



World Food
Program USA

SUMMER 2022 IMPACT REPORT

*Photo: WFP/Josh Estey
Anoja Weerasinghe embraces
her younger sister Anusha on
their grandparents' farm in
Kiurala, Sri Lanka.*



INTRODUCTION

The world is experiencing a massive hunger crisis. A **record high of 345 million people in 120 countries** are facing severe food insecurity. An estimated 50 million people in 45 countries are on the brink of famine.

The drivers of these alarming hunger rates include conflict, extreme weather events and economic fallout related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The hunger crisis is growing as the ripple effects of the war in Ukraine drive up the global costs of food, fuel and fertilizer. Ukraine is a key exporter of wheat, corn and vegetable oils. Disruptions to these exports have immediate and longer-term effects on food access.

The ripple effects of the conflict are making the world even more fragile. In one-third of countries where WFP works, national governments have publicly acknowledged that they are experiencing a food crisis. Over the past year, food prices in over 51 countries rose by 15% or more – putting essential food items out of reach for millions of people. The burden has fallen primarily on individuals in low-income countries and mounting economic issues could lead to civil and political unrest in affected countries.

In response to these global challenges, WFP is prioritizing emergency action to stabilize food systems and aims to support a record 152 million people this year. This report highlights findings from the recent Hunger Hotspots report and describes how WFP is working tirelessly to reach individuals experiencing severe levels of food insecurity.

Your partnership is central to ensuring the continuity of WFP's work at a time when millions of individuals across the world are sliding further into hunger. Together, we can help meet their immediate needs and support programs that improve the resilience and well-being of the people we serve.



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**WE'RE FACING A
PERFECT STORM THAT
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HURT THE POOREST OF
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MILLIONS OF FAMILIES
WHO, UNTIL NOW, HAVE
JUST ABOUT KEPT THEIR
HEADS ABOVE WATER.”**

— David Beasley,
U.N. World Food Programme Executive Director

Photo: WFP/Josh Estey

In Sri Lanka, a small-scale farmer shows how his crops have been destroyed by pests. The country's economic crisis, high fuel prices and government ban on chemical fertilizers and pesticides have affected his ability to farm his land. His crop yields are half of what they are in normally. As the head of a multi-generational family, this situation is affecting household income and access to food.



Photo: WFP/Michael Tewelde

In the drought-affected Somali region of Ethiopia, communities affected by the climate crisis and conflict seek refuge at the Gabicas camp for internally displaced persons.

GLOBAL HUNGER IS RISING

The Hunger Hotspots report, published jointly by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in June 2022 warned of multiple looming food crises. The effects of many drivers of hunger, which are often interlinked, are putting the lives and livelihoods of millions of people at risk.

HUNGER HOTSPOTS

The Hunger Hotspots report, published jointly by the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in June 2022 warned of multiple, looming food crises. The effects of multiple drivers of hunger, which often are interlinked, puts the lives and livelihoods of millions at risk.



Organized violence and armed conflict

Conflict is not only the main driver of hunger but also magnifies the prevalence of food insecurity. In 2021, more than 70% of the population in crisis or worse levels of hunger lived in conflict-affected countries.



Economic concerns

As countries grapple with COVID-19 economic fallout, food and fuel prices continue to soar. These conditions are causing dramatic income losses among the poorest communities and are straining the capacity of national governments to fund social safety nets and import essential goods.



Climate extremes

Frequent and recurring climate shocks continue to drive hunger and show that the world has entered a “new normal” where droughts, flooding, hurricanes, and cyclones repeatedly decimate farms and livestock, drive population displacement, and push millions of people further into poverty and food insecurity.



Countries of highest alert

Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen, with a total of 750,000* people facing starvation and death.

**Since June, this figure has increased to over 888,000 people.*

Photo: WFP/Edward Johnson
Andriy is a farmer in central Ukraine. The war disrupted the lives of farmers like him across the country who have reported losing income, jobs and even land.

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**THIS WAR HAS
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CRISIS.”**

Last year, Ukrainian grain fed 400 million people around the world. Now in more than 120 countries where WFP works, acute hunger is expected to rise by 47 million people if the conflict in Ukraine continues unabated.”

— Matthew Hollingworth,
WFP Emergency Coordinator
in Ukraine on June 13, 2022.

Photo: WFP/ Edward Johnson

An image from Andriy's farm in central Ukraine where he grows corn, sunflowers (oil) and rapeseed plants (oil).



UKRAINE

The war in Ukraine has disrupted livelihoods and broken global food supply chains – straining access to affordable foods both inside and outside of the country.

The conflict has resulted in civilian casualties, the destruction of critical infrastructure and surging food insecurity. To date, approximately 7 million people have been displaced inside Ukraine. Nearly 6 million individuals, mainly women, children and elderly people, have sought refuge in neighboring countries.

