFP anticipates an overall reduction in contributions and a significant shortfall in meeting the 2023 operational requirements of US$ 25.1 billion, with currently forecasted contributions expected to total at US$ 10 billion. This represents a staggering shortfall of more than 60 percent.

WFP GLOBAL OPERATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN 2023 UPDATE #8, JUNE 2023
In the context of a spiraling situation, WFP seeks to ensure that it can become as efficient and impactful as possible. Accordingly, the organization will widen its range of partners to burden-share and complement the long-established support and cooperation from WFP’s traditional donors. Additionally, WFP will look to build on its emergency efforts to meet immediate needs through innovative programming that helps to prevent the risk of acute food crises in the medium-term.

FOOD INSECURITY IS SPIRALING OUT OF CONTROL

In its 60-year history, WFP has never faced the prospect of a more substantial funding gap during a period of such enormous humanitarian need. As of 19 June, WFP has received US$ 3.8 billion of confirmed contributions for 2023 from 68 funding sources (government donors, private sector, UN, IFIs, and other organizations). The total received is a staggering 26 percent below the total received at the same time last year. With total projected operational requirements for 2023 at US$ 25.1 billion, contribution received halfway through the year represent a mere 15 percent of requirements.

WFP finds itself incapable of responding to needs and is faced with the prospect of further cutting rations and reducing caseloads and interventions. This grave situation makes clear that it is no longer sustainable to solely seek to address need as and when it arises; the needs are too great and resources too few. If WFP is to prevent food insecurity from spiraling out of control it must not only ensure that it continues to meet immediate, acute needs but that, its programmes address the structural drivers of hunger wherever possible - thereby preventing relapse into or deterioration of food insecurity over the long term.

WFP’S CALL TO DECISION MAKERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

1. Prioritize flexible and non-earmarked contributions to allow WFP to rapidly respond to emergencies

During times of amplified crisis and increased funding gaps, the opportunity to identify priority operations and respond rapidly to emergencies has become ever more important. With the growing gaps between needs and contributions, country offices will increasingly need to rely on the Immediate Response Account (IRA) as the “last resort” to fund live-saving activities. The account is depleted down to a critical minimum, urgently needing additional contributions.

2. Invest in early warning and anticipatory action

Delaying action exacerbates the crisis. Early warning offers the opportunity to act sooner, before people vulnerable to food insecurity are pushed further into more severe food insecurity needing more costly responses.

There is a critical time window for anticipatory actions to be implemented successfully to protect the most people vulnerable to food insecurity and their livelihoods from the expected impacts of hazards. More priority needs to be given to how early warning and anticipatory action can not only protect lives and livelihoods in advance of humanitarian crises, but also reduce their duration and cost.

3. Support the strengthening of National Systems

National governments are critical actors in any given crises, with a reach often extending far beyond that of humanitarian actors. Investing in and supporting nationally owned emergency preparedness, social protection and local food systems, offers WFP a cost-effective means to ensure that immediate needs are met.

WFP’s unique expertise and wide operational footprint can be leveraged to help ensure that governments have the systems in place to meet the urgent humanitarian needs of their populations - thereby shifting the burden off of limited humanitarian resources where possible. Additionally, strong national systems, particularly shock responsive social protection systems - including school meals programmes - and strong local food systems help to improve countries resilience in the face of future shocks – thereby reducing need over time.

4. Engage to break the vicious cycle of the polycrisis

Conflicts, climate change and disasters, economic instability and financial crisis - compounded by the current funding crisis - these factors all converge and exacerbate one another as drivers of a multifaceted polycrisis. The interconnectedness and protracted nature of these drivers of the polycrisis and food insecurity need to be recognized and addressed. WFP calls on decision makers and stakeholders to support WFP’s efforts with partners to scale-up integrated resilience programming; this will contribute to addressing structural drivers of hunger, lifting communities from recurrent cycles of food crisis - and ultimately reducing the burden of humanitarian needs.
Section IV: WFP Operations of Corporate Concern – June 2023
WFP’s Operations of Corporate Concern June 2023

WFP’s Operations of Corporate Concern are the countries where the severity and scale of WFP’s operational requirements, the urgency of funding gaps and heightened risks intersect. Operations are selected based on i) high requirements and number of people targeted by WFP, ii) high level of food insecurity or acute malnutrition, iii) large funding gap, and iv) forward-looking risk likelihood and impact.

Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo are the operations undergoing Corporate Scale-Up, while 17 countries are identified for Corporate Attention, and other 17 for Early Action.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in the map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of WFP concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory, city or sea, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The list is not exhaustive. Across all WFP’s more than 80 operations, funding gaps affect all or some part of its programme. Section IV provides additional details by country on WFP’s response plan and funding requirements for the coming six months. This also includes needs across smaller WFP operations which face critical shortfalls across their Country Strategic Plans in 2023.
The region is facing unprecedented levels of acute food insecurity and mounting humanitarian needs, with 79.9 million food-insecure people and 9 million in need of nutrition assistance. Conflict, political instability and extreme weather events have collided with the socioeconomic impacts of the global food crisis to aggravate food security and nutrition. This comes amid dire funding shortages that are forcing WFP to cut its assistance for millions of people.

