



World Food  
Program USA

2022

# STATEMENT OF IMPACT

Voices From the Global Food Crisis

# INTRODUCTION

At the start of 2022, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) warned of a year of unprecedented hunger resulting from conflict, climate shocks and economic pressures. In February, the onset of war in Ukraine unleashed a wave of collateral hunger across the globe as grain, fuel and fertilizer supply chains were disrupted. The cost of food and hunger rates reached new highs.

By the end of 2022, **a record 349 million people faced severe forms of hunger** – up from 276 million people at the beginning of the year. Of them, 49 million people in 49 countries were on the brink of famine.

In response to global challenges, WFP scaled its programs and reached 133 million people by the end of September. **Your commitment to our mission is what helped make this scale-up possible.**

Our 2022 Statement of Impact highlights key events from the year, brings you closer to the people affected by the global food crisis and shares how WFP has worked tirelessly to solve today's challenges. From emergency food and cash-based assistance in protracted conflict settings like the Democratic Republic of Congo, Syria and Yemen to vocational training programs for women in Afghanistan to climate adaptation programs in Haiti and Ethiopia, your support is saving and changing lives during this global food crisis.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to ending global hunger. Your partnership is what helps make this possible. As we look ahead, we invite you to continue joining in our mission to advance access to food and build pathways to a sustainable future.

*Cover Photo:* Ayan waits with her daughter Mushtaq at the Kabasa Health Center in Dolow, Somalia. They are there for Mushtaq's check-up and to receive a nutrition supplement. *Photo: WFP/Samantha Reinders*

*Right:* A young girl sits in a makeshift shelter in Lasbela in Balochistan province, Pakistan. It was one of the provinces most affected by floods. *Photo: WFP/Balach Jamali*







**"I can't wait for peace. Until peace is observed in the battlefields, I feel it between the walls of my home and in the warmth of my neighbors."**

-Natalia

## UKRAINE

### IMPROVING ACCESS TO FOOD FOR CONFLICT-AFFECTED FAMILIES

In Ukraine, fighting disrupted livelihoods and global food supply chains. To date, approximately 6 million people have been displaced inside Ukraine. Nearly 8 million individuals, mainly women, children and elderly people, have sought refuge in neighboring countries. Those that remain in Ukraine face high levels of food insecurity.

At the request of the government of Ukraine, WFP quickly established a presence inside Ukraine in March 2022 and began working with local partners to deliver emergency food and cash-assistance. To date, **WFP has delivered more than 200,000 pounds of food and over \$300 million dollars to people impacted by the conflict.**

In neighboring Moldova, WFP delivered more than 1 million hot meals to Ukrainian refugees and supported 11,000 Moldovan families hosting refugees with cash transfers to help with food, utilities and other expenses.

In Sloviansk, Natalia and her neighbors live very close to the frontline. Despite growing threats and as the war rages on, they have stayed in their hometown. They share resources – including water sourced from a well and food. Natalia's daughter and her grandson have moved to neighboring Poland, but her neighbors and mother-in-law keep her company. After losing her job at a medical clinic, Natalia has relied on her pension and food assistance from WFP to get by.

Left: Despite living near the frontline, Natalia finds peace "between the four walls of her home" and depends on food assistance from WFP to make ends meet amidst the raging war. Photo: WFP/Edmond Khoury





## SYRIA

As the crisis in Syria entered its 11<sup>th</sup> year, more Syrian families were pushed further into hunger. Rising inflation – partially a by-product of the war in Ukraine – and low salaries meant that families' incomes could not keep up with rising costs of staple food items like sugar, bread and rice.

As of mid-November, WFP had reached 5.6 million people in Syria with some form of humanitarian assistance each month this year. This included emergency food aid, school meals and snacks, cash assistance and programs to build community resilience like the rehabilitation of irrigation systems.

Ghufran lost her husband and brother in the conflict. She's now the head of household for her three children and two nephews. Over the last year, she received cash and food assistance from WFP.

**Left:** Ghufran and her sons Hamzah (left) and Abdulrahman (center), and nephew Mahmoud (right) in their apartment in Aleppo, Syria.

*Photo: WFP/Edmond Khoury*



## YEMEN

The food crisis in Yemen is driven primarily by conflict and subsequent economic collapse. This year, 19 million people experienced severe food insecurity and of these, 161,000 people faced famine-like conditions.

As of early November, WFP had provided over 10 million people with food and cash assistance.