At the request of the government of Ukraine, WFP established a presence inside the country in March 2022 and began working with international and local partners to deliver emergency food and cash-assistance. WFP rapidly scaled up its operations and is working to reach nearly

4.8 million people each month through emergency food and cash-based assistance. From working with local bakeries to distributing food at refugee resettlement centers in neighboring countries, WFP has provided food to Ukrainians when they needed it most.

WFP has also transferred \$200 million in cash assistance to Ukrainians, enabling them to purchase essential food items while boosting cashflow in the local economy.

WORLD FOOD PROGRAM USA THANKS PARTNERS LIKE YOU

for generously supporting WFP's emergency response efforts in Ukraine and other countries affected by human-made conflict.



THE ARSENIEV FAMILY'S STORY

The Arseniev family was displaced from their home in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city. When Olexander and Liubov Arseniev's house came under heavy shelling, they grabbed their two boys and rushed to the basement where they spent the entire night. The family now lives in a student dormitory in Poltava in central Ukraine, where it is relatively safe. About 100 other families live with them in university housing that has been converted into a shelter for displaced people. Both parents have since lost their jobs because of the conflict and forced displacement. The factory where Olexandr worked closed on the day the war started, and Liubov lost her job at a nursery school soon after.

Liubov shared, "The boys keep asking what is going to happen next and if we are going to go back home. I'm explaining to them that we should stick together, we will overcome it, the war will not last forever. It will eventually, it will end."

ANASTASIYA & ARTEM

Anastasiia and her son Artem fled their home in Dnipro, Ukraine on the second day of the war. She was an elementary school teacher and hopes to be able to resume her job online in the next academic year.

For now, she and her family rely on humanitarian assistance from WFP to meet their basic needs such as housing, food, medicine and hygiene items. With food prices constantly on the rise, the cash provided by WFP is making a lifesaving difference.



AFGHANISTAN

August 2022 marks one year since the withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan.

The country is facing an unprecedented humanitarian crisis due to ongoing drought, decades of conflict and an economic crisis. This June, an earthquake struck the eastern provinces of Afghanistan which further strained communities that were already experiencing extreme poverty and hunger.

This convergence of multiple emergencies has created devastating effects for Afghans. Today, 9 out of 10 people in Afghanistan do not have enough food and families have adopted negative coping mechanisms to afford food: skipping meals, eating smaller portions, borrowing food and money, and selling household items.

In extreme cases, families are taking their children out of school or forcing them into early marriages. The prevalence of hunger in Afghanistan remains among the highest in the world. With food prices on the rise, households are spending 87% of their income on food. Female headed households and persons with disabilities remain disproportionately impacted by food insecurity.

Your support helped ensure that the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) could reach millions of individuals in Afghanistan with food, cash, school meals and resilience support.

Since the start of 2022, WFP has reached 19 million people through programs like these, including the rehabilitation of natural environments, agricultural training and job placement across Afghanistan.

BREAD+

In an effort to diversify supply chains and support the local economy, WFP replaced imported High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) for its school meals programs in some areas with Bread+. The product is made with locally produced and processed fortified wheat flour, dried fruits and nuts.

Bread+ is a more nutritious alternative to HEBs and links local agricultural production, processing and markets across Afghanistan's national food system.

WFP is planning to work with 220 bakeries and 1,100 bakers – including female bakers – by the end of September to produce the bread. The initiative creates jobs while supporting children's education and nutrition.



Photo: WFP/Sadeq Naseri



Photo: WFP/Sadeq Naseri
Akil Mohammad is a 13-year-old
displaced by the earthquake.

RESPONSE TO EARTHQUAKE

On June 22, a 5.9 magnitude earthquake struck southeastern Afghanistan, leading to wide-scale destruction across already vulnerable districts in Paktika and Khost provinces. In addition to loss of life and devastating injury, the earthquake destroyed critical infrastructure including homes, health facilities, schools and water sources. It was the worst earthquake to strike Afghanistan in over 20 years, and WFP distributed food assistance to 60,900 people affected by the disaster.

DROUGHT IN HORN OF AFRICA REGION

Drought continues to affect communities in the Horn of Africa region – primarily Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Djibouti.

The food security situation has further deteriorated due to the combined effects of high temperatures and rising costs of food and fuel. Over 15 million people in the region are experiencing hunger. If rain and crops continue to fail, this number could rise to 20 million by the end of this year.

The drought has driven large numbers of people from their homes as they search for ways to meet their basic food and water needs.

More women and children have become malnourished as a result, which makes them more susceptible to disease. Displacement also increases the risk of inter-communal conflict as individuals compete for scarce resources; women, children and the elderly are especially vulnerable to violence.