In Afghanistan, funding shortages have forced WFP to cut 8 million people from assistance since April. In Bangladesh, grave funding shortages are leaving WFP with no choice but to reduce the value of its life-saving food vouchers for over 900,000 Rohingya refugees. This is already inflicting serious consequences in the camps. Meanwhile, in Myanmar: Cyclone Mocha, conflict and political turmoil are driving up needs. In Pakistan, economic deterioration and rising unemployment are exacerbating political instability amid a backdrop of climate and monsoon-related threats as well as increasing security concerns.

**AFGHANISTAN**

Two-thirds of the population (28.8 million people) need humanitarian assistance, including 18.1 million requiring food and livelihoods support and 7.2 million nutrition interventions. Nearly half of the population face acute food insecurity (IPC3+) during the lean season, amid plummeting humanitarian and socioeconomic conditions.

**MYANMAR**

At least 800,000 people were affected by Cyclone Mocha, exacerbating food insecurity caused by conflict, displacement, currency depreciation and price increases.

**PAKISTAN**

The lingering impact of the 2022 monsoon flooding, compounded by economic deterioration, is exacerbating the fragile food security situation for millions of people including more than 5 million children with acute malnutrition.
WFP supports the Government on child health, nutrition, school feeding programmes and expanding rice fortification activities, while building up national food reserves and strengthening rice value chains. The Government is working on finalising the Public Distribution System (PDS) reforms to improve access to food for the most vulnerable. WFP is operating under a new PDS, delivering rice to 4.6 million people, as part of a multi-sectoral approach to support the Government’s national COVID-19 response.

In Myanmar, 1.8 million people have been displaced by conflict. Nearly 1 in 3 households are food insecure, reporting eating less, selling off assets or going into debt to survive. WFP is assisting these people through cash transfers, and providing food assistance and non-food items in coordination with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and the Myanmar Red Cross Society. WFP supports 88,000 households per month with food assistance, non-food items and cash transfers.

In Nepal, 60% of the population is food insecure. The government has declared a state of emergency under the new Constitution and the government in exile. The Government is working closely with the UN to support its national response to the developing humanitarian situation. WFP continues to provide assistance to people affected by the recent floods in the communities of Surke, Jiri, Dolakha, and Sindhupalchowk, and continues to support the Government’s response efforts. WFP provides assistance through food and cash assistance and social assistance activities to improve livelihood opportunities, and preventing and treating malnutrition, and supports livelihood and social protection programmes.

In the Pacific, 63% of households are food insecure. WFP is providing cash assistance to support food security needs and strengthening rice value chains. The Government is working on finalising the National Social Safety Net Programme to improve access to food for the most vulnerable.

In the Philippines, 27% of the population is food insecure. WFP is providing assistance through food and cash assistance and social assistance activities to improve livelihood opportunities, and preventing and treating malnutrition, and supports livelihood and social protection programmes.

In Sri Lanka, 30% of the population is food insecure. WFP is providing assistance through food and cash assistance and social assistance activities to improve livelihood opportunities, and preventing and treating malnutrition, and supports livelihood and social protection programmes.
Despite humanitarian and development interventions, the region continues to face multiple and overlapping humanitarian crises with more than 75.6 million people across nine countries estimated to be food insecure and 9.3 million estimated to be in need of nutrition assistance.

In the face of one of the worst droughts in decades, with food security outcomes for 2023 already reflecting the number of acutely food insecure people in Ethiopia, thanks in part to the efforts of local communities, humanitarian actors, and authorities. While improved rains are starting to ease the impacts, the devastation brought about by the 2020-2023 drought crisis will be acutely felt for years to come in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia.

In Sudan, conflict that erupted on 15 April, has triggered the new displacements of over 1.4 million people within the country and more than 364,000 people who have crossed into the neighbouring countries. WFP estimates the number of people acutely food insecure in Sudan could reach 19.1 million in the next three to six months.

In South Sudan, an estimated 7.76 million people will be food insecure during the 2023 lean season, with 2.9 million people facing emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity and 43,000 people catastrophic (IPC Phase 5) levels.

In Ethiopia, despite the conflict, WFP continues to provide relief assistance to 4.5 million crisis affected people, nutrition services to 6 million children, PBWGs, and TB/HIV patients (including refugees and asylum seekers; WFP will scale-up assistance to refugees from 545,000 in 2022 to over 600,000.

In Kenya, 2.3 million people are expected to be in crisis (IPC Phases 3 and 4). WFP will provide food and cash-based assistance to 516,000 people facing emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity and 43,000 people facing catastrophic levels (IPC Phase 5). Severe flooding, vulnerability status, provide supplementary nutrition assistance to prevent and treat malnutrition, and implement Social Behaviour Change communication on nutrition related activities. WFP will support pre-primary and primary children including refugees and children from host community under the school feeding programme, and will continue to support new asylum seekers from DRC and Rwandan returnees.

In Rwanda, Contingent on resource availability, WFP aims to support 12.4 million people vulnerable to food insecurity in 2023, and will provide relief assistance to 6.5 million people affected by food insecurity, nutrition services to 6 million children, PBWGs, and TB/HIV patients (including refugees and asylum seekers) who are foreseen, and prioritization of districts has started, while new influx of refugees from Sudan have forced WFP to reduce rations to 60 percent and the number of refugees in South Sudan continues to increase.

