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Update on WFP's role in the collective humanitarian response (2025)

Executive summary

This paper provides an update on WFP's role in the collective humanitarian response in 2025 and the first quarter of 2026.

It outlines how WFP, in close collaboration with partners, delivers life-saving assistance to the world's most vulnerable populations. It details WFP's role in ongoing reforms across the humanitarian sector aimed at strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian operations, promoting accountability and ensuring that no one is left behind.

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The humanitarian landscape in 2025

1. Driven by conflicts and weather-related and economic shocks, the need for humanitarian response in 2025 was unrelenting. Acute food insecurity remained widespread in countries and territories with food crises. Around 1.4 million people faced catastrophic food insecurity (phase 5 on the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) / Cadre Harmonisé (CH) scale) in six countries and territories: Haiti, Mali, South Sudan, State of Palestine, the Sudan and Yemen. Famine (IPC phase 5) was confirmed in parts of the Gaza Strip and the Sudan, and a risk of famine remained in other areas of the Gaza Strip, South Sudan and the Sudan, including into 2026.
2. Of the total population analysed by the IPC/CH or equivalent analyses in 2025, 22.9 percent – corresponding to 266 million people¹ – experienced high levels of acute food insecurity, across 47 food crisis countries and territories. This is yet another increase, even if marginal, over the 2024 rate of 22.7 percent, the share of the population facing such levels of food insecurity has been greater than 20 percent in every year since 2020, and the figure for 2025 was nearly double that for 2016. Moreover, an additional 4.4 million people were pushed into “emergency” levels of acute food insecurity (IPC/CH phase 4) in 2025 compared with 2024.
3. Conflict and insecurity remain the primary drivers of acute food insecurity in the countries that host more than half of the population facing high levels of acute hunger. Throughout 2025, escalating and protracted conflicts continued to affect humanitarian responses. Humanitarian workers were increasingly targeted and faced disinformation efforts about their activities, continued bureaucratic impediments and fragmented governance structures, which created more dangerous, costly and complex operating conditions. Access was restricted not only by violence but also by strained access coordination systems, further limiting the ability of humanitarians to reach communities facing the most severe food insecurity and malnutrition risks.
4. Humanitarian and development financing for food security and nutrition in crisis-affected countries declined sharply, falling back to levels last seen in 2016–2017, when the number of people experiencing acute food insecurity was approximately half of that recorded in 2025. WFP saw its resources reduce by almost 40 percent. Reduced assistance combined with intensifying access constraints have contributed to notable increases in acute food insecurity across several countries and territories in 2026.
5. Exacerbating the challenges in reaching targeted populations, the integrity of data systems is increasingly at risk. Several factors, including access constraints and funding shortfalls, threaten food security and nutrition information systems. Widening data gaps and a shrinking humanitarian footprint risk obscuring the true scale of food insecurity. Protecting and investing in data systems is critical to safeguarding evidence-based decision-making.
6. The [2026 global humanitarian overview](#), issued by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in December 2025, reflected a sharply worsening global operating environment, with 239 million people assessed to be in need of humanitarian assistance in 29 plans and appeals.² Against the backdrop of the most significant funding contraction in a decade, OCHA introduced a “hyper-prioritized” planning model that focuses on multisectoral needs within geographic areas. In 2026, humanitarian partners aim to assist 135 million people in the countries covered by the global humanitarian overview, requiring USD 33 billion. The multisectoral hyper-prioritized model, which targets

¹ The figure of 266 million people reflects a reduction in the number of countries covered in 2025 compared with 2024 and should not be interpreted as a decrease in acute food insecurity requiring urgent action.

² The global humanitarian overview includes 29 plans and appeals, covering 50 countries: 20 humanitarian needs and response plans, 3 flash appeals and 6 refugee and migrant response plans that cover an additional 27 countries.

87 million people within specific geographic areas, requires USD 23 billion to sustain essential food, nutrition, health, protection, water, sanitation and hygiene, and emergency services.

