2021 ANNUAL REPORT

PEOPLE.
PEOPLE.

PLANET.

PROSPERITY.

UN
WFP

World Food Programme

wfp.org

World Food Program USA
As a nutrition instructor at the Kigeme refugee camp in Rwanda, Justin provides cooking demonstrations and dietary advice to fellow refugees. He receives a small stipend for his work, which supplements the cash assistance his family receives from WFP.

Photo: WFP/Fredrik Lerneryd

04 Board of Directors

06 Letter From the President

07 Global Impact

10 People

18 Planet

24 Prosperity

34 Policy, Partners and Events

43 How to Help

45 Financial Statement

COVER: WFP Officer Adeyinka Timothy carries 4-year-old Aisha during a visit to her mother in Nigeria. Rising prices combined with conflict, climate shocks and COVID-19 drove more Nigerians into hunger in 2021.

Photo: WFP/Adetona Omokanye
In South Sudan, Mary and her baby Ahok were temporarily displaced from their home and lost their harvest due to severe flooding. Now, Ahok receives Plumpy’Sup – a nutrition treatment – from WFP.

Photo: WFP/Hugh Rutherford
Dear Friends,

Our world became more complex in 2021. From supply chain disruptions and the ongoing pandemic to new outbreaks of conflict and devastating natural disasters – there were some dark headlines. Among them, a record number of people were pushed into severe hunger: 283 million by the end of the year. Maintaining optimism was a challenge I confronted every day, but I found solace in my team at World Food Program USA and our growing base of supporters in the United States who generously joined our efforts to tackle rising global hunger.

Big problems require smart solutions, and your involvement enabled the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to reach 128.2 million people in more than 120 countries and territories – the largest number of people in its history. This was only possible because of the incredible support we received from individuals, corporations, foundations and policymakers in the U.S. We are 100% voluntarily funded, so when we say we couldn’t do this work without you, we mean it literally.

Your gifts – big and small – powered WFP’s effort to reach those who experienced the most extreme forms of hunger, to protect and preserve the fragile ecosystems on which they depend, and to foster prosperous futures for the communities in which they live.

People are at the center of everything we do. In 2021, a team of more than 20,000 WFP staff worked day and night to reach individuals of all ages, genders, abilities, nationalities, and racial and ethnic backgrounds who were most affected by hunger. With local, national, and international partners, WFP deployed programs like emergency food distributions, specialized nutrition services and school meals to stem the rising tide of hunger.

The wellbeing of our planet is also paramount to our work. Reaching Zero Hunger hinges on healthy ecosystems, which is why WFP deployed dozens of climate-focused programs in 47 countries in 2021. These interventions helped to rehabilitate and preserve natural environments so communities could better withstand the kinds of climate shocks and natural disasters that lead to hunger.

The long-term prosperity of at-risk communities is our guiding star. Through programs like cash assistance and agricultural skills trainings, WFP advanced sustainable development for millions of the world’s most marginalized communities.

If you struggle to feel hopeful when you’re reading the news, I encourage you to turn to this report. It’s proof that there’s light at the end of the tunnel. I have faith in humanity and our future because of the tireless dedication of partners like you, the unwavering determination of our staff and the immeasurable grit of the people we serve. At World Food Program USA, we will continue to advocate for and mobilize resources that support our shared belief with WFP: Every person on the planet deserves to have enough to eat.

We know you believe that too. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Barron Segar
President and CEO, World Food Program USA
WFP SAVED AND CHANGED LIVES AMIDST RECORD LEVELS OF HUNGER

A perfect storm of conflict, climate change and COVID-19 drove a record number of people into severe hunger in 2021: 283 million.

The threat of famine spread like wildfire. By the end of the year, 45 million people were pushed to the brink of starvation. Nearly 600,000 of them across four countries – Ethiopia, Madagascar, South Sudan and Yemen – were forced over the edge into the deadliest form of hunger.

In response, and for the third consecutive year, WFP undertook the largest operation in its history to reach 128 million people across 120 countries and territories – more than ever before.*

In achieving this historic impact, the U.N. World Food Programme and World Food Program USA remained deeply conscious of reaching those most affected by hunger due to factors such as race, color, nationality, ethnic origin, gender, indigenous heritage or disability status.

