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CHANGING  
LIVES



## **WFP Global Update on COVID-19: November 2020**

Growing Needs, Response to Date and  
What's to Come in 2021



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# Introduction

**WFP estimates that 271.8 million people in countries where it operates are acutely food insecure – or directly at-risk of becoming so – due to the aggravating effect the protracted COVID-19 crisis is having in areas affected by conflict, socio-economic downturn, natural hazards, climate change and pests.** The latest estimate marks an increase in acute food insecurity from the earlier June projection. This November update of WFP's Global Response Plan to COVID-19 takes stock of efforts by regional bureaux and country offices to continue to sustain and scale-up operations to assist vulnerable communities and to support governments in their health and hunger response.

**Since the last update in September, WFP has further extended its reach to assist nearly 97 million people with critical food and nutrition assistance as of the end of the third quarter.** This is up from nearly 85 million as at the middle of the year, demonstrating an ability to adapt programmes and mitigate risks posed in the complex operating environment. WFP has expanded its continuous monitoring (mVAM) from 15 countries in 2019 to 39 countries today to track real-time evolving needs. Meanwhile, WFP assistance continues at pace with more people receiving unconditional food assistance in the first nine months of 2020 than in all of 2019, nearly 69 million and 61 million people respectively. More than 13 million schoolchildren have benefited from WFP school-based programmes amidst closures, and more than 12 million women, girls and boys received malnutrition prevention and treatment. WFP continues to invest in asset creation and livelihoods, reaching an estimated 7 million people in the first nine months of the year while enabling communities to retain their means of income and cope with the compounding effects of COVID-19. Cash-based transfers exceeded US\$ 1.7 billion in 67 countries as of the end of October 2020 – up from 61 countries last year.<sup>1</sup>

WFP is grateful to 24 donors who have come forward with US\$ 403 million since the September appeal, and for flexible funding which has allowed WFP to disburse more than US\$ 168 million from its Immediate Response Account to kickstart life-saving response and preparedness measures in 57 countries. Today however, food security partners still do not have the funding required to implement operations at the level required to prevent catastrophe. Needs-based plans developed by WFP country offices for the next six months stand at US\$ 7.7 billion through April 2021, half of which is still to be resourced.

**Food assistance is a lifeline for populations facing a multitude of risks now aggravated by the pandemic, but many country offices must implement ration cuts or reduce the number of beneficiaries due to funding shortfalls.** In the Democratic Republic of Congo refugees receive some 75 percent of their required food needs and similar or more severe reductions are in place in Cameroon, Central African Republic and across East Africa. In Syria, where real-time monitoring shows a steady deterioration in food consumption since January, beneficiaries already receive reduced kilocalories and WFP may be required to further reduce rations and beneficiary coverage from next month.



**WFP has scaled-up to reach 97 million people in the first nine months of 2020 – nearly as many people as all of 2019 combined.**

**Extreme hunger is a major concern:** ongoing conflict and widespread insecurity in Burkina Faso, Nigeria, South Sudan and Yemen is resulting in crisis levels of food insecurity. Many communities are assessed to be in Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) 4 and, in some locations, Phase 5. Urgent and large-scale humanitarian action is required alongside increased access, while stronger advocacy is needed to hold those responsible for creating famine conditions and subjecting communities to starvation.

**As the impact of economic losses due to COVID-19 is expected to continue through 2021, compounding structural and acute vulnerabilities, sustaining crisis response while contributing to building back better is essential.** WFP is leveraging its expertise and assistance to help develop, adapt, and deliver national social protection systems, basic education and nutrition services, and food systems, all the while prioritizing climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. Improved early warning, analysis and preparedness actions will be critical to avoid wide-scale detrimental impact when the next shock or pandemic hits.

<sup>1</sup> 2020 data represents preliminary estimates. Final reporting will be done through Annual Country and Performance Reports in 2021.

Increasing the ability of organizations like WFP to work in conflict and high insecurity settings is equally necessary, through enhanced conflict analysis and dynamic access and acceptance strategies. Working more fully with local actors to inform humanitarian responses and improved coordination amongst humanitarian actors in urban settings will be essential to maximize appropriate efficient response in 2021.

As the world continues to adjust to living with COVID-19, commercial transport sectors have begun to recover. Accordingly, WFP has been phasing down its common services where possible in line with its mandate to fill gaps in commercial capacity. However, given the unpredictable nature of the pandemic, WFP will retain some strategic infrastructure and staff capacity necessary to step up these global common services should they be needed by partners once more. At the same time, WFP is upgrading cold chain infrastructure across hubs to be ready if there is a request to support COVID-19 vaccine supply chains as well as future health responses.

**Economic losses due to COVID-19 are expected to continue through 2021, aggravating pre-existing vulnerabilities and compounding conflict and climate shocks.**

## RESPONSE IN NUMBERS



**96.6 M**

PEOPLE

Received direct WFP food assistance in the first 9 months of 2020 – nearly the same as in all of 2019



**US\$ 1.7B**

DISBURSED

To WFP direct beneficiaries through cash-based transfers in 67 countries – up from 61 countries in 2019



**844,000**

METRIC TONNES OF FOOD

Procured locally for WFP direct food assistance programmes since January for a value of US\$ 548 million



**50**

NATIONAL SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS

Receive technical assistance and services to from WFP to adapt social protection in response to COVID-19



**171**

COUNTRIES

Benefit from WFP's global common service platform for the health and humanitarian response, 88% of the world's nations



**US\$ 168M**

INTERNAL FUNDS

Allocated from Immediate Response Account to 57 emergencies since January



**US\$ 281M**

FROM IFIS

Sourced so far in 2020 and additional US\$ 120 million pending approval – compared to US\$ 21 million in 2019



**39**

COUNTRIES

With continuous real-time monitoring – more than doubling from 15 countries in 2019

# I. Needs

## EARLY PROJECTIONS CONFIRMED: ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY CONTINUES TO RISE

As the pandemic disrupted economies, jobs, and remittances, in June 2020 WFP projected an additional 121 million people could fall into acute food insecurity in 2021 in 79 countries where it operates.<sup>2</sup> This pushed the number of people acutely food insecure in these countries to 270.2 million people (an 82 percent increase compared to pre-COVID needs). The unpredictable global crisis meant these early projections would require close monitoring, so WFP scaled up its continuous monitoring (mVAM) from 15 countries in 2019 to 39 countries today and leveraged technology to implement web-based surveys in 44 countries.

**Eight months into the pandemic, new data on the economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and recent food security assessments are available, and WFP's earlier projections have been updated. Today, WFP estimates that 271.8 million people in these 79 countries are acutely food insecure – or directly at-risk – due to the compounding effects of COVID-19,** an increase from the June projection. At a regional level increases are observed in the Middle East, Asia and, in particular, Latin America and the Caribbean where hunger has quadrupled in countries where WFP operates and the region is experiencing the worst recession in 100 years. In West and Central Africa projections remain significantly higher than 2019 food security needs. While in Southern Africa, latest indications show a slight decrease from earlier worst case projections of June. For detailed country-level food security information, see Annex.

**PROJECTED NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY (IN MILLIONS)**

REGIONS	JUNE	NOVEMBER	TREND
Asia and the Pacific	49.6	51.4	3.6%
Middle East, Central Asia and North Africa	53.0	54.5	2.8%
West and Central Africa	57.6	57.4	0.3%
Southern Africa	52.4	50.1	4.4%
East Africa	41.6	40.1	3.6%
Latin America and the Caribbean	16.0	18.4	15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>270.2</b>	<b>271.8</b>	<b>0.6%</b>

<sup>2</sup> Iran and DPRK not included due to limitations in data availability.

<sup>3</sup> Countries with updated representative assessments are Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Colombia, DRC, El Salvador, Eswatini, Guatemala, Honduras, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan, and Togo.

WFP's early analysis of a significant deterioration in food security levels over 2020 has been validated by newly available assessments and Integrated Phase Classification or compatible joint analyses in 16 countries.<sup>3</sup> In June WFP projected the number of people in acute food insecurity in those countries could increase from 44.5 million to 71.6 million due to the compounding impact of COVID-19. New assessments and joint analyses as of November confirm the negative trend, with the number of people in acute food insecurity now reported to be even higher, at 73.2 million people.

The worsening trend is further corroborated by the Global Report on Food Crises (September 2020 update) where food insecurity is observed to have deepened in most of the 27 analysed countries.

**As the COVID-19 crisis becomes protracted, it is increasingly challenging to separate the food security needs generated by a single driver – COVID-19 – from the aggravating and compounding impact that the crisis is having in areas that face multiple and overlapping drivers of vulnerability, such as conflict, socio-economic downturns, natural hazards, climate change and pests.**

While 2020 marks the most severe uptick given the global nature of the crisis, impacting vulnerable households in every country, the deterioration is occurring within a broader context of increased hunger in recent years, driven by conflict, climate and economic shocks: since 2015 the world has witnessed an overall steady growth in chronic and acute hunger.

## REAL-TIME MONITORING: VISUALIZING A DETERIORATING FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

WFP's continuous real-time monitoring (mVAM) collects information on household food consumption and other key food security indicators through phone surveys, allowing to track evolving situations even when access is most restricted. With continuous monitoring established in 39 countries today, WFP has much greater real-time information to drive operational planning.

**Where longer term data is available, the continued downward trend in food security over the course of 2020 is more visible than ever.**

The tables below chart the number of people (in millions) with insufficient food consumption. The data presents a rolling monthly average, covering the period from January to November 2020.

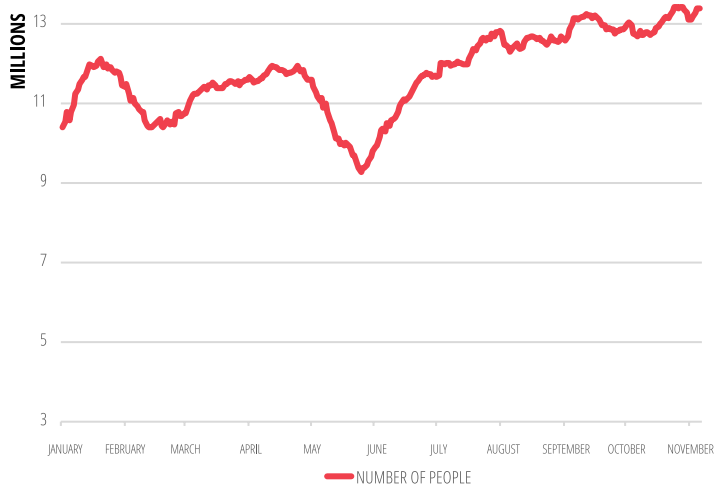
In Yemen and Syria, with the exception of a slight improvement in food consumption around Ramadan, a continued and sharp increase in the number of people consuming insufficient quantity and quality of food is observed over the course of 2020. This is especially worrisome as WFP and food security partners have not received the funding required to address these growing food

security needs – nor to sustain current operations at the level required to improve household food consumption.

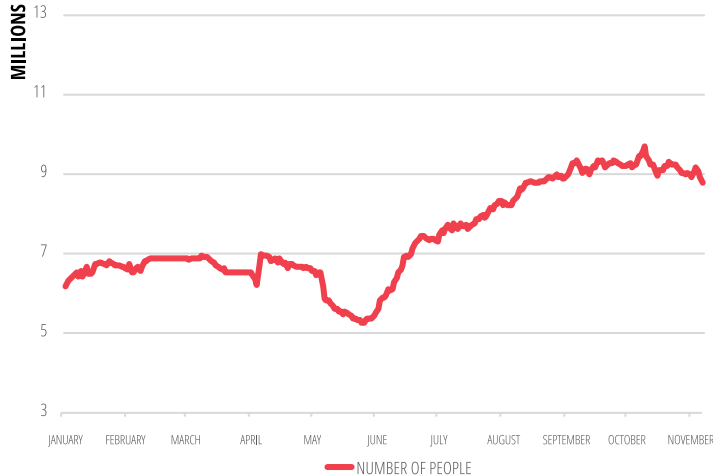
In Mali and northeast Nigeria, similar continued trends over 2020 are observed. Following a peak of seasonal food insecurity during the lean season, some slight improvement is observed in northeast Nigeria with the harvest. However, both countries continue to report higher levels of insufficient food consumption compared to the start of the year – abnormal at this point in the season and a worrisome indication for the months ahead.

**REAL-TIME MONITORING: NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH INSUFFICIENT FOOD CONSUMPTION (IN MILLIONS)**  
**JANUARY – NOVEMBER 2020**

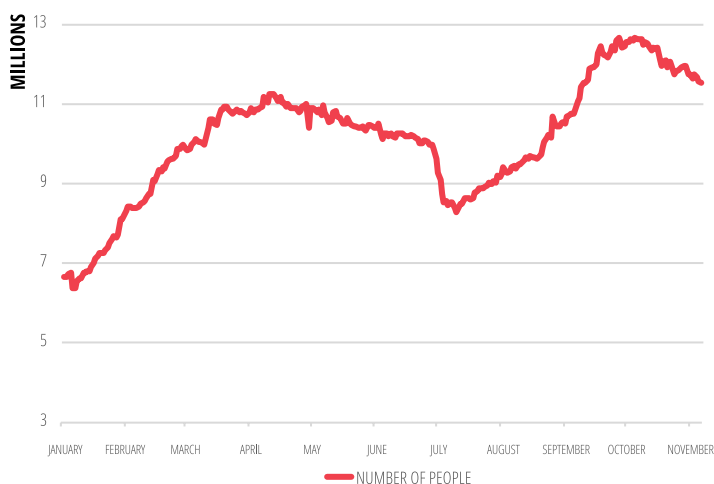
**FIGURE 1: YEMEN**



**FIGURE 2: SYRIA**



**FIGURE 3: MALI**



**FIGURE 4: NORTHEAST NIGERIA**



## LOOKING TO 2021: COVID-19 WILL CONTINUE TO COMPOUND VULNERABILITIES

While there are some early signs that the global economy is starting to recover from the depths it reached earlier in 2020 following widespread lockdowns and the near halt of global supply chains, the return to a level of normalcy is expected to be slow, uneven, and uncertain. Both 2020 and 2021 are expected to be lost years in terms of economic growth and the global economy is unlikely to return to pre-COVID-19 levels before 2022.

Medium to longer-term effects of the global crisis will be felt well into 2021 and poorer countries and vulnerable households will be disproportionately affected. Unemployment, wage loss, and reduced remittances will continue to drive increased hunger throughout this period. The World Bank estimates that up to 150 million additional people could fall into extreme poverty by the end of 2021 due to the pandemic – the worst setback to poverty reduction in at least three decades.

Updated ILO estimates indicate that 495 million full-time jobs were lost during the second quarter of 2020. Poor informal workers in urban areas, many of them women or young workers, have been particularly affected by loss of income: of the 2 billion workers in informal sectors, 76 percent have been significantly affected by the COVID-19 crisis. Of particular concern are the more than 164 million migrant workers in the world and other status-vulnerable groups, most of whom rely on the informal sector. In turn, the 800 million people worldwide who rely on remittances are at risk:

remittance flows are projected to decline by 14 percent by 2021 (World Bank) and a recent [WFP/IOM study](#) estimates that by 2021 nearly 33 million people could be directly at risk of acute food insecurity due to the loss of remittances.

**Despite initial assessments that the pandemic would require a rapid emergency response, the longer-term socio-economic fallout and other compounding factors are leading to a slower onset and protracted crisis that will require sustained attention for months and years to come.**

These medium to longer-term lingering economic impacts will compound pre-existing vulnerabilities and emerging risks in 2021. The [Early Warning Analysis of Acute Food Insecurity Hotspots](#) published jointly by FAO and WFP (November 2020) identifies 20 countries that are likely to face potential spikes in high acute food insecurity in the next three to six months due to expanding conflict, macroeconomic crises exacerbated by COVID-19 measures, weather extremes caused by the ongoing La Niña event, and desert locusts.

**In Burkina Faso, northeast Nigeria, South Sudan, and Yemen - parts of the population are facing a risk of famine. While these areas differ in context, they are marked by the expansion of conflict, rising food prices, flooding, challenges for populations to access basic services and assistance, and insufficient humanitarian funding to respond to and mitigate a hunger catastrophe in 2021.**



**La Niña is likely to persist through the first quarter of 2021, affecting rainfall patterns in many parts of the world and increasing the risk of heavy rainfall and flooding in some areas, while also giving rise to drought in others.** East Africa is expected to face significant reductions in rainfall, risking back-to-back poor agricultural and pastoral seasons. Afghanistan, Iran and parts of Pakistan are likely to receive below-average rainfall during their main season risking crop yields. In the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, la Niña has resulted in an intensified storm season still underway with supertyphoons and multi-country hurricane damage reported in both regions in November, destroying homes, assets and harvests. Across most of southern Africa and south-east Asia, above average rainfall will increase the risk of flooding.



**Crime and civil unrest remain prevailing security threats in the COVID-19 context while armed conflicts and activities by armed groups continue, with an escalation in recent weeks in some locations.** Politicization of COVID-19 in some countries will contribute to heightened risks of political instability, while in other countries the reduced inhibiting context is resulting in security gaps exploited by non-state armed groups, extremists or criminals. Conflict continues to displace households and disrupt livelihoods, food systems and access to basic services. In Afghanistan and northern Mozambique, violence has soared in recent months, while new frontlines of conflict are observed in Ethiopia and the southern Caucasus. Conflict will remain the primary single driver of hunger in 2021.



**The pandemic has affected electoral calendars worldwide, postponing elections or referendums in 2020 and contributing to political tensions and uncertainty.** The pandemic is likely to give rise to similar political strains during upcoming elections, with increased risks of unrest and instability particularly in contexts with long-standing political, economic and ethnic fault lines. Countries with critical elections and referendums for the months ahead include: Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Niger, and Peru.





### **CHANGING NEEDS: INFORMING THE 2021 GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW**

Since September, Food Security Cluster partners in 27 countries have been analyzing humanitarian needs and developing the 2021 Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNOs) and Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs). As COVID-19 compounds protracted conflicts, destructive climate shocks, and prevailing economic turbulence in these countries, latest data and analysis are informing the updated People in Need for 2021 – to be released next month (December) through the Global Humanitarian Overview. An overall rise in the people in need compared to previous years is witnessed across the HNO/HRP countries and will drive increased financial requirements to respond to the needs of food-insecure populations. One notable trend is the increase in need in urban areas, as COVID-19 economic implications ravage the informal sector: in Zimbabwe for example, the number of people in need in urban areas is projected to increase by 35 percent, while in Afghanistan urban dynamics are contributing to an overall increase in the number of people in need.

## II. Response

**As the pandemic expanded into countries where WFP operates and the economic impacts on the most vulnerable began to appear in WFP real-time monitoring, country offices around the world shifted from adjusting delivery mechanisms to sustain programmes to also scale-up to meet new needs.** WFP's country-level responses were captured in the Global COVID-19 Response Plan released 1 July 2020 and framed around three overarching pillars:

- 1. Sustain** critical assistance to WFP's pre-COVID targeted beneficiaries;
- 2. Scale-up** to assist additional people on the brink of acute food insecurity due to the COVID-19 compounded impacts; and
- 3. Support** governments and partners in their COVID-19 response through provision of technical assistance, tangible assets and services, and complementary support.

In parallel, the global service provision platform was expanded to enable country-level humanitarian and health response by ensuring the uninterrupted movement of personnel and cargo and securing duty of care.

**The foundations put in place during WFP's COVID-19 response have been critical not only to sustain operations and meet growing needs in partnership with governments, but also position WFP to respond to new climate and conflict shocks that have arisen amidst the pandemic. WFP's evolving portfolio is being carried forward into 2021, as governments continue to seek WFP support to address and mitigate the rising humanitarian needs.**

This November update provides the latest information on the implementation of WFP's response plan and provides an indication of WFP's continued priorities as 2021 approaches. Detailed country-level updates on plans, response to date, and constraints are contained in the Annex.

**Insufficient funding has been the primary challenge to implement WFP's response – resulting in sustained ration reductions including among severely food insecure populations affected by conflict, and impeding scale-up plans to the level required. Implications are outlined in Section IV Requirements and in the Annex.**

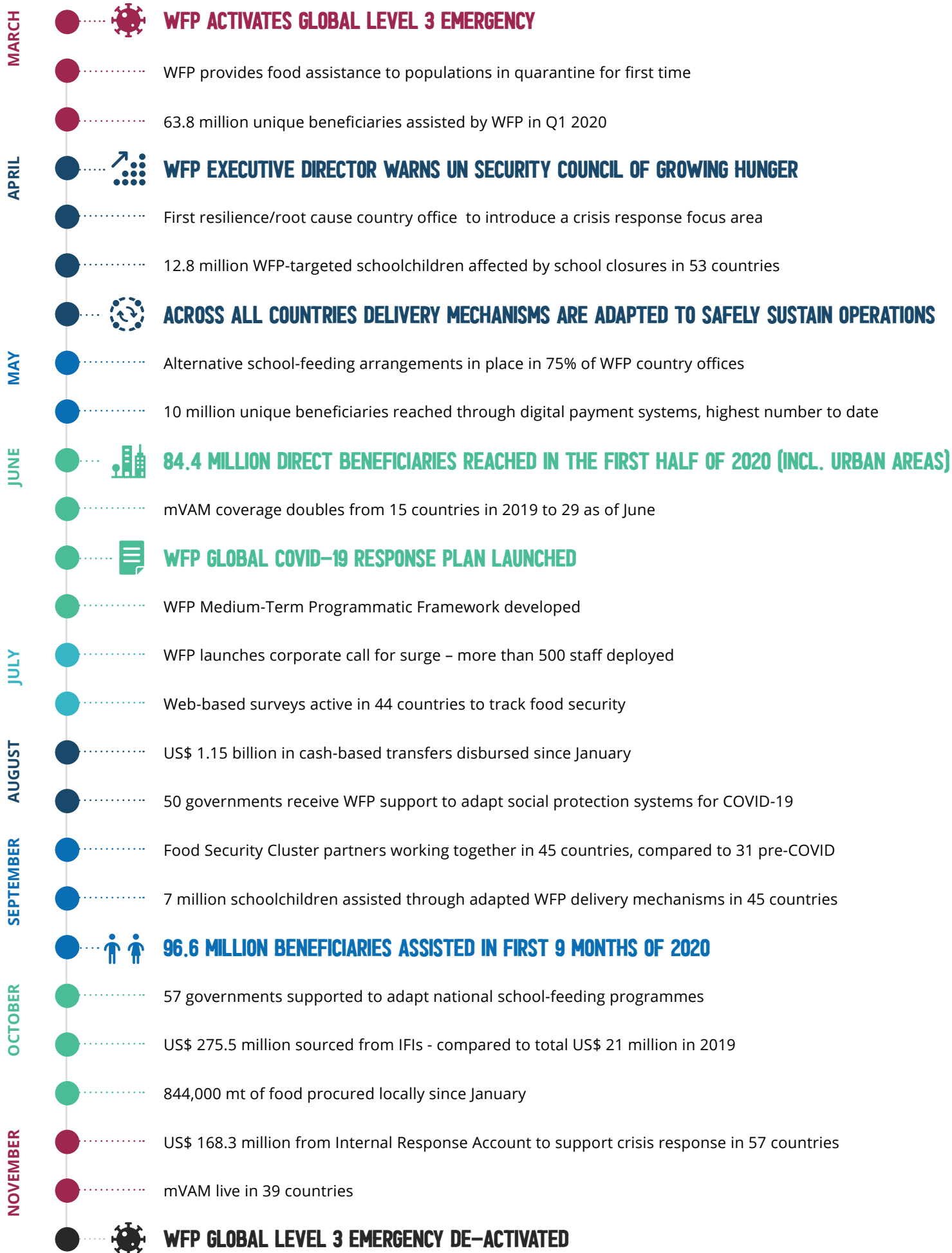
### WFP COVID-19 RESPONSE IN MILESTONES: MARCH - NOVEMBER

Despite the challenging resource environment, between March and November 2020 WFP and partners managed to sustain operations, scale-up to meet new needs, and extend support to governments and partners to deliver an unprecedented global humanitarian response. The timeline on the next page outlines key milestones since the declaration of the pandemic and WFP's internal activation of a corporate global Level 3 Emergency – the first in history – through to today.

The capacities put in place during the Level 3 include the diversification of suppliers, expansion of financial service providers and cooperating partners, reinforcement of the staff footprint, approval of budget revisions framing response plans, adaptation of delivery mechanisms to mitigate health risks, and the establishment of the global common service backbone and duty of care. WFP capitalized on its internal financing mechanisms, transferring internal funds to top up the Immediate Response Account, increasing its corporate supply line and prepositioning food commodities in strategic locations through the Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF): compared to Q1, by Q2 the average GCMF stock was 30 percent higher, and by Q3 a further 15 percent increase was in place reaching almost 940,000 mt. Internal savings generated by corporate re-prioritization allowed to secure funds for essential medical evacuation services.

Combined, these measures enabled WFP to ensure the capacities required to deliver on its response plan. In November 2020, WFP de-activated its global Level 3 in recognition of the improved and adapted structures and capacities in place to deliver on growing needs.