7. The hyper-prioritization approach in the 2026 humanitarian needs and response plan inevitably leaves unaddressed the severe food insecurity and nutritional needs of people facing IPC phase 3 or IPC phase 4 conditions in some contexts. In Haiti, for example, more than 60 percent of people classified as being in IPC phase 4 are located outside of hyper-prioritized geographic areas – defined under the [Joint and Intersectoral Analysis Framework, 2.0](#) as locations with very high or extreme intersectoral severity (levels 4 and 5)). This risks expanding the gap between populations prioritized for assistance and other people in urgent need of assistance.
8. WFP continues to engage with partners to advocate for those being left behind by the contractions in humanitarian assistance and hyper-prioritization. There are risks involved in concentrating assistance in geographically limited locations. For example, many populations facing emergency food insecurity (IPC phase 4) could be excluded from “prioritized” caseloads despite already experiencing large food gaps and very high rates of acute malnutrition. Undercoverage risks exacerbating vulnerability and also raises the eventual cost of response, because delayed and underscaled action in response to IPC phase 4 food insecurity leads to more severe outcomes, such as severe acute malnutrition, and more expensive interventions. These factors underscore the importance of needs-based targeting and response.

System and reform processes

9. As the multilateral system faced unprecedented strain in 2025, two major reform initiatives were launched to streamline operations, strengthen coherence and improve collective efficiency. Launched by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on 11 March, [the UN80 initiative](#) calls for urgent and ambitious change to ensure that the United Nations remains fit for purpose for the next decade and beyond. The “humanitarian reset” launched by United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator Tom Fletcher on 10 March introduced three pillars: “regroup” (prioritize), “reform” (streamline) and “renewal” (localize and increase accountability).
10. WFP investments in efficiency since 2023 have positioned the organization to pursue reform based on its experience and comparative advantage. Leveraging best practices and the efficiencies gained from placing operations at the centre of WFP’s two-tier structure, WFP contributions to the broader United Nations and Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) systems focus on empowering WFP country operations and ensuring impact for the communities and countries they serve.

The humanitarian reset in 2025

11. The humanitarian reset was launched to create an IASC humanitarian system that is faster, lighter, more accountable and more impactful. In a context of reduced humanitarian resources, the first phase of the reset prioritized the core objective of saving lives, streamlining coordination and renewing humanitarian leadership.³ By June 2025, the reset had delivered a “hyper-prioritized” update to the 2025 global humanitarian overview focused on the 114 million people whose lives were most at risk; reduced the number of clusters from eleven to eight, (eliminating the four Areas of Responsibility; launched a transition of the humanitarian architecture in eight countries, reducing the number of countries with humanitarian needs and response plans to 20; and shared an analysis of the humanitarian

³ Inter-Agency Standing Committee. 2025. [Humanitarian reset](#).

- coordination system. By the end of 2025 a new architecture for the IASC was introduced, comprising the Principals Group, supported by:
- The Deputies Group focused on strategic issues of common interest as tasked by the IASC Principals;
 - The Humanitarian Working Group tasked with specific policy issues that have a direct bearing on field operations;
 - The Emergency Directors Group that advises the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the IASC Principals on urgent operational issues; and
 - the IASC Secretariat, which supports the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the IASC by setting agendas, following up on decisions and ensuring coherence across all structures.
12. The formal communities of practice associated with the IASC have been made informal.
13. The streamlining of the cluster architecture included the merger of the WFP-led logistics cluster and telecommunications cluster. The combined logistics and telecommunications cluster (LTC) provides essential services that enable the effective delivery of operations, ensuring safe, timely and efficient programmes. Partners use these services to reinforce response infrastructure at the local and national levels. Alongside existing in-country structures, the LTC was newly launched in Lebanon in 2026.
14. In November 2025, [the humanitarian reset road map](#) was introduced to guide phase two of the humanitarian reset, built around “the four Ds”:
- DEFINE – Focus on the greatest needs with evidence-based and accountable planning. WFP has prioritized strengthening evidence-based planning through the use of timely, high-quality food security and nutrition data to ensure needs-based prioritization.
 - DEVOLVE – Shift leadership, resources and accountability closer to crises through local actors and communities. WFP is expanding its work with local actors, shifting decisions and resources closer to crises and reinforcing community-level early warning and feedback systems. Guided by WFP’s localization policy, WFP seeks to work through national systems, building local capacity, adapting partnership models, and systematically including and elevating local voices to empower local leadership.
 - DELIVER – Make responses timely and streamlined through lighter approaches that are inclusive and centred on protection. WFP’s logistics, supply chain, cash and emergency telecommunications capabilities enable faster and more protection-centred responses.
 - DEFEND – Uphold humanitarian principles and protect civilians, humanitarian workers and the humanitarian space through collective advocacy and agile diplomacy. WFP contributes to collective advocacy on upholding humanitarian principles, protecting civilians and humanitarian workers, safeguarding humanitarian space and supporting country teams facing access constraints.
15. Together, these efforts align the humanitarian reset with evidence, operational realities and the need to focus limited resources where they can have the greatest impact.
16. As the IASC advances the humanitarian reset, WFP is working with partners to meet the needs of the most vulnerable, with data at the core of its people-centred approach. WFP promotes targeting based on realistic funding forecasts, its comparative advantage, solid analytics and humanitarian country team decisions and continues to ensure that humanitarian needs and response plans reflect all people in need, including those facing IPC phase 3 or worse conditions. WFP remains a core data provider for the IPC and humanitarian needs and response plans and contributes to the Humanitarian Data Collective and the United Nations data commons for the Sustainable Development Goals.