*The number of people assisted by food and cash will add up to more than 128 million because some people received both forms of aid.
People are the bedrock of WFP’s work. Despite the worst global health, climate, economic and hunger emergencies in recent history, WFP went where others couldn’t to support 128 million people who were experiencing the most dangerous levels of hunger in 2021. WFP overcame obstacles at nearly every turn – from skyrocketing food and fuel prices to stalled supply chains – to reach the children, women and men who needed us most.
FOOD ASSISTANCE

Conflict continued to be the main driver of hunger in 2021. War and violence disrupted markets, prevented farmers from harvesting their crops, and fueled price spikes— all of which left tens of millions of people entirely dependent on WFP for food. In conflict zones new and old, food assistance remained the cornerstone of WFP’s work. Through its international logistics network, including a fleet of 5,600 trucks, 30 ships and 100 planes, WFP delivered 4.4 million metric tons of food to 89 million individuals.

ETHIOPIA: November 2021 marked one year of armed hostilities in northern Ethiopia. The conflict created immense operational difficulties for WFP as in-country staff faced threats of violence, blockades and dangerously low fuel stocks. It also displaced over 2 million people from their homes, including mothers like Wubit and her son. They fled their home with nothing but the clothes they had on and made the perilous journey to the Amhara Region on foot. They found refuge with relatives in the town of Debark and became one of 230,000 people in the region to receive WFP food assistance. “Since I started receiving food assistance, I’m comfortable and happy,” Wubit shared. “Though, I wish peace would be restored and we could go back home to lead our normal life.”

SYRIA: In March 2021, Syria entered its 10th year of war. The ongoing conflict has created a devastating combination of limited employment opportunities, depreciation of the local currency and record-high food prices—all of which pushed more people into poverty than ever before and left three out of five Syrians in extreme levels of hunger. The rising needs outpaced WFP’s resources, but staff never wavered in their mission to serve the Syrian people, primarily through emergency food distributions.

3X
Across all of Ethiopia, the number of people in need of emergency food support tripled.

236K MT
WFP delivered more than 236,000 metric tons of food to Ethiopian communities at the highest risk of hunger.

8M
Despite the ever-evolving challenges, WFP successfully reached over 8 million Ethiopians with food assistance.

12.4M
A record 12.4 million Syrians faced severe hunger in 2021.

12M
To date, more than 12 million Syrians have been displaced from their homes. They’re the largest refugee population in the world.

6M
Over 6 million Syrians received food from WFP.

Nour is an 11-year-old girl in Aleppo, Syria who missed two years of education because of displacement. She recently re-enrolled in school through a joint WFP-UNICEF project that provides students with food vouchers for maintaining an 80% attendance rate.

Photo: WFP/Marco Frattini

Syria:
In March 2021, Syria entered its 10th year of war. The ongoing conflict has created a devastating combination of limited employment opportunities, depreciation of the local currency and record-high food prices—all of which pushed more people into poverty than ever before and left three out of five Syrians in extreme levels of hunger. The rising needs outpaced WFP’s resources, but staff never wavered in their mission to serve the Syrian people, primarily through emergency food distributions.
After Mohammed’s family fled from their home in Hajjah, he soon became malnourished and was enrolled in WFP’s treatment program at Al Shaheed hospital in Yemen.

**THE FIRST 1,000 DAYS OF A CHILD’S LIFE**

Pregnant women, new mothers and their young children are disproportionately affected by hunger in crisis zones. Poor nutrition during the first 1,000 days of a child’s life — from pregnancy to their second birthday — can cause irreversible damage to their mental and physical development. To prevent and treat this form of malnutrition, WFP provided highly specialized nutrition services to 23.5 million women and children around the world in 2021 – nearly a 40% increase compared to 2020.

**YEMEN:** Yemen marked its seventh year of conflict in 2021 and remained one of the world’s most severe humanitarian emergencies. Food prices nearly doubled, and the country’s currency continued to depreciate. Hyperinflation ensued which led the economy to a near collapse, and basic foods became unaffordable for millions of families. As a result, 3.4 million Yemeni women and children, including 10-month-old Mohammed (pictured here), experienced severe malnutrition – a record high.

- **3M**
  - WFP provided critical nutrition support to 3 million children and mothers in Yemen.

- **15.5M**
  - 15.5 million Yemenis received critical WFP assistance in 2021.

- **50%**
  - Operations in Ethiopia, Syria and Yemen accounted for half of all WFP’s food distributions in 2021.

