

ASSISTING 42 MILLION PEOPLE ON THE EDGE OF FAMINE
WFP Supply Chain Operations Division

November 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

\$6 BILLION ASK

We have encountered a perfect humanitarian storm, so we are making an unprecedented one-time ask to prevent famine for 42 million people.

Let me explain. Last year, because of conflict, COVID and climate change, the number of people marching toward starvation doubled from 135 million to 270 million. Of those, we reached 115 million with life-saving food and were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Fortunately, last year our government donors stepped-up in an extraordinary way and we averted famine. We assumed COVID would soon be behind us. But it has recycled — with a vengeance. And now, of the 270 million hungry people, we now have our critical group of 42 million teetering on famine's edge. Just to reach them alone will cost \$6.6 billion. Governments are tapped out. Failure to obtain these funds will result in catastrophic consequences. The alternative is take food from one child to feed a starving child, thus creating another starving child. Do not force us to make that choice.

To reach those 42 million starving people, we will use our existing WFP systems already working in those 43 countries and around the world and scale them up where needed.

This \$6.6 billion will help the very neediest of the needy in this way: 1 meal a day, which only costs us 43 cents on average to provide, for 42 million people, for one year as covid recedes.

We have all the data and plans to present a country-by-country breakdown, in hard numbers for all 43 countries, even as the situation on the ground is in flux. Below is a snapshot of just a few countries.

We are ready to meet face-to-face. We are ready to fly your teams around the world to see our systems in action. We will show you everything.

WE WILL SUBMIT A DETAILED EXTENSIVE PLAN TO YOU IN THE DAYS TO FOLLOW.

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Global hunger continues to rise at an alarming rate: our latest estimates show that **282.7 million people** across 80 countries are experiencing extreme levels of acute hunger. This represents an increase of around 110 percent compared to 2019 (when 135 million people in 58 countries were classified as acutely food insecure), explained by widespread **conflicts**, growing **climate crises** and the economic fallout of **COVID-19**, disrupting the lives and livelihoods of millions around the world.

This plan focuses on assisting around **42 million people** (in 43 out of the total 85 countries where WFP operates) who currently fall under **Integrated Food Security Phase Classification 4** (IPC 4, emergency) **and 5** (catastrophe)¹, thus being at real risk of famine or famine-like conditions unless life-saving assistance is

¹ Source: Global Report on Food Crises (joint report by the Global Network against Food Crises), update 25 October 2021.

urgently provided. This is illustrated in table 1 below².

Table 1
NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN IPC PHASE 4-5 BY WFP "REGION"

WFP "region"	Phase 4	Phase 5	TOTAL
South East & Central Asia	6,491,000	-	6,491,000
Middle East & Northern Africa	6,331,000	47,000	6,378,000
West & Central Africa	2,850,000	-	2,850,000
Southern Africa	9,435,000	28,000	9,463,000
Eastern Africa	11,206,000	509,000	11,715,000
Latin America & Caribbean	5,131,000	-	5,131,000
TOTAL	41,444,000	584,000	42,028,000

As a result of the above, urgent funding for a comprehensive **package of live-saving assistance** to these populations is required, in the form of in-kind distribution and/or the provision of cash and vouchers. **USD 6.6 billion** are needed to provide such assistance, out of which **USD 4.2 billion** would be allocated for food distribution and **USD 2.4 billion** for cash-based transfers. The table in the annex show the planned allocation for **top 10 recipient countries** by transfer modality (food vs. cash-based transfers); the full list can be provided upon request.

Annex

PLANNED ALLOCATION TO 43 RECIPIENT COUNTRIES³

Table A.1
PLANNED ALLOCATION TO TOP 10 RECIPIENT COUNTRIES: SUMMARY

Recipient Country	IPC phase 4+	Planned allocation (USD million)		
		Food	Cash & Vouchers	TOTAL
Top 10	33,186,000	3,160.2	1,116.7	4,276.9
DR Congo	6,729,000	117.6	113.9	231.6
Afghanistan	5,500,000	381.3	88.1	469.5
Yemen	5,105,000	792.9	439.9	1,232.8
Ethiopia	4,733,000	559.8	43.7	603.5
Sudan	2,697,000	300.3	152.8	453.1
South Sudan	2,521,000	519.0	118.2	637.2
Venezuela	2,300,000	65.3	0.0	65.3
Haiti	1,338,000	14.9	17.3	32.2
Syria	1,273,000	383.9	125.7	509.6
Pakistan	991,000	25.1	17.0	42.0

² Numbers are subject to change as they evolve daily.

³ The analysis reflects costs that vary based on specific circumstances applicable to the distribution country (complexity of the logistics networks, financial infrastructure, availability, and cost of commodities in local markets and fluctuations of local currency...)

33 other countries	8,842,000	1,066.1	1,253.3	2,319.4
TOTAL	42,028,000	4,226.3	2,370.0	6,596.3