

2009

FOOD AID FLOWS

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FOREWORD

Global food aid deliveries of 5.7 million mt in 2009 were the lowest since 1961: programme food aid declined by 25 percent, emergency food aid by 12 percent and project food aid by 6 percent.

The declining trend in food aid contrasts with the rapid increase in recent years in official development assistance, which rose in real terms from US\$107 billion in 2005 – itself an historic high – to US\$119.8 billion in 2008, the highest level ever, and US\$119.6 billion in 2009.

Estimates of global hunger suggest that 1.02 billion people were undernourished in 2009 – the highest number on record. The global economic crisis and rising food prices have contributed to the surge in world hunger, which was exacerbated by 245 natural disasters affecting 58 million people; extreme weather linked to climate change is likely to increase people's vulnerability.

The annual WFP Food Aid Flows Report gives an overview of trends in global food aid deliveries by governments, non-governmental organizations and WFP.

I would like to express my particular appreciation to all partners of the International Food Aid Information System for making this report possible: without their collaboration – particularly the exchange of information on food aid allocation, utilization, shipments and deliveries – the International Food Aid Information System would not be able to function.

This report and some additional tables can be found on the International Food Aid Information System website (<http://www.wfp.org/fais>). Enquiries and requests for updated and additional information may be directed to Ms Angela D'Ascenzi (tel. +39 06 6513 3709) and Ms Kartini Oppusunggu (tel. +39 06 6513 3068; e-mail: interfais@wfp.org).

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Explanatory Notes

INTERFAIS

Data on global food aid deliveries in metric tons are from the database of the International Food Aid Information System (INTERFAIS), which was developed by WFP as a contribution to a coordinated international response to food aid shortages. INTERFAIS users are donor governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), recipient countries and WFP field offices, which share data on food aid transactions. All information, which goes back to 1988, is cross-checked and continuously updated, making it possible to monitor food aid allocations and deliveries with a view to improving food aid management, coordination, reporting and statistical analysis.

CONCEPTS

- **Food aid categories**

- **Emergency food aid** is for victims of disasters. It is distributed free to targeted beneficiary groups, and is usually provided as a grant. It is channelled multilaterally through NGOs or bilaterally.
- **Project food aid** supports poverty reduction and disaster prevention. It is usually distributed free to targeted beneficiary groups; if it is sold on the market it is then referred to as “monetized” food aid. Project food aid is provided as a grant and is channelled multilaterally through NGOs or bilaterally.
- **Programme food aid** is usually supplied by one government to another as a resource transfer for balance-of-payments or budgetary support. Unlike most emergency or project food aid it is not directed to beneficiary groups but is sold on the market and provided as a grant or a loan.
- **Food aid delivery** refers to the amount of food that actually reaches a recipient country in a given period. It is not the same as shipment data and food aid distributed to beneficiaries. In this publication, deliveries are reported by calendar year and may have been earmarked, shipped or purchased during the previous calendar year.

- **Priority country groups**

- Low-income, food-deficit countries (LIFDCs) are net cereal-importing countries. Per capita gross national product is used by the World Bank to determine eligibility for assistance from the International Development Association and for International Bank for Reconstruction and Development 20-year terms. In 2008, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) classified 82 countries as LIFDCs (see: www.fao.org/countryprofiles/lifdc.asp?lang=en)
- Least-developed countries (LDCs) are low-income countries with long-term impediments to growth such as low levels of human resources and economic vulnerability. In 2007, 49 countries were classified as LDCs by the General Assembly of the United Nations (see: www.un.org/special-rep/ohrlls/ldc/list.htm)

- **Delivery modes**

Items delivered as food aid fall into three categories according to the transactions used to acquire them:

- **Local purchase** means food aid purchased, distributed and utilized in the recipient country.
- **Triangular purchase** refers to food that donors purchase in a third country for use as food aid in a recipient country.
- **Direct transfer** means food aid delivered directly from donor countries to recipient countries.

- **Sale of food items**

Food items provided as food aid may be distributed directly to targeted beneficiaries or sold on the market. Food delivered as programme food aid, which is often provided as balance of payments support, is usually sold on the market but is not the same as monetized project or emergency food aid. In many cases, food-aid sales transactions within the recipient country have, in their own right, been an important development tool to finance transport of the remaining food or for other activities.

- **Terms of delivery**

Food aid is usually provided as a grant, but may be delivered under concessional terms of sale as defined in the register of food aid transactions kept by the FAO Consultative Subcommittee on Surplus Disposal. The underlying principle is that the conditions of the transactions must be more favourable to the “recipient” than those in world markets. The 1999 Food Aid Convention set a ceiling on any donor’s contribution in the form of concessional sales, which is fixed at 20 percent of each Food Aid Convention member’s total commitment.

VARIABLES

- **Year**

The calendar year (January to December) in which food aid is delivered to a recipient country.

- **Donor**

A primary provider of food aid from its own resources (since 1988).

- **Recipient**

A country that receives food aid (since 1988).

- **Food type**

The foods delivered as food aid or purchased locally.

UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

- **Actual tonnage**

The amount of food delivered, in metric tons (mt, 1,000 kg).

- **Grain equivalent**

The grain equivalent for food derived from cereals is the tonnage of grain needed to obtain a given amount of the product.

- **Nutritional indicators**

These are indicators based on the nutritional requirements for energy and 13 macro- and micro-nutrients, or j-nutrients: protein, fat, iron, iodine, zinc, thiamine, vitamin A, vitamin C, vitamin B6, vitamin B9 (folic acid), vitamin B12 and niacin (see: www.wfp.org/fais/nutritional-reporting)

- **IRMA** means “individual requirements met on average”. It provides information about the nutritional value of 1 mt, allowing for comparisons between deliveries without reference to the scale of total deliveries. It is the number of people for whom the requirements for each nutrient could potentially be satisfied with a representative 1 mt of the food basket.
- **IRMAs** means “individual requirements met on average, score”. It is a single number that provides information on the balance of the food basket implicit in the food aid deliveries. It gives the average of the 13 IRMA values of the selected deliveries, one for each nutrient, as a percentage of the IRMA value for energy. No weightings are applied, but

maximum values are imposed so that outliers do not unduly influence the average. This indicator is restricted to the interval [0–100] and excess quantities are penalized.

- **IRMA_t** means “individual requirements met on average, total”. It provides information about the scale of food aid in terms of the number of people for whom the requirements for each nutrient are potentially met on the basis of the tonnage delivered/selected.
- **IRMA_{tj}** shows the total number of people whose nutritional requirements for each j-nutrient could potentially be satisfied for one year on the basis of the total tonnage selected/delivered to the country.
- **IRMA_j** scales IRMA_{tj} down to 1 mt by dividing IRMA_{tj} by the total tonnage selected for the country: this allows easy comparisons among different food aid deliveries by eliminating the quantity component of IRMA_t.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Other foods are expressed in actual quantities.

Geographical regions defined in the statistical tables are available at www.wfp.org/fais.

Totals reported in this document are rounded and so may not add up exactly.

Data for 2009 are provisional.

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Food Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of their authorities, or concerning the delimitation of frontiers or boundaries.

ACRONYMS

CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
INTERFAIS	International Food Aid Information System
IRMA	individual requirements met on average
LDC	least-developed country
LIFDC	low-income, food-deficit country
NGO	non-governmental organization
USA	United States of America

2009 GLOBAL FOOD AID DELIVERIES¹*million mt*

Global food aid		5.7
By category	Emergency	4.3
	Project	1.2
	Programme	0.2
By food type	Cereals	4.9
	Non-cereals	0.8
By mode	Local purchase	0.9
	Triangular purchase	1.9
	Direct transfer	2.8
By sale	Sold	0.4
	Distributed	5.3
By channel	Multilateral	4.0
	Bilateral	0.4
	NGOs	1.4
By recipient region	Sub-Saharan Africa	3.6
	Asia	1.4
	Latin America and the Caribbean	0.3
	Middle East and North Africa	0.3
	Eastern Europe and CIS*	0.1
By donor	United States of America	2.9
	EC** and Member States (EU***)	1.0
	United Nations agencies	0.4
	Japan	0.4
	Canada	0.2
	Australia	0.1
	Other donors	0.8

* Commonwealth of Independent States

** European Commission

*** European Union

¹ Global food aid deliveries encompass food aid from all sources, including WFP.

GLOBAL FOOD AID PROFILE					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009*
Food aid deliveries (million mt)					
Global food aid deliveries	8.3	7.0	6.0	6.5	5.7
WFP share of total	4.5	3.8	3.1	4.0	3.8
Food aid delivered by type					
Cereals	7.1	5.9	5.2	5.5	4.9
Non-cereals	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8
Global food aid deliveries (%)					
Procurement in developing countries	29	35	39	33	32
Deliveries by channel					
Bilateral	23	21	22	10	6
Multilateral	54	54	54	64	70
NGOs	23	25	24	26	24
Food aid deliveries by category					
Emergency	63	61	62	76	76
Project	23	24	23	19	20
Programme	14	15	15	5	4
Food aid deliveries by region					
Sub-Saharan Africa	56	57	53	64	64
Asia	30	20	29	23	23
Eastern Europe and CIS	4	6	5	2	2
Latin America and the Caribbean	8	9	6	5	5
Middle East and North Africa	3	7	6	6	6
Deliveries to					
Developing countries	99.1	99.4	97.7	98.2	97.6
LDCs	60.3	58.3	53.3	51.5	45.2
LIFDCs	93.9	89.1	90.7	92.8	90.3
Total cereal food aid deliveries as % of					
World cereal production	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
World cereal imports**	2.5	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.6
Cereals food aid deliveries to LIFDC as % of					
LIFDCs cereal production	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4
LIFDCs cereal imports**	8.4	6.5	6.3	6.9	6.1
* 2009 data are provisional.					
** 2007, 2008 and 2009 cereal imports are estimates.					
Source: INTERFAIS, FAO/ FAOSTAT April 2010.					

1. OVERVIEW

Global food aid deliveries reached a record low of 5.7 million mt in 2009, a decrease of 12 percent compared with 2008. The annual tonnage delivered has declined since 1999 (see Figure 1 and Table 1).

Figure 1

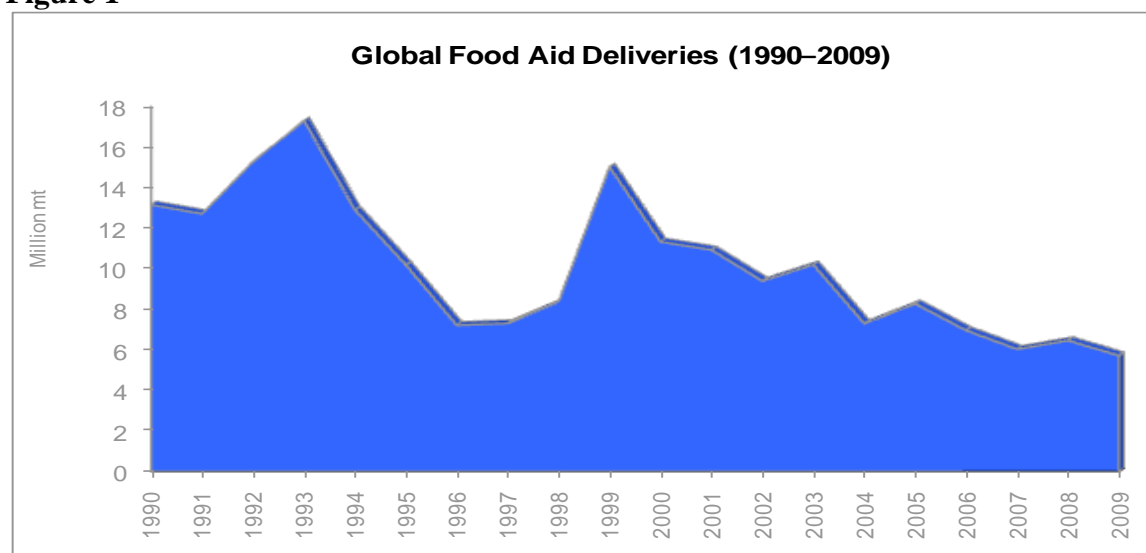


Table 1 – Global Food Aid Deliveries (1990–2009) in million mt

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
13.2	12.7	15.3	17.3	12.9	10.2	7.2	7.3	8.4	15.0	11.3	10.9	9.4	10.2	7.3	8.3	7.0	6.0	6.5	5.7

The main recipient countries are in sub-Saharan Africa: they receive 64 percent of food aid deliveries. A decline in food aid deliveries is reported in other regions.

The top eight recipient countries, accounting for 55 percent of total food aid deliveries, are Ethiopia (17 percent), the Sudan (9 percent), Somalia and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) (6 percent), Kenya (5 percent) and Afghanistan, Pakistan and Zimbabwe (4 percent).

In 2009, five major donor governments provided 71 percent of food aid deliveries – Canada, the EC, Japan, Saudi Arabia and the United States of America. Food aid deliveries from the remaining 50 donors decreased by 21 percent compared with 2008. The amount of food aid directly distributed to targeted beneficiaries (not “monetized”) continued to rise, accounting for 92 percent of total deliveries; in 1999, the figure was 45 percent.

In 2009, all food aid was provided on a full-grant basis, the same as in 2008. Food aid purchased in developing countries accounted for 1.8 million mt (32 percent), a 2 percent decrease compared with 2008.

Emergency food aid remained the predominant category, accounting for 76 percent of total deliveries, of which WFP provided 67 percent; the total tonnage decreased by 600,000 mt compared with 2008. Programme food aid, which accounted for 52 percent of

food aid in 1999, continued its gradual decline to the 4 percent share in 2009. Project food aid, which accounted for 20 percent of global food aid, decreased by 80,000 mt compared with 2008.

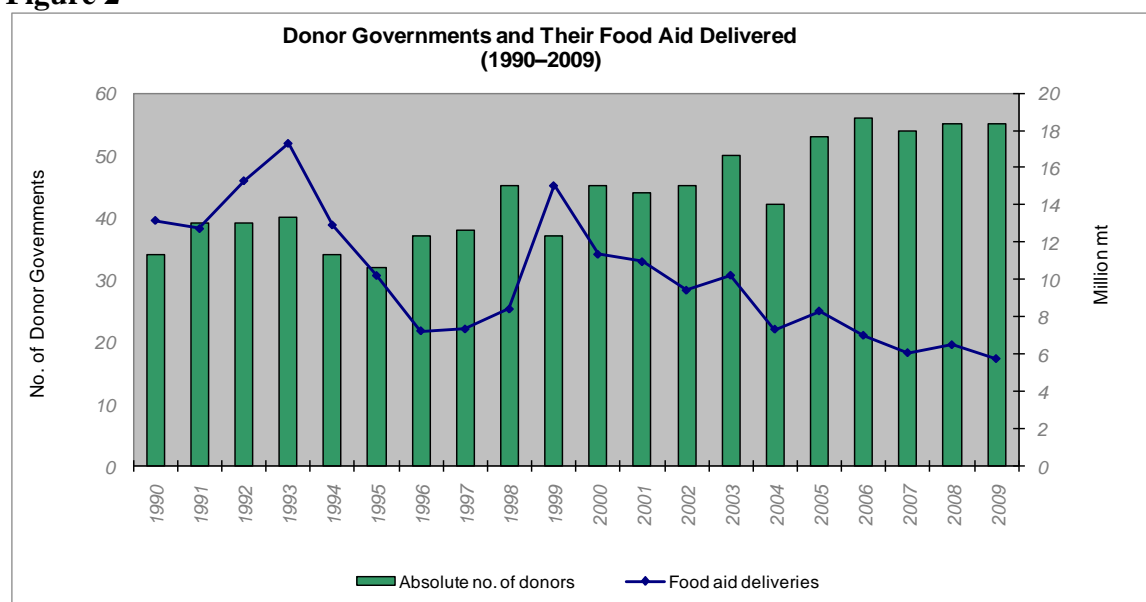
The multilateral channel continued to increase to a 70 percent share of global food aid deliveries, an increase from 27 percent in 1999. Bilateral food aid accounted for 6 percent of total deliveries, well below its 2008 share. Food aid channelled through NGOs accounted for 24 percent of global food aid, as in the past two years.

WFP's new indicators for measuring the number of people whose nutritional requirements could potentially be met from global food aid deliveries showed that food aid delivered in 2009 potentially provided calories to feed 25.9 million people but provided iodine requirements for only 749,000 people.

