

# WFP Global Operational Response Plan 2021

Update #2

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

June 2021

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# Introduction

The world is no longer moving towards Zero Hunger. Progress has stalled, reversed, and today, up to **270.5 million** people are estimated to be acutely food insecure or at high risk in 2021, driven by conflict, economic shocks, natural disasters, and the socio-economic fallout from COVID-19. Urgent action and immediate support are needed to address and prevent famine for millions of people, and avert catastrophic outcomes, including for refugees.

**The World Food Programme (WFP) is taking a leadership role**, working with partners globally and nationally to meet people's emergency food and nutrition needs and reduce the

structural vulnerabilities that underpin them – by strengthening the capacity of individuals, communities, and governments, improving livelihoods, building resilience and reinforcing national social protection systems.

The driving focus of the WFP's **Global Operational Response Plan** is to provide government partners, policymakers, humanitarian counterparts, and concerned citizens with an update on evolving needs and WFP's response priorities. The June update provides the latest information, figures, and a snapshot of how WFP is implementing the Global Operational Response Plan, by:

- Warning of the drivers and multiplying risks that have resulted in surging food insecurity and deepening hunger, with 41 million people at risk of falling into famine in 43 countries, and 584,000 people likely to face famine-like conditions in Ethiopia, Madagascar, South Sudan and Yemen in 2021.
- Setting out how WFP is responding through humanitarian action, development assistance and technical support to national governments – working to scale up lifesaving food and nutrition assistance, invest in human capital and prevention and strengthen global and national partnerships.

 Identifying WFP's Operations of Highest Concern, where the scale and severity of food and nutrition insecurity, the scale of WFP's operational requirements, and the urgency of funding gaps intersect, along with providing a detailed country-by-country overview across WFP's operations.

In 2021, **WFP is undertaking the biggest operation in its history, targeting 139 million people worldwide.** Already in the first quarter of the year, **WFP has reached 67 million people**, 3 million more than the same period last year.

WFP continues to **scale up cash-based transfers**, having transferred US\$ 710 million across 62 country offices, and is supporting 40 governments worldwide in designing, delivering, and assuring their cash-based transfer programmes. WFP continues to collaborate with national governments to **advance social protection programmes in dozens of countries globally**, finalizing a new strategy to increase access to national social protection systems that safeguard and foster people's ability to meet food security, nutrition and associated essential needs. And WFP keeps investing to mitigate the impact of shocks on affected populations, **triggering anticipatory action** at a community level before humanitarian crises materialize.

While donor contributions are projected to reach unprecedented levels in 2021, WFP's funding needs remain substantial and the price for inaction will be measured in lost lives, increased food insecurity and setbacks in progress towards long-term development goals. Despite mounting operational requirements, the 2021 global contribution forecast covers just 55 percent of WFP's current operational requirements of US\$ 15.3 billion. For the next six months alone, WFP still requires US\$ 4.5 billion to cover needs from June to November 2021.





### Section I: High Hunger, Multiplying Risks

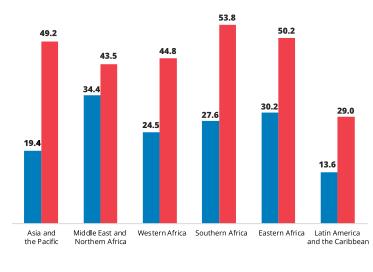
# High food insecurity estimates remain confirmed for 2021

Up to 270.5 million people are estimated to be acutely food insecure or at high risk in 2021 across 80 countries with WFP operational presence and where data is available. Up to 120.7 million additional people are facing food insecurity today compared to before the pandemic, an unprecedented and alarming increase of 81 percent. Forcibly displaced people, such as refugees, returnees, asylum-seekers, and internally displaced persons are particularly vulnerable.

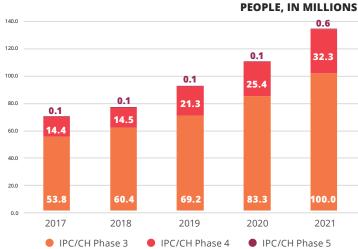
Early 2020 pre-COVID-19 (people, in millions)<sup>1</sup>

June 2021 (people, in millions)<sup>2</sup>

Trends in the ten countries with the highest numbers of people in acute food insecurity in 2021 illustrate how food insecurity has been increasing over the past five years. In these countries—**Afghanistan**, **Democratic Republic of the Congo** (**DRC**), **Ethiopia**, **Haiti**, **Nigeria**, **South Sudan**, **Sudan**, **Syria**, **Venezuela**, and **Yemen**—133 million people are facing acute hunger in 2021 according to Integrated Phase Classification (IPC)/ Cadre Harmonisé (CH) projections (or equivalent), up from 68 million in 2017. For example, in **Afghanistan**, the number of food insecure people increased from 7.6 million in 2017 to 16.9 million at the start of 2021; in **Nigeria**, from 8.9 million in 2017 to 12.8 million in 2021; and in **Syria**, from 6.5 million in 2017 to 12.3 million in 2021.



### Growing number of food insecure people in ten most affected countries<sup>3</sup>



1 The baseline has been slightly adjusted in comparison to previous WFP estimates to add Venezuela as a new country with WFP operational presence and ensure coherence with additional available evidence from Myanmar.

2 The new June 2021 estimate is the third update to WFP's original estimate of COVID-19's impact on acute food security conducted in June 2020 (see methods paper). For this update, the original estimations from June 2020 were replaced with the most recent assessment data and projections for 2021 from Integrated Phase Classification (IPC), Cadre Harmonisé (CH), or comparable analyses for 52 countries. Only IPC/CH exercises with population coverage of above 50 percent were considered. The numbers are supposed to give a comprehensive estimate of people in need of food assistance in countries where WFP operates. The analysis covers rural and urban populations and also refugees.

3 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phases are described as follows: IPC Phase 1 (Minimal); IPC Phase 2 (Stressed); IPC Phase 3 (Crisis); IPC Phase 4 (Emergency); and IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe/Famine). Reported is IPC/CH or equivalent. For Syria and Venezuela, severe food insecurity is reported as IPC 4. Peak numbers reported. Where IPC 3+ peak and IPC 5 peak differ, IPC 5 peak is reported for IPC 5, IPC 3 is adjusted downwards to ensure IPC 3+ peak remains consistent (Ethiopia 2021, South Sudan 2020)

### TRENDS IN KEY FOOD CRISIS AFFECTED COUNTRIES

IPC/CH Phase 3 or equivalent

• IPC/CH Phase 4 or equivalent

IPC/CH Phase 5 or equivalent

52

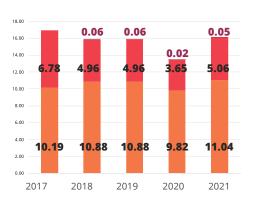
11.42

2021

#### **PEOPLE, IN MILLIONS\***

**Democratic Republic of the Congo\*\*** Afghanistan 6.73 14 .52 3.3 12 5.70 10 3.30 15 3.92 3.3 1**.8**9 10 1.48 1<mark>6.1</mark>3 6.16 9.77 1**1.6**6 20.53 5.7 8.30 1**0.5**3 1**1.4**2 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2017 2018 2019 2020

Yemen



Ethiopia

Nigeria

Syria\*\*





Sudan

1.04

**4.81** 

2019

0.60

5.60

2018

2 1

7.41

2020

2 70

7.07

2021

12

0.10

3.70

2017

South Sudan

0.02

.82

5.12

2019

0.05

1.70

4.32

2018

0.04

2.02

3.98

2017

5

4

0.11

75

4.74

2020

2.4

<mark>4.67</mark>





\* Reported is latest peak available. Where IPC 3+ peak and IPC 5 peak differ, IPC 5 peak is reported for IPC 5, IPC 3 is adjusted downwards to ensure IPC 3+ peak remains consistent (Ethiopia 2021, South Sudan 2020).

\*\* DRC: coverage changes from year to year (>90% for 2021 and 2017, between 65% to 70% in the remaining years). For Syria, severe food insecurity is reported as IPC 4, 2020 is non-peak from June.

#### More people at risk of facing famine-like conditions

Worryingly, the number of people at risk of facing famine-like conditions without urgent immediate life-saving action has been increasing. The <u>Global Report on Food Crisis 2021</u> reported 28 million people in IPC Phase 4 Emergency across the 38 countries covered in 2020.<sup>4</sup> It is now estimated that **41 million people could face such conditions in 2021 across 43 countries**, based on most recently published IPC/CH or equivalent analyses.

In northern **Ethiopia**, 353,000 people are already suffering from catastrophic levels of hunger in IPC Phase 5 Catastrophe, a number expected to increase to 401,000 people through September 2021. This is the highest number of people classified in IPC Phase 5 in a single country in the last decade, since the 2011 famine in Somalia. A further 183,000 people are projected to face starvation and death in IPC Phase 5 in **Yemen, South Sudan**, and **Madagascar**. While in **Ethiopia**, **Yemen** and **South Sudan** conflict is hindering humanitarian access, people in **Madagascar** are threatened by the effects of several consecutive years of droughts.

### People in food crisis or worse: Numbers explained



Several numbers on acute food insecurity have been published, with different purposes and coverage:

### 270.5 million across 80 countries with WFP operational presence in 2021

This number is intended to give a complete overview of food security needs in the countries where WFP operates for operational planning purposes. This report provides the third update of WFP's original estimate of 270 million established in June 2020. In this update, Venezuela has been added as a country with new operational presence. The updates intend to reduce uncertainty of the original estimate by replacing country estimates with new assessment data where available, currently covering 52 countries. Updates are not intended for trend analysis purposes, but to validate original estimations.

#### 155 million across 55 countries in 2020

The Global Report on Food Crises estimates that in 2020, 155 million people in 55 countries were facing acute food insecurity. The Global Report on Food Crises is a joint and consensus-based analysis by 16 partner organizations and focuses on countries where IPC/CH or equivalent data is available.

Further explanations and sources for numbers on food security can be found <u>here</u>.

# Surging malnutrition in several countries

WFP is taking action to overcome barriers to address malnutrition, but nutrition outcomes vary substantially across countries, made all the more significant in the face of the pandemic. As noted in WFP's February 2021 Global Operational Response Plan, the pandemic has had massive consequences for nutrition, contributing to a 14.3 percent increase in acute malnutrition among children under five. Additionally, the high price of nutritious diets continues to result in low consumption of nutrient dense foods, hampering food security and nutrition outcomes.

Countries in East Africa have the highest burden of malnutrition with 10 million acutely malnourished children expected in 2021 in four countries alone, namely **Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan,** and **Sudan**. In South Asia, more than two thirds of the acutely malnourished children live in **Afghanistan** (3.1 million). This is not the only region of concern, as deepening of hunger is being experienced equally in other regions. **Yemen** remains one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, where 2.3 million children under the age of five are suffering from acute malnutrition in 2021.

As the lean season approaches across most countries in West Africa, seasonal food insecurity is increasing, and malnutrition will likely peak from July to August. The estimated figure of 9.8 million acutely malnourished children in the region will likely increase due to a deteriorating food insecurity and expanding conflict. Around 80 percent of the households living in conflictaffected areas cannot afford nutritious foods. New crises are also foreseen due to political instability such as in **Chad**, where 1.8 million children are suffering from acute malnutrition.

In southern **Madagascar**, the impact of an extraordinarily severe drought has affected livelihoods across the region. The global acute malnutrition rate in the ten affected districts exceeds the 10 percent emergency threshold at 16.1 percent. WFP plans to assist 168,000 pregnant and lactating women and children with malnutrition prevention and treatment activities until the end of the year.

# Drivers of food insecurity and risks ahead

Conflict, economic shocks, and extreme weather events are the main drivers of acute food insecurity. While conflict continues to be the primary driver for the largest share of people facing acute hunger, economic shocks have grown strongly in their importance over the past two years, especially in 2020 because of COVID-19.

<sup>4</sup> Additionally, there are 2.6 million in severe food insecurity in Syria and Palestine.

The <u>Global Report on Food Crises 2021</u>, which covered 55 countries, showed that in 2020 conflict was the key driver in 23 countries accounting for 64 percent of acute food insecure people; economic shocks, including COVID-19's effects, were the key driver in 17 countries accounting for 26 percent of acute food insecure people; while weather-related shocks were the key driver in 15 countries accounting for 10 percent of acute food insecure people. More and more countries are facing multiple shocks at the same time, which drastically limits their capacities to respond.

# Share of people in acute food insecurity by primary driver in 2020



Source: Global Report on Food Crises 2021



#### **Conflict risks**

Conflict is likely to intensify in parts of **Afghanistan**, in the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, northern **Mozambique**, northeast **Nigeria**, **Myanmar**, **Ethiopia**, **and Somalia** and continues to have a major impact in **Central Sahel** and **South Sudan**. Spill-over effects of the Tigray conflict and June elections are likely to drive intercommunal violence and attacks by armed groups across all regions in **Ethiopia**. In **Somalia**, clan-based violence and conflict are likely around elections scheduled for the coming weeks. In **Sudan**, further spikes in intercommunal violence in West and South Darfur are likely, in addition to likely intensified border clashes along the Ethiopia-Sudan border.

In **Nigeria**, the recent territorial and organisational expansion by non-state armed groups is likely to aggravate existing insecurity in southern Borno State. In the **Sahel**, military coups have occurred in **Chad** and **Mali**, with a now defeated rebel insurgency in the former and international isolation against the latter. In **Niger** and **Burkina Faso**, food security continues to deteriorate in light of a significant intensification of violence by non-state armed groups, whose activities increase before the kick-off of the rainy season which will further hamper humanitarian access. In the **DRC**, protracted insecurity continues to cause mass displacement and drive food insecurity, with the risk of further deterioration in eastern provinces amidst increasing militarization and the impact of the Mount Nyiragongo eruption in late-May. In **Mozambique**, the evolving insurgency in Cabo Delgado province has the potential to expand further.

In **Myanmar**, armed conflict between the military and increasingly coordinated and growing anti-coup forces is likely to further intensify. In **Afghanistan**, armed conflict between the Taliban and Afghan forces is likely to further intensify across most provinces, with provincial and district capitals coming under increasing pressure.



#### **Economic risks**

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Food Price Index, a measure of price changes in international markets for a basket of food commodities, increased for the twelfth consecutive month in May 2021. It was the largest month-on-month rise in more than a decade, which took it to levels not seen since September 2011. Among the basic staples, maize prices surged more than any other over the course of the past year, recording a nearly 90 percent jump year-on-year. Global grain markets are in a vulnerable position—the production outlook favourable, but global inventories tight and the speed of economic recovery uncertain—leaving food-import dependent countries in peril.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing macroeconomic fragilities in many countries, increasing the likelihood of macroeconomic crises (including rapid currency depreciation, depletion of foreign exchange reserves) and leading to income losses and rapid inflation. At the same time, it has led countries to accumulate substantial debt, and debt obligations imply more limited fiscal space to finance already more expensive imports. More than half of all low-income countries are currently in debt distress or at high risk thereof. Averting a debt trap is critical to avoid a lost decade in some African and Asian countries.