UN80 in action in 2025

17. With the announcement of the UN80 initiative, three workstreams were established,⁴ covering efficiency and improvements, primarily focused on United Nations Secretariat functions; mandate implementation review; and structural changes and programme realignment. Concrete proposals for structural adjustments have been made under the third workstream and are reflected in the UN80 action plan, which has 31 “work packages”.
18. For WFP, five work packages have been prioritized:
 - Work package 2 – a new humanitarian compact, anchoring the humanitarian pillar of UN80 and the main reform tracks for the humanitarian system;
 - Work package 14 – a unified services road map, including integrated supply chains, shared back offices and common services;
 - Work package 15 – technology, actively working to reduce fragmentation across the United Nations system;
 - Work package 16 – building a United Nations-wide data commons and more coherent data and analytics backbone; and
 - Work package 18 – a funding mechanism review (Funding Compact).
19. In collaboration with OCHA, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), WFP invested in streamlining contributions to humanitarian response in ways that complement and reinforce the humanitarian reset. With the creation of work package 2, on a new humanitarian compact, six tracks were introduced:
 - i) simplify the humanitarian programme cycle;
 - ii) integrate supply chains;
 - iii) scale common services and back offices;
 - iv) strengthen in-country leadership;
 - v) initiate a collaborative humanitarian diplomacy initiative; and
 - vi) reduce duplication.
20. Through its contributions, WFP offered proven opportunities to save resources and increase efficiency for the broader system. Both its integrated supply chain and its booking hub were highlighted in the Secretary General's UN80 report, “Shifting Paradigms: United to Deliver”, as examples of opportunities to generate significant savings.⁵

Grand Bargain

21. WFP remained engaged in the Grand Bargain, advocating for concrete and measurable objectives for the Quid Pro Quo, including a focus on localization. WFP, together with UNICEF, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Norway, the International Council for Voluntary Agencies and the Network on Empowered Aid Response, participated in a joint caucus on efficiency measures in response to the humanitarian and funding crisis.⁶ The caucus produced a document, published in June 2025, that outlined time-bound actions for 2025 and 2026 anchored in Grand Bargain commitments and aligned with the humanitarian reset. As the Grand Bargain approaches its tenth anniversary, WFP continues to engage actively with

⁴ The three workstream are described [here](#), with links to information on each stream.

⁵ United Nations. 2025. [Shifting Paradigms: United to Deliver](#), p. 17, para 3.

⁶ [Grand Bargain joint statement on efficiency measures in response to the humanitarian funding crisis: June 2025](#).

other signatories to ensure that high-quality funding, localization and risk sharing remain high on the agenda.

Turning reform into results: system choices and WFP's strategic response

22. In 2026, WFP is intensifying support for system-wide reforms that strengthen efficiency and impact. The organization is engaging in workstreams where it brings value and comparative advantage while continuing to work closely with partners to enhance collective delivery.
23. *Humanitarian reset scorecard.* At the request of the IASC Principals, WFP and The Rescue Initiative South Sudan co-led the development of a "humanitarian reset scorecard" survey tool on behalf of the humanitarian working group. The scorecard is designed as a light tool that provides real time "pulse checks" to help humanitarian country teams and representatives of local actors reflect on perceived collective progress across the core areas of the humanitarian reset, including localization, prioritization and people-centred approaches. It supports humanitarian country teams – and the IASC – in detecting early warning signs, identifying bottlenecks and enabling timely course correction. The tool complements existing quantitative metrics and beneficiary consultations.

