INTRODUCTION

‘Standby’ Partners are government, NGO, and private sector entities that complement United Nations emergency response by deploying additional capacity to emergencies. These organizations have developed agreements with WFP to rapidly second experts and assets to augment and/or provide specific expertise critical to WFP programmes, when insufficient capacity and expertise are available internally. Experts and assets can deploy to WFP operations in less than 24 hours when necessary.

Initially focused on logistics and operational surge capacity, standby partners have evolved and tailored their rosters to meet the changing humanitarian environment and needs, and provide value to beneficiaries of WFP programmes with a wide variety of expertise ranging from needs assessments, food security, nutrition, cash based transfers, security, gender based violence, telecommunications or protection, and other specialized profiles.

Because of the diversity of areas and complexity of environments in which WFP is called upon to make interventions, The Augmented Logistics Intervention Team for Emergencies, under which the standby partner mechanism is held within WFP Supply Chain Division, is frequently asked to develop the means to support WFP’s core operational mandate through collaborative partnerships. WFP is working relentlessly with partners to streamline the approach and procedures to enable rapid, efficient deployments of experts and assets to support in-country WFP operations. Such collaboration is only possible through the trust and mutual understanding WFP has built with partners. Trainings, which are constantly under collaborative development with ALITE and partner organizations, are critical to ensure humanitarians deploying to support WFP have the essential skills and are able to hit the ground running and immediately add value.

WFP recognizes the value and is proud of its longstanding collaboration with standby partners, and will continue to collaborate and innovate throughout 2019 and beyond.

Total number of deployments in 2018: 136

Total number of supported countries in 2018: 42

Total number of activated partners in 2018: 12

For a total in-kind value of (including deployments, Service Packages and trainings): US$12.6M

Standby partners deployed were women: 1/4

A shipping expert in a landlocked country
Madeleine’s deployment to Ethiopia

Being a Senior Shipping Officer in Ethiopia was an unusual role for Madeleine after over ten years of experience in the humanitarian sector as a logistician and ship captain, and 30 years at sea. This landlocked country, with limited corridors for import and export of goods, lacks proper logistics management systems, good infrastructure and skills in the logistics sector. To provide solutions to the bottlenecks of the Djibouti-Ethiopia corridor resulting from the congestion of the Port of Djibouti, Madeleine worked closely with the Ethiopian government and particularly the Ethiopian Maritime Affairs Authority (EMAA) to facilitate the implementation of the National Logistics Strategy and identify alternatives corridors.

“One of my biggest achievements was the creation of a Port Operations training package which I designed and delivered for participants from the Ethiopian private logistics sector and from EMAA. Some of the participants had never seen the sea before. In the near future, participants will be able to replicate this training package. To me, capacity strengthening is not only working hand-in-hand with national entities, but above all, transmitting the necessary tools to the citizens of the country and enabling them to do their work effectively.”

Madeleine’s expertise also helped facilitate private sector relations with EMAA and other stakeholders to enhance supply chain efficiency in Ethiopia.
The community based actors were not meeting on a regular basis nor coordinated their efforts for M&E related matters. Indeed, the coordination of all actors from the civil society, to partners and NGOs was essential to reinforce their capacities that created a cohesion among the community-based actors.

"Without the blanket feeding programme, WFP wouldn't have been able to provide life-saving nutritious food to so many beneficiaries, in the end we even reached more people than we planned."
### Service Packages

**3 Service Packages**, consisting of staff and equipment were deployed in 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bangladesh</strong></td>
<td>Interagency hub &amp; office facilities</td>
<td>US$626 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Democratic Republic of Congo</strong></td>
<td>Service module for office facilities</td>
<td>US$543 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sahel</strong></td>
<td>Shock response-deployment of IT specialist teams;</td>
<td>US$389 K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF**

US$1.6 M

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**Kananga Base Camp**

Providing services and workspace to the UN community

When responding to an emergency, at its very onset or later, a major challenge faced by humanitarian agencies is to find, establish and expand a base from which to operate. In 2018, as part of a standby partner agreement, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) supported WFP’s continuing response to the complex L3 emergency in Kasai by expanding WFP’s existing office space such for it to serve as an interagency hub. The extended facilities were planned to be very valuable in scaling up the response to the emergency. The service package consisted of 7 standby personnel deployed to construct 10 prefabricated structures (prefabs), amounting to 32 additional offices. 3 prefabs amounting to a meeting space for 30-40 people with connections of new structures to the power grid and 6 new toilet facilities.