In Djibouti, WFP will support over 122,000 vulnerable Ethiopians and refugees with emergency food, cash assistance and resilience building activities, and work to prevent and mitigate malnutrition in the four southern regions, where drought, insecurity and economic crisis remain key drivers of increased humanitarian needs. In the severely drought-affected Somali Region, WFP is providing food assistance to 2.8 million people. Severe funding constraints are ongoing, and prioritization of districts has started, while new influx of refugees from Sudan has forced WFP to reduce rations to 40 percent and the number of refugees in South Sudan continues to increase.

In South Sudan, an estimated 7.76 million people will be food insecure during the 2023 lean season, including 2.9 million people facing emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity and 43,000 people facing catastrophic (IPC Phase 5) levels. Severe flooding, vulnerability status, provide supplementary nutrition assistance to prevent and treat malnutrition, and implement Social Behaviour Change communication on nutrition related activities. WFP will support pre-primary and primary children including refugees and children from host community under the school feeding programme, and will continue to support new asylum seekers from DRC and Rwandan returnees.

In East Africa, WFP is playing a leading role in supporting the government to design the new food insecurity early action framework and to support the implementation of the National School Feeding Programme through trainings and the dissemination of best practices.

In Uganda, WFP will continue to support the school feeding programme through trainings and the divulgation of best practices.

In Uganda, WFP will provide food assistance to 19,750,000 people, including 14,750,000 people facing emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity and 196,750 beneficiaries. WFP will develop food systems by strengthening capacities of smallholder farmers and food value chain actors to provide home grown school meals, and will also support trainee nurses of Burundi through providing on-demand services.

Summary of WFP response plan 2023

**East Africa**

- **Burundi**: 48
- **Djibouti**: 12
- **Kenya**: 257
- **Rwanda**: 38
- **Somalia**: 161
- **South Sudan**: 703

**Corporate attention: East Africa**

- **Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Somalia**
- **Early action: Uganda**

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<td>South Sudan</td>
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**Corporate scale-up: Sudan**

- **Sudan**: 46.1M US$ 2.19B

**Burden sharing**

- **Kenya**: 257
- **Somalia**: 161
- **South Sudan**: 703

**Impact of conflict on food security**

- **Sudan**: 19.1M
- **South Sudan**: 7.76M
- **Somalia**: 2.8M
- **Kenya**: 2.3M
- **Rwanda**: 1.1M

**Drought impact**

- **Sudan**: 15 April
- **South Sudan**: 2023 lean season
- **Ethiopia**: 2023
- **Kenya**: 2023
- **Rwanda**: 2023

**Funding requirements**

- **Sudan**: 46.1M US$ 2.19B
- **Kenya**: 257
- **Somalia**: 161
- **South Sudan**: 703

**Humanitarian response**

- **Burundi**: 48
- **Djibouti**: 12
- **Kenya**: 257
- **Rwanda**: 38
- **Somalia**: 161
- **South Sudan**: 703

**Corporate scale-up**

- **Sudan**: 46.1M US$ 2.19B

**Corporate attention**

- **Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Somalia**
- **Early action: Uganda**
Before the current crisis, 15.8 million people were already food insecure across Sudan, and WFP was planning to reach, based on available resources, the most food insecure 11.7 million IDPs, refugees and residents with food relief. Since the conflict, WFP can conservatively estimate the number of acutely food insecure to increase to 16 million (nearly 40 percent of the population) over the next 3-6 months. WFP resumed the distribution of critical food assistance despite continued fighting and access challenges.

WFP provides food assistance to over 1.3 million refugees in Uganda’s 13 settlements and to new arrivals at reception centres. Due to funding shortfalls, prioritization and selection of beneficiaries (Phase 3) is in progress. WFP will provide higher rations to most vulnerable groups (15 percent), and smaller ration to the moderately vulnerable (80 percent). The self-reliant beneficiaries (5 percent) will be graduated off food assistance. 56 percent of refugees receive CBT based food assistance. Contingency planning is underway to receive more refugees from the DRC and South Sudan.

Against a backdrop of economic stagnation, structural poverty and inequality, insecurity, natural hazards and the climate crisis, the situation in the region has been exacerbated by the current inflationary trend in food and energy prices. These negative factors are projected to persist throughout 2023. The region is currently braced for the annual hurricane season in the Caribbean, as well as planning for a potential negative impact of the recently confirmed El Niño event that could trigger a drought in Central America affecting an estimated 1.4 million people.

At present, an estimated 39.9 million people in the countries where WFP has a presence are acutely food insecure. Of these, 10.9 million are severely food insecure (April 2023). This worrying situation is reflected in rising levels of migration, with 127,687 new arrivals registered in Darién during the first quarter of 2023 (compared to 19,925 in the same period of 2022).

COLOMBIA
Colombia faces violence, displacement, migration flows, climate emergencies and economic crises. Among the 2.5 million Venezuelan migrants in Colombia with the intention to settle, 1.3 million (52%) are food insecure. WFP prioritizes financial, nutrition and supports the peace process.