## WFP COVID-19 RESPONSE IN NUMBERS

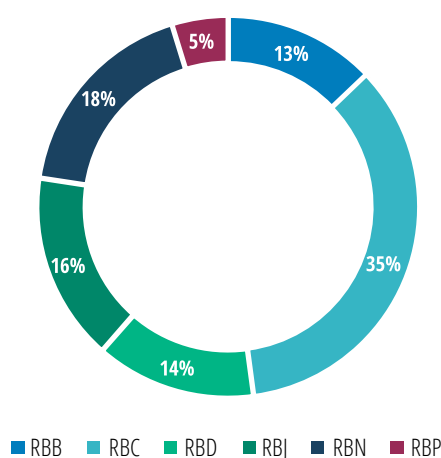
Between January and September 2020, WFP provided direct critical food and nutrition assistance to 96.6 million beneficiaries in 73 countries – nearly the same as the entire direct beneficiary population reached in all of 2019.<sup>4</sup>

### BENEFICIARIES REACHED SINCE JANUARY 2020

Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020
<b>63.8</b> million	<b>84.4</b> million	<b>96.6</b> million

**Preliminary data indicates that WFP assisted more people with unconditional food assistance in the first 9 months of 2020 than in all of 2019 (68.8 million and 60.8 million comparatively).** The Middle East, Central Asia and North Africa continues to represent the largest number of WFP beneficiaries and so far in 2020 WFP has reached more beneficiaries than in all of 2019. In West and Central Africa, where a significant and rapid increase in acute food insecurity is observed since 2019, WFP has accordingly scaled up and in the first 9 months of 2020 reached 23 percent more beneficiaries than all of last year. In Asia and the Pacific, where governments have led the response, WFP has focused its direct assistance on specific population groups (eg refugees and host communities, migrants and people in quarantine) and/or top-ups to complement the national systems and has already surpassed its reach from 2019. In East Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Southern Africa, WFP is on track to reach the same level or more beneficiaries as in 2019 – but funding has been a major constraint to sustain and scale-up operations.

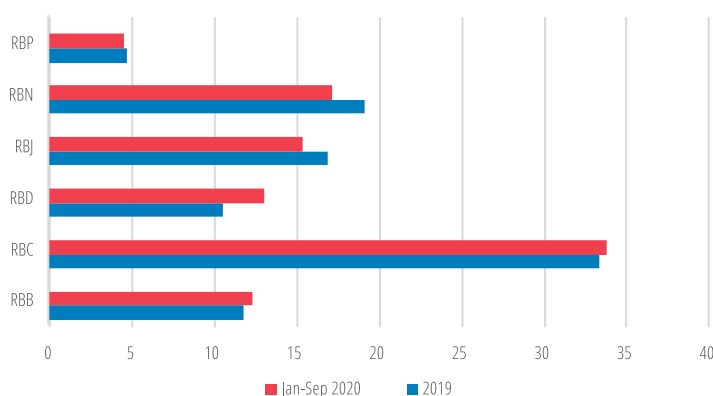
**FIGURE 5: WFP BENEFICIARIES REACHED BY REGION<sup>5</sup> JANUARY – SEPTEMBER 2020**



<sup>4</sup> NOTE: all 2020 data in this section are preliminary figures only, collected on a quarterly basis for the first time in 2020. Final data will only be available after the annual reconciliation exercise at the end of the year, and released in the Annual Performance Report in 2021. The beneficiary number represents direct beneficiaries only, collected from 73 countries; it does not include indirect beneficiaries assisted in these 73 countries as well as in more than 10 additional countries where WFP operates in a support role.

<sup>5</sup> RBB (Asia and the Pacific); RBC (Middle East, Central Asia and North Africa); RBD (West and Central Africa); RBJ (Southern Africa); RBN (East Africa); RBP (Latin America and the Caribbean).

**FIGURE 6: UNIQUE BENEFICIARIES REACHED BY REGION<sup>5</sup> (IN MILLIONS OF PEOPLE) 12 MONTHS OF 2019 / 9 MONTHS OF 2020**



Notable features of WFP's direct assistance scale-up so far in 2020 – as captured through up-to-date country-level reporting and contained in Annex:



**Punctual assistance to populations to cover the food gap during peak periods:** As of November, WFP completed one-time distributions for nearly 2.73 million people in Afghanistan, Sudan, and Central African Republic through cash-based transfers, vouchers and food parcels. In other countries, punctual targeted assistance is delivered when the evolving COVID-19 and hunger context requires: in Liberia WFP has provided temporary support to 304,490 persons on behalf of the Government's COVID-19 Household Food Support Programme and next month a new round of short-term assistance will be provided to vulnerable groups in the four most affected counties.



**Food assistance to populations in COVID-19 isolation/quarantine centres, including returning migrants:** In some 20 countries of Central and East Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America, WFP is providing food support to populations in quarantine or isolation. As outlined in the country-level Annex, WFP is extending this support into 2021 in many of these countries, including Laos, Nepal and Ethiopia, as migrant workers continue to return at a significant rate. In Myanmar, WFP has provided short-term food and nutrition assistance to 73,000 returning migrants in quarantine sites and is now revising plans to support up to 120,000 persons until March 2021.



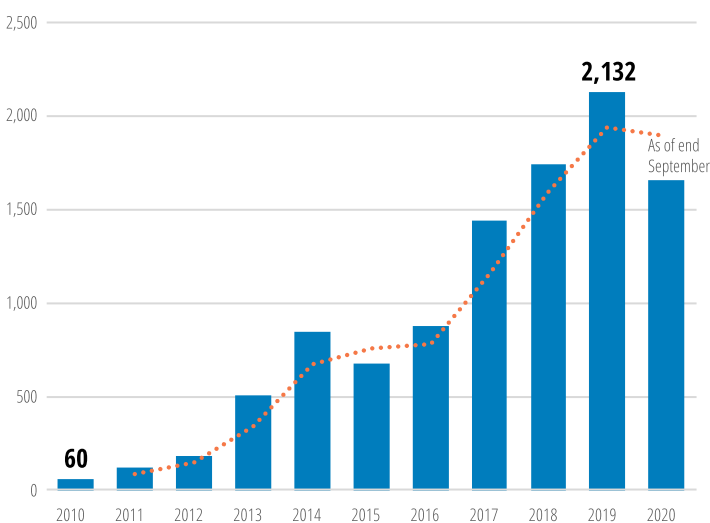
**Expansion into urban areas to support the growing number of people in need:** As food insecurity in urban areas rises, so does WFP’s footprint. In Zimbabwe, WFP is implementing a more than five-fold scale up of its urban assistance in the coming months. While in Bangladesh, a new urban response launched in Dhaka for 37,000 people in September is being expanded as an urban safety net in at-risk low-income urban slums in the capital and Chittagong Hill Tracts. As 2021 HNO/HRPs under development foreshadow, urban food insecurity is expected to continue to influence response plans in 2021; increased coordination of humanitarian responses in urban centers will be required to ensure efficient and effective use of resources.



**Increase WFP cash-based transfer capacities:** From January-October WFP transferred US\$ 1.7 billion to vulnerable people in 67 countries – up from 61 countries in the same period last year. Today WFP works with 209 financial service providers to deliver its cash-based transfers (compared to 171 in 2019) and has active contracts with 5,217 retailers (compared to 4,100 last year). Market monitoring has allowed WFP to adjust its response when needed, such as in Lebanon, Palestine and Sudan where cash-based transfer values have been adjusted in line with rising food prices and currency valuation: as of November, the transfer value in Lebanon is LBP 100,000 - compared to LBP 40,500 in March.

The expansion of cash-based transfers in 2020 reflects a continuing trend of the past decade:

**FIGURE 7: TREND ANNUAL ACTUAL CBT VALUE DISBURSED (IN USD MILLIONS)**



The efforts undertaken to scale-up cash-based transfer capacities not only enabled WFP’s COVID-19 scale-up, but also ensured WFP preparedness. When hurricane Eta left widespread damage in Central America in November, WFP leveraged its pre-existing Financial Service Provider agreement in Guatemala to activate an emergency mechanism for timely distribution of cash-based transfers to affected populations within a 3-day period instead of the normal 10 days required.



**Promote inclusion and prospects for stability:** A key tenet of WFP’s response has been to support populations otherwise not captured in existing humanitarian or national response plans, extending WFP direct assistance to additional migrant, refugee and status-vulnerable populations in Africa, South America and the Middle East. In India, WFP policy recommendations helped inform the Government’s decision to expand the Targeted Public Distribution System to reach 80 million migrants and raised awareness among migrants from Uttar Pradesh about the national access to their entitlements. WFP also extended support to host populations in need, such as in countries hosting Venezuelan migrant communities, to mitigate potential tensions. In Turkey, WFP has partnered with IOM, GIZ and local municipalities to finance soup kitchens for local and refugee populations affected by the crisis. Turkish nationals and refugees work together to prepare meals and manage the kitchens, serving 11,500 meals each day.



**Protect resilience gains and promote a foundation for recovery:** Notwithstanding extreme contextual and funding challenges, WFP successfully maintained a high level of investment in asset creation and livelihoods support – reaching some 7 million people in the first 9 months of 2020, not far behind 2019 totals. Following early disruptions to group-based asset and training activities due to social distancing measures, today in Malawi asset creation is implemented with a reduced number of participants per site, division of tasks, rotational break times and provision of personal protective equipment. Similar steps have been taken across WFP asset creation and livelihoods programmes from Honduras to Niger, Burundi to Tajikistan. In Palestine, activities focus on climate-smart agricultural assets including hydroponics, livestock and home gardens.



### **Adjust school-based safety nets amidst COVID-19**

**Closures:** As COVID-19 spread, by April 90 percent of students worldwide, or 1.6 billion children, were out of the school system and an estimated 370 million children were missing out on school meals. In response to school closures, more than 70 countries worldwide looked for alternatives to school meals during closures. WFP adapted its programme to assist millions of children, providing alternative cash-based transfers or take-home rations – and supported 57 government to similarly adjust, such as in Bangladesh where WFP assisted the Government transition to take-home rations for 2.7 million children. Overall, in the first 9 months of 2020, more than 13 million schoolchildren received WFP school-based support despite school closures in many countries. As of November, WFP has resumed onsite school meals in 2/3 of its programme countries where schools have begun reopening; where WFP cannot yet resume, it maintains the distribution of alternative take-home rations or cash to sustain this vital safety net.



**Harness technology for programme delivery:** In addition to using technology to expand food security monitoring, WFP has harnessed it to deliver its crisis response. In Somalia, the delivery module of the e-shop app has provided home deliveries totaling US\$ 5.9 million to 301,700 people across Somalia. In DRC, where WFP is partnering with UN agencies and the government for a first-time urban safety net programme, strict safety protocols are being introduced as of November to allow for the safe use of fingerprint biometrics – initially suspended at the outbreak of the pandemic.



**Leverage WFP footprint to promote food systems:** To support WFP's operations, between January and October 2020, WFP procured 844,000 mt locally, at a value of US\$ 548 million. At the community level, WFP has continued to scale-up support to smallholder farmers, such as assistance to increase supply and access to markets in Sao Tome and Principe, and supporting the distribution of seed packages in Sri Lanka alongside the government.



**Sustain and scale-up nutrition programming:** In the first 9 months of 2020 WFP provided direct nutrition assistance to more than 12 million people, primarily pregnant and lactating women and girls and young children through treatment and prevention programmes.

In response to COVID-19, in a number of countries WFP scaled-up nutrition specific support to ensure the nutrition needs of particularly vulnerable groups such as people in quarantine/isolation centers, the elderly, and people living with HIV/AIDS. Amidst a global shortfall in specialized nutritious food supply, WFP identified additional suppliers to enable the response and identified locally available and appropriate nutrient-rich alternatives to cover the gap.



**Build new strategic and operational partnerships:** As articulated in the September update, one of the notable developments in 2020 has been the expansion of financing secured through International Financial Institutions (IFIs). As of mid-November, WFP has confirmed US\$ 281 million in financing with an additional US\$ 120 million pending final approval by national governments – a substantial increase in scale and scope compared to US\$ 21 million confirmed in 2019. Nearly half of this financing is directly linked to COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. These growing partnerships are not limited to 2020: in Haiti, WFP has received over US\$ 93 million from the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank to scale up food and cash-based transfers to vulnerable populations affected by COVID-19 and compounding shocks, while continuing to build government systems through 2021. Prospects for 2021 suggest that financing sourced from IFIs will continue to increase.



### **SCHOOL MEALS CONTINUE TO BE A VITAL SAFETY NET AND CRITICAL INCENTIVE FOR RETURN**

Today at least 224 million children are still out of school. Inequalities in accessing education are exacerbated: 1/3 of pre-primary to upper secondary students do not have the opportunity to learn due to lack of remote learning policies or lack of information communication technology. Between 16 and 24 million students from pre-primary to secondary, including 7.6 million girls, are at risk of dropping out of school this year.

Today, WFP's priority is helping countries to reopen their schools safely and restore access to meals. WFP has joined UNICEF, UNESCO and WHO to call on global leaders to invest in school health and nutrition; is partnering with UNICEF across 30 countries to provide integrated school-based support for nutrition, clean water, and sanitation; and has joined a coalition of partners through the #SaveOurFuture campaign to protect investments in education and support governments to plan for the safe re-opening of schools, making sure meal and health services are in place and creating incentives for parents to send children, especially girls, back to school.

## SUPPORT: CAPACITY STRENGTHENING AND SERVICES

In addition to providing direct assistance, WFP has supported governments across 50 countries to adapt their national social protection systems for the COVID-19 context – including 32 countries to expand Government-to-Person payments, supported 57 countries to adjust national school-feeding safety nets, and managed procurement services to support the health and humanitarian response. In 2020 WFP became the preferred logistics provider for 11 governments accessing the World Bank’s pooled procurement initiative for COVID-19 critical items, and all indications suggest these trends will continue in 2021.

**The impact of WFP service provision and institutional capacity strengthen is substantial.** For example:

- the food procured by WFP on behalf of the Government of Guatemala has benefitted over 1 million families affected by the economic impact of COVID-19;
- in the Philippines, WFP’s roll-out of SCOPE in BARMM allowed to register and assist 353,000 households through the national system and in Cambodia WFP and partners provided financial and technical assistance to scale-up the national IDPoor, enabling the transfer of more than US\$ 100 million to poor households;
- while in East Africa, cross-border support and training provided to governments and Trademark East Africa helped to streamline and harmonize clearance and testing protocols and enable the timely flow of humanitarian and commercial goods across borders.

**These examples are just some of the ways in which WFP has leveraged its footprint and expertise to support government and partner led responses to COVID-19 and growing hunger needs, contributing to substantial improvements in the lives of vulnerable communities all the while investing in national systems and promoting trust.**

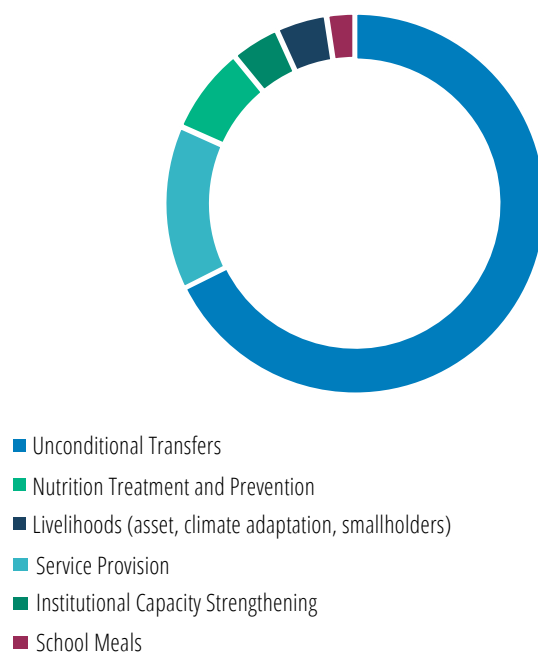
WFP’s global mandated clusters have also been called upon at an unprecedented level in 2020. The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster is currently active in six countries providing services (Bangladesh, CAR, Libya, Nigeria, Syria and Yemen) and active for preparedness activities in the Pacific. 2020 saw Logistics Cluster activations in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and Pacific region, in addition to Cluster-led gaps and needs analyses in 12 countries. Food Security Cluster partners are working together in 45 countries, up from 31 countries pre-COVID.

## LOOKING TO 2021: WHAT DOES COVID-19 MEAN FOR WFP’S PROGRAMME OF WORK

**The global COVID-19 crisis has exacerbated global risks, vulnerabilities, and inequalities and will continue to affect food and nutrition security throughout 2021. WFP must continue to sustain and scale-up actions that provide immediate assistance to those most in need and maintain global common services where and when required – while continuing to increase investments to support affected communities, national governments and partners to ‘build back better.’** As articulated in the Medium-Term Programme Framework (MTPF), WFP will leverage its expertise and assistance to help develop, adapt, and deliver national social protection systems, basic education and nutrition services, and food systems that enhance equitable access and help to mitigate loss, protect assets and livelihoods, and strengthen communities’ and countries’ resilience to future shocks and stresses.

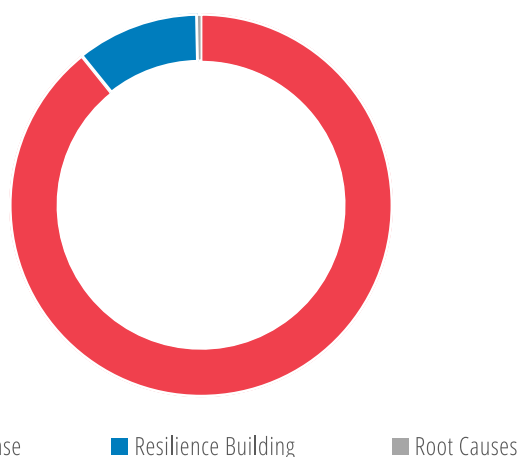
At the country level, changing response plans are captured in budget revisions to Country Strategic Plans (CSPs). To date 97 budget revisions have been submitted in 2020, up from a total 67 revisions in 2019. Following a significant spike in CSP revisions in April, a new wave is underway as country offices integrate the 2020 scale-up plans and revise their 2021 programme of work to accommodate continuing COVID-19 compounded impacts. Crisis response represents 82 percent of total additional COVID-19 related requirements so far in 2020, destined primarily to unconditional resource transfers activities and service provision.

**FIGURE 8: ACTIVITY CATEGORY**





**FIGURE 9: FOCUS AREA**



Based on ongoing revisions and country-level response plans (detailed in the Annex), early indications suggest:



**WFP will continue to play an important direct food assistance role in the response to the COVID-19 and compounding crises in 2021**, both the direct first

consequences (e.g. the continuation of food assistance to populations on the move in quarantine centres) as well as the compounding impacts of the global crisis on food and nutrition security.

Appropriate and effective response will include reinforcing early warning, analysis and preparedness actions to anticipate new risks on the horizon, and investing in household and community resilience and climate adaptation strategies to reduce risks and enhance resilience. Dynamic access and acceptance strategies will be essential to ensure WFP and partners are able to reach those most in need. Ensuring sufficient funding will be critical to avoid a humanitarian catastrophe in countries on the brink, and to promote stability and recovery.

The particular impact of COVID-19 on national economies has led to new asks of WFP in traditionally stable countries, expanding WFP's role from a primarily resilience/root cause focus, to today providing direct crisis response assistance. In April, Peru became the first WFP country office to add a first-time new crisis response focus area into its Country Strategic Plan to respond to COVID-19; since then, six more country offices have followed suit.

While WFP will continue to invest in resilience building and to address root causes through institutional capacity strengthening, in a number of countries WFP's evolving crisis portfolio is likely to endure in 2021. Such as in Armenia, where in July WFP revised its CSP to introduce a crisis response, partnering with the Government to deliver direct food assistance to COVID-shock-affected people.

When fighting broke out in the Southern Caucasus, WFP leveraged its evolving crisis portfolio and in-country resources to immediately extend food assistance to spontaneous arrivals. Today, WFP is leading food security coordination and needs-based planning, and developing a comprehensive crisis response with the Government.



**WFP will continue to be a partner of choice for the provision of supply chain services for governments.**

Service provision represents the second largest budgetary increase in COVID-19 related revisions in 2020 and as of November WFP continues to receive requests from governments for WFP supply chain support, whether through technical advice, services, infrastructure or a combination of these. Since May, twelve country offices have introduced a service provision crisis response into their CSP for the first-time.



**WFP will continue to play an important role in institutional capacity strengthening in 2021**, supporting

governments to adapt and strengthen social protection systems. Institutional capacity strengthening as a standalone activity represents an additional US\$ 165 million in revised budget requirements so far submitted in 2020, and offers a disproportionate impact by strengthening national systems.

**While crisis response remains a priority in 2021, WFP's response to date as well as the revisions underway outline how WFP will continue through its response to contribute to strengthening access to national social protection, basic services including school and nutrition safety nets, and efficient and greener food systems. These priorities are reflected in WFP's Medium-Term Programmatic Framework, and outline WFP's contribution alongside communities, governments and partners to 'build back better.'**

# III. Common Services Spotlight

As COVID-19 halted supply chains and travel, in mid-March, WFP launched the global common service platform at the request of partners and governments to ensure the continued movement of vital humanitarian and health supplies into countries and ensure duty of care.

Since the launch, between mid-March and mid-November WFP:

- Delivered assistance to 171 countries, 88 percent of the world's nations, to meet humanitarian and health requirements;
- Transported 25,233 health and humanitarian personnel to a total of 68 destinations on behalf of 397 organizations over the course of 1,415 flights;
- Established a hub-and-spoke system connecting all continents and through it dispatched 91,860 m<sup>3</sup> of critical cargo to 171 countries on behalf of 64 organizations (75,896 m<sup>3</sup> of which was transported via WFP's free-to-user services); and
- Conducted 52 medical evacuations out of a total 82 carried out by WFP and UNDOCS.

## LOOKING AHEAD: MAINTAIN READINESS

As of November, airspace restrictions have relaxed and commercial carriers have begun to resume operations. WFP has withdrawn air passenger service to destinations now serviced by safe and reliable commercial options, while continuing to fly to those destinations that could not otherwise be reached.

As the pandemic continues to evolve, WFP will retain its ability to resume flights to discontinued destinations, if and when needed.

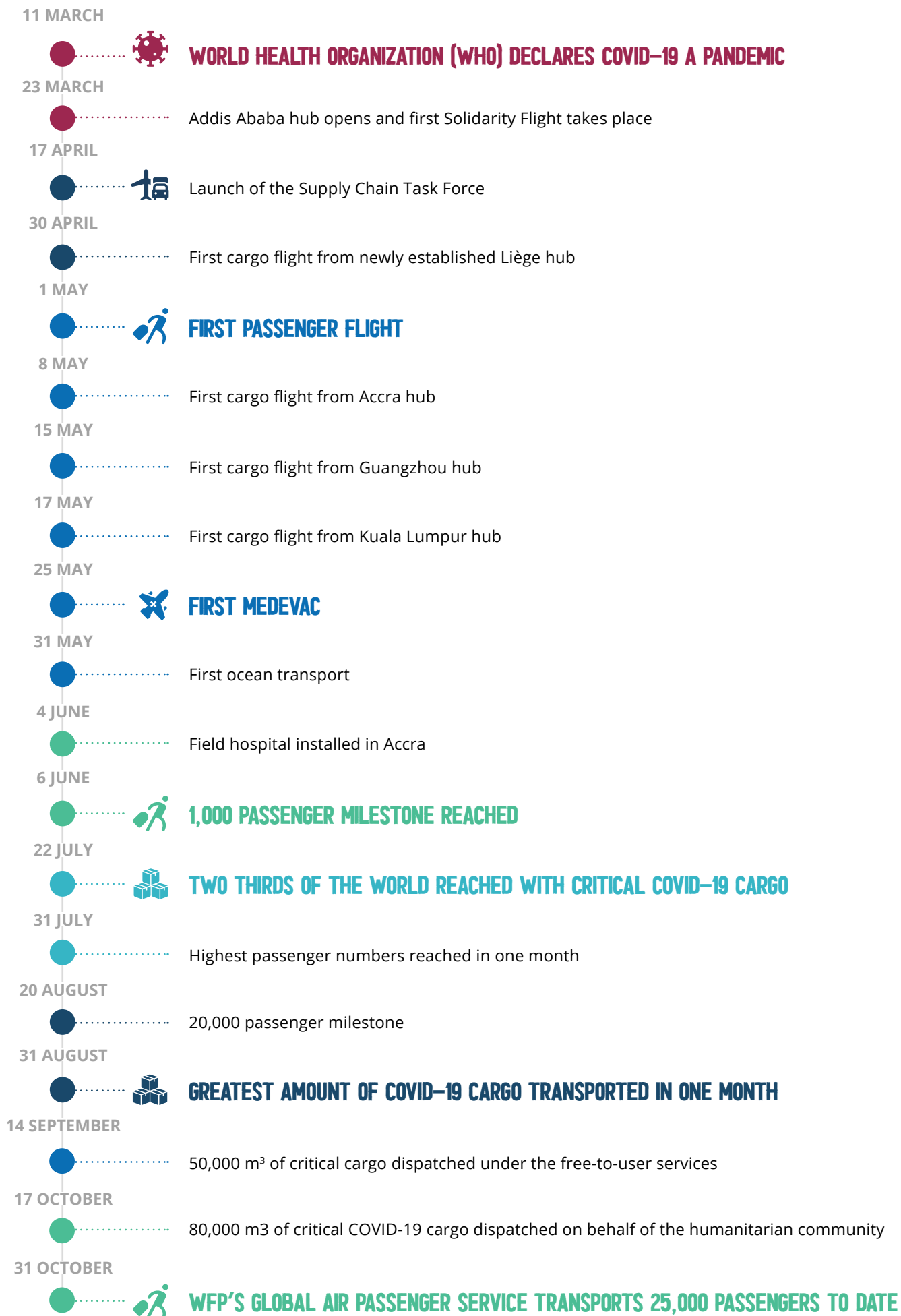
In close coordination with its partners, WFP has begun to phase down its free-to-user cargo services due to improvements in commercial transport markets and revised pipeline figures demonstrating a lower quantity of response items requiring transport than first expected. Given the unpredictability of COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts, WFP will maintain its strategic capacity to respond to potential needs from partners over the coming months.

WFP's existing mechanisms to support and enable the humanitarian community through mandated services in-country such as the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service and the Logistics Cluster, as well as the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot network and WFP's bilateral service provision offering will remain available as required.

WFP continues co-lead the UN Medevac Cell together with the United Nations Department of Operational Support, ensuring that if infected, personnel can be safely transported for treatment.

With the prospect of a vaccine becoming available in the next months, WFP is upgrading cold chain infrastructure across hubs to be ready if there is a request to support COVID-19 vaccine supply chains as well as future health responses. Ensuring equitable access and distribution of an approved vaccine will be crucial to ending the pandemic.





