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## Update on WFP's role in the collective humanitarian response (2022)

### Executive summary

This paper provides an update on WFP's role in the collective humanitarian response during 2022 and the first quarter of 2023.

In 2022, the global hunger and malnutrition crisis continued to be driven by converging factors such as conflict, climate extremes, the lingering effects of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic and economic shocks. The number of people in need of humanitarian assistance soared from 274 million in January 2022 to 326 million in December 2022. At the same time, despite generous donor contributions, the funding gap in 2022 was over USD 25 billion. The prospects for 2023 remain grim and resources are unlikely to keep pace with the unprecedented operational requirements, which are expected to exceed USD 54 billion as at the end of March 2023. According to the 2023 Global Humanitarian Overview, one of every 23 people on Earth will require humanitarian assistance, more than double the number just four years ago.

Despite the massive challenges, the humanitarian system rallied to scale up activities and provide life-saving assistance to those in need in 2022, averting the risk of famine for thousands of vulnerable people. WFP and partners – governments, humanitarian agencies, international non-governmental organizations and local actors – advocated famine prevention across multiple forums while scaling up their responses and supporting collective solutions such as the Black Sea Grain Initiative, which helped to stabilize global food prices and markets.

In 2022, WFP provided food assistance to 158 million people, a historic high. Cash-based transfers, reaching USD 3.3 billion, increased by 42 percent compared to 2021 and represented 35 percent of WFP assistance. By leveraging national social protection systems, such as in Ukraine, WFP was able to scale up humanitarian cash transfers and support the expansion of shock-responsive social protection mechanisms.

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WFP continued to engage in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination tasked with strengthening collective humanitarian action through the implementation of a coherent, unified response. Considering the drastically increasing humanitarian needs, in 2022 and early 2023 the committee activated three system-wide scale-ups, for Somalia, for Ukraine and for the Syrian Arab Republic and Türkiye, and extended scale-ups in Afghanistan and Ethiopia.

WFP joined the International Organization for Migration, the Norwegian Refugee Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to fund the pilot secondment of two humanitarian diplomacy advisers to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Secretariat to address the erosion of humanitarian space and principles in critical operations.

As co-leads of the global food security cluster, WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations scaled up the responses to emergencies and protracted food crises in 30 countries. Intersectoral collaboration was also ensured through other clusters such as those for nutrition; health; water, sanitation and hygiene; and protection.

WFP also maintained a leading role supporting the humanitarian community with emergency preparedness, passenger and common services, logistics and emergency telecommunications.

Throughout 2022 WFP continued to strengthen its partnerships with other United Nations entities, local and international non-governmental organizations, international financial institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, humanitarian networks and host governments.

### **Draft decision\***

The Board takes note of the update on WFP's role in the collective humanitarian response (2022) (WFP/EB.A/2023/5-B).

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\* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the decisions and recommendations document issued at the end of the session.

## The humanitarian landscape in 2022

1. In 2022 conflict, the climate crisis and the lingering effects of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic caused record levels of hunger and displacement, exacerbated poverty and stalled progress towards gender equality. This resulted in one of every 23 people needing humanitarian relief, more than double the number of people in need four years ago, testing the humanitarian response system to its limits.<sup>1</sup>
2. At the beginning of 2022 the Global Humanitarian Overview called for assistance for 183 million of the 274 million people in need, at a total cost of USD 41 billion; by the end of the year operational requirements had exceeded USD 51 billion. While the 2022 Global Humanitarian Overview mobilized record contributions of USD 25.9 billion, they covered about 50 percent of requirements and despite global efforts to respond to increased humanitarian needs the funding gap was over USD 25 billion.<sup>2</sup> At the beginning of 2023 the humanitarian system planned to assist over 230 million of the record-high 339 million people in need, at a total cost of USD 51.5 billion.<sup>3</sup> Following the devastating earthquakes that hit the Syrian Arab Republic and Türkiye in February 2023, as well as the cholera outbreak and floods in Malawi in the wake of Tropical Cyclone Freddy, the number of people in need rose again to 348 million, with funding requirements estimated at over USD 54 billion.<sup>4</sup>
3. Conflict remains the main driver of global food insecurity, and data indicate that conflict and violence against civilians continued to increase in 2022.<sup>5</sup> Armed violence severely limited the ability of people to meet their food requirements, disrupting access to basic services and hampering the ability of humanitarian actors to reach communities in need. In addition to being strongly correlated, conflict and food insecurity also contribute to population displacement. Forced displacement is expected to continue to grow: the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that 117 million people will be forcibly displaced or stateless in 2023, aggravating the food insecurity of affected populations.<sup>6</sup>
4. The year 2022 was the fifth hottest since records began in the late 19th century and was characterized by extreme weather events of increasing frequency and severity. Heatwaves were reported across China, Europe, India, Pakistan and South America, as well as catastrophic flooding in Brazil, Pakistan, South Africa and West Africa, causing loss of lives, crops and livestock. An unprecedented sequence of five consecutive failed rainy seasons has resulted in protracted drought in the Horn of Africa, undermining the food security, livelihoods and well-being of nearly 22 million people in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia; the region is bracing for a sixth consecutive failed rainy season in 2023.<sup>7</sup> In early 2023, Tropical Cyclone Freddy – which damaged homes and infrastructure and displaced at-risk communities in Malawi and Mozambique – broke records for the number of times it re-intensified after weakening.