HAITI
Heightened violence, instability, inflation, cholera outbreak, and natural hazards – the polycrisis – severely impacts Haiti's food security, with 4.9 million people facing IPC Phase 3 or worse and a 30 percent increase in the number of children with severe acute malnutrition.

GUATEMALA
Socioeconomic challenges and climatic shocks, persisting food insecurity and malnutrition, affecting 4.6 million people. WFP targets 416,000 beneficiaries for emergency assistance, malnutrition prevention, early recovery and climate-resilient food systems in vulnerable areas.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN WFP 2023 TARGET BENEFICIARIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>donor funding requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>1.3M</td>
<td>461,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>4.9M</td>
<td>1,481,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>4.6M</td>
<td>416,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that beneficiaries of Latin America projects are covered by Venezuela project.
El Salvador

The deteriorating food security situation with 87,000 people in IPC 2 and above is aggravated by sustained inflation (4.4 percent in April) and the increasing basic food basket cost resulting from the global food crisis. In 2023, WFP aims to reach 423,300 beneficiaries, including schoolchildren, at-risk youth and migrant returnees. WFP also supports local food producers with resilience and risk-management solutions. Furthermore, WFP prioritizes the Government’s efforts in providing emergency assistance, implementing early action and early recovery activities among populations vulnerable to food insecurity.

Guatemala

Food insecurity and malnutrition remain high in 2023 due to socioeconomic challenges and climate-related shocks. 4.6 million people are estimated to be acutely food insecure (IPC 3 and above), with higher peaks expected during the lean, rainy, and hurricane seasons. One in two children remain chronically malnourished. WFP aims to reach 645,000 beneficiaries in 2023 to support emergency and early recovery assistance and resilience-focused food security support, prioritizing the most vulnerable in IPC 4.

Haiti

Heightened armed group violence, sociopolitical instability, soaring inflation and cholera outbreak severely impact food security. 4.9 million people, half of Haiti’s population, are facing severe levels of food insecurity (IPC 3 or above). WFP has increased its assistance to 2.6 million people since September 2022. 1.8 million people are in the Emergency phase (IPC 4). WFP aims to reach 2.3 million people with emergency food assistance, home-grown school feeding, residence building, social protection and logistics support to bolster operational efficiency and partnerships.

Nicaragua

The El Niño phenomenon is forecasted to impact Nicaragua, posing particular concern for households in 20 municipalities in the Dry Corridor. WFP aims to reach 673,000 beneficiaries with emergency food assistance (including 133,000 children in the Dry Corridor), school feeding, livelihoods and resilience and emergency school feeding for 302,000 children in 2023 as an emergency response to the El Niño phenomenon.

Panama

The deteriorating food security situation with 197,000 people in IPC 2 is exacerbated by sustained inflation (5.7 percent in April) and the increasing basic food basket cost resulting from the global food crisis. In 2023, WFP aims to reach 123,000 beneficiaries, including schoolchildren, at-risk youth and migrant returnees. WFP also supports local food producers with resilience and risk-management solutions. Furthermore, WFP prioritizes the Government’s efforts in providing emergency assistance, implementing early action and early recovery activities among populations vulnerable to food insecurity.

WFP GLOBAL OPERATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN 2023 UPDATE #8, JUNE 2023

SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2023

Cuba

The deteriorating food security situation with 87,000 people in IPC 2 and above is aggravated by sustained inflation (4.4 percent in April) and the increasing basic food basket cost resulting from the global food crisis. In 2023, WFP aims to reach 423,300 beneficiaries, including schoolchildren, at-risk youth and migrant returnees. WFP also supports local food producers with resilience and risk-management solutions. Furthermore, WFP prioritizes the Government’s efforts in providing emergency assistance, implementing early action and early recovery activities among populations vulnerable to food insecurity.
Over 49.9 million people are estimated to be food insecure in 2023, down from 56.7 million in 2022. Protracted conflicts, displacement, and compounding effects of climate change are reducing food security. Volatile food and fuel prices exacerbated by the Ukraine crisis, deepening economic crises and declining livelihood opportunities are compromising people’s ability to manage shocks and meet their food needs. These trends have been intensified in Turkey, Syria and Somalia in the recent years, with food insecurity levels soaring in many affected regions.

The increase in commodity and shipping prices since early 2022 doubled the costs of WFP operations in 2023 which is likely to result in reductions in rations, if no additional funding is received. In response, WFP is scaling up partnerships including joint appeals and programming with other UN agencies to mobilize funding to support its beneficiaries, highly dependent on humanitarian assistance.

Protracted conflicts, displacement and compounding effects of climate extremes are triggering high levels of acute food insecurity. Volatile food and fuel prices exacerbated by the Ukraine crisis, deepening economic crises and declining livelihood opportunities are compromising people’s ability to manage shocks and meet their food needs. These trends have been intensified in Turkey, Syria and Somalia in the recent years, with food insecurity levels soaring in many affected regions.

WFP is providing food assistance to around 465,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees while also working with UNHCR to foster refugee self-reliance. WFP enhances its technical assistance for national social protection programmes through school feeding and by providing healthy meals to 500,000 Jordanian and refugee students. WFP is expanding its climate action to strengthen adaptive livelihoods and sustainable management of natural resources. WFP is also supporting the Government in the operationalization of the National Food Security Strategy.