**AFGHANISTAN:** The withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan in August 2021 accelerated the country’s hunger crisis and drove over half the population into severe hunger – the most in Afghanistan’s history. The emergency touched the lives of every single citizen, but Afghan women and children bore the brunt of it. By the end of the year, half of all children under the age of 5 and 700,000 mothers were at risk of severe malnutrition. WFP responded immediately by launching the largest operational scale-up in its 60+ year history there.

- **2X**
  - WFP doubled the number of mobile health and nutrition teams it supported in Afghanistan.

- **15M**
  - WFP reached more than 15 million Afghans with critical meals in 2021.

- **2.1M**
  - WFP provided 2.1 million pregnant women, lactating mothers and children under the age of 5 with malnutrition treatment and prevention services.
SCHOOL MEALS

At the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, 370 million children had lost access to vital meals due to school closures. Without access to food or learning, the world’s most disadvantaged youth slipped into an education and hunger crisis. By March 2021, 252 million children were still missing out on critical school meals or snacks.

WFP is the world’s largest provider of school meals and understands the crucial role they play in children’s healthy development. For many students, a school meal or snack is the only food they can depend on. WFP had to adapt quickly to the immense challenges of 2021 to ensure 15.5 million children across 57 countries still received school meals every day.

HAITI: Of all the countries that are most affected by extreme weather and natural disasters, Haiti has ranked third for the past 20 years. 2021 was no exception. In August, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake hit Haiti’s southern peninsula. WFP responded within hours to deliver emergency food assistance and logistics support. However, it takes more than immediate food assistance to help communities fully recover from disasters, so WFP resumed school meals programs as quickly as possible. Students – like the girls pictured here – returned to the classroom, and parents could rest easier knowing their children were kept healthy in the aftermath of the disaster.

**300K**
Nearly 300,000 Haitian schoolchildren received a daily WFP school meal in 2021.

**1.3M**
In total, WFP reached 1.3 million Haitians through food and cash.

**1,500**
WFP purchased ingredients for school meals from more than 1,500 small-scale farmers in Haiti.

VENEZUELA: After 40 years away, WFP signed an agreement with the Venezuelan government to begin operations in the country in April of 2021 – focusing first on providing schools meals to children. By July, the first distributions of take-home rations for students and school staff were underway in the state of Falcón. For families like 5-year-old Sara and her grandmother Matilde, WFP’s rice, lentils, vegetable oil and salt became vital home-cooked meals shared together in their kitchen.

**2.3M**
2.3 million Venezuelans faced severe hunger in 2021.

**50K**
By the end of the year, WFP reached over 50,000 Venezuelans through its school meals program.

**1.5M**
WFP aims to reach 1.5 million people in Venezuela by the end of 2023.

**50k**
WFP aims to reach 1.5 million people in Venezuela by the end of 2023.

In total, WFP reached 1.3 million Haitians through food and cash.

Haiti:

Of all the countries that are most affected by extreme weather and natural disasters, Haiti has ranked third for the past 20 years. 2021 was no exception. In August, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake hit Haiti’s southern peninsula. WFP responded within hours to deliver emergency food assistance and logistics support. However, it takes more than immediate food assistance to help communities fully recover from disasters, so WFP resumed school meals programs as quickly as possible. Students – like the girls pictured here – returned to the classroom, and parents could rest easier knowing their children were kept healthy in the aftermath of the disaster.

**300K**
Nearly 300,000 Haitian schoolchildren received a daily WFP school meal in 2021.

**1.3M**
In total, WFP reached 1.3 million Haitians through food and cash.

**1,500**
WFP purchased ingredients for school meals from more than 1,500 small-scale farmers in Haiti.

VENEZUELA: After 40 years away, WFP signed an agreement with the Venezuelan government to begin operations in the country in April of 2021 – focusing first on providing schools meals to children. By July, the first distributions of take-home rations for students and school staff were underway in the state of Falcón. For families like 5-year-old Sara and her grandmother Matilde, WFP’s rice, lentils, vegetable oil and salt became vital home-cooked meals shared together in their kitchen.

**2.3M**
2.3 million Venezuelans faced severe hunger in 2021.

**50K**
By the end of the year, WFP reached over 50,000 Venezuelans through its school meals program.

**1.5M**
WFP aims to reach 1.5 million people in Venezuela by the end of 2023.

Every day, these young girls and their fellow classmates look forward to a WFP meal of rice and beans at their school in Saint Raphael, Nord, Haiti.