In many countries, currency depreciation has further driven up local food prices. Continuous food price increases could lead to higher food insecurity in countries with already-elevated levels of food inflation, such as **Zimbabwe**, **Sudan**, **South Sudan**, **Nigeria**, **Liberia**, **Sierra Leone**, **Syria**, **Yemen**, **Ethiopia**, **Myanmar**, **Lebanon**, and **Venezuela**.

To make matters worse, in many low- and middle-income countries widespread vaccination is not expected to be achieved before 2023. This could hamper economic recovery and expose countries to further waves of the pandemic, compelling governments to impose livelihood-disrupting lockdowns, with repercussions for food insecurity.



#### **Natural hazard risks**

Although La Niña conditions have recently subsided after having contributed to severe rainfall deficits in **Afghanistan**, **Madagascar**, and southwestern **Angola**, extreme weather events are expected to continue in several areas. East Africa, **Nigeria**, **Haiti**, and Central America (**Guatemala**, **Honduras**, **Nicaragua**, and **El Salvador**) are currently facing rainfall deficits which forecasts are predicting to continue for the remainder of the season, likely to lead to reduced yields and crop losses.

**Cambodia** as well as the second rainy seasons in **Haiti** and Central American countries are anticipated to have belowaverage rainfall while above-average rainfall is expected to continue in **South Sudan**, coastal areas of **Benin**, **Ghana**, **Togo** and **Côte d'Ivoire**, **Nepal** and the central and eastern **Sahel** and along the Niger river, increasing the risk of flooding. For **South Sudan**, this would be a third season of large flood-impacts in a row. Hurricane activity is forecast to be above average in the eastern Pacific and the north Atlantic, increasing the risk of flooding, landslides, crop damage and reduced livestock in the Caribbean and coastal areas of Central America. Meanwhile, cyclone activity in the north-western Pacific will enter its peak in August/September, threatening mainly the **Philippines** and **Democratic People's Republic of Korea** (DPRK).





### Section II: Saving Lives in Emergencies, Changing Lives Worldwide

In 2020, **WFP assisted the largest number of hungry people in its history as the impact of the pandemic devastated countries globally.** The <u>Annual Performance Report for 2020</u> shows that WFP ramped up to assist 115.5 million people in 2020, up from 97 million in 2019.

Today, **WFP is undertaking the biggest operation in its history, targeting 139 million people in 2021.** This number will likely increase further as requirements are updated, and budgets revised taking into consideration increasing global food insecurity levels as well as emerging crises such as in northern **Ethiopia**. Already, the 33 budget revisions submitted between January and May 2021 are capturing the increase in needs and requirements, with the approved revisions having already increased WFP's caseload by 10.3 million people.

The June update to WFP's Global Operational Response Plan 2021 structures WFP's work around three pillars, describing how WFP is:

- Scaling up life-saving food and nutrition assistance to meet the essential needs of those furthest behind, including refugees and other forcibly displaced people, by overcoming access challenges, expanding cash-based transfers, and treating malnutrition in crises,
- Investing in human capital and prevention, strengthening the capacity of people, communities, and systems, building resilience to recurring and compounding shocks, addressing underlying risks and inequalities, and expanding school feeding programmes,
- 3. Strengthening and revitalizing global partnerships with governments, international and national partners, clusters, private sector organizations and civil society to lead, enable and support a global and national humanitarian response to hunger.

# Scaling-up life-saving food and nutrition assistance

Maintaining the status quo will not bring a solution to acute hunger and famine. Even as WFP reached record numbers of people in 2020, the number of people facing emergency levels of acute food insecurity in IPC Phase 4 has continued to grow to 41 million.

Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Madagascar, northeast Nigeria, South Sudan, and Yemen have been highlighted for urgent action by the High-Level Task Force on Preventing Famine—established in March 2021 to bring coordinated, high-level attention to famine prevention and mobilize support to the most affected countries. In the next six months, WFP will also need to significantly scale up to assist millions living precariously close to the edge in countries such as Afghanistan, Central African Republic (CAR), Lebanon, Mozambique, Sudan, and Syria, among others.

Despite massive challenges, WFP is continuing to scale up assistance to ensure vulnerable people do not fall deeper into hunger and malnutrition. In the Tigray region of **Ethiopia**, at least 4 million people face severe hunger and 353,000 are facing famine. The severity of acute food insecurity is expected to increase through September, with 401,000 people projected to face catastrophic conditions (IPC Phase 5 Catastrophe) without urgent and unimpeded aid. WFP has scaled up to provide food to 1 million people since March 2021 in its first round of distributions. WFP has also provided emergency nutrition assistance to 315,000 children under five and pregnant and lactating women since February in 31 woredas. WFP is now working to scale up operations to reach 2.1 million people across the Northwestern and Southern zones of Tigray where WFP is responsible for emergency food assistance. In northern Mozambique, where conflict and other compounding shocks have driven more than 950,000 people into food insecurity, WFP is scaling up its response, planning to assist 750,000 people across the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula, Niassa, and Zambezia. Following the attacks in March 2021 that led tens of thousands of people to flee their homes in Palma, WFP ramped up assistance. Families on the move are provided Immediate Response Ration kits consisting of rice, pulses, vegetable oil, canned foods such as sardines and beans, biscuits, and water. WFP is also coordinating with other humanitarian partners the provision of survival kits, which include High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) and non-food items. The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), managed by WFP, has also been providing an air bridge to transport critical medical staff, humanitarian workers and cargo as close as possible to the operational sites in remote locations.

The number of desperately hungry people in **Burkina Faso** has almost tripled compared to 2019, driven by increasing conflict, displacement and COVID-related impacts on employment and food access. The current unrest has uprooted more than one million people and left more than two million—roughly one-tenth of the country's population—needing humanitarian assistance. To date, 2.9 million people are expected to face a stage of crisis during the June-August lean season. WFP continues to ramp up assistance, providing emergency food assistance to internally displaced persons and host families, refugees and lean season affected people; school feeding including emergency school feeding and support to a local yogurt production project; treatment and prevention of malnutrition; Food Assistance for Assets for small-scale agriculture; and national capacity strengthening, as well as other support. Unfortunately, funding gaps have forced WFP to reduce both in-kind and cash-based transfers by up to 50 percent of the required ration for 1.4 million people targeted with emergency food and nutrition assistance in the lean season, the peak of food insecurity.

In April 2021, WFP warned that the unrelenting drought in southern Madagascar is forcing hundreds of thousands of people to the brink of famine. Around 1.14 million people in the south of Madagascar are facing high levels of acute food insecurity, of which nearly 14,000 people are in IPC Phase 5 "Catastrophe/Famine." Following alarm calls, the Government and WFP have scaled up to assist up to 750,000 people through food and cash distributions each month, combined with supplementary food to prevent and treat moderate acute malnutrition in children under five as well as pregnant and nursing women. But the food insecurity crisis has been growing fast and this current support is not enough to offset the impact and the risk of famine: funding gaps have forced WFP to provide half rations for about 674,000 people, including those most vulnerable already experiencing emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 4).

Meanwhile, in **Lebanon**, WFP has scaled up support to counter the combined shocks of the economic and political crisis, COVID-19 and the Beirut explosion that could put more than 850,000 people or 22 percent of the Lebanese population in extreme poverty. WFP has scaled up to provide 1.2 million Lebanese nationals and Syrian refugees, or one in six people in Lebanon, with cash-based transfers and in-kind food distributions amounting to US\$ 21 million per month.

# WFP optimizing efficiency and effectiveness through analytics

WFP is the 2021 winner of the prestigious Franz. Edelman Award, which recognizes WFP's use of advanced analytics to drive every donor dollar it receives further to save lives. The recognition, which follows in the footsteps of previous winners IBM, Intel and UPS, comes at a time when WFP is facing growing demand and tighter funding outlooks. Data and analytics have enabled WFP to save more than US\$ 150 million worldwide – enough to feed more than 2 million people for an entire year. Watch the full submission video <u>here</u>.

WFP's team in **South Sudan** has seen first-hand the power of analytics. In a country where over 7 million people are in urgent need of food assistance, WFP staff face multiple challenges due to insecurity and a rainy season that renders large portions of the country inaccessible by road for half the year. Analytics has allowed WFP to formulate a plan to deliver large amounts of food by river barge, and to purchase food ahead of time and pre-position it during the dry season when it could be transported by road, saving more than US\$ 100 million in total, which was redirected to support operations.



#### **Understanding and overcoming access challenges**

WFP is actively working to augment its capacity to maintain and expand humanitarian access and reach more people in need, despite the complex challenges, insecure environments, humanitarian movement restrictions, and restrictions on affected populations accessing services and assistance. Access continues to be restricted due to insecurity and other challenges in Afghanistan, the Central Sahel region, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Myanmar, northern Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Yemen.

WFP is focusing on better structuring and coordinating its approach to access by providing guidance, training, and technical support solutions to overcome the wide range of challenges that face field operations and programme delivery. Through technical support from its Technical Access Cell as well as in-house training and support from strategic partners, over 300 key WFP staff have been trained in how to create access strategies and conduct frontline humanitarian negotiations and are also benefitting from online peer-to-peer support. WFP is also developing tools to help navigate the most complex environments and to better understand and define challenges.

For example, in **Afghanistan**, WFP has developed a user-friendly, visual, online database to map access impediments and related operational factors like the relations of power and influence between actors. This has greatly enhanced the understanding of the dynamic access situation, actively assisting WFP with better and safer operational decision making and now being adapted for use in other similar challenging environments.

While humanitarian access is still being blocked by armed groups in northern **Ethiopia**, WFP is working closely with partners, local leaders, and communities to improve access and move food closer to the people who need it most. For example, when the road conditions did not allow WFP to reach communities in Adi Millen, a remote rural village 50 kilometres from Shire in the Northwestern zone, WFP distributed food as close as possible, then escorted people and their camels back to their communities with WFP pickup trucks. WFP is also using closed schools as food distribution points where needed, setting up mobile storage units in remote locations, and using fleet trucks to help people transport food back to their communities when possible. Humanitarian access for WFP and partners is essential to avoid a catastrophe in Tigray.

In **Burkina Faso**, insecurity, the presence of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and poor road conditions are challenging WFP's ability to reach hungry and vulnerability communities in Mansila, Foubé, Tin-Akoff and other areas.

WFP is working to improve access through several different initiatives; for example, through deconfliction by notifying the Burkinabe military ahead of WFP road convoys and UNHAS flights. WFP is establishing a hybrid solution to access Mansila along a road considered dangerous due to IEDs by coordinating with the Burkinabe military, while also using helicopter airlifts to deliver food assistance to the under-blockade population and developing more durable access acceptance through community engagement.

UNHAS, managed by WFP, offers critical passenger and cargo air transport for the humanitarian community to access people in need in hard-to-reach locations, with new operations having started in Burkina Faso and Madagascar this year. In March 2021, WFP also started UNHAS services to Ma'rib, Yemen, greatly enhancing humanitarian access to help millions of conflict-affected people in the region. And in Syria, an improved and streamlined WFP-led notification process is saving hours when managing emergency, time-sensitive UNHAS flights. As of April 2021, WFP now transmits UNHAS notifications directly to the International Coalition Force and Russian-led Centre for Reconciliation of Warring Parties in Syria (RRC) and has established direct communication with the Government of Turkey to manage any issues. The new notification mechanism has provided efficiency and increased agility, reducing manpower requirements, and improving WFP's relationships with key regional stakeholders.

Finally, WFP continues to engage and invest in global humanitarian diplomacy, for example by continuing to advocate for the implementation of UNSC resolution 2417 (2018) where access to populations is constrained by conflict and they are put at risk of starvation. WFP and FAO presented the eighth informal report to the Security Council on resolution 2417 in April 2021. The report highlighted conflict-induced hunger in **Burkina Faso**, **Nigeria**, and **South Sudan**, drawing on reports to the Human Rights Council and other sources as evidence of the deliberate use of starvation as method of war.

#### Leveraging cash-based transfers

In 2020, WFP supported households to navigate the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic by providing US\$ 2.1 billion in cash-based transfers (CBT) across 67 WFP country offices, up from 64 countries in 2019. So far in 2021, WFP has transferred US\$ 710 million to vulnerable people and communities across 62 WFP country offices. WFP has transferred the most cash assistance in Yemen so far this year, and five countries alone account for more than 50 percent of all cash assistance: Yemen, Lebanon, Jordan, Somalia, and Bangladesh.

Learning from the global COVID-19 crisis, **WFP is reviewing** and simplifying its emergency preparedness and response processes to support the rapid scale-up of CBT by providing enhanced support for beneficiary registration, contracting of financial service providers, and workforce planning.

### Blockchain technology accelerates emergency response in Cox's Bazar

On March 22, 2021, a devastating fire wreaked havoc in the world's largest refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, **Bangladesh**, destroying more than 10,000 shelters and displacing close to 45,000 people. Many families lost identity documents that enable them to access to essential assistance.

Leveraging biometric data accessible through Building Blocks and SCOPE—two platforms designed by WFP and stored by the UN refugee agency UNHCR, refugees that lost their documentation in the fire were able to be identified again. Alongside the International Organization for Migration, the organizations were able to provide new documents at a rapid pace, equipping more than 7,000 with identification cards just a week after the fire. It was the first time that blockchain and biometric technologies were deployed in such a disaster to support interorganizational response.



When strong emergency preparedness measures are in place, WFP is able to scale up quickly – such as in **Gaza** where WFP has provided CBT (electronic food vouchers) to 93,800 people affected by the recent hostilities since 15 May, including 51,600 who regularly receive WFP assistance and 42,200 new beneficiaries. WFP was able to scale up its cash assistance to take on an additional caseload in less than a week.

WFP also works to develop markets, for example through its Retail-in-a-Box project in **Mozambique** and **South Sudan**, which kickstarts retail networks by bringing innovative pop-up stores to communities in need, along with capacity-building support and retail operational guidance for local retailers and wholesalers.

WFP is increasingly monitoring how macroeconomic crises related to inflation and foreign exchange rates are impacting operations in countries like **Lebanon**, **Myanmar**, **Iraq**, **Yemen**, **Zimbabwe**, and **Peru**.

### Supporting governments and partners with cash-based transfers

WFP is currently **supporting 40 governments worldwide in designing, delivering, and assuring their CBT programmes.** The demand for cash transfer services is growing, as well as opportunities to partner with International Financial Institution (IFIs) to support national governments.

In **Haiti**, WFP was chosen by the Government to disburse US\$ 60 million from the Inter-American Development Bank and World Bank to 160,000 households affected by COVID-19. Multiple distribution modalities have been used, including on-site cash distributions, cash over the counter, value vouchers and mobile money. The World Bank also awarded US\$ 75 million to implement a new major social safety net over five years (2021-2026), expressly with the technical support of WFP. The "Adaptive Social Protection for Increased Resilience" program (ASPIRE) will start with 18,000 households and aims to reach 10-18 percent of the population nationally.

WFP has taken great strides towards CBT assurance maturity, helping to ensure data privacy and protection for beneficiaries as well as making sure the right assistance is provided to the right people. To support the secure management of payment instruments including e-cards, bank cards, SIM cards, SCOPE cards and others, the Payment Instrument Tracking (PIT) application was developed. Since its pilot in **Lebanon** following the Beirut blast in 2020, PIT has been fully implemented as a solution and is also being used by the Government for the delivery and tracking of debit cards and pins for their social protection programmes.