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 2022. [Global Humanitarian Overview 2023](#).

<sup>2</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 2022. [Global Humanitarian Overview 2022](#) (December 2022 update).

<sup>3</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 2022. [Global Humanitarian Overview 2023](#).

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 2023. [Global Humanitarian Overview 2023](#) (March 2023 update).

<sup>5</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and WFP. 2022. [Hunger Hotspots: FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: June to September 2022 Outlook](#); United Nations Human Rights Council. 2023. [Conflict and Violence are the Primary Causes of Hunger and Famine, Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food Tells the Human Rights Council](#).

<sup>6</sup> Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. [Refugee Data Finder](#); WFP. 2023. [WFP Global Operational Response Plan 2023: Update #7](#).

<sup>7</sup> WFP. 2023. [Regional Drought Response Plan For the Horn of Africa](#).

5. In addition to conflict and the climate crisis, in 2022 global food security was also affected by economic shocks, starting with the outbreak of conflict in Ukraine. The war brought upheaval to global markets for food, fertilizer and energy – vital exports from the Black Sea region. The food price index of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) soared to a new all-time high in March 2022.<sup>8</sup> As these price changes worked their way down to local markets millions of people lost access to food. At the same time, high prices hampered the humanitarian response: in June 2022, WFP operational costs were 44 percent above their 2019 average.<sup>9</sup>
6. The war started while the world was still grappling with the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, compounding an already critical situation. Sixty percent of low-income countries were in or at high risk of debt distress at the beginning of 2022.<sup>10</sup> Tumbling currencies and rising interest rates added to the challenges of servicing this debt, limiting the ability of many governments to support vulnerable populations during this cost-of-living crisis.

## The humanitarian system's collective efforts

### Inter-Agency Standing Committee

7. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) principals continued to hold regular and ad hoc meetings to discuss major humanitarian crises such as those in Ethiopia, the Horn of Africa, Myanmar, the Sahel, Somalia and Ukraine and the emergency triggered by the earthquake that affected populations in the Syrian Arab Republic and Türkiye. They made strategic and policy decisions that had system-wide implications. They also held a number of ad hoc meetings on Afghanistan in response to the December 2022 Taliban decree banning women from working for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and issued a [joint statement](#), supported by WFP, underscoring the vital role played by women in the delivery of aid.
8. WFP continued to play an active role in the IASC and its bodies, co-chairing its operational policy and advocacy group with the Norwegian Refugee Council and providing policy and operational support to country teams.
9. Under the guidance of IASC's Emergency Directors Group, WFP joined [peer-2-peer](#) missions in South Sudan in February–March 2022 and in Myanmar in October 2022 to support the humanitarian coordinator and country teams in strengthening collective humanitarian assistance and protection.
10. In 2022 and early 2023, in response to soaring humanitarian needs, the IASC activated system-wide scale-ups for Somalia, Ukraine and the Syrian Arab Republic and Türkiye and extended scale-ups in Afghanistan and Ethiopia.<sup>11</sup>
11. Collective IASC efforts included the production of additional guidance on critical humanitarian issues, such as tools on [mental health and psychosocial support in emergency settings](#). IASC members also published key messages on topics such as the [climate crisis](#) and the [global humanitarian impact of high food, fertilizer and fuel prices](#).
12. WFP remained engaged in the IASC humanitarian programme cycle steering group, participating in strategic discussions on programme cycle reform, a multi-year process for streamlining the planning, coordination and delivery of humanitarian assistance. This included coordinated work to review the costing methodology for humanitarian response

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<sup>8</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2023. [World Food Situation](#).

