

WFP Refugee Assistance: Then and Now

Photo Exhibit on the margins of the Annual Session of the Executive Board Monday, 12 June through Tuesday, 20 June 2017 WFP Headquarters

Context

For more than 40 years, the World Food Programme has provided life-saving food assistance to refugees around the world in close collaboration with countries of asylum and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

In 2016, the number of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) reached a record high, with more than sixty million people displaced from their homes. WFP provided food assistance to 6.4 million refugees and 15.1 million internally displaced persons in 32 countries at an estimated cost of USD 700 million.

However, WFP and partners are increasingly facing challenges in carrying out effective refugee responses. The following four key trends are creating a shift in the global refugee and IDP landscape with implications for the provision of food assistance:

- Increasingly protracted displacements.
- Growing numbers of refugees and IDPs in urban settings.
- Disruptive technologies.
- Limited resources for assistance.

In light of these key trends and challenges, WFP developed a new approach to adapt and innovate for transformative and sustainable impacts on the lives of the displaced, their host communities, and countries of asylum.

Objectives

The objective of the exhibit is to generate interest in and understanding of the new ways in which WFP is working to promote refugee self-reliance and livelihoods. The exhibit pays particular focus to delivering the right assistance to the right people in the right way.

WFP will also take the opportunity to promote its new joint strategy for refugee self-reliance, developed in partnership with UNHCR.

Agenda

The photo exhibit will run from Monday, 12 June through Tuesday, 20 June, ending on World Refugee Day.