Action on the UN80 humanitarian compact

24. *Integrated supply chain.* The integrated approach to United Nations supply chains is advancing from concept to structured inter-agency implementation, strengthening coherence, efficiency and predictability across humanitarian operations. Three core pillars drive progress:
 - i) Coordinated procurement is being operationalized through joint strategies for core relief items and operational support items, leveraging collective demand to accelerate delivery and reduce costs.
 - ii) Optimized global logistics management is improving market leverage and service reliability; recent joint engagement with carriers during Red Sea disruptions prevented an estimated USD 2 million in surcharges on humanitarian cargo.
 - iii) Work is also under way to build a more integrated global warehousing network to support common pre-positioning and coordinated dispatch.
25. In 2026, harmonized in-country logistics management is being piloted in five complex operational settings – Afghanistan, the Gaza Strip, Haiti, Somalia and the Sudan – where agencies are jointly mapping assets and contracts to identify opportunities for shared services. Governance arrangements have been formalized, and a global project team is establishing the legal, financial and system-related foundations required for predictable inter-agency service delivery. WFP remains fully committed to driving this reform forward and leveraging its supply chain leadership to enhance system-wide efficiency, ensuring that the entire United Nations humanitarian architecture delivers faster, more predictable and more cost-effective support to people in need.
26. *Scaling up of common services.* WFP is driving the UN80 agenda on scaling up common services by expanding interoperable agency-wide solutions that cut duplication and strengthen collective delivery. Building on successes like the UN Booking Hub, WFP is advancing efforts to develop integrated digital platforms and a global services hub in order to consolidate fleet, logistics, security and engineering support, reducing overhead costs and redirecting the savings to front-line humanitarian response.

27. *Data and identity management.* In collaboration with IOM, OCHA, UNHCR and UNICEF, WFP has identified system bottlenecks related to identity management, including with regard to registration, data sharing and de-duplication, and has developed a road map for achieving greater interoperability and joint approaches aimed at improving efficiency and assurance in operations.
28. *Humanitarian diplomacy.* The Collaborative Humanitarian Diplomacy Initiative operates as an inter-agency platform linking technical-level engagement with the discussions of the Principals of United Nations humanitarian agencies. With the objective of strengthening collective engagement on the most politically complex challenges faced by humanitarian operations, this forum for coordination facilitates shared priorities, engagement strategies and planning across agencies.

Enabling collective response

29. WFP will continue to provide common services to the humanitarian sector and will leverage services offered by others. WFP is leading in the areas of cash assistance, data, food security and enabling services, including aviation, supply chains and telecommunications.

WFP-led clusters in action

30. *Food security cluster (FSC).* In 2025, the FSC, co-led by WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, coordinated emergency responses in 26 countries. FSC partners supported 81 million people (69 million with food assistance; 24 million with agriculture and livelihood support), reaching 77 percent of the 105 million people targeted, with USD 4.6 billion received (36 percent of the USD 12.7 billion requested). This coverage masked reduced response quality as partners cut ration sizes and/or distribution frequency to stretch limited resources, leaving needs only partially met. By June 2025, the FSC had to hyper-prioritize its humanitarian needs and response plan to target 79.8 million people – 37 percent fewer people than those targeted in 2024, leaving 43 million people behind.
31. The FSC supported coordination for more than 1,500 partners, of which 70 percent were local or national partners. In 2026, the FSC launched a review of country-level food security coordination mechanisms with the aim of optimizing operations, rationalizing them where relevant through the scale-back and deactivation of clusters and the responsible transition of coordination to national authorities.
32. *Logistics and telecommunications cluster.* In 2025, the LTC delivered logistics and connectivity support in complex emergencies, demonstrating how supply chains and communications together enable humanitarian impact. That same year marked 20 years since the first activation of the separate LTCs.
33. In 2025 alone the WFP-led country clusters supported partners with both logistics and emergency telecommunications. This included support to 1,043 partners with logistics coordination, information management and facilitation of access to services in 53 countries, 16 active logistics clusters and sectors, including in the State of Palestine and the Sudan; the strengthening of preparedness and national capacity in 26 countries; and the transition of coordination to national leadership in Lebanon, Myanmar and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Nearly 600,000 m³ of life-saving supplies were transported and stored, while joint logistics coordination enabled a rapid response to cholera in South Sudan, access to long-cut-off communities in Ethiopia's Amhara region and greater reach through new airfields and border points in Somalia and multimodal transport solutions in Haiti.
34. At the same time, emergency telecommunications partners supported more than 8,400 responders across nine emergencies and six preparedness situations and over 24,000 community and government users during Hurricane Melissa in Jamaica, delivering essential connectivity and coordination with a 92 percent satisfaction rate. Through shared

preparedness, information systems, training and regional coordination – from the Caribbean to the Pacific – the LTC ensured faster decisions, safer operations and sustained access, demonstrating that logistics and telecommunications succeed most when delivered together.