<sup>9</sup> WFP. 2022. [WFP Global Operational Response Plan 2022: Update #5](#).

<sup>10</sup> World Bank Group. 2023. [Global Economic Prospects, January 2023](#).

<sup>11</sup> Inter-Agency Standing Committee. 2023. [IASC Humanitarian System-Wide Scale-Up Activations and Deactivations](#).

plans and to strengthen inter-agency monitoring, joint inter-sectoral analysis and localization.

13. An inter-agency humanitarian evaluation of the response to the crisis in [Yemen](#) was completed in July 2022. The report described the impressive scale-up of operations and the key role the humanitarian community had played in saving lives and slowing the collapse of basic services, while at the same time noting that there had been collective challenges in robust data collection and analysis, funding for long-term objectives and coordination among responders.
14. An [inter-agency humanitarian evaluation of the COVID-19 humanitarian response](#), the first to assess an IASC response to a pandemic, was also carried out. Released in early 2023, the evaluation report confirmed that despite being severely overstretched the humanitarian system had expanded and adapted its programming to meet the needs of a vastly larger humanitarian caseload and provide a safety net for millions of people who would otherwise have gone without assistance. In 2022, the IASC also launched inter-agency humanitarian evaluations of the responses in [Afghanistan](#) and [Ethiopia](#), which are expected to be finalized in September 2023.
15. WFP joined the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Norwegian Refugee Council, and UNHCR to fund the pilot secondment of two humanitarian diplomacy advisers to the IASC secretariat. The advisers will focus on the expansion of humanitarian space in Burkina Faso and the promotion of a conducive and principled operating environment in Afghanistan. They will also monitor restrictions on humanitarian space in Haiti and Myanmar.

### **Global food crisis and famine prevention**

16. Throughout 2022 the number of acutely food-insecure people, including those at risk of famine, continued to rise while needs rapidly outpaced available resources. WFP continued to advocate famine prevention including in the yearly interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to food during the fifty-second regular session of the Human Rights Council.
17. The appointment of Ms Reena Ghelani as [United Nations Famine Prevention and Response Coordinator](#) in November 2022 came at a critical time. Reporting directly to the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, Ms Ghelani is tasked with organizing a cohesive response to rising food insecurity, drought and famine in the Horn of Africa and globally. WFP is working closely with her on stakeholder engagement in famine prevention and response, including by facilitating collaboration with the Secretary-General's high-level task force on famine prevention and the [Global Network Against Food Crises](#) as two complementary mechanisms, in partnership with FAO and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
18. Building on the success of the advocacy compact on famine prevention and mitigation, which it coordinates, WFP continued to work with its NGO partners on the coordination and scale-up of collective advocacy to prevent and mitigate famine and starvation. These joint advocacy efforts will continue through 2023.
19. WFP played a key role in supporting the [Black Sea Grain Initiative](#), a critical maritime humanitarian corridor established to facilitate food exports from Ukraine to help meet the needs of the world's hungry. It represented a successful example of international collaboration to tackle the global food crisis, helping to stabilize food prices and markets. Since agreement on the initiative was reached in July 2022 more than 26 million mt of grain and other foodstuffs have been transported to 45 countries.<sup>12</sup> Eighteen WFP-chartered

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<sup>12</sup> United Nations. [Black Sea Grain Initiative Joint Coordination Centre webpage](#).

vessels have sailed under the initiative in support of WFP operations in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Yemen and Somalia.<sup>13</sup>

