

# World Food Programme

## The Three-Pronged Approach (3PA)

### What is the Three-Pronged Approach?

**An innovative programming approach, 3PA** was developed by WFP in consultation with governments and partners. The aim is to strengthen the design, planning and implementation of programmes in **resilience building, safety nets, disaster-risk reduction, and preparedness.**

The 3PA is comprised of three processes at three levels:

- **Integrated Context Analysis (ICA) at the national level.** A collaborative tool used to identify the most appropriate programmatic strategies in specific geographical areas between the government and its partners, based on areas of convergence of historical trends of food security, natural shocks, and land degradation (as an aggravating factor that heightens the risk and impact of shocks).
- **Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP) at the sub-national level.** A consultative process that brings together communities, government and partners to design multi-year, multi-sectorial operational plans using seasonal and gender lenses.
- **Community-Based Participatory Planning (CBPP) at the local level.** A “from the bottom up” tool that ensures communities have a strong voice and will lead in setting priorities. It is used to develop multi-sectorial plans tailored to local priorities, ensuring prioritisation and ownership by communities.

The ICA helps to identify programmatic strategies and entry points for partners at the national level. It also guides setting of priorities with an eye to the sub-national level and complementary and multi-sectorial programmes with governments and partners. Then, SLP sets the foundations for targeted joint efforts with communities and partners to plan and implement programmes through the CBPP.

Overall, the 3PA tools have been carried out in **30 countries** since 2013.

### What is the added value of the 3PA?

- **Deeper understanding of the local context and livelihoods.** This enables better decision-making and more robust programme design.
- **Gender awareness.** A voice is provided to women so they can contribute to their own empowerment and help to tailor programmes to the needs of girls and women.
- **Stronger multi-stakeholder partnerships.** Linking humanitarian action with longer-term response, the 3PA builds the foundation for multi-sectorial and complementary programmes, forging operational partnerships.
- **Connecting levels.** 3PA helps to bridge gaps between the community and national levels —essential to support actions from the bottom-up.
- **Enhance the capacities of government institutions.** 3PA tools support country-led efforts, government ownership, and institutional capacity development.

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### Story from the field: 3PA in Zimbabwe

Over the past five years, WFP Zimbabwe has been shifting towards an integrated resilience-building agenda through use of the Three-Pronged Approach (3PA).

At the national level, the Integrated Context Analysis (ICA) was led by the Government through the Food and Nutrition Council of Zimbabwe in collaboration with WFP, which focused interventions in areas of chronic food insecurity based on analyses that identified areas most affected by food insecurity, natural shocks and land degradation. The Government and other actors also identified areas for programme investment.

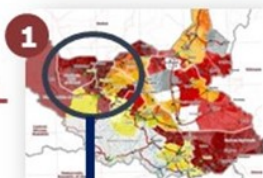
The Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP) processes were jointly conducted in 10 districts and led by the Ministry of Local Government working with WFP and other Government ministries and departments. The SLP helped to organize interventions based on all of the partners' comparative advantages, while sequencing programmes in ways in which they could best complement each other to strengthen resilience.

The SLP products were used as an annex to the district development plans and thus have been useful for new partners interested in working in the area.

At the community, or *ward*, level the Ministry of Local Government also took the lead in Community-based Participatory Planning (CBPP) processes. Government department staff at these levels were the main facilitators of the process after being trained by WFP. Between 2013 and 2014, CBPP was applied in 134 *wards* in 10 districts. Cooperating partners were also trained in the process and they carried out CBPPs in 99 *wards*. The CBPP became a helpful tool for communities to produce their own action plans, thus improving local ownership, participation, utilization and management of assets.

### WFP's operational approach to Resilience for food security and nutrition

**1. INTEGRATED CONTEXT ANALYSIS (ICA): NATIONAL LEVEL**  
Identifies priority geographical areas



**2. SEASONAL LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMMING (SLP): SUB-NATIONAL LEVEL**  
Identifies programmes and partners



**3. COMMUNITY-BASED PARTICIPATORY PLANNING (CBPP): LOCAL LEVEL**  
Inter-sectorial implementation plan and community ownership



Building resilience through complementary programmes

