



The Immediate Response Account

WFP's immediate, life-saving, and last-resort funding mechanism

Informal Briefing to the Executive Board

25 July 2022, 09:30 – 11:00

Meeting Room or Zoom Meeting, WFP Headquarters

The World Food Programme is kindly inviting its partners and members to an informal briefing on Monday, 25 July 2022. The event will focus on the critical role played by the Immediate Response Account (IRA) in WFP emergency operations. WFP will showcase evidence of impact, past and future challenges, including IRA capitalisation level to cover the full scope of WFP's work, and inform on the revised governance structure in the context of the new Emergency Activation Protocol.

Context

A seismic hunger crisis is enveloping the world amidst a time of unprecedented needs. Climate shocks, conflict, COVID-19 and the spiraling costs of food and fuel, compounded by knock-on effects of the conflict in Ukraine, could drive at least 47 million people in 81 countries to the edge of famine.

In this context, **the Immediate Response Account (IRA) is a strategic and critical tool to ensure WFP can rise to the challenge of meeting immediate needs.** The IRA is a vital funding facility for early, pre-emptive, and anticipatory action, the deployment of personnel at the onset of a crisis, and the mobilization of resources for ongoing emergencies to minimize critical disruptions in life-threatening situations.

Objectives

WFP aims to showcase the achievements and human impact of the IRA as well as discuss its critical role amidst a time of unprecedented needs.

- The event will focus on the evidence and challenges, illustrated by operational case studies. The IRA has been a vital tool to ensure resources are immediately available to kick start emergency operations, scale up emergencies aggravated by deepening needs, and respond to sudden-onset crises while maintaining life-saving activities.
- In addition, WFP aims to assess the IRA's use, growing demand, and future challenges and needs, aligned with its recent revision and governance in the context of the new emergency activation protocol.

Agenda

(5 min) Welcome and opening comments

Ms Karin Manente, Director of Public Partnerships and Resourcing WFP

(5 min) The Revitalized Immediate Response Account in the context of the new Emergency Activation Protocol

Ms Ilaria Dettori, Deputy Director of Emergencies, WFP

(3 min) [IRA, WFP's immediate, lifesaving, last-resort funding mechanism video](#)

(15 min) IRA evidence, challenges, and impact: operational case studies

WFP regional and country leadership

(15 min) The IRA amidst a time of unprecedented needs

Ms Ilaria Dettori, Deputy Director of Emergencies, WFP

(20 min) EB members perspectives/Q&A

(10 min) Closing comments