### **Global clusters and support for the humanitarian community**

20. In 2022 the global food security cluster, co-led by FAO and WFP, scaled up the response to emergencies and protracted food crises in 30 countries and coordinated a network of 1,200 partners, half of which were national or local organizations. Cluster partners supported 155 million people with food and livelihood assistance, 30 percent more than in 2021. Funding requirements reached a record high of USD 20 billion, and despite contributions rising from USD 6 billion to USD 10 billion cluster operations were only 50 percent funded.
21. The food security cluster promoted advocacy on global food insecurity with partners at the local, regional and global levels and strengthened intersectoral collaboration with other clusters such as those on nutrition, health, water, sanitation and hygiene and protection. It also participated in the efforts of the IASC global cluster coordinators group to achieve collective outcomes, protect affected communities and avert famine. Global and local efforts led to joint statements and key advocacy platforms that raised the alarm on the soaring level of needs and the constraints on the humanitarian response.
22. In 2022, the global logistics cluster supported over 450 partners at the global and country levels with information sharing tools and common services and had active operations in 16 countries including Ukraine and Somalia. At least 75 percent of the organizations and partners participating in cluster and sector coordination mechanisms are national or international NGOs. The logistics cluster increased national stakeholders' and the humanitarian community's readiness, agility and competence to adapt to changing models such as local and shared ownership of emergency responses and changing environments including long-term conflicts and recurrent climate change-related emergencies.
23. The logistics cluster began to host the IMPortation and Customs Clearance Together working group, designed to help countries and humanitarian organizations manage customs clearance and importation processes for disaster and crisis relief goods and equipment. The cluster also continued to invest in preparedness, capacity strengthening and collaboration, using locally-led sustainable solutions. Through the [Field-Based Preparedness Project](#), active in nine countries<sup>14</sup> and completed in another twelve countries,<sup>15</sup> national and local partners have become better equipped to respond to crises, as reported in Madagascar during the passage of Cyclones Batsirai and Emnati in 2022 and Cyclone Freddy in February 2023.
24. In 2022 the WFP-led United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) reached 540 locations, including in remote and hard-to-reach areas. The service transported 390,780 humanitarian, development and diplomatic passengers and 7,019 mt of light cargo from 732 organizations including national and international NGOs, United Nations entities and international organizations such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. UNHAS also enabled special flights for needs assessments and project monitoring and high-level and ad hoc missions. The service evacuated 565 people for medical reasons and 982 people for security reasons.
25. Across its five hubs, the WFP-managed United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) network dispatched 43,922 m<sup>3</sup> of relief items and support equipment worth USD 84.1 million to 135 countries and territories on behalf of 39 partners. UNHRD also facilitated the implementation of [INITIATE](#)<sup>2</sup>, a project co-led by WFP and the World Health

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<sup>13</sup> Updated on 21 March 2023.

<sup>14</sup> Bhutan, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Peru, Sierra Leone and Tajikistan.

<sup>15</sup> Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ecuador, Haiti, Iraq, Madagascar, Malawi, Nepal, the Philippines, South Sudan, Zimbabwe and the Pacific region.

- Organization (WHO) on product development for health-related humanitarian responses. By the end of 2022 twenty partners had worked together to develop a disease treatment centre that will be tested at UNHRD facilities in Italy by the middle of 2023.
26. In 2022 the emergency telecommunications cluster provided connectivity to over 9,500 humanitarian workers across 313 organizations, covering ten emergencies.<sup>16</sup> Preparedness activities to strengthen national information communications, technology capacity and resilience in the face of disasters were undertaken in Bhutan, Ghana, Madagascar, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, the Caribbean region and the Pacific region. Preparedness activities in Mongolia and Mozambique were concluded following a lessons learned exercise in each country for government and humanitarian telecommunications partners. In addition return-on-investment models were developed and piloted in Madagascar and Mongolia to review the benefits of investment in emergency telecommunications preparedness.
  27. In Ukraine, the cluster facilitated access to humanitarian assistance for over 12,000 Ukrainians via its chatbot – an artificial intelligence software that interacts with crisis-affected people – and protected humanitarian networks from recurrent cyberattacks. The cluster model for implementing inter-agency community feedback mechanisms was used to set up an inter-agency call centre in Madagascar. An emergency telecommunications sector response was established in Türkiye on 16 February 2023, co-led by WFP and the Government of Türkiye’s Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, to support the response in areas affected by multiple aftershocks that followed the devastating earthquake of 6 February. In March the cluster also worked with a Fiji-based Pacific preparedness operation to deploy a telecommunications specialist in response to Cyclones Judy and Kevin and a 6.5 magnitude earthquake.