Under the present CSP, WFP is supporting the Government to mitigate the effects of the global food crisis on vulnerable Egyptian and refugee communities through cash-based transfers, school feeding, climate-smart agricultural techniques, financial empowerment and skills development, and capacity strengthening. With the developing Sudan Crisis, WFP is supporting refugees arriving in Egypt by providing essential food and cash assistance, and regularly updating planning as the situation evolves. WFP Egypt will launch its new CSP (July-2023 – June-2028), presenting to the EB in June 2023.

Under the 2023-2027 CSP, WFP is providing food assistance to around 465,000 vulnerable Syrian refugees while also working with UNHCR to foster refugee self-reliance. WFP enhances its technical assistance for national social protection programmes through school feeding and by providing healthy meals to 500,000 Jordanian and refugee students. WFP is expanding its climate action to strengthen adaptive livelihoods and sustainable management of natural resources. WFP is also supporting the Government in the operationalization of the National Food Security Strategy.

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Emergency support through food and cash assistance continues to be the key activity in 2023, serving between 2 to 3 million people on average each month. WFP is closely monitoring the volatile frontline situation to tailor the support according to needs. Another focus is to strengthen the Government capacity in key thematic areas: supporting school feeding programmes in primary schools, effective transitioning of humanitarian cash to social protection, and enhancing food systems through demining and export of grains.

In 2023, WFP will continue its large-scale humanitarian operation in Yemen and respond to the extensive humanitarian needs. WFP plans to assist 15 million people with general food assistance, 4.2 million children with nutritional assistance, 3.2 million children through school feeding, and 2 million people with livelihoods and resilience projects. However, funding shortfalls mean WFP has been forced to reduce the scope and/or scale of most of its activities in Yemen, affecting millions of people.

In Ukraine, WFP is supporting 1 million Syrian refugees and 705,000 Lebanese citizens with CBT or in-kind food assistance to meet their essential needs, and up to 100,000 Syrian and Lebanese schoolchildren with school meals. Livelihood activities will bring a synergy and co-ordinated focus on food systems, supporting up to 40,000 people, including smallholder farmers, through institutional capacity strengthening. WFP is also working with the Government to strengthen and integrate national safety nets reaching an additional 300,000 Lebanese with WFP-implemented cash transfers.

In Lebanon, 2023 is an all-time high level of tension. WFP is supporting 1 million Syrian refugees and 705,000 Lebanese citizens with CBT or in-kind food assistance to meet their essential needs, and up to 100,000 Syrian and Lebanese schoolchildren with school meals. Livelihood activities will bring a synergy and co-ordinated focus on food systems, supporting up to 40,000 people, including smallholder farmers, through institutional capacity strengthening. WFP is also working with the Government to strengthen and integrate national safety nets reaching an additional 300,000 Lebanese with WFP-implemented cash transfers.

In Libya, WFP’s response is focused on needs of Ukrainian refugees and vulnerable Libyan householders affected by several compounding crises. Under Libya’s Transition-CSF 2022-2023, WFP aims to sustain the provision of unconditional resource transfers through CBT and vouchers, while augmenting national social protection capacities and extending services to permit to enable a coordinated and efficient response. Moreover, WFP developed a contingency plan to support another potential large-scale influx of refugees into Libya because of increased hostilities in neighbouring Libya.

In Moldova, WFP aims to improve food security and cash assistance to 438,500 food insecure non-refugee Palestinians. However, shortage of funding is forcing WFP to suspend assistance to 60 percent of its beneficiaries by June and might suspend operations completely in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. WFP also works with national institutions to enhance the capacity of hosting social safety nets to assist the most vulnerable and offers on-demand services to the humanitarian community to enable a more efficient response.

In Palestine, Prior to the February earthquake, an estimated 12.1 million people or 55 percent of the population were food insecure. Of these, 2.7 million were severely food insecure. WFP is targeting 6.4 million unique beneficiaries through food and nutrition assistance, and early recovery support. In 2023, WFP introduced vulnerability-based targeting, adjusting assistance to better meet beneficiary needs. Due to funding constraints, from July onwards, WFP will be forced to cut assistance for up to 0.5 million of the 1.5 million food insecure people it supports each month.

In Syria, WFP aims to improve food security through the National School Feeding Programme, by strengthening the capacity of national institutions. WFP is also working to increase the accessibility of the school feeding market to smallholder farmers. Through the joint Programme on Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment, WFP supports 2,220 rural women, 780 men, and 60 professional agricultural institutions. These programmes aim to improve livelihoods by increasing women’s access to resources, assets, and technologies that are essential for climate-resilient agriculture production.

Ukraine

Libya

Moldova

Palestine

Syria

Tunisia

Turkey
The Southern Africa region continues to be impacted by extreme weather, conflict and other economic challenges causing widespread food and nutrition insecurity. The start of the main harvest is facing food consumption gaps at household level. However, the upcoming harvest in several countries, namely Eswatini, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia, is expected to be negatively impacted by the heavy rains and Cyclone Freddy, which caused significant destruction of cropland areas and people’s livelihoods. Conflict continues to drive high food insecurity levels in Mozambique and DRC. IPC 3.0 persists in southern Angola, southern Lesotho, production deficit areas of Zimbabwe and conflict-affected northern Mozambique. Forecasters are pointing to a return of El Niño, and the Southern Africa region is expected to face the risk of dry conditions and a return of El Niño, and the Southern Africa region is expected to face the risk of dry conditions and a decline in several of the sector have led to an increase in forced displacements and a growing need for humanitarian assistance. 

