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Operational matters

For information

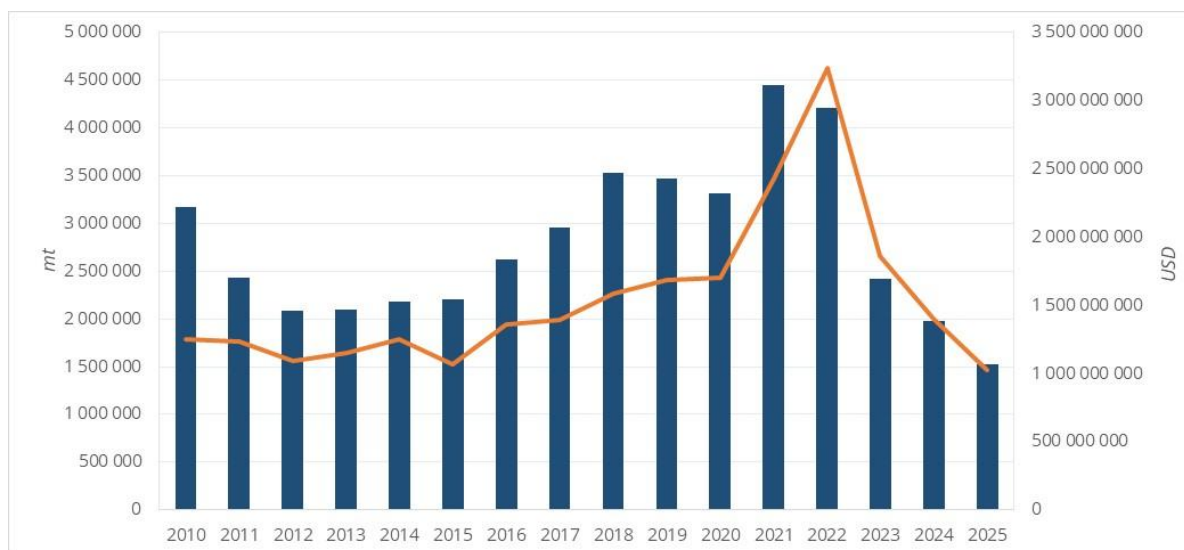
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Update on food procurement

WFP food procurement in 2025

1. In 2025, WFP procured 1.53 million mt of food worth USD 1.02 billion – a decrease of 22 percent in volume and 27 percent in value with respect to 2024. The decline, which started in 2023, is a direct result of the significant reduction in funding available to WFP. Approximately 97 percent of the volume of food procured in 2025 was for WFP operations, while the remaining 3 percent (40,498 mt) was procured by WFP on behalf of national governments in a service provision capacity.

Figure 1: WFP food procurement, 2010–2025



2. The quantity of food purchased by WFP in 2025 was the lowest in 15 years (figure 1), reflecting significant funding reductions and the resulting operational scale-down.

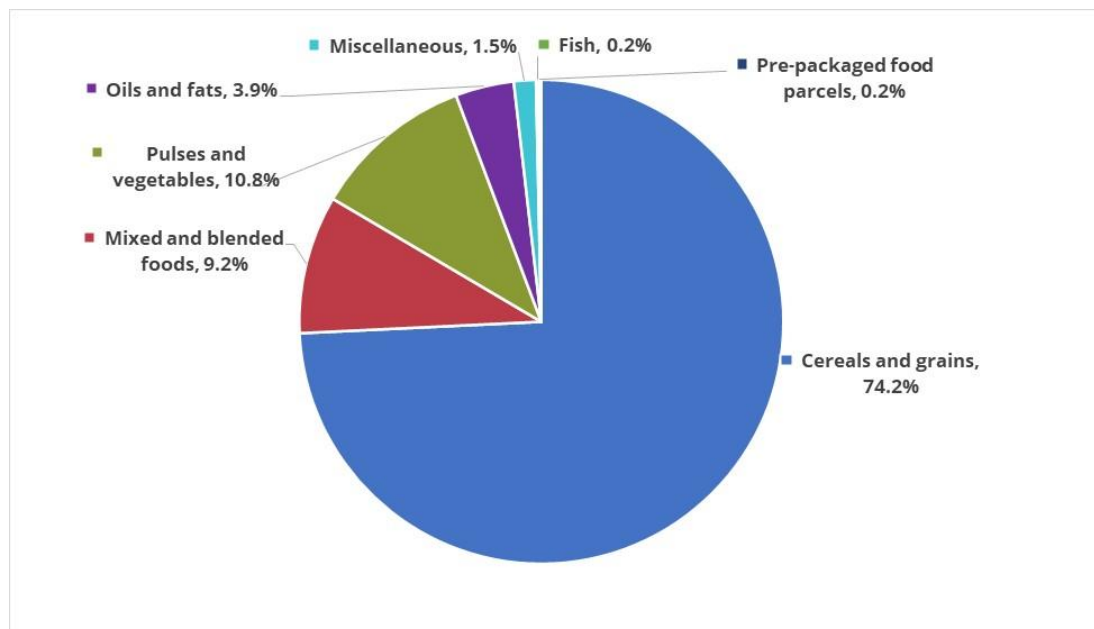
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3. Cereals remained the largest category of food procured by WFP by volume, accounting for 74 percent of total food procured. This was followed by pulses, which accounted for 11 percent. Compared with 2024, the share of cereals increased by approximately 6 percent, while the share of pulses decreased by 3 percent (figure 2).

