

Eastern Africa, Regional Overview

Michael Dunford, Regional Director for Eastern Africa (RBN)

Annual Session of the WFP Executive Board

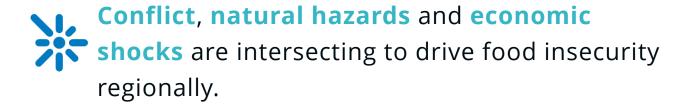
SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

2024 June

EASTERN AFRICA OVERVIEW



61M expected to be food insecure across Eastern Africa- up from **58M** in February. Nearly **12.5M** children aged 6-59 months acutely malnourished.



Nearly 24.5M people forcibly displaced in the region– up from 10M in 2020. From 3.3M refugees to now over 5M.

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





- World's largest displacement crisis. Over 10 million displaced internally, including pre-conflict caseloads.
- Potentially world's worst hunger crisis 18 million people acutely food insecure. Could reach 25 million, with catastrophic conditions in hunger hotspots.
- In 2024, WFP reached **3 million** individuals across 16 states, and **24** out of **44** hunger hotspots. Famine prevention scale-up targeting a total of **5 million** by end of 2024.
- But: Persistent challenges around humanitarian access, bureaucratic impediments and insecurity hamper response.
- Immediate ceasefire critical to assist populations trapped by the conflict; prevent a complete collapse of Sudan and further regional destabilization.



SUDAN REGIONAL CRISIS

- Protracted conflict further undermines security and stability in an already volatile regional context.
- More than 2M people fled to neighbouring countries (South Sudan, Chad, Uganda....) with limited absorption capacity:
 - Over 700,000 crossed into South Sudan;
- Over 35M people expected to be acutely food insecure (IPC Phase 3+) across Sudan, South Sudan and Chad.
- Sudan's economic collapse and trade disruptions continue to lead to commodity price spikes affecting regional food security.





- Nearly 16 million in need of life-saving relief food assistance. 87 percent live in Amhara, Oromia, Tigray, and Somali Regions.
- WFP deeply concerned about **growing insecurity** in parts of Ethiopia- operations and partners also affected.
- Working to access nearly 200,000 people in the contested districts between Tigray and Amhara regions- without food assistance since April.
- Unhindered humanitarian access and funding critical to addressing growing needs. WFP reached 1.3 million prioritized people with severest needs in May.
- Following implementation of the Assurance Project, WFP is integrating and reinforcing controls for all activities addressing end-to-end processes.



FLOODING ACROSS EASTERN AFRICA

- East Africa is the epicentre of the climate emergencydevastating floods wreaking havoc across the region.
- Nearly **1.5 million people** impacted by floods in the region since the onset of the March-May rains.
- Nearly 500,000 people displaced highest numbers in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda.
- South Sudan expecting severe floods with peak in September, potentially impacting up to 3 million people. Preparedness actions under way.
- WFP responding across the region through anticipatory action, food and nutrition assistance and critical logistics services.
- Investments in **long-term solutions** essential for communities to withstand future climate shocks.



WATER SECURITY FOR FRAGILE FOOD SYSTEMS

- RBN water strategy developed with BCG's support- to be finalized this week.
- A year since the prolonged drought in the HoA, and devastating floods across the region, WFP more intentional with its programming in Eastern Africa.
- Four key entry points for WFP identified:
 - Helping to identify the best interventions with ROI for the context;
 - Delivering local infrastructure;
 - Capacity building for local government and advocacy;
 - Evidence generation
- Entry points well connected to the upcoming new Resilience Policy.
- Engaging key external stakeholders (FAO, UNEP, UNDP, IGAD, UN OSEHA...) and receiving support.



REIMAGINING REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

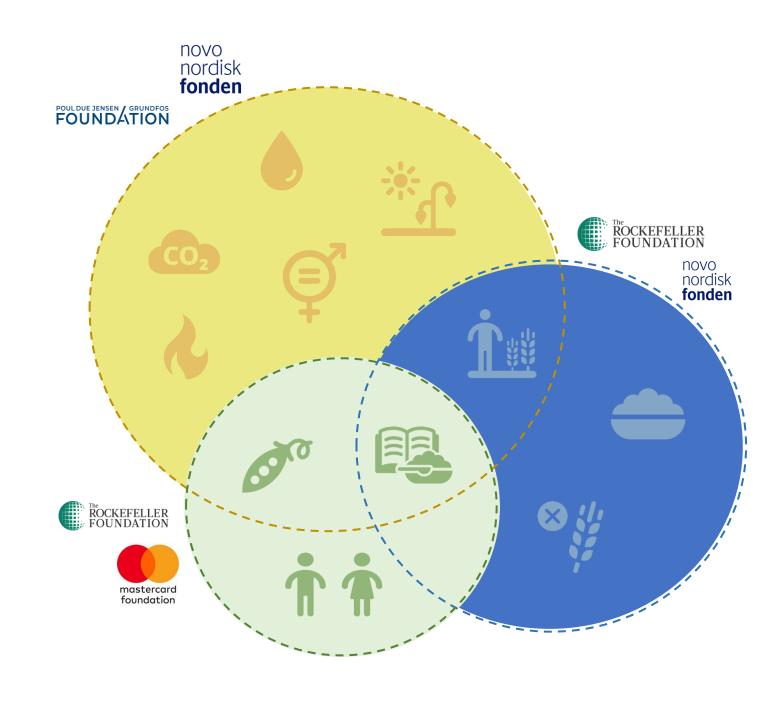
- New Joint Approach to Transitioning towards Self-Reliance in Eastern Africa- developed by WFP and UNHCR.
- Cognizant of respective strengths and mandates, challenges and opportunities in the region- ultimate goal to promote self-reliance and economic inclusion.
- Three key components to the Approach:
 - Supporting an enabling environment
 - Self-reliance strengthening
 - Alignment to and inclusion into critical national systems
- Supporting the Approach:
 - Shifting mindsets
 - Strategic partnering
 - Joint learning agenda
 - Enhanced data management and system interoperability



LEVERAGING, LINKING & LAYERING



Foundations Championing WFP



INNOVATION IN ACTION: **VALUE CHAIN IMPACT INVESTING**

IMPACT SINCE 2021

East African founded innovations supported:



% 75+

Additional investment catalysed:



Smallholders supported:













EASTERN AFRICA 2020-2024

