

Eastern Africa, Regional Overview

Michael Dunford, Regional Director for Eastern Africa (RBN) Second Regular Session of the WFP Executive Board



EASTERN AFRICA OVERVIEW



63M food insecure across Eastern Africa as of November 2023



Conflict and insecurity, climate and socio-macroeconomic shocks are key drivers

Nearly **18M** people forcibly displacedexacerbated by Sudan crisis



FOOD INSECURITY TRENDS SINCE 2019 AND PROJECTIONS FOR 2024



NOTE: The dashed line is used to indicate projected food insecurity levels. Projections are based on trends IPC and in the cost of living.



WFP targeting a record number of 47 million people whilst facing a unique year of prioritization



Comparing RBN Annual Pipeline Needs vs Confirmed & Forecast contributions including carry-over resources in 2023



THE IMPLICATIONS OF PRIORITIZATION IN EASTERN AFRICA

EFFECTS ON BENEFICIARIES

10 million (1 of 3 beneficiaries in IPC3+) will be removed from life-saving assistance due to prioritization:

- **74%** reduction of beneficiaries in Somalia
- **48%** reduction of beneficiaries in Ethiopia
- **48%** reduction of beneficiaries in South Sudan

EFFECTS ON HUNGER

Reduction in assistance will lead to households moving from IPC3 to IPC4 in 2024

Highest increase to existing IPC4 will be in **Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan**, leading to a minimum projected



30% increase in hunger in these three countries





- Over 20M acutely food insecure from 9 million in 2022
- Conflict already displaced 4.6M internally and made
 1.3M refugees
- Persistent challenges around humanitarian access, bureaucratic impediments, security
- WFP has assisted 3.4M since May plans to reach 5M by December. Corporate Scale Up extended to February 2024
- Risk of becoming **forgotten crisis** urgent establishment of a **lasting ceasefire** critical





USD 298 million needed to support those most food insecure in the next 6 months (Nov 2023 - April 2024)

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF SUDAN CONFLICT

- Conflict undermines regional security and stability
- Nearly 1.3M people have fled to neighbouring countries – CAR, Chad, Ethiopia, South Sudan, and others with limited absorption capacity
- Economic hardship and trade disruptions led to significant commodity price spikes – affecting regional food security
- **Response at scale** required to prevent widespread acute food insecurity and continued displacement







- Nealy **20M** people need humanitarian assistance
- Operating context remains fragile owing to conflict and recovery from climate shocks
- WFP has reinforced controls through a comprehensive Reassurance Project addressing end-to end processes
- WFP has resumed assistance to refugees **530,000** reached so far
- **Dire humanitarian situation** calls for a wider resumption of life saving assistance





USD 270 million needed to support those most food insecure in the next 6 months (Nov 2023 - April 2024)



- 4.3M people need humanitarian assistance (IPC3+) and over 1M people facing severe hunger (IPC 4)
- Intense flooding now affected 700,000 people after decade-long drought
- WFP is a strong partner to Government in resilience building and climate-adaptive hunger solutions
- Adoption of system wide approach to tackle root causes of aid diversion. WFP leading workstreams under Humanitarian Country Team Action Plan





USD 345 million needed to support those most food insecure in the next 6 months (Nov 2023 - April 2024)

POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- Millions on the move: region hosts nearly 18M forcibly displaced - up from 16M in January 2023
- Food ration cuts of up to 70% affect over two thirds of all refugees in the region
- WFP and UNHCR collaborating on self-reliance and social protection for protracted cases
- Need collective re-think and durable solutions to protracted displacement
- Initiatives such as 2024 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan shifting focus to include resilience interventions





GOOD NEWS FROM THE REGION



Anticipatory Action

Successful Rollout

Water Security for Food Security

UNEP MoU Africa Climate Summit COP 28 School Meals Coalition East African Regional Network Launch



