

### **Eastern Africa, Regional Overview**

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

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## EASTERN AFRICA OVERVIEW



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



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

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



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



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

#### WFP targeting nearly 41 million people whilst facing intense year of prioritization

### **FUNDING** ANNUAL REQUIREMENTS VS CONFIRMED CONTRIBUTIONS



WFP targeting nearly 41 million people whilst facing intense year of prioritization

### THE IMPLICATIONS OF PRIORITIZATION IN EASTERN AFRICA

#### **EFFECTS ON HUNGER**



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

#### **EFFECTS ON BENEFICIARIES**



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

**10 million** beneficiaries will be excluded due to prioritisation





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



#### USD 144 million needed to support those most food insecure in the next 6 months (Feb 2024 - July 2024)

## SUDAN REGIONAL CRISIS

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





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



USD 142 million needed to support those most food insecure in the next 6 months (Feb 2024 - April 2024)



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



USD 437 million needed to support those most food insecure in the next 6 months (Feb 2024 - April 2024)

### FORCED DISPLACEMENT

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



### **BRIGHT SPOTS FROM THE REGION**



Launch of R&D Lab



Flagship Partnership with the Novo Nordisk Foundation



Sustainable Supply Chain



Evidence-based Targeting and Prioritization



**Partnerships for Research** 

# **THANK YOU**