Figure 2: Food procured in 2025 by category (mt)



Main countries of origin

4. Türkiye, Ukraine and the Republic of Korea were the top sources of food procured in 2025 (table 1).

TABLE 1: TOP 10 WFP SOURCE COUNTRIES, 2025				
Origin country	Quantity		Value	
	mt	%	USD	%
Top 10 countries	944 603	62	551 145 258	54%
Türkiye	212 946	14	138 089 287	14
Ukraine	157 823	10	58 577 557	6
Republic of Korea	135 201	9	47 469 276	5
Kazakhstan	102 472	7	36 476 268	4
United Republic of Tanzania	76 690	5	28 424 637	3
Australia	68 226	4	20 110 230	2
Pakistan	54 495	4	127 528 089	12
State of Palestine	47 585	3	29 743 568	3
India	45 262	3	38 212 146	4
Nigeria	43 903	3	26 514 200	3
Others	582 971	38	471 141 334	46
Total	1 527 574	100	1 022 286 592	100

5. Approximately 59 percent of the volume of food procured (906,884 mt) was sourced from least developed, low-income and lower-middle-income countries, thereby supporting developing economies¹ (table 2).

TABLE 2: WFP FOOD PROCUREMENT BY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE CATEGORY, 2025				
Development Assistance Committee category	Quantity		Value	
	<i>mt</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>USD</i>	<i>%</i>
Least developed	350 712	22.96	189 057 217	18.49
Low-income	138 556	9.07	48 956 414	4.79
Lower-middle-income	417 613	27.34	355 990 449	34.82
Upper-middle-income	436 060	28.55	288 026 720	28.17
Developed	184 633	12.09	140 255 792	13.72
Total	1 527 574	100	1 022 286 592	100

Supporting countries of operation through procurement

6. In 2025, more than 80 percent (1.2 million mt) of WFP's total food procurement volume was sourced from countries where WFP provides assistance² compared with 72 percent in 2024. In line with its local and regional food procurement policy, WFP prioritized procurement in countries with surplus stocks and timed purchases carefully in order to reduce the risk of price volatility and mitigate potential economic shocks.

Streamlining the local and regional food procurement policy

7. WFP's local and regional food procurement policy has been fully implemented and mainstreamed across all WFP operations, following a successful pilot project conducted in three regions in 2020. The policy has a dual focus: supporting government efforts to advance local, cost-efficient procurement practices, and strengthening local food systems. This approach enables WFP to align procurement more closely with programme objectives while promoting improved nutrition, strengthening resilience and linking smallholder farmers to markets, thereby strengthening livelihoods and supporting equitable economic outcomes at the country level.
8. Pro-smallholder farmer purchases³ increased from 4.4 percent of total procurement volume in 2024 to 5.6 percent in 2025. Of this, Eastern Africa accounted for the largest share at 53 percent, followed by Western Africa at 33 percent, Latin America and the Caribbean at 4.6 percent, Southern Africa at 4.3 percent, Asia and the Pacific at 3.9 percent and the Middle East, Northern Africa and Eastern Europe at 1.2 percent.

¹ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. 2025. [DAC List of ODA Recipients: Effective for reporting on 2025 flows](#).

² This includes procurement in countries with WFP presence, including upper-middle-income countries such as Indonesia and Türkiye.

³ *Pro-smallholder farmer purchases* refers to procurement that benefits smallholder farmers, whether direct purchase or procurement through aggregators or cooperatives.