Launched officially in March 2021, a collaboration between WFP and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is enabling digital financial inclusion and women's economic empowerment through cash-based transfers. The initiative is a first-of-its-kind and its focus is on testing whether and how cash programmes (humanitarian cash transfers or government-to-person payment schemes) can best be designed, digitized and directed to women, to ensure their inclusion in the formal economy and to support their empowerment. Running through mid-2023, the initiative has a global learning agenda and a specific focus on 7 countries: **Haiti, Somalia, Bangladesh, Ghana, Uganda, Jordan,** and **Dominica**.

#### **Treating malnutrition in crises**

As of June 2021, WFP plans to reach 26.4 million people in 2021 with nutrition activities, 85 percent of whom are living in countries experiencing humanitarian crises such as **Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Somalia,** and **South Sudan**. Around 50 percent of the beneficiaries will benefit from malnutrition treatment activities and 34 percent will receive malnutrition prevention packages. The rest of the beneficiaries will benefit from stunting prevention (10 percent), micronutrient deficiency prevention (4 percent) and nutritional support during HIV/TB treatment.

WFP is engaged in active partnerships to improve nutrition and ensure programmes deliver exceptional results. For example, in **South Sudan**, WFP and UNICEF are collaborating to ensure the continuum of care for severe acute malnutrition and moderate acute malnutrition treatment programmes. Across the 1,200 Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP) sites and 1,145 Outpatient Therapeutic feeding Programme (OTP) sites nationwide, WFP and UNICEF have achieved 93 percent partner alignment – having identified the same partner to implement treatment on the same sites, improving coordination and reducing costs.

WFP uses a wide range of specialized foods to improve the nutritional intake of the people assisted around the world, ranging from Fortified Blended Foods and micronutrient powders to Ready-to-Use Foods and High-Energy Biscuits. The limited number of suppliers for Specialized Nutritious Foods (SNF) poses significant risks, especially for Super Cereal and Super Cereal Plus. The supply-demand gap for Super Cereals has been reduced by expanding the supplier base to local producers in Africa and through substitution mainly in Nigeria, South Sudan, Sudan, and Niger. This has helped to reduce the gap between supply capacity and demand for Super Cereal Plus and to ensure that critical stocks of Super Cereal Plus have been maintained for nutrition treatment and prevention programmes. For example, in Mali, Super Cereal was replaced by commodity vouchers to prevent acute malnutrition among pregnant and lactating mothers and complement the nutritional value of general food assistance during the lean season response, ensuring the intake of macronutrients and micronutrients was maintained while saving 450 mt of Super Cereal.

With an extremely dire food security outlook for 2021, and the malnutrition burden increasing globally, this solution will need to be further applied in other countries to stabilize the supply chain.

WFP is also giving priority to increasing the number of approved suppliers of these products, and to supporting businesses in recipient countries to develop locally made specialised nutritious products.

# Investing in human capital and prevention

WFP is working not just to provide emergency assistance, but also to increasingly invest in human capital and prevention to reduce hunger and vulnerability to shocks, expand choices for people to lead healthy and productive lives. This includes strengthening social protection systems, building resilience and livelihoods, addressing underlying risks and vulnerabilities, and expanding school feeding programmes. If these types of interventions can be scaled up, coupled with evidence generation and strong political will, thousands of people may no longer need WFP's assistance, and prevention efforts can materialize. WFP's operational reach and experience positions the organization well to act as a leading voice in these collective efforts.

#### **Strengthening social protection systems**

In 2021, **WFP continues to collaborate with national governments to advance social protection programmes in dozens of countries,** to help people manage risks, respond to shocks, and meet essential food security, nutrition, and associated needs. The expansion of safety net schemes to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic led to an exponential increase in contractual engagements with national governments, building on ongoing dialogue and collaboration with the World Bank and a growing number of IFIs.

In **Mauritania**, WFP's long-term engagement has helped the Government develop core response tools for its shockresponsive social protection programme along with a predictive, satellite data-driven decision tool to support the national early warning system that can help to efficiently plan and prioritize crisis responses. Efforts also focused on improving the shockresponsive features of the national social registry and will contribute to building resilience of communities affected by recurrent droughts.

In **Jordan**, WFP is continuing to support the Government's social protection system by carrying out a validation exercise, having assessed 54,000 households in March 2021 alone. WFP is also supporting digital financial inclusion by providing virtual infosessions to families on opening e-wallets and building their financial literacy and is working to fully automate the payment process through e-wallet accounts by integrating with payment service providers.

In **Somalia**, WFP, in close partnership with the World Bank and UNICEF, is assisting the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in establishing a delivery mechanism for the social protection system, leading to the launch of the first nation-wide cash-based Shock-Responsive Safety Net for Human Capital Project (SNHCP). The project has registered and delivered support to 200,000 households, or 1.2 million people across Somalia.

In the **Philippines**, WFP completed a country capacity assessment on shock-responsive social protection and presented key findings in May 2021, identifying strengths and gaps in social protection systems and programmes; key capacities to be developed to make social protection systems more responsive; and recommendations to improve existing social protection system to better respond to shocks. In 2021, WFP will support enhancements to the Government's information management system in beneficiary data import, management, and assistance tracking under the emergency shelter assistance programme.

Meanwhile, in **Colombia**, WFP and the Government designed and launched an innovative shock-responsive social protection pilot programme in Arauca, a department bordering **Venezuela**, with a high concentration of migrants. The pilot finished in February 2021, reaching around 70,000 beneficiaries in total; WFP and the Government are now identifying lessons to help inform future social protection responses, with a view to making national systems stronger and more inclusive.

In 2021, WFP is buying insurance coverage under the African Risk Capacity (ARC) replica mechanism for nearly 600,000 people in **Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania** and **The Gambia**, progressively increasing its use of regional disaster risk pools to protect vulnerable communities exposed to potentially catastrophic drought shocks. The programme will expand to **Madagascar**, **Mozambique**, and **Zimbabwe** in the second half of the year, catalysing more timely action in the face of impending losses and damages to food systems.

WFP has been working to link its **new draft social protection strategy** with the review of its corporate results framework to more effectively monitor and report progress and achievements in the enabling and changing lives agenda. WFP's strategy articulates its approach to social protection and offers a coordinating framework that outlines how WFP will contribute deliberately and systematically to collective efforts to achieve long-term national social protection goals.

### Chad-Niger Border: Nature based solutions to conflict

WFP's work in resilience and asset creation supports people in vulnerable households to meet their food needs while restoring, stabilizing, and rehabilitating degraded land and water infrastructure, conserving soil, improving water availability, establishing natural barriers against climate, economic, and epidemical shocks and increasing the prospects for peace by reducing resource-based flashpoints. For example, WFP's resilience scale-up in the G5 Sahel countries (**Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania,** and **Niger**), launched in 2018, has benefitted more than 1.7 million people in the past year, with interventions ongoing in more than 1,500 villages.

Along the **Chad-Niger** border, a WFP and FAO implemented project has contributed to **reducing transhumance (the seasonal movement of livestock) related conflict by more than 50 percent through a comprehensive approach to disputes over management of natural resources**. The project provided economic opportunities for more than 3,600 vulnerable households, recovered 134 hectares of land that now supports cultivation and grazing, and fostered dialogue among more than 2,000 residents. Clear marking of more than 100 kilometers of transhumance corridors, moreover, removed a conflict trigger by reducing the destruction of fields by livestock.



#### **Building resilience and livelihoods**

WFP is continuing to scale up its resilience activities, aiming to implement resilience building programmes across 74 countries in 2021. Investing in resilience improves the capability of individuals, households, communities, institutions, and systems to adapt and absorb the effect of shocks and stressors and increases their ability to meet food and non-food needs in the future. In 2020 alone, across 50 countries, WFP invested in the lives and livelihoods of almost 7.6 million people with solutions to restore land, return water to soil, and increase biodiversity.

WFP is working to protect and restore livelihoods of shockaffected households, working with a variety of local partners to provide asset creation opportunities and skill development trainings for vulnerable people. For instance, in Yemen, WFP helped rehabilitate and construct more than 180 assets in April alone, including through rural road rehabilitation, water harvesting schemes and agricultural projects. Meanwhile, in Syria, WFP is planning agriculture community assets rehabilitation projects and bread value chain interventions across seven governorates as stand-alone WFP interventions as well as in partnership with FAO and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Other WFP livelihood interventions in Syria include rehabilitation of irrigation structures, upgrading of farmers' markets, provision of technical agricultural inputs and dairy processing units, as well as livestock support.

WFP and the Mastercard Foundation are currently developing an ambitious large-scale partnership in eight African countries (**Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Mozambique, Tanzania, Ghana, Senegal** and **Nigeria**), focusing on reducing post-harvest losses and fostering sustainable and remunerative market linkages for targeted smallholder farmers. By supporting local value chains, the project will also strengthen national market systems and create job opportunities for youth, particularly young women.

WFP is using its skills in risk analysis, early warning, and emergency preparedness to trigger anticipatory action at community level before humanitarian crises materialize. For example, in **Ethiopia**, a US\$ 20 million allocation through the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) was instrumental in catalyzing anticipatory action to mitigate the impacts of a La Nina-induced drought through the March-April-May 2021 rainfall season. In addition, WFP triggered US\$ 750,000 in internal anticipatory action funding to provide cash assistance for four months to over 20,000 people, and climate services and related advisories to an additional 16,000 people, helping to mitigate the impact of poor March-April-May rains and ensuring that pastoralists in the Somali Region could protect both their purchasing power and their livestock from a potential drought.

#### Addressing underlying risks and vulnerabilities

WFP is putting increased emphasis on understanding and addressing underlying risks and vulnerabilities by championing a people-centred approach, driven by enhanced advocacy for the inclusion and specific requirements of those most in need and marginalised members of society, who are more likely to be cut off from assistance. Of critical importance is the need to conduct robust context analysis grounded in and informed by the diverse perspectives of affected populations, identifying those most at risk, as well as understanding the drivers of their exposure to risk. Robust context analysis supports the inclusion of gender transformative and conflict sensitive approaches in WFP's response, which is essential to effectively address and reduce vulnerabilities, risks and need over time.

In 2021 WFP has made progress in assessing the impact of COVID-19 on the diverse people we serve and targeting women who were particularly hit by the pandemic, supporting their access to livelihoods as well as cash assistance. For example, in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, WFP enhanced leadership roles of women with disabilities in livelihoods self-help groups, executive committees and union standing committees by forming three groups dedicated to women with disabilities in the host communities. WFP is currently supporting nearly 900 women with disabilities by providing adapted livelihood opportunities. In Pakistan, the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 has disproportionately affected the livelihood of the transgender community, rendering them extremely vulnerable. WFP took specific measures, such as changing the targeting criteria to provide un-conditional cash transfer assistance to 30 extremely vulnerable transgender community members, for six months, ensuring their protection, dignity and pride.

WFP also made significant progress in conflict analysis and conflict-sensitive programming, with concluded, ongoing or planned conflict analyses and conflict-sensitivity risk assessments in over 15 conflict countries, including seven emergency operations. Learning from pilots in **Bangladesh** and the **Philippines** to measure conflict sensitivity and contributions to peace, through a risk to populations lens, was consolidated to inform the launch of a new Peace and Risk Indicator Measurement and Engagement (PRIME) system in five operations.

In **Malawi**, WFP is currently documenting how it is mitigating and responding to the risk of extortion for targeted households, incubating resilience for communities. Similar risk reduction measurements are starting in the **Philippines** and **Niger**. In another initiative, **Jordan** and another seven countries are analysing their ability to measure mitigation and prevention of gender-based violence through WFP programmes. Results expected by the end of 2021 will be instrumental for supporting other WFP offices to analyse and respond to risks going forward. Moreover, lessons learned from **CAR**, where analysis revealed that households hosting family members with a disability were more likely to be severely food insecure, were used to inform the implementation of **Zimbabwe**'s urban re-targeting exercise that includes approximately 26,000 households. Over the course of 2021, WFP has also focussed on supporting Regional Bureaux on the rights-based approach to disability, with WFP's Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific leading the way in rolling out the Disability Inclusion Road Map at a regional level.

#### School feeding around the globe

The COVID-19 pandemic left millions of school children without access to meals and smashed a decade of progress in expanding school health and nutrition programs. Last year, WFP calculated that **370 million children missed out on meals because of school closures**. Still today, about 200 million children do not have access to these programmes. This can have lifelong implications for students' learning, health, and nutrition.

In responding to the crisis, WFP joined forces with partners to ensure the health and wellbeing of school children was not left behind, working with countries to build back better and strengthen existing school feeding programmes. In **Nepal**, WFP developed menu sets for the home-grown school feeding programme. In **Angola**, WFP is working with several ministries and partners to develop a school feeding operational plan based on local and available foods. In **Senegal**, advocacy actions and preparations are in progress for the launch of a national homegrown school feeding programme, with WFP as the implementing agency.

### WFP to provide school meals in Venezuela



In an historical breakthrough, WFP and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela agreed to establish WFP operational presence in country. WFP will provide nutritious school meals for up to 185,000 children by the end of 2021, with the aim to reach 1.5 million students by the end of the 2022–2023 school year.

WFP's operations will focus particularly in pre-primary and special education schools, as well as invest in the rehabilitation of school canteens and training school staff on food safety practices. WFP's operations in Venezuela, and the world over, are guided by the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and operational independence. In February 2021, WFP launched its flagship publication *State. of School Feeding Worldwide 2020*. The publication provides an analysis of school feeding programmes before the COVID-19 pandemic; describes the damage caused by the pandemic; and presents what can be done to restore this remarkable global safety net – not only to get back to where the world was in January 2020, but to build back better.

To generate awareness, resources and mobilize political commitments, WFP is supporting the creation of a School Feeding Coalition, to be launched at the United Nations Food Systems Summit in September 2021. The coalition will respond to the urgent needs caused by the education and hunger crisis and work towards ensuring that all vulnerable children in every country have access to school meals and school health by 2030.

# Strengthening and revitalizing global and national partnerships

At the onset of 2021 WFP extended its capacity to support governments and the humanitarian community's global response throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, providing essential passenger, cargo and medevac services. But WFP's support ranges far beyond just COVID-19. WFP leverages its vast expertise and capacity to provide support across preparedness, food security, supply chain, cash transfers, engineering, and emergency telecommunications - often in the most challenging environments. Working closely with private sector partners, WFP is making assets and functionalities available to fellow humanitarian operators, allowing them to save and change more lives, faster. As mentioned above, WFP partners with regional institutions and national governments to support their priorities – such as improving national school meals programmes or building digital platforms to support the efficiency of government social safety programmes, for example.