2. FOOD AID DONORS

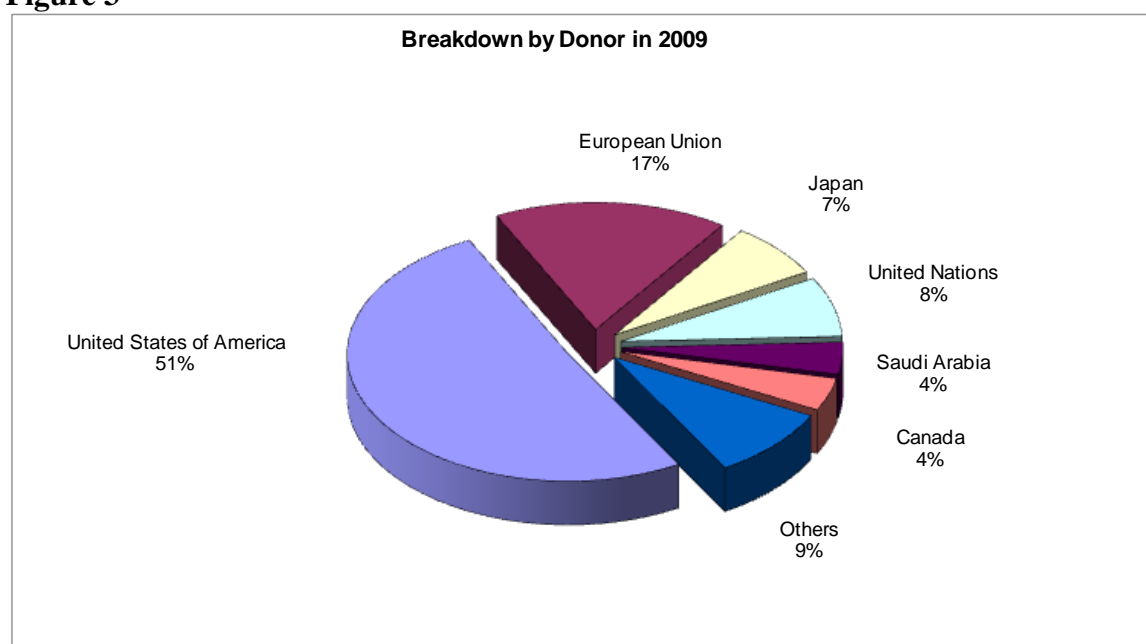
The number of donor governments remained at 55 in 2009, despite the decline in global food aid deliveries (see Figure 2). Their funding provided 89 percent of global food aid. Of the 55 donor governments that donated in 2009, 33 donated less than 10,000 mt.

Figure 2



In 2009 the top five donor governments were, in order, the United States of America, Japan, the EC, Saudi Arabia and Canada; they accounted for 71 percent of food aid deliveries (see Figure 3).

Figure 3



The combined share of the United States of America and the EU decreased from 70 percent in 2008 to 68 percent in 2009. The share of the former accounted for 51

percent of food aid deliveries compared with 52 percent in 2008. The aggregated decline in deliveries by the EU from 19 percent in 2008 to 17 percent in 2009 (see Figure 4) was partly a result of the reduced share from the EC. Other governments contributed 32 percent of global food aid deliveries, a decline of 5 percent compared with 2008.

Figure 4

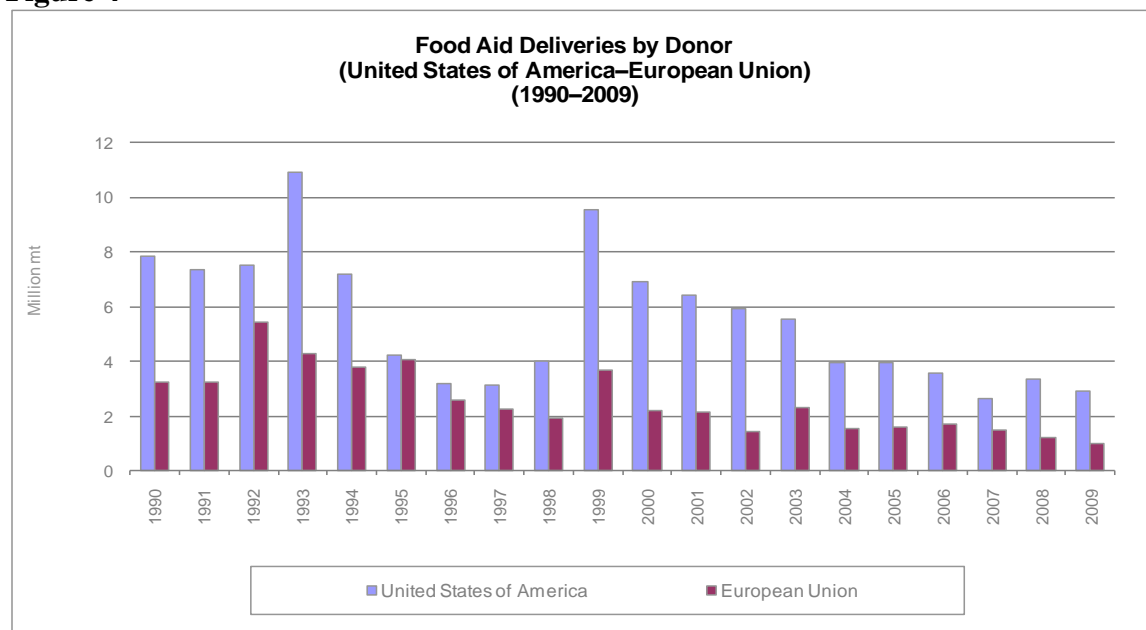
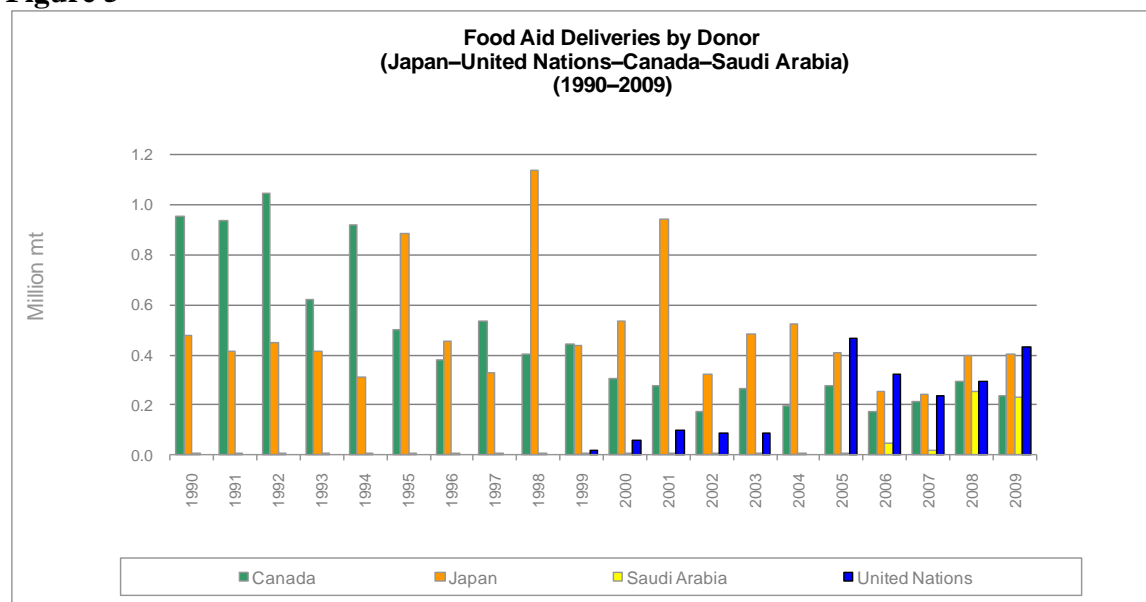


Figure 5 shows that Canada, Japan, Saudi Arabia and the United Nations increased their food aid deliveries in 2009.

Figure 5



The six main donors in 2008 (see Table 2) continued to fund 79 percent of food aid deliveries. United Nations agencies accounted for 8 percent of food aid flows, an increase of 47 percent compared with 2008, mainly as a result of the growth of United Nations

pooled funding facilities such as the Central Emergency Response Fund and the Common Humanitarian Fund.

Table 2 – Global Food Aid Profile of Main Donors in 2009 (percentage)

	Canada	European Commission	Japan	Saudi Arabia	United Nations	United States of America
FOOD AID CATEGORY						
Emergency	81	90	37	95	92	72
Project	19	10	8	5	8	28
Programme	–	–	55	–	–	–
FOOD TYPE						
Cereals	92	86	94	81	87	84
Non-cereals	8	14	6	19	13	16
SALE						
Distributed	100	100	47	100	100	93
Sold	–	–	53	–	–	7
RECIPIENT REGION						
Sub-Saharan Africa	82	46	74	66	47	73
Asia	14	17	19	18	32	19
Eastern Europe & CIS	0	2	3	–	2	1
Middle East & North Africa	2	32	3	15	15	2
Latin America & the Caribbean	2	3	2	1	4	6
TERMS OF DELIVERY						
Grant	100	100	100	100	100	100
Concessional-sales	–	–	–	–	–	–
FOOD AID CHANNELS						
Bilateral	–	0	55	0	–	–
Multilateral	68	99	45	100	100	61
NGOs	32	1	–	0	–	39
DELIVERY MODES						
Direct transfer	21	3	62	3	2	80
Local purchase	23	31	12	18	38	4
Triangular purchase	57	66	27	79	60	16

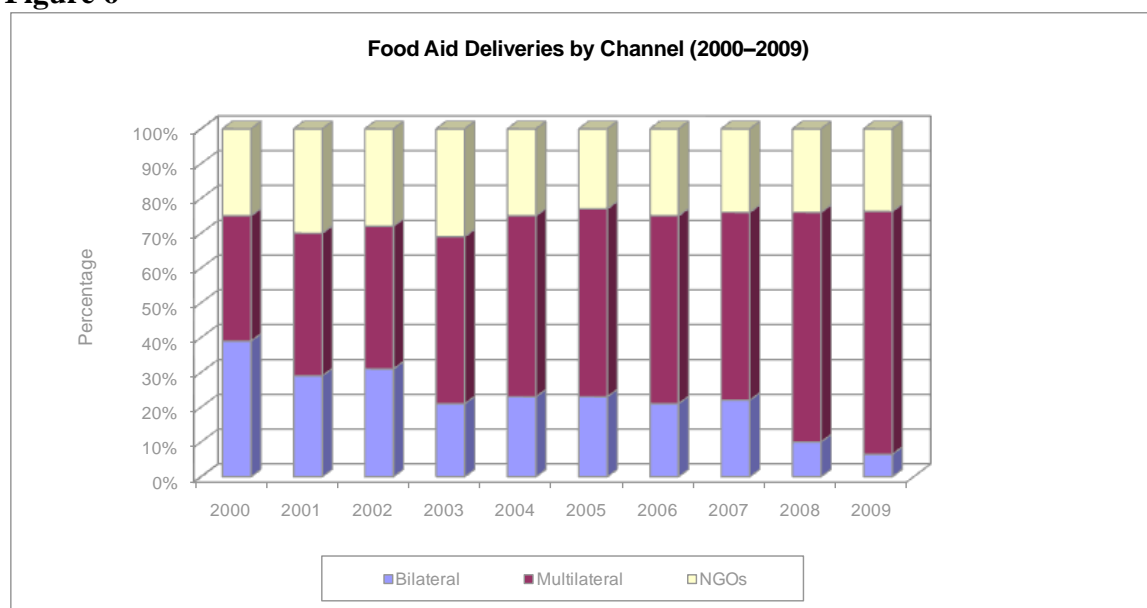
Food aid deliveries were also provided by NGOs, inter-governmental organizations and private donors. In 2009, NGOs delivered 2 percent of total food aid, compared with 1 percent in 2008. Inter-governmental organizations decreased their share from 1.8 percent to 0.6 percent; the private sector increased its share from 0.5 percent to 0.7 percent.

3. FOOD AID CHANNELS

3.1 Food aid deliveries by channel

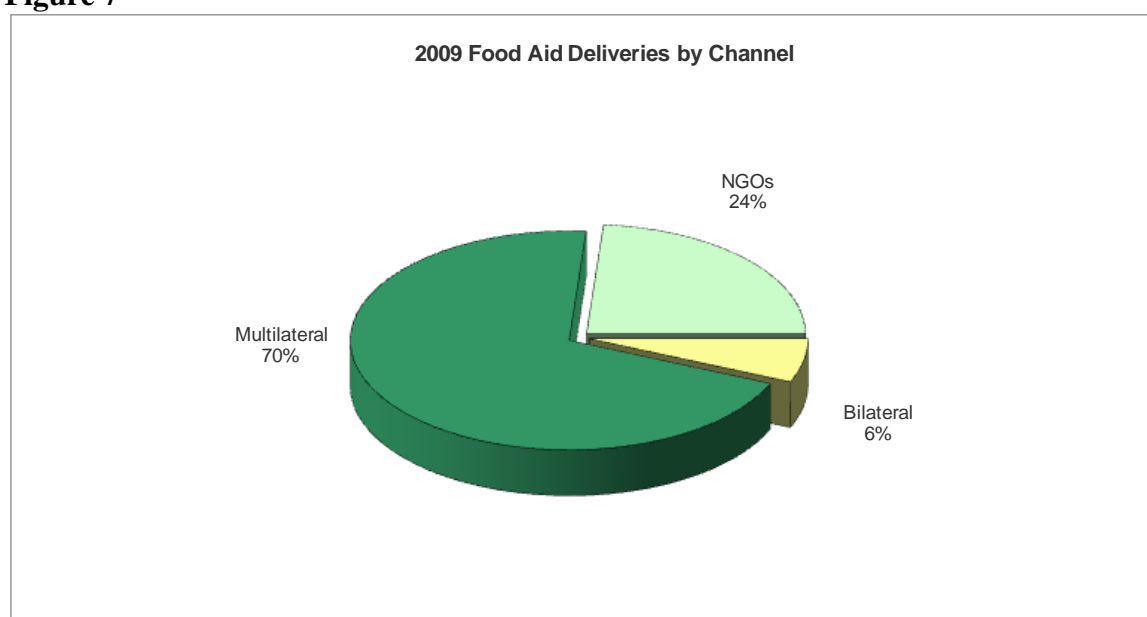
The decline in global food aid deliveries occurred predominantly in bilateral food aid. Compared with 2008, bilateral food aid deliveries fell by 45 percent, food aid channelled through NGOs fell by 18 percent and multilateral food aid fell by 4 percent.

Figure 6



Donors' commitment to multilateral food aid grew by two thirds between 2003 and 2009 to address the challenges of food security. After 2003 the share of bilateral food aid was between 20 percent and 23 percent; the share of food aid channelled through NGOs was between 24 percent and 26 percent (see Figure 6 and Figure 7).

Figure 7



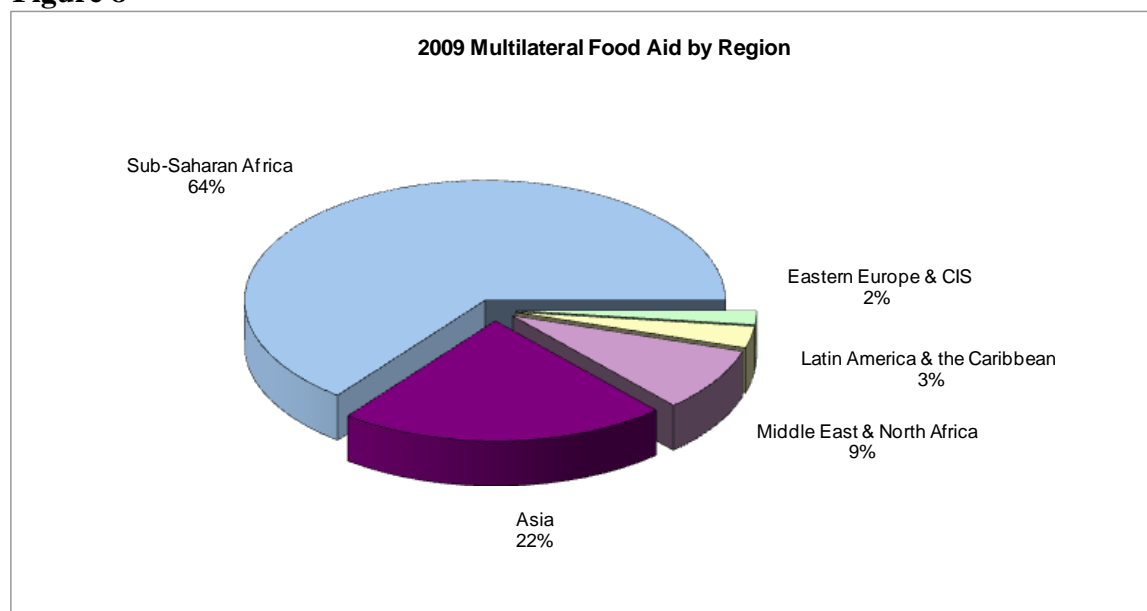
3.2 Multilateral food aid

Global food aid channelled multilaterally reached 70 percent in 2009, its highest share, equivalent to 4 million mt. Of this, 96 percent was channelled through WFP. Other United Nations agencies acting as channels were the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

Emergency food aid accounted for 91 percent of multilateral food aid deliveries. The remaining 9 percent was distributed as programme and project food aid.