9. WFP continued to increase pro-smallholder farmer purchases through the use of both indirect and direct contract modalities. The United Republic of Tanzania accounted for the highest procurement volume in 2025, at 20 percent of total pro-smallholder farmer purchases.

Enabling responses to unfolding emergencies

10. In 2025 the proportion of food procured by WFP for ongoing emergencies remained relatively stable at 519,247 mt, equivalent to 34 percent of total procurement, the same proportion as in 2024 (see table 3).

TABLE 3: VOLUME OF FOOD PROCURED IN 2025 BY EMERGENCY CLASSIFICATION	
Emergency classification	Quantity (mt)
Corporate attention (15 countries)	263 169
Corporate scale-up (4 countries)	256 078
Total	519 247

Food procurement through the Global Commodity Management Facility

11. Out of the total 1.53 million mt procured in 2025, 44 percent (approximately 679,000 mt) was purchased through the Global Commodity Management Facility. This was a slight decrease from the 48 percent recorded in 2024.
12. The main reasons for the decrease were twofold: lower levels of funding received by WFP operations that historically relied on the facility to cover most of their food requirements, including operations in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen; and increased use by WFP of commodities that are not regularly supplied through the facility, such as pre-packed food rations.
13. In 2025, WFP operations purchasing through the Global Commodity Management Facility received food commodities in an average of 33 days. This represented a 69 percent reduction in lead time from the 3.5 months required on average to procure and deliver the same commodities directly. The reduction in lead time was particularly important in countries under corporate scale-up and corporate attention emergency classifications, where the timely delivery of life-saving food assistance is critical.

An increasingly coordinated approach to procurement

14. WFP's procurement activities continue to support the organization's evolving decentralized operating model by positioning procurement expertise closer to key markets. In 2025 additional procurement categories were transferred to regional offices, which now form part of global headquarters, thereby strengthening supply chain responsiveness and operational effectiveness.

TABLE 4: FOOD PROCUREMENT BY PURCHASING OFFICE, 2025				
Purchasing office	Value		Quantity	
	USD	%	mt	%
Global headquarters	547 405 368	54	954 397	63
Country offices	474 881 223	46	573 177	37
Total	1 022 286 591	100	1 527 574	100

15. In 2025 WFP continued the roll-out of SmartSourcing, a digital procurement platform, in order to optimize procurement processes and strengthen workforce capabilities. This aligns with WFP's broader efforts to improve efficiency and strengthen operational effectiveness.

Sustainability meets efficiency

16. In line with WFP's environmental policy and the recommendations of the 2024 evaluation of that policy, WFP continued to strengthen supply chain capacity while reducing its environmental footprint. This included measuring environmental impact more systematically, working with suppliers to integrate environmental considerations into procurement practices and pursuing supply chain optimization initiatives.
17. For example, the country office in Ethiopia promoted the collection of packaging and fleet waste, while the country offices in Afghanistan and Pakistan sold empty cartons and polypropylene bags to local recyclers. Those initiatives generated economic returns while reducing waste and the impact of WFP operations on the environment.
18. WFP continued the roll-out of its environmental impact measurement tool, ECODASH,⁴ which has been integrated with Optimus, WFP's food basket planning tool. As a result, country offices can now consider carbon emissions alongside cost, lead time and nutrition when making procurement decisions. The new tool enabled the Haiti country office to reduce procurement-related emissions for one programme by 5 percent without compromising cost, nutritional content or lead time.
19. WFP continued to work with food manufacturers, inspection companies and inter-agency partners to ensure the use of high-quality packaging that maintains its integrity throughout the supply chain, thereby minimizing waste and food loss. For example, WFP worked with suppliers of specialized nutritious foods to strengthen packaging quality controls in order to detect packaging defects and quality issues that could compromise sachet integrity and result in food loss in the field.

Oversight

20. In 2025 the Procurement Service continued to provide oversight and guidance at headquarters and in the field through compliance checks and knowledge-sharing initiatives aimed at strengthening procurement expertise across field operations and headquarters functional units.

Way forward

21. In 2026 the Procurement Service will continue to strengthen strategies related to category management, including for procurement managed through the regional offices, in order to improve efficiency and market intelligence. The Procurement Service will also continue to work closely with regional and country office teams to support cost-effective, timely and efficient procurement that meets country office needs.

⁴ ECODASH stands for "Environment and Carbon Optimization, Decision and Analysis Support Hub".