# IV. Requirements

## FUNDING: THE PRIMARY CONSTRAINT

**Funding has been instrumental to sustain WFP's vital operations, scale-up to meet new needs, and support governments and partners to deliver a collective response; but, gaps remain and in most cases contributions have been insufficient for the pace of response required to cover all needs and mitigate more widespread hunger.**

When the Global Response Plan was launched in July 2020, WFP appealed for US\$ 4.9 billion for 6 months to address the increasing severity of hunger; five months have passed and only half that requirement has been secured. Donor conditions and earmarking of contributions have also led to uneven resourcing across WFP operations. In September at the UN General Assembly, WFP re-iterated the alarm as food security continued to deteriorate and limited funding was impeding the ability of food security actors to mitigate these new needs. Against this backdrop, WFP launched an updated 6-month appeal for US\$ 5.1 billion; WFP is grateful to 24 donors who have come forward extending support with US\$ 403 million since the September appeal, though shortfalls remain outstanding.

**Across critical humanitarian operations, WFP has had to implement prolonged ration cuts**, such as in DRC where latest Integrated Phase Classification shows the world's largest burden of hunger and where today refugees receive only some 75 percent of their required food needs. Similar situations are reported in Cameroon, Central African Republic, and across East Africa IDP and refugee responses. In Kenya, WFP has been compelled to further reduce rations from 60 to 40 percent. In Syria, where a steady and significant worsening of food security is reported, WFP beneficiaries are already receiving reduced kilocalories and WFP may be required to further reduce rations and beneficiary coverage from next month.

**Insufficient funding is particularly worrisome in Burkina Faso, Nigeria, South Sudan and Yemen where parts of the population already experience extreme hunger, excess mortality and high levels of acute malnutrition. In areas with high prevalence of IPC Phase 4 and with households already in IPC Phase 5, urgent and large-scale humanitarian action is required. But today, food security partners do not have the funding required to prevent widespread hunger and famine.**

**In Yemen, where 2019 had witnessed some progress in addressing food security needs, the reduction in levels of WFP assistance since April 2020 has had direct consequences for 9 million people: monitoring shows that the proportion of WFP beneficiary households with inadequate food consumption increased from 28 percent in May to 46 percent in September 2020.**

**Insufficient funding has also left WFP unable to implement the full scale-up required to respond to and mitigate the projected deterioration of food security resulting from the compounded impact of COVID-19.** In Colombia, where WFP reached more than 470,000 people in September (both pre-COVID and new beneficiaries) – 30 percent more beneficiaries than pre-COVID assistance levels – insufficient funding constrained efforts to reach the full target of an additional 550,000 new beneficiaries. In Palestine, WFP was similarly unable to meet all of the targeted additional people in need due to COVID-19; adjustments are being made to the response to extend assistance through January 2021 if funding is received.

**The funding context is more so of concern given the shock environment as of November which is requiring WFP to scale-up even beyond the needs articulated in this COVID-19 response plan**, such as unfolding displacement into and outside of Ethiopia, population movements into Liberia and Armenia, and back-to-back storms affecting parts of Central America and the Caribbean. With more than 20 risks on the horizon identified jointly by FAO and WFP, ensuring sufficient, timely and flexible funding is critical – this includes securing funds to revolve and maintain the Immediate Response Account.

## LOOKING AHEAD: NEXT 6 MONTHS

**Current needs-based plans indicate WFP will require US\$ 7.7 billion to deliver its programme for the coming six months (November 2020 – April 2021) – half of this is yet to be resourced. This requirement does not include any additional funds needed to maintain WFP's global common service where the situation requires.<sup>6</sup>**

**WFP's pipelines provide an indication of WFP's planned programme of work, but requirements are likely to increase in the coming months as 2021 response plans are finalized.** As noted in the Annex, a number of scale-up plans are not yet incorporated in budgets, and as of mid-November at least 16 additional budget revisions are in the pipeline. At the country-level, humanitarian partners are developing collective Humanitarian Response Plans for 2021 and IPC analyses are being finalized in a handful of large-scale humanitarian crises which could influence requirements. Finally, new evolving crises in the Southern Caucasus and Ethiopia, as well as the aftermath of tropical storm Eta in Latin America and the Caribbean – will drive additional funding needs.

Currently the global WFP funding forecast for 2021 projects anticipated contributions will decrease by at least US\$ 400 million, if not more, compared to 2020. Any reduction will hamper the organization's capacity to deliver. Managing, if not reducing, the funding gap remains a priority. WFP continues to deepen engagement with IFIs and private sector and is exploring innovative financing to bridge the gap and strengthen complementarity of humanitarian and development efforts to address short term needs, safeguard resilience and peace investments, and support nations and societies to build back better.

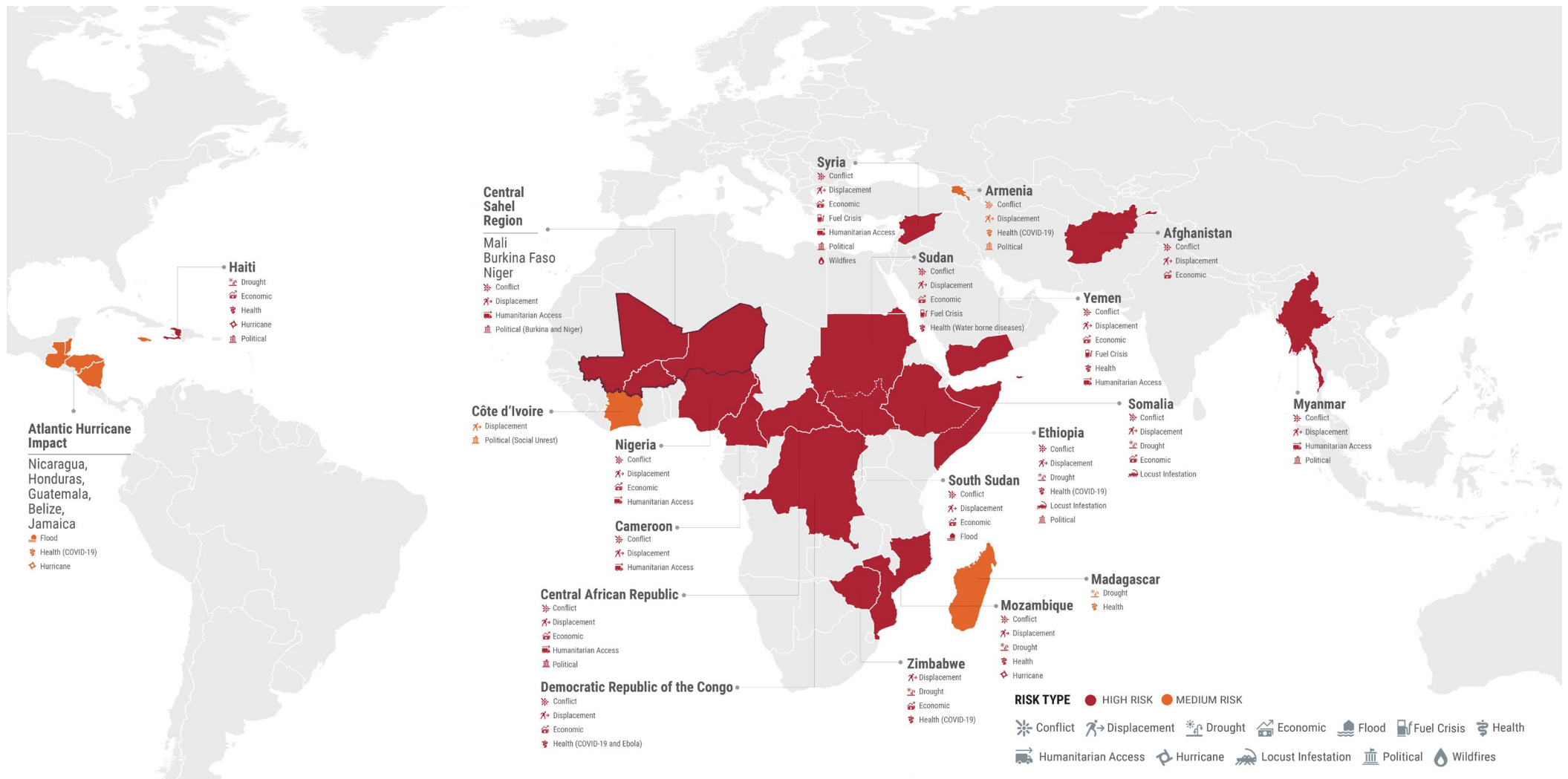


<sup>6</sup> The recent revision of the budget for Common Services has reduced total requirements to US\$ 316 million, with US\$ 42 million still required to ensure all remaining cargo in the pipeline can be moved, that passenger services can continue where commercial services remain unavailable, and that capacities can be built at the hubs to ensure that WFP can continue to support partners over the next phase of the response. If a scale-up of services is required in the future, additional funding may be needed.

# Priority Countries – Corporate Alert System

The Corporate Alert System (CAS) supports WFP leadership at Headquarters and Regional Bureaux levels on the prioritization of resources and where to focus attention in light of emerging crisis and operations of highest concern. It has a 6-month outlook to support timely and adequate preparedness and response by country offices. The November update below considers the compounding effects of the pandemic in countries experiencing conflict, political unrest, displacement, economic downturn, climate crises

and/or other acute shocks, differentiating between countries at high and medium risk and considering capacity to meet acute needs. Since the CAS was last issued in September, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia have been elevated to the highest alert level requiring corporate strategic attention alongside Nigeria, Yemen, South Sudan and Burkina Faso where populations are facing or could face IPC 5.



# Changing Requirements in Budget Numbers

## REGIONAL SUMMARY

	REVISED COVID-19 SCALE-UP BENEFICIARIES	PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (NOV- APR)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (NOV-APR)	% NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS OF PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS
Asia and the Pacific	4.8	637	278	44%
East Africa	3.4	2,008	918	46%
Latin America and the Caribbean	3.2	426	177	42%
Middle East, Central Asia and North Africa	10.1	2,468	1,160	47%
Southern Africa	7.7	1,100	696	63%
West and Central Africa	8.4	1,014	500	49%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>7,652</b>	<b>3,729</b>	<b>49%</b>



## COUNTRY SUMMARY (NOVEMBER-APRIL)

COUNTRY	PIPELINE REQ. IN US\$ MILLIONS	NET FUNDING REQ. IN US\$ MILLIONS	NET FUNDING REQ. %	COUNTRY	PIPELINE REQ. IN US\$ MILLIONS	NET FUNDING REQ. IN US\$ MILLIONS	NET FUNDING REQ. %	COUNTRY	PIPELINE REQ. IN US\$ MILLIONS	NET FUNDING REQ. IN US\$ MILLIONS	NET FUNDING REQ. %
<b>Afghanistan</b>	236.7	126.1	53%	<b>Guatemala</b>	29.5	21.0	71%	<b>Palestine</b>	40.3	28.1	70%
<b>Algeria</b>	10.2	5.4	53%	<b>Guinea</b>	15.6	8.2	53%	<b>Peru</b>	12.0	3.4	28%
<b>Angola</b>	4.7	1.5	32%	<b>Haiti</b>	108.4	6.5	6%	<b>Philippines</b>	7.4	1.1	15%
<b>Armenia</b>	4.4	0.0	0%	<b>Honduras</b>	41.8	23.3	56%	<b>Rep. of Congo</b>	42.8	31.0	72%
<b>Bangladesh</b>	186.5	68.5	37%	<b>India</b>	2.1	0.2	8%	<b>Rwanda</b>	22.3	0.0	0%
<b>Benin</b>	23.3	1.2	5%	<b>Indonesia</b>	1.6	0.2	13%	<b>São Tome</b>	0.3	0.2	61%
<b>Bhutan</b>	1.3	0.0	0%	<b>Iran</b>	3.4	0.0	0%	<b>Senegal</b>	26.2	19.4	74%
<b>Bolivia</b>	1.1	0.6	52%	<b>Iraq</b>	60.9	21.5	35%	<b>Sierra Leone</b>	15.8	7.8	49%
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	111.4	68.9	62%	<b>Jordan</b>	125.2	66.0	53%	<b>Somalia</b>	417.0	144.6	35%
<b>Burundi</b>	56.9	22.7	40%	<b>Kenya</b>	160.1	77.0	48%	<b>South Sudan</b>	800.2	450.9	56%
<b>Cambodia</b>	11.3	1.3	11%	<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	5.7	1.7	30%	<b>Sri Lanka</b>	3.1	0.0	0%
<b>Cameroon</b>	75.3	36.7	49%	<b>Lao PDR</b>	13.8	3.3	24%	<b>Sudan</b>	348.0	128.6	37%
<b>CAR</b>	108.1	61.7	57%	<b>Lebanon</b>	272.2	51.9	19%	<b>Syria</b>	589.2	311.6	53%
<b>Caribbean</b>	15.8	13.0	82%	<b>Lesotho</b>	21.0	12.5	60%	<b>Tajikistan</b>	16.1	8.0	49%
<b>Chad</b>	144.8	45.9	32%	<b>Liberia</b>	34.7	5.3	15%	<b>Tanzania</b>	50.3	23.8	47%
<b>Colombia</b>	127.1	73.3	58%	<b>Libya</b>	16.9	7.5	44%	<b>The Gambia</b>	9.5	6.4	68%
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	16.6	0.0	0%	<b>Madagascar</b>	67.5	42.0	62%	<b>Timor-Leste</b>	1.3	0.0	0%
<b>Cuba</b>	5.7	3.0	53%	<b>Malawi</b>	48.2	21.0	44%	<b>Togo</b>	8.2	9.6	117%
<b>Djibouti</b>	15.2	6.7	44%	<b>Mali</b>	71.5	37.1	52%	<b>Tunisia</b>	2.0	1.5	76%
<b>Dom. Rep.</b>	9.1	6.5	72%	<b>Mauritania</b>	21.7	22.9	106%	<b>Turkey</b>	45.1	34.9	78%
<b>DPR Korea</b>	25.1	3.8	15%	<b>Mozambique</b>	150.7	98.7	65%	<b>Uganda</b>	139.1	73.2	53%
<b>DRC</b>	352.1	171.0	49%	<b>Myanmar</b>	64.9	47.1	73%	<b>Yemen</b>	864.8	438.1	51%
<b>Ecuador</b>	39.0	1.4	4%	<b>Namibia</b>	4.8	4.6	97%	<b>Zambia</b>	14.1	0.0	0%
<b>Egypt</b>	63.7	55.5	87%	<b>Nepal</b>	17.2	0.0	0%	<b>Zimbabwe</b>	333.6	283.4	85%
<b>El Salvador</b>	19.2	19.2	100%	<b>Nicaragua</b>	16.8	5.5	33%				
<b>Eswatini</b>	10.5	6.3	60%	<b>Niger</b>	130.4	57.7	44%				
<b>Ethiopia</b>	397.0	142.7	36%	<b>Nigeria</b>	185.1	105.5	57%				
<b>G. Bissau</b>	9.6	3.2	34%	<b>Pacific</b>	5.5	0.0	0%				
<b>Ghana</b>	5.5	2.5	46%	<b>Pakistan</b>	59.2	26.3	44%				





# WFP Global Update on COVID-19: November 2020

## Response by country

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS ON FOOD SECURITY	WFP IMMEDIATE RESPONSE	COVID-19 SCALE-UP BENEFICIARIES	EVIDENCE OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED TO SUSTAIN/ SCALE-UP ASSISTANCE TO BENEFICIARIES JULY - TO DATE	PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (NOV - APR)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (NOV - APR)
Afghanistan	<p>Food insecurity remains high with continuing conflict, widespread unemployment, reduced income including remittances, and price hikes of basic food commodities (over 10% in Q3 compared to Q1) – exacerbated by the economic impacts of COVID-19. The World Bank estimates the poverty rate may increase by up to 72% in 2020, which could result in an additional 6 million people falling into poverty. Results of the latest Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) assessment indicate that 17 million people could be acutely food-insecure between November 2020 and March 2021 (44 percent of the population-based on Flowminder population estimates). Despite favorable climate conditions leading to good crop growth, insecurity prevents safe access for households to bring in the harvest. La Niña could threaten upcoming yields.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP’s focus remains on life-saving assistance, including take-home rations and cash transfers to replace school meals, redesigned resilience building activities, and seasonal support.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> In addition to the 7.2 million people which WFP planned to reach between June to December 2020, WFP will provide a one-time unconditional cash transfers or food to 3 million people impacted by COVID-19 –mostly concentrated in urban areas. WFP will readjust its implementation plan based on the latest IPC findings subject to resource availability.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP will complement the Government’s response as appropriate in the most vulnerable areas.</p>	<p>3,000,000 <i>(no change from June plan)</i></p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> Since July, WFP has assisted 2,274,000 people through unconditional in-kind and cash-based support, school feeding, nutrition and livelihoods activities. 103,000 primary school children have received monthly take-home rations and 6,500 secondary school girls cash transfers.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> 643,000 people in urban areas received cash-based transfers covering part of their food needs for 2 months.</p> <p><b>Key constraints:</b> Persistent insecurity remains the main obstacle to humanitarian operations in the country. Temporary border closures with Pakistan have led to congestions, affecting international food procurement.</p>	236.7 M	126.1 M

## Bangladesh

Results from a BRAC survey (June 2020) indicate that the socio-economic effects of COVID-19 will likely lead to a dramatic increase in poverty and food insecurity in the country, especially among out-of-work daily labourers in densely populated urban areas. 95% of surveyed households reported income loss during the first two months of the pandemic, and more than half responded that their income dropped to almost zero. In Cox's Bazaar, COVID-19 is putting additional strain on the 860,000 Rohingya refugees and further threatens the livelihood of the host community.

**Sustain:** WFP redesigned its programmes to adapt to movement restrictions in the camps and surrounding areas, including temporarily issuing vouchers for food, rather than cash vouchers to reduce congestion. WFP will continue to prioritize life-saving assistance to Rohingya refugees, support to host communities in Cox's Bazaar and school children.

**Scale-up:** By April 2021, WFP aims to support 1.1 million new beneficiaries, including: people in quarantine facilities and isolation and treatment centres; people living in at-risk low-income urban slums in Dhaka and Chittagong Hill Tracts through the expansion of social safety nets; and host communities in Cox's Bazaar.

**Support:** WFP will continue to support the Government's COVID-19 response through:

- Technical assistance to the Ministry of Food (to distribute fortified rice in Open Market Sales), and to the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (to provide take-home rations to 2.7 million children);
- Logistics services for the public health response (currently focused on Cox's Bazaar).

1,100,000  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain:** In September, WFP assisted 1.3 million people through unconditional food and cash transfers, take-home rations, and nutrition and livelihood activities.

WFP continues to provide relief assistance to 860,000 Rohingya refugees, 97 percent of whom are receiving assistance through e-vouchers now. Countrywide, 337,000 children received take-home rations in September, more than half of which in Cox's Bazaar camps.

**Scale-up:** In response to COVID-19, over 500,000 people in the host communities of Cox's Bazaar received cash and in-kind food assistance between April and September. In addition, 40,000 people have received hot meals in isolation and treatment centres since April. In addition, given increased vulnerabilities in urban areas, WFP has started its urban response in Dhaka. In September, 37,000 people have received cash transfers to sustain their basic needs.

**Support:** WFP is supporting the construction of a flu centre and the renovation of six community clinics. It has also transported and handed over personal protective equipment to the health sector operating in Cox's Bazaar refugee camps.

186.5 M

68.5 M

<p><b>Bhutan</b></p>	<p>Rising food prices (15% year-on-year change in August 2020) and reduced remittances will cast a shadow on the food security and livelihoods of vulnerable people, notably the poor in urban and remote areas, migrant and informal sector workers and the elderly. It is also expected to affect vulnerable groups in rural areas, where poverty levels are much higher (12%) than in urban areas (1%).</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP continues to advance planned food systems support to the Government aimed at increasing smallholder farmers' production and food security while building their economic resilience in line with the Government's 'COVID-19 Agriculture Stimulus Plan'.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP is providing technical assistance to develop the 'National Food Security Emergency Action Plan for COVID-19' including setting up a humanitarian staging area to store humanitarian supplies near the Indian border. In addition, WFP is supporting the Agriculture Economic Stimulus Plan as part of Government's Economic Contingency Plan to increase agricultural production through the provision of varied and high-quality seeds, farming tools and improved farm practices for cultivation of nutritious cereals, fruits, vegetables and high-value commodities as per local agro-climates and water efficiency mechanisms.</p>	<p>- (no change from June plan)</p>	<p><b>Support:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>producing education materials on healthy eating, hygiene and WASH and collaborating with a local NGO to reach rural communities with SBCC;</li> <li>donated 5 MSUs to support food prepositioning to meet the needs of half of Bhutan's population for 6 months;</li> <li>customized training on food safety and quality management along the supply chain</li> <li>development of protocols, refurbishment of 15 kitchens, and construction of 5 new kitchen and stores to support the safe reopening of schools.</li> </ul>	<p>1.3 M</p>	<p>0.0 M</p>
<p><b>Cambodia</b></p>	<p>The economic shock of COVID-19 is adversely impacting jobs and livelihoods, especially for low-wage workers in tourism, garment manufacturing, construction, and agricultural export sectors. Moreover, 3.5 million children remain affected by school closures. A joint WFP/ UNICEF household assessment on the impacts of COVID-19 on food security, livelihoods and nutrition is ongoing. Aside from COVID-19, severe flash floods in October (the worst in the last ten years) affected the lives and livelihoods of about 700,000 people. Since the COVID-19 outbreak, the Government has added nearly 700,000 people, identified as newly poor, to its IDPoor social assistance scheme – in addition to the existing 2 million people registered for support prior to COVID-19.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP temporarily adjusted its school feeding programme to take-home rations in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport. On-site school feeding is planned to recommence in January 2021.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP's technical assistance to the Government includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>preparing the safe re-opening of schools (WASH, infrastructure and development of procedures);</li> <li>essential needs analytics and IDPoor roll-out to support the COVID-19 cash transfer programme;</li> <li>technical assistance to the National Social Protection Council to strengthen platforms for shock-responsive social protection;</li> <li>address rural food system challenges particularly for suppliers impacted by the suspension of home-grown school meals and migrant returnees;</li> <li>integration of food security and nutrition to support recovery efforts;</li> <li>joint UN social impact surveys and market monitoring;</li> <li>logistics services to the public health response with WHO and UNOPS; and</li> <li>leading SUN network advocacy for COVID-19-related measures.</li> </ul>	<p>- (no change from June plan)</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> Since the beginning of the pandemic, WFP assisted over 83,000 people with food and cash support through school feeding activities, delivered as take-home rations in March, July and November.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> In October, WFP reached 2,560 IDPoor households affected by flash floods and the economic impacts of COVID-19 with food assistance. Livelihoods recovery will be a focus in the coming months.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP is engaging on sector-wide social assistance and insurance approaches and cash transfer systems for IDPoor households. Together with GIZ, UNICEF and UNDP, WFP has provided financial and technical assistance to the Government to scale up the on-demand IDPoor system nationwide: as a result, between June and October, the Government has provided more than US\$ 100 million in cash transfers to registered poor households.</p>	<p>11.3 M</p>	<p>1.3 M</p>

**Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

Given the COVID-19 mitigation measures, it is difficult to ascertain the impact on the main crop for 2020. As 85 percent of children's food intake happens in institutions, the impact of extended school closures on children's nutritional status remains to be determined. WFP is monitoring the impact of seasonal floods and cyclones on main crop. The Government has increased public food rations and given top priority to agriculture.

**Sustain:** Continue nutrition support to pregnant and lactating women, children in nurseries, boarding schools and pediatric wards/hospitals. Livelihood support activities are currently being reviewed.

-  
(no change from June plan)  
**Sustain:** In August, WFP assisted 449,000 people through nutrition and livelihood activities.  
**Key constraints:** Kindergartens and schools remain closed.

25.1 M 3.8 M

**India**

A nationwide COVID-19 livelihoods survey conducted by Azim Premji University in April/May revealed that two thirds of the respondents had lost employment, mostly in urban areas and that two thirds of urban households had less than a week's worth of money for essentials. Seventy-seven percent indicated consuming less food. In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Government has made the following changes to the public distribution system to meet increased need: An additional 5 kg (rice or wheat) per person, and inclusion of 1 kg pulses per household per month, for all 813 million beneficiaries of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), from March through November; 5 kg (rice or wheat) per person per month to nearly 80 million migrants who are not covered under any food security scheme.

**Sustain & Support:** Technical support to the Government's food and nutrition security response at national and state levels. WFP's recommendation on how the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) could be adjusted to meet the increased needs of the more than 800 million people under the programme have been adopted. Reinforce the capacity of national NGOs to provide food packets to 20,000 vulnerable households not yet supported by government social protection schemes and link them to UNDP livelihood support; Develop mobile apps that allow vulnerable citizens in Uttarakhand to order essential commodities online for home delivery and enable state governments to monitor the prices of essential food commodities and adjust control measures to prevent hoarding; Enable farmers to access the Government agriculture procurement system to sell their harvest to Government programmes; and Introduce MSUs to governments in Uttarakhand and Odisha to reduce post-harvest losses and strengthen the supply chain of government safety nets programmes.

-  
(no change from June plan)  
**Support:** developing an e-learning module to build capacity of front-line organizations responding to the pandemic. supporting the distribution of fortified rice in the public distribution system and establishes units for local production of fortified blended foods, using women's self-help groups in Uttar Pradesh developed materials to raise awareness in 24 states across the country for COVID-19 migrants of the Government's One Nation One Ration Card Scheme allowing TPDS beneficiaries to collect entitlements anywhere.

2.1 M 0.2 M

## Indonesia

In view of socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 and other compounding risks, the Government predicts an estimated additional 5.6 million people falling into poverty. According to the results of the World Bank's third round of High-Frequency Monitoring of COVID-19 impacts (data collected in August), income reduction relative to pre-COVID ranged between 35 and 50 percent. 24 percent of households still faced food shortages and 30 percent reported eating less food than prior to COVID-19. While this marks a significant improvement overall from the first survey round in May, for 13 percent of households the situation worsened since May. Food shortages were more frequent among households outside of Jakarta, less educated households and those in the bottom 40 percent of income.