WFP and its partners distributed items like wheat flour, oil and salt to some of the most food insecure families in Yemen.

10-year-old Ameer is one of the children who received food assistance from WFP in 2022. He lives in a camp for internally displaced persons in Seiyun, Hadramawt, Yemen.

*Photo: WFP/Edmond Khoury*



# AFGHANISTAN

## VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING OFFERS INCOME-GENERATING OPPORTUNITIES

August 2022 marked one year since the withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan. The country now faces an unprecedented humanitarian crisis after decades of conflict, severe drought and an ongoing economic crisis. **Nine out of 10 people in Afghanistan do not have enough food.**

Work opportunities are scarce, and most households report just one day of work per week. In addition to providing emergency food and cash assistance to nearly 21.4 million people, WFP also supported vocational skills programs that trained men and women in marketable skills such as sewing, carpet weaving, mechanics and shoe and phone repair. This purpose of these programs is to teach skills that can help individuals earn a stable income and become self-reliant in the future.

In Kabul, Rizagul works as a sewing skills instructor with the Rupani Foundation – a non-profit organization supported by WFP. For years, she has taught women how to sew and launched a business where she hires students from the program. WFP's skills training programs reached an estimated 100,000 people across Afghanistan this year.

*Photo: WFP/Sadeq Naseri*





## THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

### CASH-BASED ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES

Conflict and hunger fuel one another in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). It is one of the largest hunger crises in the world with 25.9 million people facing severe forms of hunger. WFP supports the population, including refugees from various parts of the continent, through food and cash assistance.

Tabani Wani Yaya, a 47-year-old father of six, is a refugee from South Sudan who has been living in Biringi camp in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo since 2020. He fled South Sudan with his family after their neighbors were killed and their village was burned to the ground.

After crossing into the DRC, Tabani initially settled his family in a village right on the border in the hopes that they would soon be able to return home. He made a living by working on local farms. However, several months passed and there was still no guarantee of lasting peace at home. When Tabani heard about a refugee camp not too far from the border, he decided to move his family there.

Once settled in the camp, Tabani's family received cash and food assistance from WFP. Thanks to this assistance, Tabani was able to rent a field where he cultivates cassava – which he then sells in the local market. **Between January and August, WFP assisted 4.3 million people in the DRC through emergency food, nutrition support and school feeding.**

*Photo: WFP/Martin Lukongo*



# SOUTH SUDAN


## NUTRITION ASSISTANCE FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED MOTHERS

In 2022, people in South Sudan faced deteriorating humanitarian conditions due to ongoing violence, economic shocks and dual drought and flooding. Nearly 8 million people, or about two-thirds of the country, experienced severe hunger in 2022. Of this group, an estimated 2 million children and pregnant women and new mothers were malnourished, with the most affected populations in Unity, Jonglei, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap and Upper Nile States.

The effects of malnutrition can be irreversible. Among children, undernutrition can cause weight loss, stunted growth and delay cognitive development. It can also affect children's ability to fight off infections which can, in the most severe cases, lead to premature death. For pregnant mothers, it can cause anemia and complications during pregnancy and childbirth. When breastfeeding, it can make it more challenging to replenish nutrients and meet dietary needs. That's why WFP works hard to provide mothers and children with the right nutrition before it's too late. In South Sudan, WFP reached 435,000 mothers and 600,000 children with food assistance and specialized items to treat and prevent malnutrition.

Nyayow Khor, 27, poses for a portrait proudly showing her 9-month baby bump at a camp for internally displaced persons in Juba, South Sudan. Nyayow traveled all the way from Walgak, in Jonglei State, to be treated in Juba after feeling pain consistently. She now receives WFP's nutrition assistance after being diagnosed with malnutrition.

*Photo: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua*



**"There are no health facilities in Walgak, so I had to come to Juba. The hunger situation is bad in Walgak. We used to plant, but now there it floods everywhere."**

-Nyayow Khor





# PAKISTAN

## MATERNAL AND CHILD NUTRITION

In Pakistan, millions of families confronted climate extremes in 2022. In June, severe monsoon weather rainfall was almost three times higher than the national 30-year average. The rains flooded more than one-third of the country. Individuals lost their homes and access to critical services (such as health clinics and schools).

As of November 2022, 20.6 million people in Pakistan require some form of emergency humanitarian assistance, and 14.6 million people are in need of emergency food assistance. People, including children and pregnant women, suffered from dehydration, diseases like malaria and malnutrition.