## Focus areas

### Early warning for early action – leadership in humanitarian early warning

28. With OCHA, WFP continued to lead the IASC early warning, early action and readiness group, which comprises close to 20 United Nations entities, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGO networks. This inter-agency early warning-early action platform provides analyses of emerging humanitarian risks, which are shared with the IASC Emergency Directors Group along with recommendations for early action.
29. In 2022 the group also provided early warning of the fourth and fifth consecutive below-average rainfall seasons in the Horn of Africa, of the deterioration of food security in Haiti due to escalating gang-related violence and of economic decline in Sri Lanka, as well as of the expansion of non-state armed groups and the spill-over of conflict from Burkina Faso to nearby coastal countries.
30. With FAO, WFP released hunger hotspots reports providing early warnings of acute food insecurity in January, May and September 2022. Based on data analysis and expert consensus, the reports identified countries where parts of the populations facing already high levels of acute food insecurity would probably see increases putting their lives and livelihoods at risk; they also issued early warnings for emergency response and anticipatory action. Among the hotspots, the reports drew attention to countries where humanitarian action was critical to preventing starvation and death. Hunger hotspot reports have become respected global anticipatory advocacy tools, a forward-looking complement to the *Global Report on Food Crises* series, and has resonated in the humanitarian community among

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<sup>16</sup> Bangladesh, the Central African Republic, Libya, Nigeria, the Philippines, Somalia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tonga, Ukraine and Yemen.



international financial institutions, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Central Emergency Response Fund, think-tanks and media organizations.

### **Internal displacement**

31. As a follow-up to the United Nations Secretary-General's [high-level panel and action agenda](#) on internal displacement, the IASC commissioned an independent review of humanitarian responses to internal displacement. WFP will be an active participant in the review, which commenced in January 2023. The Secretary-General also appointed a special adviser on solutions to internal displacement to oversee the execution of the [action agenda](#), which includes 31 commitments aimed at mobilizing collective action and solutions. WFP will implement commitments relating to understanding risk intersection and financing, as well as accountability with regard to protection and assistance.

### **Localization**

32. WFP continued to engage local and international NGO partners regularly in its operations. In 2022, in consultation with a global NGO consortium, WFP carried out a [study on operational partnership practices](#) with the aim of improving current processes and facilitating local NGO access to WFP partnership opportunities.
33. Ahead of the issuance of [IASC guidelines on overhead costs](#), WFP has been granting a fixed percentage management fee of 7 percent to local and international partners as part of its field-level agreements.
34. Recognizing the increasing importance of localization, WFP has formed a cross-divisional working group to develop a corporate position paper outlining the organization's efforts to advance in this area.
35. WFP continued to use the [United Nations Partner Portal](#), which has been rolled out to all country offices. The integration of a United Nations online platform for assessing partner capacity to implement protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) will allow agencies to share partner risk assessments across the system using a common methodology, enhancing safeguards and action related to sexual exploitation and abuse. The portal will also link risk management information from the United Nations entities that are part of the portal, leading to more harmonized capacity strengthening approaches, particularly for local and national partners.

### **Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment**

36. WFP participated in the formulation of a new [IASC strategy for PSEA and sexual harassment for the period 2022–2026](#), which was endorsed by the IASC principals in November 2022. The strategy takes a victim- and survivor-centred approach, seeking to change organizational culture and support country capacity. It replaces the [2021 IASC strategy](#) and has been informed by the findings of an [external review](#) of the latter.
37. WFP continued to invest in strengthening local capacity in order to enhance PSEA coordination and outreach. In October 2022, WFP launched the [PSEA at the Frontline project](#), an inter-agency initiative with IOM and in partnership with Translators Without Borders. The project aims to provide front-line workers with critical PSEA knowledge in a clear and accessible way. Under the tagline "Together We Say No", the project was launched through a global online event hosted by the IASC and was followed by official launch events in Colombia and in Senegal for the Western Africa region.

### **Cash coordination**

38. In 2022, 35 percent of WFP food assistance was provided in the form of cash and value and commodity vouchers with a value of USD 3.3 billion; this is a 42 percent increase compared to 2021.