### DRC

Conflict and violence are driving further large-scale displacement, causing market disruptions and high levels of acute food insecurity and malnutrition. Catastrophic floods in Mozambique and DRC have resulted in significant loss of infrastructure, livestock and cropland. WFP is welcoming the Government’s disposition targeting 700,000 people and 200,000 for nutrition support. Food insecurity rate rose from 68 percent in 2022 to 87 percent in 2023.

### Malawi

Cyclone Freddy, resulted in significant loss of infrastructure, livestock and cropland. WFP is welcoming the Government’s disposition targeting 700,000 people and 200,000 for nutrition support. Food insecurity rate rose from 68 percent in 2022 to 87 percent in 2023.

### Mozambique

Intermittent humanitarian access challenges, cyclic forced displacements, high malnutrition prevalence, as well as re-flows of displaced people are adding considerable challenges to humanitarian operations, together with severe climate related events such as floods and cyclones including the recent devastating double cyclone Freddy.

### Eswatini

Eswatini has continued to witness a spike in the prices of fuel, food commodities etc., which has continued to exacerbate inequality for the estimated 32 percent of the population which is living under poverty. WFP’s planned response to reach 45,500 beneficiaries. The net Funding Requirements for the next 6 months (June – November 2023) is $3.2 million.

### Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Based on the 2023 IPC projections, more than 24.5 million individuals in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are currently experiencing severe food insecurity (IPC 3+). Among them, 2.8 million are in an Emergency phase (IPC 4) and 1.8 million in need of nutrition assistance. In DRC’s south (for 57 percent of the people in need of food assistance), food insecurity (IPC 3+) is expected to increase. In combination with ongoing conflict, a growing number of the population is at risk of becoming food insecure and malnourished. The 2023 HPR for Congo calls for $245 million for food security and livelihood activities, and $25 million for nutrition, for a total of $270 million. The net funding requirements for the next 6 months (June - November 2023) is $8 million. WFP assisted 52,000 food insecure people during the lean season (October 2022 and March 2023) out of 94,000 DRC households that planned food assistance. The vulnerability assessment for 2023/2024 consumption year is scheduled for June 2023. The assessment will provide information on the projected food insecure population. Based on initial analysis, WFP is estimating that 115,000 households may need support and $7,712,184 will be required for at least 6 months.

### Lesotho

Estimates for the post lean season remain a concern with over 1 million people projected to experience acute food insecurity (IPC 3+) in the coming months. In addition, nearly 500,000 households are facing high levels of food insecurity. In the Great South and Eastern regions, WFP is scaling down its assistance by 40 percent and has suspended post-lean season activities in the drought affected South due to resource constraints. Resilience activities continue to be implemented, aiming to build resilience by providing a system of integrated services needed for rural transformation in remote areas.

### Madagascar

Estimates for the post lean season remain a concern with over 1 million people projected to experience acute food insecurity (IPC 3+) in the coming months. In addition, nearly 500,000 households are facing high levels of food insecurity. In the Great South and Eastern regions, WFP is scaling down its assistance by 40 percent and has suspended post-lean season activities in the drought affected South due to resource constraints. Resilience activities continue to be implemented, aiming to build resilience by providing a system of integrated services needed for rural transformation in remote areas.

### Malawi

The compounding effects of the crisis in Ukraine and the devastation caused by Cyclone Freddy (1.6 million people in need of food assistance, 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy) and the Government’s food assistance have worsened the food security. WFP is providing food assistance targeting 760,000 people to be followed by early recovery activities and 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy. The compounding effects of the crisis in Ukraine and the devastation caused by Cyclone Freddy (1.6 million people in need of food assistance, 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy) and the Government’s food assistance have worsened the food security. WFP is providing food assistance targeting 760,000 people to be followed by early recovery activities and 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy. WFP is providing food assistance targeting 760,000 people and 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy. The compounding effects of the crisis in Ukraine and the devastation caused by Cyclone Freddy (1.6 million people in need of food assistance, 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy) and the Government’s food assistance have worsened the food security. WFP is providing food assistance targeting 760,000 people to be followed by early recovery activities and 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy. WFP is providing food assistance targeting 760,000 people and 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy. The compounding effects of the crisis in Ukraine and the devastation caused by Cyclone Freddy (1.6 million people in need of food assistance, 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy) and the Government’s food assistance have worsened the food security. WFP is providing food assistance targeting 760,000 people to be followed by early recovery activities and 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy. WFP is providing food assistance targeting 760,000 people and 200,000 hectares of crops affected from Cyclone Freddy.
The continued economic crisis remains a concern in Namibia, with disrupted livelihoods, staggering high inflation, and a significant reduction of agricultural production, hence pushing more of the population into food insecurity. About 270,000 people (13%) of the population are in Phase 3. WFP, through its social cash transfer program, has been providing assistance to vulnerable households. Through the Government, WFP will provide three-monthly value vouchers to support access to nutritious foods for those affected by the effects of the Ukraine/Russia crisis and its effects on the food prices.