Figure 8 shows that 64 percent of multilateral food aid in 2009 was delivered to sub-Saharan Africa, 22 percent to Asia, 9 percent to the Middle East and North Africa, 3 percent to Latin America and the Caribbean and 2 percent to Eastern Europe and the CIS.

Figure 8



The United States of America contributed 44 percent of multilateral food aid, the EU 23 percent, the United Nations 11 percent, Saudi Arabia 6 percent and Canada 4 percent.

The five major recipients of multilateral food aid in 2009 were Ethiopia (16 percent; 12 percent in 2008), the Sudan (12 percent; 15 percent in 2008), Somalia and Kenya (7 percent) and Pakistan (6 percent). Together they accounted for 48 percent of multilateral deliveries.

The preference for procuring food aid locally or through triangular purchases in developing countries remained high: the data for 2009 show that 86 percent of local purchases and 98 percent of triangular purchases were channelled multilaterally.

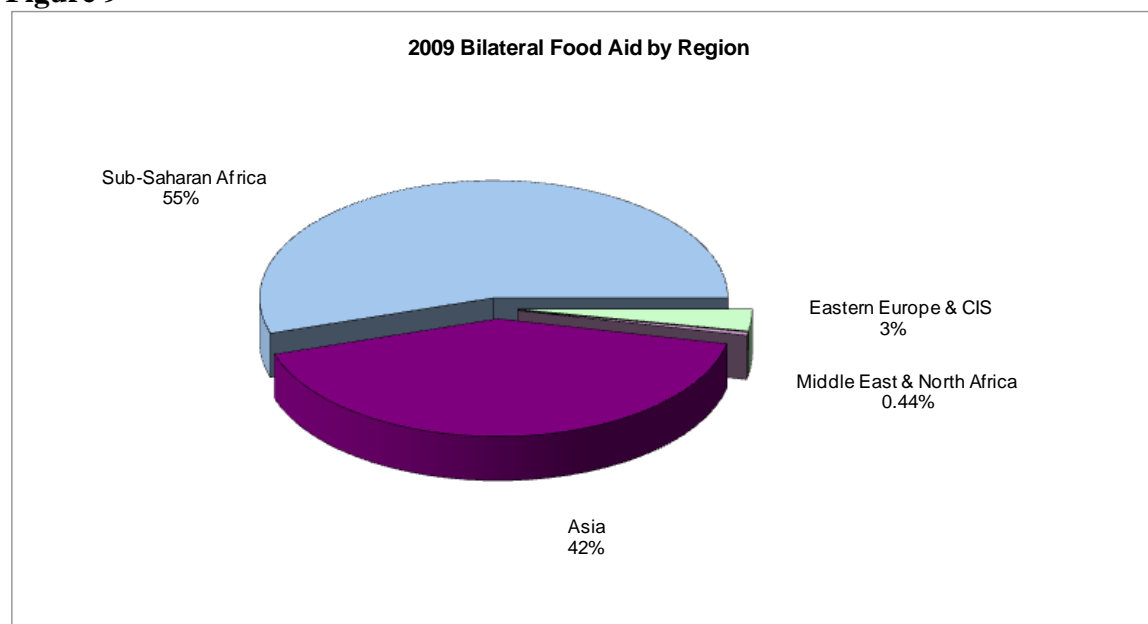
3.3 Bilateral food aid

In 2009, bilateral food aid fell to 369,000 mt compared with 600,000 mt in 2008, accounting for 6 percent of global food aid deliveries.

Bilateral food aid is supplied on a government-to-government basis and is mainly related to programme food aid.² In 2009, 65 percent of bilateral food aid was earmarked for programme food aid; 35 percent was earmarked for emergency food aid.

Bilateral food aid was largely directed to sub-Saharan Africa (55 percent) and Asia (42 percent). A gradual disappearance of bilateral food aid was reported in Eastern Europe and the CIS and the Middle East and North Africa; it has disappeared in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Figure 9



The DPRK remained the largest recipient of bilateral food aid, receiving 34 percent. Other major recipients were the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the Maldives, Mozambique and Togo. Bilateral food aid was channelled to 27 countries, one less than in 2008.

China contributed 60 percent of global bilateral food aid in 2009; Japan contributed 34 percent; the EU contributed 4 percent. The United States of America shifted its focus to multilateral contributions or food aid channelled through NGOs.

Ninety-five percent of food aid channelled bilaterally resulted from direct transfers. The share of bilateral food aid procured locally or under triangular transactions decreased by 10 percentage points to 5 percent in 2009.

2008 was an exceptional year in which beneficiaries received 53 percent of bilateral food aid. In 2009, bilateral food aid continued to be primarily sold on the market; 62 percent of bilateral food aid was monetized, compared with 47 percent in 2008.

² For details of food aid categories, see the Explanatory Notes.

3.4 Food aid channelled through NGOs

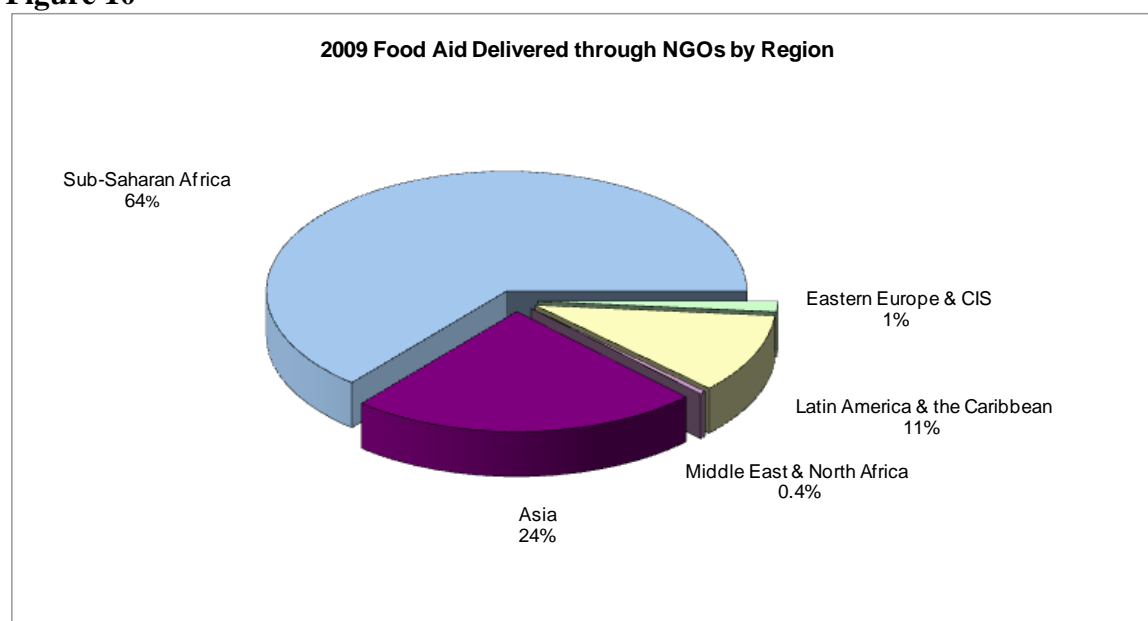
In 2009, 1.4 million mt of food aid was channelled through NGOs, a decrease of 300,000 mt compared with 2008; its share fell from 26 percent to 24 percent.

Emergency food aid accounted for 42 percent of global food aid channelled through NGOs, compared with 51 percent in 2008. The share of project food aid increased to 58 percent.

Eighty-four percent of food aid channelled through NGOs was freely distributed to targeted beneficiaries. The remaining 16 percent, made up of 98 percent project food aid and 2 percent emergency food aid, was sold on the market.

Sub-Saharan Africa received 64 percent of the food aid delivered through NGOs, a 13 percent decrease compared with 2008. The remaining food aid channelled through NGOs was distributed in Asia (24 percent; 18 percent in 2008), Latin America and the Caribbean and Europe and the CIS (11 percent; 13 percent in 2008), and the Middle East and North Africa (0.4 percent) (see Figure 10).

Figure 10



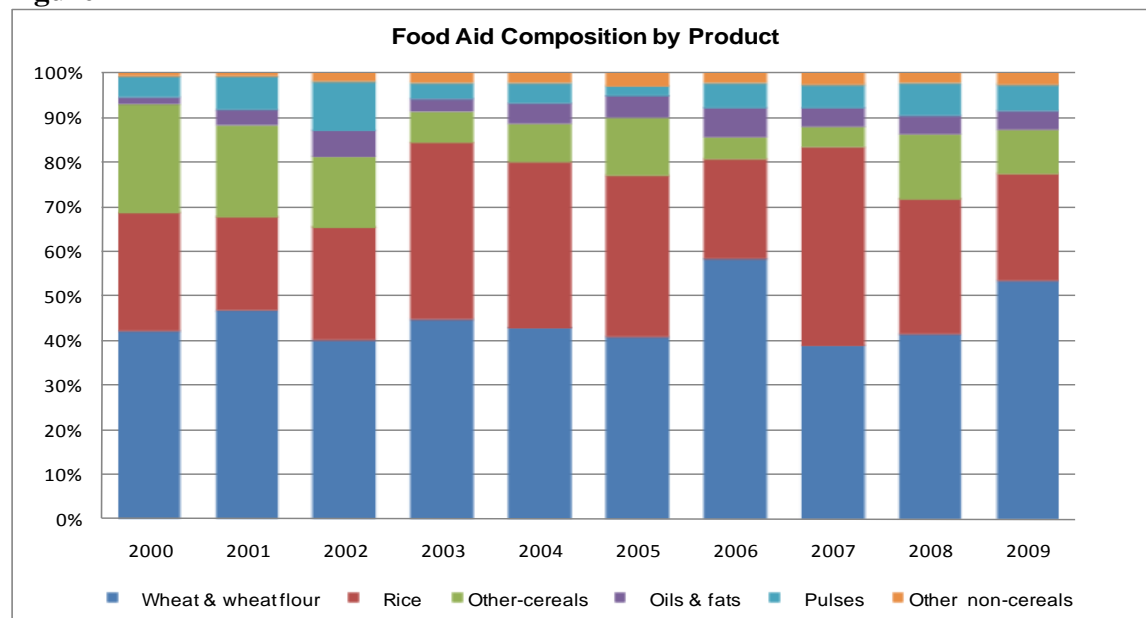
In 2009, NGOs channelled food aid in 69 countries, seven more than in 2008. The main recipient countries were Ethiopia (345,000 mt), DPRK (133,000 mt), Zimbabwe (113,000 mt), Mozambique (98,000 mt) and Haiti (74,000 mt). These countries accounted for 56 percent of food aid channelled through NGOs.

The United States of America relied heavily on NGOs to channel 84 percent of its food aid in 2009, amounting to 1.1 million mt. Other donors channelling food aid through NGOs were Canada (5.5 percent, of which 93 percent was channelled by the Canadian Foodgrains Bank), the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (2.8 percent), the International Committee of the Red Cross (2.6 percent), and the EU (2.3 percent).

4. FOOD AID PRODUCTS

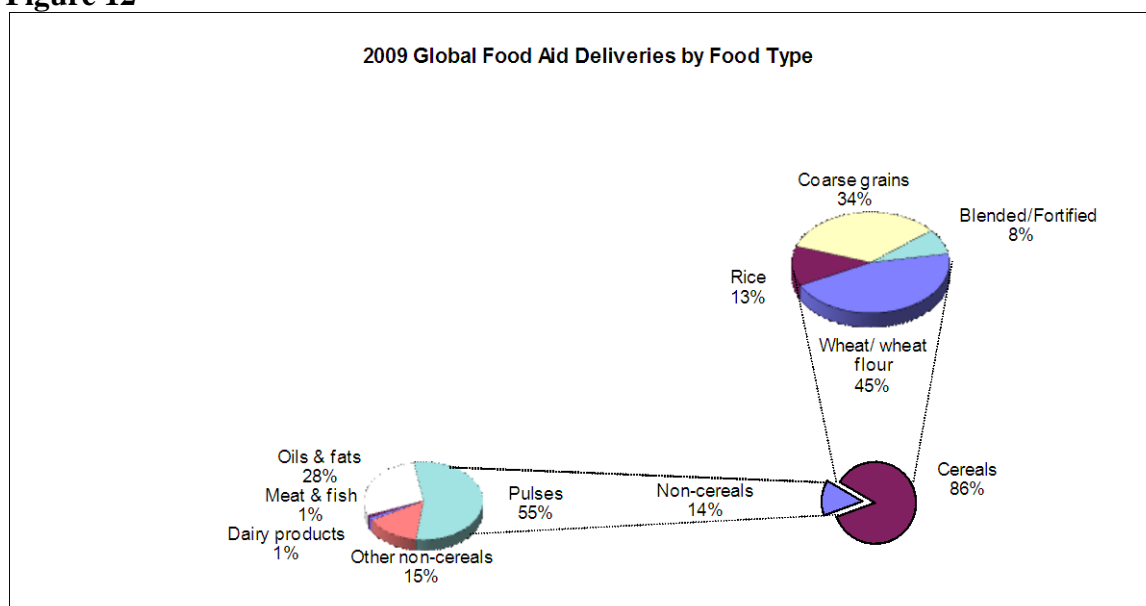
The composition of food aid donation has changed significantly over the years (see Figure 11), with non-grain items and other food products accounting for increased shares.

Figure 11



Cereal foods accounted for 86 percent of food aid deliveries in 2009, the same as in 2008, despite a gradual decline of 3 percentage points since the late 1990s.

Figure 12



The pattern in Figure 12 is evident in all regions except Latin America and the Caribbean, where the share of cereals is lower by 15 percentage points; in the Middle East and North Africa the share is lower by 7 percentage points.

The composition of the food aid basket remained almost unchanged in 2009 compared with 2008 (see Table 3). Wheat and wheat derivatives accounted for 39 percent of food

delivered as aid in 2009, 3 percentage points – equivalent to 80,000 mt – less than in 2008. Wheat also accounted for 11 percent of the decrease in total food aid deliveries. The decline in wheat deliveries can partly be explained by the increasing linkages with other major cereal products and the weak United States dollar.

The share of rice was 11 percent in 2009, 2 percentage points – equivalent to 224,000 mt – less than in 2008, the largest decline recorded among all food types. The share of coarse grains fell by 1 percentage point only.

Greater attention to the quality of food aid has led to increased use of food types that are richer in micronutrients such as blended and fortified cereals. Blended and fortified food deliveries reached 7 percent in 2009, from 6 percent in 2008.

