Contributions to WFP have increased in recent years, and we expect 2019 to again reach a record level of US$7.4bn – but still 30 percent short of our targets. Rising needs aligned to the high cost of assisting people amidst drawn-out conflicts mean we need financial support more than ever.

12 things you may not know about WFP

1. WFP is the world’s largest humanitarian agency, assisting 86.7 million people in 83 countries.

2. Each day we have up to 5,600 trucks, 20 ships and 92 planes on the move, delivering food and other assistance in some of the most remote and challenging parts of the world.

3. WFP is the frontline agency responding to emergencies caused by conflict, climate shocks, pandemics and other disasters. We are tackling ongoing emergencies in 15 countries or regions, the majority fuelled by conflict.

4. We provide school meals to 16.4 million children, improving both their nutrition and their access to a potentially life-changing education. Since 1990 we have built the capacity of national governments, with 44 taking over school meal programmes.

5. Contributions to WFP have increased in recent years, and we expect 2019 to again reach a record level of US$7.4bn – but still 30 percent short of our targets. Rising needs aligned to the high cost of assisting people amidst drawn-out conflicts mean we need financial support more than ever.

6. WFP connects smallholder farmers to markets in 40 countries. In 2018 we bought US$31 million worth of food from smallholders, who produce most of the world’s food.

7. 122,500 hectares of land was developed and 4,000 hectares of forests were planted in 2018 under WFP’s Food Assistance for Assets initiative, which improves people’s long-term food security and resilience to climate change.

8. WFP delivered 3.9 million metric tonnes of food in 2018, covering a distance equivalent to 2.9 times around the earth.

9. At least three quarters of the food we buy comes from developing countries, saving time and money on transport costs and helping sustain and grow local economies.

10. WFP is the largest cash provider in the humanitarian community, with a third of our assistance provided this way in 62 countries in 2018. Cash increases consumer choice and strengthens local markets.

11. WFP uses Forecast-based Financing in 10 countries to provide cash to vulnerable families, allowing them to buy food, reinforce their homes and take other steps to build resilience ahead of climate disasters like droughts, storms or floods.

12. 52 percent of those receiving food assistance from WFP are women and girls, while 1.3 million women take part in WFP’s Food Assistance for Assets and Food for Training projects, which increase people’s skills and resilience.

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