#### Augmenting interventions with stand-by partners

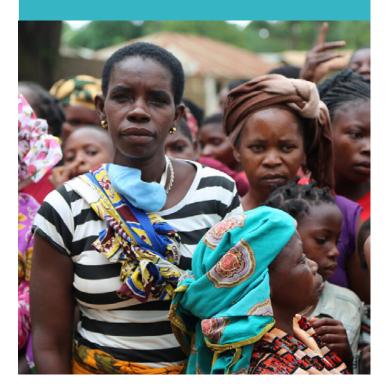
WFP works with stand-by partners to ensure that growing operational needs are met by enhancing logistics readiness and leveraging partner resources and staff. Stand-by partners continue to be deployed to ensure that critical expertise is efficiently utilized to maximize WFP's response. Since February 2021, more specialists were positioned across 12 operations to support country offices response with CBT, energy, information management, and Information and Communication Technology (ICT), from **Niger**, to **Myanmar**, to **Colombia**.

Thanks to a partnership with UPS Foundation, 5 mt of urgently needed High-Energy Biscuits (HEBs) were dispatched to **Uganda** in March, providing a day's ration to approximately 12,500 refugees and asylum seekers displaced by conflict from DRC and South Sudan. Later, in May 8 mt of biscuits were dispatched to **Rwanda** as a three-day emergency food ration for approximately 6,666 people displaced by the Nyiragongo volcano eruption. WFP leveraged Amazon Disaster Relief when the Government of **Nepal** appealed for help after COVID-19 cases surged during a devastating third wave of the pandemic. US\$ 1.3 millionworth of protective items, including safety goggles, surgical masks and face shields were airlifted by Amazon from Munich to Kathmandu in early June. The cargo, donated to the Ministry of Health and Population was then dispatched throughout the country by the National Logistics Cluster to reach frontline health workers in the hardest to reach areas of the country.

### WFP and Crisis Group partner to strengthen conflict prevention and support pathways to peace

In May 2021, WFP announced a new global partnership agreement with Crisis Group to enhance its understanding of complex conflict dynamics and boost conflict sensitivity and prevention. The agreement builds on WFP's existing relationships with Crisis Group at the country level and aims to leverage Crisis Group's extensive networks and research, analyses, and insights.

The new partnership will cover several crises across Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America, aiming to identify and reduce the risks involved in delivering food assistance in conflict contexts. This includes, for instance, efforts to ensure food assistance does not accidentally fuel grievances; deliberate measures to ensure assistance does not exacerbate tensions by inadvertently entrenching unfair control of, or access to, natural resources; and suggesting action to prevent the reinforcement of harmful existing inequalities.



#### Working in partnership with International Financial Institutions

In 2020 and 2021, WFP's contractual engagements with national Governments have increased substantially by building on dialogue and collaboration with the World Bank and a growing number of IFIs at the country, regional and global levels. WFP has supported the human capital and sustainable development agenda, centred around the timely and effective scale up of safety net schemes and government-to-person payment systems to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. WFP collaboration with the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and African Development Bank (AfDB) is ongoing in over 20 countries.

In the second half of 2021, collaboration, coordination, and integration will become increasingly important as IFIs continue to scale up their efforts to respond to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including through the replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA) and the allocation of the IMF Special Drawing rights. Partnerships with IFIs are likely to continue to gain prominence given the estimation that hunger and malnutrition could rise as much as 20 percent by 2050. The IMF and World Bank are both making unprecedented disbursements to countries in fragile contexts, where WFP has the presence and capacity to leverage its operation to contribute to the recovery agenda.

#### Enabling the global humanitarian supply chain

With close to 60 years' experience delivering food assistance in some of the planet's remotest and most insecure regions, WFP is a supply chain partner of choice for humanitarian response, working with governments, NGOs, the private sector, and local communities. While the initial barriers to the global response to COVID-19 have eased, WFP continues to support the global humanitarian supply chain for the COVID-19 response, among other emergencies.

In early 2021, WFP was requested by **Nepal**'s Ministry of Health to provide support in procuring pharma-grade refrigerated containers to address a gap in temperature sensitive storage capacity in three locations in the country, considered critical to their COVID-19 vaccination campaign.

In **Somalia**, due to the lack of suitable commercial air options for transport of vaccines and ancillary equipment into and within the country, UNICEF requested WFP to support with transporting COVID-19 vaccines from Nairobi to ten locations in Somalia.

In **Sudan**, the Ministry of Health requested WFP's support to transport vaccines as part of their regular expanded programme on immunisation. WFP collaborated with the Sudan Postal Service to transport vaccines by road using refrigerated containers from Khartoum to various locations in Darfur. In **Nepal**, WFP has worked with the Government to build a series of four regional humanitarian staging areas, strategically located next to airports. These facilities offer storage for the pre-positioning of relief items and fuel, transport, search and rescue equipment, and working and living space for 20 people. Through these staging areas, WFP is currently supporting the response to COVID-19 as the country deals with a surge in cases, providing storage and onward transport of critical items such as ventilators, personal protective equipment (PPE) and oxygen concentrators to medical facilities around the country.

In **Malawi**, WFP has worked with the Malawi Institute of Engineering and Médecins Sans Frontières to support in the construction of a field hospital in Blantyre, that has been used to treat over 1,000 people with COVID-19. WFP has also supported the Malawi Department of Health and UNHCR with via the construction of additional space using mobile storage units to support the COVID-19 vaccination campaign in Dzaleka Refugee Camp.

#### **Cluster coordination and leadership**

#### **Logistics Cluster**

The Logistics Cluster continues to provide coordination and information management to support partners responding to humanitarian crises in over 16 countries. Moreover, the Logistics Cluster has ongoing preparedness projects in 19 countries and continues to support capacity strengthening activities for partners, by offering redesigned virtual training opportunities to the wider humanitarian community.

Presently the Logistics Cluster's operations are primarily centred around the Sahel, the Middle East, and the Horn of Africa. Logistics Cluster operations facilitate partners access to services when required. For example, in **South Sudan** alone, throughout March the Logistics Cluster facilitated access to air, road and river transport for the movement of 968 mt of humanitarian cargo, and in April, the Logistics Cluster in **Ethiopia** facilitated the transport of 748 mt of humanitarian cargo. Funding challenges in **Yemen**, **Somalia** and **Ethiopia** continue to inhibit the level of support the Logistics Cluster can provide to the humanitarian responses in these countries.

#### **Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)**

The Global ETC continues to provide technical and information management support for humanitarian emergencies in **Bangladesh, CAR, Ethiopia, Libya, Nigeria, Syria** and **Yemen** as well as preparedness activities in the Pacific. Technical, coordination and information management support has been deployed to the Tigray emergency in **Ethiopia**.

With regards to COVID-19, the ETC is supporting the response by providing critical connectivity to responders in Severe Acute Respiratory Infection treatment centres in **Bangladesh** and in quarantine and isolation centre in **Yemen**.

Call centre operators at the inter-agency call centre in Tripoli, **Libya** have answered more than 24,990 calls since it was launched as a common feedback mechanism project in February 2020. A Chatbot has been implemented into the call centre which will help assist members of the affected population.

#### **Food Security Cluster**

With 2021 witnessing extraordinary humanitarian needs amid increasingly challenging operational environments, the Food Security Cluster (FSC), under the leadership of FAO and WFP, has been coordinating the mobilization of more than 1,500 national and international partners worldwide to deliver life-saving food assistance and livelihoods support.

Between February and June 2021, FSC partners scaled up assistance in response to emerging crises such as the military takeover in **Myanmar**, the conflict in Tigray, **Ethiopia** (which led to the establishment of new FSC structure in northern Ethiopia), the attacks in the Palma district of Cabo Delgado, **Mozambique**, a devastating fire that swept through the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, **Bangladesh**, and most recently escalating conflict in the Gaza Strip in **Palestine**. Anticipatory action was also coordinated in **Somalia** and **Ethiopia** to mitigate the impact of La Niña-induced drought in various locations, while ad-hoc emergency plans in highly food insecure areas were developed and implemented with food security partners and other sectors in countries such as <u>South Sudan</u>.

The coming months look set to be some of the most challenging, with a dire lean season expected in West Africa, the impending cyclone season in Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia, and looming conflict escalating in several countries. However, with current funding levels extremely low (just over 14 percent of the global appeal had been received as of mid-May), response capacities will be stretched. FSC teams are therefore advocating for an urgent scale-up of resources (see for instance the appeal for Chad), while at the same time leading prioritization exercises to target the most vulnerable areas and beneficiaries (such as Nigeria). FSC teams are also enhancing the capacities of local NGOs, strengthening coordination mechanisms at decentralized level and enhancing cooperation with governments on data sharing and response planning. These initiatives will allow a better understanding of response dynamics and lead to improved response capacity (for example as seen in Nigeria and Zimbabwe).



### Section III: Urgent appeal for Funding and Support

Following issuance of the Global Operational Response Plan in February, and amid a backdrop of continued socioeconomic challenges amplifying the drivers of hunger, WFP's 2021 operational requirements have increased to US\$ 15.3 billion, reflecting 33 submitted budget revisions to WFP operations between January and May 2021. Significant scale ups foreseen across several operations—including **Ethiopia**, **Lebanon**, **Afghanistan**, **Sudan**, and **Syria**—indicate that 2021 requirements will further escalate in the coming months. Notable increases in requirements are driven by scaleups in capacity strengthening and service delivery.

Donors continue to step up by providing continued high levels of support to WFP operations. To date in 2021, WFP has received US\$ 3.9 billion in confirmed contributions. Despite the unstinting support among donors to respond to growing humanitarian needs and to invest in resilience building efforts, WFP remains concerned that the forecasted level of donor support in 2021 will be overshadowed by mounting operational requirements. The global contribution forecast for 2021 is now projected at US\$ 8.3 billion, which would cover 55 percent of the increased operational requirements. From a near-term resourcing perspective, WFP still requires US\$ 4.5 billion (60 percent) to meet outstanding six-month funding needs from June to November 2021.

As critical funding shortfalls across WFP operations may push countries with deteriorating food security situations and protracted refugee or political crises further to the brink, WFP continues to call on partners to maintain or increase their support to WFP and to further advance their contributions in a flexible and unearmarked manner. In support of these efforts, WFP and FAO launched a joint <u>Call for Action to Avert Famine</u> in March, underscoring the urgent concern and action required to support people facing emergency levels of acute food insecurity. At the time, WFP and FAO estimated that US\$ 5.5 billion would be needed to take action at the scale required to stave off famine and provide agricultural support to mitigate further deterioration in food security. Unfortunately, funding shortfalls continue to hold WFP back from preventing famine from taking a grip in countries such as Yemen, South Sudan, Burkina Faso, Madagascar, and, most recently, the Tigray region of Ethiopia.

WFP further amplifies its concern regarding the Immediate Response Account (IRA), the organization's internal emergency funding allocation vehicle that equips Country Offices with rapid access to resourcing during emergencies. The IRA has served as a vital component in frontline emergency response throughout the pandemic – enabling rapid scale up assistance and averting pipeline breaks across varied contexts including **Mozambique**, **Pakistan, Yemen, and Burkina Faso**. Amid the current challenging and unprecedented landscape, it is essential that the IRA remains robust and well-resourced to ensure that WFP can immediately respond to and prepare for sudden or critical protracted emergencies.

### 100 million meals shared through WFP ShareTheMeal app



In March 2021 WEP's award-winning

fundraising app ShareTheMeal passed a milestone: 100 million meals have been shared through the app since its launch in 2015. Funds raised through ShareTheMeal contribute to critical WFP operations, supporting families during emergencies, strengthening child nutrition, and helping feed some of the most vulnerable children around the world. As the number of hungry people continues to grow, shared meals help WFP continue to adapt its response to the crisis and ensure at-risk families receive vital humanitarian assistance.

### FUNDING CRUNCH FORCES WFP TO SCALE BACK FOOD ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES AND OTHER VULNERABLE PEOPLE

According to UNHCR estimates, over 80 million people are forcibly displaced globally, double the number of people in 2010 (41 million), primarily due to conflict, violence, and persecution.<sup>5</sup> This includes 45.9 million internally displaced persons, 26.4 million refugees and 4.2 million asylum seekers. Forcibly displaced people are particularly vulnerable to food insecurity: according to the 2021 Global Report on Food Crises, eight out of ten of the world's worst food crises are in countries that also have the largest number of internally displaced people.

WFP is one of the key actors providing humanitarian assistance to displaced populations. Unfortunately, many refugee and internal displacement crises are protracted and critically underfunded. Driven by growing conflicts, disasters, and economic fallouts, needs are outweighing available resources, forcing WFP and the humanitarian community to make challenging prioritization decisions. These funding shortages are increasing food insecurity, malnutrition, and protection risks among the most vulnerable.



OF THE 115.5 MILLION PEOPLE WFP ASSISTED IN 2020, 33.1 MILLION PEOPLE OR 29 PERCENT WERE EITHER REFUGEES, INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS, OR RETURNEES.<sup>6</sup>

### ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Funding shortfalls are affecting WFP's efforts to broaden coverage given escalating conflict in **Afghanistan** and **Myanmar**. While WFP has not yet been forced to make ration cuts for displaced people, contingency prioritization plans are in place should the situation worsen.

### LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

WFP requires funding for its operations in **Colombia**, **Ecuador**, and **Peru**, where 4.6 million vulnerable people – migrants, Colombian returnees, people in transit, and members of host communities – will require food assistance in 2021. With sufficient support, WFP will scale up to address the key drivers of migration in Central America by responding to immediate food security needs, while fostering innovation and partnerships to achieve long term resilience.

#### **SOUTHERN AFRICA**

Reduced funding has forced WFP to make ration cuts, including in **DRC**, **Mozambique**, and **Tanzania**. In Tanzania, refugees fully reliant on WFP food assistance are facing ration cuts of up to 32 percent of the minimum calorie requirement due to significant funding shortfalls. Funding shortfalls have also led WFP to implement ration cuts for refugees in **Malawi** and have led to irregular distribution cycles for refugees in the **Republic of the Congo**.

#### EASTERN AFRICA

Funding shortfalls have forced WFP to cut monthly assistance for over 3 million refugees by up to 60 percent, affecting 72 percent of refugees in the region. Rations were cut by 60 percent in **Rwanda**, 50 percent in **South Sudan**, 40 percent in **Uganda** and **Kenya**, 23 percent in **Djibouti** and 16 percent in **Ethiopia**.

### MIDDLE EAST AND NORTHERN AFRICA

The Syrian refugee operation is facing funding challenges; in **Jordan**, as of July 2021, 21,000 Syrian refugees will no longer receive WFP food assistance due to funding challenges. If no more funding materializes, WFP will have to inform an additional 242,000 refugees that they will be cut from assistance at the end of August. The situation is equally concerning in **Egypt**, where WFP is looking at prioritizing assistance to 110,000 people, reducing the number of targeted beneficiaries by 20,000.

### **WESTERN AFRICA**

WFP has been forced by a lack of funding to reduce food rations and cash-based transfers in **Burkina Faso** to ensure continued assistance for at least 700,000 IDPs. In hard-to-reach areas, WFP is providing a 75 percent ration, prioritizing assistance where access is more difficult and irregular; in all other locations, WFP is providing a 50 percent ration. Limited resources are also severely affecting the continuity of WFP assistance for vulnerable groups in **CAR**, **Chad**, and **Mali**; WFP may also be required to reduce assistance for refugees and IDPs in **Cameroon** without additional resources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> UNHCR 2020. <u>Mid-year trends 2020</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> WFP 2021. <u>Annual Performance Report for 2020</u>.