Table 3 – 2008/2009 Global Food Aid Deliveries by Food Type

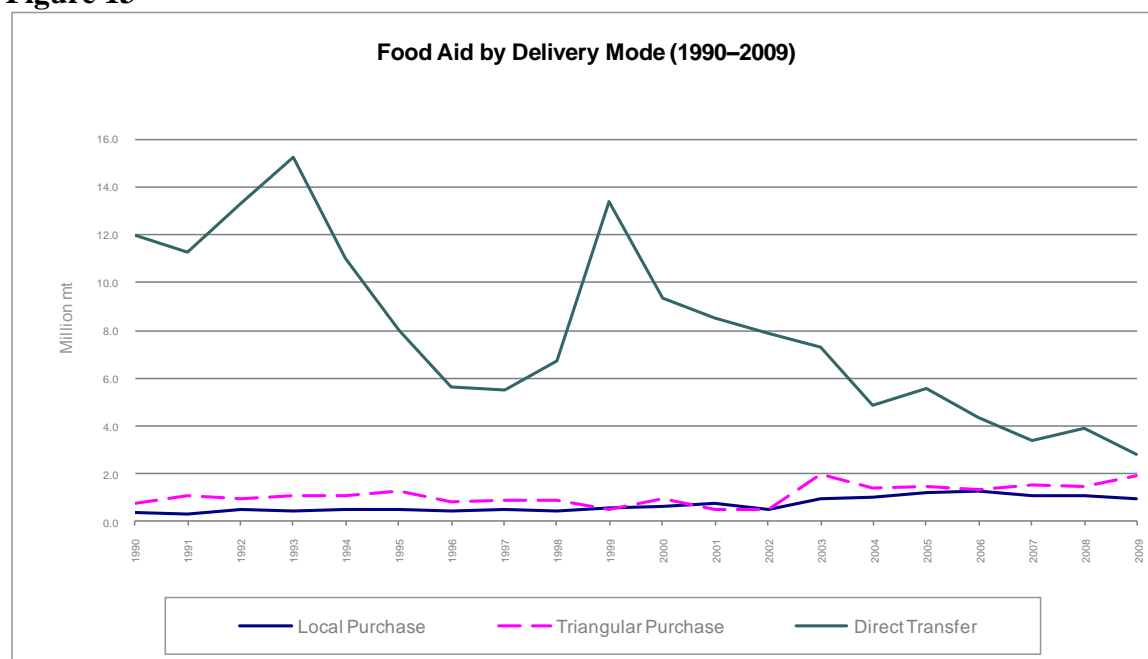
COMMODITY	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Cereals	5 526	85	4 921	86	- 11
Wheat and wheat flour	2 306	36	2 226	39	- 3
Rice	852	13	628	11	- 26
Coarse grains	1 971	30	1 663	29	- 16
Blended/Fortified	397	6	404	7	2
Non-cereals	946	15	802	14	- 15
Dairy products	13	0	10	0	- 22
Meat and fish	14	0	9	0	- 37
Oils and fats	276	4	228	4	- 17
Pulses	494	8	437	8	- 11
Other non-cereals	150	2	118	2	- 22

5. FOOD AID DELIVERY

5.1 Delivery modes

The most common delivery mode for food aid is direct transfer of food purchased by donors in their home countries. Direct transfers account for the whole of the decline in food aid deliveries since 2000 (see Figure 13). Conversely, the proportion of food aid purchased locally or in a third country – triangular purchase – has increased, reducing the cost of transport and stimulating local markets and food producers.

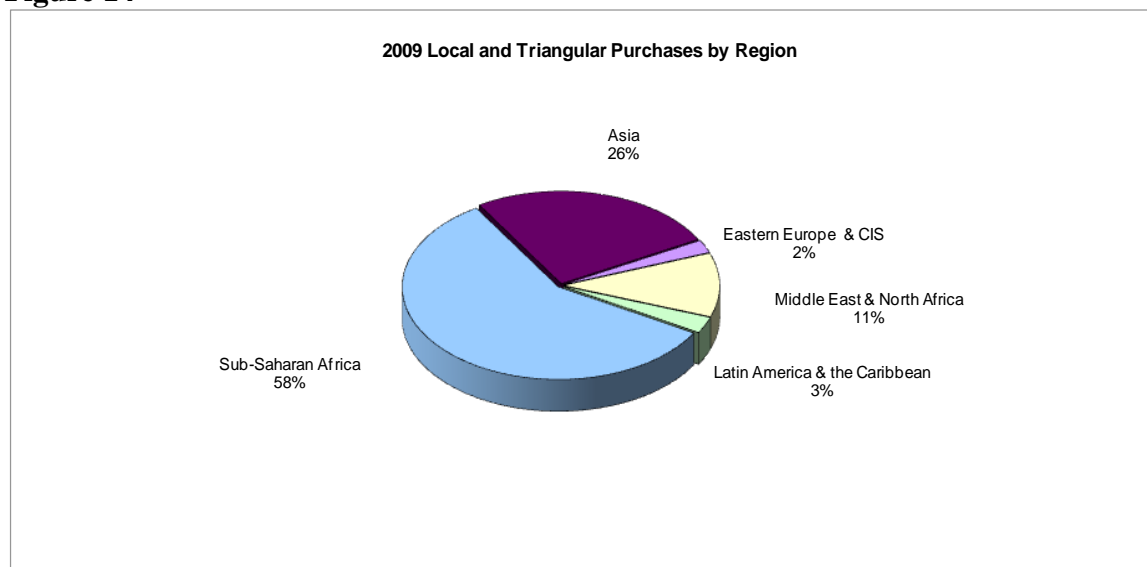
Figure 13



The tonnage of food aid deliveries in 2009 was 749,000 mt less than 2008. Direct transfers accounted for half of global food aid deliveries, the lowest share ever, a decrease of 27 percent compared with 2008. The remaining 50 percent was food aid purchased locally, which decreased by 15 percent, and triangular purchases, which increased by 31 percent.

Compared with 2008, the fall in donations by direct transfer was particularly steep for wheat and coarse grains: wheat donations fell from 24 percent to 18 percent, and coarse grains from 19 percent to 15 percent. At the same time, triangular purchases of wheat increased from 9 percent to 15 percent and of coarse grains from 6 percent to 10 percent.

Figure 14 shows that 58 percent of local and triangular transactions took place in sub-Saharan Africa, and 26 percent in Asia. Food aid originating in developing countries accounted for 1.8 million mt, 32 percent of total food aid deliveries.

Figure 14

In 2009, United Nations agencies became for the first time the main providers of food aid through local purchases with an 18 percent share, followed by the United States of America at 12 percent and the EC at 11 percent. The United States continued to be the main provider of direct transfers with an 82 percent share, followed by Japan at 9 percent. The United States distributed 80 percent of its total food aid through this modality, and Japan 62 percent.

The increase in the share of triangular purchases provides income for food producers and enhances the timeliness of food aid distributions, especially in emergencies. In 2009, a record high of 91 percent of emergency food aid was delivered through this channel. The share of emergency food aid purchased locally reached 80 percent, and direct transfers accounted for 63 percent (see Table 4).

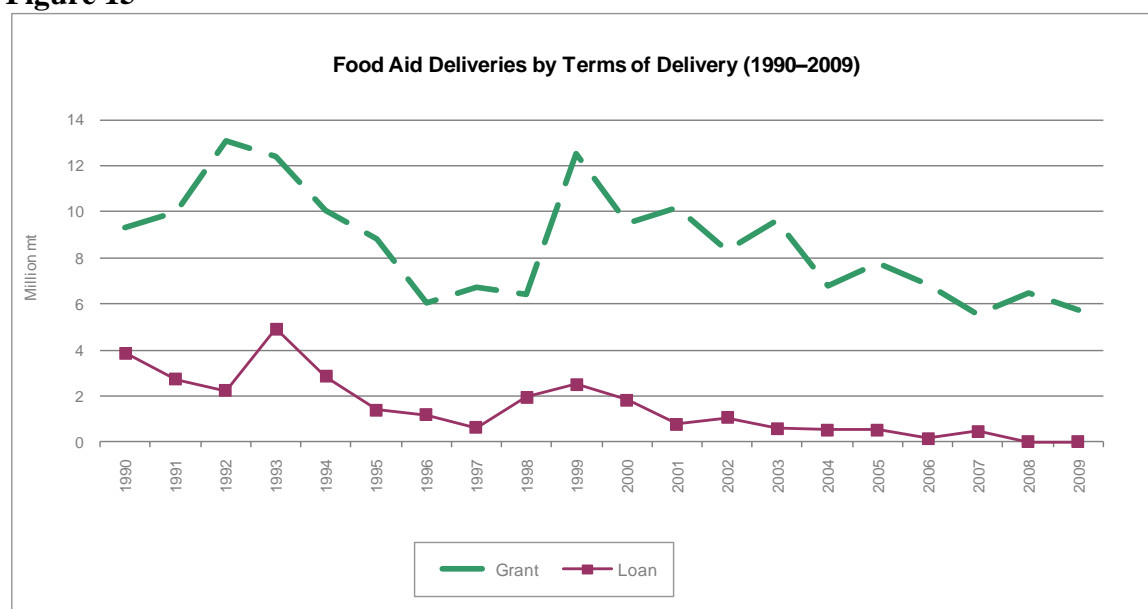
Table 4 – 2008/2009 Global Food Aid Deliveries by Delivery Mode and Category

DELIVERY MODE	CATEGORY	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
		Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Direct transfer		3 888	100	2 847	100	-27
	Emergency	2 839	73	1 797	63	-37
	Project	808	21	823	29	2
	Programme	241	6	227	8	-6
Triangular purchase		1 479	100	1 942	100	31
	Emergency	1 234	83	1 778	91	44
	Project	167	11	152	8	-9
	Programme	78	5	12	1	-85
Local purchase		1 397	79	934	100	-33
	Emergency	845	60	751	80	-11
	Project	260	19	183	20	-30
	Programme	292	0	–	–	–

5.2 Terms of delivery

All food aid deliveries were provided as grants in 2009. In 2007, 8 percent of food aid was provided on concessional terms (see Figure 15).

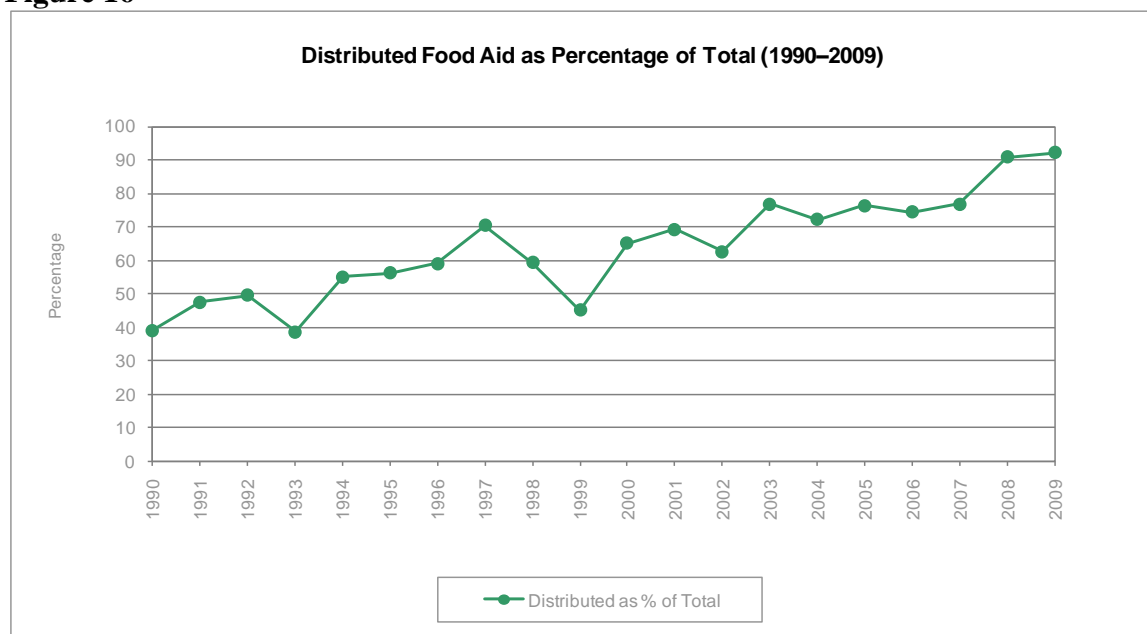
Figure 15



5.3 Food aid sales

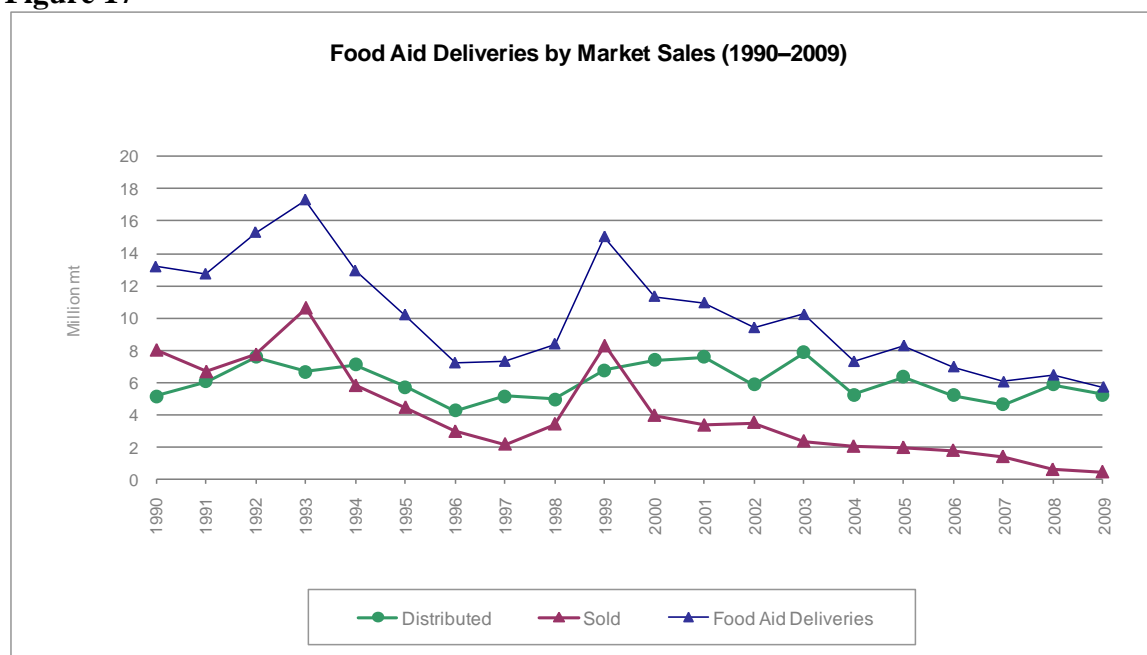
In 2009, food aid sales of 450,000 mt accounted for 8 percent of total food aid deliveries; the remaining 92 percent (see Figure 16), the highest proportion ever, was distributed directly to beneficiaries as a result of improved targeting effectiveness of food assistance.

Figure 16



Food aid deliveries in 2009 were 5.7 million mt, the lowest on record since 1961 and well below the annual deliveries of 7 million mt between 2004 and 2007. The percentage of food sold on the market decreased by 1.4 percent in the same period (see Figure 17).

Figure 17



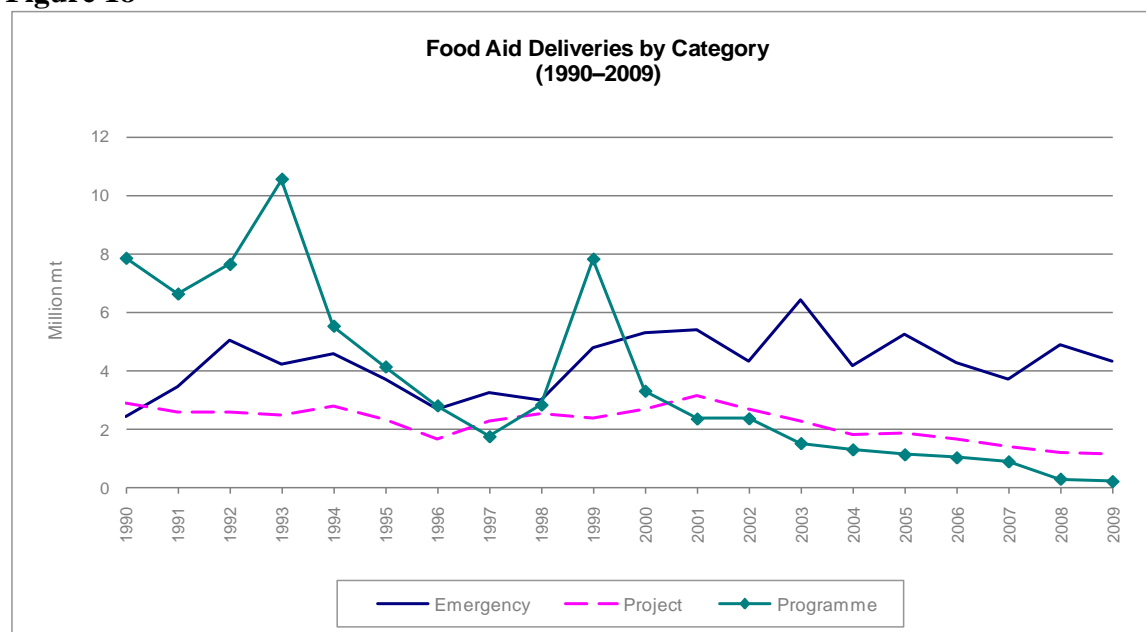
Of the monetized food sold in the markets of recipient countries to generate cash, 51 percent originated from programme food aid delivered through bilateral channels. The remaining 49 percent was channelled through NGOs, of which project food aid accounted for 98 percent and emergency food aid 2 percent.

