FOREWORD

In 2016, as we entered the first year of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) worked hard to achieve a world free from hunger, where communities have the resources and tools they need for an active and healthy life. With the European Union (EU), we were determined to build on past achievements and continue narrowing the gap to Zero Hunger.

Together, the EU and its Member States contributed over €2.2 billion to WFP in 2016, helping reach millions of vulnerable people in 59 countries. The European Commission alone was WFP’s second largest donor.

The challenges we faced were not new – neither to the communities threatened by conflict, extreme poverty and climate change nor to humanitarian organisations striving to alleviate human suffering and reduce risks.

Violent conflicts continued to force millions from their homes in Syria, Yemen, South Sudan and Nigeria, among others. Climate disasters, exacerbated by El Niño, hit communities in places like Ethiopia, Madagascar, Papua New Guinea and Guatemala, destroying crops and increasing food prices, while threatening livelihoods.

Yet the world came together, with a call from the UN, to reduce suffering and deliver better for people around the globe. In May 2016, the first ever World Humanitarian Summit convened, bringing together the humanitarian sector and governments. The EU was a leader in shaping the new shared Agenda for Humanity.

Changing people’s lives, ending the need for assistance, investing in futures, and leaving no one behind are the common values we hold. WFP is at the forefront of finding sustainable solutions to end hunger in our lifetime – a foundation for reaching the Sustainable Development Goals – and our partnership with the EU is as vital as ever.

The European Commission’s Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) was WFP’s largest donor to operations in Turkey. Together, ECHO and WFP are helping reach up to one million Syrian refugees purchase the things they need with cash-based assistance in the form of an electronic card.

In Ethiopia, through generous early contributions from the EU and other donors, WFP was able to support the Government of Ethiopia in delivering crucial assistance to the most vulnerable communities affected by the worst drought in decades.

Food insecurity and displacement caused by Boko Haram created a humanitarian emergency in Nigeria and the surrounding countries. EU support was critical in reaching displaced families.

The partnership between WFP and the EU will continue to play a crucial role in paving the way for stronger communities and better futures.
2016 FACTS AND FIGURES

WFP Top Donors in 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Amount (in millions of €)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>1.834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Commission + Member States</td>
<td>1.484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>182</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN Other Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF)</td>
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Total Contributions from the European Union

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EU Member States total contribution</th>
<th>European Commission contributions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>839.3</td>
<td>278.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>998.5</td>
<td>230.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1,484</td>
<td>808</td>
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Countries of Collaboration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Countries</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Iraq
Since January 2014, the conflict in Iraq has triggered mass waves of displacement of more than 3 million Iraqis. Iraq also hosts more than 200,000 Syrian refugees. Together with the EU, WFP began cash-based assistance for one million displaced people in the country. This innovative programme helps WFP deliver a faster humanitarian response that is reliable, flexible and scalable.

Syria
The humanitarian situation has continued to deteriorate over the past six years in Syria, with 13.5 million Syrians in need of humanitarian assistance. Access to hard to reach and besieged areas continued to present a major challenge in 2016. An €11 million EU contribution supported WFP operations, which reached more than four million people every month inside Syria with urgently needed food assistance. Additional EU support is helping WFP reach Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries, particularly in Turkey through the Emergency Social Safety Net programme.

Nigeria
Boko Haram violence has led to one of the most acute humanitarian crises in the world. In pockets of northeastern Nigeria, food insecurity has reached an extreme level, having risen to 4.5 million people in need in August 2016. With EU support, WFP was the first agency to provide displaced people in Gwoza with regular food assistance last year. In partnership with the Government, WFP purchases food locally when possible, and delivers it to newly accessible areas, despite significant security challenges.
Yemen

Yemen had one of the highest rates of child malnutrition in the world even before conflict broke out in 2015. Due to fighting, millions of people are cut off from food, water, electricity and other basic services in a rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation. 21.2 million people (82 percent of the population) is in need of humanitarian assistance. Thanks to the EU and other donors, WFP was able to provide baskets of food including wheat, beans, sugar and vegetable oil fortified with vitamin A to thousands of displaced families.