Photo: WFP/Antonio Vallias
2021 was a stark warning about our planet’s deteriorating health. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released an alarming new prediction that if global temperatures rose 2°C (3.6°F), an additional 189 million people would be driven into hunger.

For many of the world’s most marginalized groups, this future is already a reality. Extreme weather events devastated landscapes across the globe, from intense flooding in Bangladesh to deadly drought in southern Madagascar. In response, WFP invested heavily in communities affected by the climate crisis to protect them and their ecosystems.

For example, WFP equipped nearly 11 million people with weather-related tools, training, financing and information. And almost 9 million people received food or cash while working with WFP on community assets like roads, dams and irrigation systems.
Rosa and her family fled from violence in Colombia 27 years ago. Today they collect oysters from mangrove roots in Ecuador. She and her husband can now earn a living from the ecosystem the trees provide.

**CHAD:** A country roughly twice the physical size of Texas, Chad has one of the world’s highest rates of hunger: 42% of its population lives below the poverty line. Desertification, land degradation and extreme weather events like drought have dried up vital water sources. The lives of families who depend on rain-fed farming and livestock hang in the balance. In response, WFP taught communities how to maximize rainfall by rehabilitating dams and drilling wells.

- **2.3M** WFP reached a total of 2.3 million people across Chad – **53% of whom were women.**
- **34,700** More than 34,700 families participated in WFP’s asset creation and rehabilitation activities.
- **7,500** These activities helped rehabilitate nearly 7,500 acres of land for crop production.

**ECUADOR:** Deforestation and climate-related events, like the El Niño and La Niña phenomena, have decimated Ecuador’s mangroves over the last 40 years. Mangroves (pictured here) are a vital source of food and income for coastal communities as well as a natural defense against extreme weather. In the community of Punta de Miguel, WFP supported a climate adaptation project focused exclusively on rehabilitating these critical trees and shrubs. Through nature-based solutions such as these, WFP worked with local communities worldwide to bolster their resilience to the climate crisis.

- **37,700** Indigenous communities in Ecuador worked with WFP to conserve over 37,000 acres of mangroves.
- **1,000** The project led to the reforestation of nearly 1,000 additional acres of land.
- **280K** In all, more than 280,000 people in Ecuador received WFP assistance in 2021.
In Madagascar, in 2021, hundreds of thousands of people faced famine-like conditions driven almost entirely by climate—not conflict. The worst drought in many years exacerbated an already precarious food security situation. Sand swept in from dry inland areas, covering coastal villages and leaving agricultural land barren. To keep the sand in place and prevent it from burying more arable land, WFP worked with communities to plant drought-resistant shrubs.

1.7M
WFP reached 1.7 million people in Madagascar in 2021, 1.2 million of whom lived in the 10 drought-affected districts.

26,000
In 2021, nearly 26,000 people benefited from the rehabilitation and construction of community resources like irrigation canals, drains and dams.

89,000
Since 2017, WFP has helped Malagasy communities stabilize over 89,000 acres of sand dunes.

In Malawi, in 2021, record-low rainfall, pest infestations and drought—a dangerous combination for a country where 90% of farming households depend on rain-fed agriculture. These factors triggered the largest WFP insurance payout Malawi had seen in six years which benefited over 65,000 farmers across the country. The money helped compensate farmers like Khadija (pictured here) for their crop losses and prevent short-term “negative coping strategies” like selling livestock or pulling children out of school.

95%
In Malawi, 95% of farmers who participated in WFP livelihoods projects saw an increase in their crop production.

$2.4M
$2.4 million dollars’ worth of crop insurance was paid out to farmers.

1M
Over 1 million people in Malawi received WFP assistance in 2021.
Prosperity is the greater purpose of our work. It underlines all 17 of the Sustainable Development Goals the United Nations aims to achieve by 2030. Goal number two is Zero Hunger.

The long-term objective of WFP’s programs is not just survival, it’s self-reliance and safety. It’s why WFP expanded its support of social protection systems and programs across 83 countries in 2021. And it’s why WFP helped protect 2 million people ahead of natural disasters through programs like climate insurance.