ANNEX

Additional information on commodities procured

Category	Commodities
Cereals	Barley, buckwheat, bulgur wheat, maize, maize meal, oats, pasta, rice, sorghum/millet, wheat, wheat flour
Pulses and vegetables	Beans, canned pulses, canned vegetables, chickpeas, lentils, peas, split lentils, split peas
Mixed and blended foods	Biscuits, BP-5 emergency rations, date bars, high-energy biscuits, lipid-based nutrient supplements, Super Cereal, Super Cereal Plus, Vitatol, wheat and soy flour
Oils and fats	Olive oil, vegetable oil
Miscellaneous	Canned beef, canned chicken, canned fish, other canned meat, cassava flour, dried fruits, fresh tubers, halawa, iodized salt, micronutrient powder, plain dried skimmed milk, pre-packed food rations, processed tomato, spices, sugar, tea, UHT milk, yeast

Cereals

1. Cereals remained the largest category of food procured by WFP by volume (74.2 percent) and value (45 percent) in 2025. Compared with 2024, the share of cereals increased by 6 percentage points in volume and 3 percentage points in value. Within this category, fortified wheat flour remained the top commodity procured, although total volume procured decreased by 17 percent in 2025, from 0.32 million mt to 0.26 million mt. The procurement of rice reduced by 7 percent, sorghum by 18 percent and wheat by 34 percent.
2. Total maize purchased in 2025 was approximately 148,716 mt. White maize accounted for 62 percent of the total. Approximately 28,315 mt was sourced from smallholder farmers, accounting for 19 percent of white maize purchases. Most white maize is sourced and consumed within the Eastern Africa region, with the United Republic of Tanzania supplying the largest volume (approximately 55 percent).
3. The volume of rice purchased in 2025 was 282,341 mt, somewhat less than the 302,917 mt procured in 2024. The main countries of origin were the Republic of Korea, Myanmar and India. Rice prices decreased by 16 percent in 2025 following the lifting of trade restrictions by India in September 2024.

Pulses

4. In 2025, pulses accounted for 11 percent of food procured by volume (65,773 mt), at a total value of USD 41 million, compared with 13 percent in 2024. Split peas remained the most procured commodity within this category, although procurement volumes for pulses overall decreased in 2025, mainly as a result of reduced funding. WFP used food supply agreements and sourced primarily from vendors in Türkiye and Ukraine in order to mitigate the impact of price fluctuations. That approach proved particularly effective in certain emergency operations, reducing lead times by up to 14 days compared with spot tenders. Through food supply agreements, a total of 45,457 mt of pulses was procured in 2025 at a value of USD 30 million.

Specialized nutritious foods

5. Specialized nutritious foods, which include lipid nutrient supplements and fortified blended foods, accounted for 23 percent of total expenditure on food procurement in 2025.
6. In 2025 WFP procured 112,489 mt of specialized nutritious foods, valued at approximately USD 237 million, equivalent to 9.2 percent of the total volume of food procured. This compares with 148,000 mt of specialized nutritious foods procured in 2024 at a value of USD 250 million.

Vegetable oil

7. In 2025 WFP procured 45,586 mt of vegetable oil valued at approximately USD 67 million. This was equivalent to a reduction of 60 percent in volume compared with 2024. Vegetable oil procurement consisted largely of sunflower oil (27,363 mt), mainly sourced from Türkiye, Ukraine and the Russian Federation, and fully sustainable, RSPO SG-certified⁵ palm olein (11,228 mt), purchased from Indonesia and Malaysia.
8. Reductions in delivery lead time of approximately two weeks were achieved through the use of early dispatch clauses in headquarters-level food purchase contracts for palm olein. Approximately 78 percent of purchases were managed by headquarters.

Sugar

9. In 2025 WFP procured 4,920 mt of sugar valued at approximately USD 3.7 million. The volume of sugar procured decreased by 65 percent compared with 2024. The decline was primarily due to the availability of previous stocks of the commodity and to funding constraints.
10. In 2025 the main destination countries for sugar were Guatemala, Algeria and Ukraine. Those countries were also the main sources of sugar, with approximately 1,310 mt sourced from Guatemala, 1,082 mt from Ukraine and 1,052 mt from Algeria.

⁵ In the context of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), "Segregation" (SG) refers to a supply chain model in which RSPO-certified palm oil products, sourced from certified growers, crushers and smallholders, are kept physically separated from non-certified palm oil throughout the supply chain.