As of March 2023, WFP reached 146,937 people affected by the 2023 floods targeted to receive emergency assistance. The Government, WFP, and other partners continue to provide emergency assistance, including food, cash, and non-food items. According to the March 2023 Cadre Harmonisé analysis, an estimated 4.2 million people are projected to be acutely food insecure (IPC/CH Phase 3) in the region during the lean season (June-August). WFP, in partnership with the Government, is delivering assistance to people affected by the 2023 floods, with an emphasis on providing food, water, and hygiene supplies. The continued economic crisis remains a concern, with disrupted livelihoods, staggering high inflation, and a significant reduction of agricultural production, leading to more people facing food insecurity. WFP and its partners continue to provide assistance to vulnerable households, including food, cash, and non-food items, to alleviate the effects of the economic crisis and the 2023 floods.
WFP requires $7.2 million for its crisis response operations during June through November 2023. This includes food and nutrition programming for 1.1 million people in Burkina Faso and 0.6 million refugees (from Nigeria, Sudan, Cameroon, and Central Africa Republic). In response, WFP plans to assist 2.2 million people during the lean season, including 0.6 million refugees (from Nigeria, Sudan, Cameroon, and Central Africa Republic). With a 67 percent funding gap between June and November 2023, WFP will prioritise emergency food and nutrition assistance to people at risk of food insecurity.

Conflict and violence have surged with non-state armed groups controlling almost 40 percent of the territory. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) have increased by over two million since March 2013 (the June-August lean season). The 2023 WFP response includes 1.2 million people affected by displacement in the north. With 67 percent of the population food insecure during the June-August lean season, WFP will respond with emergency food and nutrition assistance, including 0.15 million people in IPC Phases 4 and 5 with full rations. Additional funding is required to help posture WFP to respond with emergency food and nutrition assistance to 0.6 million people in IPC Phases 4 and 5 with full and reduced rations.

WFP responds to multiple crises through life-saving assistance while integrating the transition to early recovery and resilience-building. WFP employs a vulnerability-phased approach to provide the most appropriate assistance to refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and host communities. For example, while working with the Government to address the root causes of food insecurity in crisis-affected areas, WFP is fully processing 57 percent of the total funding requirements. This includes the delivery of commodities necessary to maintain the national school feeding programme (covering 788 schools across the country). WFP plans to continue supporting the innovative school feeding model implemented in Cape Verde to help prevent in a rural school in attendance and enrollment rates in the country.

Nutrition intervention in line with the findings of the Fill the Nutrient Gap (FNG) analysis.

In 2022, WFP targets 1.5 million beneficiaries, including 57 percent under emergency response and 43 percent receiving resilience and recovery interventions this year. Resilience will be built through social behaviour change communication activities to improve dietary habits, limit reducing the number of pregnant and breastfeeding women, adolescents and children to be supported through value voucher systems. Population in IPC 3 will be covered only at 30 percent with 50 percent rations. Furthermore, WFP aims to continue expanding the diet diversity by reaching 1.7 million children under two years old and pregnant and breastfeeding women.

According to the March Cadre Harmonisé analysis, 320,000 people are projected to be food insecure during the lean season. Priority will be given to emergency and lean season food assistance from June to October 2023, along with efforts to sustain the progress made in reducing moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) nationwide. Additional funding is required to provide malnutrition prevention support to children under two years of age and breastfeeding women.

Ghana

Funding constraints and the highest cost of food and feed continue to be major challenges. To address this, WFP is targeting 0.7 million people with in-kind assistance (food and non-food items) and 0.5 million with cash transfers (CBT) preparedness support.

According to the March Cadre Harmonié assessment, 67,000 people will be vulnerable to shocks and stressors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. WFP plans to assist 88,000 people with cash-based transfers and will aim to reach 55,000 people with food and non-food items.

Conflict and violence have surged with non-state armed groups controlling almost 40 percent of the territory. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) have increased by over two million since March 2013 (the June-August lean season). The 2023 WFP response includes 1.2 million people affected by displacement in the north. With 67 percent of the population food insecure during the June-August lean season, WFP will respond with emergency food and nutrition assistance, including 0.15 million people in IPC Phases 4 and 5 with full rations. Additional funding is required to help posture WFP to respond with emergency food and nutrition assistance to 0.6 million people in IPC Phases 4 and 5 with full and reduced rations.

WFP requires $8.7 million for its crisis response operations during June through November 2023. This includes food and nutrition assistance to over 20,000 Burkinabe refugees and 15,000 host community members in northern Côte d’Ivoire. Initially, refugees will receive a food package in addition to cash and in-kind support to help move to mobile money transfers, including a provision of starter kits. These refugees will become mobile money subscribers to complement the Government’s net project under the lean season.
Niger

Forced displacements, climatic shocks and high market prices continue to drive food insecurity. During the June-August 2023 lean season, 3.3 million people will be acutely food-insecure, the second highest projection since the inception of the Cadre Harmonisé. WFP plans to reach 1.5 million people through crisis response food and nutritional assistance and 2.1 million people through the integrated resilience programme. However, funding constraints have forced WFP to reduce rations, assistance duration and lean season beneficiaries by 50 percent.