We strive to achieve a Zero Hunger world where everyone has access to the food they need to live a prosperous life and humanitarian assistance is no longer necessary. A world like that requires programs like WFP’s that build pathways to peace, stability, food security and economic independence for all.
Cash Assistance

As hunger levels rose around the world in 2021, hundreds of millions of families were confronted with the difficult decision of how to spend their limited resources. Where local markets were functioning and food was available, WFP’s cash-based assistance changed people’s lives. With physical cash, grocery vouchers, or debit cards in hand, recipients were able to make their own decisions about what food to purchase. This had the added impact of bolstering local economies by injecting much-needed currency into circulation.

Half of WFP’s cash transfers were delivered to women, most of whom would otherwise lack access to financial services. This cash assistance is often the starting point for women’s digital financial inclusion.

Cash

85% of all cash transfers went to crisis response.

$2.3B

WFP transferred $2.3 billion dollars to 41.8 million individuals across 69 countries – the equivalent of 6.2 billion meals.

WFP remained the largest provider of cash in the humanitarian community in 2021.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Arieth has purchased nutritious food and a goat with WFP’s cash assistance. The goat is a critical investment in her family’s future prosperity and food security.

Photo: WFP/Martin Lukongo
Before disability cash transfers, life was very stressful,” Ikran’s mom Halima said. “Feeding a large family of nine children, two of whom need 24-hour care, on a meagre income was very challenging.”

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC): The DRC was the world’s biggest hunger emergency of 2021 in absolute numbers: 27 million people faced severe levels of hunger. This was primarily due to armed violence and endemic poverty. The country is home to 5 million internally displaced people – Africa’s largest displaced population. Arieth Fwambe (pictured on page 27) became one of them when she fled her home in Katanga because of militia violence. A widow and mother of two, she credited WFP cash assistance with changing her family’s life by helping them make ends meet.

WFP significantly scaled up its cash assistance to distribute $70 million dollars across the DRC – a 34% increase from 2020.

54% of the people who received cash transfers were women.

Across all of the DRC, WFP reached more than 6 million people.

$70M

6M

Kenya: On top of flooding, desert locusts, and the economic impacts of COVID-19, the worst drought conditions in four years hit Kenya’s population hard in 2021. WFP responded by including more of the most disadvantaged communities into its programming: single women, at-risk youth, and people with disabilities like Ikran (pictured here) and her older brother Adan. WFP also supported Kenya’s Wajir County government in drafting the Persons Living With Disability Bill – a bill that was passed into law in September 2021 and facilitated cash transfers to over 250 families. For Halima, these disability cash transfers allowed her to purchase new beds for her children as well as bulk supplies of rice, corn and beans.

WFP transferred over $40 million dollars to more than 800,000 people.

$40M

Across all its programming, WFP assisted over 1.2 million people in Kenya.

1.2M

$50

$50 were distributed to families in Kenya.
Gender Equality Work

A Zero Hunger world cannot exist without gender equality and women’s empowerment. Women are responsible for half of the world’s food production, and yet, in nearly two-thirds of the world, women are more likely to face hunger than men.

Women are central to building equitable and sustainable food systems, but the COVID-19 pandemic widened gender disparities and caused more women to experience poverty, hunger and gender-based violence. WFP worked to counteract these impacts by reaching 68 million women and girls through a wide range of programs.

Bolivia: In Bolivia, natural disasters damaged staple crops and made them inedible. Traditional agricultural activities like quinoa cultivation were especially hurt by drought, frost and hailstorms. In Oruro, a group of Indigenous women took what little quinoa they could grow and turned it into “superfood” snack bars packed with vitamins and protein. WFP provided them with training on how to expand their business, machinery to dry the quinoa, and access to markets where the snack bars could be sold. With WFP’s support, these entrepreneurial women grew enough quinoa to produce 10,000 bars per day, which boosted their own incomes as well as their communities’ access to healthy food.

Bangladesh: In Cox’s Bazar, tens of thousands of families were impacted by COVID-19 lockdowns and severe monsoon flooding. For mothers like Shukhi Chakma (pictured here), WFP was a lifeline. Alongside thousands of other women, Chakma received business skills training, financial literacy classes and cash grants, which the participants invested in a diverse array of income-generating activities including fishing, basket weaving, agriculture, and livestock and poultry rearing. The money they earned through these activities enabled the women to purchase more nutritious foods for themselves and their families.

#1

The 2021 Gender Gap Index ranked Bangladesh as the South Asian country with the highest prevalence of gender inequality.

800K

Across all of Bangladesh, WFP reached over 800,000 people through livelihood programs like these.

45K

45,000 women in Cox’s Bazaar and Chittagong Hill Tracts participated in WFP’s cash-based program.

