WFP’s Socio-economic Response and Recovery Programme Framework

WFP’s Socio-economic Response and Recovery Programme Framework (SERRF, formerly the MTPF) lays out WFP’s contribution to inclusive and resilient recovery. It provides a flexible framework for WFP to support affected communities, national governments and partners ‘build back better.’ The SERRF operates through three pillars of intervention that are central to an effective, efficient and equitable response and where WFP has demonstrated value as a partner to governments and other stakeholders:

- **National Social Protection Systems**
- **Basic Service Delivery**
- **Food Systems**
- **Data and Analytics**
- **Programme and Policy Advice**
- **Operational Support**

Cutting across these pillars are three areas through which WFP and its partners provide tailored support to national responses – data and analytics, programme and policy advice, and operational support.

Since the launch of the COVID-19 Global Response Plan in June, the pace and level of contributions have not kept up with growing needs. Whilst most of WFP’s budget revisions focus on WFP’s emergency response efforts, a significant proportion also include a link to one or more SERRF pillars. This demonstrates how WFP’s programmes can meet emergency needs while simultaneously laying the foundation for longer-term response and recovery programming to build back better. This is done through strengthening access to national social protection, basic services, and efficient and greener food systems.1

Leveraging its extensive operational footprint, deep strategic and operational partnerships, and its expertise in food and nutrition assistance, WFP is uniquely positioned to support governments and other local partners to counter the socio-economic impacts of the COVID pandemic and build back better. Addressing the drivers of hunger and undernutrition is essential for a durable recovery that makes our societies and economies more equal, inclusive, and resilient.

68 Budget revisions submitted in 2020 full or partially related to COVID-19

December 2020
Based on WFP’s long-standing experience in social protection programming, Governments of more than fifty countries have called upon WFP for support as they introduce new, strengthen, and/or adapt their existing social protection measures in response to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.

Of these, WFP has supported governments in 34 countries with their cash-based social assistance responses to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. WFP’s support ranges from providing technical advice and guidance to national actors in line with our expertise or delivering elements of a social protection system or programme on their behalf. Efforts are made to maximize the complementarity of WFP’s own COVID-19 emergency response interventions with national social protection, including by sharing knowledge, innovation and lessons learned.

**Guatemala**
Provision of direct local food procurement services for the Government’s social protection programmes.

**Sudan**
Technical support to the establishment of the Sudan Family Support Programme, under which the government will deliver monthly cash transfers to approximately 80 percent of Sudanese families.

**India**
Technical advice on the adaptation of the Public Distribution System.

**Cambodia**
Support to the expansion of the poverty identification system (IDPoor) to register newly poor households for social assistance, including the COVID-19 cash transfer programme.

**Philippines**
Support to the Ministry of Social Services and Development in its distribution of financial assistance to households impacted by COVID-19 through the Social Amelioration Programme, using WFP’s beneficiary information and transfer management platform.

**Peru**
Technical assistance to the Ministry of Social Development for the reopening of community kitchens and the design of a new food voucher assistance scheme.

**Malawi**
Support to Government in the design and delivery of an emergency cash-response to COVID-19.

**Indonesia**
Support the Government ensure that no one is left behind by the pandemic and that the social protection system is more responsive to future shocks, in partnership with UNICEF, UNDP and UN Women.

**Pacific**
WFP is conducting mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping to monitor food security, livelihoods and market functionalities to inform national social protection programmes.
School-Based Programmes

To date, WFP assisted **71 countries** to support schoolchildren during school closures and to resume education and school meals safely. Globally, WFP has joined a coalition of partners through the [#SaveOurFuture](https://www.wfp.org/saveourfuture) campaign to protect investments in education and support governments plan for safe school re-opening, making sure vital health and nutrition services, including school meals, are in place and create incentives for parents to send children, especially girls, back to school.

Key Highlights

- **7 million schoolchildren** reached by WFP during school closures with take-home rations or cash-based transfers.
- **44 countries** received operational support together with technical assistance for school feeding programmes.
- **WFP and UNICEF** have engaged in more than **40 countries** to ensure that the health and wellbeing of schoolchildren is prioritized during the response and recovery of COVID-19.

To date, **on-site feeding resumed in 29 countries**, in consultation with the governments and local authorities.
**Nutrition**

The COVID-19 pandemic threatens to exacerbate malnutrition rates, overloading the already strained food and health systems in countries of concern. To respond to this crisis, in the short-term, WFP is pre-positioning nutritious food products and essential commodities and identifying nutrition entry points into the social protection and food systems. In the longer-term, WFP is laying the foundations for nutritionally resilient communities and using evidence and analysis to gain a deeper understanding of the barriers to nutritious diets and how to make them more accessible and affordable. In addition, WFP in collaboration with UNICEF and other stakeholders developed guidance on nutrition programming adaptation from prevention to detection and treatment to allow continuity of services and prevent transmission of COVID-19, where the health system was overwhelmed.

**FOOD SYSTEMS**

The economic consequences of the crisis are having a direct impact on people’s ability to access food. Working on both food demand and supply sides, WFP is supporting governments and partners to identify and address food system risks and disruptions, while working to analyse the long-term effects of the COVID-19 crisis.

**Key Highlights**

- **10% increase** in the cost of a basic food basket.
- **Reduction of incomes** in 20 countries: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan and Thailand.
- Local procurement increased to 553,000 mt for a value of US$ 271M; 17% more than in 2019.
- In Guatemala WFP facilitated the procurement of food commodities to support the government in reaching over 1 million of affected households.
- In Kenya and Zambia WFP, in partnership with CGIAR (Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research) is enhancing governments’ food systems by analysing the impact of COVID-19 on food production, supply, and market systems – and providing policy and programme recommendations.

For further information about the SERRF, please contact:
Jesse Wood - jesse.wood@wfp.org; Samir Wanmali - samir.wanmali@wfp.org

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1 WFP Global Response to COVID-19: September 2020, [https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000119380/download/](https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000119380/download/)

2 The mother-led MUAC screening is an adaptation to COVID-19, also designed to increase WFP’s coverage and consequently admissions to the nutrition programme especially in the last mile locations.

3 The assistance consists of a monthly unconditional cash top-up of EGP 200 to selected households using the Egyptian Post Office under the umbrella of the Takaful and Karama national safety net.