In coordination with the government of Pakistan, WFP launched an emergency response plan. Since the start of its flood response in August, WFP has reached over 2 million people with food and cash transfers. **WFP also provided 28,850 children aged 6-23 months and 27,387 mothers with 116,845 pounds of specialized nutritious foods** in Sindh, Balochistan, and Punjab.

*Right: Holding her 2-month-old daughter, Shehzadi, 18, sits in front of her home damaged by the floods at Kaladi village of Khairpur District in Sindh province. Photo: WFP/Shehzad Noorani*



# SOMALIA

## MALNUTRITION TREATMENT FOR CHILDREN IN DROUGHT-AFFECTED AREAS

The longest drought in four decades has destroyed lives and livelihoods in Somalia. An estimated 300,000 people face famine-like conditions, and many have been forced away from their homes in search of food. In response to the crisis, WFP scaled up to reach a record number of Somalis with lifesaving food and nutrition assistance.

By the end of September, **WFP had reached almost 4.1 million people with emergency food and cash relief** and half a million children and mothers with malnutrition treatment services. WFP aims to scale up further, including in hard-to-reach areas, and increase investment in longer-term programs such as malnutrition prevention, which will help to reduce the number of people who need treatment.

Ismahan, 2, eats a sachet of PlumpySup, a specially formulated, ready-to-use nutritious food, at the Kabasa health center in Dolow, Somalia. She has been coming to a health center in Kabasa in Dolow for the last few months to receive nutritional support from WFP.

*Photo: WFP/Patrick Mwangi*







## SRI LANKA

### SAFETY NETS FOR FAMILIES HIT BY ECONOMIC COLLAPSE

Sri Lankans struggled to meet their food and nutrition needs in the face of food and fuel price hikes. The economy is on the verge of collapsing due to local currency depreciation, a lack of foreign reserves and failure to meet international debt obligations. Over 6 million people – nearly 30% of the population – were severely food insecure.

Perumal Lechchami, 44, cares for her husband, who has been ill and unable to work for many years, and her two children. As the sole breadwinner, it is difficult to earn a living as an agricultural day laborer in her remote rural village. She stated, “Earlier we could afford our meals, somehow. However, now with the current situation we’ve had to reduce down to one curry with rice a day.”

Women and children from poor rural and urban households who relied on national social safety net programs were left without help. That’s why WFP stepped in to bridge the gap – for Perumal and so many like her – and provided 1.4 million people with food and cash assistance, school meals and nutrition programs.

*Left: Perumal Lechchami, 44, holds her new puppy. Photo: WFP/Josh Estey*



## BURKINA FASO

### EMERGENCY SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM

In 2022, violence and insecurity in Burkina Faso disrupted access to education. More than 4,000 schools were closed because of insecurity which affected almost 700,000 students.

Since 2004, WFP has implemented a school meals program in Burkina Faso. Across the Sahel region, WFP is the only organization providing elementary schoolchildren with a regular meal. With the rapid deterioration of the security situation and resulting humanitarian crisis, WFP extended its school feeding activities to other regions most affected by insecurity: Boucle du Mouhoun, Centre-Nord, Nord and Est. To qualify for the emergency school meals program, at least 20% of a school’s students must be internally displaced.

As part of an integrated resilience program, WFP also supports community markets and school gardens. In 2022, 16 school gardens were constructed in the Sahel region. For the first harvest, vegetables including tomatoes, cabbages, eggplants, carrots, onions and sweet potatoes were used for school meals which improved children’s diets. Each day of class, children attending a WFP-assisted school receive two meals: a breakfast consisting of a porridge made with Super Cereal and a hot lunch made with rice, beans and oil.

*Left: A student holds a plate containing the cooked beans and rice she received for lunch. Photo: WFP/Esther Ouoba*





## BURUNDI

### RURAL WOMEN PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN HOMEGROWN SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAMS

In Burundi, women are key to the country's agricultural production. However, structural issues like lack of access to land and credit pose a challenge to women – especially those in rural areas where 90% of the population relies on agriculture and informal employment. In those areas, female farmers don't have access to the resources needed to provide for their families and communities. Programs like homegrown school meals help bridge these gaps.

Since 2013, WFP's homegrown school meals program has helped build more resilient food systems and communities in Burundi. This year, **WFP worked with 30,000 small-scale farmers and gave them the opportunity to contribute to school meals.** They delivered quality and locally produced food that improves schoolchildren's nutrition, academic scores and school attendance while strengthening the local economy. This virtuous circle is the very heart of WFP's food system strategy.