**Sustain:** WFP will continue its current support to the Food Security Agency's food security and vulnerability analysis and real-time information food prices and market functionality to inform Government and partner interventions and policies.

**Support:**

- WFP, UNICEF, UNDP and UNWOMEN will strengthen social protection systems, focusing on data preparedness and early warning analytics. This includes also a 'Fill the Nutrient' Gap study.
- WFP, UNICEF, UNDP and OCHA will strengthen adaptive social protection to reduce the impact of, and enhance resilience to, disasters, including pandemics.
- WFP will support the logistics and food security priority actions under the COVID-19 Indonesia UN-Multi Sector Response Plan.
- WFP will support the Government on school feeding during school closure and reopening.

(no change from June plan)

**Support:** WFP held technical workshops on the finalization of the improved 2020 Food Security and Vulnerability Atlas. WFP is coordinating emergency logistics operations with the wider humanitarian community through the National Logistics Cluster in support of the Government's public health response. On behalf of the cluster, WFP conducted a rapid assessment of the cold chain logistics capacity in Indonesia with the Indonesia Cold Chain Association (ARPI), in anticipation of the need for temperature-sensitive logistics of the COVID-19 vaccination in the coming months and years.

1.6 M 0.2 M

## Lao People's Democratic Republic

COVID-19 is expected to exacerbate the impact on those employed through the informal sector and vulnerable populations already food-insecure prior to the pandemic. The World Bank estimates an increase in poverty by 1.4 to 3.1 percentage points in 2020, pushing an additional 96,000 to 214,000 people into poverty. Ongoing floods have affected 10 districts in Savannakhet province and around 100,000 people have been affected and 30,000 displaced. Flooding has also affected other provinces. A comprehensive assessment to determine the needs will be conducted in November.

**Sustain:** For the 2019-2020 school year, WFP transitioned school meals to take-home rations. From September 2020, on-site feeding will be provided. WFP also adjusted its seasonal support and livelihoods/asset creation activities in response to COVID-19.

**Scale Up:** Assist people in quarantine centres, conditional in-kind or cash assistance to vulnerable households in the most affected provinces, and specialized nutritious food for children to prevent malnutrition. As of November, WFP is further scaling-up its support to returning migrant labourers in quarantine centres (target: 40,000 people between October 2020 and March 2021).

**Support:** WFP is operating weekly flights to Kuala Lumpur bringing in passengers and essential cargo.

  
40,000 from 6,620 (June plan)

**Sustain:** In September, WFP assisted 90,000 people through school feeding, nutrition and livelihood activities.

**Scale-up:** 9,400 returning migrants have received three meals a day in quarantine facilities. In two quarantine centres, WFP has also provided water and basic hygiene items.

**Support:** WFP is supporting the implementation of the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Agriculture project, and with the development of a nutrient-dense food/crop list to promote nutritious food production and consumption.

13.8 M 3.3 M

## Myanmar

Increased food insecurity in the country due to the COVID-19 lockdown is observed among people employed in casual labour who have been affected by job losses and a shrinking labour market.

Some 60,000 migrant workers who have returned to Myanmar have lost their income from remittances, adding further strain on services and competition for scarce casual labour opportunities.

According to IFPRI, the economic recovery in Myanmar's agri-food system will be slow (even though lockdown policies mostly exempt agricultural activities) which has implications for the critical manufacturing sector and the economy more broadly.

Escalating conflicts in Rakhine and Chin states are likely to lead to further population movement, representing a compounding risk for increased food insecurity and deterioration of nutrition status especially for the vulnerable groups.

**Scale-up:** Returns to Myanmar continue at a significant rate and new quarantine measures have been introduced in Rakhine State in response to a spike in COVID-19 cases.

*Note: WFP is revising earlier scale-up plans to support a total of 120,000 people between October 2020 and March 2021, not yet reflected in the budget.*

**Support:** WFP:

Provides common services, including air services to Kuala Lumpur, and has started operating flights between Yangon and Sittwe for front-line health and humanitarian workers, given the temporary suspension of all domestic flights in Myanmar. Procures PPE and testing equipment for the Government and the humanitarian community.

Supports government response efforts through technical assistance for cash top-ups to specific groups such as beneficiaries of nutrition interventions, and IDPs in some locations.

**Sustain:** In September, WFP assisted 510,000 people through unconditional in-kind and cash-based support, school feeding, nutrition and livelihoods activities. Over 220,000 school children received take-home rations of high-energy biscuits or cash-based transfers in lieu of school meals.



120,000  
from 60,000  
(June plan)

**Scale up:** Since April, WFP has provided short-term food and nutrition assistance to 73,000 returning migrants while they are in government-managed quarantine sites.

**Support:** To deliver cash transfers to pregnant women as part of the government COVID-19 response and e-money to households of IDPs in Kachin State.

**Key constraints:** The ongoing conflict resulted in access restrictions and the recent spike of COVID-19 cases bears compounding risks.

64.9 M

47.1 M

## Nepal

WFP's mVAM household survey (September 2020) found food insecurity levels higher than four years ago. A fifth of all surveyed households had inadequate food consumption, 12% adopted at least one negative coping strategy to address food shortages, and 7% reported the food they had in stock was insufficient to meet needs. Minimum recommended dietary diversity was not met by 43% of children aged 6-23 months. The COVID-19 crisis continues to negatively impact livelihoods, with 11% of households reporting job loss and 31% a reduction in income. Consistent with the previous household survey conducted in May 2020, the loss of livelihood is most prevalent among daily wage labourers (22%) and migrant workers (15%). Given the high dependency of Nepal's economy on remittances (28% of GDP), the return of migrant workers is putting additional strain on vulnerable households. The fall in remittances is estimated to range between 15 and 20 percent in 2020.

**Sustain:** WFP transitioned school meals to take-home rations, maintained nutrition programmes for pregnant and lactating women and children under 2 years; and redesigned resilience-building activities to incorporate physical distancing.

**Scale-up:** WFP is providing support to people in quarantine/treatment centres as required – and is extending its response through January 2021. Latest plans include: unconditional and conditional cash assistance for 65,000 people; acute malnutrition prevention for 123,000 pregnant and lactating women and children under 2; and continued support to elderly in isolation facilities or otherwise affected by COVID-19 or malnutrition. Aligned with the UN framework for responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 in Nepal, WFP will support livelihoods and economic recovery.

**Support:** The Government's COVID-19 response through: technical assistance in the areas of food security, nutrition in emergency, market functionality and vulnerability analysis; collaboration with the Food Management and Trading Company to expand fair-price shops/sales centres in food-insecure and remote locations; logistics coordination for the Government and humanitarian community; and social safety nets complementing existing government schemes.

**Sustain:** In September, WFP assisted 36,700 people through unconditional cash-based support, school feeding, nutrition and livelihoods activities.

**Scale-up:** WFP provided 32,000 returning migrants with in-kind food assistance and some 20,000 people, including children, pregnant and lactating women, elderly people and other groups vulnerable to COVID-19 with nutrition support in isolation facilities.

**Support:** WFP supported with a survey on the Impact of COVID-19 on Households. In addition, WFP is supporting the National Logistics cluster transport medical supplies and non-food items on behalf of the Government and humanitarian agencies for COVID-19 and monsoon preparedness.

  
188,000  
from 11,500  
(June plan)

17.2 M

0.0 M



**Pacific Island Countries**

According to a recent WFP assessment in Tonga, 37% of surveyed households reported reduced income due to COVID. Highest concerns for households are the increase in food prices and travel restrictions and lack of work. In Samoa, 46% of households reported reduced income and highest concerns are getting sick, increase of prices and lack of work. In addition, 17% stated that were not able to meet their essential needs. In Fiji, more than half of all surveyed households (55%) reported reduced income. This and increased food prices led to poor or borderline food consumption among 18% of households.

**Sustain:** WFP supports national food security, logistics and emergency telecommunication (ETC) clusters, as well as the WHO-led Pacific Joint Incident Management Team for COVID-19 and the Pacific Humanitarian Pathway for COVID-19.

**Support:** The work of the three regional clusters has scaled up in support of the regional COVID-19 preparations and response. As co-lead of the regional Pacific food security cluster, WFP is conducting mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping in five Pacific island countries (Fiji, Kiribati Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu) to monitor food security, livelihoods and market functionality. Analysis is also underway in the Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu. A regional air service has been established to guarantee air transport of humanitarian cargo and personnel to and across the region, given the ongoing commercial supply chain interruptions. WFP is also supporting ETC stakeholders with public health messaging, establishment of health emergency operations centres and planning for telemedicine availability.

**Support:** WFP continues its humanitarian air service for countries and territories of the Pacific Islands, while commercial flights are grounded. WFP is supporting emergency telecommunications cluster stakeholders with activities around public health messaging, the creation of health emergency operations centres, planning for telemedicine availability, training for personnel deployed to health centres, and alternative communication mechanisms in areas without cellular mobile coverage/access. WFP mobile vulnerability assessments are used to inform the programmatic response of governments and partners.

(no change from June plan)

5.5 M 0.0 M

**Pakistan**

IMF projects that up to 40% of the population could potentially be living below the poverty line in the wake of COVID-19. Food insecurity is expected to rise further, especially in areas with underlying vulnerabilities or prone to hazards, including extreme weather events and the recent locust outbreak in Sindh and Baluchistan. Populations suffering from acute hunger and malnutrition before COVID-19, are likely to be among the groups most exposed to the negative socio-economic consequences of COVID-19, including more pronounced or severe food insecurity. WFP and Food Security partners have identified the most vulnerable 39 districts in three provinces (Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa). The total estimated People In Need as a result of multiple shocks is 5.8 million.

**Sustain:** WFP's focus is ensuring continuity of life-saving relief and nutrition support to the most vulnerable people (in newly merged areas bordering Afghanistan, drought- and locust-impacted areas, and areas prone to natural hazards and conflict). In addition, WFP continues its support to government social protection programmes. WFP supports the Government in implementing stunting prevention through the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) in nine districts.

**Scale-up:** WFP plans to increase its relief, nutrition and social protection assistance to 270,000 people impacted by COVID-19, mostly in rural areas in line with the humanitarian response plan and socio-economic response plan. The scale-up continues: between October – December 2020 WFP plans to assist 130,000 people affected by the COVID-19 crisis with unconditional support.

270,000 from 990,000 (June plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** In September, WFP assisted approximately 300,000 people through unconditional in-kind and nutrition activities. WFP completed cash top-ups to 50,000 families affected by drought, strengthening their resilience also against income losses induced by COVID-19.

59.2 M 26.3 M

**The Philippines**

After a spike in April (18%), the Philippines' unemployment rate recovered, going down to 10% in July. By October 2020, approximately 208,000 Overseas Filipino workers returned to the country. According to a nation-wide household survey conducted by the Government with support from WFP, 77% of the respondents reported reduced income, leading to food insecurity among three in ten households. The food security index varied greatly across regions, with northern Mindanao showing the highest level of food insecurity. Category 5 typhoon Rolly/Goni and other natural hazards are likely to exacerbate the food security of affected populations. The country is also likely to experience above average rainfall with risks of flooding, given its high-risk status at the onset of the *La Niña* phenomenon over the next six months.

**Support:**

- Digital advisory and solution services to register beneficiaries and track assistance delivered by the Government under the Social Amelioration Programme in response to COVID-19, for over 350,000 households in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).
- Monitoring the impact of COVID-19 on food security and livelihoods nation-wide.
- Monitoring the impact of the Social Amelioration Programme, to build evidence and lay foundation for improving subsequent rounds of assistance and strengthening the social protection system.
- In addition, WFP will continue to provide logistics coordination in support of the National Logistics Cluster.

-  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Support:** WFP has:

- Supported the Department of Social Welfare and Development and Ministry of Social Services and Development in BARMM with enhanced food security and vulnerability analysis;
- WFP rolled out SCOPE in BARMM to register and track assistance to 353,000 households under the Government's Social Amelioration Programme.
- WFP delivered 90 truckloads of various food and non-food items (including personal protection equipment) and lent MSUs and generators as temporary hospitals or storage facilities.

7.4 M

1.1 M

<p><b>Sri Lanka</b></p>	<p>COVID-19 mitigation measures from March and July have reduced the income of many households, due to lowered remittances, export and tourism earnings. The third wave of COVID-19 started in early October, leading to a sharp spike in patients. The Government has responded with localized restrictions to manage the situation, however a country-wide lockdown is not envisaged due to the adverse impact on the national economy. Nevertheless, Sri Lanka's unemployment rate is expected to rise to 6 percent in 2020. According to a recent survey conducted by UNICEF, in May 30 percent of respondents stated that they had to reduce their food consumption, mainly cutting back on more nutritious foods. Almost 40 percent of respondents reported that they had lost all income.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP's resilience building activities were modified to support home gardening and local production.</p> <p><b>Scale up:</b> The Government requested WFP's assistance to support school meals for 80,000 primary school children.</p> <p><b>Sustain:</b> Support the Ministry of Education to deliver take-home rations to primary school children during COVID-induced school closures. Provide technical assistance to prepare for and respond to natural hazards in COVID-19 context developing standard operating procedures, risk maps and resources maps, and communication material. Work with UNDP and UNICEF on impact investing to deliver nutrition solutions (WFP will support rice fortification). Provide financial support to the Government to purchase maize, estimated to be enough for a month and a half's production of Thripasha – a local FBF used in the national nutrition programme whose production was temporarily suspended due to COVID.</p>	<p>80,000 from 0 (June plan)</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> In September, WFP assisted 2,800 people with cash-based transfers under the resilience building/ livelihoods activity. WFP provides PPE to participating communities to ensure health and safety.</p> <p><b>Scale up:</b> WFP and the Government distributed take-home rations to support 80,000 primary school children and combined with a hygiene campaign to minimize the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP provided the Ministry of Education with PPE for national examination centres and supported the construction of hand washing facilities in schools. In addition, WFP supported the distribution of seed packages to over 50,000 households under the <i>Saubaghya</i> national home gardening programme.</p>	<p>3.1 M</p>	<p>0.0 M</p>
<p><b>Timor-Leste</b></p>	<p>The country relies heavily on imports of cereals, as local production levels are insufficient. Food price rises and import-export restrictions in the second quarter of 2020 impacted the affordability of nutritious food. A survey conducted by the Asia Foundation in May found that seven out of ten households cut meal size or skipped a meal because they could not afford their regular diets.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP is continuing its support to the Government through regular monitoring of food prices and market functionality. With UNICEF and the Ministry of Health, a national Food Security and Nutrition Survey is underway, the first since 2013.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP's air service connects Dili to Kuala Lumpur, enabling the transport of health and humanitarian personnel, medical and relief items. In support of the Government's social protection response to COVID-19, WFP is also engaging with the Government to support a cash-based response.</p>	<p>- (no change from June plan)</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP supported the Government in distributing one-month take-home rations to students and provided portable hand washing and sanitation stations in vulnerable schools. WFP also continues the home-grown school feeding pilot project in five schools.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP and partners have provided operational and logistics assistance to facilitate the Government's cash transfers to 300,000 households.</p>	<p>1.3 M</p>	<p>0.0 M</p>
<p><b>TOTAL ASIA AND THE PACIFIC</b></p>		<p><b>4.79 M</b> from 5.16 M (June plan)</p>	<p><b>US\$ 637M</b></p>	<p><b>US\$ 278M</b></p>		

**Burundi**

The most vulnerable households, including some 81,000 refugees in country, are the hardest hit by the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic including, higher prices, currency depreciation and loss of incomes/ remittances.

The political situation is being monitored following last years' violence prior to the 2020 presidential elections, and the sudden death of outgoing President. There is reported increased interest from the new Government to discuss and find appropriate solutions to poor nutrition and food security issues.

**Sustain:** Provision of food assistance to refugees, emergency assistance to local population and repatriation packages to returnees from Tanzania.

**Scale-up:** an additional 250,000 people impacted by COVID-19.

**Support:**

Support the Government to establish a Social Registry to enhance beneficiary targeting of social protection programmes  
Reactivate the Logistics sector and provide equipment and services for the health response.  
Reinforce capacities of the Government (Ministry of Health and CAMEBU, national pharmaceutical warehouse) and humanitarian partners through trainings on stock management and technical support on transport and logistics processes.

250,000  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:**

WFP continues to assist Burundian refugees from Rwanda in transit centres providing a 4-day ration and a 3-month take-home ration.

For Tanzanian returnees, WFP has provided nearly 72 mt of food through hot meals and dry rations.

Through COVID-19 sensitive resilience activities WFP has reached an estimated 60,000 individuals since June with cash transfers up to US\$ 400,000

**Support:** As the co-lead of the logistics pillar for the COVID-19 response, WFP

- built two screening units in health centres in Cibitoke province.
- donated 2 ambulances to support the response for prioritized districts.
- with UNICEF and IOM is supporting the construction of screening units in more than 300 health centres.

**Key constraints:** due to limited funding, WFP reduced the number of targeted schools under the school feeding programme from 702 to 524, from September.

56.9 M

22.7 M

## Djibouti

About a third of the country's population are in chronic food insecurity, the pandemic has exacerbated existing vulnerabilities, particularly in urban areas. Following the closure of borders as part of the measures put in place to curb the spread of COVID-19, migrants from other countries, mostly Ethiopians became stranded in Djibouti. Due to increased screening and restriction measures, Djibouti is now among the countries with the lowest numbers of new confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Horn of Africa region. However, socio-economic impact of the COVID still continues to affect most vulnerable households.

**Sustain:** WFP is adjusting operations for a COVID-sensitive delivery, including social distancing and hand washing facilities at distribution points.

### Scale-up:

- The Government requested WFP provide food assistance to most food insecure households including migrants and refugees. In addition to the previous 30,000 beneficiaries, who will benefit from a last monthly voucher distribution, WFP is scaling up to 53,475 new beneficiaries including:
  - 38,000 people in Djibouti city and towns and 12,975 beneficiaries in rural areas;
  - 1,300 additional urban refugees; and
  - 1,200 migrants in quarantine/transit centres.

### Support:

Provide storage for medical equipment;  
Conduct assessments to target most food insecure households.

70,200  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** WFP continues to collaborate with the Government to distribute cash vouchers to an additional 7,600 vulnerable households registered in the social registry in Djibouti city and county towns as well as 2,595 households in remote rural areas

15.2 M

6.7 M

## Ethiopia

Political, ethnic tensions and inter-communal violence are exacerbated by COVID-19. Ethiopia is experiencing the worst locust outbreak the country has seen in 25 years. While above-average rainfall in June-September supported agricultural/pastoral livelihoods, it also exacerbated the locust infestation and caused severe flooding in many parts of the country.

An estimated 8.5 million people are acutely food insecure between July and September 2020 (IPC3+), including 1.4 million people IPC4. Tensions in Tigray could add significant additional crisis caseload as households are displaced and government systems disrupted in Tigray; the crisis could have nationwide transport implications.

While COVID-19 induced restrictions have eased, the economic impact continues to affect availability of vital imports as well as prices. Many Ethiopian migrants remain stranded overseas, while others continue to return home.

**Sustain:** critical assistance to 1.9 million food insecure people in Somali region and 700,000 refugees while introducing hand-washing facilities, double distributions and increased distribution days to minimize social interaction.

IDPs in East/West Hararge are now being phased out/handed over to Government and the NGOs

**Scale up:** over half a million additional beneficiaries, including:

- Returning migrants from Middle East and neighbouring countries;
- COVID-19-infected individuals who are in treatment and isolation centres
- Urban poor, who have been disproportionately impacted by the crisis through the PSNP;
- Moderately malnourished pregnant and lactating women and girls and children 6-59 months
- Scale up to people displaced in Tigray and into Sudan due to conflict.

*Note: As of November, WFP is developing contingency plans in case asked to respond to additional humanitarian caseloads; these requirements are not yet in budget.*

**Support:** The WFP Global Passenger flight service through Ethiopian Airlines and UNHAS is maintained in eastern Africa.

**Sustain & Scale-up:** WFP successfully Sustained relief activities in Somali region and the refugee camps with appropriate risk mitigation measures Reached returning migrants in quarantine centres and COVID-19-infected persons in treatment and isolation centres Is on track to reach 18,000 people with cash top-ups to complement the Urban Productive Safety Net Project (UPSNP).

### Next:

WFP's support to returning migrants is likely to continue into 2021. WFP plans both horizontal and vertical expansions to provide temporary income support to some 555,000 households in 27 cities. WFP is preparing to provide cash top ups to vulnerable populations in Addis Ababa.

**Key constraints:** CBT operations have been affected by disruptions to the financial system. Resourcing for the 2021 operation continue to be a major concern, especially on the refugee operation. Security challenges hamper access in some areas. As of November WFP's operation in Tigray is at risk of being disrupted.

517,500  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

397 M 142.7 M

<p><b>Kenya</b></p>	<p>Kenya hosts nearly half a million refugees and asylum seekers. Meanwhile, floods, desert locust invasion and COVID-19 impacts are driving increasing food insecurity.</p> <p>Pre-COVID, 1.8 million Kenyans were identified to be severely food insecure – a number projected to increase especially as the economic impacts of COVID-19 unfold. Of particular concern are the refugees, who were already on reduced rations since 2017 due to insufficient funding, and populations in urban informal settlements who are most vulnerable to fluctuations in food prices, in income or job losses.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> Lifesaving support to refugees with double in-kind rations to reduce exposure. Due to funding constraints, refugee ration was further reduced from 60 to 40 percent of minimum food basket. SNF are prepositioned to ensure continuity of MAM treatment and continue critical support under the resilience programme.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> Support an additional 844,000 beneficiaries including: 4-month urban response for 70,500 households in informal settlements in Nairobi; 3-month urban response to 24,000 households in informal settlements in Mombasa Expand MAM support to cover urban settlements in both Nairobi and Mombasa; Expand livelihood support to cover seasonality months.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> Technical assistance to Government COVID response and remote market and price monitoring and real-time supply chain updates.</p>	<p>844,000 <i>(no change from June plan)</i></p>	<p><b>Sustain and Scale-up:</b> WFP reached 407,340 refugees and provided relief assistance to 182,819 people in September. Nutrition products were delivered to 74,106 people. Under the COVID-19 urban response, WFP has supported 302 refugees in quarantine centres and provided cash assistance to 293,304 people in informal urban Settlements i.e. 223,108 and 70,196 in Nairobi and Mombasa respectively.</p> <p><b>Key constraints:</b> Funding to meet the increased resource needs. The CO continues to engage with donors to</p>	<p>160 M</p> <p>77 M</p>
<p><b>Rwanda</b></p>	<p>The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths remains low and restriction measures are being gradually lifted, allowing some activities to be resumed.</p> <p>WFP is making operational adjustments to reduce the risk of COVID-19, and a scale-up of assistance is planned to support households affected by contention measures upon government's request.</p> <p>Rwanda hosts nearly 150,000 refugees.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> life-saving support to refugees and to smallholder farmers is prioritized. On-site school feeding is adapted to take-home rations for 145,000 children.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> Assistance to 16,250 PLHIVs impacted by COVID restrictions.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> Leveraging logistics expertise to ensure that food supply chains are working effectively in the whole country; Incorporate COVID-19 prevention measures into sensitization sessions on HIV prevention and positive life skills for adolescent girls and boys in boarding schools.</p>	<p>16,300 <i>(no change from June plan)</i></p>	<p><b>Sustain / Scale-up:</b> WFP provided in-kind food assistance to 1,500 refugees in isolation in designated quarantine sites. In-kind food was pre-packaged for easy distribution to Burundian refugees as part of COVID mitigation measures.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP is providing warehousing services for 2,000 MT (in-kind donation) of fertilizers which is being distributed to smallholder farmers affected by COVID-19. In September WFP supported the Ministry of Health by procuring 1,650 medical coveralls for healthcare workers, with the support from the Government of Brazil</p>	<p>22.3 M</p> <p>0.0 M</p>

**Somalia**

Flooding, locusts and COVID-19 risk worsening the food security situation. Somalia's food import dependency dwarfs other countries. Rising prices on key imported commodities are impacting low-income earners, particularly IDPs and rural communities. Remittances, received by an estimated 40% of Somali households, have dropped by as much as 50%. More than 500,000 people have been displaced due to floods, approximately 30% displaced since September.

Results from the FSNAU country-wide 2020 post Gu food security and nutrition assessments indicate that 2.1 Somalis will be food insecure in IPC 3+ between October-December 2020. A marginal improvement on the prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition was reported from 13.8 percent (2019 Gu) to 11.8 percent (2020 Gu).

A high level of humanitarian food assistance enabled the Food Security Cluster partners to reach 1.85 million people with food assistance monthly from April-August out of the 3.5 million people predicted to be in IPC 3 and above between July-September. Another 400,000 people benefited from government-led rural and urban safety nets.

**Sustain:** To sustain assistance to the most vulnerable, WFP:

- Distributed two-month rations where flooding & COVID-19 restrictions risked access; WFP is gradually moving back to regular operations in areas where sanitation and COVID-19 mitigating measures can be observed;
- Shifted from cash to mobile money transfers as it offers a contactless mode to transfer entitlements to beneficiaries in light of COVID-19; Introduced a home delivery feature on the e-shop mobile app in urban areas;
- Transitioned from community health workers-led MUAC to mother-led MUAC screening;
- WFP expanded its remote monitoring (through phone calls) to cover areas where physical or on-site monitoring is not currently feasible. The Country Office is also gradually moving back to regular monitoring in areas that are safe and where COVID-19 mitigating measures can be observed.

**Scale-up:** WFP is scaling up to support the food security needs identified by the FSNAU due to multiple shocks: Roll out a Government-led rural safety nets programme across Somalia targeting 1.2 million people and the triggering shock responsive locust response programme targeting 600,000 people with regular quarterly cash-based transfers; these provide opportunities to scale up assistance due to COVID-19, if need be.