WFP-led common and on-demand services in action

35. *United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)*. UNHAS continues to be a vital, cost-effective and rapidly deployable solution for humanitarian access. In 2025, UNHAS ensured uninterrupted access in some of the world's most challenging settings, carrying out 36,531 flights to 362 hard-to-reach destinations, transporting 239,357 aid workers and 2,513 mt of humanitarian cargo. Overall, 682 organizations were supported and 583 medical evacuations and 1,639 security relocations were carried out. In response to funding constraints, UNHAS has undertaken efficiency measures, including fleet optimization, contract revisions and reductions in ancillary costs such as those associated with fuel and ground handling. Secure, sustained and predictable funding continues to be essential to enabling global humanitarian response.
36. *United Nations humanitarian response depot (UNHRD)*. Throughout 2025 the UNHRD supported responses from its five global hubs to major crises in Afghanistan, the Gaza Strip, Haiti, Myanmar and the Caribbean region. The UNHRD dispatched 580 consignments for 45 partners and 47 WFP country offices, reaching 93 countries with 37,984 m³ and 8,040 mt of relief items worth USD 60 million and targeting an estimated 1.65 million people. Through its operational footprint and agility, the UNHRD enabled partners to reach hard-to-access areas. Examples include shipments bound for the Sudan passing through the UNHRD Accra hub and the Douala corridor and the re-routing of 56 containers stranded in Pakistan through the UNHRD Dubai hub and via a new land corridor into Afghanistan. The UNHRD also delivered the first infectious disease treatment module to the Democratic Republic of the Congo during an outbreak of Ebola disease and launched a new online logistics request management system, UNHRD+, thus increasing efficiency.
37. *UN Fleet*. A joint WFP and UNHCR initiative, UN Fleet provides cost-effective vehicle leasing across the United Nations system; by 2025 it had supported operations in 100 countries with more than 1,000 vehicles while maintaining high customer satisfaction. By the end of 2025 it had generated USD 1.6 million in annual savings, bringing cumulative savings since its 2022 launch to more than USD 2.6 million and serving as a key UN80 example of how shared services improve system-wide efficiency and coherence.
38. *UN System Booking Hub*. The United Nations' largest AI-powered global service platform allows the humanitarian and development community to access and manage field services and enables coordinated emergency response. The hub delivered USD 18 million in efficiency gains in 2025. With 2.5 million customer requests served in 2025 alone, it streamlines access to field services across 22 United Nations entities in air transportation, mobility, accommodation, facilities, medical care and wellness services in 128 countries.
39. *Procurement services and cargo management*. Over the period covered by this report, WFP supported 154 governments and partners by managing 318,465 mt of cargo, providing storage, transport, fuel and food procurement services in 46 countries. Furthermore, WFP supported five national governments in procuring 88,683 mt of food valued at USD 85.2 million.
40. *Government-to-person payment services*. In 2025, WFP supported the governments of Lebanon, Mozambique and Peru through government-to-person payment services, which facilitated the transfer of USD 141.3 million for social protection programmes in those countries.

41. *Supporting health partners.* In 2025, WFP supported the World Health Organization in 13 countries through on-demand logistics services, handling 3 million litres of fuel in Yemen and managing 1,888 mt of cargo. WFP also facilitated the delivery of almost 46,000 mt of products and long-lasting insecticidal nets through the Global Fund and partners in seven African countries.