South Sudan

In the summer of 2016, after many families had finally returned to Juba, the capital of South Sudan, fighting once again erupted. The ensuing displacement and chaos threatened WFP operations, which are critical to millions of vulnerable families. The EU has contributed more than €25 million to WFP in South Sudan, bringing immediate food and nutrition assistance to people facing acute hunger as well as supporting the efficient delivery of humanitarian relief supplies throughout the country.

Haiti

In Haiti, frequent climate disasters hit the poorest the hardest. In October 2016, after three consecutive years of extreme drought, Haiti was hit by a devastating hurricane. WFP and the EU provided cash assistance to give affected families a helping hand while also building the resilience of communities against future disasters.
Climate change puts millions of people’s lives at risk, and traps poor households in food insecurity and poverty. Climate shocks disproportionately affect the most vulnerable people at risk of hunger, especially women and children.

Each year between 80 and 90 percent of natural disasters – such as floods, storms and droughts – are climate-related. They destroy assets, land, livestock, crops and food supplies, and make it harder for people to access markets and food networks. It’s estimated that by 2050, climate shocks could increase hunger and child malnutrition by 20 percent.

In the last decade, almost half of WFP emergency and recovery operations responded to and helped people recover from climate-related disasters. Some regions of the world are particularly prone to climate risks. There are 20 countries which have received WFP’s assistance in the aftermath of recurring natural disasters more than five times.

In April 2016, global leaders gathered at the UN to sign the Paris Climate Agreement, signalling to the world that we can and must work together to fight climate change.

The EU was a leading advocate of the Paris Agreement and in 2016 continued to strengthen its support of WFP’s disaster risk reduction and climate resilience initiatives across the world.

In Zimbabwe, Lesotho and other parts of Southern Africa, El Niño pushed millions into food insecurity, destroying crops and causing food prices to rise. EU funding was critical to help WFP and partners save lives in the region through cash assistance while also focusing on building resilience. Capacity training in climate-smart agriculture, financial literacy, and livelihood skills helped give people the tools they need to create better futures for their families.

Similarly, in the Central American Dry Corridor, countries are extremely affected by prolonged dry spells, land degradation and deforestation. With support from the EU, WFP was able to meet the immediate needs of families hit by climate-related disasters as well as work with governments to build national emergency response systems and regional coordination mechanisms to fight future emergencies.

In Mauritania, seed planting is part of a joint initiative between WFP and the Ministry of Environment for climate change adaptation. The initiative serves to build capacity and provide technical assistance to vulnerable communities for better food security and resilience against the impact of climate change.
In 2016 an extremely strong El Niño event hit Ethiopia, threatening communities which were already struggling with harsh drought. As a result, more than 10 million people were in dire need of humanitarian assistance.

Ethiopia is no stranger to dry periods – in the 1980s severe drought triggered widespread famine and mass migration. Fortunately, in 2016 the disaster was averted. Partners and donors stepped up to provide live-saving aid to over 7 million Ethiopians.

The EU’s vital contribution of more than €100 million helped WFP assist the Government of Ethiopia in delivering timely assistance to its people. Nutrition support targeted the whole country, ensuring children and mothers had access to nutrition screenings and appropriate treatment. Relief efforts were aimed at the Somali region through general food distributions, including cereal, pulses and oil.

Ethiopia spent the last 30 years building a strong national system of infrastructure and response. Through the WFP-led Logistics Cluster funded by the EU, Ethiopia’s supply chain systems are being strengthened even in the midst of the drought in a way which will allow a more rapid and effective response to future crises. The EU’s contribution allowed WFP to immediately buy food from a regional food stock, with some of the products coming directly from Ethiopian smallholder farmers.

Despite immense challenges posed by the drought, Ethiopia was able to maintain its open door policy for refugees. With EU support, WFP expanded its use of cash transfers by launching the programme in two new refugee camps.

Ethiopia is currently home to more than 700,000 refugees, the second highest number in any country in Africa. Out of these, WFP supports more than 600,000 with essential monthly food rations, including a growing number of those who receive cash. Once the effects of El Niño subside and market prices stabilise, WFP will be able to further scale up cash assistance, giving people greater choice in how they feed their families.

