

## ANNEX II-D: EXPENDITURE PER BENEFICIARY ANALYSIS<sup>1</sup>

### Definitions and methodology

1. The expenditure per beneficiary indicator measures the average cost of assisting each tier 1 beneficiary who benefits from food or cash-based transfers (CBTs) and commodity vouchers provided by WFP to improve their food security or nutrition status.
2. The two metrics developed for this indicator show the daily and the annual expenditures per beneficiary. The daily expenditure per beneficiary is calculated by dividing the total expenditure by the total number of daily transfers corresponding to that expenditure. The total number of daily transfers is calculated by multiplying the number of days for which assistance is provided by the number of beneficiaries as recorded in distribution reports. Annual expenditure per beneficiary is calculated by dividing the total annual expenditure by the total number of beneficiaries receiving assistance through one or more WFP programmes during the year. A longer duration of assistance may increase the annual expenditure per beneficiary without affecting the daily expenditure. By contrast, a ration cut affects both the daily and the annual expenditures per beneficiary.

### Results for 2023

3. Actual expenditures per beneficiary recorded in 2023 were lower than the planned expenditures per beneficiary, as shown in table 1. This change was reflected in the budget revisions that have been made since the adoption of the management plan for 2023–2025.

**TABLE 1: DAILY PLANNED AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURES PER BENEFICIARY, 2023**

Modality	Planned*	Actual
Food	0.38	0.36
CBTs and commodity vouchers	0.60	0.55
<b>All modalities</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>0.42</b>

\* From “WFP management plan (2023–2025)” (WFP/EB.2/2022/5-A/1/Rev.1) annex VI, table A.VI.7.

4. In 2023, WFP’s total expenditures decreased by 9 percent compared with 2022, from USD 11.6 billion to USD 10.6 billion, and the number of beneficiaries decreased by 5 percent, from 160 million to 152 million. As such, the annual expenditure per beneficiary decreased by 9 percent, from USD 55 in 2022 to USD 50 in 2023, while the expenditure per beneficiary per assistance day (or daily expenditure per beneficiary) increased by 2 percent, from USD 0.41 to USD 0.42. The variations in those key indicators are shown in table 2.

<sup>1</sup> WFP’s expenditures per beneficiary refer to the average amounts of money spent by WFP on each individual who receives assistance through food, CBTs and commodity vouchers. Expenditures per beneficiary are considered a cost, but from a broader perspective that takes into account the social and economic benefits of WFP programmes, expenditures per beneficiary could be seen as investments. By providing food assistance to people in need, WFP helps to reduce hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity, which has a range of positive impacts on individuals, households and communities. Tier 1 beneficiaries who receive food assistance through the capacity strengthening modality are not included in this analysis.

**TABLE 2: VARIATIONS IN BENEFICIARY NUMBERS, TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND DAILY EXPENDITURE PER BENEFICIARY, 2022–2023**

Indicator	2022 value	2023 value
Total beneficiaries	160 million	152 million
Total expenditures	USD 11.6 billion	USD 10.6 billion
Annual cost per beneficiary	USD 55	USD 50
Daily expenditure per beneficiary	USD 0.41	USD 0.42

## Analysis and interpretation

- Between 2022 and 2023, the number of beneficiaries receiving food decreased by 7 percent, from 107.8 million to 100.6 million, while the volume of food distributed decreased by 23 percent, from 4.8 million mt to 3.7 million mt. Facing funding shortages in 2023, WFP cut ration sizes and provided the majority of its beneficiaries with reduced rations to ensure that as many people as possible could be assisted.
- Over the same period, the number of beneficiaries receiving CBTs increased by 5 percent, from 49 million to 51.6 million, and the number of beneficiaries receiving commodity vouchers decreased by 13 percent, from 6.7 million to 5.8 million. However, the corresponding transfer value of CBTs decreased by 10 percent, from USD 3.1 billion to USD 2.8 billion, and the transfer value of commodity vouchers decreased by 35 percent, from USD 213 million to USD 137 million.
- Table 3 presents the daily average expenditures per beneficiary, table 4 the annual average expenditures per beneficiary and table 5 the daily assistance values for the largest WFP programme areas. Activities in the remaining programme areas are implemented primarily through capacity strengthening initiatives and service delivery with limited use of direct transfers for tier 1 beneficiaries.
- The duration of assistance is an important dimension of the intensity of assistance. The other key dimension of intensity is the daily value of assistance reported in table 5. The number of beneficiaries reported in part III of this APR also influences the intensity of assistance. The duration of assistance is planned for each programme area based on the programme design and CSP objectives. For instance, the duration of school-based programmes will typically correspond to the average duration of the school year in each of the countries where such programmes are being implemented, while activities in seasonal or resilience-focused programme areas will often provide assistance for a shorter period. During implementation, factors such as access constraints, funding gaps, or the closure of distribution points may reduce the actual duration of assistance.
- Table 6 indicates the average number of assistance days per beneficiary by programme area in 2023. The duration of assistance helps to clarify the link between the daily cost per beneficiary and the annual cost per beneficiary. For example, although the daily cost per beneficiary for unconditional resource transfers is in line with the global average of USD 0.42 per beneficiary, the corresponding annual cost per beneficiary is the highest among all modalities, as it is the programme area that delivers the greatest number of assistance days on average.