6. FOOD AID CATEGORIES

6.1 Global perspective

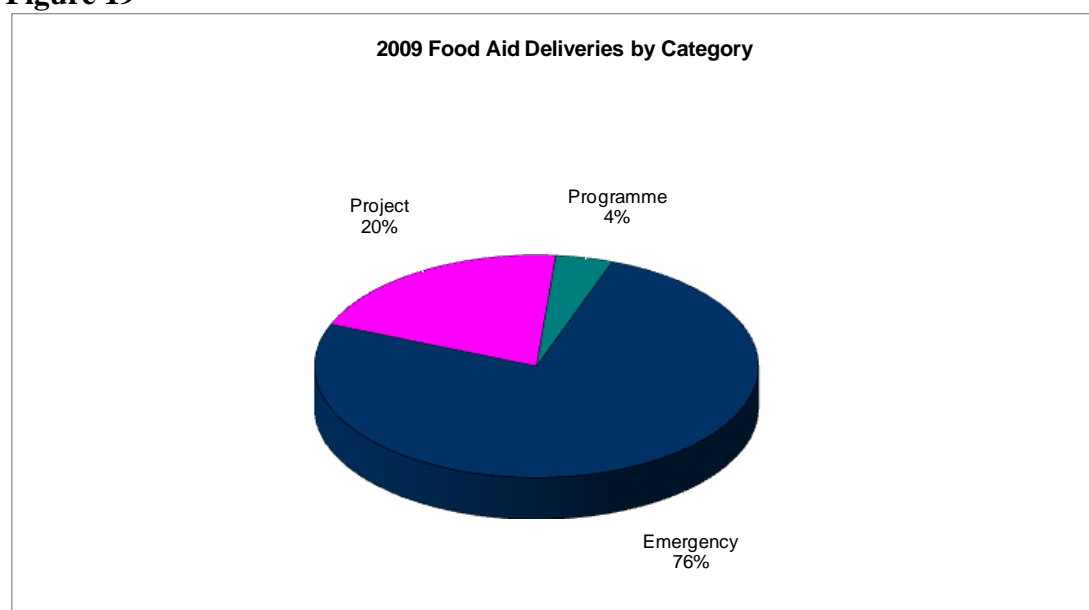
Over the two years of gradual appropriation from programme food aid to emergency food aid, re-distributions of food aid in the three categories have stabilized (see Figure 18). In tonnage terms, all three categories of food aid were affected by the declining trend of food aid worldwide.

Figure 18



Emergency food aid, the largest category since 2000, accounted for 76 percent of global food aid in 2009, the same as in 2008 (see Figure 19); project food aid accounted for 20 percent of global food aid; programme food aid accounted for 4 percent, as in 2008.

Figure 19



In 2009, emergency food aid fell to 4.3 million mt (12 percent), project food aid to 1.2 million mt (6 percent), and programme food aid to 238,000 mt (6 percent) (see Table 5).

Table 5 – 2008/2009 Global Food Aid Deliveries by Category and Delivery mode

CATEGORY	DELIVERY MODE	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
		Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Emergency		4 918	100	4 326	100	-12
	Direct transfer	2 839	58	1 797	42	-37
	Triangular purchase	1 234	25	1 778	41	44
	Local purchase	845	17	751	17	-11
Project		1 235	100	1 158	100	-6
	Direct transfer	808	65	823	71	2
	Triangular purchase	167	14	152	13	-9
	Local purchase	260	21	183	16	-30
Programme		319	100	238	100	-25
	Direct transfer	241	76	227	95	-6
	Triangular purchase	78	24	12	5	-85

The proportion of emergency food aid channelled by WFP as a percentage of the overall distribution increased compared with 2008. In 2009, 81 percent of all emergency food aid was provided through WFP, compared with 76 percent in 2008 and 73 percent in 2007. The remaining 19 percent of emergency food aid deliveries were made through international and non-governmental organizations. Project food aid delivered by WFP accounted for 30 percent; the remaining 70 percent was also channelled through international and non-governmental organizations.

6.2 Emergency food aid

Emergency food aid to sub-Saharan Africa and Asia accounted for 88 percent of the total worldwide. The 3 percentage point increase in emergency food aid to Asia partly offsets the reduction in emergency food aid to sub-Saharan Africa (see Table 6). The decline in emergency food aid to sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 60 percent of the decline in global food aid. The remaining 12 percent of emergency food aid was delivered in Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern Europe and the CIS, and the Middle East and North Africa; the latter two accounted for a higher share than in 2008.

Table 6 – 2008/2009 Emergency Food Aid Deliveries by Region

REGION	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Sub-Saharan Africa	3 358	68	2 750	63	-18
Asia	1 072	22	1 069	25	0
Middle East & North Africa	302	6	309	7	3
Latin America & the Caribbean	124	3	112	3	-9
Eastern Europe & CIS	62	1	85	2	36

The ten major recipients of emergency food aid were the same in 2009 as in 2008 (see Table 7), of which six are in sub-Saharan Africa, three in Asia and one in the Middle East and North Africa.

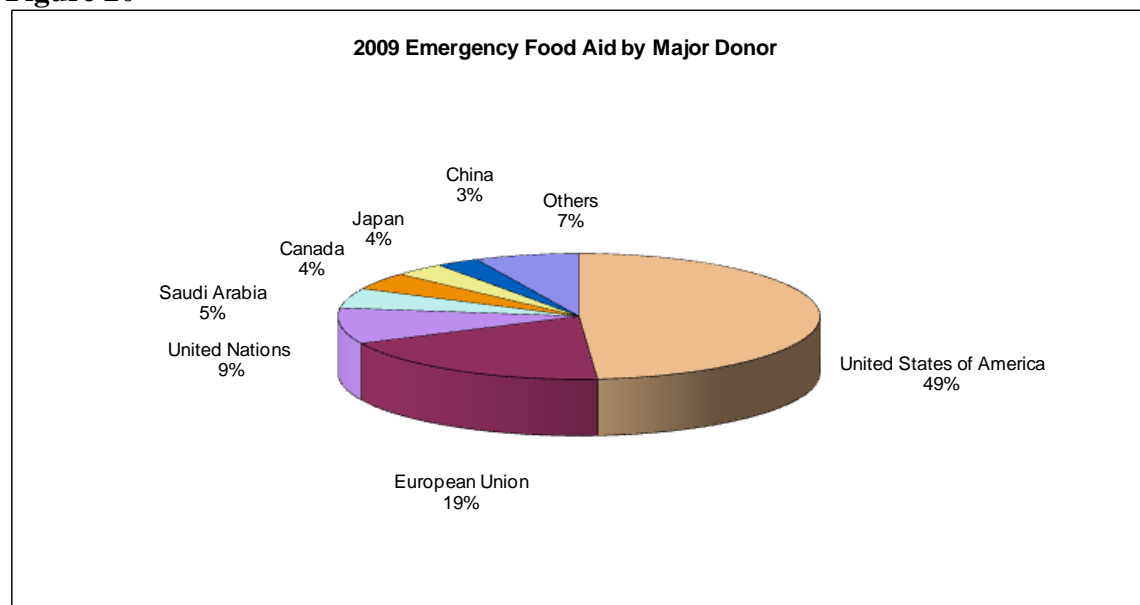
Compared with 2008, Kenya, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Pakistan and DRC received larger quantities of emergency food aid despite the global decline in emergency food aid deliveries. The four largest recipients – DPRK, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan – showed a decline in 2009.

Table 7 – 2008/2009 Major Recipients of Emergency Food Aid

RECIPIENT	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Ethiopia	941	19	804	19	-15
Sudan	673	14	498	12	-26
Somalia	370	8	324	7	-13
Korea, Democratic People's Rep. of	330	7	314	7	-5
Kenya	206	4	255	6	24
Pakistan	43	1	241	6	461
Zimbabwe	360	7	228	5	-37
Occupied Palestinian Territory	152	3	203	5	33
Afghanistan	309	6	184	4	-40
Congo, Democratic Rep. of	101	2	147	3	46

The distribution of emergency food aid by the two largest donors differed by 2 percentage points from the pattern of distribution for global food aid: the share of the United States of America was 49 percent, and that of the EU was 19 percent (see Figure 3 and Figure 20).

Figure 20



6.3 Project food aid

Project food aid is concentrated in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean (see Table 8). In 2009, project food aid deliveries declined in all regions except sub-Saharan Africa, where it increased by 9 percentage points. In Eastern Europe and the CIS, project food aid accounted for only 1 percent of deliveries.

Table 8 – 2008/2009 Project Food Aid Deliveries by Region

REGION	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Sub-Saharan Africa	627	51	699	60	11
Asia	304	25	259	22	-15
Middle East & North Africa	73	6	40	3	-45
Latin America & the Caribbean	212	17	151	13	-29
Eastern Europe & CIS	19	2	10	1	-49

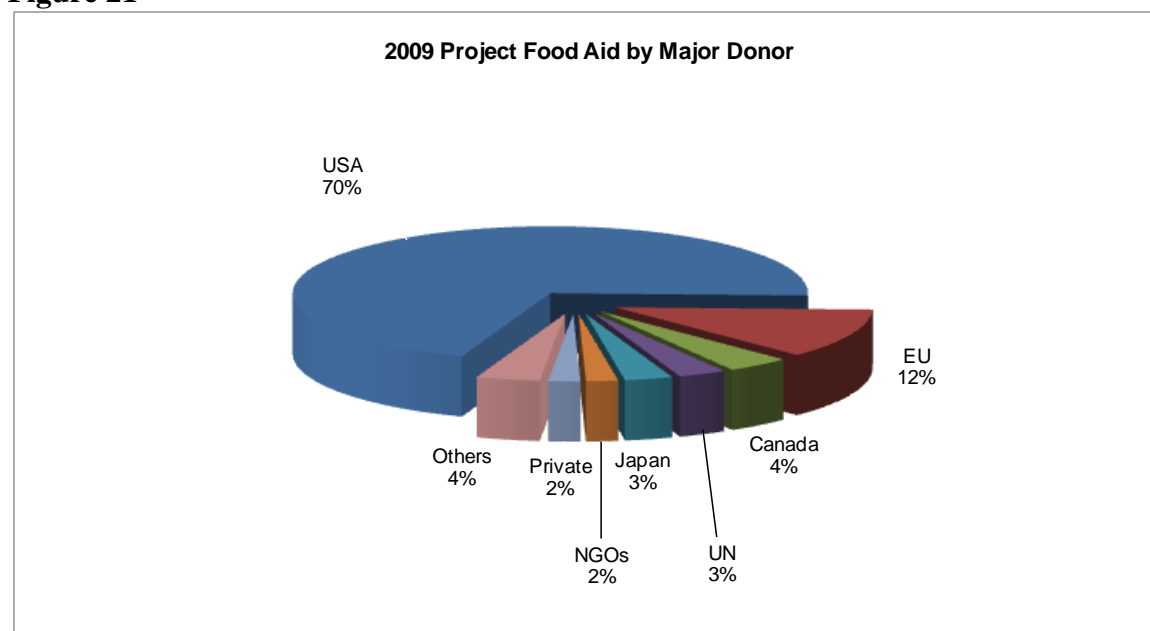
The ten main recipients of project food aid were five countries are in sub-Saharan Africa, three in Asia, and two in Latin America and the Caribbean (see Table 9). Ethiopia benefited from a 69 percent increase of project food aid compared with 2008.

Table 9 – 2008/2009 Major Recipients of Project Food Aid

RECIPIENT	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Ethiopia	110	14	186	26	69
Bangladesh	206	26	106	15	-49
Mozambique	100	13	101	14	1
Haiti	117	15	68	10	-42
Malawi	47	6	64	9	35
India	48	6	54	8	12
Guatemala	28	4	47	7	67
Kenya	61	8	36	5	-41
Uganda	36	5	25	3	-31
Occupied Palestinian Territory	35	4	22	3	-39

Project food aid was mainly provided by the United States of America. Of the three categories of food aid, the share of contributions from the United States was the highest for project food aid. The United States and the EU together accounted for 82 percent of global project food aid in 2009. Compared with 2008, the United States increased its share by 4 percentage points; the share of the EU decreased by 4 percentage points (see Figure 21).

Figure 21



6.4 Programme food aid

In 2009, sub-Saharan Africa became the largest recipient of programme food aid; it has doubled its share over the last two years. The share of Asia decreased by 20 percentage points compared with 2008; that of Eastern Europe and the CIS decreased by 10 percentage points (see Table 10).

Table 10 – 2008/2009 Programme Food Aid Deliveries by Region

REGION	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Sub-Saharan Africa	153	48	198	83	29
Asia	105	33	30	13	-72
Middle East & North Africa	0	1	–	–	–
Latin America & the Caribbean	14	4	–	–	–
Eastern Europe & CIS	46	15	10	4	-78

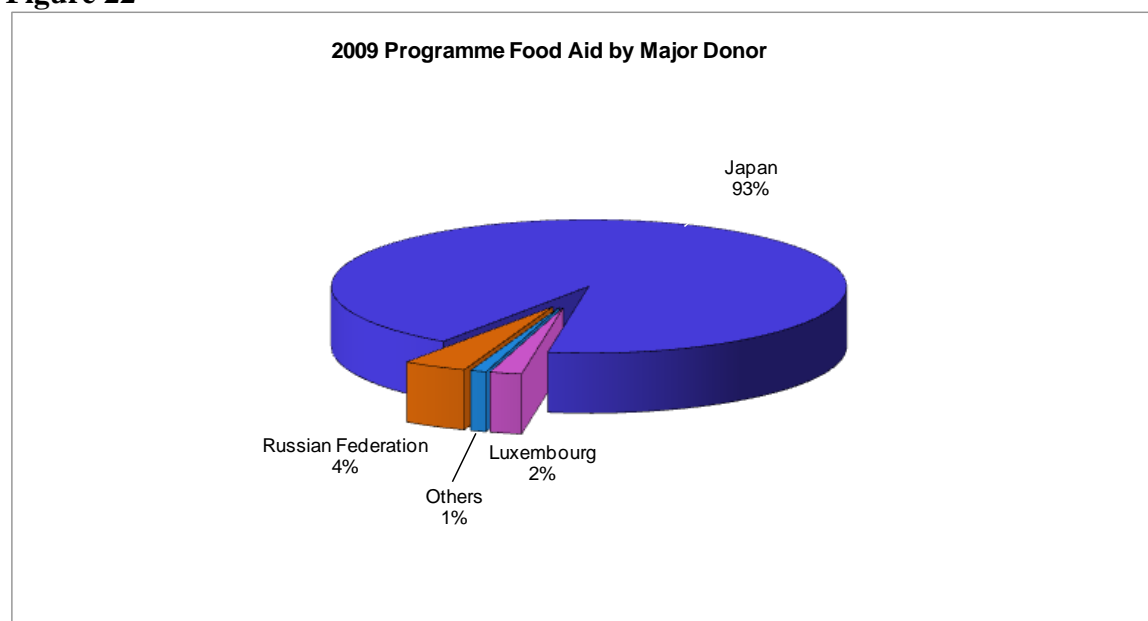
Sub-Saharan Africa was top of the list of major recipients, with 198,000 mt of programme food aid delivered to nine countries. Increases in programme food aid to DRC, Mozambique and Togo contributed significantly to the increase of programme food aid to Africa (see Table 11). A large amount of programme food aid was delivered in the Maldives, the only Asian country to receive it.

Table 11 – 2008/2009 Major Recipients of Programme Food Aid

RECIPIENT	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Mozambique	–	–	30	12	–
Togo	0	0	24	10	44083
Congo, Democratic Rep. of	7	2	24	10	233
Maldives	6	2	20	9	217
Cape Verde	11	3	18	7	61
Ghana	10	3	16	7	55
Djibouti	–	–	15	6	–
Mali	6	2	12	5	92
Niger	10	3	12	5	16
Benin	4	1	12	5	227

Japan funded 93 percent of all programme food aid, a significant increase over the 53 percent in 2008. The Russian Federation provided 4 percent of global programme food aid and Luxembourg 2 percent (see Figure 22).