Improving collective response

42. *Localization.* WFP's localization policy places local and national actors at the centre of its work, scaling up a locally led approach and committing to more direct and flexible funding. WFP efforts will be guided by four objectives: shifting to collaborative partnerships with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs); strengthening engagement with community-based organizations, including those led by women and other underrepresented groups; expanding the economic participation of local enterprises; and increasing the influence of local actors in policies, operations and coordination.
43. In 2025, WFP partnered with almost 800 civil society organizations, of which more than 80 percent were local NGOs. More than 90 percent of WFP assistance was delivered through cooperating partners. WFP procured 1.5 million mt of food, with 62 percent sourced locally or regionally, including 5.6 percent from smallholder farmers. WFP also advanced implementation by developing a new capacity strengthening strategy for local NGOs and a menu of options for formally engaging community-based organizations, to be piloted in 2026.
44. *Cash-based transfers (CBTs).* In 2025, WFP transferred USD 2.2 billion through CBTs, including cash transfers, value vouchers and commodity vouchers, in 77 countries. This represents 47 percent of total planned transfers, reflecting the continued use of CBTs as an important transfer modality in WFP's assistance portfolio, where conditions allow. Cash transfers accounted for 68 percent of CBTs, followed by value vouchers (25 percent) and commodity vouchers (7 percent). Overall transfer volumes remained broadly similar to those in 2024. However, the value of CBTs delivered in corporate emergency settings increased by 7 percent, reaching USD 1.6 billion, driven largely by operations in Lebanon, the Sudan and Ukraine. While CBTs continue to support timely and context-appropriate assistance in many settings, their application remains dependent on market functionality, operational access and risk considerations.
45. *Security and the protection of humanitarian personnel.* Humanitarians are increasingly under threat. The deadliest years on record for humanitarian personnel were 2024 and 2025, reflecting rising impunity for violations of international law, greater harm to civilians and shrinking humanitarian space. Drone threats surged in 2025, affecting operations in seven countries – up from three in 2024. There were direct strikes on WFP's convoys and collateral damage to its offices, guesthouses and warehouses. Operations related to food assistance were most frequently targeted in 2025, followed by healthcare activities. Attacks on camps for refugees and internally displaced persons camps also rose; the use of military and militarized drones has risen sharply, driven by state actors as well as non-state armed groups.
46. In response, WFP strengthened global preparedness, issuing operational guidance on drones, expanding specialized training with private providers, NGOs and the Italian Navy for SSAFE⁷ in Brindisi, Italy, and engaging with industry on detection and on protective technologies. At the level of the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, WFP is engaging with the United Nations Global Service Centre, the United Nations Department of Peace Operations and the United Nations Department of Safety and Security as part of

⁷ Safe and secure approaches in field environments.

- system-wide efforts on countering drone threats. To reinforce sector-wide readiness, WFP convened a core group in 2025, with the Global Interagency Security Forum, UNHCR and the NGO Insecurity Insight to align efforts. WFP is actively investing in partner protection; in 2025 and 2026, training programmes for local partners were rolled out, notably in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Gaza Strip, Kenya and Ukraine.
47. As part of its duty of care commitment and in accordance with the Australia-led Declaration for the Protection of Humanitarian Personnel, WFP continues to work with Member States to achieve concrete protections for its employees and those of its partners.
 48. *Protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).* WFP's leadership through the Executive Director's tenure as the IASC Champion on PSEA and sexual harassment in 2024 and 2025 strengthened system-wide integration of PSEA as a core component of humanitarian action, improving coordination, elevating survivor voices and advancing investigative and risk mitigation standards. Key achievements included reinforcing victim/survivor-centred approaches in global tools, formalizing the Global PSEA Advisory Group to bring local actors into governance, rapidly expanding partner capacity through new e-learning, rolling out the IASC sexual exploitation and abuse risk identification and mitigation package for clusters to field teams, issuing a unified trauma-informed investigators' manual and broadening community access to information and support through a "PSEA at the Frontline" package available in 30 languages.
 49. *Refugee response.* Together with UNHCR, in 2025 WFP assisted 12.5 million refugees in 43 countries; severe funding shortfalls forced major ration cuts and caseload reductions, however, including the suspension of assistance to 1 million refugees in Uganda and 300,000 in the Niger and the reduction of rations in Lebanon, the Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania. To mitigate the impact of these cuts, WFP applied protection-sensitive prioritization with UNHCR and allocated over USD 25 million in unearmarked funding to high-priority operations. Progress in data sharing and interoperability enabled real-time biometric verification and automated information exchange, improving the delivery of assistance. WFP, UNHCR and other partners also advanced efforts to promote refugee self-reliance, including the Haguina economic inclusion project in Chad.
 50. *Protection.* WFP remained an active member of the global protection cluster's strategic advisory group and the inter-agency group on the centrality of protection, contributing to advocacy efforts and collective frameworks to strengthen protection in humanitarian operations. Twenty-eight country offices conducted standalone protection analyses with partners. Protection and safe-referral training was rolled out for WFP and partner personnel. Despite efforts to maintain protection, reductions in dedicated expertise and the shrinking availability of services made inter-agency collaboration and referrals increasingly challenging.
 51. *Innovation and artificial intelligence (AI).* In 2025, the WFP Innovation Accelerator strengthened operations by advancing locally led innovation, with solutions reaching 132.5 million people in 75 countries and generating USD 301 million in savings. WFP drove innovation across the United Nations by co-leading the UN Innovation Network and scaling up responsible AI under its organization-wide AI strategy. The Frontier Innovations team expanded key partnerships, including with the European Organization for Nuclear Research and the Government of Luxembourg, and advanced work in blockchain technology, digital finance and autonomous systems to improve transparency, efficiency and accountability.
 52. *Anticipatory action and disaster risk financing.* WFP activated anticipatory actions in 14 countries in 2025, disbursing USD 35 million to act ahead of predicted floods, cyclones and droughts. WFP continued to protect disaster-affected communities by partnering with governments, the private sector and local actors to deploy pre-arranged disaster risk