The humanitarian crisis in Nigeria is further compounded by access constraints due to armed groups, the record-high floods of 2022, and increasing prices. The March Cadre Harmonisé found nearly 4.5 million people in IPC/CH Phase 4+, and at risk of slipping into catastrophic famine. In response, WFP plans nutrition-sensitive emergency and integrated resilience food assistance to reach 21.1 million people. WFP will prioritize the most vulnerable people living in hard-to-reach areas with more severe food security. WFP will also continue strengthening the capacity of national programs to provide shock-responsive social protection and emergency preparedness and response.

With a funding shortfall of 43 percent and the run-up to the elections coinciding with the rice planting season, WFP will further increase its food assistance operations to reach 31,000 children aged 6-23 months (for prevention of acute malnutrition) during the lean season in most affected areas.

Senegal

In response to the worrying food and nutrition situation and in full collaboration with the Government and key partners, WFP will provide one month of food assistance (June 2023) to 3,750 households (21,500 people) in the north of the country. Additional funding is required to provide food assistance to 9,000 households in 5 departments during the lean season (July-August 2023). WFP plans to assist 31,000 children aged 6-23 months (for prevention of acute malnutrition) during the lean season in most affected areas.

Sierra Leone

With a funding shortfall of 43 percent and the run-up to the elections coinciding with the rice planting season, WFP will further strengthen its partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAPS) at the chieftain level to enhance its work with smallholder farmers and communities to have resilient livelihoods. This includes support for asset creation and climate-smart agriculture activities. Cash assistance to crisis-affected populations and onsite school meals will be prioritized along with comprehensive malnutrition prevention support provided through the strengthening of Mother Support Groups.

Togo

WFP has reached 52,000 beneficiaries (internally displaced persons, Burkinabe refugees, and host communities) with in-kind and cash-based food assistance since February 2023, including more than 30,000 people in the Savanes region affected by the spillover of the conflict in the Sahel. WFP plans to scale up its emergency response to reach an additional 100,000 beneficiaries in 2023, prioritising people in IPC Phase 3+, including 40,000 in IPC 4. WFP requires additional $10.4 million to fund the scale-up of its emergency response operations in Togo until November 2023.

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UNICEF. No Time to Waste: Strengthen the Prevention, Early detection and Management of wasting in 23 flood affected priority districts (Priority 1 and 15 Priority 2 districts).

SMART 2021 Yemen

SMART 2023 Haiti

Somalia: Acute Food Insecurity Situation March 2023 and Projection for April 2023 | IPC - Integrated Food Security Phase Classification

South Sudan: Acute Food Insecurity Situation October - November 2022 and Projections for December 2022 - March 2023 and April - July 2023 | IPC - Integrated Food Security Phase Classification

UNHCR Operational Data Portal Sudan

Due to the absence of people in Catastrophic conditions in the most recent IPC/CH analyses.

Trading Economics. Food Inflation, accessed 15 June 2023, with data for March 2023 or later considered as recent. For Cuba data from the website of the National Statistical Office is used. For DRC, Myanmar, Sudan, Syria and Yemen food inflation is estimated based on changes in the cost of WFP food baskets as official data is not available.

United States Department of Agriculture: Foreign Agricultural Service

IMF Primary Commodity Prices

World Bank Report April 2023: Commodity Markets Outlook

IMF Primary Commodity Prices

This was achieved by a first-of-its-kind unification of the data collection, validation and distribution processes. Once a person arrives, their ID is checked online for duplicates, their personal data is collected for registration, and a pre-printed electronic card is assigned and distributed. It took 72 hours to understand context needs, customize/build the solution, train the staff and go live. This is another great example of how WFP can quickly distribute cash in emergencies. Click here to read about the process. Also, click here for more details of the card solution provided by a fintech in Egypt which allows pre-printing of cards without any personal data and enables cash out/spending in supermarkets.

Including CBT transfer value of Moldova

OCHA/UNHCR/UNICEF/WFP: Return on Investment in Emergency Preparedness

Economics of resilience to drought in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia

UNHCR Operational Data Portal

Total number of newly arrived refugees, asylum seekers, and returnees

Sudan: Revised 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan, issued on 17 May 2023

The projection considers the current conflict will continue

Ibid

US$ 8.6 million to WFP Chad, US$ 2.3 million to WFP Egypt, and US$ 20 million to WFP Sudan

Funding needed to respond to new and emerging needs Sudan

Total number of people living in >120km/h wind speed zones

Please note that there could be overlaps between Latin America and Venezuela beneficiaries data

Global Operational Response Plan, February edition

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) provides a common scale for classifying the severity and magnitude of food insecurity and acute malnutrition, which improves the rigour, transparency, relevance and comparability of food security and nutrition analysis for decision-makers.

More country examples are available in the section V of this report.

Scaling down operations: Key WFP Research, Assessment and Monitoring (RAM) considerations when prioritizing assistance

Monitoring food security in food crisis countries and territories with conflict situations

OCHA. Gendered drivers, risks and impacts of food insecurity in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa, Policy brief, March 2023, p.3.


Immediate Response Account

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