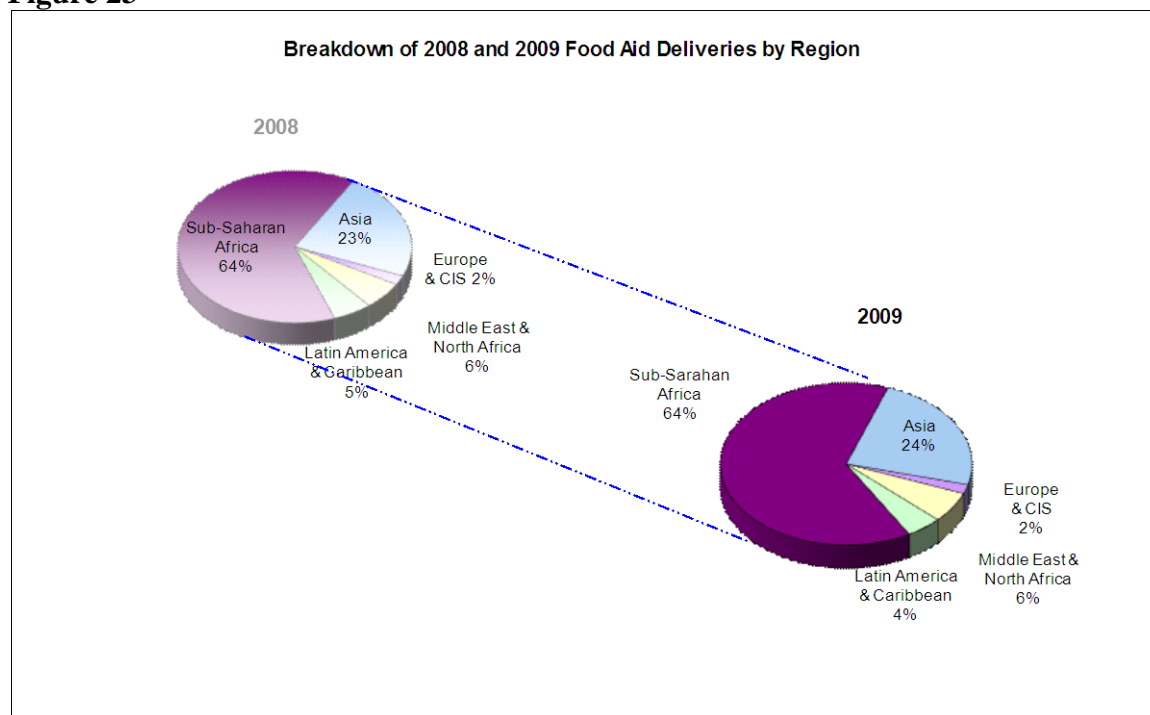
Figure 22



7. REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

There was a decline in the tonnage of food aid in all regions in 2009 (see Table 12). The share of food aid for each region was the same as in 2008.

Figure 23



Sub-Saharan Africa suffered most from the decline in food aid deliveries, receiving 500,000 mt less than in 2008; the other regions also received smaller tonnages. Deliveries to the regions in 2009 were between 54 percent and 95 percent below their 2000 levels.

Table 12 – 2008/2009 Global Food Aid Deliveries: Regional Perspectives

REGION	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Sub-Saharan Africa	4 138	64	3 647	64	-12
Asia	1 482	23	1 358	24	-8
Middle East & North Africa	375	6	349	6	-7
Latin America & the Caribbean	350	5	263	5	-25
Eastern Europe & CIS	128	2	105	2	-18

In 2009, food aid deliveries to Asia and sub-Saharan Africa accounted for 88 percent of the total. This reflects the fact that they are home to the largest share of undernourished people, which was 91 percent in 2004–2006.³ The allocation of food aid to these two

³ FAO. 2009. *The State of Food Insecurity in the World*. Rome.

regions, however, does not reflect the distribution of needs: in 2004–2006, 65 percent of the world's undernourished people lived in Asia, but only 24 percent of food aid deliveries were made in the region in 2009. Conversely, the 2004–2006 share of undernourished people in sub-Saharan Africa was 25 percent, but the region received 64 percent of total food aid deliveries in 2009. Moreover the food security challenge was not only how to increase food aid deliveries to a region but recognizing that communities and governments also have prime responsibility for meeting the hunger-related needs of their population. They have their own tools and policies that are country-specific and are thus the best institutional and operational starting points for complementary hunger-reduction interventions.

WFP's share of global food aid deliveries in 2009 was 67 percent of the total.

7.1 Sub-Saharan Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa has historically received the highest proportion of food aid. In 2009, 3.6 million mt of food aid was delivered to the region, a 12 percent decline compared with 2008 (see Figure 24).

Figure 24

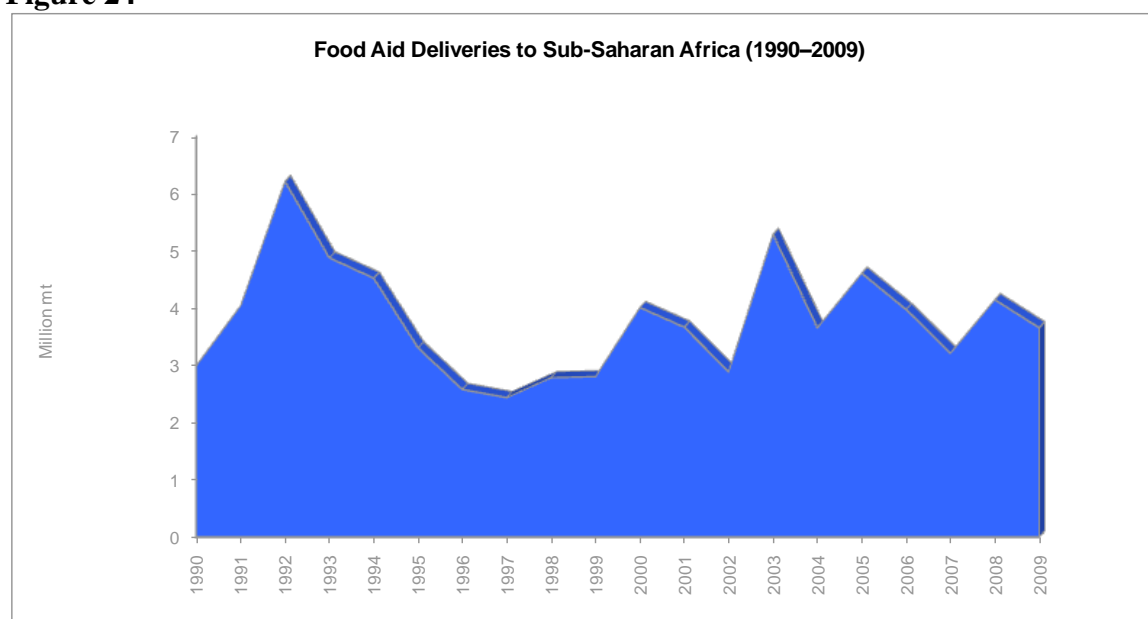


Figure 25 shows that food distributions to sub-Saharan Africa were most often made in response to emergencies. The 18 percent decline in emergency food aid deliveries to the region in 2009 affected the profile of food aid. Other categories of food aid increased (see Table 13).

Figure 25

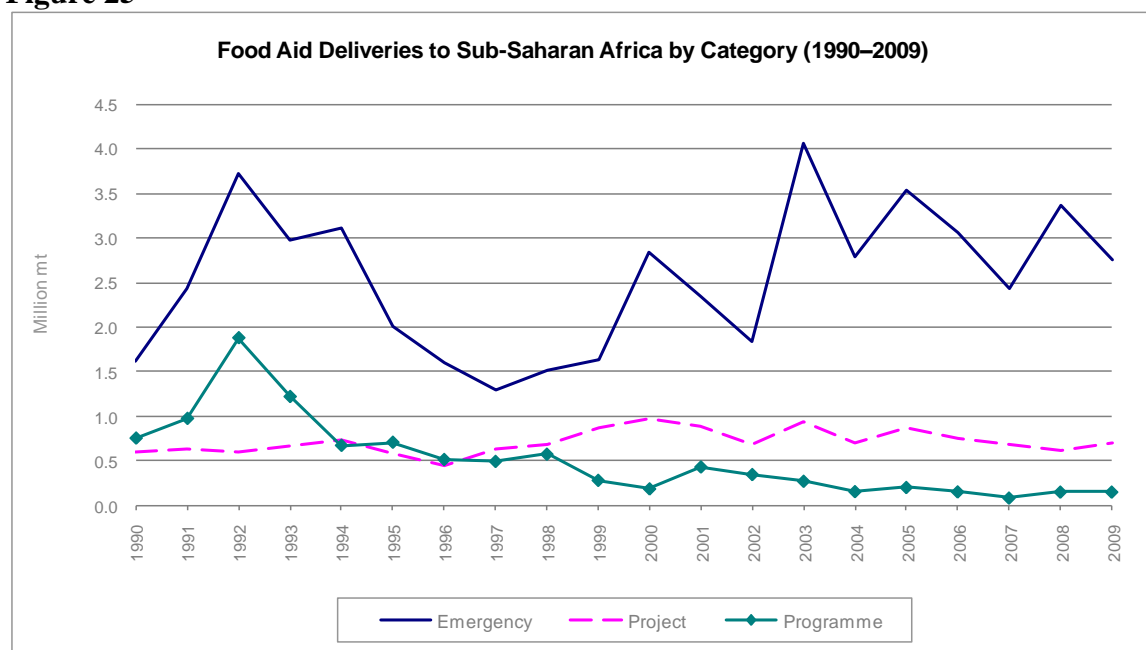


Table 13 – 2008/2009 Food Aid Deliveries to Sub-Saharan Africa

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Emergency	3 358	81	2 750	75	-18
Project	627	15	699	19	11
Programme	153	4	198	5	29
Sold	299	7	353	10	18
Distributed	3 838	93	3 295	90	-14
Multilateral	2 682	65	2 576	71	-4
Bilateral	345	8	203	6	-41
NGOs	1 110	27	868	24	-22
Direct transfer	2 703	65	1 983	54	-27
Triangular purchase	863	21	1 334	37	55
Local purchase	572	14	331	9	-42

The major recipient countries in the region were Ethiopia (1 million mt), the Sudan (504,000 mt), Somalia (330,000 mt) and Zimbabwe (290,000 mt). These countries accounted for 36 percent of global food aid flows and 58 percent of deliveries to the region.

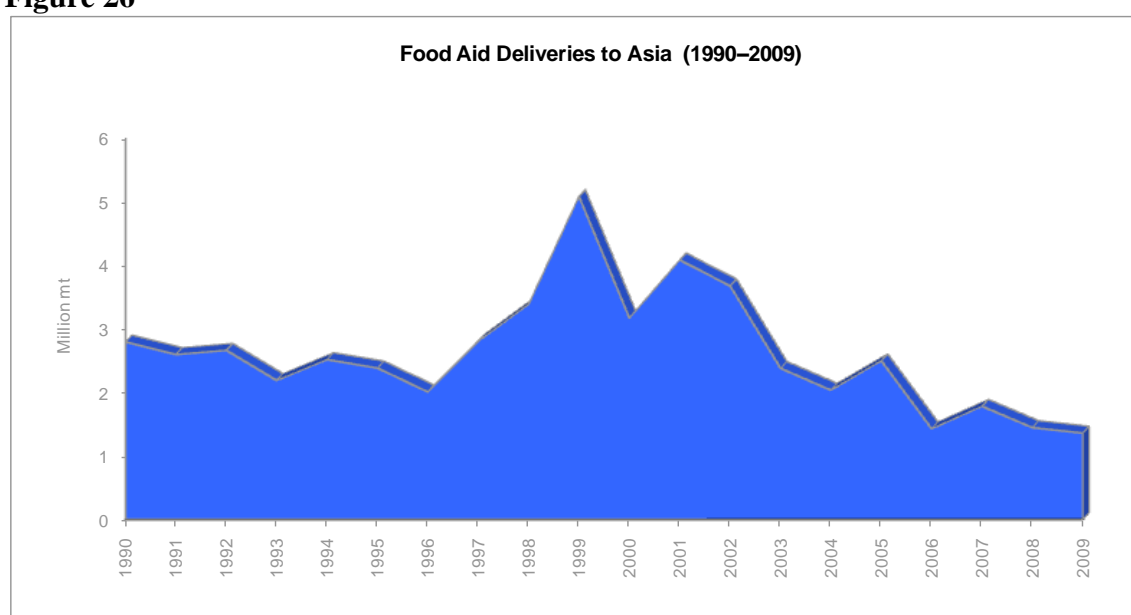
Food aid was mainly provided by the United States of America (58 percent), Japan (8 percent), the EC and Canada (4 percent).

Sub-Saharan Africa is also the region where WFP activity is most concentrated. In 2009, WFP channelled 71 percent of food aid to sub-Saharan Africa, of which 92 percent was emergency food aid. These shares were higher than in 2008.

7.2 Asia

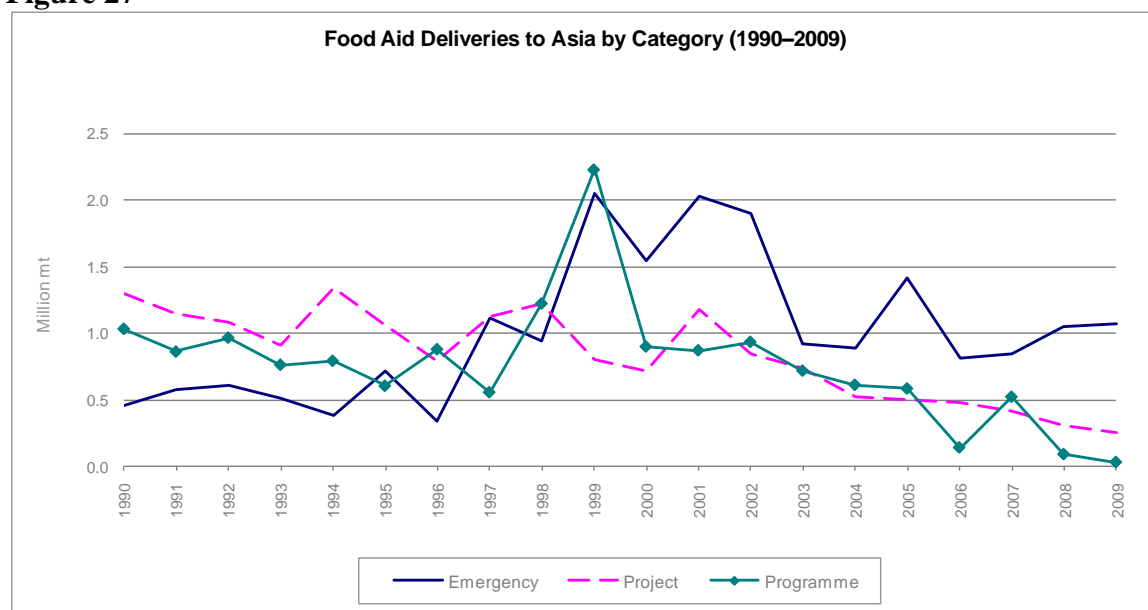
Asia continued to be the second largest recipient of food aid. The decline of 8 percent in deliveries to the region brought the tonnage below the 1.4 million mt delivered in 2008. Food aid to Asia remains below the average for the first half of the 1990s, when deliveries fluctuated between 2 million mt and 3 million mt (see Figure 26).

Figure 26



Emergency food aid accounted for 79 percent of total food aid, which contributed to the 1 percent reduction in programme food aid and the 2 percent reduction in project food aid (see Figure 27).

Figure 27



During 2009, the share of monetized food aid (see Table 14) fell almost to zero. Despite the decline of 4 percent in the quantity of multilateral food aid, its share of global food aid increased by 3 percentage points. The quantity channelled through NGOs increased by 7 percent, accounting for 24 percent of global food aid to Asia. Bilateral food aid declined by 41 percent in 2009 to 11 percent.

Table 14 – 2008/2009 Food Aid Deliveries to Asia

ASIA	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Emergency	1 072	72	1 069	79	0
Project	304	21	259	19	-15
Programme	105	7	30	2	-72
Sold	181	12	65	5	-64
Distributed	1 301	88	1 294	95	-1
Multilateral	922	62	884	65	-4
Bilateral	261	18	154	11	-41
NGOs	299	20	321	24	7
Direct transfer	910	61	615	45	-32
Triangular purchase	311	21	312	23	0
Local purchase	260	18	431	32	66

Afghanistan, DPRK and Pakistan together received 61 percent of food aid deliveries to the region; Pakistan emerged for the first time as one of the three major recipients.