MSB’s service packages resulted one of WFP’s biggest of the year for the challenging L3 emergency. Thanks to this interagency in-kind support, several UN agencies were able to respond efficiently and effectively to the emergency. This contributed in maintaining and improving the overall quality of the response.

The humanitarian community received not only high-quality equipment but also expertise to implement the inter-agency office compound extension project, which will be at their disposal in DRC on a long-term basis. To enable a scale up of the humanitarian response, this support was provided in the framework of the International Humanitarian Partnership.
Top five countries supported ($)

**DENMARK**

**Top five countries supported ($)**

- Democratic Republic of Congo: US$ 934 K
- South Sudan: US$ 904 K
- Bangladesh: US$ 691 K
- Burkina Faso: US$ 552 K
- Myanmar: US$ 483 K

**Denmark Fund**


The Agreement includes a yearly cash donation of four million DKK from the Government of Denmark in support of WFP Operations through deployments of experts under the umbrella of WFP Stand-by Partnership programme.

Under the Strategic Partnership Agreement WFP has been engaging with the Danish Refugee Council to recruit and deploy high-level experts from the DRC Roster.

In 2017, based on the operational needs of WFP Country Offices (COs) and Regional Bureaus (RBs), WFP began utilizing the fund to provide support in specific areas through the deployment of high level expertise. The use of the fund has been further enhanced and utilized for specialised strategic deployments in 2018.

**BULK OIL EXPERT**

Oil consignment pilot for Uganda/South Sudan

With the emergence of high quality edible oil refineries in Africa, WFP has opportunity to purchase vegetable oils closer to our areas of need. The bulk oil project emerged from this development, providing local options to the import of packaged product. DRC’s support through David’s deployment was critical to help WFP scope and implement a more efficient and reliable means of sourcing vegetable oil for their beneficiary requirements.

The bulk model improves several aspects of the supply chain process, significantly lowering the lead time, increasing the oil’s shelf life and ultimately reducing WFP’s environmental footprint by reducing supply chain costs & transit damages. David faced some challenges related to the varying specifications of each country concerning the size of individual rations; but thanks to his experience in bulk oil, suitable options were identified which also impacted positively on the regulations in East Africa.
After the closure of Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya, WFP had to scale up the response to the displacement of refugees across the border with Somalia. At the same time, WFP had to address the severe food and nutrition crisis resulting from the drought in the north of the country, at the break of famine.

The Swiss agency for development and cooperation’s (SDC) innovative twinning deployment has been essential in augmenting the capacities of the Somalia country office and rolling out the SCOPE platform. The latter corresponds to WFP’s electronic transfer management system: a flexible and powerful cloud-based digital solution that helps manage the identities of the beneficiaries. Andreas and Fabian supported the roll out of SCOPE in the area offices to mainstream both in-kind food and CBT by 2018, thus facilitating the registration process. ‘Within a year, we completely reversed the trend of WFP’s assistance to Somali refugees.”

Training
2018 OPEX BRAVO/Logistics Response Team (LRT) training

With the contribution of the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (Bundesanstalt Technisches Hilfswerk (THW)) at the national training centre in Neuhausen (near Stuttgart Airport), Germany, the objective of the training is to provide an understanding of the logistics cluster role and mandate within the humanitarian architecture and emergency response context through hands-on knowledge and standardised learning, to prepare participants to be part of an emergency logistics response and Logistics Cluster Operation. Participants are expected to work in teams to deploy the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) technical solutions. The Logistics Response Team (LRT) training aims to develop/strengthen the emergency response management knowledge and capacities of senior logistics managers.

In addition to the existing and dedicated objectives of the LRT and OpEx Bravo trainings, the joint LRT – OpEx Bravo exercise simulation aims to exercise and train all participants on activation, procedures and set-up of the WFP-led Clusters and their operational interaction in the field. The main aim of this joint venture is to mainstream and familiarize participants with the implementation of the services of both Clusters to improve efficiency and cooperation in the field and in emergencies, strengthen the cooperation between both Clusters through joint approaches in inter-Cluster coordination and access to funding mechanisms.
Fuel Relief Fund is the world’s only charitable organization focused exclusively on addressing fuel supply challenges in major disasters. By providing free fuel to affected communities and the aid agencies that support them, they empower disaster survivors to meet basic food, shelter, and medical needs and enable life-saving humanitarian activities.

In 2018 Fuel relief fund became a WFP Standby Partner and has provided support to the Yemen country office, addressing the fuel crisis alert raised by the UN community and providing WFP with the capability to fill its gaps in fuel transporting, monitoring to assure a stable fuel supply.

More & diverse partners joining the cause

WFP longstanding Standby Partnership

Fuel Relief Fund