## OPERATIONS OF HIGHEST CONCERN

(JUNE 2021)

AFGHANISTAN BURKINA FASO ETHIOPIA KENYA MADAGASCAR MOZAMBIQUE MYANMAR NIGERIA SOUTH SUDAN SYRIA UGANDA YEMEN

BANGLADESH CAMEROON **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC** CHAD 💋 COLOMBIA V DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO **EL SALVADOR** HAITI HONDURAS JORDAN 💋 LEBANON MALI 💋 NIGER PAKISTAN 💋 PALESTINE SOMALIA **SUDAN** 

indicates a country newly elevated as an Operation of High Concern or raised from an Operation of High Concern to an Operation of Very High Concern. indicates a country that has been lowered from an Operation of Very High Concern to an Operation of High Concern.

### WFP Operations of Highest Concern — June 2021

WFP's Operations of Highest Concern are the countries where the severity and scale of food insecurity, the scale of WFP's operational requirements and the urgency of funding gaps intersect. Operations are selected based on: 1.) high requirements and number of people targeted by WFP, 2.) high level of food insecurity (IPC3/4+) in absolute number and/or share of the population, and 3.) large funding gaps (Highest Net Funding Requirements after considering forecasted funding). Since the 2021 Global Operational Response Plan was published in February, **Chad**, **Jordan**, **Mali**, and **Pakistan** have been added as WFP's Operations of Highest Concern because of increased funding shortfalls and low forecasts. The other countries previously identified remain listed as WFP's Operations of Highest Concern.

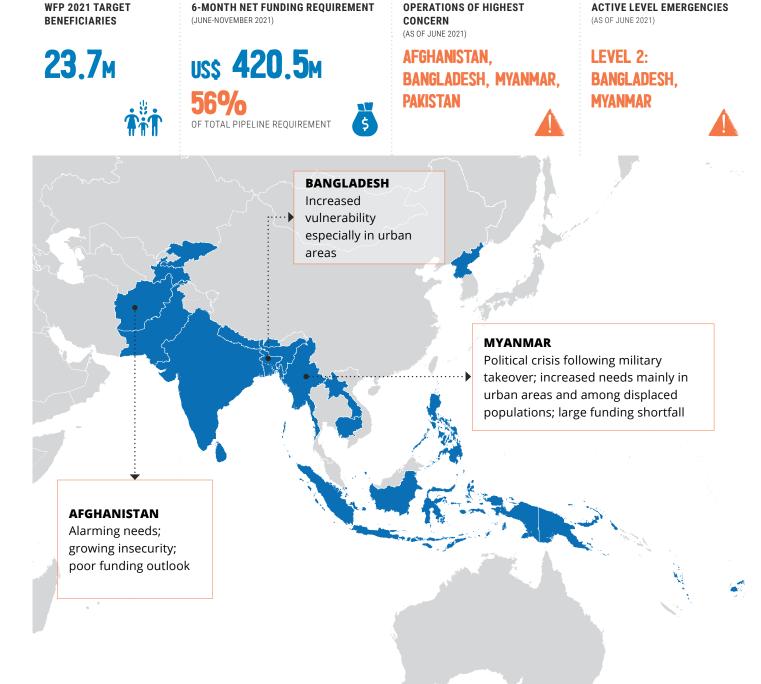
# Section IV: WFP Response by Country



# Asia and the Pacific

A new COVID-19 wave is affecting Asia and the Pacific, pushing economies into further decline, and impacting households' ability to afford nutritious foods. Unfavourable weather is making matters worse: La Niña drought conditions are hampering crop production in **Afghanistan**, **Tajikistan**, **Kyrgyzstan**, and parts of **Pakistan**, while major floods are affecting **Indonesia**, **Philippines**, and **Timor-Leste**. The political crisis in **Myanmar** has rendered 3.4 million more people hungry, particularly in urban areas.

WFP closely monitors the aforementioned factors of food insecurity in the region, with particular attention to **Afghanistan**, **Myanmar** and **DPRK**. In response to growing needs, WFP is increasing its needs-based plan for 2021, targeting 23.7 million people across the region, up from 21 million in January, and compared to 20 million targeted in 2020.



ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2021	PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN-NOV)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN-NOV)	6-MONTH % OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (JUN-NOV)
Afghanistan	Over 14 million people (35 percent) are facing emergency or crisis levels of food insecurity (IPC Phases 3 and 4). In 2021, WFP will scale up assistance to 13.8 million people in need of food and nutrition support across the country, including emergency food assistance to 4.2 million people in IPC Phase 4 and nutrition assistance to 1 million children and pregnant and lactating women. WFP will also help build the resilience of food-insecure households through asset creation and vocational training. It will support the Government's shock-responsive social safety net and strengthen value chains for wheat and soya. In the first quarter of 2021, WFP has reached over 2.5 million people with food or nutrition assistance.	307.56	189.37	62%
Bangladesh	WFP will continue to support 2.3 million people in Bangladesh, including direct food assistance to over 860,000 Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, 50,000 people in at-risk, low-income urban areas will receive monthly cash-based support for food and smallholder farmers will be linked to urban markets, a partnership with FAO. Fortified biscuits will be delivered to refugee and Bangladeshi households while schools remain closed. Following a massive fire in March, WFP has provided nearly a million cooked meals to 92,000 refugees and is gearing up to respond effectively to climate-related and other emergencies in-country.	171.76	85.89	50%
Bhutan	WFP is assisting the Government's response to and recovery from COVID-19. WFP will continue to strengthen national disaster and pandemic management capacities with a focus on enhancing national governance and coordination structures, sector and district-level logistics, food security and data preparedness to earthquakes and other disasters. WFP is also helping rural communities to recover from the pandemic and improving children's diets with innovative solutions including PLUS school meals. WFP continues its food system support to boost demand for local food, increase production, link smallholder farmers to markets, reduce post-harvest losses, and optimize supply chains.	1.0	.05	6%
Cambodia	In 2021, WFP will provide unconditional cash transfers for poor and vulnerable people affected by the economic impacts of COVID-19 and other shocks whilst continuing to support national capacities for social protection, emergency preparedness and food systems. Evidence generation and monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 and other shocks are a priority. WFP will continue to work with the Government to provide nutritious meals in schools when schools are open. During periods of school closures, WFP will provide take-home rations to the poorest households participating in school feeding programmes. Direct implementation will be complemented by policy support, guidance, and infrastructure enhancement to ensure a safe school environment.	14.13	1.04	7%
DPRK	WFP's Interim Country Strategic Plan for the DPRK has been extended to the end of 2022. As soon as restrictions on domestic and international travel permit, WFP plans to continue its assistance to pregnant and lactating women, children in nurseries, beneficiaries in paediatric wards, hospitals, and boarding schools.	25.97	5.68	22%
India	India is in the throes of a second wave of COVID-19, so WFP is continuing to support government safety nets, introducing an automated grain dispenser in nine urban centres for migrant workers. Meanwhile WFP continues to work on supply chain optimization, post-harvest losses, portability of ration cards, rice fortification and fortified supplementary foods. Research and evaluation around food security, women's empowerment, gender and inclusion, NGO capacity strengthening, disaster risk management, and South-South and triangular cooperation are also priorities.	2.06		0%
Indonesia	WFP continues its readiness efforts to respond to simultaneous emergencies, including earthquakes, floods, and tropical cyclones by providing coordination support on i) activation of National and Provincial Logistics Clusters, ii) information management, and iii) facilitated private sector involvement for common logistics services. Technical assistance is ongoing to enhance the utilization of early warning and integration into sub-national planning and budgeting for disaster risk management.	1.61	.11	7%
Kyrgyzstan	The pandemic increased poverty, so WFP is scaling up cash-based transfers in 2021. New government structures are forming to address the deteriorating socio-economic situation. WFP's productive safety net interventions address heightened needs by improving people's food security and nutrition; community consultations help target the response to the new poor and identify continued financial support and local ownership.	6.26	.77	12%

Lao People's Democratic Republic	In 2021, WFP continued supporting the Government to implement its COVID-19 response measures, providing hot meals to returning migrants at Government-run quarantine centres. While actively seeking funding, WFP is also in discussions with the Government on alternate solutions should funding run out. In view of the school closures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, WFP is also planning the distribution of take-home rations.	7.37	.63	9%
Myanmar	Following the February military takeover, WFP continues to provide life-saving food and nutrition support to about 360,000 people displaced or otherwise affected by conflict whilst scaling up in peri-urban areas to meet the needs of 2 million poor people hit by COVID-19 and the political crisis. Common services including humanitarian flights will continue, subject to funding and permissions, until commercial flights resume.	132.20	103.81	79%
Nepal	WFP continues its efforts to respond to simultaneous emergencies. The deteriorating COVID-19 situation, increase in the number of returning migrants from India, and the upcoming monsoon season may increase food insecurity among vulnerable households. WFP has undertaken extensive efforts to improve Nepal's preparedness for future disasters. It continues to monitor food security, implement school meals, nutrition, development, and technical assistance programmes in support of the Government of Nepal.	16.16	3.63	22%
Pacific Island Countries	Travel and border restrictions remain a major challenge. Nonetheless WFP continues to strengthen the capacity of 14 Pacific Island Countries and Territories to reduce disaster risk and prepare for emergencies. Collaboration continues with eight governments on mVAM household food security assessments. For the regional COVID-19 humanitarian response, WFP supports governments and partners in logistics, aviation, emergency telecommunications and food security. With commercial aviation limited, WFP's Pacific Humanitarian Air Service continues to transport humanitarian personnel and cargo, serving 11 locations in the first quarter of 2021.	7.41	2.08	28%
Pakistan	In 2021 WFP will align crisis response, resilience, preparedness and livelihood activities, support girls' education, and enable nutrition-sensitive and shock-responsive social protection. WFP will enhance data analysis and assessments and support food systems. WFP will also strengthen engagement with provincial authorities at the technical and policy level to further tailor its response to specific contextual challenges. Increased emphasis will be put on partnering with the host government, international financial institutions and development banks, amidst a reduction in traditional donor funding.	48.29	26.18	54%
The Philippines	WFP plans to activate anticipatory actions for typhoon and flooding, working closely with government agencies and networks to streamline triggers and thresholds, early actions, and financing. WFP continues assisting the Government's response to COVID-19 by providing transport services and equipment. It continues to support Government efforts to address food insecurity and malnutrition, providing assistance in policy development, evidence generation, strengthening of gender-sensitive, behaviour-changing social protection programmes, and creation of a platform for public- private partnership and advocacy. WFP also strengthens the capacity of the Government of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) to enhance the means, tools and skills to meet the dietary needs of vulnerable people.	3.0	.84	28%
Sri Lanka	WFP is helping to boost the capacity of district disaster management units for evidence-based flood mapping during the southwest monsoon from May. WFP is supporting the Ministry of Health to improve the production and quality of the nutritional supplementary food 'Thriposha' for nearly 1.1 million pregnant mothers and children. Additionally, WFP will distribute a consignment of canned fish in May to 1,830 schools, benefitting 23,700 primary school children.	3.78	2.35	62%
Tajikistan	Responding to COVID-19, WFP has provided take-home rations to vulnerable schoolchildren and livelihood support to the most affected communities. WFP is ready for a potential worsening of the pandemic and natural disasters, which could exacerbate food insecurity. WFP will strengthen government capacities in early response to emergencies through the Platform for Real-time Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM) and improved climate services for targeted communities. It is supporting a national platform to monitor food security and nutrition and continues nutrition programming. Resource mobilization is prioritized to overcome funding constraints.	7.27	.16	2%
Timor-Leste	Since the April 2021 floods, WFP has been (co-)leading the food security and logistics sector response, in support of national social solidarity and civil protection responses to affected communities. WFP continues supporting the Government's universal cesta basika (basic basket) programme, food price monitoring, and pilots on home-grown school feeding and rice fortification.	1.23		0%



### Eastern Africa

In 2021, conflict, insecurity, displacement, natural hazards, and the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 will continue to drive substantial food insecurity across Eastern Africa. More than 80 percent of WFP's portfolio in the region is considered "crisis response," a consistent trend likely to continue into next year and beyond. As per the 2021 FAO-WFP Hunger Hotspots report, three of the world's ten largest food crises are from this region – **Ethiopia, South Sudan**, and **Sudan** – all of which saw their situation deteriorate through increased conflict, insecurity, flooding, drought, economic shocks, the most severe locust invasion in decades, and COVID-19.

In 2021, WFP will continue to prioritise social protection programmes to protect the food security and livelihoods of vulnerable demographics affected by the economic backlash of COVID-19. Significant funding will be needed to assist more than four million refugees and eight million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the region, whose assistance is marred by chronic resource shortages.



#### REGIONAL

Substantial funding shortfalls for refugee programmes have forced WFP to reduce rations in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Uganda.

#### SOUTH SUDAN

Highest number of people in need ever recorded at 8.3 million, an increase from 7.5 million last year. Over 100,000 people could be at risk of famine.

#### **ETHIOPIA**

Conflict driving acute food insecurity in northern Ethiopia; 353,000 people facing catastrophic conditions (IPC Phase 5); rise in intercommunal violence, attacks by armed groups and displacement.