Pelagie harvests corn in Kirundo province, Burundi. She is one of the 30,000 farmers that take part in the country's homegrown school meals program. Through this innovative approach, WFP purchases food for school meals from local, small-scale farmers. Sourcing locally helps create stable market opportunities for cooperatives and local merchants and enhances the sustainability of school meals programs.

*Photo: WFP/Arete/Fredrik Lerneryd*



# BANGLADESH

## WOMEN ADAPT THEIR LIVELIHOODS TO THE CLIMATE CRISIS


Masuda's days in Sonadia, a sandy island in southeastern Bangladesh, have always followed the rhythm of the rising tides. While the foamy water used to surround the thin bamboo walls of her home without daring to cross the door frame, now the waves often flood her shelter and completely wash her belongings away.

Bangladesh is on the frontlines of the global climate crisis. Faced with land erosion, rising sea levels, floods and frequent cyclones, the country ranks as the seventh most affected country in the world by extreme weather events. Most of the country sits a few feet below seas level and the land is flooded regularly.

Poverty and the impacts of the climate crisis make food out of reach for families. That's why WFP provides training to women like Masuda Khatun to improve their livelihoods and income opportunities.

Thanks to WFP's trainings, Masuda learned how to grow vegetables in sacks, which protects the soil from the salt water. She also learned to use natural fertilizer. Her vegetable business helped her become the main breadwinner of her family of five, which once depended solely on her husband's sporadic fishing.

*Photo: WFP/Antoine Vallas*



**"It scares me when the water enters our house. When it happens, we spend the night on higher ground."**

-Masuda





# ETHIOPIA

## REGREENING DROUGHT-AFFECTED AREAS

Following three consecutive poor rainy seasons, Ethiopia experienced one of the most severe droughts in recent years. The crisis produced devastating effects for subsistence farmers and livestock herders in the south and southeast of the country. Crops shriveled and more than 3 million livestock died. This year, an estimated 9.88 million people faced severe hunger.

As part of a regional Horn of Africa drought response plan, WFP provided affected communities in Ethiopia with critical food and nutrition assistance and school meals. WFP also worked with food insecure communities to restore their local ecosystems.

The Regreening for Resilience project is an innovative approach that helps boost food security in drought-affected areas in Ethiopia. Farmers learn different techniques such as creating half-moon shapes in the earth.

The shapes help capture water, enable crop production and improve soil moisture. This ensures that water is preserved allowing for seeds in the soil to still grow even with little rainfall.

*Left:* Pastoralists of Ubaley working on a half moon land rehabilitation and re-greening project in Somali region of Ethiopia.

*Photo:* WFP/Michael Tewelde



# HAITI

## BOOSTING CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH REFORESTATION


The humanitarian situation in Haiti reached critical levels this year. An estimated 4.7 million people, nearly half of the country's population, faced severe forms of hunger. Civil unrest, natural disasters and rising food and fuel prices drove Haitians deeper into hunger: For the first time ever in Haiti, 19,000 people faced famine-like conditions.

At the request of the government of Haiti, WFP supported small-scale farmers as they recover from a cycle of droughts and floods. As part of WFP's Food for Assets program, many farmers have received payments in exchange for working on projects that bolster their communities' ability to overcome climate shocks in the future. Supported by WFP, farmers planted seedlings to prevent erosion and rehabilitated irrigation channels.

Elie Devil stands proudly in front of an ancient mango tree he saved from being cut down in his town of Trou du Nord, in Nord-Est province, Haiti.

He shared, "My neighbor wanted to cut down an ancient mango tree to make charcoal, but I prevented him from doing this as I know that deforestation leads to the erosion of the soil which harms all people and especially farmers in Pilette where I live. I learned about the importance of reforestation to protect the soil and prevent flooding as part of the WFP project, and I am keen to see more mango, avocado, cacao and coffee trees planted. These will protect our environment and provide us with nutritious food."