Thanks to the EU pledge and early action, WFP has been able to ensure decisive response, saving millions of lives. Reliable and predictable funding was essential for early intervention in Ethiopia – ensuring children had sufficient nutrients to stay in school, parents could continue working and providing for their families, and government capacity could continue to strengthen.
The designations employed and the presentation of material in the map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever of WFP concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory or sea area, or concerning the delimitation of frontiers.
CASH ASSISTANCE AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

In the last seven years, the number of people receiving cash assistance more than tripled. In 2015, WFP cash transfers (implementation costs excluded) reached €617 million. Nearly half of this sum was distributed under the Regional Emergency Response for Syrian Refugees.

In 2016, WFP continued to scale up its use of cash transfers – particularly the use of electronic cards. Used like any bank card, beneficiaries receive a monthly sum to buy the food they need for their families.

Cash and vouchers benefit the local economy, strengthening local markets and helping smallholder farmers.

The EU is a leading advocate of cash-based assistance. In Iraq, it funded a WFP pilot cash programme which supported displaced Iraqis and Syrian refugees, even where formal banks don’t exist. Teaming up with local money transfer agents, the scheme has proven a success, reaching up to one million beneficiaries with flexible and scalable assistance.

Additionally, cash assistance goes beyond helping families meet their food needs. When offered unconditionally, cash disbursements can be tied to other SDG goals, such as keeping children in school, promoting healthy choices as well as empowering women and girls.

IN TURKEY

The refugee crisis, spurred by the six year conflict in Syria, has immensely affected Syria’s neighbouring countries. More people have fled to Turkey than to anywhere else in the world. Turkey currently hosts the largest number of refugees worldwide, including 2.8 million Syrians.

Ninety percent of Syrian refugees in Turkey live outside camps. After leaving everything behind in Syria, they struggle to find work and put their children in school. Many are taking on debt in order to survive.

The scale and complexity of the situation for refugees, people who have nowhere else to turn and have risked their lives to find safety, has required an innovative and coordinated approach by humanitarians, governments, and related institutions.

Since 2012, WFP has worked with the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) to assist vulnerable Syrian refugees with an electronic food (e-food) card which can be used at local supermarkets. The e-food card programme in Turkey marked the first instance in which...
WFP has used electronic vouchers at the onset of an emergency response.

WFP reached 289,000 of the most vulnerable Syrian refugees monthly with the card in 2016, thanks to the support of the EU. This simple card does more than help refugees put food on the table. It helps them focus on their dreams, hopes, and plan for what’s next.

The benefits of WFP’s cash assistance have proven to be successful in many ways. Families appreciate the ability to choose the foods they need and want, giving them back a sense of normalcy. Monitoring has shown that 85 percent of women participate in decisions on how to spend the e-food card money.

Building on this success and improving the scale in which WFP and others can support Syrians living in Turkey, the EU contributed a record €348 million to launch the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) programme. It is by far the largest humanitarian initiative supported by the EU in terms of numbers helped and budget.

This ground-breaking project is a multi-purpose cash scheme for more than one million of the most vulnerable Syrians refugees in Turkey. Families can not only choose the foods they need, but also use the cash assistance to cover other essential needs, such as rent, fuel and bills. The ESSN demonstrates the power of partnership, bringing together UN agencies, NGOs, government institutions and European donors. The programme is set to build upon already-existing national social assistance programmes and promote social cohesion, positively impacting host communities and the local economy.

Since 2012, WFP has injected over €160 million into the Turkish economy through the e-food cards. The ESSN will further invest money back into the communities which have welcomed Syrian refugees.

ECHO, in particular, is one of the largest donors to WFP’s work in Syria and neighbouring countries, having previously provided more than €220 million for food assistance since the start of the Syrian crisis.
WFP and the EU teamed up with three European food bloggers to take a journey to discover the reality of Syrian refugees living in Turkey. Bloggers and cook book authors, **David Frenkiel** (Sweden), **Rens Kroes** (The Netherlands), and **Pauline Bosdorf** (Germany), know how special a meal can be. And they know not everyone has the luxury of accessing the food they need or cooking the meals they enjoy.

In order to understand the situation for Syrian refugees, they each flew to Turkey to meet families and hear their stories. Through talking, shopping, and cooking together, David, Rens and Pauline find out how food plays a central role in these families’ lives and represents one of their few remaining connections to home. They discover how the EU-funded WFP e-food card is facilitating that connection and empowering families to take control of their lives again.
The adoption of the SDGs is a testament to the growing desire of world leaders to take the lead in sustainably improving the wellbeing of their citizens. Through technology, knowledge transfer, and strengthened cooperation, national governments are taking ownership of their food security.

