



World Food Programme

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Evaluation of WFP's Emergency Preparedness Policy (2017)

First Regular Session of the WFP Executive Board 2025

Emergency Preparedness Policy objectives

- **Frame WFP's work** on emergency preparedness
- Inform WFP's work with **national and local governments, regional bodies and local communities**
- Consolidate and expand **partnerships**





Conclusion 1: Quality of the policy

Strong

- Framework and guidance for WFP's work on emergency preparedness
- Evidenced-based
- Aligned with WFP's strategic plans and global commitments

Moderate or low

- Lack of conceptual clarity, weak alignment with other relevant WFP's workstreams
- Insufficient commitments to evidence generation and resource mobilization and allocation
- Lack of internal and external coordination



Conclusion 2: Responsibilities and leadership

- Responsibilities for emergency preparedness duly met across WFP
- Dedicated emergency preparedness team in HQ helped catalyze progress
- Gaps in leadership, coordination and guidance led to fragmentation
- Improved coordination and support to COs through the HQ-based preparedness cell



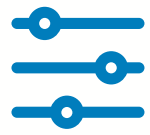
Conclusion 3: Financial resources and staffing

- Diverse mechanisms for accessing funds, stocks, and surge personnel enabled WFP to act quickly and flexibly but also resulted in lack of coherence and oversight
- Staffing capacity increased, however gaps still exist
- Effectiveness of surge capacity is mixed and calls for stronger coordination and oversight



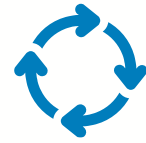
Conclusion 4: Country capacity strengthening

- Substantial efforts made by WFP to strengthen governments' capacities
- Inconsistent application of Emergency Preparedness Capacity index
- Successes in community preparedness strengthening embedded in resilience building



Conclusion 5: Comparative advantages

- Deep knowledge of infrastructure, distribution systems and technology
- Context-specific risk analysis
- Strong partnerships
- Solution-driven staff focused on enhancing the capacity of others
- To scale-up: need for more dedicated flexible funding and stronger internal prioritization



Conclusion 6: Efficiency and effectiveness

- Investments in preparedness contributed to more efficient responses and early action
- Hindering factors: disjointed efforts, funding gaps, delays
- More evidence on the effects of preparedness would strengthen the case for greater investment



Conclusion 7: Inclusiveness

- Documented good practices, but limited systematic integration of gender and disability inclusion into WFP emergency preparedness activities



Conclusion 8: Partnerships

- WFP's contributions to preparedness efforts through:
 - partnerships with national government
 - participation in global humanitarian clusters
 - common and on-demand services
- Partnerships with private sector, cooperating partners and development actors lacked clear direction

Recommendations

1

Update the policy and produce a strategy for its implementation

2

Maximize available financial resources to increase access to funding and supplies for preparedness

3

Enhance existing surge mechanisms and invest in capacity development for staff in preparedness

4

Strengthen national capacities for preparedness, leveraging partnerships

5

Seek out and maximize opportunities for learning and evidence generation