Support urban poor with in-kind food assistance, mainly casual labourers without access to income due to COVID-19 impact.

**Support:**

- WFP has supported the Government by:
- Developing and managing easy-to-use tool for tracking COVID-19 donations, stocks, and dispatches;
- WFP installed a mobile storage unit in Mogadishu, loaned to the Government medical supplies storage;
- Leveraging WFP aviation to airlift essential health cargo including COVID-19 testing equipment around the country before commercial flights resumed;
- The Logistics Cluster was activated.

**Sustain and scale-up:**

Nearly 338,700 people have benefited from cash transfer entitlements since April under the rural safety nets.

  
30,000  
from 486,500  
(June plan)

WFP's delivery e-app mechanism has supported 301,700 people across Somalia to order goods online and receive home deliveries for a total value of US\$ 5,920,738;

417 M

144.6 M

WFP provided in kind food assistance to 30,000 people whose incomes were affected by COVID-19 in urban settlements in Somaliland.



**South Sudan**

Conflict, locusts, and COVID-19 come together at the peak of the lean season and threaten to significantly deteriorate already high food insecurity levels. COVID-19 risks stalling the implementation of the peace agreement and exacerbating political fractures. At the beginning of 2020, 6.5 million people were estimated to be acutely food insecure (IPC3+) with IPC4 in conflict-affected areas and concerns of pockets of population in IPC5 conditions. As of November, a new IPC is being finalized.

COVID-19 induced movement restrictions along the supply corridor challenged supply and has had significant socio-economic impact, including the reduction in global oil demand, affecting South Sudan's oil exports. High inflation against the dollar has further exposed households to food insecurity. Furthermore, the rainy season, brought above average floods.

**Sustain:** Sustain critical assistance to more than 3.5 million people by:

- distributing double rations in PoC sites, refugee camps and as part of the Rapid Response Mechanism;
- prepositioning commodities; and
- partnering with beneficiary management committees on health mitigation measures.

**Scale-up:** While WFP continues to implement its planned COVID-19 scale-up, as of November an updated IPC will inform required revisions to scale-up plans.

**Support:**

- Manage the Common request system for PPE for the national response
- Provide temperature-controlled storage space for COVID-19 cargo;
- ECHO/DEVCO funded WFP to procure PPE for the National response
- Sample collection with UNHAS support
- Provision of MEDEVACS
- Delivery of PPE and COVID related cargo as a priority to the field for the national programme
- Two MSUs provided by logistics to support points of entry screening in Nyadapal
- Upgrade and expand bed capacity of Government's infectious disease unit.
- (from BR) Provision of infrastructure development service, IT data communication services, digital beneficiary and transfer management service, to the humanitarian community

1,600,000  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:**

In 2020, WFP has assisted over 4.7 million people, including 900,000 flood-affected in the south.

Funds for increased food assistance due to COVID-19 were limited; hence, around 100,000 additional people are being reached through an USAID funded COVID-19 urban safety nets response.

To mitigate transmission risk, public works activities have been put on hold and assistance is being provided unconditionally on a monthly basis.

**Constraints:** Shortfalls due to COVID-19 restrictions, Access restrictions and schools closed.

800.2 M 450.9 M

## Uganda

A country-wide lockdown was enforced since late March to contain the spread of COVID-19 in Uganda. The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases remain low compared to other countries in the region, and restriction measures are gradually being lifted. However, the effects of the pandemic and restriction measures are still affecting vulnerable households, particularly in urban areas and for the 1.4 million refugees in Uganda (82% women and children).

**Sustain:** WFP introduced double distributions and pre-packaged kits alongside health mitigation measures to safely sustain critical assistance to refugees. Since April, WFP is distributing reduced rations due to shortfalls.

**Scale up:** One-off food assistance (cash/mobile money) to 80,000 urban refugees in Kampala covering three-month cycle. WFP also scaled up its cash assistance in five settlements in the South West region to further limit contact and spread of COVID-19.

**Support:** Provide equipment and services to support the Ministry of Health and WHO with warehousing services for the COVID response as well as MSUs and equipment for screening. Leverage remote monitoring systems to support the government to assess impact of COVID-19 on food security for the refugees hosting areas including the urban areas.

102,400  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** In September, WFP reached 666,900 beneficiaries through CBT and 598,850 through In-Kind assistance. In addition to nutrition products being provided to 92,240 people, WFP also reached 101,150 school children. Additional measures are in place to prevent and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. These include pre-packing of foods; switch to cash; and staggered or double distributions across 13 settlements.

**Support:** WFP

- installed screening facilities and a MSUs at Namboole isolation centre;
- additional screening facilities were installed at the busiest points of entry along the borders with Tanzania, Kenya, DRC and South Sudan to facilitate COVID 19 screening for continued movement of supply.
- allocated trucks to health authorities to deliver PPE and related health materials to District Health Offices, Regional Referral Hospitals and health centres across the country.

139 M

73.2 M

**Key constraints:** Funding shortfalls have resulted in months of continued rations cuts (30% of food basket) for WFP's refugee operations. The prolonged ration cuts exacerbate food insecurity shocks and effects of COVID-19. WFP needs nearly US\$15.3 million to be able to provide full rations for refugees in the settlements until the end of 2020.

TOTAL EAST AFRICA

3.43 M  
from 3.88 M  
(June plan)

US\$ 2,008M US\$ 918M

**Bolivia**

The impact of COVID-19 has been felt in urban areas, particularly among informal sector workers (mostly women and youth), and in rural areas among smallholders who have not been able to access markets during the pandemic. With most of the workforce involved in the informal sector, the continuous lockdown increased poverty and food insecurity, particularly in peri-urban areas and among low-income households. On top of the pandemic, is experimenting a drought with extensive forest fires and is prone to floods between November and March. This can increase the risk of food insecurity, particularly amongst smallholders.

**Sustain:** WFP is assisting 1,224 vulnerable people (mostly depending on the informal sector) through FFA and providing take-home rations during school closures

**Scale-up:** An additional 23,646 people are expected to be assisted in the coming months:

- 4,600 COVID-19 patients in isolation centres in urban areas and people isolated in their households in rural areas for 14 days.
- 200 smallholders and 600 children under two years old.
- 18,246 vulnerable people (3,649 families) through FFA in rural municipalities

**Support:** WFP is providing technical assistance to the Government in the COVID-19 Response. And supporting the Double Burden Study & gender socio economic study.

  
23,646  
from 22,000  
(June plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** WFP assisted 1,933 beneficiaries in September with unconditional CBT and FFA activities. 4,365 school children have received take home rations.

**Key Constraints:** Funding shortfalls and challenges related to the ongoing change of Government.

1.1 M

0.6 M

**English and Dutch Speaking Caribbean**

While market access has improved since April, incomes have further reduced, mainly due to increasing job loss or reduced revenue/salary. Food insecurity has risen sharply since the beginning of the year, particularly among low income families, migrants and single parents. The Caribbean was highly indebted prior to COVID-19 and the situation has been made worse by revenue loss, and increasing expenditures and debt – reducing the already extremely limited fiscal space. This has significantly hampered governments capacities to address the impact of COVID-19. The record setting hurricane season has caused significant damages so far, with assessments ongoing following the impact of hurricane Eta (29th named storm). COVID-19 would complicate a traditional sudden onset emergency response.

**Sustain:** Support to governments and regional institutions to strengthen social protection and end-to-end emergency supply chain is sustained and scaled up with a COVID-19 focus.

**Scale-up:** In addition to sustaining capacity strengthening, WFP is scaling up support to governments on using social protection systems to respond to growing needs. WFP is scaling up this support in additional countries and building on previous efforts. WFP is also providing direct assistance through government social protection systems in Saint Lucia, Dominica and Barbados and is resourcing to cover additional needs in British Virgin Islands, Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago and others. Prolonged assistance in Dominica and Guyana is also required.

**Support:** WFP is providing logistics support to the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) in facilitating a broader COVID-19 response among CARICOM countries. Given the active hurricane season, WFP Caribbean has scaled up capacities and standby mechanisms to be able to extend further support in the COVID-19 context (leasing of a fleet, purchase of logistics equipment and food kits, etc.).

**Sustain and Scale-up:** WFP directly assisted 9,280 people in Dominica and an initial subset of 150 HIV/AIDS clients in Saint Lucia with unconditional cash transfers through government social protection programmes. WFP has expanded technical assistance to governments and CDEMA. Satellite offices have been opened in Dominica and Jamaica, with Saint Lucia and Guyana expected by the end of 2020. All food kits and response equipment has been purchased and staff pre-deployed while assessments are underway in Belize and Jamaica following hurricane Eta.

**Key constraints:** Funding shortfalls for direct assistance amidst growing needs and increasing requests for support from national governments covered by the Caribbean i-MCSP. A further budget revision is anticipated.

60,000  
(no change from June plan)

15.8 M

13.0 M

## Colombia

The latest WFP estimates highlight that the socio-economic crisis escalated by COVID-19 has severely impacted Colombians' food security, particularly in terms of reduced access to nutritious food caused by a reduction in family income. Accordingly, as of September 2020, 52% of the population are food insecure, of which 3.5 million people are estimated to face severe food insecurity (VAM, 2020). In addition, 1.3 million Venezuelan migrants, or 73% of the total residing in Colombia, are forecasted to be in moderate or severe food insecurity. This sharp increase in food insecurity from pre-COVID-19 levels takes place in a country where poverty was already deepening before the crisis: according to the latest official figures 35.7% of Colombian families were in poverty in 2019, 660,000 more people than in 2018. Against this backdrop, it is understood that socio-economic recovery will be gradual and poverty levels may stagnate for some time.

**Sustain:** WFP adapted its operations to ensure continued assistance to pre-existing vulnerable groups (Venezuelan migrants, displaced and confined people, children in school feeding programmes, and vulnerable rural populations).

**Scale-up:** WFP scaled up its programmes to respond to new and emerging needs, mostly among people engaged in the informal sector and affected by lockdown and income loss, in rural and urban areas. This is also led to the expansion to new indigenous communities and populations in new geographical areas (i.e. Amazonia). Overall, WFP is seeking funding to expand assistance to an additional 550,000 newly affected people. WFP also started implementing a significant scale-up of assistance for migrants, including an expansion of cash interventions in urban areas – WFP will continue implementing this scale-up during the first quarter of 2021.

**Support:** WFP is supporting Government-led programmes and initiatives, including: support to the COVID-19 related food security and nutrition initiative led by the First Lady, support to the contact tracing strategy (PRASS) in 8 urban areas, support to the scale-up of social protection systems. WFP is a key actor engaged in supporting national efforts to strengthen peace.

**Sustain and Scale-up:** Through a significant scale-up post-COVID, WFP supported over 470,000 people in September with food baskets, cash-based transfers, hot meals and school meals – which represents a 30% increase in beneficiaries compared to pre-crisis assistance levels. However, WFP's response for COVID-affected Colombians targeting 550,000 additional people is severely underfunded.

  
550,000  
from 400,000  
(June plan)

127 M

73.3 M

**Key constraints:** funding shortfalls in the COVID-19 response, increased levels of armed activity in rural areas, with increasing displacement and confinement of vulnerable communities, temporary access constraints due to COVID-19 restrictions, and unpredictability and volume of migration flows amidst the COVID-19 crisis.

**Cuba**

The effects of COVID-19 are causing a sharp decrease in national and household level income sources (especially tourism), private sector and family remittances, as well as increasing the lack of food and basic supplies in local markets. Pre COVID-19, Cuba had been importing 70 percent of its food needs mainly for social protection programmes. Food security is also significantly affected by climate (droughts and hurricanes – record breaking season with 29 named storms including Eta), the economic and financial embargo, and the lack of fuel. Governmental rationing-measures are in place to address the population’s access to basic goods.

**Sustain:** Continue providing specialized nutritious food to benefit more than 200,900 people from vulnerable groups in selected municipalities of the eastern provinces (pregnant and lactating women, children under two and elderly people) and 800 people from the social programmes of the Office of the Historian of Havana City.

**Scale-up:** Provide food and nutrition support to nearly 85,700 of the most vulnerable elderly Cubans that are part of the Family Support Systems across the country and to pregnant women in 54 municipalities in eastern provinces.

**Support:** In support of the Government, emergency preparedness measures including repositioning of food and other items for the hurricane season and an earthquake scenario ongoing.

  
85,700  
from 599,300  
(June plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** In the period July-September 2020, WFP assisted 188,807 beneficiaries (172,900 through sustained programmes and 15,907 through scale up plans), including pregnant and lactating women, young children in need of additional nutrition support, and vulnerable elderly people.

5.7 M

3 M

**Dominican Republic**

COVID-19 incurred livelihood losses, supply chain disruptions and food price increases have disrupted access to food for some 8 million people. Based on initial 2020 remote assessments, an estimated 30% and 7.4% of the population will be moderately and severely food insecure, respectively, compared to the 19% and 1% pre-COVID-19.

This impact is especially worrisome for those employed in the informal sector, undocumented population and the most vulnerable to malnutrition (young children, pregnant and lactating women, elderly and people living with HIV).

Finally, the Dominican Republic is among countries vulnerable to hurricanes – with the current season registering a record breaking 29th named storm at the time of writing.

**Sustain:** The distribution of specialized nutritious food through the Government-led social protection programme PROSOLI was adapted to include home distributions, engaging new local partners to expand the scope (vertical and horizontal), reaching 130,000 people (children under five, pregnant and lactating women, elderly, people living with HIV).

**Scale-up:** WFP will integrate new food distribution modalities, including in-kind and CBT for 282,400 people to respond to immediate food insecurity, using IFRCs’ CBT platform and with the support of the Dominican Red Cross. The scale-up is focused on those not registered under any national social protection programmes.

**Support:**

- technical assistance (retail supply chain, targeting, nutrition education, monitoring) to social protection programmes supporting 6 million people.
- logistics and telecommunications service provision, information management and coordination for the humanitarian community and the Government.
- logistical augmentation, including preparedness and food pre-positioning for three months to support any emergency situation in the Caribbean.

282,400  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** In the period July-September, WFP supported 5,000 people with household food kits and 933 pregnant and lactating women and children with nutritional assistance, while continuing its technical assistance to a Government in transition.

**Key Constraints:** In the absence of pre-existing crisis response activities, the Country Office had to revise its portfolio and set up new delivery mechanisms with Cooperating Partners, which led to some operational delays early on.

9.1 M

6.5 M

## Ecuador

UNDP estimates that the number of people living in poverty as a result of the pandemic will increase from 4.3 million in 2019 to 6.4 million in 2020; while extreme poverty would increase from 8.9% to 12.9%. By 2020, 1,627,444 homes will be below the poverty line and of these, 567,889 will be in a situation of extreme poverty. WFP's recent publication, Hunger Map 2020, finds the prevalence of undernourishment in Ecuador stands between 5-15% of the total population. In addition to the Ecuadorian population, WFP with IOM, UNHCR and food security partners have identified some 55,000 Venezuelan migrants in severe food insecurity and 247,00 in moderate food insecurity. According to the Rapid Assessment of August 2020, households are implementing strategies such as reducing the portion of food, reducing the number of meals and/or eating less preferred or cheaper foods.

**Sustain:** WFP will resume normal targeting processes for people in human mobility, expanding its criteria to incorporate LGBTI people, victims of violence, eliminating the education level and reducing the age range from 65 to 60 to be considered as elderly.

**Scale-up:** WFP plans to support an additional: 342,000 pregnant and lactating women and households with children under five in complement with the national social protection system with CBT; 27,000 beneficiaries in COVID-19 shelters 1,000 smallholder farmers from the Family Farming and Ecuadorian host population affected by COVID-19 through capacity strengthening actions for US\$ 250,000.

**Support:** WFP will provide logistics coordination and technical assistance. WFP will also strengthen shock-responsive social protection capacity, including on needs and market assessments, while seeking to link it with early recovery, attending populations in human mobility, those in informal work and smallholder farmers from the Family and Peasant Farming, in order to encourage self-sufficiency and rebuild the livelihoods of affected populations.

### Sustain and Scale-up:

In October, WFP assisted 70,303 beneficiaries through unconditional CBT; 20,535 people in poverty and extreme poverty were also assisted through the Government's social protection platform, while an additional 500 people received individual capacity strengthening support.



370,000  
from 361,500  
(June Plan)

**Support:** Despite the Logistics Cluster not being activated, WFP offers donor-funded free-to-user services (transport/storage) to partners.

39 M

1.4 M<sup>1</sup>

**Key constraints:** Following an allocation from internal resources, funding shortfalls remain a challenge for WFP's commitment to the Government to cover food assistance gaps. There have also been operational challenges to enable CBT through the social protection system.

## El Salvador

The impact of COVID-19 and the tropical storms Amanda and Cristobal complicate a situation marked by chronic violence, migration and multidimensional poverty. In August 2020, WFP estimated that more than 380,000 people were severely food insecure. WFP's food security trend analysis conducted in October 2020 revealed that the country faces food security deterioration after COVID-19, the damage caused in basic grain cultivation by the storms and the threats of the locust outbreak, and the high probability of occurrence of "La Niña" phenomena. After seven months of the COVID-19 outbreak, the deep economic recession remains latent in the country's macroeconomic indicators. Even though family remittances show a slight improvement, the GDP, imports, exports, unemployment and the Volume of Economic Activity Index still show a difficult outlook.

**Sustain:** WFP provides cash-based assistance to 6,500 small holder farmers to create resilience to climate change and continues supporting 130 youth in urban areas through vocational and life skills.

**Scaling up:** WFP will temporarily support 203,000 of the most vulnerable people, focusing on those most heavily impacted by tropical storms Amanda and Cristobal or by COVID-19 containment measures.

**Support:** WFP provides technical assistance to Government institutions on a range of areas including shock responsive social protection, logistics, and assessment. WFP leads the Food Security & Nutrition, Logistics and Telecommunications Sectors. WFP has supported with the set-up of quarantine centres and evacuation shelters during the storms.

**Sustain and Scale-up:** In September, WFP assisted 45,900 beneficiaries, 96% received unconditional cash-based transfers, while an additional 1,900 people were supported through livelihood activities.



203,000  
from 120,000  
(June plan)

**Support:** WFP is ramping up CBT in coordination with government institutions, NGOs and UN partners.

19.2 M

19.2 M

**Key constraints:** The severe impact of Tropical Storm Amanda prompted new targeting, while COVID-19 imposed new constraints on a sudden onset emergency response. Funding shortfalls remain a challenge for full implementation.



## Guatemala

Before the pandemic and the current impact of hurricane Eta, an emergency food security assessment found 2.3 million people to be food insecure linked to erratic weather patterns, limited access to basic services, and deep-rooted vulnerability; of these, almost 0.5 million were severely food insecure. The significant impact of COVID-19 has almost doubled the number of people facing severe food insecurity: WFP's remote assessment estimates 4 million people have a poor food intake, of which 1.3 million are severely food insecure. WFP is concerned about the nutrition situation, with more than 21,000 cases of acute malnutrition officially reported; data collection has been limited due to COVID-19, and the Ministry of Health is now deploying nutrition brigades countrywide to assess the situation.

**Sustain:** WFP is targeting more than 31,000 households, severely food insecure or with acutely malnourished children, to provide emergency assistance for 60 days. A 5-year resilience building project to benefit 30,000 people started in October.

**Scale up:** WFP plans to complement the Government's response, prioritizing interventions in areas with the highest food insecurity, aiming to scale up to assist 700,000 people.

*Note: as of November WFP is leveraging its cash-based transfer platform established during COVID-19 to rapidly extend emergency support to households evacuated during Eta; these numbers are not yet reflected in budgets.*

**Support:** WFP is providing services to the Government to support the implementation of national programmes responding to the COVID-19 emergency: Procurement of food commodities (value of over US\$ 105 million) on behalf of the Government to launch the Government's Food Programme Supporting with digital platforms to strengthen the reliability and transparency of the Food Programme Supporting with VAM capacity for remote assessment of food security during the pandemic. Supporting the Government's National Nutrition brigades with "search teams" to identify cases of acute malnutrition.

**Sustain and Scale-up:** Up to September, WFP assisted 24,085 beneficiaries through unconditional cash-based transfers, and 5,071 individual capacity strengthening.

**Support:** WFP continued to provide procurement and other services to support the Government's large-scale emergency programming.

**Key constraint:** Funding shortfalls (over 80% of revised requirements) remain the main challenge for full implementation.

700,000  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

29,5 M

21 M

## Haiti

COVID-19 has further aggravated hunger in Haiti. Surveys in September and October found that more than 70% of households experienced decreased income following containment measures. The cost of the food basket, transport and market prices have increased, and availability of local and imported products has decreased. Surveys also indicate that 85.5% of respondents do not have any food stock in their house, and around 39% have been consuming only 1 meal a day in their households in recent months.

An estimated 3.6 million Haitians were facing moderate to severe hunger before the pandemic. The August 2020 IPC results show 4 million people facing acute food insecurity from August 2020 to February 2021, and in March 2021, this is projected to increase to approximately 4.4 million (46% of the analysed population).

Gang violence is high and the security context remains volatile, while unrest around the end of the current President's term is fuelling political tensions.

### Sustain and Scale-up:

During the COVID-19 lockdown, WFP distributed take-home food rations before resuming its school feeding programme in August, as schools reopened to make up for days missed, targeting 275,000 schoolchildren.

Prior to COVID-19, WFP Haiti had scaled up its operations to target 700,000 people for emergency food assistance due to rising hunger amidst a socioeconomic crisis. Now, with the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP has sought to further scale up to reach a total of 900,000 people.

**Support:** WFP is leading the Logistics Sector and providing common logistics services to the humanitarian community, including sea, air and land transport. WFP is working with Government (Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour; National Food Security Coordination) to expand the national registry of vulnerable population (SIMAST) in the coming months WFP provides storage capacity to health responders including WHO and the Ministry of Health, and procured Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the Ministry of Health, funded by the World Bank.

  
200,000  
from 300,000  
(June plan)

### Sustain and Scale-up:

In September, WFP assisted 86,490 beneficiaries through unconditional cash-based transfers and provided school meals to 224,066 students.

Previously, with schools closed, WFP adapted its school meals to provide take home rations for benefiting 456,315 people.

**Support:** WFP continues to enable the humanitarian community through logistics coordination and humanitarian air services, including if required through a humanitarian corridor with Dominican Republic.

**Constraints:** A deteriorating security context impacts WFP and partner access and ability to deliver at scale. Funding shortfalls relative to the scale of needs impeded the humanitarian community's ability to reduce needs and contribute to stability.

108.4 M

6.5 M

## Honduras

While assessments are underway to determine the level of needs across the 1.6 million people exposed to hurricane Eta, the pandemic has aggravated food insecurity: 1.8 million people have insufficient food consumption, and 1.3 million experience chronic hunger. Many livelihoods are affected by restrictions of movements in both urban and rural areas. A WFP and ILO joint study estimates that around 2.1 million people working in the informal sector lost their income, leading to coping strategies such as reductions in basic household expenditures, taking credit and loans, looking for other job options, tapping in food stocks, and emigration. In addition, of the businesses interviewed, 61.1% have not been able to continue with the regular payment of their employees.

**Sustain:** WFP continues to implement its nutrition and resilience activities as well as school-meal programme targeting 1.2 million children (transitioned to take-home rations).

**Scale Up:** WFP, in coordination with the Food Security Sector, is complementing the Government's response. Within this, WFP is targeting an initial 600,000 of the most vulnerable and food insecure. So far, 54,000 families are being assisted (270,000 beneficiaries).  
Note: as of November WFP is leveraging pre-positioned storm food stocks to rapidly extend emergency support to households affected by Eta; these numbers are not yet reflected in budgets.

**Support:** WFP continues efforts to strengthen social protection systems and reinforce targeting mechanisms to help build shock responsiveness and ensure transparency

### **Sustain and Scale-up:**

In October, WFP assisted 109,561 beneficiaries, including 86,490 people through emergency relief, 15,400 with resilience activities, as well as 2,015 school children and 5,656 pregnant and lactating women and girls through adapted take home school meal and nutrition assistance.

600,000  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Support:** WFP continued its technical assistance to the Government, and established a sub-regional hub to facilitate humanitarian response; this hub provided a vital prepositioning facility when Eta hit.

**Key constraints:** Funding shortfalls remain a challenge for full implementation of response.

41.8 M

23.3 M

## Nicaragua

Nicaragua has been directly impacted by Hurricane Eta; assessments are ongoing to determine the needs of vulnerable people exposed to the storm. This shock arrives as COVID-19 has further aggravated the effects of the 2018 socio-political crisis, which increased unemployment, migration and food insecurity and malnutrition, throwing the country into the worst economic crisis of the last 30 years.

A May 2020 Ministry of Health census already identified above national average levels of moderate and severe acute undernutrition in 37% of municipalities.

The socioeconomic impact of the pandemic is linked to a contraction on tourism, the service sector, and remittances, as well as job losses. CEPAL estimates that COVID-19 could lead to further poverty increases, reaching up to 53% of the population (extreme poverty at 23%). The World Bank's most recent forecast predicts the GDP will decrease by 5.9%.

**Sustain:** Support for the national school feeding programme benefiting 183,450 children in 2020. In 2020, WFP assisted 2,570 female and male smallholders, supporting food production and commercialization.

### Scale-up:

In 2021, WFP will also scale up assistance to strengthen vulnerable Dry Corridor subsistence farmers' climate resilience reach 120,000 additional school children with an additional meal through the national school feeding programme in the Dry Corridor (shock-responsive) benefit over 3,000 low-income rural and peri-urban families by delivering technical assistance and inputs to establish vegetable gardens

*Note: as of November WFP is leveraging local purchases to rapidly extend emergency support to households affected by Eta; these numbers are not yet reflected in budgets.*

### Support:

Technical support to implement biosafety protocols for the entire food delivery chain.

If additional resources are secured, WFP aims to preposition food stocks to deliver immediate food assistance to populations affected by hazards, particularly hurricanes.

WFP also aims to continue expanding support to smallholder farmers.