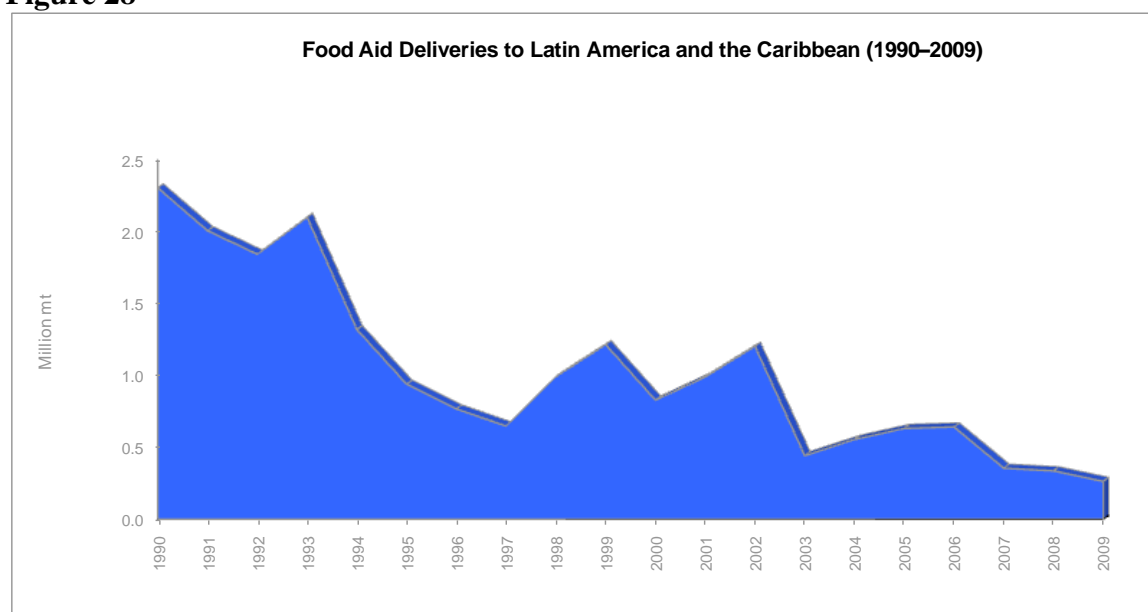
The United States of America contributed 37 percent, the United Nations 12 percent and China 10 percent of total food aid to Asia.

Of WFP food aid, 23 percent was directed to Asia, of which 88 percent was emergency food aid mainly for Afghanistan and Pakistan, and 12 percent was project food aid mainly for Bangladesh and India.

7.3 Latin America and the Caribbean

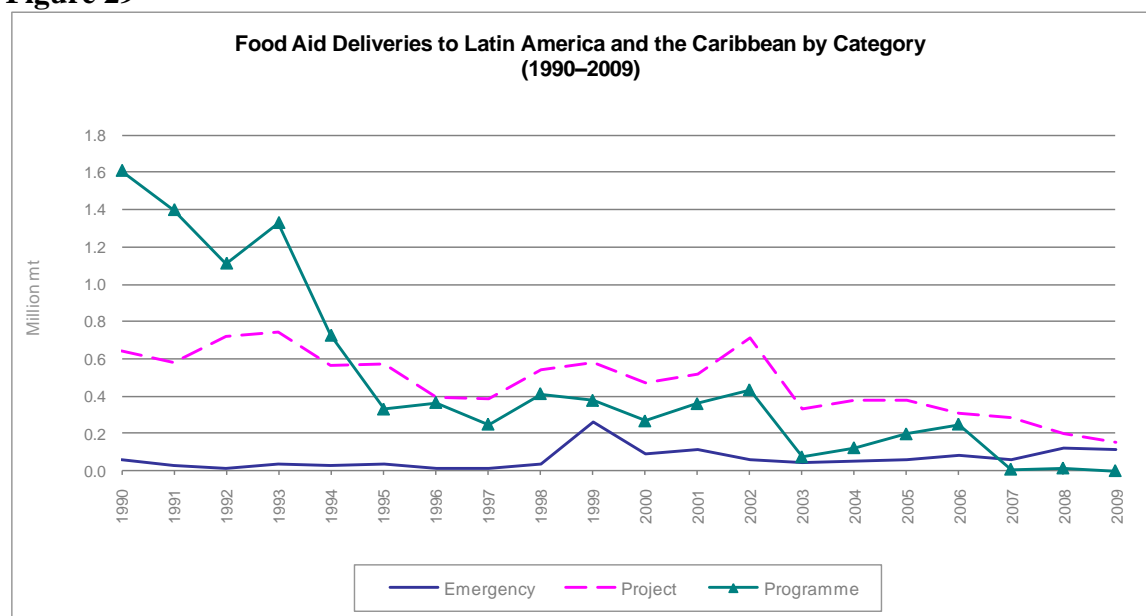
Food aid to Latin America and the Caribbean was affected more than in the other regions by the general decline in food aid in 2009. Compared with 2008, food aid deliveries to the region decreased by 25 percent (see Figure 28).

Figure 28



Unlike other recipient regions, Latin America and the Caribbean primarily received project food aid through NGOs. In 2009, the quantity of project food aid declined by 29 percent from 2008; the quantity of emergency food aid increased slightly, but from a low level; programme food aid disappeared (see Figure 29).

Figure 29



Of the food aid delivered in the region in 2009, 93 percent was distributed directly to beneficiaries; of this, 56 percent was channelled through NGOs. Bilateral food aid disappeared in 2009. The share of direct transfers was the largest compared with the other regions. Local purchases decreased by 22 percentage points in 2009 (see Table 15).

Table 15 – 2008/2009 Food Aid Deliveries to Latin America and the Caribbean

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Emergency	124	35	112	43	-9
Project	212	61	151	57	-29
Programme	14	4	–	–	–
Sold	68	20	18	7	-73
Distributed	282	80	244	93	-13
Multilateral	128	37	117	44	-10
Bilateral	14	4	–	–	–
NGOs	207	59	146	56	-42
Direct transfer	189	54	181	69	-5
Triangular purchase	39	11	48	18	18
Local purchase	121	35	34	13	-259

In 2009 Haiti was the largest recipient in the region (54 percent of total food aid deliveries), followed by Guatemala (21 percent) and Bolivia (8 percent).

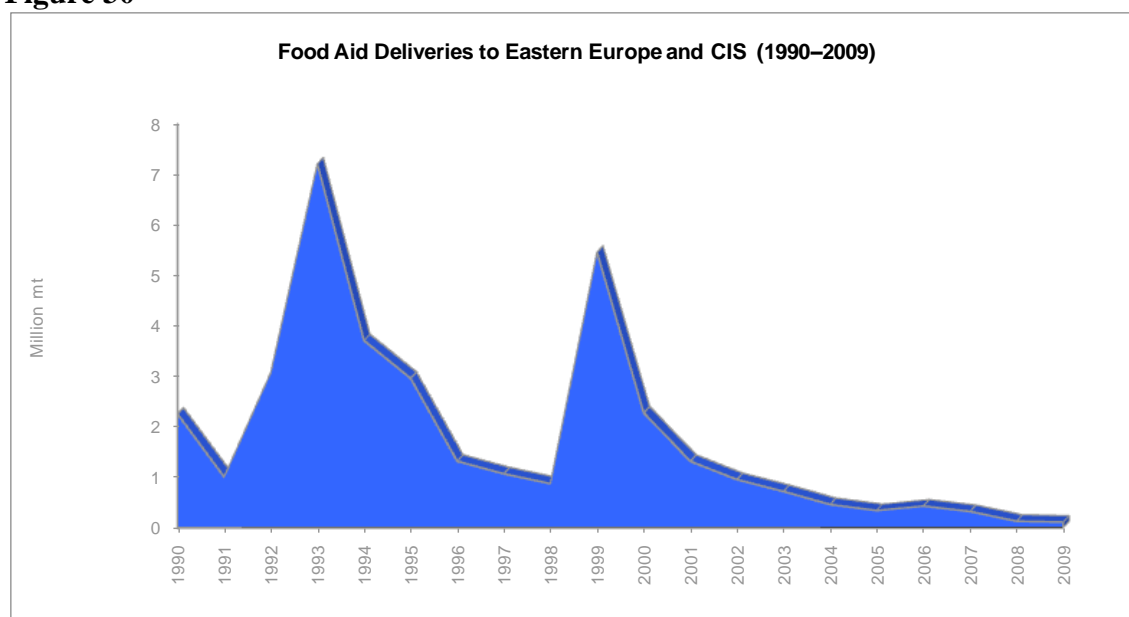
The United States of America contributed 61 percent of food aid in the region, the largest share of United States deliveries among the regions. The involvement of United Nations agencies increased to a 7 percent share, compared with 3 percent in 2008.

WFP channelled 44 percent of the food aid deliveries to Latin America and the Caribbean, 85 percent as emergency food aid for Haiti, Colombia and Guatemala, an increase of 7 percent compared with 2008.

7.4 Eastern Europe and the CIS

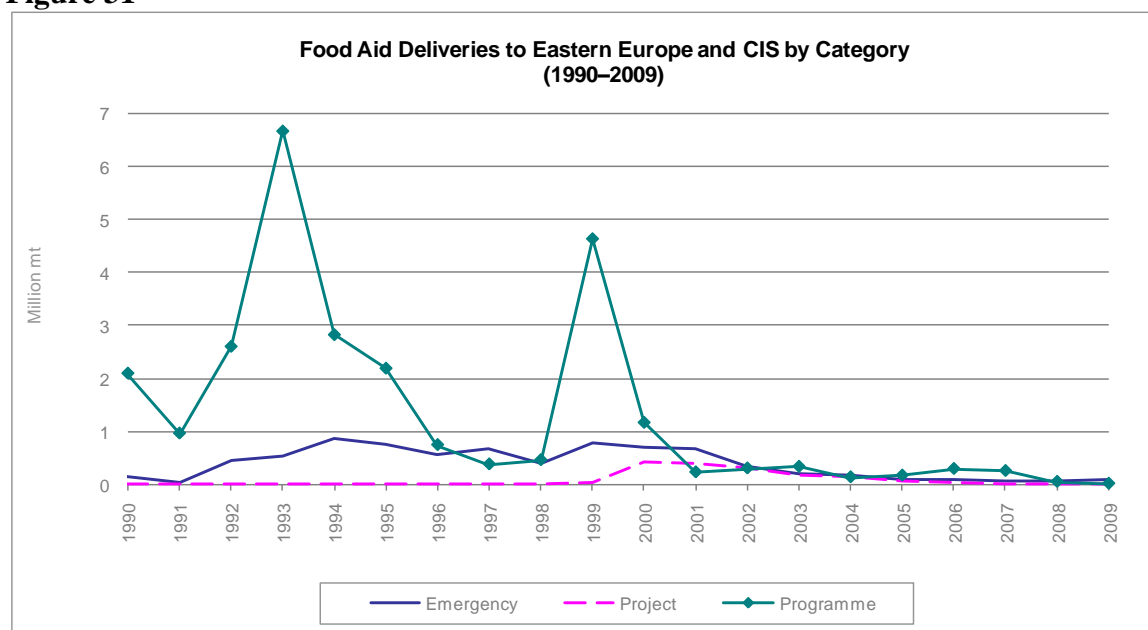
The tonnage of food aid delivered to Eastern Europe and the CIS has gradually decreased over the past three years, reaching a low level in 2009 (see Figure 30). Eight beneficiary countries in the region benefited from 105,000 mt of food aid.

Figure 30



Of global food aid for the region, 81 percent was for emergencies; programme food aid accounted for 10 percent and project food aid 9 percent (see Figure 31).

Figure 31



A larger proportion of food delivered in the region in 2009 was distributed directly to beneficiaries, and 10 percent of donations were monetized. In 2009, multilateral agencies delivered 71 percent of food aid as intermediaries (see Table 16).

Table 16 – 2008/2009 Food Aid Deliveries to Eastern Europe and CIS

EASTERN EUROPE AND CIS	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Emergency	62	49	85	81	36
Project	19	15	10	9	-49
Programme	46	36	10	10	-78
Sold	46	36	10	10	-77
Distributed	82	64	95	90	16
Multilateral	60	47	75	71	25
Bilateral	49	38	11	10	-77
NGOs	19	15	19	18	1
Direct transfer	20	16	40	38	96
Triangular purchase	91	71	50	47	-45
Local purchase	17	13	16	15	-6

The main recipients in the region were Tajikistan (52 percent of total food aid), followed by Georgia and Kyrgyzstan (21 percent).

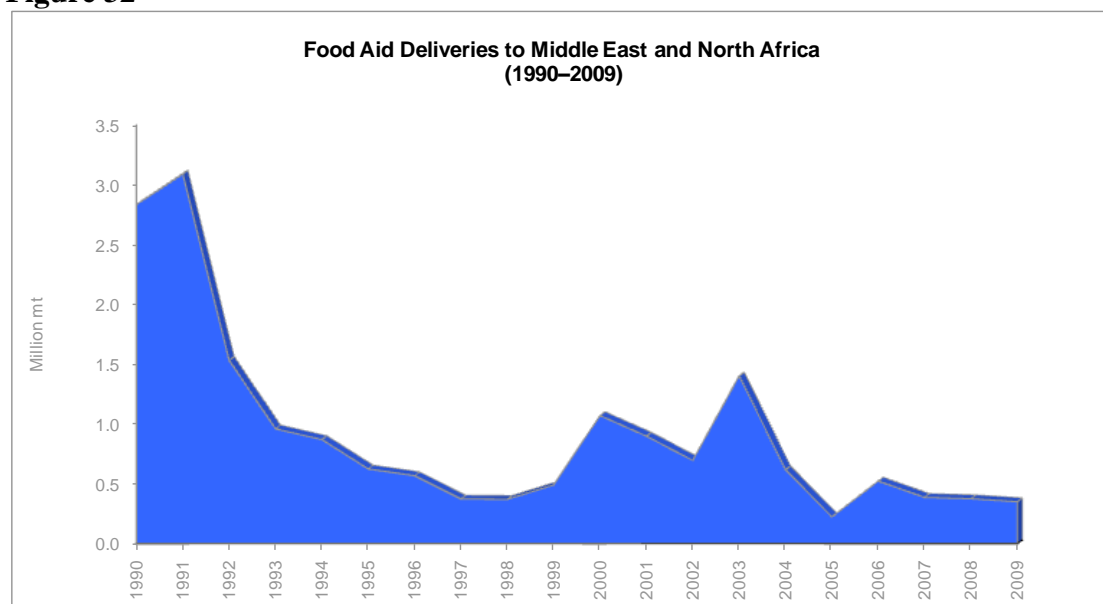
The Russian Federation provided 31 percent of the food aid to the region in 2009. The United States of America provided 28 percent and Japan 11 percent.

Eastern Europe and the CIS is the region to which WFP channelled the second lowest quantity of food, largely for emergencies.

7.5 Middle East and North Africa

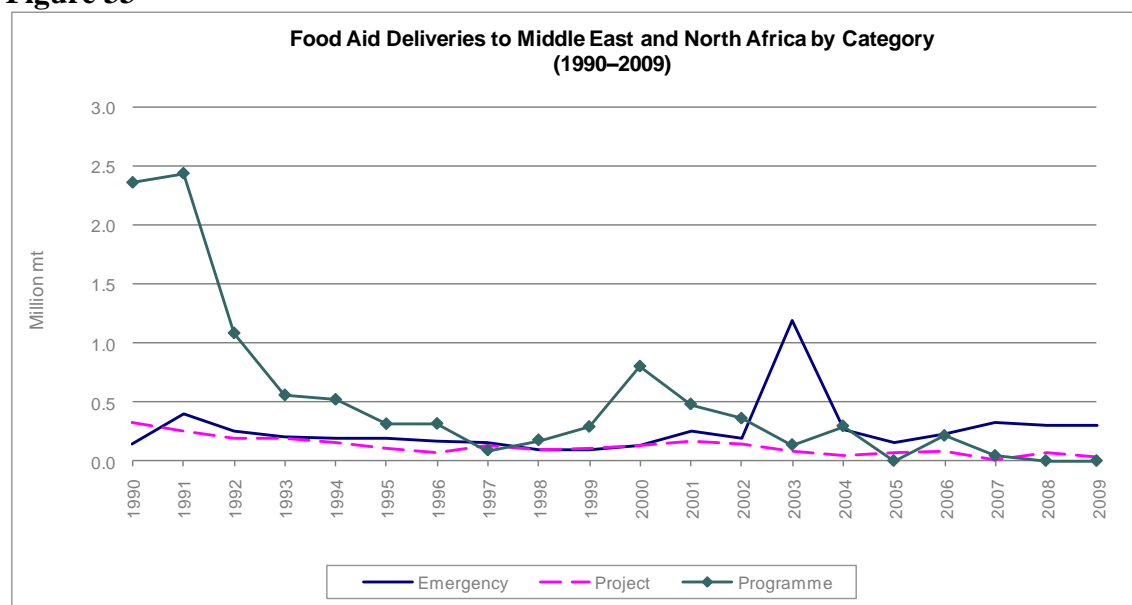
The Middle East and North Africa region received 350,000 mt of food aid in 2009, 6 percent of global food aid deliveries. The 2009 level is well above the historic low of 220,000 mt in 2005 (see Figure 32).