Bolivia: In Bolivia, natural disasters damaged staple crops and made them inedible. Traditional agricultural activities like quinoa cultivation were especially hurt by drought, frost and hailstorms. In Oruro, a group of Indigenous women took what little quinoa they could grow and turned it into “superfood” snack bars packed with vitamins and protein. WFP provided them with training on how to expand their business, machinery to dry the quinoa, and access to markets where the snack bars could be sold. With WFP’s support, these entrepreneurial women grew enough quinoa to produce 10,000 bars per day, which boosted their own incomes as well as their communities’ access to healthy food.

Photo: WFP/Sayed Asif Mahmud
Empowerment in Action Program (EMPACT): Today, 85% of refugees live in low- or middle-income countries experiencing intense economic insecurity and rising unemployment rates. For many young people living in these circumstances, jobs and financial independence are distant dreams. EMPACT, an alumni program of the Innovation Accelerator, helps address this youth employment gap. Refugees and their peer hosts learn English and digital economy skills like web development.

PRISM: PRISM is a cutting-edge, map-based dashboard that combines data from WFP with satellite imagery and other remote sensors to track the impact that extreme weather events have on hunger. This data helps governments and humanitarian partners immediately assess the scale of a disaster and prioritize assistance to those most in need.

Ancestral Markets: Active only in Colombia, Ancestral Markets is a digital marketplace app that serves two purposes. First, it connects Indigenous and Afro-descendent communities with markets where they can buy and sell food, which generates income. Second, it highlights ancestral knowledge and applies it to food security and nutrition efforts through, for example, the sharing of digital ancestral recipe books.

H2Grow: H2Grow is a soilless system that allows plants to grow in areas that are non-fertile, arid or have limited space. From deserts to refugee camps, H2Grow enables families to grow food in the toughest environments. This locally adaptable and affordable solution uses up to 90% less water and 75% less physical space than traditional agriculture.

When floods tore through Cambodia, PRISM enabled the government, WFP, and humanitarian partners to better understand the extent of the damage and send urgently needed help to 115,000 people.

In 2021, Ancestral Markets connected over 3,000 Indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities to local markets.

Since its inception in 2016, EMPACT has trained over 13,000 students in Colombia, Iraq, Kenya, Lebanon, Palestine, Turkey and Zimbabwe.

In 2021, nearly 46,000 people benefited from WFP’s H2Grow solutions.

In southern Madagascar, Odile sits in a new field of beans, which she bought with WFP microinsurance. Personal finance tools are a core part of WFP’s prosperity programs.

Photo: WFP/Alice Rahmoun
At a health center in northern Kenya, WFP provides nutrition supplements to children under the age of 5, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers.

Photo: WFP/Martin Karimi
In 2021, World Food Program USA continued to work in a non-partisan fashion to educate Members of Congress about the mission and impact of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).

The United States has long been a global leader in the humanitarian sector by providing food assistance to people in need around the world. The U.N. World Food Programme is the U.S. Agency for International Development’s greatest partner in delivering that assistance.

This legacy of support on Capitol Hill is bipartisan and bicameral, bringing lawmakers together from across the aisle and across the United States. In 2021, World Food Program USA continued to serve as a vital resource to Congress. Our team kept Members of the House and Senate apprised of the state of global food insecurity and the work of the U.N. World Food Programme through regular newsletters, op-eds and briefings. These efforts, together with other advocacy partners, helped secure billions of dollars for key programs that support U.S. humanitarian assistance including Food for Peace Title II (U.S.-grown commodities), McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program (school meals), and the Emergency Food Security Program (cash-based assistance) – all of which will continue the American legacy of leading the effort to end global hunger.

As a result of the economic ripple effects of the pandemic, as well as rising global food prices, the U.N. World Food Programme’s operational costs rose to record levels in 2021 and the need for additional support became increasingly apparent. In coalition with other D.C.-based advocacy partners, World Food Program USA worked with Congress to obtain additional funding for international food assistance via emergency spending bills related to the pandemic. These efforts resulted in a historic level of U.S. funding to the U.N. World Food Programme in 2021.
United Nations Food Systems Summit and Launch of School Meals Coalition

The right to food is a human right. To guarantee that right, the systems that produce, process, and transport it must be strong, sustainable, inclusive and equitable.