**Sustain:** WFP maintained its operations reaching 186,430 beneficiaries in September through school feeding and livelihood support.

**Support:** WFP provided hygiene kits for 2,950 schools, 20 farmer organizations and 2,970 families. Government counterparts are receiving hygiene items.

**Key constraints:** The absence of a COVID-19 Government emergency declaration has limited WFP's capacity to finalize a response plan and raise funds to mitigate additional needs beyond the adaptation of its existing regular programming.

*Response plan under discussion – Hurricane Eta impact assessments ongoing*

16.8 M

5.5 M

**Peru**

72.5 percent of the employed population relies on the informal sector. The economic slowdown and movement restrictions limited households' access to basic needs and people resorted to negative coping strategies.

Estimates indicate that severe food insecurity can potentially affect 4.5 million people due to the impact of COVID-19. The situation is dire for migrants: WFP data shows that prior to COVID-19 nearly 20 percent of Venezuelans were concerned about not having enough food to cover their needs. Current estimates show that 160,000 Venezuelan migrants will be severely food insecure and 400,000 moderately food insecure.

**Sustain:** WFP continues focusing on capacity strengthening: reprioritization of activities and adjustment of pre-COVID19 operation to the current context.

**Scale-up:** In June 2020, WFP planned support for 98,400 vulnerable people not included in the national social protection schemes, mainly Venezuelan migrants. No additional beneficiaries as of October 2020.

**Support:** Strengthen Government's response through continuous capacity strengthening. Logistics augmentation activities in support of the National Institute of Civil Defence (INDECI), mainly for the coordination of the distribution of food items and non-food items for vulnerable people in quarantine and Venezuelan migrants. WFP in alliance with WHO/PAHO is strengthening the government's capacities to design and implement a model to reduce the spread of COVID-19 that strengthens the first level of health care, implements a contact tracing system and provides food support to vulnerable families that require quarantine.

**Sustain and Scale-up:** WFP reoriented its portfolio and began direct assistance with unconditional CBT in July. 17,500 beneficiaries have been reached by 26 October.

**Support:** WFP has provided logistics support to the Government for food distributions to 214,402 households (including 9,000 Venezuelan migrants' households). Since the launch of the June Plan, WFP revised its CSP, raised funds from private sector and international cooperation, contracted partners, refined targeting criteria and introduced new transfer modalities. Beneficiaries for direct assistance are expected to increase, having completed necessary operational adjustments. Funding shortfalls remain an obstacle.

98,400  
*(no change  
from June  
plan)*

12 M

3.4 M

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**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

**3.17 M**  
*from 3.5 M  
(June Plan)*

**US\$ 426M**

**US\$ 177M**

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**MIDDLE  
EAST,  
CENTRAL  
ASIA AND  
NORTH  
AFRICA**

	COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS ON FOOD SECURITY	WFP IMMEDIATE RESPONSE	COVID-19 SCALE-UP BENEFICIARIES	EVIDENCE OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED TO SUSTAIN/ SCALE-UP ASSISTANCE TO BENEFICIARIES JULY - TO DATE	PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (NOV - APR)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (NOV - APR)
<b>Algeria</b>	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic hit Algeria at a time when the economy was already suffering from falling oil prices. The Government has been providing support to vulnerable communities but the full extent of the socio-economic impact of this crisis is still being assessed with the help of the UN System.</p> <p>The Sahrawi refugees in Tindouf remain almost fully dependent on external assistance. Only 12 percent of the refugees were food secure before the crisis and malnutrition and anaemia are major challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic poses a threat to this vulnerable population with only a weak health system present in the camps. The crisis has exacerbated the lack of economic opportunities and an increase in food insecurity in the camps remains a possibility.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General food assistance</li> <li>• Nutrition support to prevent and treat malnutrition and anaemia in children 6-59 months, pregnant and lactating women.</li> <li>• Complementary livelihood activities to ensure availability of fresh foods.</li> <li>• School Feeding to support return.</li> </ul> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> To 19,100 additional beneficiaries with unconditional support for three months.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> Algerian Government with a socio-economic impact survey of the COVID-19 crisis, led by UNDP.</p>	19,100 <i>(no change from June plan)</i>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP maintained support to 133,760 vulnerable people with General Food Assistance and provided school feeding to 40,000 children support return and attendance.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> WFP reached 100% of the 19,100 additional beneficiaries as planned in the scale-up between May and July</p>	10.2 M	5.4 M

**Armenia**

As of 2018, 15.3% of the Armenian population was food insecure and 23.5% of Armenians lived below the poverty line. Disruptions of global supply chains, increased job losses and negative impacts on national production capacities due to COVID-19 have increased vulnerabilities and food insecurity.

The ongoing conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh and related spill-over effects in Armenia, coupled with the continued alarming spread of COVID-19 is straining the system. Medical facilities have surpassed their capacity to care for COVID-19 patients. Spontaneous arrivals from Nagorno-Karabakh are settling in host communities.

**Sustain:** School feeding activities to 68,500 people.

**Scale-up:** Extend support to 130,000 people including:

- Food assistance to 80,000 vulnerable people (elderly, disabled, children, marginalized) jointly with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.
- Shock responsive school support for two months for 30,000 school children from vulnerable households through cash-based transfers.
- In-kind food support for 20,000 in support of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs safety net.

As of November, WFP is developing a response plan to support populations affected by the crisis in Nagorno-Karabakh; requirements are not yet reflected in the budget.

**Support:** WFP is providing technical support to the National food grain reserve and food systems.

130,000  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain:** WFP maintained support to 29,512 school children.

**Scale-up:**

- Food assistance was provided to 44,000 people facing food insecurity due to COVID-19 jointly with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.
- WFP supported the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs targeting 29,223 primary school children from vulnerable families through shock responsive school feeding.
- In addition, WFP supported 11,000 people affected by the recent conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh.

**Support:**

WFP is supporting the Ministry of Education, Science and Sports (MoESS) to develop a strategy for organizing a school feeding programme.

4.4 M

0.0 M

**Egypt**

COVID-19 restrictions have had serious socio-economic impacts on already vulnerable communities. The Government expanded social protection interventions and increased coverage of social safety nets: 100,000 households have been added to the 3.5 million households already supported. An estimated 1.5 million casual laborers who have no access to existing safety nets are also being supported with cash assistance as compensation for lost income. Following a reduction of reported new COVID-19 cases, Egypt is now witnessing a second wave of COVID-19 cases. The Government closely monitors needs of sectors most affected (including tourism) and is enforcing financial and medical response plans with national funds and support from the international community.

**Sustain:** Continued assistance to 720,000 vulnerable populations affected by the COVID-19 crisis (vulnerable Egyptians) and 150,000 vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers living in Egypt.

**Scale-up:** To assist:

- 695,000 vulnerable Egyptians registered under the national safety net with unconditional cash-based transfers during the period June – November.
- 40,000 smallholder farmers and Bedouin communities with unconditional cash-based transfers during the period June – November.
- 37,100 pregnant and lactating women and children under 2 with nutrition support for 3 months during July - September.

**Support:**

- Egyptian COVID-19 Response Information Hub, an integrated GIS-based platform consolidating data from different Government entities.
- Rapid assessments on impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable communities and related data collection.
- Trainings on GIS, mapping, analysis and data visualization.
- Enhanced technologies for hotline.

772,100  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain and scale-up:** As of October 2020, WFP provided:  
3 months of cash assistance to 500,000 family members of casual workers.  
29,000 families of school children with unconditional cash assistance;  
General food assistance to 110,000 refugees;  
Unconditional monthly cash top-up to households of 40,000 children under two years of age;  
Unconditional cash to 40,000 rural community members.

**Support:** WFP has provided support to the Government by setting up the Egyptian COVID-19 Response Information Hub, an integrated GIS-based platform that consolidates data from the different Government entities.

63.7 M

55.5 M



## Iran

The Government does not foresee a severe impact on the food security situation because of COVID-19. Any impact will be addressed by Government relief packages and interventions.

The situation of the refugees will remain precarious, as the slowdown of the economy, loss of labour opportunity and the fact that refugees do not qualify to receive any form of subsidy from the government will have a hugely negative impact on the life and livelihood of this vulnerable population.

### Sustain:

- Cash and in-kind distribution to 31,000 refugees.
- Conditional support to girl refugees to incentivize educational activities.
- Conditional support to school children in primary and secondary school through daily snacks (on-site school feeding or home-schooling ration).
- Conditional support to refugees especially women to facilitate livelihood activities.

### Scale up:

- 31,000 supported refugees receive extra cash ration and lentils to mitigate the negative effects of job loss and reduced incomes due to COVID-19
- Hygiene items (soap and hand sanitizer), informative brochure on personal hygiene and Nano masks.

### Support:

- Government emergency preparedness and response.
- Provision of hygiene items and PPE to settlement managers and warehouse storekeepers involved in dealing with refugees and food distribution.

-  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

### Sustain & Scale-up:

31,000 refugees are receiving extra cash ration and lentils; 20,800 beneficiaries in eight quarantined settlements received an extra cash ration top-up during the lockdown to maintain their food consumption.

### Support:

WFP supported the government and partners by providing hygiene items and personal protective equipment to settlement managers, warehouse keepers, and 5,000 IRCS staff.

3.4 M

0.0 M

Iraq	<p>The fall in global oil prices has dramatically impacted the economy. This may impede the Government's ability to sustain social protection activities. A new Government is being formed after months of civil unrest. At the start of 2020, 1.77 million people were susceptible to food insecurity. A World Bank report indicates that the impact of COVID-19 could double the national poverty, estimated at 20 percent prior to the crisis. WFP estimated that an additional 345,000 people require immediate food assistance.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP assistance to 725,500 people including food insecure displaced people and refugees, returnees, conflict affected and vulnerable communities as well as students supported through school-feeding programme in 11 governorates.</p> <p><b>Scale up:</b> Food assistance to 45,000 people in IDP and refugee camps. Quick action, emergency livelihoods projects in urban and peri-urban areas for 300,000 people. [WFP and the Ministry of Education are discussing a nationwide coverage of the School Feeding programme once schools open. Not yet captured in scale-up budget].</p> <p><b>Support:</b> Joint WFP/FAO/World Bank assessment on the impact of COVID-19 on food security. Social protection reform including the reform of the Government's Public Distribution System.</p>	<p>345,000 <i>(no change from June plan)</i></p>	<p><b>Sustain &amp; Scale-up:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 345,000 (commenced and ongoing)</li> <li>• More than 34,500 refugees and 3,000 IDPs included for CBT assistance.</li> </ul> <p><b>Support:</b> Two rounds of joint WFP/FAO/World Bank COVID-19 food security assessments conducted.</p>	<p>60.9 M</p>	<p>21.5 M</p>
Jordan	<p>Assessments indicate a substantial increase in the number of food insecure refugees as compared to pre-COVID-19 levels, the number of food insecure refugees stands at 131,600 persons, another 417,290 are vulnerable to food insecurity. Food consumption of Jordanians has equally dropped since the onset of COVID-19, albeit to a lesser degree. The National Aid Fund has planned to double its beneficiaries because of COVID-19. Already suffering from high public debt burden, economic deterioration in the aftermath of COVID-19 may result in protests if a clear bailout plan is not proposed.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP supports some 500,000 vulnerable refugees with unconditional cash-based transfers both in camps and urban settings. The number has increased since the June plan and includes the additional COVID-19 caseload.</p> <p><b>Scale up:</b> Since July 2020, WFP is implementing a COVID-19 scale-up response plan to include an additional refugee caseload as well as vulnerable host community members.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> Establish mVAM and support the Government's COVID-19 response in partnership with the National Aid Fund (NAF), the largest governmental social-safety nets actor. Specifically, WFP is providing: Technical Assistance on Beneficiary Validation exercises, Digital Payments enrolment, virtual and face to face household verification and Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms; Financial support to cover the salary costs of NAF staff involved in the COVID-19 response; Financial contribution to NAF to support 35,625 vulnerable Jordanian individuals through the National Aid Fund's digital payments schemes.</p>	<p>58,047 <i>(no change from June plan)</i></p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> Assistance to 500,000 vulnerable refugees with unconditional cash- based transfer was maintained</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> As of October, WFP expanded its General Food Assistance to Refugees, reaching an additional 15,451 refugees (out of 22,422 planned).</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP is partnering with the NAF to strengthen the social safety net.</p>	<p>125.2 M</p>	<p>66.0 M</p>

## Kyrgyzstan

The COVID-19 pandemic caused serious socioeconomic impacts across Kyrgyzstan through simultaneous shocks such as reductions in domestic and external demand, trade; and disruption of production.

The Government estimated that about 1.8 million people, approximately one-third of the population, will fall under the poverty line. The Government prioritizes food security and has requested UN support to respond to the impact of COVID-19.

**Sustain:** WFP supports over 100,000 people through productive safety net activities and training as well as 38,000 primary school children from rural families.

### Scale up:

Emergency food assistance to 3,200 people (residents of social inpatient institutions).

Emergency food assistance for two months to 300,000 people living in extreme poverty.

Early recovery assistance to support vulnerable smallholder farmers to restore livelihoods.

### Support:

Enhance social protection schemes for emergency response.

Weekly food price monitoring from 18 markets across the country and regular socio-economic analysis and micro simulations.

303,200  
*(no change  
from June  
plan)*

**Scale-up:** WFP has reached 3,200 people with emergency food assistance and agreed with Ministry of Labour and Social Development to launch in November a Cash-based transfer programme in 23 urban and semi-urban locations.

5.7 M

1.7 M

## Lebanon

The dramatic economic and fiscal crises, and rising prices seen throughout 2020 have had devastating effects on the economic vulnerabilities and food security of refugees and Lebanese populations, including those not usually considered vulnerable.

The impact of COVID-19 measures has further exacerbated the economic crisis, and the spike in COVID-19 cases has strained the country's stretched healthcare system. The explosion at Beirut Port on 4 August places further strain on the ability of people in Lebanon to meet their food needs, through disrupted livelihood and food supply chains and prices.

According to the World Bank's latest estimates, 1.7 million of the estimated 3.8 million Lebanese population are poor, half of whom (841,000 people) are extremely poor. In addition, preliminary results of the 2020 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees show that 88 percent of Syrian refugees (1.32 million people) are now living below the survival minimum expenditure basket, compared to 55 percent (825,000 people) in 2019.

**Sustain:** Support to 944,156 people (in July 2020) through different activities.

### Scale up:

In-kind food assistance for 6 months for 270,000 Lebanese as part of the COVID-19 and economic crisis response.

Contingency of 40,000 food parcels for Syrian refugee families living in informal tented settlements who may not be able to access markets due to COVID-19 movement restrictions.

Scale-up from 670,000 refugees assisted in March to 830,000 refugees with unconditional cash-based assistance [Note: additional scale-up under consideration].

Scale-up of National Poverty Targeting Programme beneficiaries from 15,000 households to 50,000 households by the first quarter of 2021.

**Support:** Capacity strengthening support for the national social protection system on targeting, verification, monitoring and feedback mechanisms.

  
670,000  
from 450,000  
(June plan)

**Sustain & Scale-up:** WFP has sustained and scaled-up its response including to households affected by the Beirut blast, providing CBT and in-kind food parcels. The last three months have seen WFP assist on average 1 million people per month – including 19,500 new beneficiaries who received one off emergency assistance under the Beirut blast response. WFP aims to reach 1.22 million beneficiaries in October 2020

In addition to scaling-up beneficiary figures, transfer values have been gradually adjusted in line with rising food prices, from LBP 40,500 in March to LBP 100,000 for November.

272.2 M

51.9 M

## Libya

After nine years of political, security and economic volatility, food security remains a challenge as food remains among the top needs of residents, migrants, refugees, IDPs and returnees. The intensification of the conflict and the COVID-19 containment measures have further exacerbated this need.

According to the latest WFP estimates, the number of food insecure people in Libya is projected to increase from 336,000 to 683,000. Traditionally food secure families have also been highly affected and are requesting humanitarian assistance as the whole economy faces multi-dimensional impacts of COVID-19, conflict escalation, lack of cash/salaries, and the oil blockade.

**Sustain:** Unconditional assistance to food-insecure and vulnerable people in Libya, including schoolchildren, and pilot complementary interventions that improve food security and nutrition.

While all activities have resumed or been adapted to the COVID-19 context, such as take-home rations distributions for school-feeding, the Food For Asset and Food for Training activities were suspended due to movement restrictions and suspension of gathering by the authorities since March 2020.

**Scale up:** in-kind food assistance to an additional 10,000 newly displaced persons, vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers and newly identified vulnerable non-displaced persons.

**Support:**

- Capacity strengthening support on vulnerability mapping and monitoring.
- Strengthening COVID-19 impact data through innovative data collection for migrant populations with IOM (e.g. WFP Migration Pulse and IOM Migration Flow Survey);
- Assessment on Agriculture and Livelihood;
- mVAM with nutrition indicators;
- USIP/UN Women/WFP joint research on peace and conflict, livelihoods, and gender around the border areas.

10,000  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain:** Unconditional food assistance reached 190,000 people and 28,000 migrants/refugees/asylum-seekers. All WFP activities have resumed, with the exception of FFA/FFT.

**Scale-up:** Commodity e-voucher General Food Assistance rolled out to some 10,000 beneficiaries in Tripoli and Zwara, injecting financial inputs to local economy for their economic recovery from COVID-19 shocks.

**Support:** Joint UN initiatives: WFP, IOM and UN HABITAT are developing a Multi-Partner Trust Fund proposal to support the Government with the scale-up of the national socio-economic response to the pandemic

16.9 M

7.5 M

## Palestine

According to preliminary estimates, it is expected that the share of poor households will increase to 30% in the West Bank (from 14% in 2017) and to 64% in Gaza (from 53% in 2017). The unemployment rate in Palestine reached 25% in Q1 2020, 45.5% in Gaza and 14.2% in West Bank and it is expected that these levels increased. The Palestinian economy is expected to contract in 2020 by 7.6%. Coping mechanisms reflect a worsening situation across all vulnerable groups. A recent study by PCBS shows 61% of the households are worried about not having enough food, 47% are unable to eat healthy and nutritious diets, and household's monthly expenditure on food supplies has decreased by 41%.

**Sustain:** Maintain the value and number of people targeted under unconditional cash transfers to existing food insecure caseloads (174,000) and sustain assistance to 71,000 food insecure people through the in-kind transfer modality.

**Scale up:** Cash-based support to additional 65,000 vulnerable people, (disabled, elderly and lactating & pregnant women) in the West Bank, resource permitting. There is a larger increase in need, however, WFP is not able to cover all the needs due to limited resources.

As of November, WFP has revised its scale-up plan to reach an additional 35,000 people in Gaza Strip for three months (November 2020 to January 2021).

**Support:** Essential Needs Targeting.

  
100,000  
from 65,000  
(June plan)

**Sustain:** As of October, WFP continued its support to 223,000 beneficiaries with CBT assistance with increased voucher value for 3 months (only May-July) and in-kind assistance maintained to 71,000 food insecure.

**Scale-up:** WFP reached additional 65,000 people with CBT assistance for 6 months (May-October).

40.3 M

28.1 M

**Sudan**

The IPC results project 9.6 million people (21% of the population) to experience crisis or worse levels of food insecurity, a sharp increase from the initial projections of 6.2 million in 2020. Economic downturn and inflation coupled with COVID-19 affect food availability and accessibility. Inflation in September 2020 reached 212% and food prices erode purchasing power. According to WFP assessments, 90% of households spent more than 65% of income on food, limiting their ability to invest in livelihoods. Meanwhile, the number of security incidents is rising (tribal clashes in West Darfur, West Kordofan, South Kordofan and Red Sea State). 2020 also marked the worst flooding in decades affecting more than 875,000 people and destroying infrastructure, livelihoods and crops. As of November, an influx of refugees from Tigray, Ethiopia is rising rapidly.

**Sustain:**

- Unconditional assistance to 2.4 million people (IDPs and refugees).
- Take-home rations to 900,000 school children during school closures.
- Nutrition-sensitive programming and capacity strengthening.
- Asset creation activities and technical assistance through safety nets.

**Scale-up:**

- Unconditional assistance to an additional 2.5 million people
- Provide food parcels in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Development to 300,000 families in Khartoum
- Increase coverage of schools feeding and nutrition programmes for an additional 712,000 beneficiaries to reach 1.7 million when schools reopen (end November) and an additional 164,000 beneficiaries to reach 1.4 million by the end of the year, respectively.
- Review cash-based transfer (CBT) value in the context of high inflation and increase in food prices.

*Note: needs for a growing refugee caseload not yet included in budget.*

5,176,000  
from  
4,591,300  
(June Plan)

**Sustain and scale-up:** From July to September, WFP reached 3.2 million people with food assistance, nutrition-specific activities, and livelihoods support.

The gradual scale-up of food assistance has started in six states. Take-home rations were distributed to 673,000 school children, as of September. The provision of food parcels (one-off assistance) to 1.8 million people to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 containment measures was finalized in July.

CBT values for food assistance and productive safety nets have been increased and will continue to be revised according to the evolution of the context.

**Key constraints:** episodes of insecurity, also impacting port operations and movement of trucks, heavy rains and flooding causing impassibility of roads and other operational constraints have slowed down the movement of food to field locations over the past months, hampering the speed of the scale-up and impacting the implementation of activities.

348 M 128.6 M

## Syria

The ongoing deterioration of the macroeconomic situation is likely to continue, exacerbated by sanctions, COVID-19 and the financial crisis in Lebanon. This, combined with difficulties in financing imports, has led to shortages and spikes in prices. There is a risk the situation could exacerbate social unrest.

Food security in Syria has deteriorated considerably. In April 2020 the total number of food insecure was projected at 9.3 million. This is the highest number ever recorded. The most at-risk vulnerable groups include IDPs and refugees.

**Sustain:** Critical support to 4.8 million food insecure and displaced people and returnees through unconditional general food assistance, livelihood activities, treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition, and school feeding.

**Scale-up:** Support to 1.4 million newly food insecure, resources permitting and to populations in quarantine.

  
1,429,000  
from  
1,400,000  
(June Plan)

**Sustain:** Critical support provided to 4.75 million beneficiaries. In addition, fortified snacks (date bars) are distributed with the GFA ration to some 300,000 households in sub-districts where children usually receiving date bars in schools but not due to closures.

**Scale-up:** Since June WFP is providing food rations to Quarantine Centres hosting vulnerable population suspected of COVID-19 infection: over 11,000 beneficiaries were assisted June – September and WFP plans to reach 29,000 by the end of 2020. 2,800 ready-to-eat meals were distributed to areas that were previously in full lockdown.

589.2 M 311.6 M

## Tajikistan

The economic situation is rapidly deteriorating. Currency fluctuation and reduction of remittances has resulted in reduced purchasing power of basic commodities that are imported (food and fuel). Income from remittances has reduced significantly as migrant workers are unable to travel or send money due to lockdowns. Availability of and access to wage labour has become extremely limited. In addition, local supply chain disruptions have been reported such as an increase of transport costs and partially operational food markets.


**Sustain:** Support up to 400,000 people through asset creation and livelihood activities, school feeding, and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition.

Provide take-home rations during normal summer holidays for 155,000 family members of vulnerable school children (reduced from 316,000).

**Scale up:** Extend nutrition support to 95,000 children under 2 and pregnant and lactating women and girls through cash or in-kind support.

Scale up Food assistance For Assets through public works (CBT) to an additional 50,000 individuals.

**Support:** to the government in designing and implementing COVID-19 preparedness and response plans.

  
145,000  
from 302,500  
(June Plan)

**Sustain:** Ongoing projects reaching over 400,000 beneficiaries nationwide through asset creation and livelihood activities, school feeding, and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition.

**Scale-up:** One-off take-home rations provided to 24,000 vulnerable families in May, due to early school closures.

Cash assistance for public works initiated for 15,000 individuals in GBAO in May/June and 18,000 in October in DRS.

**Support:** MoHSP and CoES COVID-19 response plans developed. WFP and FAO implemented Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission, upon request from the Government. The findings are expected to feed the government response plans.

16.1 M 8 M



**Scale-up:** cash-based assistance to 2,700 beneficiaries of primary school children affected by school closure because of COVID-19.

**Support:**

- A food security and vulnerability in-depth assessment with the Ministry of Agriculture is ongoing.
- Support the Ministry of Social Affairs to design an inclusive and harmonised shock responsive social protection system, and determine appropriate food assistance modalities with the *Union Tunisienne de Solidarité Sociale (UTSS)*.
- Support Ministry of Education in digitalising the data of students who benefit from school canteens in order to allow its integration with the database of the Ministry of Social Affairs. Ongoing.
- Cost of Diet study completed for Tunis and ongoing for other regions in Tunisia.
- Fill the Nutrient Gap study ongoing.

2,700  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Scale-up:** CBT assistance to 2,615 beneficiaries since June

2 M

1.5 M

**Tunisia**

Based on a desk review of historical food security and labour migration as well as current market and situation monitoring of prices, travel restrictions, border closures and unemployed migrants, an estimated 500,000 individuals are affected by high food insecurity, high inflation, and extremely reduced income from lack of remittances.

**Turkey**

WFP’s assessment on COVID-19 Pandemic impact on Refugees living in-camps based on data collected in April, May and June 2020 showed that few refugees still had jobs outside of the camps. However, following the implementation of COVID-19 restrictions, more than two thirds of households formerly employed off-camp have lost their jobs or suffered a reduction in earnings, severely affecting their ability to cover basic needs including food intake.

Market monitoring has found a 15 percent increase in the minimum expenditure food basket prices over the last 3 months. As a result, 65 percent of the residents have been relying on cheaper or lesser preferred food. On average three out of four households had used some form of negative coping strategy in the 30 days preceding the survey: 45 percent borrowed money, 29 percent spent savings, 20 percent sold household assets, and 18 percent bought food on credit to meet their basic needs.

Soup Kitchens baseline surveys conducted in August showed that 66 percent of beneficiary households have an acceptable food consumption score (FCS), 18 percent are at borderline level, and 16 percent on a poor diet. Findings indicate that 77 percent had to use livelihood coping strategies, including sending children to work.