EAST AFRICA	SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2021	PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN-NOV)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN -NOV)	6-MONTH % OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (JUN-NOV)
Burundi	WFP will continue its support (through in-kind food and CBT) to refugees, returnees, and vulnerable local populations, along with the provision of emergency food assistance and repatriation packages to increasing number of returnees from neighbouring countries. Working closely with the Government, WFP will also continue prioritizing nutrition and school meals programmes throughout 2021.	44.96	12.93	29%
Djibouti	WFP will provide assistance to refugees, asylum seekers, migrants and vulnerable households in rural and urban areas through unconditional in-kind distributions and SCOPE cash transfers. On account of improved sanitary conditions, WFP returned to monthly distributions in refugee settlements from the beginning of the year. In collaboration with the Government, WFP will also continue to reach vulnerable households registered in the social registry in Djibouti City and county towns.	9.49	3.76	40%
Ethiopia	In 2021, WFP will continue to support 4 million vulnerable Ethiopians and refugees by providing emergency relief assistance (food and CBT), implementing resilience building activities and supporting the Government's Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP). WFP continues to scale up its assistance in Tigray by providing lifesaving food and nutritious products, targeting 2.1 million people in the Northwestern and Southern zones of the Region. Humanitarian access, national elections in June, and drought will remain important challenges against increased humanitarian needs due to mass displacement.	684.05	518.81	76%
Kenya	WFP continues to complement the Government's COVID-19 response in Kenya through its urban response, targeting vulnerable people affected by loss of income in Nairobi's informal settlements and Mombasa County. Together with FAO, WFP will continue implementing programmes to support smallholder farmers (such as irrigation schemes for groundnut production). WFP is also closely monitoring the desert locust situation; the context ahead of 2022 national elections; and recent calls by the Government of Kenya to close the refugee camps of Dadaab and Kakuma. This follows ongoing under-resourcing of food needs of refugees, which has forced WFP to reduce rations by 40 percent.	175.10	133.40	76%
Rwanda	WFP will continue prioritizing life-saving support to returnees as well as Congolese and Burundian refugees. Home-grown school feeding activities will continue to be implemented in four districts. Significant funding shortfalls affect this operation, forcing WFP to cut rations by 60 percent in March. Due to funding shortages, in 2021 WFP will shift to vulnerability-based targeting, with the most vulnerable refugees receiving up to 80 percent rations and the least vulnerable ceasing to receive food assistance. WFP will also continue to strengthen its collaboration with the Government of Rwanda and other partners to provide technical assistance for the expansion of social protection interventions.	22.68	10.94	48%
Somalia	WFP will continue to provide lifesaving food assistance to 1.9 million people in 2021 through food and cash transfers to mitigate the impact of recurrent and multiple shocks, including food and nutrition crises, widespread insecurity, political instability triggered by the election impasse, underdeveloped infrastructure, and natural hazards such as recurrent drought and floods. In addition, WFP will continue partnering with the Government to provide quarterly CBT mobile transfers to over 200,000 people through the national safety net programme.	401.98	255.80	64%
South Sudan	WFP will prioritize lifesaving food and nutrition assistance especially for people in counties at risk of falling into famine-like conditions in counties. Flooding continues to negatively impact WFP's efforts to deliver food commodities in IPC priority counties. WFP continues to explore alternate options to preposition and deliver food for the rest of year, including through a key dyke repair project to maintain open access to Jonglei State. WFP will continue working with the Government to maintain humanitarian access and expand its target caseload, resources permitting.	282.53	140.29	50%

Sudan	In 2021, WFP will continue to provide life-saving food (in-kind and CBT) and nutrition assistance in response to needs as a result of insecurity in the Darfur region, high inflation and sustained increases in food prices, and to Ethiopian refugees fleeing violence from Tigray. With support from the World Bank, WFP's CBTs for general food assistance and food assistance for assets have been expanded to ensure that beneficiaries continue to receive an adequate level of assistance. WFP will also prioritise support for the Government of Sudan's Family Support Programme, with an aim to eventually provide direct CBT to around 80 percent of Sudanese families.	410.42	71.76	17%
Uganda	WFP will continue to provide food assistance to 1.2 million refugees in Uganda despite ration cuts due to financial constraints. Since April 2021, refugees receive a 60 percent ration, further down from the 70 percent introduced in April 2020. WFP will collaborate with the Ministry of Education to provide take-home rations to school children, and together with UNHCR, continue its cash assistance to urban refugees using mobile money and over-the-counter cash.	139.48	113.33	81%



### Latin America and the Caribbean

Following a record economic contraction in 2020 driven by COVID-19 containment measures, wage labour losses and decline in remittances, Latin America and the Caribbean face an uncertain outlook in 2021. With an estimated 29 million people acutely food insecure (or at risk) across WFP countries of operation, the region is expected to face consecutive poor harvest due to irregular rainfall and an above average hurricane season (2020 being the most active on record), intensification of the second largest global migration crisis, as well as political and economic instability.

In the midst of new waves of irregular migration, millions of people in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Honduras have struggled to recover from back to back hurricanes in late 2020, unable to restore critical food reserves and livelihoods during the lean season. Critical elections are underway in Peru and forthcoming in Honduras, Haiti, and in Nicaragua. Economic reforms in **Cuba** present a risk for some of the most vulnerable populations. In **Colombia**, **Ecuador**, and Peru, 3.2 million migrants and refugees continue to be severely impacted by COVID-19, closure of borders and limited opportunities for integration. Ongoing scale-up of WFP programmes in 2021 to respond to the deteriorating food security situation could further increase requirements.

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WFP 2021 TARGET

**BENEFICIARIES** 

8.2<sub>M</sub>

♥ CENTRAL AMERICA (EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS,

#### NICARAGUA)

Deteriorating food security situation; back to back hurricanes; economic recovery challenged by COVID-19; lean season, droughts and expected hurricane season; observed intensification of outmigration (including caravans).

6-MONTH NET FUNDING REQUIREMENT (JUNE-NOVEMBER 2021)

\$

US\$ 187.7M 54% OF TOTAL PIPELINE REQUIREMENT

3.

OPERATIONS OF HIGHEST CONCERN (AS OF JUNE 2021)

Colombia, el salvador, Haiti, honduras ACTIVE LEVEL EMERGENCIES (AS OF JUNE 2021)

LEVEL 2: SUB-REGIONAL MIGRANT CRISIS: COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, PERU

#### HAITI

Deepening constitutional crisis; deteriorating security, food security and economic situation; price increases; below average rainfall; early onset above average hurricane season.

#### VENEZUELA

2.3 million people in severe food insecurity; WFP establishing presence and launching humanitarian operation to provide food assistance to most vulnerable children

#### SUB-REGIONAL MIGRANT CRISIS (COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, PERU)

2.1 million Venezuelan migrants in food insecurity in Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru; figure likely to increase; could become world's largest migration crisis by end of 2021

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2021	PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN -NOV)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN -NOV)	6-MONTH % OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (JUN-NOV)
Bolivia	In addition to the increase in COVID-19 cases, the slow recovery of the economy has worsened the food security situation of more than 1.4 million people who are in severe food insecurity. For the rest of 2021, WFP will implement a resilience project with emphasis on Indigenous people in an area prone to natural disasters; finish a study on the double burden and implement a project for the production of a supplement for children under two based on local products.	1.90	.44	23%
English and Dutch Speaking Caribbean	WFP is supporting the Caribbean to prepare for and respond to compounded risks associated with COVID-19, economic recession, and climate. WFP has scaled up support to six countries with technical assistance and CBT though national social protection. This includes a response to the recent La Soufriere volcano eruption in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, which displaced between 16,000-20,000 people. WFP is investing in capacity strengthening of national and Caribbean-wide systems, including the prepositioning deployment of logistics assets and digitalization of processes for improved emergency supply chain management.	15.61	14.04	90%
Colombia	Humanitarian needs continue to increase due armed violence, extreme weather events, and growing irregular migration inflows from Venezuela. During 2021, WFP aims to directly assist 1.5 million food insecure people, including Venezuelan migrants, victims of armed violence and natural disasters, as well as COVID 19 crisis-affected populations. However, due to limited funding, WFP has had to reduce its beneficiary coverage during the first quarter of 2021, to about 65 percent of its original target. Urgent additional funding is needed to scale up operations in support of key national priorities, including socioeconomic integration of migrants, social protection, and school feeding.	108.72	62.06	57%
Cuba	WFP will scale up food assistance through social protection programmes to benefit about 124,200 vulnerable people, including the elderly, pregnant and lactating women, and children under two. To enhance emergency response capacities, WFP will support national and provincial multi-hazard situation rooms. Special attention will be given to strengthen cold chain capacities to support the vaccination program against COVID-19. WFP will also continue to contribute to the socioeconomic recovery strategy through the support it provides to local food systems and livelihoods	8.89	1.66	19%
Dominican Republic	The food security situation has deteriorated due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, 2.7 percent of the population was severely food insecure, a significant increase from 1.0 percent from 2019. 35.5 percent are estimated to be moderately food insecure, up from 19.0 percent in 2019. As the crisis has continued, the situation is likely to worsen in the first half of 2021. In 2021, WFP is supporting public health and social protection programmes to improve the nutritional status of the most vulnerable population, planning to reach 228,000 people. WFP also aims to provide emergency food assistance through cash-based or in-kind transfers to 282,400 shock affected people. WFP will sustain its capacity strengthening initiatives in support of national Government counterparts in areas such as assurance, retail, supply chain, and transfer components, and will continue providing logistic and telecommunications services.	4.44		0%
Ecuador	WFP continues to provide food assistance to vulnerable groups affected by the pandemic as its priority while encouraging smallholder farmers to rebuild livelihoods of affected populations. WFP also continues to provide logistics coordination for emergency responses and strengthening Government's social protection capacity. As the influx of Venezuelans through unauthorized paths continues despite the border closure, continuing with remote targeting and providing assistance to new beneficiaries remains as main challenge alongside the persistently high food insecurity among existing beneficiaries even after having received a year of assistance.	23.18	10.81	48%

El Salvador	In 2021, WFP continues to support vulnerable populations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and climate emergencies with CBT and aims to reach close to 130,000 people this year. In addition, WFP will increase its focus on livelihood support programmes to foster early recovery, and where funding allows, resilience building and climate change adaptation. Initiatives for anticipatory actions, capacity strengthening, and technical assistance to national institutions will also be prioritized in 2021. However, prospects for sustainable funding are limited, hampering long term planning and work.	11.0	11.29	103%
Guatemala	According to the latest IPC, 3.7 million people are food insecure in Guatemala as a result of the pandemic, recurrent recent drought, and back to back tropical storms. WFP plans to assist 1.3 million of the most severely affected populations through scaled up emergency distributions of in-kind food and cash-based transfers as well as through a resilience-building strategy that will benefit over 30,500 smallholder farmers. WFP is also supporting the Government-led programmes, through the procurement and transport of food commodities and supplementary nutritious foods, and by making available its SCOPE digital platform.	26.02	11.78	45%
Haiti	The September 2020 IPC food security update showed a deteriorating situation due to the impact of COVID-19, ongoing socio-political turmoil, and below average harvests in 2020. In 2021 WFP will target 1,335,000 people through direct food assistance (900,000 people), school feeding (300,000 children), safety nets (55,000 people) and resilience activities (80,000 people). Since the beginning of the year, WFP has reached 525,089 people including 264,430 with emergency food assistance. A World Bank funded safety net programme will start in June. The net funding requirement for this period are mostly associated to UNHAS services that will be maintained in as far as funding is secured.	40.26	6.06	15%
Honduras	Currently, 3.1 million people in Honduras are in IPC Phase 3 "Crisis" and 4 "Emergency." WFP plans to assist 2,100,000 people in 2021, of which 695,020 people will be through emergency response activities. From January to April, 385,395 COVID-and hurricane-affected people were assisted through cash-based transfers, commodity, and value vouchers, depending on beneficiary preferences and market conditions. WFP's crisis response interventions will include a capacity strengthening component for governmental and implementing entities in order to better prepare for future shocks, including the next hurricane season.	35.37	24.77	70%
Nicaragua	Nicaragua is still recovering from hurricanes Eta and lota that hit at the end of 2020. In 2021, WFP will continue to support affected populations through an additional meal in schools for 199,000 children and food packages for their family members. Additionally, WFP is providing kits with agricultural inputs and minor livestock, to shock-affected households to restore livelihoods in the most impacted areas. WFP is also scaling up its support to smallholder farmers in areas most affected by irregular rainfall patterns and is implementing an agriculture microinsurance pilot to promote risk management. Throughout the year, WFP plans to assist 416,943 beneficiaries through food-assistance as well as 5,750 smallholder farmers and rural and peri-urban low-income households. In response to COVID-19, WFP is also supporting the Government through the implementation of an IMF-funded emergency agricultural-support programme to ensure adequate food supply throughout the country.	25.86	1.08	4%
Peru	Peru is experiencing a challenging second wave of COVID-19, an increasing socioeconomic crisis, and a tense and uncertain political scenario. In response, WFP will scale-up its operation. This includes cash transfers for an estimated 65,000 people mainly for Venezuelan migrants and refugees, and logistics support to government and humanitarian partners to help them reach 900,000 vulnerable households. With Zero Hunger a key policy priority, WFP will continue with its advocacy, evidence generation and capacity strengthening approach to food security and nutrition and social protection.	27.57	24.71	89%
Venezuela	WFP and Venezuela signed an agreement on 19 April to establish WFP operations in the country. WFP will provide nutritious school meals for up to 185,000 children and school personnel by the end of 2021, initially in pre-primary and special education schools. WFP will also invest in the rehabilitation of school canteens and training staff on food safety practices. While schools remain closed, WFP will operate through a take-home ration modality. Through a phased scale-up, WFP will aim to provide daily meals to 1.5 million people by the end of the 2022-2023 school year.	19.08	19.08	<b>100%</b> 33



### Middle East and Northern Africa

As of June 2021, 43.5 million<sup>1</sup> people are estimated to be acutely food insecure (or at risk) across WFP countries of operation in the Middle East and North Africa. Overall, the situation has further deteriorated in recent months with the major drivers of food insecurity in region still being conflict and economic factors.

Yemen and Syria are experiencing a double burden of protracted armed conflict and economic crisis (including rising fuel prices and related shortages). Lebanon is also experiencing a major economic crisis linked to a depreciation of the local currency. All of this is compounding the ongoing socioeconomic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic which is affecting all countries in the region.

#### WFP 2021 TARGET 6-MONTH NET FUNDING REQUIREMENT **OPERATIONS OF HIGHEST ACTIVE LEVEL EMERGENCIES BENEFICIARIES** (JUNE-NOVEMBER 2021) CONCERN (AS OF JUNE 2021) (AS OF JUNE 2021) US\$ 1.42B 31.6м JORDAN, LEBANON, LEVEL 2: IRAQ, LIBYA, PALESTINE. SYRIA REGIONAL REFUGEE SYRIA, YEMEN LEVEL 3: YEMEN OF TOTAL PIPELINE REQUIREMENT **SYRIA** Ś **SYRIA** Conflict, economic crisis and COVID-19 led to record high food LEBANON insecurity. WFP continues to implement a reduced food basket Economic situation worsens by the day. Cost to secure to stretch resources. minimum essential food tripled since October 2019. YEMEN Over 5 million people already in IPC 4 and 5 with risk for deterioration due to conflict, economic crisis, challenge to import fuel and basic needs, and insufficient humanitarian assistance.