WFP aims to support 8.5 million people in the region with emergency food assistance – including over 2 million women and children requiring specialized nutrition support. To stabilize communities, WFP is also providing emergency school meals and supporting small-scale farmers.

SEVERE HUNGER DUE TO DROUGHT:

ETHIOPIA

7.2 MILLION

SOMALIA

6 MILLION

KENYA

3.5 MILLION

DJIBOUTI

120,000

ETHIOPIA

FOOD ASSISTANCE & EMERGENCY SCHOOL MEALS

In southern Ethiopia, the effects of drought have left over 9 million people in food insecurity, and over 2 million livestock have perished.

In times of drought, hundreds of thousands of children miss out on education as schools are closed or because their families need their support caring for livestock. In the Somali and Oromia regions of Ethiopia, more than 438,000 children have missed school.

WFP plans to support 120,000 children experiencing the most severe forms of hunger through emergency school meals and will also provide food and cash relief assistance to 3.4 million people in the Somali region (59% of the population).



Photo: WFP/Micheal Tewelde
Students enjoy a school meal at Embule elementary school in South Omo, Ethiopia.

SOMALIA

NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

The last famine in Somalia in 2011 killed over a quarter million people.

Today, nearly half of the population faces acute food insecurity—this means that households suffer from an extreme lack of food and other basic necessities even after employing coping mechanisms like skipping meals, reducing portions or selling household assets.

An estimated 81,000 are facing catastrophic levels of hunger. To help prevent populations from sliding further into malnutrition, WFP is providing nutrition services to children, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers.



Photo: WFP/Samantha Reinders

MIDO & FATUN'S STORY

After a fourth consecutive year of drought and increasing security concerns, Mido's family left the settlement where they lived and made the arduous journey to a camp for internally displaced persons in Dolow, Somalia.

Mido holds her 1-year-old daughter Fatun while they wait at a clinic where Fatun is enrolled in a WFP supplementary feeding program to treat malnutrition.

She is weighed, measured, and given a 15-day supply of nutritious peanut paste to help increase her weight and keep malnutrition at bay.

Almost 386,00 children in Somalia are at risk of dying from malnutrition without treatment. WFP aims to reach 444,000 Somalians through nutrition services this year.

KENYA

SUPPORT TO SMALL-SCALE FARMERS

Simon is the face of adaptation and resilience. He was once a livestock herder, but persistent drought often cost him his animals – forcing him to abandon his traditional way of life and seek alternative sources of income. In 2019, he created his own oasis of nutrient-rich foods in Turkana county, one of Kenya's most drought-prone regions.

He later participated in a WFP program which taught farming techniques that preserve water and minimally disrupt the soil, such as planting in sunken areas or strategically using mulch.

He also learned marketing skills through the course, and WFP helped connect him to a local market where he can sell his fruits and vegetables.



Photo: WFP/Arete/Fredrik Lerneryd



**THE CROP THAT I MOSTLY
DEPEND ON IN TERMS OF
INCOME IS PAPAYA.”**

It yields me a higher income. My kids eat this fruit, and they are healthy. Bananas are starting to yield, even though I mainly keep them for our consumption. It helps many people. It is our main food.”

- Simon Lokitaung, small-scale farmer in Kenya

WFP supports farmers like Simon across Kenya by providing them with training on water and soil conservation measures, planting trees and building farm ponds – all which help boost resilience to drought.

WFP has also distributed cash to 108,000 individuals which help supplement their income during times of drought.

Photo: WFP/Hussam Al Saleh

Abdulrahman waters the flowers he and his mother, Ghufra, grow on their terrace in Aleppo, Syria. Ghufra is enrolled in a WFP hybrid program that combines food assistance with cash-transfers which allow her to purchase diverse food items for her children.



SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS TO HUNGER IN SYRIA AND HAITI

Resilience activities are those that allow individuals and communities to better withstand shocks, protect their household incomes and strengthen access to food. In Haiti and Syria, WFP has worked directly with communities on resilience projects to improve infrastructure and rehabilitate ecosystems. These activities are central to helping reduce the need for humanitarian assistance.

HAITI

A combination of natural disasters, political instability, gang violence and chronic poverty has produced severe hunger in Haiti. An estimated 4.5 million Haitians are at risk of severe food insecurity.

Rising food costs and dependency on food imports amidst global supply chain disruptions have pushed people further over the edge into hunger. An above average hurricane season presents additional threats to the country as communities are still recovering from last year's earthquake.

WFP works with communities in Haiti to build local infrastructure and improve ecosystems to help them better withstand climate shocks.

In the past year, more than 80,000 people have worked with WFP to plant trees, build irrigation systems and rehabilitate eroded land.

For Marc, the new irrigation canals have helped him grow new crops including eggplant, cabbage, spinach, spring onions and beetroot.