**Sustain:** Unconditional assistance to 56,000 in-camp refugees and training and livelihood activities for refugees and host community.

**Scale-up:** Cash-based support to 190,804 urban refugee households (largely non-Syrian vulnerable refugee who are not eligible for other support ) who do not benefit from any social protection scheme.

Joint IOM-GIZ soup kitchen project in with local municipalities: refugees and Turkish nationals work alongside each other to prepare and provide 11,500 hot meals per day to vulnerable refugees and Turkish nationals The soup kitchens are also a contingency plan in case livelihood activity trainees are unable to work in cafés and restaurants given COVID-19-related closures.

**Support:** WFP is supporting the Government to ensure full coverage of camps in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak: an MoU with Government and contract with BIM market chain underway. Joint UN COVID-19 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Report and Socio-Economic Response Offer developed to address additional needs arisen due to the pandemic.

915,900  
*(no change from June plan)*

**Sustain:** unconditional cash assistance to 56,000 refugees in camps training and livelihood activities for 305 participants (half refugees, half host community) in two cohorts to reduce congestion, across 9 provinces.

**Scale-up:** 11,500 hot meals are prepared and provided to vulnerable refugees and Turkish nationals.

**Support:** Personal Protection Equipment distributed to all camp workers in April and September.

45.1 M

34.9 M

**Yemen**

Despite gains made in improving food security in 2019, monitoring information indicates that these gains have already been reversed in light of increased food prices, deterioration in incomes and livelihoods, a decline in foreign reserves, rising conflict and a reduction in humanitarian assistance.

Yemen is now seeing the highest prevalence of households with severe deprivation in food (poor food consumption) since October 2018. The scale, severity and complexity of needs in Yemen are staggering, with over 230 of Yemen's 333 governorates categorized as food insecure. Within these 230 districts: 103 are at risk of famine, 41 districts have acute malnutrition rates above 15%; 54 have acute water, sanitation and hygiene deficits; and 46 are at high risk of cholera.

The fragility of Yemen and reduced funding outlook, coupled with a reduction in the levels of humanitarian assistance provided in the northern governorates, as well as other shocks, are expected to result in further deterioration.

A partial IPC is available for the southern governorates, while analysis for the northern governorates is expected mid-November.

**Sustain :** Critical support to 13 million people through the following activities: Unconditional general food assistance; Treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition; Livelihoods and resilience activities; school feeding activities

**Scale-up:** Provide Immediate response rations in quarantine centres

- Support:**
- the Government and partners through coordinating cargo flights, transporting PPEs, medicines, and ventilators to support the health system
  - Through the ETC, upgrade the COVID-19 Emergency Operations Centre and hotlines, provide connectivity to quarantine and isolation facilities.

(no change from June plan)

**Sustain:** WFP has maintained its operation reaching 8.76 million people in August 2020 with life-saving assistance.

Over 1 million students across 63 districts were reached with staggered distributions of take-home rations, following the early-closure of academic year due to COVID-19.

**Scale-up:** 38 COVID-19 quarantine centres in nine governorates were supported with immediate response rations (IRR) to cover the 14-day quarantine period.

**Support:** WFP chartered a second vessel to carry WFP/partners liner cargo of 1,500 containers [While the 14-day quarantine in the north was waived, it continued to be imposed in the Aiden port]

**KEY CONSTRAINT:** Over the first half of 2020, WFP witnessed a reduction in donor commitments, amplified during the Yemen Pledging Conference in June when pledges remained limited. Following the reduction of food assistance in the areas under the control of the Sana'a based authorities as of April 2020, till now, the reduction in the levels of assistance in the northern governorates is still in place and the current funding outlook does not allow for a return back to full assistance, affecting nine million people. It's noteworthy that following the reduction of food assistance in the north, the proportion of beneficiary households with inadequate food consumption increased from 28 percent in May to 46 percent in September. WFP Yemen needs funding urgently as pipeline breaks are anticipated across nearly all activities moving into the first quarter of 2021.

864.8 M 438.1 M

**TOTAL MIDDLE EAST, CENTRAL ASIA AND NORTH AFRICA**

**10 M**  
from 9.4M  
(June Plan)

**US\$ 2,468M US\$ 1,160M**

**Angola**

According to the World Bank, Angola is expected to remain in recession in 2020 due to and low oil revenues, drop in exports and the global slowdown resulting from the impacts of COVID-19. This will limit the Government's ability to provide social safety nets and protect incomes during lockdown and longer-term recovery efforts. Macroeconomic data shows that the cost of living (including food prices) has been increasing since January 2020. The US\$/AOA exchange rate has also grown from 488 kwanzas for 1 US\$ in March to 659 in October. The purchasing power of vulnerable households is, therefore, reduced, while their opportunities for employment and self-reliance are limited amid the contraction of the national economy. The social and economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic can severely affect the access to food for vulnerable populations over the coming months.

**Sustain:** WFP continues its refugee assistance activities in the province of Lunda Norte to ensure that Congolese refugees are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements. Food distributions have been adjusted to minimize the risk of spread of COVID-19.

**Support:** Following the signature of a Technical Assistance Agreement with the Ministry of Health, WFP provides support to the Government through

- technical assistance on school feeding, vulnerability assessment and malnutrition;
- and on-demand supply chain services to enable relevant stakeholders.

WFP supports the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to ensure timely and comprehensive food security and nutrition assessments.

WFP supports health provincial authorities and partners to scale up community screening activities for 1.1 million children under five in the province of Luanda and procures ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF) and anthropometric equipment and supports trainings to health providers on treatment.

-  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain:** In October, 6,544 refugees were assisted in Lunda Norte province as part of the regular response in support of refugees from the DRC.

**Support:** In October 76 MT of RUSF procured by WFP arrived in Luanda for the implementation of the MAM project by the Provincial Health Directorate. WFP is also assisting in delivering trainings to health providers on malnutrition treatment. WFP assisted in the staff training on the household food security questionnaire and food consumption indicator and the use of mobile monitoring (MVAM) which was rolled out in October.

4.7 M

1.5 M

**Democratic Republic of Congo**

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has the highest number of food insecure people globally. It continues to face multiple and large-scale complex crises (e.g., resurgence of Ebola, measles and cholera outbreaks, persistent insecurity and conflict, large scale displacement).

As a result of COVID-19-induced price inflation and job losses, households in the most affected areas have lost almost 40 percent of their purchasing power. However, prices have recently started to stabilize and return to pre-COVID levels in most places. Kinshasa remains the most affected province, followed by North Kivu, and Haut Katanga.

In North Kivu, mVAM data indicates that 80 percent of households have disrupted access to markets.

**Sustain:** WFP provides life-saving assistance to 7.5 million people in Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, Tanganyika, and Kasai.

**Scale-up:** WFP plans to support an additional 945,131 people in IPC3+ not yet supported through existing food security safety nets, plus an additional 500,000 in Kinshasa.

- In addition, WFP is partnering with UNICEF, FAO and the Government in an initiative aimed at mitigating the secondary impacts of COVID-19 on children and their families by helping cushion the loss of income.
- The programme aims to support the most vulnerable households in Kinshasa, starting in Nsele commune. 100,000 vulnerable households will be assisted, covering 500,000 individuals over 3 to 5 years

**Support:** WFP is reinforcing technical support to mitigate further needs:

Remote data collection and urban market monitoring; and Technical assistance to Government & partners to ensure COVID induced urban needs are met.

1,445,131  
from  
945,100  
(June plan)

**Sustain:**

In August, WFP reached 985,900 people with food and nutrition assistance. Distributions are conducted with physical distancing, hand-washing and temperature checks. WFP adjusted its school feeding programme to provide take-home rations in North Kivu, Kasai Oriental and Tanganyika provinces.

**Scale-up:** In preparation for the urban social safety net programme, SOPs have been developed to guide the use of safe biometric registration in the context of COVID-19- initially suspended at the beginning of the pandemic, fingerprint biometrics and gradually being reinstated with strict safety protocols.

WFP contributed to a nutrition operational action plan to integrate nutrition into the COVID-19 response and to help improve nutrition for patients with COVID-19.

**Constraints:** WFP's cash programme faced serious liquidity challenges, especially in Ituri, leading to the suspension of distributions for non- refugee beneficiaries; full capacity expected to return in November.

Serious pipeline challenges for specialised nutrition commodities.

352.1 M

171.0 M


**Eswatini**

A sharp decline in economic activities reduced fiscal revenues. The Government's support to vulnerable communities may not be able to meet the requirements. Over 330,000 (30%) of the country's population are food insecure, and a further deterioration is expected – doubling the need – due to the compounding effect of poor production and COVID-19 containment measures. The affected include vulnerable persons such as people living with HIV, pregnant and lactating women, children and orphans. Partial opening of schools disrupted school feeding programmes, increasing vulnerability for 80% of the school children relying on the program. Assistance needs related to COVID-19 will likely increase in the coming months, especially for own- production-dependent rural households during the lean season and urban daily wage earners working in the informal sector, who have lost income. The Manzini and Hhohho regions are regarded as the worst affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Sustain:** WFP is sustaining its critical support programmes, including providing a three-month ration to community-led child-care centres/Neighbourhood Care Points.

**Scale-up:** To 130,000 including:

- Extending crisis-response assistance in the form of Cash-Based Transfers to more than 86,000 and in-kind distributions to 48,000 vulnerable persons including people living with HIV, children and pregnant and lactating women, and orphans;
- Support 300 smallholder farmers to access formal markets in home-grown school feeding and crises response in-kind assistance.


  
 130,000
   
*from 65,500*
  
*(June Plan)*

Scale-up:
   
 94,000 beneficiaries (June 2020 –March 2021) are being supported with cash-based transfers (CBT).
   
 WFP is scaling up CPT to support up to 2,000 people living with chronic illnesses.

10.5 M                      6.3 M


## Lesotho

COVID-19 impacts negatively on the food availability and accessibility in markets, mostly urban. Incomes from unskilled work and remittances will also be heavily affected. The Government's plan focuses on a horizontal expansion of social protection through the provision of cash-based transfers to the most vulnerable households for three months, and the provision of take-home rations to school children.

### Scale-up:

Provide THR to primary school children in place of onsite feeding due to closure of schools (288,880 beneficiaries). Expand WFP's food-assistance-for-assets to mitigate the impact of livelihood disruptions and to support recovery as well as the upcoming lean season (26,000 beneficiaries).

**Scale-up/support:** Complement the Governments' expansion of the social protection safety net by providing six-month assistance to households with vulnerable children, the elderly, people with disabilities and those in the informal sector in most at-risk urban councils (34,000 beneficiaries).

  
348,880  
from  
362,370  
(June Plan)

**Sustain:** As part of the national COVID-19 response plan, 3 months of Super Cereal (total 450MT) have been distributed to households targeting pregnant and lactating women (PLW) through local retailers who received COVID-19 prevention training.

Preparations are underway for distributions of take-home rations to 54,420 learners in pre-primary centres.

**Scale-up/Support:** WFP started distributions in urban areas, as an expansion of the national Public Assistance Programme. Public works activities are ongoing in three southern districts (Mafeteng, Mohali's Hoek, Quthing) and 3 northern districts (Berea, Maseru and Botha-Bothe) where 11,770 participants were assisted in July.

21 M

12.5 M

## Madagascar

Lower labour and market opportunities linked to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19, rising crime levels, prolonged drought in southern areas and subsequent crop losses continue to drive up the food security and nutrition needs.

An atypically severe lean season is unfolding in Southern Madagascar. Data shows a significant deterioration in the food security and nutrition situation. According to FEWSNET projections released in October 2020, the three worst-affected regions (Anosy, Androy and Atsimo Andrefana Regions) are all experiencing 'Crisis' (IPC Phase 3) outcomes, with some of the most vulnerable households already slipping into Emergency (IPC Phase 4), even before the start of the typical peak of the lean season (January-March).

The Food Security and livelihood Cluster estimates 1,500,000 people that are in need of emergency life-saving food assistance apart from the outgoing lean season response.

The Crop and Food security assessments are ongoing. The IPC exercise is expected to be conducted in November 2020.

**Sustain:** Available resources allow WFP to pursue life-saving assistance for two months (October and November) and lean season response for four months (October to January).

**Scale-up:** If resources are available, WFP plans to assist additional 651,000 beneficiaries out of the new 1,000,000 people in need through GFD combined with prevention of acute malnutrition among pregnant and lactating women as well as children aged from 6 to 23 months


Hot meals will be provided to 10,618 school children in 65 schools located in highly affected communes, and treatment of acute malnutrition will also be scaled up in communes under nutritional emergency and alert levels.

**Scale-up:** WFP rapidly scaled up a response targeting 576,000 people by re-orienting existing Lean Season Assistance (LSA) resources towards the worst-affected areas

COVID-19 response through cash-based transfers in urban areas is ongoing;

Food distributions related to the lean season response started in mid-October to meet immediate food needs of acute food insecure people and to tackle the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic COVID-19.

**Support:** WFP is supporting the Government in conducting multisectoral rapid assessment in affected Districts in order to better analyse needs related to food security;

  
1,076,400  
from  
651,800  
(June Plan)

67.5 M

42 M



**Malawi**

The country has enjoyed good crop production this year. However, the adverse economic effects of COVID restrictions are impacting the economy, and likely lead to localised food insecurity due to access constraints and limited labour opportunities, particularly in urban and peri-urban areas. IPC analysis for the 2020/2021 Lean Season indicates that some 0.6 million people are likely to be classified as severely food insecure IPC4 across the country's four major cities, with some of this food insecurity likely linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. An additional 2 million people across rural Malawi are slated to be classified as in IPC Phase 3 (crisis) during the upcoming lean season (December 2020 and March 2021.)

**Sustain:** WFP is adapting to sustain and reinforce critical lifesaving support including refugee activities, nutrition prevention, school feeding take-home rations and livelihood activities. Where appropriate, WFP has shifted to cash-based transfers to stimulate markets.

**Scale-up:** WFP is supporting the Government in harmonising the urban cash crisis COVID-19 response and the upcoming lean season response in rural areas, leveraging the social protection system to the extent possible.

**Support:**

- Technical guidance to the development of the Government's national response plan, in collaboration with ILO and UNICEF
- Leverage WFP's outreach to support COVID-19 prevention through social and behavioural change communication
- Co-lead the National Logistics Cluster including support to the health response by erecting Mobile Storage Units for screening and isolation and supporting health cargo reception and on-forwarding.
- Increased household and market monitoring including in urban areas in light of Covid-19.

724,732  
in urban and  
peri urban  
areas  
from  
1,106,240  
(June Plan)



**Sustain:** Under the livelihoods programme, asset creation activities have been rolled out in the month of August with focus on land resources. The activities are being implemented with strict adherence to COVID-19 measures, including reduced number of participants per site, division of tasks to include rotational break times, and provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to beneficiaries and extension workers.

The Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) Business Network is scheduled to distribute Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in six districts, focusing markets and to health facilities.

48.2 M

21 M

## Mozambique

Back-to-back natural disasters and COVID-19 are escalating an already alarming food security and nutrition situation, exhausting families' coping capacities. Prior to COVID-19, an estimated 1,535,300 people were projected to be food insecure. Food insecurity, disrupted access to health services, and sub-optimal WASH practices compound the impact of COVID on nutrition and HIV, with the most vulnerable children, adolescent girls, women, and people living with HIV at the highest risk of deterioration. Global disruptions in trade will affect food supply, resulting in lower production, higher import costs and increased prices of food in the markets. Over the next few months COVID-19 will continue to impact the economy, including tourism - a source of income and livelihood for many Mozambicans.

Across the country, the northern province of Cabo Delgado presents one of the highest COVID-19 infections rates. The situation in Cabo Delgado is seeing an alarming increase in IS-affiliated insurgency attacks resulting in over 450,000 people displaced across the province and to neighbouring provinces of Nampula and Niassa. The number of IDPs have tripled in recent months in comparison to displacement levels in early 2020. Non-state armed groups (NSAG) retain control of strategic locations in the province. Despite COVID-19 constraints, WFP is working with stakeholders and partners to try to gain humanitarian access to hard-to-reach areas in Cabo Delgado.

### Sustain and Scale-up: Including:

- During October and November, WFP plans to reach up to 487,000 conflict-affected beneficiaries with in-kind and cash transfer-based assistance. The monthly IDP caseload is rapidly increasing as conflict, rainy season and poor harvest motivate displacement, with current estimates of up to 768,000 IDPs by end of March 2021 (as per the national contingency plan approved/released by the Council of Ministers).
- Support Government to scale up the social assistance through 3-month unconditional mobile money transfers to the most vulnerable households living in urban and semi-urban areas;
- Lean Season Food assistance to the most food insecure in rural settings;
- Food assistance for people in COVID-19 isolation and treatment centres; Scaling up take home rations as part of the school feeding programme; Maintaining and expanding nutrition and HIV support for Take school-feeding home rations ;
- Expand treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition and HIV, and HIV/TB services for key vulnerable groups, including truck drivers, female sex workers, and adolescent girls

### Support:

- The National Logistics Working Group: coordination, gap analysis and technical assistance
- Leverage the WFP retail network to support local markets by optimizing the value chains and leading market assessments to guide partner modality selection
- Collaborate with the Government to expand its social protection system

**Sustain and Scale-up:** Plans are ongoing to shift the national school feeding programme to take-home rations in view of COVID-19 related school closures.

Between January and October 2020, WFP increased its food assistance to IDPs in Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa from 18,495 to 349,825 conflict affected beneficiaries.

WFP is providing food assistance to IDPs and continues to work to open humanitarian access to reach all IDPs affected by the conflict. Population movements have also increased the risk of spread of COVID-19 with Nampula and Cabo Delgado among the epicentres of pandemic outbreak in Mozambique.

**Support:** WFP, UNICEF and ILO are supporting the design and implementation of the Government's social protection response with a focus on urban and peri-urban areas.

WFP is setting up an UNHAS operation to enable WFP and humanitarian actors to deliver assistance to IDPs in Cabo Delgado.

1,218,500  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

150.7 M

98.7 M

## Namibia

COVID-19 has compounded years of economic contraction, prolonged drought, floods and locust invasions, through a reduction in economic activities and associated income losses. Over 440,00 people are in IPC 3+ (18% of population); of which 35,790 are in IPC 4, signalling a worsening food security situation (IPC 2020). Regions in IPC 3 have risen to 7, with food insecurity projected to span from October 2020 to March 2021. Over 70% of the population is dependent on markets at the backdrop of rising urbanisation (51.4%) and unemployment. COVID-19 cases are rising exponentially with Windhoek (the capital) the epicentre. Heightened restrictions on movement are directly affecting businesses and unemployment, severely impacting the informal sector.

**Sustain:** Food assistance is provided to communities severely affected by drought and to clients receiving anti-retroviral therapy and their family members.

**Scale-up:** WFP will support an additional 106,120 beneficiaries with food assistance (through CBT and in-kind), focusing on people living in informal settlements, regions severely affected by COVID-19, and regions severely affected by years of recurrent drought.

**Support:**

- A CBT programme will be designed targeting people living in informal settlements while building the capacity of the Government on CBTs
- Support the Government with digital solutions to enable food distributions and beneficiary data management for the National Food Bank government relief food Programmes.
- Leverage WFP's logistics, storage and transportation to support the Government to deliver RUSF to district hospitals and health facilities.



106,122  
from 39,400  
(June Plan)

**Scale-up:** WFP, jointly with UNICEF, received €2million from ECHO to provide food assistance and emergency support to COVID-19 and drought affected people.

4.8 M

4.6 M

## Republic of the Congo

The Republic of Congo is heavily dependent on food imports (70 percent). A significant increase in food prices is observed for imported and local commodities. Significant loss of income increases needs for both poor urban and rural communities. The national budget has been cut in half for 2020 and the Government requested support from the UN to implement its response plan. A June 2020 assessment on the impact of Covid-19 on food security and nutrition in Brazzaville shows that 35.3% of households are food insecure, i.e. nearly 700,000 people (30.8% moderately food insecure and 4.5% severely food insecure). Young children's nutrition is also impacted: the assessment shows that only 48% had an acceptable diet. UNICEF reported a significant increase of Global Acute Malnutrition in urban areas and low attendance rates in health centres. The situation is further aggravated by recent flooding (81,300 people affected as of November), and more areas are expected to be affected than in the previous year.

**Scale-up:** WFP plans to focus support on 181,000 highly vulnerable beneficiaries as follows:

A monthly cash-transfer for 107,000 beneficiaries targeted to severely food insecure in the outlying *arrondissements* of Brazzaville;  
Treatment and prevention of Moderate Acute Malnutrition in 74,000 children under 5 years (40,000) and Pregnant and Lactating Women (34,000) in Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire.

*NOTE: In November, emergency support to flood affected population was launched using internal resource allocation (17,500 beneficiaries receiving CBT and 17,500 receiving in-kind assistance).*

**Support:**

- Provide on-demand logistics services to the Ministry of Health, including the dispatch of health equipment and medicine
- Leverage WFP's retail partnerships for UNFPA sensitization activities around gender-based violence in collaboration with UNFPA.



181,000  
from  
365,000  
(June Plan)

**Support:** Urban interventions through the distribution of cash-transfers in collaboration with the Government and Caritas.

42.8 M

31.0 M

## Tanzania

WFP is monitoring food security in urban centres, which have not been heavily affected so far. This situation may change in the near future with the onset of the lean season.

WFP Tanzania has been implementing mVAM nationwide to track food insecurity trends.

Results show a stable trend in the proportion of households with poor and borderline consumption. Nevertheless, female-headed households, elderly people, households with a high dependency ratio are most likely to face challenges in accessing food in the coming months.

**Sustain:** WFP sustains life-saving activities in support of refugees through adjusted modalities, providing access to hand-washing facilities, social distancing, and (where needed) pre-packaging of commodities.

**Scale-up:** WFP is more than doubling its crisis response requirements for the coming 6 months, including:

- Cash transfers to cover the food gap for nearly 500,000 urban food poor in the 10 highest COVID-19 risk regions; and Nutrition support to 45,000 nutritionally vulnerable women and children.
- WFP will continue to monitor food security through mVAM especially as we approach the lean season.

**Support:**

- Utilize WFP's platforms and networks (m-health, community radios, and SUN business network) to communicate messages on COVID-19 and nutrition
- Provide supply chain, logistics and telecommunications service support to humanitarian community.
- Intensify remote household surveys, real-time food security monitoring systems, and trader surveys

540,000  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Refugees:** COVID-19 preventative measures continue to be in place including: 42-day distribution cycle; pre-packaging; social distancing practices; and hand-washing stations.

50.3 M

23.8 M

## Zambia

The Government has prioritized social protection as a key response strategy to cushion the negative impact of the crisis. As the loss of revenue from export of copper and a decline in tourism has hampered the Government's ability to respond, the UN and partners designed an Emergency Cash Transfer to address negative effects such as loss of income for the informal traders residing in the peri-urban and urban areas. Rural populations are expected to depend on their own subsistence production in the short-term because of a good food harvest mainly for staple and additional food supplements such as pulses.

**Scale up:** WFP is extending its support to an additional 130,250 beneficiaries across three new districts (Livingstone, Kitwe and Kalulushi) with cash assistance. The cohort of beneficiaries targeted includes those that are food insecurity due to COVID-19 and existing Social Cash Transfer recipients.

**Support:** Utilize the mVAM to undertake market and household food security monitoring; Disbursement through mobile money cash to the food insecure and SCT beneficiaries; Nutrition advocacy focusing on encouraging ECT recipients to access and consume nutritious foods;

655,800  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Scale-up:** In July, WFP started CBT distributions as part of its COVID-19 response in urban and peri-urban areas. Under this programme, WFP has provided cash assistance to 180,555 individuals in 3 districts, Lusaka, Chilanga and Kafue to cover their food and other essential needs for four months (July – October).