<sup>1</sup> For the Middle East and Northern Africa, the estimate considers all countries in the region except Iran and Morocco.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTHERN AFRICA <sup>2</sup>	SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2021	PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN-NOV)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN -NOV)	6-MONTH % OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (JUN-NOV)
Algeria	WFP will continue providing food assistance to help meet the basic food and nutrition needs of the Sahrawi refugees in camps near Tindouf and improve their nutrition status through activities that are nutrition sensitive and gender responsive. WFP will maintain its broader support to tackle malnutrition and the high prevalence of anaemia among pregnant and lactating women and girls, while new livelihood activities will enhance the opportunities of women and men, and young people.	10.41	8.87	85%
Armenia	The food security situation in Armenia continues to be affected by the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 and the Nagorno-Karabakh crisis-induced displacements of the last quarter of 2020. In 2021, WFP will provide cash assistance for up to 54,000 spontaneous arrivals and 20,000 host populations to support their access to food and nutrition security.	6.22	1.5	24%
Egypt	In collaboration with the Government, WFP will continue to deliver emergency support in areas of high food insecurity and/or with a high concentration of refugees, asylum seekers, and affected host communities. WFP will continue to provide assistance via cash-based transfers, and complement assistance through national programmes including job creation for women and youth, vocational training, rural development support, and nutrition support for vulnerable communities, particularly in rural areas most affected by the pandemic. Through digital innovation, WFP will continue to support line ministries in data-driven decision making and analysis as well as improve access to information for vulnerable communities.	58.94	51.68	88%
Iran	WFP has been requested by the Resident Coordinator and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to act as co-lead with WHO for a humanitarian corridor to facilitate the procurement and delivery of mainly medicine and eventually food commodities into the country in the event of further tightening of sanctions. WFP is planning to reach a total of 39,500 beneficiaries in 2021: 31,000 refugees living inside 20 settlement across the country through unconditional resource transfer (cash and in-kind); 7,500 school children and their Iranian teachers through the school feeding programme; 3,300 girls through education incentives; and potentially 8,000 Iranians in case of occurrence of any natural disaster requiring international assistance.	2.49	1.56	63%
Iraq	COVID-19 affected households face increasing vulnerabilities and food insecurity especially low income and daily wage earners. Food assistance through cash-based transfers to IDP and refugee in-camp residents will continue. Resilience activities will drive the transition from humanitarian to development efforts through the expansion of food for asset activities, urban livelihoods, and WFP's EMPACT digital skills training programme in food insecure areas. Capacity strengthening activities will be undertaken in support of the Government and partners, including school feeding activities and support to the national social protection system at both policy and operational level, including efforts to modernize data processes of the Public Distribution System. Activities will be supported by evidence collected through various mechanism that inform on the food security status of beneficiary and non-beneficiary households including supporting government institutions in undertaking household socio-economic surveys.	66.71	36.01	54%

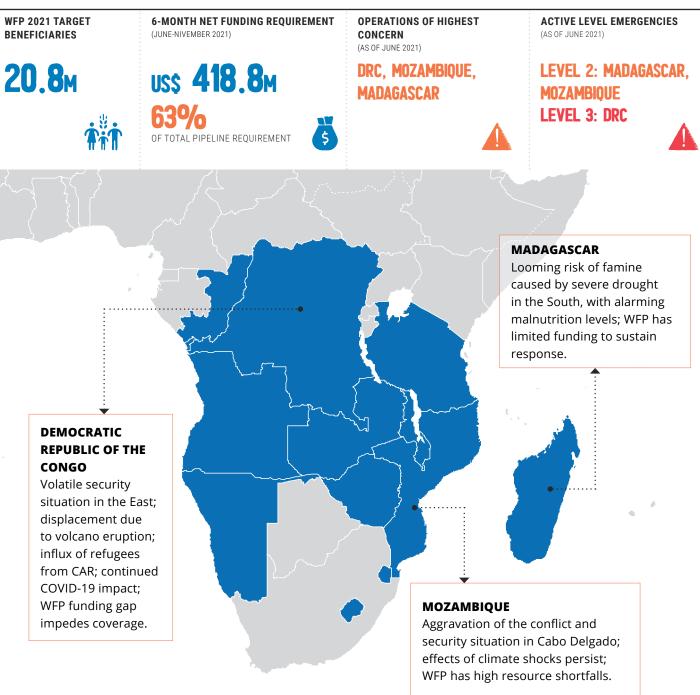
Jordan	The socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has aggravated the situation for vulnerable populations in Jordan, especially refugees. WFP assistance is the only income for 16 percent of refugee beneficiaries and constitutes some 60 percent of household income for the average refugee beneficiary family. With the increasing vulnerability, WFP has included 40,129 newly vulnerable refugees into its unconditional food assistance programme while also providing dedicated assistance to in-camp beneficiaries in quarantine. For the host population, WFP continues to support the Government with the finalization of both the national food security and school feeding strategies, as well as technical assistance to strengthen disaster risk reduction and enhance the national safety nets which now support one million vulnerable Jordanian people under the Government's COVID-19 mitigation measures. WFP also continues to implement resilience and innovation activities despite COVID-19 related restrictions and is adapting the school feeding programme to the temporary school closure.	127.02	118.11	93%
Lebanon	In 2021, WFP has expanded unconditional cash-based assistance to reach over 1 million Syrian refugees and refugees of other nationalities per month. WFP is also significantly expanding its assistance to vulnerable Lebanese through the expansion of the National Poverty Targeting Programme and in-kind assistance provided in response to the economic crisis to reach up to 800,000 people, in addition to the implementation of the Emergency Social Safety Net programme jointly with the World Bank and the Government. In addition, WFP is exploring options and will operationalize all necessary measures to maintain (and augment) its capacity to deliver lifesaving assistance in an environment where banking services, supply chains, prices and currency stability are increasingly challenged.	399.59	237.40	59%
Libya	While analysing the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 and the vulnerability of Libyans and non-Libyans to shocks caused by the pandemic, armed clashes, food price increases and currency devaluation, WFP is assisting 100,000 food-insecure and vulnerable people every month including crisis-affected internally displaced persons, returnees, non-displaced populations, refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in urban settings, and schoolchildren. Based on the success of the 2020 pilot and considering the humanitarian and development conditions at the local level, WFP is expanding its provision of unconditional commodity e-voucher assistance, which has increased by 139 percent in 2021 in comparison with December 2020. WFP also continues enabling livelihoods through food assistance for training, an agriculture value chain project with UNDP and the Agriculture Information Network composed of some 500 smallholder farmers in the south of Libya, and maintains data collection to inform response efforts. UNHAS is continuing its services to ensure humanitarian actors have safe, reliable access to the country. The WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Sector is scaling up its services for communities through the common feedback mechanism and internet connectivity services for refugees and persons of concern.	21.25	10.84	52%
Palestine	WFP is prioritizing continued food assistance (in-kind and CBT) to 435,170 beneficiaries while working with FAO, the Food Security Sector, and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics on preparing a new Socio-Economic and Food Security Survey (SEFSec) that will assess the impact of the pandemic on food security and levels of food insecurity in general. WFP continues safeguarding nutrition related initiatives and resilience gains through scaling up a climate resilient agriculture pilot and expanding its programmatic portfolio to include conditional activity of vocational training for poor and food insecure youth and women. WFP will maintain its support to Government in developing social protection registry for disabled and elderly people, and other partners through provision of common services. Coordinating with the Government, WFP has provided CBT (electronic food vouchers) to 93,800 people affected by the recent hostilities in Gaza since 15 May, including 51,600 who regularly receive WFP assistance and 42,200 new beneficiaries.	38.34	23.83	62%

Syria	Following 10 years of crisis, food insecurity was significantly exacerbated since 2019 by a combination of factors including the regional economic and banking crisis, tightening of unilateral coercive measures, direct and knock-on effects of COVID-19 on food security and the agriculture sector, devastating wildfires and other climate-induced shocks. The annual Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment shows a steady increase in the estimated food insecure population from 7.9 million people in 2019, to 12.4 million people based on latest December 2020 assessment, including 1.3 million severely food insecure. WFP is currently able to assist only 4.8 million people out of the 7.75 million monthly target with general food assistance, due to the existing funding shortfall. With imminent pipeline breaks on horizon, WFP is already implementing a reduced basket to stretch its current resources; with a four-month lead time to import food into the country, timely and predictable contributions are critical.	671.73	515.24	77%
Tunisia	WFP continues to focus on strengthening Government capacity to improve the quality and sustainability of the national school meals programme as a key safety net for the most vulnerable households. WFP will continue to provide technical assistance and policy advice to the Ministry of Education and its Office of School Services, which WFP has supported since its inception in 2015.	.56		N/A
Turkey	WFP will maintain its e-voucher assistance to nearly 56,000 refugees living in six camps in the country's southeast to ensure in-camp residents are able to meet their basic needs. WFP, together with its partners, will strengthen its focus on livelihood programmes to equip refugees and vulnerable members of the host community with vocational skills and widen their employment prospects. WFP aims to not only expand to more provinces but also include new sectors to reach more refugees.	18.22	10.69	59%
Yemen	WFP continues to assist 13 million people with life-saving food assistance and have introduced COVID measures to ensure continuity of operations. In April 2020, WFP reduced the levels of assistance in the northern areas owing to a reduced funding outlook and challenging operating environment, providing assistance every two months instead of monthly. Following the release of the IPC analysis in December 2020 coupled with continued advocacy efforts, monthly assistance with full rations restarted from February 2021 for 350,000 people in areas with IPC 5 populations. With the IPC analysis, the start of the beneficiary biometric registration exercise in the North and recently confirmed contributions, WFP is able to progressively increase levels of assistance in the most food insecure areas, with monthly assistance returning for nine governorates in the North in June and July. The beneficiary retargeting and biometric registration exercise is proceeding, with 4.2 million to be registered in the South and some 9 million in the North. With continued progress seen in the North, WFP is advocating for increased support to revert to full assistance across all governorates. Following the outbreak of COVID-19 in Yemen in March 2020 and access closure for humanitarian flights and personnel, humanitarian access has re-opened and improved, with regular schedule flights established through Amman and Addis Ababa.	1,006.07	425.47	42%



### Southern Africa

While IPC analyses are ongoing in various countries, WFP analysis estimates that 53.8 million people are acutely food insecure or at risk in WFP countries of operation in the Southern Africa region due to drought and other shocks. While Southern Africa is experiencing above average rainfall and overall good crop production in central regions (Botswana, East Namibia, South Zambia, Zimbabwe), severe drought conditions are experienced in Angola, Madagascar, and northern Mozambigue. The carry-over economic impacts of COVID-19, conflict in DRC and Mozambique and other structural factors are also affecting food security. While WFP sustains its operational footprint to face these unprecedented challenges, Southern Africa has one of the highest percentages of unmet needs and net funding requirements for the next six months - impeding WFP's ability to maintain the level of assistance required to address the hunger challenge.



SOUTHERN AFRICA	SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2021	PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN -NOV)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN -NOV)	6-MONTH % OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (JUN- NOV)
Angola	Another dry season is pushing families in the southwestern provinces into extreme vulnerability, further worsened by the current economic downturn. The total population in need of assistance could rise sharply to 3.8 million in the coming months, according to the latest hotspot analysis. WFP has activated an IR-PREP to provide technical assistance to the Government to counteract the drought impact. Meanwhile, WFP's overall strategy in Angola prioritizes support the Government through technical assistance in the areas of vulnerability assessment, nutrition, school feeding and on-demand supply chain services. WFP continues to assist Congolese refugees in Lunda Norte with basic food, nutrition, and self-reliance interventions in coordination with the Government and UNHCR. For the refugee response, pipeline shortfall is expected in September.	3.67	.11	3%
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	DRC is the world's largest hunger emergency in absolute numbers, with 27.3 million people experiencing acute food insecurity as per the latest IPC analysis (Feb-Jul 2021). In addition to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the influx of refugees from CAR (over 92,000 as of mid-April), the aggravation of conflict in the East and the limited humanitarian access remain critical challenges. Following the volcanic eruption on Mount Nyiragongo on 22 May, and the subsequent seismic activities, some 800,000 people have been temporarily displaced following a destruction of houses, basic infrastructure, and health facilities. Out of this figure, WFP will target 200,000 people for a period of 6-12 months through both in-kind and cash assistance. WFP is working closely with other UN agencies to assess the humanitarian needs of the affected populations. While addressing short term needs, WFP also promotes capacity strengthening of Government institutions and leverages opportunities to contribute to longer term peace and stability.	302.65	128.13	42%
Eswatini	WFP continues to provide food and cash transfers to COVID-19 and drought-affected populations, including people living with HIV, children, pregnant and lactating women, and orphans. Over 1 million people in Eswatini are in severe poverty according to the latest Hotspot analysis. WFP continues to support the Government of Eswatini in improving food and nutrition security and creating safety nets for the most vulnerable people, including through the home-grown school meals.	5.96	3.35	56%
Lesotho	WFP continues its efforts to support the most vulnerable people in urban areas who are affected by the impact of COVID-19, assisting households with vulnerable children, the elderly, people with disabilities, and those in the informal sector in most at-risk urban councils, while also expanding food-assistance-for-assets to mitigate the impact of livelihood disruptions and to support recovery. According to the results of the latest Hotspot analysis, 1.8 million people in Lesotho are in severe poverty, 900,000 are at risk of food insecurity. WFP will continue to collaborate with the Government of Lesotho and partners on strengthening early warning systems against future shocks.	16.07	12.59	78%
Madagascar	Earlier in 2021, WFP raised the alarm bells about the food security situation in Madagascar. Now, urgent action is required to avert famine-like conditions. The current climate crisis is of unprecedented nature. Despite ongoing humanitarian interventions, for the time being, food security and nutrition are continuing to deteriorate. This is due to the magnitude of the crisis and inadequate resources. According to the latest IPC, about 1.3 million people are severely food insecure, of which 484,000 people are on IPC Phase 4 and 28,000 people classified as IPC Phase 5. It is the first time that the Grand Sud has recorded people classified in IPC Phase 5. The new admissions for SAM (Severe Acute Malnutrition) have exponentially increased in the ten most affected districts since June 2020. The crisis will only deepen in severity in the coming months, particularly during the 2021-2022 lean season. In anticipation for the worse, WFP has activated a Level 2 emergency operation. Subject to availability of resources, WFP plans to cover the most urgent needs and will target 674,000 of the most vulnerable population.	69.44	74.98	108%

Malawi	WFP continues supporting the Government and partners in harmonizing the urban COVID-19 response and the ongoing lean season response in rural areas. According to the latest Hotspot analysis, over 146,000 people are in a situation of severe poverty, while up to 1 million people are expected to be in a situation of food insecurity during the next lean season. Areas of support include price monitoring and vulnerability assessments to better understand how COVID-19 and its associated mitigating measures are impacting market access and food security, as well as to help inform response modality discussions. Critical support, including assistance to refugees, nutrition prevention, school feeding take-home rations and livelihood activities, continue to be reinforced.	30.54	4.16	14%
Mozambique	Attacks by non-state armed groups in Cabo Delgado have displaced over 697,500 people. The situation remains extremely volatile, leading to disruption of livelihoods and basic services, as well as exposure to protection risks (including sexual exploitation and abuse), especially for women and children. According to the Hotspot analysis, 4 million people risk facing food insecurity over the next lean season. WFP continues to provide life-saving support to conflict-affected populations in Cabo Delgado, strengthen partnerships to mitigate humanitarian constraints, sustain advocacy for Humanitarian Principles and protection standards, provide air services to enable the humanitarian response, and support the national social protection and emergency preparedness systems. Sustained funding remains a critical impediment. WFP has been using internal corporate resources to avert a pipeline break, but if new contributions are not received urgently, WFP will be forced to cut rations for the coming months.	148.29	135.50	91%
Namibia	WFP continues to play an important enabling role as provider of technical assistance to the Government, facilitating the development and transfer of knowledge and supplementing the Government's food security and nutrition programmes. Upon request of the Government, in 2020 WFP also provided food assistance to drought-affected populations, given the severity of the drought. Some 800,000 people are still at risk of food insecurity, according to the latest results of the Hotspot analysis. WFP's primary focus for 2021 remains in the provision of capacity strengthening activities, particularly in the area of: national food safety nets; climate change adaptation; integration of nutrition into Government programmes and strategies; and strengthening of the national food systems.	4.66	5.80	124%
Republic of the Congo	WFP continues its support to the most vulnerable populations in coping with various shocks, which include the catastrophic floods over the past two years, the direct and indirect effects of COVID-19, and the aggravation of the security situation in CAR and DRC, with increased influx of refugees and asylum-seekers. The collaboration with the Government and partners also continue to be a key area of focus for strengthening national social protection and emergency preparedness capacity. According to the latest Hotspot analysis, some 300,000 people are estimated to be in situation of food insecurity. Significant resource constraints threaten WFP's ability to respond to increasing refugee numbers coming from CAR.	13.81	13.46	98%
Tanzania	In 2020, refugee rations had to be cut to 68 percent due to pipeline breaks. Prolonged low ration levels are concerning for a refugee population that is fully reliant on WFP food assistance as a result of encampment policies and restrictions on income generation and farming within the camps. Life-saving assistance to refugees, as well as continued food security monitoring through mVAM to guide the lean season response need to be sustained. Tanzania has some 900,000 people estimated to be food insecure, according to the latest Hotspot analysis. WFP continues to promote innovative approaches to the food security and nutrition challenges in Tanzania.	38.27	12.71	33%
Zambia	WFP continues to assist the most vulnerable, support the country's safety net mechanisms and provide on-demand logistics support as required throughout 2021, as the country prepares to face challenges in various fronts. These include: the acceleration in the spread of COVID-19, the weakening of public finances and deterioration of the purchasing power, the increase in the number of Congolese refugees in country, and political tensions ahead of the general elections in August. Zambia has 900,000 estimated to be food insecure, according to the latest Hotspot analysis.	6.21	.29	5%