39. WFP collaborated with UNHCR and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) through the [United Nations common cash statement](#) in several countries. This helped to avoid duplication and increase efficiency through the joint procurement of financial service provision, interoperability and data sharing, as well as harmonized programming for cash assistance. In 2022 WFP and UNHCR ensured data system interoperability, thereby streamlining registration and access to cash assistance for people in need.
40. Through the global cash advisory group WFP worked with other United Nations entities, NGOs, the Cash Learning Partnership Network, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and national and local actors to implement the new [IASC cash coordination model](#). In 2022 the global cash advisory group developed guidance and tools to support the transition to the new model between 2023 and 2024. The group will continue to develop global standards and key performance indicators for effective, predictable and accountable cash coordination.
41. WFP also supported 65 governments with cash transfer schemes delivered through social protection programmes, including through the use of WFP payment mechanisms on behalf of governments when needed. In Lebanon WFP worked closely with international financial institutions on the design and implementation of government-owned WFP cash-based programmes. In Ukraine WFP used existing government systems to target and scale up emergency cash assistance.

#### **Joint needs assessments and innovative platforms**

42. In 2022, WFP conducted most needs assessments jointly with governments and partners. WFP contributed to the [2022 State of Food Security and Nutrition](#) report with FAO, UNICEF, WHO and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, as well as to the sixth edition of the [Global Report on Food Crises](#), which involved 17 partners. WFP continued to support the development and improvement of the joint intersectoral assessment framework. WFP is an active member of the technical and advisory groups for the framework and is participating in efforts to improve the methodology, to draft and test its second iteration and prepare the rollout of the new tool.
43. WFP continued to support the expansion of the [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification](#) system in new countries, including Lebanon and Tajikistan. The organization also conducted essential needs analyses and developed high quality minimum expenditure baskets for its operations in collaboration with partners and national-level cash working groups.
44. Through the [UNHCR-WFP Joint Programme Excellence and Targeting Hub](#), joint needs assessments were conducted in Cameroon, the Niger, Rwanda and South Sudan to inform targeting and prioritization strategies for humanitarian assistance. The hub also supported the creation of a joint UNHCR-WFP analytical framework to guide analysis of the needs and vulnerabilities of displaced populations.
45. Building on initiatives started in previous years, WFP expanded and strengthened its remote real-time hunger monitoring system ([HungerMap<sup>LIVE</sup>](#)) to cover over 90 countries worldwide. The data obtained through the system are made available as a global digital public good and shared in order to inform joint analysis including Integrated Food Security Phase Classification and [cadre harmonisé](#) analyses in Nigeria, Guinea, Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador. WFP also released guidance notes on measuring food insecurity to facilitate the use of standard WFP data by all partners.

#### **Accountability to affected populations**

46. WFP co-chairs the [IASC task force on accountability to affected people](#) with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Core Humanitarian Standard Alliance, following up on a paper that recommended strengthening collective efforts in this

area. The task force will promote a more accountable and inclusive humanitarian system while calling for increased multi-year and flexible funding to support collective accountability to affected people initiatives. WFP and the alliance are also engaging with donors to enhance humanitarian accountability and ensure that programmes are informed by continual interaction with affected people.

47. WFP takes part in inter-agency efforts to collect community feedback. In 2022 more than 15 WFP country offices supported an inter-agency community feedback mechanism; a WFP feedback mechanism set up in Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova met IASC standards on data collection.

### **Gender**

48. WFP continued to work on the IASC Gender Standby Capacity Project (GenCap). Previous work to strengthen the field-level sustainability of GenCap facilitated rapid deployment of gender experts to Ukraine in 2022. WFP engaged closely with other IASC agencies to ensure the integration of gender equality into the humanitarian response, including through engagement with local civil society organizations. WFP continues to benefit from the greater predictability and sustainability provided by the deployment of gender experts under the new road map.
49. In 2022 WFP launched a new [gender policy](#), which includes a focus on strategic partnerships to accelerate progress in gender equality while recognizing the comparative advantage of WFP and partners on the ground. WFP continues to support the fulfilment of common gender commitments through United Nations country teams, the humanitarian cluster system and inter-agency humanitarian coordination bodies and with gender-mandated, feminist and women's civil society organizations that are first responders and key development partners in humanitarian settings.