Figure 32



Emergency food aid continued to be the main category, accounting for 81 percent of deliveries to the region. Programme and monetized food aid have disappeared since the sudden drop in 2008 (see Figure 33).

Figure 33



Since 2008, all food aid has been distributed directly to beneficiaries. The dominance of multilateral food aid and local and triangular purchases continued in 2009 (see Table 17).

Table 17 – 2008/2009 Food Aid Deliveries to Middle East and North Africa

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	2008		2009		Change 2009 vs 2008
	Mt (000)	%	Mt (000)	%	%
Emergency	302	81	309	89	3
Project	73	19	40	11	-45
Programme	0	0	–	–	–
Sold	0	0	–	–	–
Distributed	374	100	349	100	-7
Multilateral	346	92	342	98	-1
Bilateral	0	0	2	0	559
NGOs	28	7	6	2	-79
Direct transfer	64	17	28	8	-56
Triangular purchase	176	47	198	57	13
Local purchase	135	36	123	35	-9

The major recipients were the Occupied Palestinian Territory (64 percent), Yemen (13 percent) and the Syrian Arab Republic (8 percent).

The EC, the United Nations, the United States of America and Saudi Arabia provided 76 percent of food aid in the region. The EC increased its share to 29 percent from 22 percent in 2008, and the United Nations increased its share to 19 percent from 11 percent in 2008. The share of the United States fell from 26 percent in 2008 to 17 percent in 2009.

WFP channelled 56 percent of food aid deliveries to the region, of which 92 percent was for emergencies.

7.6 Food aid recipient countries

In 2009, 5.7 million mt of food aid was distributed to 89 recipient countries – one less than in 2008 – of which 41 were in sub-Saharan Africa, 16 in Asia, 13 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 11 in the Middle East and North Africa and 8 in Eastern Europe and the CIS.

The number of recipient countries has steadily declined since the early 1990s, when 120 countries received food assistance. Compared with 1990, fewer recipient countries received smaller quantities of food aid in 2009. An average of 64,000 mt of food aid per recipient country was distributed, 45 percent of the 141,000 mt in 1990, varying from 6 mt in Azerbaijan to 1 million mt in Ethiopia.

During 2009, 55 percent of global food aid was delivered to eight countries: Ethiopia (17 percent), the Sudan (9 percent), Somalia (6 percent), DPRK (5 percent) and Pakistan, Zimbabwe and Afghanistan (5 percent) (see Table 18).

Table 18 – Global Food Aid Profile of Main Recipients in 2009 (percentage)

	Ethiopia	Sudan	Somalia	DPRK	Kenya	Pakistan	Zimbabwe	Afghanistan
FOOD AID CATEGORY								
Emergency	81	99	98	99	88	96	95	88
Project	19	1	2	1	12	4	5	12
Programme	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
FOOD TYPE								
Cereals	92	86	88	98	82	80	82	77
Non-cereals	8	14	12	2	18	20	18	23
SALE								
Distributed	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Sold	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
DONOR								
United States of America	65	82	60	45	55	44	87	63
United Nations	3	6	0	9	23	23	1	–
Canada	14	2	2	2	1	8	5	0
Saudi Arabia	9	0	7	1	1	5	–	1
China	–	–	–	43	–	–	–	–
EC	3	7	4	–	4	8	0	–
NGOs	0	0	20	–	5	1	5	–
Germany	2	1	1	0	1	7	2	11
Japan	3	1	3	–	6	4	–	6
United Kingdom	2	–	1	–	4	–	0	19
TERM								
Grant	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Concessional sales	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
CHANNEL								
Bilateral	–	0	0	39	–	–	–	–
Multilateral	65	98	84	19	94	99	53	84
NGOs	35	2	16	42	6	1	47	16
MODE								
Direct Transfer	54	44	52	82	44	9	78	43
Local purchase	5	2	7	0	11	72	7	2
Triangular transaction	42	55	40	18	45	19	15	55

Source: WFP/INTERFAIS, June 2010

8. THE NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF FOOD AID

Good quality food aid can save billions of dollars that would otherwise be spent on saving lives. The 2007/08 food price crisis and the subsequent economic recessions in 2009 renewed the interest of the humanitarian community in malnutrition, especially in terms of the quality of food aid being delivered. In response, and with support from the EC and the Government of Canada, WFP developed three indicators in 2008 (see Box 1) to measure the nutritional value of food aid and created a web-based tool to provide a nutrition perspective in the implementation and reporting of food aid operations. The indicators can be used in conjunction with the traditional tonnage-based measures.

Box 1

Three indicators to measure the nutritional value of food aid

IRMA = individual requirements met on average

The number of people for whom the requirements for each nutrient could potentially be satisfied with a representative 1 mt of food aid. $IRMA_j$ scales $IRMA_{tj}$ down to 1 mt by dividing $IRMA_{tj}$ by the tonnage selected for the country, allowing easy comparisons across different food aid deliveries by eliminating the quantity component of $IRMA_{tj}$.

IRMA_t = individual requirements met on average, total

The total number of people for whom the requirements for each nutrient are potentially met, based on the tonnage of food aid delivered. $IRMA_{tj}$ shows the number of people whose nutritional requirements for each (j) nutrient could potentially be satisfied by the tonnage delivered to the country.

IRMAs = individual requirements met on average, score

The average of 13 $IRMA_j$ values as a percentage of the IRMA value for energy. No weights are applied, but maximum values are imposed so that outliers do not unduly influence the average. This indicator is restricted to the interval [0–100] and excess quantities are penalized. IRMAs is the only indicator that is a single number.

The core concept underlying these indicators is a comparison between the supply of nutrients and nutritional requirements. IRMA compares the nutritional content of food aid with average nutritional requirements for energy and a number of macronutrients and micronutrients essential for an active and healthy life: fat, protein, iodine, iron, vitamin A, vitamin C, niacin, thiamine, riboflavin, vitamin B6, vitamin B9 (folic acid), vitamin B12 and zinc.⁴

The nutrients delivered are not compared with the actual needs of recipients, but with those of an average individual in a developing country. This is done to make the indicators universally applicable and comparable.⁵ The indicators do not imply

⁴ The nutritional requirements for energy and ten nutrients are from: WHO. *The Management of Nutrition in Major Emergencies*. IFRC/UNHCR/WFP/WHO. Geneva 2000, available at <http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2000/924154508.pdf>. The nutritional requirements for protein and zinc are from: The Sphere Project. 2004. *Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response*, available at <http://www.act-inl.org/media/documents/8032-SphereHandbookfull.pdf>. Nutritional requirements for vitamin B6 were computed as a weighted average by using the size of each age-sex group as weights, in terms of measuring other requirements for energy, macro and micronutrients.

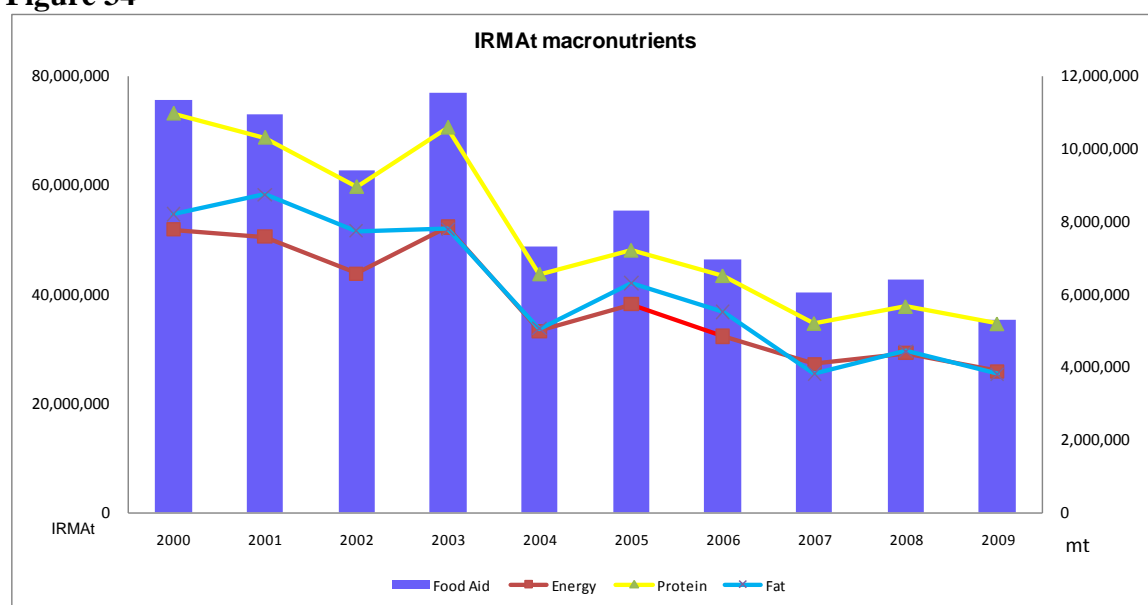
⁵ The actual needs of individual beneficiaries could be different, for example because of age, sex, disease, activity levels and sources of food other than food aid. The nutritional requirements are based on averages, using the size of various age/sex groups as weights.

judgement on all aspects of the quality of the food aid, which relates to a much broader set of issues;⁶ they focus on a single aspect of quality – the nutritional content of food aid.

8.1 Food Aid Flows and IRMA_t

Of the three indicators, IRMA_t is the most appropriate for measuring total food aid flows. There is a correlation between IRMA_t values and food aid quantities in mt. IRMA_t represents the number of people whose minimum nutrient requirements are satisfied. On the basis of the humanitarian threshold of 2,100 kcal/day, food aid deliveries in 2009 could potentially meet the energy needs of 26 million individuals, 9 percent less than in 2008. The IRMA_t for protein shows a similar trend; the IRMA for protein shows a higher value. Food aid flows in 2009 were potentially able to meet the protein requirements of 34.6 million people.

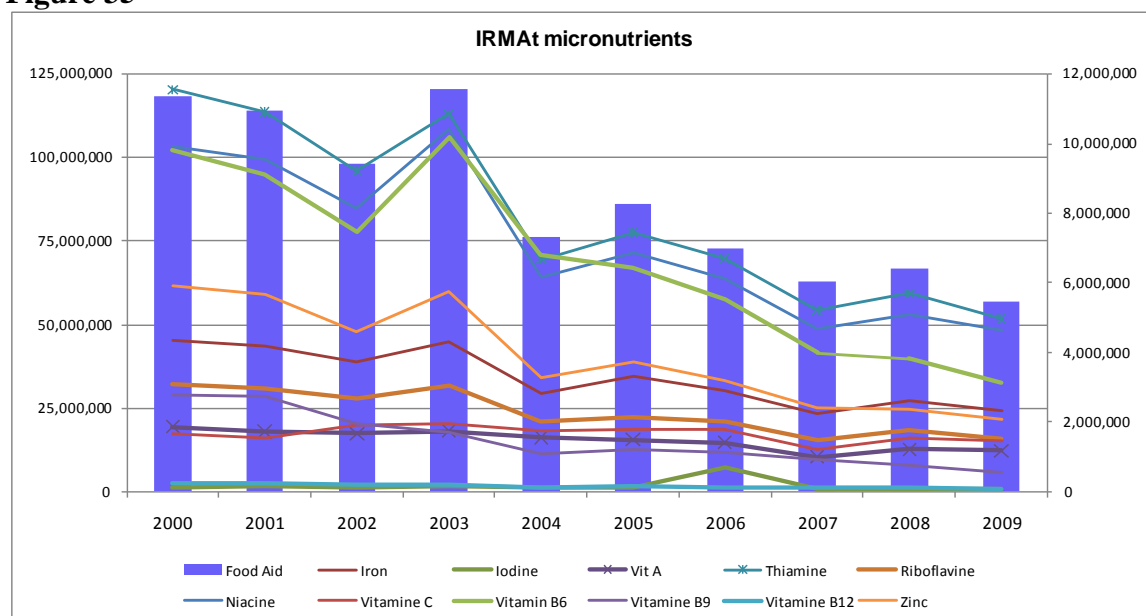
Figure 34



Analysis of the IRMA_t for micronutrients shows that the food aid deliveries are not balanced, because the IRMA_t values for micronutrients are significantly different from those for energy and macronutrients. For example, global food aid flows in 2009 were potentially able to meet the thiamine requirements of 52 million people, twice as many as for energy.

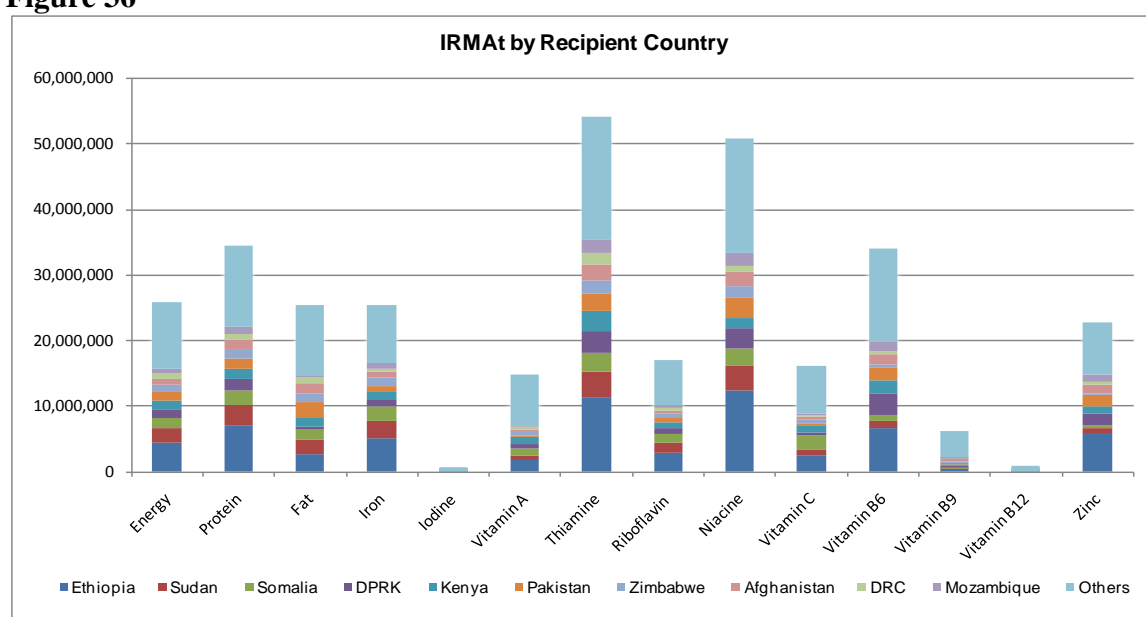
⁶ Including targeting, timing, safety, shelf-life, local preferences/acceptability and usability in terms of preparation requirements.

Figure 35



In 2009, ten major recipient countries received 61 percent of global food aid deliveries in tonnage terms. These recipients accounted for equal value of IRMAAt percentages, with the exceptions of fat at 58 percent, iodine at 44 percent, vitamin C at 55 percent, vitamin B9 at 35 percent and vitamin B12 at 43 percent.

Figure 36



Ten major donors accounted for 94 percent of global food aid with equal percentages of IRMAAt values.

Maize, rice, sorghum and wheat and its derivatives account for 79 percent of global food aid deliveries in tonnage terms, with low nutritional value for fat and vitamin A and no value for iodine and vitamin C. These foods account for 70 percent of energy and other nutrients (see Figure 37).

Other foods can fill micronutrient gaps: for example, corn-soya blend provides 50 percent of total vitamin A and 83 percent of total vitamin C, but accounts for only 6 percent of food aid deliveries in tonnage terms and 5 percent in energy terms.

Figure 37