financing tools, including insurance and other innovative mechanisms. Through these efforts, WFP supported 4.9 million people through insurance coverage, out of which 1.1 million people – including USD 7.9 million in the Syrian Arab Republic, and nearly USD 2 million in Jamaica following Hurricane Melissa – received either direct payout from insurance companies or received assistance from WFP, financed by payouts.

53. *HIV/AIDS*. WFP's work on HIV, guided by the 2025–2030 “Feeding Health, the Last Mile on HIV Strategy”, focuses on ensuring life-saving nutrition support and treatment continuity in high-burden and food-insecure settings. As a co-sponsor of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, WFP strengthens multisectoral HIV responses across humanitarian and development settings while supporting national systems under conflict and economic stress. WFP also co-led the revision of the IASC guidelines on HIV in emergencies. WFP is engaging in the Global Fund's GC8 grant-making window to position nutrition assistance as essential to achieving equitable HIV outcomes.

Evidence generation and knowledge-sharing to support collective response and action

54. *IPC*. WFP closely monitors acute food insecurity among the most vulnerable people, playing a central role in the IPC and CH processes. In areas with limited access, WFP employs remote data collection methods to ensure that needs are accurately assessed and properly addressed.
55. WFP provides the majority of food security outcome indicators used in IPC processes. In 2025 it continued to collaborate with the IPC global support unit to improve famine classification, enable analysis in hard-to-reach areas and enhance data disaggregation.
56. WFP's work on IPC nutrition vulnerability analysis was instrumental in finalizing the guidance for areas with limited access, and the organization contributed substantial nutrition data to several IPC acute food insecurity and acute malnutrition analyses.
57. The integrity of food security and nutrition data systems is increasingly at risk, as access constraints and funding shortfalls erode the evidence base needed for accurate analysis and response. These pressures are already reducing humanitarian presence and data collection in several settings, contributing to an artificial decline in the number of people reported as food insecure. This means that a growing population of food-insecure households are going unseen by the international system. Protecting and investing in information systems is therefore essential to safeguarding evidence-based decision-making. In this context, WFP has developed guidance on conducting assessments during periods of limited funding and is currently preparing corporate guidance to better integrate and streamline nutrition into assessments.
58. *Global Network Against Food Crises*. In 2025, WFP continued its leading role in the Global Network Against Food Crises, a trusted platform uniting United Nations entities, key donors, including the European Union, Germany, Ireland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, alongside international financial institutions and crisis-affected countries and territories. The network's evidence and early-warning work again identified major crises – in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Somalia and the Sudan, informing more coherent and timely system-wide responses. The network strengthened coordination by adopting a new production model for the Global Report on Food Crises to make the publication more concise and faster to publish. It also supported the rollout of the World Bank's food security crisis preparedness plans and convened its senior advisory group to guide discussions related to the humanitarian reset.

Acronyms

AI	artificial intelligence
CBT	cash-based transfer
FSC	food security cluster
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
LTC	logistics and telecommunications cluster
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