### **Peace and the humanitarian–development–peace nexus**

50. United Nations Security Council resolution 2417 continued to serve as a platform for condemning the unlawful denial of humanitarian assistance and the use of starvation as a method of warfare against civilian populations. Since 2019, WFP and FAO have issued twice-yearly updates of the report *Monitoring food security in countries with conflict situations* for Security Council members, providing analyses of situations where conflict and insecurity have driven acute food insecurity to critical levels.
51. In 2022 WFP continued to mainstream humanitarian–development–peace (HDP) nexus approaches at the strategic and operational levels, ensuring alignment with the development priorities of national governments and those set out in United Nations sustainable development cooperation frameworks.
52. WFP stepped up its leadership of the [Global Network Against Food Crises](#), a key platform for addressing the root causes of food crises through an HDP approach, and continued to co-lead the [Fighting Food Crises along the HDP Nexus Coalition](#) formed after the 2021 United Nations food systems summit to apply an HDP approach to food systems. WFP has lobbied to mainstream the HDP nexus approach while addressing the global food crisis and related shocks, including through the [Global Alliance for Food Security](#), the [Global Crisis Response Group](#) and the [Food and Agricultural Resilience Mission](#) initiative.

53. With the United States of America, WFP has continued to co-chair the “DAC-UN dialogue”,<sup>17</sup> which resulted in the creation of the [Nexus Academy](#), a global public platform that seeks to improve knowledge, skills and capacity related to HDP solutions. WFP also engages in the IASC task force 4 on the HDP nexus.

### **Access and humanitarian–military interaction**

54. Through its Operational Access and Humanitarian–Military Interaction Unit, WFP works at the global, regional and country levels to facilitate humanitarian access.
55. In 2022 WFP streamlined inputs on UNHAS flights for the humanitarian notification system in the Syrian Arab Republic and supported its development in Ukraine. WFP also helped to facilitate inter-agency missions in eastern Ukraine at the start of the Ukraine conflict and missions into the northwest of the Syrian Arab Republic during the response to the earthquake in February 2023.
56. WFP also developed its first humanitarian–military interaction professional training course, which will be launched in the second half of 2023 and is designed to strengthen civil–military liaison capacity in the humanitarian community.
57. Throughout the year WFP scaled up field-based operational access capacity with increased training and staff presence, contributing to collective humanitarian efforts to secure and maintain access to affected populations. In Somalia WFP launched a joint initiative with UNICEF and WHO to deliver first-line assistance to 290,000 vulnerable people in 13 hard-to-reach districts between September and December 2022. In Haiti WFP obtained access to areas that had previously been inaccessible due to the activity of armed groups, enabling the scale-up of crisis response operations, and facilitated access for other humanitarian organizations. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo WFP supported inter-agency engagement with non-state armed groups.
58. As a founding member, WFP continued to support the OCHA-led global access working group, which brings together United Nations and NGO partners to discuss access challenges in the humanitarian sector. WFP and OCHA are developing a training course on humanitarian access to be used by all partners.

### **United Nations food systems summit**

59. The 2023 [food systems “stocktaking moment”](#) will provide an opportunity to review commitments made by over 150 governments during the 2021 United Nations food systems summit and to leverage food systems transformation to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Several coalitions supported by WFP – including the School Meals Coalition established at the summit; the Fighting Food Crises along the HDP Nexus Coalition; the Resilient Local Food Supply Chain Alliance; and the Coalition of Action on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems for Children and All – are engaging with national governments on the operationalization of their food systems transformation pathways.
60. Within the context of the global food, fertilizer and energy crisis, WFP is working to increase the resilience of food systems through immediate and medium-term programmatic and supply chain actions that aim to achieve long-term transformation goals. WFP will continue to support countries in the design of multisector, multistakeholder food systems policies, action plans and activities.

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<sup>17</sup> The DAC–UN Dialogue was established to support the collective implementation of the recommendation by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development on the HDP nexus and brings together Development Assistance Committee members and United Nations entities.