*Photo: WFP/Theresa Piorr*

A photograph of a man, Elie Devil, standing in front of a large, ancient mango tree. The tree has a thick, gnarled trunk and some sparse, dry leaves. The background is a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The man is wearing a blue and white plaid shirt and is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

**"Through the  
WFP project, I  
learned how  
reforestation can  
protect soil and  
prevent flooding."**

-Elie Devil





**"The rain is normally supposed to help us grow food to eat, but now it is becoming an issue, as you can see. I cannot get anything from these corn crops."**

-Mahamat Kary

## CHAD

### FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR ASSETS

In October, heavy rains and floods affected more than 1 million people across Chad. After three years of poor harvests, this climate-related disaster exacerbated already weak agricultural production. Today, over 2 million people in Chad face acute hunger.

In response to the floods, **WFP provided emergency cash and food assistance to 30,400 and aims to scale up to 300,000 people.**

Through its Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) program, WFP also helps communities build resilience to such climate extremes. In exchange for food and cash, program participants build community assets like roads, dams and irrigation systems.

Mahamat Kary is a small-scale farmer in Melea, Chad who participated in WFP's FFA program. In exchange for building a dam and irrigation system, Mahamat received a plot of land where he now grows corn.

Mahamat Kary shared, "There is nothing more catastrophic than this water. All the flooded crops are destroyed. We will wait until the water dries up, prepare the land and plant new crops. Then, after four months, we will be able to harvest."

Left: Mahamat Kary stands in his corn fields which were washed away by floodwaters in Melea, Chad. Photo: WFP/Evelyn Fey



# MADAGASCAR

## SUPPORT FOR SMALL-SCALE FARMERS

The effects of the global climate crisis have contributed to consecutive droughts, cyclones and tropical storms in Madagascar. Each climate shock caused extensive losses and damages to food and crops, and current forecasts predict another year of below-average rainfall.

According to the latest figures, an estimated 1.95 million people faced severe hunger in Grand Sud and southeast regions of Madagascar. While WFP provided humanitarian assistance, in the coming year we will also increase support to small-scale farmers and invest in agricultural production and environmental rehabilitation. These programs enhance community resilience and help communities better prepare, respond, and recover from climate-related disasters.

Agriculture is the leading source of income for both men and women in Madagascar. But frequent natural disasters including cyclones, droughts and locust infestation erode land and soil conditions with each shock disrupting agricultural production. That's why WFP works with small-scale farmers to provide them with the training and resources they need to adapt and respond to crises, and links them to markets where they can sell their crops.

Vandakope, is a farmer from southern Madagascar. She participated in WFP trainings that help bolster farm resilience to climate shocks. Through the trainings, she learned techniques that help conserve water, preserve soil and grow drought-resistant crops.

Right: A portrait of Vandakope in her field. *Photo: WFP/Sitraka Niaina Raharinaivo*







**“Women are the custodians of the seeds. They are the backbone of the family and community.”**

**-Deborah Suc**

## GUATEMALA

### PRESERVING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

Guatemala has one of the largest indigenous populations in Latin America. Gender inequality, poverty and marginalization affect Guatemala’s indigenous women, but they play an important role as custodians of traditional knowledge. When preserved, this knowledge can boost food security and protect biodiversity.

WFP staff member Deborah Suc belongs to the Poqomchí people and is currently a field technician in the municipality of San Cristóbal, department of Alta Verapaz, Guatemala. Using her background in agronomy, she leads a project that supports the conservation of traditional knowledge. Across Guatemala, Poqomchi and Q’eqchi’ communities participate in WFP resilience projects after hurricanes Eta and Iota (November 2020) destroyed their livelihoods and compromised their food security.

Women are the main participants in this project which provides training on hygiene, soil conservation and sanitation. They also take part in groups that promote savings and access to credit. With Suc’s help, WFP incorporated indigenous knowledge in agricultural programs such as the use of organic fertilizers and milpa, a sowing technique that groups corn, beans and squash together to boost agricultural yields and enhance food security and sustainability.

Left: WFP staff member Deborah Suc works to restore ancestral knowledge and uses her background in agronomy to help her community. Photo: WFP/Nelson Pacheco



# NIGERIA

## FLOODS AND EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

Mairamu Abdussalam, 35, poses for a photograph in front of her home that was damaged by the floodwaters in Girgir, Yobe State, Nigeria in October 2022. WFP provided lifesaving food assistance to over 100,000 flood-affected individuals in the Yobe state.

*Photo: WFP/Arete/Ozavogu Abdul*

## THANK YOU

We are grateful for your ongoing commitment to alleviating global hunger. It is our hope that the stories and examples shared in the report remind you of the transformative difference you are making in the lives of others. You are part of the solution and play an important role in advancing access to food for all.





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