14.1 M

0 M

<p><b>Zimbabwe</b></p>	<p>Zimbabwe has endured a combination of extreme natural shocks and persistent economic challenges, leading to a growing humanitarian and food security emergency. The number of food insecure people reached 7.7 million in the first quarter of 2020, and WFP projects 8.6 million people to be food insecure by the end of 2020 (3.3 million in urban areas). The COVID-19 pandemic has increased exposure to economic shocks (mostly loss of income and reduced remittances) and stretched the coping capacity of vulnerable communities.</p> <p>With the third successive year of drought, the 2020 harvest yielded an overall cereal production of 1.1 million MT, against the 2.2 million MT needed for consumption.</p>	<p><b>Sustain and Scale-up:</b> WFP is scaling up its crisis response activities in a phased manner.</p> <p>As needs rise in rural areas, WFP intends to support 1.8 million people in IPC3+ from July through September 2020; 3.5 million from October to December 2020; and 4.5 million between January and April 2021.</p> <p>WFP's COVID-19 response plan also envisages a more than fivefold scale up of its urban assistance to reach 550,000 people through April 2021.</p>	<p>1,265,300 <i>(no change from June plan)</i></p>	<p><b>Sustain and scale-up:</b> In September, 747,85 beneficiaries were reached with food distributions – and for the period October-December 2020 WFP is scaling up assistance to reach 1,064,500 people in 22 districts.</p> <p>In September, nearly 194,000 (66% of target 292,900) were reached with e-vouchers and Western Union remittance modalities. October and November disbursements (double disbursement) are ongoing targeting the full caseload.</p>	<p>333.6 M</p>	<p>283.4 M</p>
<p><b>TOTAL SOUTHERN AFRICA</b></p>			<p><b>7.69 M</b> <i>from 7.2 M (June Plan)</i></p>	<p><b>US\$ 1,100M</b></p>	<p><b>US\$ 696M</b></p>	

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA	COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS ON FOOD SECURITY	WFP IMMEDIATE RESPONSE	COVID-19 SCALE-UP BENEFICIARIES	EVIDENCE OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED TO SUSTAIN/ SCALE-UP ASSISTANCE TO BENEFICIARIES JULY - TO DATE	PIPELINE REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (NOV - APR)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (NOV - APR)
<b>Benin</b>	<p>Net food importers have experienced a sharp drop in revenues and remittances. The context of pandemic coupled with floods and lean season may require scale-up of humanitarian response. Heavy rains forecasted for 2020 will likely affect over 300,000 people. Climate shocks coupled with the spill over of the insecurity in Burkina, Niger (and at certain degree Nigeria) remain serious threats to Benin's stability and food security. It is projected that some 1,400,000 people will be severely food insecure.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> 50,000 flood-affected households will receive food assistance and 618,000 pupils across the country will receive take-home rations to cover gaps due to school closures.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> Food and nutrition assistance to 100,000 new beneficiaries in rural and potentially urban areas for six months (Jul to Dec 2020).</p> <p><b>Support:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead the UN-COVID-19 Taskforce group on 'Logistics and Resources Mobilization';</li> <li>• Reinforce food security analysis through new mVAM; support the design and implementation of country food assistance strategy; and support the expansion and strategic shift or national social protection programme.</li> </ul>	<p>100,000 <i>(no change from June plan)</i></p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP distributed take home rations where schools are closed. In addition, WFP provided support to 500 smallholders' resilience building through improved access to market.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP supported the development of the National Food Assistance Strategy</p>	23.3 M	1.2 M
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	<p>High levels of food needs are driven by the continued insecurity and the ongoing lean season, while COVID-19 exacerbates existing vulnerabilities. Burkina Faso is home to 1,034,609 internally displaced people due to recurrent fights between armed groups.</p> <p>According to the <i>Cadre Harmonisé</i> in July 2020, more than 3.2 million people are food insecure during the current lean season – a 50% rise since the March <i>Cadre Harmonisé</i>.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> Critical food assistance, including through cash-based transfers, continues to be provided to 1,380,000 vulnerable conflict-affected people until the end of the lean season (end of September) and 700,000 to 800,000 from October to December 2020.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> 250,000 COVID-affected beneficiaries are targeted to be supported through unconditional food assistance, within WFP's existing CSP.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> Reinforce food security analysis through new mVAM.</p>	<p><i>Captured within existing programme of work</i></p>	<p><b>Sustain and Scale-up:</b> During the lean season, WFP assisted over 1,1 million beneficiaries, of which 216,000 were additional COVID caseloads. Nutritious food to 117,000 people with were also provided.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP joined efforts with partners to conduct a recent food security and nutrition assessment, which served as the main data source for the <i>Cadre Harmonisé</i> held in July. Food security monitoring and analysis systems have also been considerably strengthened thanks to the deployment of mVAM.</p>	111.4 M	68.9 M

## Cameroon

The latest *Cadre Harmonisé* projected approximately 4,857,749 food insecure people (phase 3 to 5) until December 2020 due to COVID-19. This represents about 19% of the total population of Cameroon.

In addition to the people in the political and economic capitals of Yaoundé and Douala where the highest number of COVID-19 case are recorded, people in the Far North, East, North, Adamaoua, North West and South West are particularly at risk. The Country is hosting 420,000 refugees and the COVID-19 pandemic impacted on access of 60% of refugees living in host communities to natural resources and basic social services.

**Sustain:** Continue delivering life-saving assistance to populations affected by disasters (662,000 people including refugees, IDPs and host populations) to ensure they have safe access to adequate and nutritious foods during and after crises.

**Scale-up:** 76,000 new beneficiaries identified in need of food assistance; 10,000 people in isolation centres and/or self-quarantine (at request of government)

**Support:** WFP will monitor stock levels, support retailers to increase inventories, identify and map potential wholesalers, distributors, transporters, and supply chains that can support national food supplies.



27,066  
from 86,000  
(June Plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** In September, WFP assisted 537,820 beneficiaries. Nutritious food to 62,600 children were provided.

**Support:** WFP is supporting the Government's medical activities through the installation of mobile storage units and tents to store medical equipment and serve as isolation facilities.

75.3 M

36.7 M

## Central African Republic

The security situation continues to deteriorate. Around 659,000 Central Africans have fled their homes and numbers may increase in the upcoming dry season when arm groups become more active ahead of upcoming presidential elections.

The May IPC considered the COVID-19 impact and estimated 2.4 million to be food insecure.

A recent survey by WFP and the WB on urban household in Bangui and Bimbo (Ombella Mpoko) show only 52.2 percent of the surveyed households were able to engage in some form of paid work or an income-generating activity, compared to 77.7 percent before the COVID-19 representing a drop of 26 points just three months after the first case of COVID-19 was registered in CAR.

**Sustain:** Critical food assistance to vulnerable conflict-affected households including IDPs and host population all over the country.

**Scale-up:** 375,850 new beneficiaries in urban/peri-urban areas (70% Cash/30% in-kind) until December. School-based programmes through school meals and an integrated package of health, nutrition, and WASH services.

**Support:** Provide operational logistics, supply chain, emergency telecommunications and Humanitarian Air Services. Strengthen food price monitoring and food security assessments in urban and peri-urban areas. Engagement Government and UN agencies to better support national emergency preparedness and social protection efforts in COVID-19 context.

375,900  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** In July, WFP assisted over 750,000 people, including 187,300 additional people due to COVID.


WFP's 3-month urban operation began in July and reached nearly 280,000 people (200,000 in Bangui and 80,000 in Bouar) with cash-based transfers amounting to US\$ 7.6 million. The intervention concluded in September.

WFP is also supporting 1,200 people in quarantine through the provision of in-kind food assistance, including patients in various treatment centres.

**Support:** The ETC established a COVID-19 call centre to facilitate communication between health partners and humanitarian organizations.

108.1 M

61.7 M

<p><b>Chad</b></p>	<p>Insecurity in neighbouring countries and Lake Chad region causes new displacements. Curfew and the closure of markets have an additional impact on people's livelihoods and access to food. As of August 2020, Chad records 297,000 IDPs in addition to 480,000 refugees.</p> <p>Since mid-August, heavy rains caused wide-spread flooding in several provinces in the country, including in the capital Ndjamen. Latest estimates show a total of 200,000 people affected, with more than 30,000 in Ndjamen. WFP is collaborating with UN team and government for the response.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> Life-saving assistance to refugees and lean season safety nets to food insecure households. Integrated resilience-building activities. Take-home rations for girls to reduce negative coping strategies such as early marriage.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> WFP will target 433,000 COVID-19-affected people with cash- based transfers in urban areas within its existing Country Strategic Plan.</p> <p><b>Support:</b> In preparation of the next HRP for Chad, WFP – VAM will collaborate with FSC partners and other UN agencies on the assessment of COVID crisis impact on food security, in order to update the <i>Cadre Harmonisé</i> with figures that reflect the eventual impact of 2020 crisis.</p>	<p><i>Captured within existing programme of work</i></p>	<p><b>Sustain and Scale-up:</b> As part of the national response plan, WFP provided food assistance to 433,000 people across eight provinces.</p> <p>As part of the lean season response coordinated in parallel with the COVID-19 response, 34% out of 378,000 vulnerable people planned have received food assistance across five provinces.</p>	<p>144.8 M</p>	<p>45.9 M</p>
<p><b>Côte d'Ivoire</b></p>	<p>While the household food security situation in Côte d'Ivoire had seen improvements since 2018, the price decline on crop exports, poor agricultural season and floods have led to a deterioration of the country's overall food security situation in 2020.</p> <p>Furthermore, the fragile security situation in the country following the confirmation of President Alassane Ouattara announcement of a third term have led to increasingly recurrent demonstrations ahead of the October elections— potentially complicating the food security situation.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> Flood emergency response and resilience activities for the restoration of household livelihoods will continue through the CBT modality for about 10,000 beneficiaries in urban and peri-urban areas. Starting mid-September, 125,000 children in 613 schools will receive school meals and at least 10,000 girls will receive take-home rations. National capacity building activities in nutrition and food security assessment will be maintained to inform the national system in place.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> A Budget Revision has been carried out to increase the Crisis Response Activity from 15,000 to 80,000 to ensure appropriate coverage to all shocks affected populations (Floods, Covid-19 and post electoral violence).</p> <p><b>Support:</b> WFP is leading the update to the inter-agency contingency plan and supporting the Government's national Covid-19 response plan. WFP will support the UN COVID-19 Task Force to supply masks and hydroalcoholic gel for COVID-19 prevention.</p>	<p> 65,000 from 300,000 (June plan)</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> WFP is providing life-saving assistance to 6,000 flood victims in the communes of Abidjan (15 July to 15 Oct) funded by WFP's Immediate Response and Relief funds. In addition, post electoral violence affected population (IDPs and Hosts) will receive food assistance</p>	<p>16.6 M</p>	<p>0 M</p>



## The Gambia

Latest Pre-harvest and *Cadre Harmonisé* analysis estimate that 692,600 persons across six regions are classified to be in crisis (phase 3 to 5) until December 2020. The pandemic is projected to increase the burden of acute malnutrition by 36 percent from 42,676 children to 58,177.

Market prices have increased by over 60 percent compared to the same time last year, while jobs and livelihoods losses in urban areas resulted in over 40,000 increase in vulnerable people.

With elections slated for 2021, serious political cleavages that had already developed well before COVID-19 have led to growing tensions and instability in the country- which could further exacerbate the impact of COVID-19. Combined with declining malnutrition situation and an early peak of the lean season, projections are that this will result in a total 733,000 people rural and urban (40% of the population) needing immediate food assistance.

**Sustain:** The school feeding programme will run from September to December targeting 116,756 learners of whom 54% are girls. WFP will also sustain the nutrition programme providing support to 37,601 children under five and PLW.

### Scale-up:

- 766,000 new beneficiaries across six regions.
- Treatment of MAM for 13,258 people including children from 6-59 months, PLM and PLHIV, and prevention of malnutrition among 51,008 children.
- 33,716 additional school children through Take Home Rations

**Support:** WFP's continues to focus on the provision of logistics and emergency telecommunications assistance to the Government to enhance coordination of the health emergency response.

**Scale-up:** WFP has provided 3 months food supply to isolation and treatment centres supporting children with specialized nutrition food. Next: WFP is targeting over 32,000 households for assistance between November 2020 to March 2021.

**Support:** On request by the Government, WFP is providing logistical expertise on the handling and distribution of 5,500 mt of rice.

The UN Systems has developed a UN Socio-Economic Response Plan (SERP) for The Gambia, with WFP co-leading the focus areas on social protection, agriculture, food security, nutrition and resilience.

766,395  
from 733,000  
(June Plan)

9.5 M 6.4 M

## Ghana

Ghana accounts for the second highest number of confirmed cases of Coronavirus in the region, and the 4th highest number of cases across the WHO Africa region. The daily caseload count has been on a downward trend.

**Sustain:** Food security of vulnerable COVID-infected people in containment, as well as COVID-affected vulnerable daily wage earners in epicentres of the COVID-19.

**Scale-up:** Four months' cash-transfers to up to 75,000 vulnerable COVID-affected people (including 10,000 smallholder farmers) in COVID-19 prevalent areas.

**Support:** Reinforce food security analysis and food price monitoring as part of technical and financial support to the Government.

**Sustain and Scale-up:** WFP supported the Ghana Health Service in distributing locally produced specialized nutritious food to nearly 5,000 COVID-infected people in quarantine.

**Support:** WFP supported the Government in generating profiles of people affected by COVID-19 impacts to help the CBT distributions in selected areas. In addition, WFP supported the construction of a 68-bed field hospital in Accra, now handed over to WHO and the Tripartite Agreement between WFP, WHO and the Government of Ghana.

75,000  
from 53,800  
(June Plan)

5.5 M 2.5 M

## Guinea

The country is still recovering from the 2013 Ebola crisis, with an overall limited health capacity and infrastructure, and no intensive care facilities. More than 613,000 people are estimated to be food insecure by the end of 2020, due to the combined effects of the annual lean season, Covid-19, and related restrictions which has caused loss of income and comparatively restricted market access. An overall price increase of 35.7 percent compared to 2019 was reported on fresh vegetables, and 25 percent for rice.

**Sustain:** Provision of full food baskets for school meals when schools re-open in November 2020 (at least 152,000 students); nutrition activities and take-home rations provided to the most vulnerable populations; and continuity of adapted Food for Assets COVID-19 activities.

**Scale-up:** 300,000 new beneficiaries in urban and peri-urban areas will continue to be supported through December 2020, as part of the immediate Covid-19 response. Preparatory work is ongoing for the emergency food assistance and cash transfers to 20,000 households over a three-month period.

**Support:** WFP is leading the logistics support in the UN COVID-19 Task Force including the rehabilitation of treatment facilities.

300,000  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** Emergency food assistance to 25,000 households affected by COVID-19 in Conakry started in August 2020.

**Support:** WFP is also supporting the Government's national Covid-19 response plan and strengthening social protection.

15.6 M

8.2 M

## Guinea-Bissau

Continued political impasse, confrontation and constitutional reform loom further instability that disrupts the country's response to COVID-19. WFP's rapid emergency assessments and market surveys (May and July) indicated a worsening food security situation and poverty due to the declined sales price and the volume of the cashew nuts export (making up 90 percent of the country's exports and 10 percent of its GDP) resulting in economic contraction. In July, estimates based on the Food Consumption Score indicated 54.5 percent of the households negative coping mechanisms. 28% of under-five population is stunted (estimates based on the food consumption score). Further deterioration during and post-lean season between August and October closely monitored.

**Sustain:** Provision of take-home rations for 180,000 schoolchildren, treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and prevention of chronic malnutrition, and women and youth smallholder agriculture support in marketing and resilience.

**Scale-up:** Launch the social protection lean season support to an additional 76,900 persons through conditional and unconditional cash-based transfers.

**Support:**

- Technical, financial and in-kind Supply Chain support (warehousing and inventory management and deliveries) to the Government.
- Technical and financial support to the UN Communication Task Force for COVID-19 for risk communication and community sensitization.

  
76,900  
from 65,000  
(June Plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** WFP is implementing a month-long take-home ration distribution for 180,000 schoolchildren with food and specially made reusable masks for schoolchildren and adolescents. Cash transfers as social protection measures has started to 76,000 persons

9.6 M

3.2 M

## Liberia

Liberia is a post-conflict country still recovering from the 2014-2015 Ebola crisis. With COVID-19 population movement restrictions enforced over an extended period, there is an observable increase in food prices and availability, particularly in the southeast counties. Food insecurity projections for 2020 estimate that over 2 million people are food insecure. Additionally, seasonal rainfall patterns in 2020 have been below average and may negatively impact food production levels.

Following the recent election in Côte d'Ivoire, more than 5,000 people have crossed into Liberia.

**Sustain:** Take-home rations for 90,000 girls and boys during school closures.

**Scale-up:** Relief assistance will be provided to over 2.5 million beneficiaries, including:

- One month's assistance to 2,500,000 vulnerable and food insecure people (500,000 households), including frontline workers and institutions, affected by COVID-19 related shocks;
- Two-month assistance to 91,305 food insecure people (18,261 households) in four southeast worst affected counties (Maryland, Grand Kru, River Gee and Sinoe).

**Support:** WFP will provide on demand logistics and emergency telecommunications services.

**Sustain:** WFP will distribute one-month Take-Home family ration in November targeting 46,000 primary school children in Nimba and Maryland counties, who continue to remain out of school due to Government measures to curb the spread of the Coronavirus.

  
2,500,000  
from  
2,065,000  
(June plan)

**Scale-up:** Since May WFP has assisted 304,490 persons with food assistance from WFP on behalf of the Government COVID-19 Household Food Support Programme (COHFSP).

34.7 M

5.3 M

Next: A two-month assistance to the most food insecure households in the four southeast worst affected counties will be provided in December.

## Mali

The *coup d'etat* on 18 August in Mali has come at a worrisome time, just as the country was making strides in addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The increase in armed violence is forcing people to flee and depriving vulnerable communities of essential services. As of July 2020, 287,496 internally displaced people are recorded.

Restriction measures have resulted in a shortage of imported food commodities. The availability of local products in monitored markets decreased by 29% compared to the same period last year (April 2020). The food security cluster projects as many as 3.1 million people to be in need of food assistance.


**Sustain:** Life-saving assistance to IDP and food insecure farmers and pastoralists. Resilience building activities as part of the regional Integrated Resilience Programme are also sustained.

**Scale-up:**

- 310,000 new beneficiaries for Crisis Response activities;
- 60,000 new beneficiaries under Resilience-building activities;

**Support:**

- Support the Government to prepare for school feeding upon re-opening of schools and to finalize one-off distribution of take-home rations
- Strengthen cooperating partners capacity in targeting and rapid assessment

  
370,000  
from 576,000  
(June Plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** In September, WFP assisted over 1.1 million beneficiaries through food and CBT, including 50,000 made vulnerable due to COVID-19. WFP has adapted risk control measures to ensure the continuation of assistance.

WFP Mali provided PPEs in all 500 WFP food distribution settings, and reinforced the COVID-19 prevention measures to protect 900,000 vulnerable people, 115,000 children under 2 and 18,000 pregnant and lactating women receiving food assistance through WFP Emergency Response programme.

71.5 M

37.1 M

## Mauritania

The colliding impacts of the 2020 lean season and of the COVID-19 crises is concerning; as per WFP estimates, the number of food insecure may have surged from 609,000 to 902,000 (a 48 percent increase) during the lean season. Pastoralists and informal traders are among the most affected by movement restriction, markets closures and increasing food prices.

**Sustain:** Integrated support for Malian refugees as well as lean season safety nets for 244,000 persons.

**Scale-up:** 334,486 new beneficiaries will be assisted through existing/ new activities, including food assistance, supplementary feeding and malnutrition treatment to pandemic-affected households. The activity covers urban areas, including the capital.

**Support:** On-demand logistics services to Government, UN and NGO partners to facilitate effective field operations.

344,500  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** WFP reached a total of 193,430 people. This includes direct food assistance (2/3 with cash-based transfers) and nutrition assistance.

21.7 M

22.9 M

## Niger

The deteriorating security situation on the border with Mali, Burkina Faso, and Nigeria continues to drive large population displacements. Nearly 270,000 people are internally displaced and the country hosts refugees from Mali and Nigeria.

A joint analysis in April 2020 estimated that the food security and livelihoods of 5.6 million people could be affected in June-August 2020, nearly doubling from the pre-COVID-19 baseline. An update of the COVID-19 impact analysis is underway to assess both the immediate impacts in late 2020, as well as longer-term impacts that will materialize over the course of 2021. The analysis will also consider the progression of the 2020/2021 agropastoral season.

### Sustain:

- Life-saving assistance to refugees, IDPs and acutely food insecure households (farmers and pastoralists)
- Resilience-building activities as part of the regional Integrated Resilience Programme including asset building, nutrition, school feeding, local purchase to smallholder farmers, capacity strengthening.
- School Feeding and/or Take-Home Ration as important safety net in COVID-19 affected areas and to support the resilience of the education sector.

**Scale-up:** WFP is supporting the scale up of the National Adaptive Social Protection Program to assist vulnerable households, in coordination with government, World Bank and UNICEF. WFP's assistance aims to meet the food needs of 672,000 beneficiaries (96,000 households) through cash transfers which will serve as a basis for income-generating activities and support them after the crisis.

*Captured  
within  
existing  
programme  
of work*

**Sustain and Scale-up:** In the lean season, WFP reached almost 1.5 million beneficiaries, of which up to 1.4 million people affected by shocks including COVID-19, through the lean season intervention.

COVID-19 specific distributions of cash to support persons living with HIV across Niger were completed before the 31 July deadline agreed with ONUSIDA. Meanwhile, the country office has finalized the pastoral lean season response.

All COVID-19 induced needs are already captured within existing programme of work. However, a CSP revision is under preparation to reflect changes in medium- and longer-term needs.

130.4 M

57.7 M

## Nigeria

Nigeria faces multiple crises, with a protracted conflict in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states, which has spread to neighbouring Cameroon, Chad and Niger. Almost 2.7 million people are internally displaced, including in the North West where a new crisis is unfolding. According to the *Cadre Harmonisé* in June 2020, over 4.3 million people in the northeast are projected to be severely food insecure between June- August 2020, an increase of 1.3 million severely food insecure compared to 2019 lean season. Of note, COVID-19 is spreading rapidly in Nigeria with further strain on the country's health systems and economy, already impacted due to the fall in oil prices.

**Sustain:** Food assistance to crisis-affected populations has been adapted to integrate safe distribution practices. Nutrition support to children and pregnant and lactating women has been sustained. Livelihood / asset assistance has been temporarily adjusted to unconditional support.

**Scale-up:** Up to 800,000 beneficiaries in the northeast will be targeted (through in-kind and CBTs) from September to November with a one-off double distribution. 900,000 new beneficiaries will be supported in urban areas of the country on request by the Government.

*Planned assistance to a total of 1,976,000 people: 1,720,000 (COVID-19 and Lean Season) and 256,000 (post-harvest assistance).*

**Support:** Technical support on targeting and delivery mechanisms to adapt the national Home-Grown School Feeding during school closures. WFP aims to provide take-home rations to 3 million households. Expand the *Cadre Harmonisé* countrywide mVAM has been scaled up to the entire country.

  
1,976,000  
from  
3,055,000  
(June plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** WFP has sustained its response providing double rations in June and in August to mitigate COVID-19 restrictions and rain-induced access challenges. The conditionality of group-based livelihoods was temporarily removed, for three months and partially resumed from July; households have continued to benefit from the transfer they rely on. WFP has scaled up COVID-specific assistance (initially reaching 12,500 people in July) and maintains its nutrition response.

185.1 M

105.5 M

## São Tomé and Príncipe

São Tomé and Príncipe's geographical insularity and irregular landscape, compounded by fragile health and agricultural systems, makes the country vulnerable to terms-of-trade shocks. With the country's reliance on food imports, the effect on national supply chain has led to higher export costs, unpredictable price fluctuations and decreased purchasing power. Increasing levels of food insecurity and unemployment rate are being observed in all six national districts and in the remote region of Príncipe.

**Sustain:** WFP continues to provide country capacity strengthening support to the government in the areas of school feeding (policy and legislations) and smallholder farmer access to market (institutional effectiveness and accountability).

**Scale-up:** WFP revised its CSP to include assistance to 5,000 vulnerable children during school closures.

**Support:** Support to government and partners through Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS). Technical assistance on economic analyses.

5,000  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Support:** In collaboration with the Government, FAO, ILO, UN-Habitat and national stakeholders, WFP is also providing individual capacity strengthening support to targeted smallholders to increase food production to supply markets.

Lastly, WFP is supporting the government to plan the re-opening of the schools in collaboration with UNICEF.

0.3 M

0.2 M

## Senegal

Food security is closely tied to rainfall patterns and the agricultural calendar. Recurrent droughts, pests, poor harvest pasture availability drive food insecurity.

**Sustain:** Take-home rations for 107,000 learners until schools reopen.

**Scale-up:** 511,656 new beneficiaries will be assisted through existing/new activities during the lean season. WFP has been requested by the government to support 4.2 million additional people.

**Support:** Logistic support for Government-led one-off distributions to eight million people in rural and urban areas.

511,700  
(no change  
from June  
plan)

**Sustain and Scale-up:** The project 'Model canteens' is being implemented after a four month break due to the pandemic, assisting 107,000 students with take-home rations. Support to 73,00 food insecure persons during lean season.

26.2 M

19.4 M

## Sierra Leone


The latest results of the Food Security Monitoring System assessment conducted in June 2020 show a sharp increase of food insecure Sierra Leoneans, from 47% in January 2020 to 63% in June 2020. COVID-19 containment measures and a series of lockdowns have negatively impacted on prices, supply chains, income and livelihoods.

**Sustain:** WFP aims to sustain resilience activities while taking prevention measures.

### Scale-up:

- WFP will provide relief food assistance to:
- 466,000 rural and urban populations;
- 15,000 persons in quarantine homes and treatment centres.
- Scale up resilience building for additional 27,000 smallholder farmers.
- WFP will scale up its support to the national school feeding programme to reach 340,000 children in nine districts.
- MAM treatment will be geographically expanded and extended until 2021 to target 18,838 malnourished children and women.

**Support:** Construction of treatment and isolation facilities and logistics support, including transport of seeds for Ministry of Agriculture.

  
624,300  
from 121,400  
(June Plan)

### Sustain and Scale-up:

- WFP assisted 383,009 persons during the month of October. WFP provided one-month in-kind food assistance to 44,855 beneficiaries in the most hard-to-reach, vulnerable border-lying communities to bridge the food gap during the lean season.
- WFP, in collaboration with the Government, has distributed food to almost 10,000 individuals in quarantine or treatment.

**Support:** WFP has started a community-driven targeting in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Welfare to provide three-months of cash assistance to 51,297 beneficiaries.

15.8 M

7.8 M

<p><b>Togo</b></p> <p>Agricultural production is impacted by climatic shocks (floods, landslides, strong winds, pests), price volatility and the negative impacts of COVID-19. Armed groups in neighbouring countries also pose a risk to the security situation in Togo.</p> <p>Projection of severely food insecure: 1,291,059 (22% of population in CH phase 2) and 281,501 (5% in CH Phase 3) July 2020.</p>	<p><b>Sustain:</b> Technical support to the Government school feeding programme assisting 90,000 school children.</p> <p><b>Scale-up:</b> Emergency food assistance to 252,500 crisis-affected beneficiaries in urban and rural areas (July-December 2020), including households of school children, other vulnerable persons, and persons in quarantine.</p>	<p>252,500 <i>(no change from June plan)</i></p>	<p><b>Scale-up:</b> As part of the scale-up plan, implementation of the Limited Emergency Operation is underway, targeting 252,500 from July to December 2020 in three shock-prone regions.</p>	<p>8.2 M</p>	<p>9.6 M</p>
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<p><b>TOTAL WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA</b></p>	<p><b>8.4 M</b> <i>from 8.9M (June Plan)</i></p>	<p><b>US\$ 1,014M</b></p>	<p><b>US\$ 500M</b></p>
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