Photo: WFP/Theresa Piorr



**BEFORE THE CANALS,
DURING A DROUGHT WE
WOULD EAT ONLY ONE
MEAL A DAY BUT NOW WE
CAN EAT THREE TIMES A
DAY AS WELL AS SELL
FOOD TO PAY FOR THE
NEEDS OF OUR FAMILIES.
I AM PROUD TO BE A
FARMER. THIS IS MY LIFE.
IT IS A GOOD LIFE.”**

— Marc

SYRIA

WFP's work in Syria is focused on both saving and changing lives. By providing families with the necessary resources, they have the best chance possible to fight hunger, malnutrition and take ownership of their own food needs.

In collaboration with local communities, WFP and partners have invested in building and improving irrigation systems in the Aleppo and Raqqa governates in northern Syria. These areas are dry and dependent on irrigation systems, but years of conflict have caused severe damage to most sections of the systems.

As a result, farmers haven't been able to cultivate their land, resulting in loss of income and displacement.

Since repairing the canals, more than 17,800 farmers have been able to resume their agricultural activities. The project has resulted in higher crop yields and promoted gender equality as women have participated more actively in harvesting crops and rearing livestock. With increased stability, families were able to invest in their children's education, which has transformational effects for girls.



Photo: WFP/Hussam Al Saleh



**THIS IS OUR COUNTRY,
OUR SOIL, THIS IS
WHERE WE WERE BORN,
GREW UP AND ALWAYS
LIVED. THAT'S WHY WE
RETURNED. IT'S OUR LAND
AND WE FIND IT BETTER
THAN ANY OTHER PLACE.”**

— Ruqaya Al-Hussain, *Syrian Farmer*

Ruqaya Al-Hussain is one of the farmers who has benefitted from the project. When conflict broke out, she fled her home with nothing except food for the road, but she was determined to return and rebuild what had been destroyed. Since the canals have reached her farm, she can irrigate her fields and meet her basic water needs. She now produces enough vegetables for her family and sells the surplus in local markets.

SCHOOL MEALS

Having food at school not only improves a child's nutrition and health, but also influences their educational outcomes and life achievements. School meals, snacks and take-home meals provide children with the energy they need to focus on learning.

For families who cannot afford enough food, free and nutritious snacks provide an incentive to keep children enrolled in school.

WFP has six decades of supporting school meals and health programs and works in more than 100 countries to support national school meals programs.

As the world's largest humanitarian provider of school meals, WFP worked in contexts like Bangladesh and Burundi to reach children with nutritious meals.



Photo: WFP/Sayed Asif Mahmud
Students play in a giant tree
in the Pantola Para village,
Bandara district in Bangladesh.

BANGLADESH

In Cox's Bazar and Bandarba, WFP supports Rohingya refugee and host families' children at local schools through fortified biscuits packed with essential micronutrients, vitamins and minerals. WFP works with government counterparts to support the scale-up and policy design of the program, and directly implements the school meals program in ten sub-districts of Bangladesh.

The school meals program also delivers an "essential learning package" to parents, teachers, school management committees, children and community members. Activities included trainings on water and sanitation, health and nutrition education, establishment of school vegetable gardens and the engagement of women within school management committees.

U Sang Nu is a 6-year-old student in Bandarban, Bangladesh and one of the 369,000 students receiving a WFP-supported school meal in Bangladesh this year.



Photo: WFP/Sayed Asif Mahmud



Photo: WFP/Arete/Fredrik Lerneryd

BURUNDI

Since 2013, WFP has worked to advance the homegrown school meals program in Burundi. Through this approach, food for school meals is purchased locally from small-scale agricultural producers which helps stimulate the local economy and strengthen local food systems. In addition to providing school meals to students, WFP works jointly with partners UNICEF and UNFPA to tackle intergenerational malnutrition and deliver a comprehensive package of school-based programs that promote hygiene and nutrition as well as provide sexual and reproductive health education.

Florence is a 16-year-old student that used to walk 1.5 hours to her home to eat during her lunch breaks. Thanks to WFP's school meal program, she now receives a daily school meal and milk from local farmers supported by WFP. WFP has reached 656,269 school children in Burundi with school meals and milk.



Photo: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua
Nyaroor poses for a photograph holding a water lily in Duk Islands, Jonglei state of South Sudan.

THANK YOU

Humanitarian needs will remain high throughout 2022 as families grapple with the compounding impacts of conflict, economic and political instability, COVID-19 and rising food costs.

Your partnership makes a lifesaving and life-changing difference. Thank you for joining us as we help WFP scale to reach more people than ever before.



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Photo: WFP/ Samantha Reinders

Loreen carries her daughter across her farm in Murimirwa village, Zimbabwe. She took part in a WFP rural resilience program where she learned how to cultivate different crops and built a dam with members of her community.