WFP aims to bridge the divide between humanitarian assistance and long-term development by focusing on ending hunger and building global partnerships with national governments, donors, the private sector and others to achieve the SDGs.

To be strong, effective and sustainable, appropriate food security and nutrition solutions must be jointly decided with national governments and all development partners and take into consideration the priorities, critical needs and available resources of a country.

Building capacity also happens at the individual and community-level. In Kenya, for example, WFP’s asset creation project, supported by donors like the EU, strengthened families’ abilities to meet their own daily needs. In 2016, families were able to begin transitioning from WFP assistance.

By working together, we can ensure no one is left behind.

After an earthquake struck Nepal in 2015, WFP acted immediately to reach over two million people with emergency food assistance. Throughout the response, WFP relied on the Government of Nepal’s Food Security Monitoring System, NeKSAP, to reach the right people in the right places.

The NeKSAP programme is a joint initiative of WFP and the Government of Nepal, with the long-term support of the European Commission’s Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (EuropeAid).

NeKSAP uses District Food Security Networks (DFSN) comprising more than 2,500 experts from district-level government bodies, UN agencies, national and international NGOs, civil society organisations and the private sector, to monitor and analyse food security data at the sub-district level. It operates in 74 of 75 districts in Nepal.

Since 2002, NeKSAP has been key to developing national and local capacity for food security planning and response, better linking information to action in responding to emerging food security crises or sudden disasters.

The programme was officially and fully handed over to the Government of Nepal in 2016, marking its ultimate success as a long-term investment for Zero Hunger futures.
In order to build resilient communities in the face of climate hazards, conflicts and other drivers of food insecurity, the European Commission, WFP, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and other partners have together created the Global Report on Food Crises.

The report found that, despite international efforts to address food insecurity, around 108 million people in the world were severely food insecure in 2016, a dramatic increase compared with 80 million in 2015.

The alarming hike reflects the trouble people have in producing and accessing food due to conflict, record-high food prices in local markets in affected countries, and extreme weather conditions such as drought and erratic rainfall caused by El Niño.

Civil conflict is the driving factor in nine of the 10 worst humanitarian crises, underscoring the strong linkage between peace and food security. The report - to be issued annually - is the technical keystone of the Global Network Against Food Crises and an evidenced-based tool for organisations, governments and donors. By joining forces to deliver neutral analytical insights drawn from multiple institutions, it enables better-informed planning decisions to respond to food crises in a more timely, global and coordinated way.

To achieve the Global Goal of ending hunger by 2030, the Global Report on Food Crises takes an important step in helping humanitarian and development partners as well as donors bridge the humanitarian-development gap, ultimately both saving lives and restoring futures.
Humanitarian assistance is an expression of European solidarity towards people in need all around the world.

Together in 2016, WFP with the EU and its Member States reached millions of people in 59 countries to alleviate hunger and save lives.
“As a leader in the fight against hunger, WFP deeply values partnerships that foster innovative solutions and long-term development. Over the past year, our increased cooperation with the European Union has been critical not only in responding to disasters where climate change is devastating communities, but also in reducing food insecurity by boosting local capacity in collaboration with governments. Our shared values help us to work together towards achieving a Zero Hunger world, where no one is left behind.”

Ertharin Cousin  
Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme  
(2012-April 2017)

“The partnership between the EU and WFP helps families survive in the most difficult humanitarian crises around the world. To name but a few examples: in Turkey, the EU and WFP assist hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing conflicts in Syria and Iraq through the largest humanitarian programme ever funded by the EU – the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN). In East Africa, we help those who are escaping the horrid civil war in South Sudan and we provide life-saving aid to vulnerable populations in the Horn of Africa, struck by one of the most devastating droughts in decades. In Guatemala too, we have been supporting a food assistance project in response to one of the strongest occurrences of the El Niño phenomenon ever. We fully support WFP’s commitments to achieve the goal of Zero Hunger and strengthen its collaboration with other humanitarian organisations.”

Christos Stylianides  
European Commission for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management