



World Food
Program USA

IMPACT REPORT

FALL 2023 | MAY - SEPTEMBER

Lydia, a women's farmer association leader, collects beans in a field in Uganda. In five districts in the Karamoja Region, WFP supports small-scale farmers - especially women - to reduce their post-harvest losses and improve their access to markets.

Photo: WFP/Arete/Siegfried Modola

INTRODUCTION

Today, more people than ever before are experiencing severe hunger. The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) estimates that more than 345 million people are facing severe hunger. This is an increase of almost 200 million people compared to early 2020, before the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, at least 129,000 people are expected to experience famine in Burkina Faso, Mali, Somalia and South Sudan.

Conflict, extreme weather events and rising costs of a healthy diet continue to drive hunger. When food prices increase, families who are already struggling financially often begin skipping meals. Hunger does not affect everyone equally: Children, women, persons with disabilities, refugees and internally displaced persons face often hunger at higher rates.

94M By March of this year, WFP had already assisted 94 million people with food and cash-based assistance.

WFP also invests in programs such as school meals, support for small-scale farmers and climate-smart innovations that help increase communities' ability to adapt to their changing environments.

Through our Fall 2023 Impact Report, we invite you to reflect on how your support fuels the work of WFP. From our emergency programs to women's entrepreneurship trainings to school meals, you are paving the path for a Zero Hunger world. It is our hope that these inspiring stories continue to connect you to our mission, reflect the diversity of our work and the people we reach, and remind you of the transformational difference you make.

Right: In South Sudan, children run over a road dike built by the community with assistance from WFP and its partners. Photo: WFP/Samantha Reinders

“
When we come
together as one
world, **we can
save lives.**”

— Cindy McCain

Executive Director of the
U.N. World Food Programme



EMERGENCY RESPONSE

THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR WORK

Our emergency response efforts are designed to reach people affected by conflict, extreme weather events, economic crises and other emergencies including pandemics. Nearly 80% of WFP's resources are allocated to emergency programs, which is our area of greatest impact. In this section, we share updates on our ongoing response in emergency settings.

In Malawi, Jamia Mausa is WFP Malawi's only female truck driver. Here, she delivers food to a distribution site in Mulanje district. Photo: WFP/Badre Bahaji



CONFLICT IN SUDAN

FUELS A REGIONAL DISPLACEMENT CRISIS

In April, conflict erupted in Sudan and the humanitarian situation quickly deteriorated. This conflict has only exacerbated the country's ongoing hunger crisis with over 20 million people facing severe hunger. The conflict has also had a devastating impact on the economy of Sudan. Prices of food and other essential commodities have skyrocketed, making it even harder for people to afford to eat. Insecurity and access constraints make it extremely challenging for humanitarian organizations to deliver assistance to those in need.

1.5M

Despite these challenges, WFP has provided food assistance to over 1.5 million people inside of Sudan. As soon as the conflict began, WFP rapidly prepositioned cereals, beans, oil, and salt to provide food assistance along the border.

WFP is also scaling its response in neighboring countries including Chad, Ethiopia, Egypt and South Sudan and has delivered assistance to over 600,000 people who have fled beyond Sudan's borders. In neighboring Chad, nearly 330,000 refugees and returnees have arrived since the start of the conflict in Sudan.

In addition to food and nutrition assistance, WFP has built six temporary units that are being used for a makeshift hospital, medical logistics, and transit points for new refugees crossing into Chad. As the rainy season makes access to border areas challenging, WFP has deployed all-terrain vehicles that are specially designed to cross rivers and flooded areas and carry up to 2,645 pounds of food each.

Sudanese refugees arrive at a refugee camp in Goz Beida, Chad. Photo: WFP/Marie-Helena Laurent



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People are running across the border, wounded, scared, with only their children in their hands and the clothes on their backs. They need safety, security and humanitarian assistance. **WFP has mobilized everything we have to the border to support these new arrivals.**”

— Pierre Honnorat
WFP Country Director and
Representative in Chad



AFGHANISTAN

August marked two years since the withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan. Today, over 15 million people do not know where their next meal will come from – and 3 million are just one step away from famine.

This year, WFP has reached more than 16.5 million people with nearly 385,000 metric tons of food and \$127 million in cash-based assistance.

On a daily basis, children and their mothers seek malnutrition treatment at a WFP-supported clinic in Kabul. WFP supports nearly 2,800 clinics across Afghanistan. Photo: WFP/Mohammad Hasib Hazinyar

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A small window of opportunity remains to avert catastrophe in Afghanistan, but we are running out of time. The cost of inaction will be paid by the women and children reeling from the impact of 40 years of conflict, a crippled economy and a worsening climate crisis.”

— **Hisao-Wei Lee,**
WFP’s Country Director and Representative in Afghanistan

UKRAINE

In Ukraine, WFP continues to support people affected by the war. 11 million Ukrainians are estimated to be food insecure.