## Partnerships and global processes

### Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

61. WFP is working closely with UNHCR to ensure the food security of refugees. In 2022 WFP provided food assistance to 10 million food-insecure refugees in 43 countries.
62. UNHCR and WFP held their annual high-level meeting in Geneva in March 2023. This was an opportunity to discuss and evaluate the already strong partnership between the agencies and to continue strategic work on finding solutions, particularly in the light of the magnitude of current food needs.
63. The second [global refugee forum](#) will be held in December 2023 in Geneva to take stock of government progress towards the implementation of pledges and initiatives announced in 2019. A number of United Nations entities including WFP will develop a successor to the United Nations common pledge (the “UN common pledge 2.0”), which will renew and strengthen commitments to promoting the inclusion of refugees.
64. WFP and UNHCR continued to support the [Joint Programme Excellence and Targeting Hub](#), which offers strategic and technical support for the implementation of joint operational commitments to enhance outcomes for refugees, including in the areas of assessment and targeting, self-reliance, accountability to affected populations and data systems. The hub supported UNHCR and WFP offices with refugee operations in 13 countries with joint assessments and facilitated the completion of targeting and prioritization exercises in Rwanda, Uganda, Mauritania and Jordan. In Mauritania UNHCR and WFP worked with the World Bank on the targeting of humanitarian assistance and the inclusion of refugees in two national social protection programmes.

### International Organization for Migration

65. Following a partnership retreat in March 2023 IOM and WFP developed a joint action plan, strengthening their collaboration and embarking on new joint endeavours related to operational issues including cash, emergency preparedness and response, supply chains, data collection and tracking, displacement and durable solutions for displaced populations.
66. In May 2022 WFP participated in the first [international migration review forum](#), joining with the other Rome-based agencies in stressing the importance of the Global Compact for Migration while emphasizing the links between food insecurity, climate change and migration.

### World Health Organization

67. WFP and WHO continued to engage through the United Nations principal-level Crisis Management Team meetings on COVID-19, the Member States Working Group on Strengthening WHO Preparedness and Response to Health Emergencies and the [Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well-being for All](#). WFP is also participating in consultations on the negotiation and drafting of a WHO convention on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response.

### International Committee of the Red Cross

68. WFP and the International Committee of the Red Cross signed a framework agreement on personal data protection in March 2023 to facilitate the transferring of personal data, emphasizing the importance of upholding high standards in personal data protection and privacy.

### **NGO partnerships**

69. WFP continued to engage with several NGOs and NGO consortiums to advocate joint action on humanitarian issues implicating food security. Notably, WFP has been co-leading a community of practice on the HDP nexus with the International Council of Voluntary Agencies and has engaged with the Norwegian Refugee Council on collaborative efforts to secure access at the global and country levels, as well as on the links between food security, conflict and displacement.
70. In addition WFP sought alignment with NGO partners on substantive humanitarian policy matters such as accountability to affected populations, localization, the HDP nexus, protection, humanitarian space, system-wide scale-up activations and specific country contexts.

### **Global Fund**

71. WFP continued to expand its collaboration with the Global Fund through the provision of on-demand supply chain services in hard-to-reach areas. In 2022 WFP provided supply chain solutions in Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad and Liberia. Overall, WFP enabled the delivery of health items to 8,000 health facilities, including 24.1 million bed nets and 5.1 million units of health products. Concurrently, a new initiative in Angola enabled the delivery of health products to 532 remote facilities. WFP will continue to engage with the Global Fund within the framework of their 2023–2025 grant cycle, identifying further opportunities to add value to operations.

### **World Bank Group**

72. In 2022 WFP continued to expand and deepen its collaboration with international financial institutions, leading to an increase in funding from these entities to USD 1 billion. The World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund increased their support to countries in response to the global food crisis, making additional financing available to address short-term and long-term needs. For example, the Fund established the [food shock window](#) and a [resilience and sustainability facility](#), while the World Bank International Development Association 20th cycle put further focus on fragile countries threatened by conflict and violence, securing more funding and seeking partnerships with humanitarian actors such as WFP.
73. WFP increased its engagement with the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank in 2022. WFP continues to partner with international financial institutions to strengthen government efforts to meet immediate humanitarian needs and develop medium-term to long-term resilience.

### **Centre of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiations**

74. In collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross, WFP is a strategic partner to the Centre of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiations, which collectively supports front-line negotiators in some of the most difficult humanitarian operations. Notably, WFP benefitted from centre training and support on negotiating in-country access in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti and the Syrian Arab Republic.

## Acronyms

COVID-19	coronavirus disease 2019
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GenCap	Gender Standby Capacity Project
HDP	humanitarian–development–peace
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NGO	non-governmental organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PSEA	protection from sexual exploitation and abuse
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNHRD	United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
WHO	World Health Organization