Zimbabwe

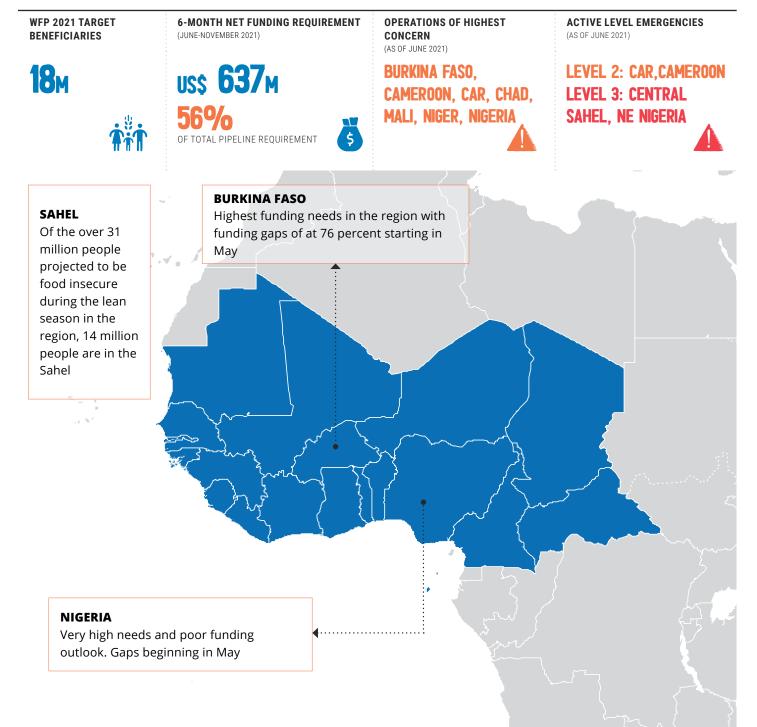
The humanitarian situation in Zimbabwe remains challenging with the direct and indirect impact of COVID-19, persistent economic challenges, and climatic shocks. Luckily, Zimbabwe is likely to have a bumper harvest during the agricultural season of 2020/21, which will likely reduce the need for WFP's direct assistance. However, some 4.7 million are estimated to remain food insecure in rural and urban areas. WFP is sustaining its assistance to the most vulnerable though funding shortfalls remain a constraint. Collaboration with the Government and partners will continue to be strengthened in support of national social protection and resilience-building efforts, as the Country Office is engaged in the design of the next generation of its Country Strategic Plan (CSP).

21.81 27.67 **127%** 



Western Africa

Amid spiralling violence, protracted displacement and rapidly soaring food prices Central and Western Africa region is facing an unprecedented level of food insecurity – 31 million people are projected to struggle to have sufficient food during the upcoming lean season, 28 percent higher than 2020. WFP's overall 2021 plan currently targets 18 million people across the region and is subject to increase further, with several country offices undergoing operational plans and budget increase to adjust their lean season response plan, for example in Chad, CAR, and Burkina Faso. WFP is taking all measures to avert the crisis by scaling up activities and assistance during the lean season, deploying expertise in key countries, enhancing access negotiation capacity, prepositioning commodities in strategic locations and making sure protection is mainstreamed. In addition, CBT activities have been significantly scaled up (+70 percent since 2019), covering now about 36 percent of the programme portfolio, which helps to minimize logistical and supply chain challenges of the region. However, resources are not matching to the growing needs and an additional US\$ 754.5 million is urgently needed for WFP to continue its assistance in the next six months (May - October 2021). Nigeria and Burkina Faso are the top concerns, both countries are Level 3 emergencies just one step away from famine and yet least funded in the region. Operations in CAR, Chad, Mali, and Niger are also highly concerning and face critical funding gaps.



WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA	COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS ON FOOD SECURITY	PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN -NOV)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (JUN -NOV)	6-MONTH % OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (JUN-NOV)
Benin	WFP will continue to support the Government of Benin in implementing a national integrated school feeding programme as an entry point to promote education, health, and nutrition outcomes within targeted schools and communities. In addition, WFP will continue to treat malnutrition and address the nutritional status of the most vulnerable populations in line with national protocols. Also, WFP will pursue the crisis response activities, while providing technical assistance and capacity-strengthening to local and national institutions in early warning food security monitoring systems.	11.38	2.60	23%
Burkina Faso	WFP operations in Burkina Faso include emergency food assistance to internally displaced persons and host families, refugees and lean season affected people; school feeding including emergency school feeding programme and support to a local yogurt production project; treatment and prevention of malnutrition; food assistance for assets for small-scale agriculture; Smallholder Agriculture Market Support, project to support food system value chain development; micro-insurance and macro-insurance; national capacity strengthening; provision of information and communication technology, logistics, UNHAS, and other support to partners.	193.06	152.57	79%
Cameroon	Cameroon continues to be confronted by three main and complex crises: the Lake Chad Basin crisis in the Far North, the consequences of the refugee influx from CAR in the East and hostilities between non-state armed groups and security forces in the North West and South West regions, resulting in continued displacements. WFP will continue in 2021 to respond effectively to augmented needs, with a focus on unconditional assistance with food and cash transfers coupled with enhanced malnutrition prevention in targeted areas.	71.64	41.33	58%
Central African Republic	WFP will continue its efforts in combating hunger by reaching the most vulnerable people including internally displaced persons, refugees, returnees and host families with food and nutrition assistance. WFP's programmes will focus on crisis response, improving nutrition, building resilience and creating prospects for longer-term sustainable development. Furthermore, WFP will continue to provide critical logistics, telecommunication, and air transport services to the humanitarian and development community. WFP continues to adapt its operations to reach newly displaced persons due to the post electoral crisis.	107.69	53.60	50%
Chad	WFP Chad will continue to provide food assistance to the refugee population, including Sudanese in the east, Central Africans in the south and Nigerians in the province of Lac, in addition to the internally displaced persons around Lake Chad and Chadian returnees. Also, children and pregnant and lactating women will receive nutrition assistance, as well as targeted beneficiaries for the resilience / Food for Assets Programme. WFP will scale up its lean season response targeting over 776,000 most vulnerable populations.	144.18	67.75	47%
Côte d'Ivoire	WFP operations will continue to focus on development interventions to improve food security, reduce malnutrition, enhance education achievements. WFP activities are concentrated in northern and western rural areas of the nation, which is known to have higher concentration of food insecure and vulnerable populations. WFP's operations (school feeding and livelihood activities) in the western regions resumed timidly as its residents who fled the region due to volatile and political and security situation, started returning. In addition, the country office has put in place preparedness measures since the start of the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in neighboring Guinea.	6.94	3.61	52%

The Gambia	In 2021, the WFP-supported home-grown school feeding programme will continue to cover over 112,000 children as part of the country's largest social safety net – all the while providing a steady income for smallholder farmers. A combination of activities contributes to enhanced nutrition, including through treatment of malnutrition in 13,740 children, pregnant and lactating women and HIV+ mothers, social and behavioural change communication, and support to local rice fortification. WFP will continue efforts to strengthen national capacities including in areas of emergency response and social protection, all the while supporting initiatives on forecast-based financing. During the lean season WFP will provide food and nutrition assistance to 161,633 of the most vulnerable populations.	7.57	3.99	53%
Ghana	WFP Ghana Country Strategy will continue its programmes on assisting the Government, the private sector and other stakeholders to improve their capacity to better respond to the needs of vulnerable and marginalized people. WFP's interventions will be focused on food security, nutrition and early warning. People living with HIV will continue to receive capacity strengthening in livelihoods and seed capital to provide for their food security and nutrition needs. Crisis response activity will be re-activated if needed (e.g: risks of spill over insecurity from Central Sahel).	9.77	8.66	89%
Guinea	Since the outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in February 2021, WFP has been supporting the response through the activation of a UNHAS operation, provision of logistics services to health partners and food assistance for affected populations and contacts of confirmed cases. The countdown to declare an end to the outbreak started in May. WFP plans to provide seasonal assistance for up to 100,000 food insecure persons while continuing to implement its COVID-19 relief programme. At the same time WFP is scaling-up its resilience building activities in several regions of Guinea.	12.33	7.19	58%
Guinea- Bissau	In 2021, WFP will assist 1,500 households through its lean season response. WFP will continue its home-grown school feeding programme for 180,000 school children in over 800 schools and support smallholder farmers associations through capacity strengthening, asset creation, and purchases of fresh food for school canteens. WFP will assist 1,800 children in 90-day moderate acute malnutrition treatment and 10,000 young girls and boys through its stunting prevention programme. WFP will also resume assistance to malnourished people living with HIV under antiretroviral treatment and their families. In parallel, WFP will retain its capacity strengthening support to government institutions and carry out food security surveys and the Fill the Nutrient Gap study. WFP will also support national analytical capacity and improve preparedness in the communities most vulnerable to weather shocks.	5.21	1.71	33%
Liberia	In 2021, WFP is completing delivery of assistance to 1.5 million Liberians affected by the COVID-19 outbreak under the COVID-19 Household Food Support Programme. WFP also delivered assistance for Ivorian refugees in Liberia who fled their home country following elections in 2020. At the same time, WFP plans to scale-up its school feeding programme to cover 110,000 children in Maryland and Nimba counties with daily on-site school meals, take-home rations and home-grown school feeding that boosts local production and improves the livelihoods of smallholder farmers. In 2021, WFP Liberia also seeks to expand the use of cash-based solutions in its programs and has put in place preparedness measures since the start of the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in neighboring Guinea.	7.29	3.76	51%
Mali	WFP's operation in Mali focuses on emergency response, resilience building and strengthening of national capacities. WFP Mali faces a multiplication of local conflicts and insecurity hampering humanitarian access and leading to increased population displacement and vulnerability of conflict-affected communities. WFP continues its support to the Government in monitoring COVID-19 impact on food security, providing food and nutrition assistance as well as expanding safety nets to cover populations increasingly affected by the socio-economic effect of the health crisis. WFP's 2021 lean season response plan will target 900,000 vulnerable people.	143.81	95.70	67%

Mauritania	WFP will continue providing emergency assistance and nutrition services to Malian refugees in Mauritania supporting graduation towards self- reliance. In 2021, WFP will work to strengthen national social protection systems through capacity building and complementary programming. During the lean season WFP will support national response plans and assist 70,000 of the most food insecure. As schools have reopened in 2021 following pandemic-induced closures, WFP has restarted school feeding activities. Asset creation programmes will be implemented in several zones of the country to contribute to resilience. WFP Mauritania will continue to provide on-demand services to humanitarian community and ensure access through the UNHAS operation.	23.77	14.08	59%
Niger	The deteriorating security situation on the border with Mali, Burkina Faso, and Nigeria is causing large population displacements coupled with socioeconomic deteriorations. WFP's emergency response assists refugees, IDPs and host communities in Diffa, Tillabéri, Tahoua, and Maradi regions. In areas of chronic food insecurity, WFP supports resilience with an integrated package of assistance in cooperation with the Government. WFP response has prioritized lifesaving assistance, while adjusting resilience activities and interventions to comply with all COVID-19 preventive requirements. WFP'd 2021 lean deason response plan targets over 1 million vulnerable people.	153.16	104.60	68%
Nigeria	Food insecurity remains driven by protracted conflict, COVID-19 associated challenges, and the high rate of food price inflation, resulting in poor food security and malnutrition outcome indicators. WFP food assistance in the Northeast will be continued including support to improving the nutritional status of children and pregnant and lactating women. WFP's expansion in northwest Nigeria will be maintained with a pilot comprising of food assistance to IDPs and capacity strengthening components (training WFP and government staff on social protection mechanisms, targeting, programme design, monitoring and supply chain). In 2021, WFP is working to reach over 1.7 million people with unconditional assistance, prompted by a substantial increase in vulnerability in northeast Nigeria.	212.94	163.47	77%
São Tomé and Príncipe	WFP assistance will continue to focus on strengthening capacities of the Government to implement the national sustainable home-grown school feeding programme and facilitating smallholder farmers' access to markets. In addition, WFP will pursue its emergency preparedness together with the Government, as Sao Tome is prone to natural hazards such as floods and landslides, which negatively affect crop development and road access as well as destroy houses and household assets. While the country heavily dependent on food imports, food availability is unpredictable: there is no deep-sea port, and, in bad weather, landing is difficult on the country's single short airstrip.	.19		
Senegal	In 2021, WFP will continue to work closely with national authorities to strengthen capacities for food security assessment and analysis and actively support development of and complement national response plans as the lean season starts. WFP plans to assist 135,000 persons in the most food insecure departments. The WFP-supported school feeding programme is set to cover 235,000 children in over 1,260 schools. Integrated nutrition and resilience activities will target the most vulnerable and food insecure departments of the country to build individual, household and community resilience.	12.29	5.83	47%
Sierra Leone	Recent assessment shows an alarming deterioration in the food security situation – more than 1.8 million are projected to be in need of food assistance from June to September. WFP will scale-up assistance to cover over 1 million vulnerable persons in 2021 through a combination of activities. WFP school feeding programmes targets over 329,000 children in 1,149 schools, and resilience activities and support for smallholder farmers will continue in several districts of Sierra Leone. WFP will continue to invest in preparedness measures, invest in institutional support to the Government in disaster management and coordination, as well as maintain increase WFP capacity in emergency preparedness to respond to unforeseen disasters such as spill-over of Ebola from Guinea and flooding and landslides linked to the upcoming rainy season.	32.43	22.56	70%

41%

Togo

WFP continues the implementation of its three main activities: emergency food and nutrition assistance, support for sustainable food systemsand humanitarian services provision through the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP 2021). WFP pursues to support the Government todevelop a national model for an inclusive and integrated school-feeding programme using the South-South and Triangular Cooperation. In3.78addition, the Togo country office remains a key logistic corridor towards WFP Level 3 Emergency operations in the Sahel countries (BurkinaFaso, Niger, and Mali).

### World Food Programme

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