Recent developments include the destruction of the Nova Kakhovka dam and the suspension of the Black Sea Grain Initiative. The destruction of the Nova Kakhovka dam in June caused massive flooding, which resulted in displacement and loss of homes. WFP provided more than 120,000 rations of ready-to-eat foods such as bread and canned beans to affected communities.

In July, the Black Sea Grain Initiative, which had enabled the safe export of food from Ukrainian ports and acted as a calming force on global food markets, was suspended. Over the last year, over 32 million metric tons of grain and food items were moved to 45 countries thanks to the agreement. WFP supports the resumption of the Black Sea Grain Initiative.

Our emergency programs in Ukraine continue to restore people’s access to food, and we bring and distribute cash to nearly 3 million people each month.

90% Nearly 90% of all food distributed by WFP in Ukraine is purchased locally and most of our distributions are in frontline areas.

Additionally, WFP supports the government’s national school meals program. In total, more than 70,000 children from 450 schools are expected to have meals in cafeterias supported by WFP. In efforts to restore agricultural land, WFP and its partners have launched demining efforts to clear mines and explosive remnants from affected farms. This contributes to Ukraine’s economic recovery and helps phase out the need of humanitarian assistance for thousands of rural families.

In Kashperivka, Kyiv, Kristina’s children receive school meals through a WFP-supported program. Photo: WFP/Anastasiia Honcharuk



HAITI

The drivers of hunger in Haiti are complex and interrelated. The country has struggled with political instability, economic decline and recurring climate shocks. Nearly 4.9 million people currently face severe forms of hunger, including 1.8 million people who are on the edge of famine.

In the northwest, WFP provided families with cash assistance that allowed them to purchase food and other essential items as well as invest in livestock.

In the northwest of Haiti, WFP cash assistance allowed families to buy livestock like goats. Photo: WFP/Luc Junior Segur



This year, WFP has supported more than 1.5 million people with nearly \$41 million in cash-based assistance and distributed more than 6,000 metric tons of food.



CHANGING LIVES

WFP PROVIDES WOMEN IN CONFLICT ZONES WITH ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Conflict is the leading cause of hunger. For those that live in conflict zones, access to employment opportunities is often limited due to violence and insecurity, displacement, loss of land and damage to infrastructure.

Women are disproportionately affected by conflict and often must take on additional work to provide for their families. However, when women are employed, they become more involved in decision-making processes within their homes and communities. To help women achieve their economic potential, WFP provides women with business and skills training, access to loans and other financial services, and connects them to markets for their products and services.

YEMEN

In Yemen, WFP provided people like Omnia Ibrahim Omar Hassan with access to training and small grants so they could launch their own businesses.

Omnia is a 27-year-old henna and makeup artist and hairstylist from the city of Aden. A mother of one and the main breadwinner for her 15-member household, Omnia decided to start her own beauty salon to support herself and her family.

Through a WFP Food for Training (FFT) program, she learned marketable skills and received a grant to cover the costs associated with starting her business, which allowed her to buy necessary beauty supplies for her salon. Omnia's beauty salon is not only a source of financial stability but of joy when she sees her clients are satisfied with her beautiful henna designs.



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Brigitte, a mother of five children, runs her own palm oil business.

When she was young, her family could not support her education and she had to drop out. Brigitte enrolled in WFP’s literacy program to learn essential reading, writing and math skills to run her business. The training enabled her to better track her income and expenditures. At the end of the program, Brigitte received \$100 which she invested in her business.

She is now the primary earner in her family. With her income, Brigitte can feed her family, care for her children’s basic needs and save in a local savings group.

Photo: WFP/Benjamin Anguandia



SCHOOL MEALS

AN ESSENTIAL SAFETY NET TO ENSURE CHILDREN HAVE ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND NUTRITIOUS FOOD

WFP is the world’s largest provider of school meals and knows that for many children, a school meal may be the only food they eat each day. In 2022, WFP provided school meals to 20 million children in 59 countries, improving their access to nutrition and education.

School meals programs can be one of the most impactful interventions to support children’s health and educational outcomes. Studies have linked school meals to increased school enrollment and attendance, especially for girls.

- Every \$1 invested in school meals is equal to a \$9 return on investment, resulting in higher educational outcomes for children and providing a boost to local livelihoods and economies.
- Globally, school meals create jobs nearly 2,000 for every 100,00 children fed. Jobs include cooks, food preparers, safety and quality inspectors, among others.
- Just \$50 can provide school meals for one student for an entire year.
- Our long-term investment in school meal programming has resulted in the transition of these programs to more than 40 governments.

In Ecuador, Miriam Katheryn Revelo Castro prepares healthy, hot meals for children at Montúfar school. Photo: WFP/Esteban Barrera

SCHOOL MEALS IN SOUTH SUDAN

Alek prepares meals for students at the Amoth Primary School in South Sudan.

Alek cooks the meals using newly installed fuel-efficient stoves provided by WFP. The stove uses less firewood which makes it cheaper to use and better for the environment. These stoves also reduce the time women need to collect wood and therefore reduce the risks – including gender-based violence – they face on long journeys to gather firewood. The pots also help reduce the cooking time from four hours to two hours.