To that end, in 2021, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres convened the first ever Food Systems Summit intended to fast-track progress towards a Zero Hunger world. WFP co-led multiple coalitions at the Summit to bolster action on programmatic areas including school meals and conflict-resilient food systems. By the end, more than 150 countries made commitments to transform their food systems while promoting equity and inclusivity.

The Summit also served as a launching pad for the School Meals Coalition. This groundbreaking partnership – lead by WFP between 131 government and non-government organizations – was founded in response to the staggering 39 billion school meals missed by children in 2020 due to COVID-19 closures. Those closures reversed a decade of progress in school feeding. The Coalition aims to ensure every child receives a healthy, nutritious meal by 2030.

The Weeknd Goodwill Ambassadorship Announcement

In October 2021, WFP named Multi-platinum and Diamond certified global superstar The Weeknd a Goodwill Ambassador. The award-winning Canadian artist, whose real name is Abel Tesfaye, joined an international roster of ambassadors including actress Kate Hudson and designer Michael Kors who use their voices and platforms to advocate for solving global hunger.

"The U.N. World Food Programme is doing urgent and important work to change and save lives on a daily basis, and I feel passionately about addressing world hunger and helping people in need. Our partnership is an authentic extension of all our efforts and intentions to help those in need and bring an end to so much suffering," said Tesfaye.

"Whether he is performing or speaking out about global hunger, The Weeknd's voice is powerful and inspiring, only matched by his dedication to helping people around the globe," said World Food Program USA President and CEO Barron Segar.

Events and Partnerships

8-year-old Asrar eats part of her school meal in Aden, Yemen. “I take half of the meal home with me,” she says, “because my family eats with me the apple, cucumber and cheese sandwich.”

Photo: WFP/Hebatallah Munassar
Over the course of its 15-year partnership with World Food Program USA, PepsiCo has provided WFP with over $14 million dollars to invest in areas such as school meals, disaster relief, and the prevention and treatment of early childhood malnutrition. At the Global Citizen LIVE event in September 2021, the PepsiCo Foundation announced a $1 million dollar commitment to WFP for its changing lives initiatives in Iraq and Libya and for its emergency food assistance programs in Lebanon.

With PepsiCo’s support, WFP trained local farmers in Iraq using a Training for Trainers model, which equipped them with technical expertise to meet quality requirements for local and international corporate supply chains. Through the training, farmers were given tools and skills to sell their products to PepsiCo, other private sector beverage companies and local markets. The program also helped strengthen the capacity of partners, government entities and farmers’ associations.

In Libya, PepsiCo’s funding helped with the scale-up of a hydroponics project that improved small-scale farmers’ livelihoods. Hydroponics allowed communities to grow food and livestock fodder in the harshest conditions, using no soil and 90% less water than traditional agriculture.

PepsiCo’s critical investments in sustainable agriculture and the resilience of small-scale farmers helped make progress in addressing the root causes of hunger while improving the long-term food security needs of communities.

“For fifteen years and counting, WFP continues to be an essential partner to the PepsiCo Foundation as we work together to drive forward meaningful change on-the-ground where it matters most: at the local level,” says C.D. Glin, President, PepsiCo Foundation. “As a strategic, impact-driven organization with a deep understanding of the global communities they serve, WFP has worked shoulder-to-shoulder with us to achieve ambitious goals addressing hunger and malnutrition, supporting the livelihoods of smallholder farmers, and responding with urgency to crises including the COVID-19 pandemic and supply chain disruptions that threaten food security. We’re thankful every day for the inspiring impact we can share with WFP.”
2021 marked the first year of a new partnership between the John Deere Foundation, John Deere’s workforce and World Food Program USA. Through an initial $500,000 investment, magnified by the engagement of John Deere volunteers, the partnership focused on innovations that disrupt hunger through the World Food Programme Innovation Accelerator. This partnership centered on the three key programs of the Innovation Accelerator: Frontier Innovations, Core Accelerator and Game-Changing Projects Support.

Frontier Innovations is the first stage in the innovation pipeline at the Innovation Accelerator. By exploring cutting-edge technologies, applications, and ideas, the Frontier Innovations team stays at the forefront of innovations for delivering humanitarian impact on the path towards Zero Hunger. To help us in this vital work, we enlisted the support of John Deere experts to serve as mentors for Innovation Accelerator projects, including those in Frontier Innovations.