**TABLE 3: DAILY AVERAGE EXPENDITURES PER BENEFICIARY FOR FOOD TRANSFERS, CASH-BASED TRANSFERS AND COMMODITY VOUCHERS, 2023**

Programme area*	Food		CBTs		Commodity vouchers		All modalities	
	Number of daily transfers	Daily expenditure per beneficiary (USD)	Number of daily transfers	Daily expenditure per beneficiary (USD)	Number of daily transfers	Daily expenditure per beneficiary (USD)	Number of daily transfers	Daily expenditure per beneficiary (USD)
Asset creation and livelihoods	141 930 849	0.61	547 379 686	0.56	2 178 000	0.62	691 488 535	0.57
Action to protect against climate shocks	-	-	96 646 666	0.32	150 000	0.68	96 796 666	0.32
Malnutrition prevention programmes	1 189 522 554	0.28	124 513 272	0.61	28 200	0.68	1 314 064 026	0.32
School-based programmes	2 104 927 693	0.19	338 492 438	0.23	191 428 524	0.40	2 634 848 655	0.21
Malnutrition treatment programmes	1 283 425 362	0.49	3 977 050	0.75	-	-	1 287 402 412	0.49
Unconditional resource transfers	9 802 726 887	0.39	5 068 473 966	0.59	302 159 602	0.36	15 173 360 455	0.45
<b>Total</b>	<b>14 522 533 345</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>6 179 483 078</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>495 944 326</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>21 197 960 749</b>	<b>0.42</b>

\* Smallholder agriculture market support activities do not appear in this table because they are based mainly on capacity strengthening activities for which there are no direct food, cash-based or commodity voucher transfers.

**TABLE 4: ANNUAL AVERAGE EXPENDITURES PER BENEFICIARY\* FOR FOOD TRANSFERS, CASH-BASED TRANSFERS AND COMMODITY VOUCHERS, 2023**

Programme area	Food		CBTs		Commodity vouchers		All modalities	
	Number of beneficiaries*	Annual expenditure per beneficiary (USD)	Number of beneficiaries	Annual expenditure per beneficiary (USD)	Number of beneficiaries	Annual expenditure per beneficiary (USD)	Number of beneficiaries	Annual expenditure per beneficiary (USD)
Asset creation and livelihoods	1 616 290	44	7 028 417	43	36 190	37	8 680 897	43
Action to protect against climate shocks	-	-	2 223 629	14	5 000	20	2 228 629	14
Malnutrition prevention programmes	11 930 949	28	804 906	93	324	59	12 736 179	32
School-based programmes	18 304 184	21	2 854 939	27	2 061 110	37	23 220 233	23
Malnutrition treatment programmes	14 827 017	41	61 793	48	-	-	14 888 810	41
Unconditional resource transfers	67 296 698	55	40 906 232	71	3 736 208	29	111 939 138	60
<b>Total**</b>	<b>113 975 138</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>53 879 916</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>5 838 832</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>173 693 886</b>	<b>50</b>

\* The numbers of beneficiaries in this table indicate the tier 1 beneficiaries reached as part of activities aligned with the CRF for 2022–2025.

\*\* The totals shown in this row include the overlaps that occur when a single beneficiary receives assistance through more than one WFP programme or transfer modality. In 2023, WFP provided assistance to 151.7 million beneficiaries, some of whom were reached through multiple programmes in various programme areas.

**TABLE 5: DAILY VALUES OF ASSISTANCE, 2023\***

Programme area	Food				CBTs and commodity vouchers			
	Average daily transfer value (USD)	Average daily transfer costs (USD)	Total expenditures per beneficiary	Transfer value as a % of expenditures per beneficiary (%)	Average daily transfer value (USD)	Average daily transfer costs (USD)	Total expenditures per beneficiary	Transfer value as a % of expenditures per beneficiary (%)
Asset creation and livelihoods	0.27	0.22	0.61	45	0.40	0.06	0.56	71
Action to protect against climate shocks					0.25	0.02	0.32	79
Malnutrition prevention programmes	0.17	0.06	0.28	61	0.47	0.04	0.61	76
School-based programmes	0.11	0.05	0.19	56	0.20	0.03	0.29	69
Malnutrition treatment programmes	0.28	0.13	0.49	57	0.50	0.08	0.75	67
Unconditional resource transfers	0.20	0.12	0.39	51	0.46	0.03	0.58	79
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>0.11</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>78</b>

\* The value of assistance includes the transfer value and transfer costs. It does not include the implementation, direct support and indirect support costs.

**TABLE 6: AVERAGE DURATION OF ASSISTANCE BY PROGRAMME AREA, 2023 (NUMBER OF DAYS)**

Programme area	Food	CBTs	Commodity vouchers	Average*
Asset creation and livelihoods	62	75	60	72
Action to protect against climate shocks		43	30	43
Malnutrition prevention programmes	98	149	87	101
School-based programmes	111	109	93	109
Malnutrition treatment programmes	84	64	-	84
Unconditional resource transfers	144	120	81	133

\* The averages shown in this column are the weighted averages calculated on the basis of the number of beneficiaries assisted through each modality.