WFP supports the school meals program at Amoth Primary School so 1,200 students receive at least one healthy and nutritious meal each day. Climate shocks – particularly widespread flooding over recent years – have made the already food-insecure area even more vulnerable to severe food shortages, so a school meal may be the only reliable meal students get each day.

Photo: WFP/Samantha Reinders



WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY SPOTLIGHT

JOYCE NAMOE: A SCHOOL MEALS HERO IN UGANDA

World Humanitarian Day was on August 19. The day serves to honor all humanitarian workers, including the nearly 23,000 staff members that work for WFP. WFP staff members work tirelessly to deliver food assistance and improve food security for communities affected by conflict, the climate crisis and other disasters. WFP staff members are a diverse group of people from all over the world, united by their commitment to ending hunger.

JOYCE NAMOE IS A PROGRAM ASSOCIATE FOR WFP AND IS BASED IN KARAMOJA, UGANDA.

In her role, Joyce supports a wide range of WFP's activities across Karamoja including the school meals program at Kangole Girls School where she was a student nearly 40 years ago.

When describing the school, she shared "When you enter the school gates, you are safe." Access to education prevented her from an early marriage and allowed her to reach higher education. As a girl, she received school meals from WFP and knows the importance of school meals from her own experience. In her role, Joyce spreads the message of the importance of school meals and education for girls.

WFP has been present in Joyce's community for over 60 years. Today, WFP provides food and nutrition assistance, supports small-scale farmers and delivers school meals to thousands of students in Karamoja. For the school meals program, WFP provides corn, beans and oil as well as storage equipment for food. The school has a school garden that grows a wide range of vegetables, like pumpkins, sweet potatoes, tomatoes and cauliflower, that are used to prepare nutritious school meals. Students also learn how to grow their own food in the garden.

School meals and take-home rations have helped boost girls' school enrollment and attendance. Joyce said, "Today you can find there are many girls in school, even more than boys. I'd love to go around schools to really talk to girls and give them strength and courage to stay in school."

Photo: WFP/Arete/Siegfried Modola



SUPPORT FOR SMALL-SCALE FARMERS

SMALL-SCALE FARMERS PRODUCE MORE THAN 33% OF THE WORLD’S FOOD

Despite their central role in food production, they often experience high levels of poverty and hunger. Our efforts to support small-scale farmers include:



– Improving agricultural productivity

WFP provides farmers with training and resources to help them improve their agricultural productivity. This includes providing access to seeds and fertilizers, as well as training in agricultural techniques and business skills.

– Purchasing food from small-scale farms

In 2022, WFP procured 123,000 metric tons of agricultural products from small-scale farmers in 24 countries, providing a \$67 million boost to local economies.

– Adapting to climate change

WFP helps small-scale farmers build resilience to climate change by providing them with training on climate-smart agriculture techniques such as hydroponics and access to crop-insurance which can be paid out in the event of climate shocks like droughts or floods.

– Connecting farmers to markets

WFP helps connect small-scale farmers to local and regional markets so that they can sell their products and earn a fair price. This includes providing market information, training on market access, and facilitating the sale of agricultural products.

WFP also works with national governments, encouraging government agencies to purchase food from small-scale farmers, and develop policies that support them and their families. The training and financial resources provided by WFP help farmers to boost their crop yields, improve their nutrition and increase their household incomes – ultimately resulting in greater food security.

In Colombia, WFP supports the Arhuaco indigenous community of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta with agricultural production, technical assistance and nutrition training. Photo: WFP/Rein Skullerud



ANTICIPATORY ACTIONS

IN THE DRY CORRIDOR OF GUATEMALA

In Guatemala, up to 3.1 million people experience severe hunger. Rural communities, farmers and Indigenous People are disproportionately affected by this hunger. To help offset the effects of the climate crisis, WFP invests in programs that help protect people before extreme weather events strike.

WFP’s Anticipatory Action program is implemented in collaboration with government authorities and partners. Through the program, WFP monitored rain forecasts and found that moderate drought conditions would affect Guatemala during the 2023 agricultural season.

In response, WFP delivered 14,000 early warning messages about the upcoming drought and measures to mitigate its impact through text messages. WFP also provided 7,500 farmers with drought resistant seeds, fertilizer and training on how to adapt their harvests for the impending drought. In the long term, WFP will also help communities build water reservoirs and establish community seed banks to mitigate potential harvest losses.

Farmers in Chiquimula receive fortified seed as part of the Anticipatory Actions pilot plan in Guatemala. Photo: WFP/Luisa Paredes



**World Food
Program USA**

THANK YOU

Thank you for being part of an inspiring community working towards ending hunger. Together, we can build a more just and equitable world where everyone has access to the food and opportunities that they need to live a healthy and productive life.

World Food Program USA

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In Malawi, farmers continue to deliver home grown school meals after Cyclone Freddy. WFP's homegrown school feeding program links school feeding activities with local smallholder farmers to provide children with food that is safe, diverse, nutritious and above all local. Photo: WFP/Badre Bahaji