Mentors worked directly on projects, sharing their rich technical expertise to help innovations focused on helping small-scale farmers come to life. John Deere employees from across the company also engaged with WFP through its Share the Meal crowdfunding application. With some help provided by the John Deere Foundation’s employee giving program, John Deere employees donated tens of thousands of meals to WFP in 2021.

In 2021, World Food Program USA was honored to partner with the Avaaz Foundation for the first time in support of WFP’s emergency nutrition programs in Yemen. With a global membership and footprint, the Avaaz Foundation organizes citizens worldwide to close the gap between the world we have and the world most people everywhere want. Using their voices, and with the support of their membership, the Avaaz Foundation made a grant of $1 million that enabled WFP to support over 103,000 children and pregnant and lactating women whose needs would have otherwise gone unmet. The grant was used to purchase PlumpySup and SuperCereal for the prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition. The Avaaz Foundation’s advocacy and campaigning also played an instrumental role in mobilizing the global community to call for an end to starvation and conflict in Yemen.

Thank You! World Food Program USA is proud to partner with U.S. companies and institutional partners that share our commitment to supporting the U.N. World Food Programme’s mission. By providing financial resources, in-kind services and technical expertise, America’s private sector is helping the U.N. World Food Programme move the needle towards Zero Hunger (SDG2). World Food Program USA would like to thank all corporate, foundation, faith-based and other institutional partners who supported the mission of the U.N. World Food Programme this past year.
HOW YOU CAN HELP

With a gift to World Food Program USA, you do more than provide nourishing food — you deliver hope for a better future. Your support helps families, communities and entire nations withstand conflict, overcome extreme weather and rebuild their lives.

GIVE NOW
Call us at 202-627-3939, donate online at wfpusa.org/makeyourimpact, or mail a check or money order made payable to World Food Program USA to PO Box 37239, Boone, IA 50037-0239.

GIVE MONTHLY
Join our group of ZeroHunger Heroes by making recurring monthly donations. Call us or go online to wfpusa.org to set up your monthly gift. Automatic, regular contributions can easily be made from your credit card or checking account.

GIVE STOCK & SECURITIES
We accept gifts of stock, securities and mutual fund shares. If you own stock or other financial assets that have increased in value, you may be able to take advantage of additional tax deductions by donating part of the profits to World Food Program USA. Contact us for donation instructions.

GIVE THROUGH YOUR DONOR ADVISED FUND
Support global hunger relief by recommending single or recurring grants to us from your donor advised fund. Consult with your financial advisor and reach out to us with any questions or for assistance.

GIVE THROUGH YOUR INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT
If you are 70 ½ or older, an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) charitable rollover or qualified charitable distribution (QCD) allows you to support our work through a tax-advantaged distribution from your IRA. Consult your financial advisor and learn more on our website or by contacting us.

GIVE IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE
Celebrate an occasion, the holidays, or a loved one by giving a gift in their name or on their behalf to feed hungry children and families. Learn more on our website.

GIVE THROUGH YOUR WILL OR BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION FORM
Leave a legacy or bequest for World Food Program USA in your will or by designating a percentage of your retirement or other account. We would love to speak with you about building a future free of hunger and malnutrition. Give us a call or email us to explore giving options.

DOES YOUR EMPLOYER MATCH?
Many employers match their employee’s charitable contributions. Ask your employer if they offer this benefit or look them up in the directory on our website.

THANK YOU!
Thank you for supporting WFP’s work to deliver lifesaving food and long-lasting solutions for communities facing the most severe levels of hunger. Without you, it wouldn’t be possible to reach the millions of people we serve across 120 countries and territories each year.

CONTACT US
For more information on these and other giving options visit our website at wfpusa.org/makeyourimpact, call us directly at 202-627-3939 or contact us by email at giving@wfpusa.org.
In Afghanistan, the economic crisis of 2021 pushed a new group of people into hunger. For the first time, urban residents like Mohammed Allum were as hungry as rural communities. He now receives food from WFP in Faizabad Province.

Photo: WFP/Julian Frank.
In the town of Djerbe in Chad, rehabilitating just one dam enabled 700 households to provide water for their livestock and grow rice, okra, lettuce, tomatoes, beans, potatoes, cucumbers and watermelons. Garboubou Gasarka (left) was born here, as were his parents. “Before the dam was built, even drinking water was difficult to find,” he says. “You had to travel long distances to fetch it. Now we grow vegetables and water is always available.”

Photo: WFP/Evelyn Fey