


# GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS 2022



Update on the Global Food Crisis fuelled by conflict, climate shocks, COVID and spiralling costs of food, fuel and fertilizer

	People facing <b>acute food insecurity</b> in 82 countries	<b>345M</b>
	People facing <b>Emergency (Phase 4* or above)</b> in 45 countries	<b>50M</b>
	People facing <b>Catastrophe (Phase 5*)</b>	<b>970K</b>
	People WFP is aiming to support	<b>153M</b>
	<b>Total Funding Needs</b>	<b>US\$24BN</b>

\* Integrated Phase Classification/Cadre Harmonisé classifies acute food insecurity into 5 Phases by severity. The Emergency estimate also includes severely food insecure populations based on WFP's CARI methodology.



## Critical crossroads

A global food crisis fuelled by conflict, climate shocks and COVID-19 is growing because of rising costs of food, fuel and fertilizer driven by the war in Ukraine. Millions of people are struggling to put food on the table and are being driven closer to starvation in this storm of staggering proportions.

The World Food Programme (WFP) stresses that this can only be addressed by the coordinated mobilization of resources in partnership with governments to implement comprehensive responses to meet humanitarian needs, ensure global trade is open, tackle political issues and invest in strategic development solutions.

We are all at a critical crossroads: either we rise to the challenge of meeting immediate needs, or we face the consequences of even bigger problems down the line. Without resources to fight growing hunger, the world will pay an even higher price in terms of supporting the displaced, rebuilding communities and recovering from what's been lost as the results of decades of support for development are reversed.

We are witnessing unprecedented growth in global humanitarian needs with data showing that the world is in the midst of a global food crisis – the largest in recent history. In just two years, the

number of people facing acute food insecurity or at high risk increased by more than 200 million from 135 million in 53 countries pre-pandemic to 345 million in 82 countries today.

## Humanitarian Response Strategy

In response, WFP is prioritizing emergency action to prevent millions from dying of hunger and to help build and stabilize national food systems and related supply chains. In the first quarter of 2022, WFP reached 83 million people, and transferred a total of US\$997 million in cash-based assistance between January and May.

In response, WFP is activating a global corporate emergency, scaling up its direct food and nutrition assistance to prevent famine and death. Due to the unprecedented overlap of crises, WFP's annual operational requirements are at an all-time high of US\$24 billion, with confirmed contributions so far at US\$9.47 billion.

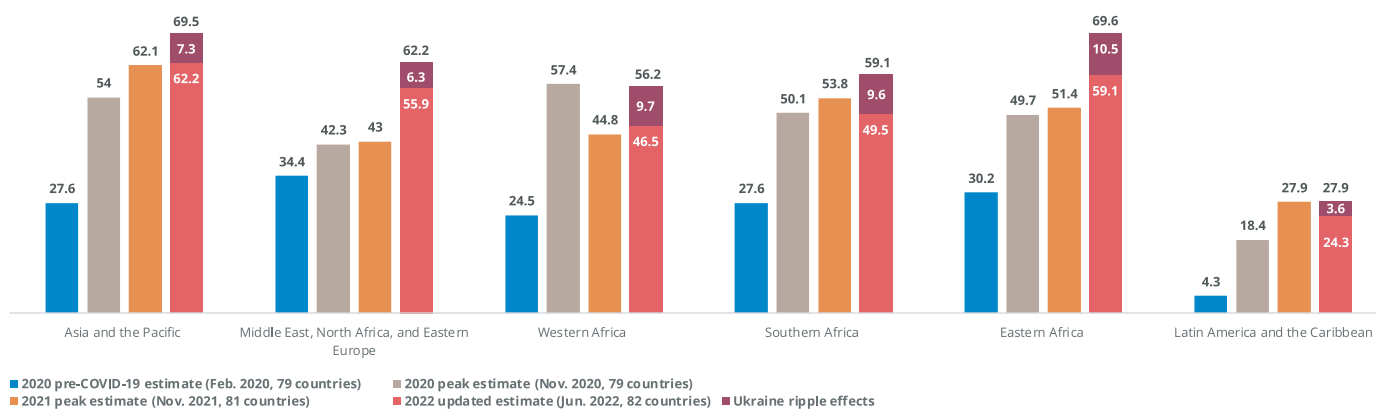
WFP is implementing measures to reduce suffering, diversifying its supplier base, promoting local food procurement and advocating for and negotiating humanitarian access and export waivers. WFP is also reshaping operations to optimize resources, shifting their focus to sustain assistance, reducing food rations to prioritize those who are in most need and stretching out support where feasible.

WFP has a plan for 2022 – the most ambitious in its history – but needs renewed and larger commitments to help deliver millions from disaster. WFP faces a triple jeopardy: operational costs are going up, the numbers of the acutely hungry are rising to unprecedented levels and at the same time donors are being squeezed by multiple demands.

The gap between WFP’s funding needs and available resources already exceeds 69 percent between June and November 2022. Without additional resources, WFP will be forced to continue drastic prioritization in many of our countries of operations, including in humanitarian crises.

## Ukraine ripple effects drive record food insecurity

Number of people acutely food insecure or at high risk (millions)



## Priority needs and operational focus

Faced by this unprecedented global food crisis, WFP is stepping up its operations to prevent starvation and starvation-linked deaths globally. WFP aims to support a record 153 million food-insecure people in 2022, a significant increase from the already record-high 128 million people reached in 2021. In the first quarter of 2022, WFP reached 83 million people, or 55 percent of its annual target.

- The current situation leaves WFP in the position of serving the greatest number of people in its 60-plus year history. WFP’s priority now must be to save as many lives as possible by providing food or cash and nutrition support in emergencies across the world.
- But in this year of catastrophic hunger and unprecedented needs, WFP’s work saving lives in emergencies needs to grow together with an increased focus on changing lives through building resilience so that more people on the brink of hunger are not pushed over the edge.

- WFP and its partners have a strong record of both saving and changing lives. The already massive needs for support in 2022 mean that levels of humanitarian and development assistance must be stepped up by both traditional and new donors.
- This global crisis will only be solved by concerted work at scale, in partnership with governments and food systems experts. WFP calls for coordinated action to address emergency, humanitarian needs, build an all-inclusive multi-stakeholder approach, ensure trade is open, invest in strategic development solutions and commit to political solutions.
- School feeding must be sustained to keep children in school and protect them from the risk of child labour and exploitation. Malnutrition prevention and treatment must continue to end inter-generational hunger and prevent malnutrition rates from deteriorating even more. Political commitment is essential to address climate change and conflict and

instability, which are the major root causes of food crises worldwide.

- Increasing climate variability and shocks – including droughts and floods – only add to the devastating economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is causing massive income losses, record inflation, tumbling currencies and a growing global debt burden. Meanwhile, conflicts in Ukraine and elsewhere are making demanding situations even more severe with dramatic ripple effects on food security and energy markets.



## Regional Contexts

- In **Asia and the Pacific**, WFP faces a US\$1.2 billion shortfall in Afghanistan through the end of the year and will be forced to choose whether to feed people in acute food insecurity now, or preposition food for the winter when they will be cut off from aid. In Myanmar, funding for urban operations is expected to run out in July, while cash-based operations in crisis-affected areas will face interruptions in August, leaving internally displaced and other vulnerable people without food assistance.
- In Eastern Africa, the **Horn of Africa** is struggling with its worst drought in 40 years. WFP is having to prioritize who receives

assistance and who goes hungry. In South Sudan, resourcing shortfalls have forced WFP to suspend assistance to 1.7 million people. Even people living in areas where households face Catastrophe (Phase 5) only receive 70 percent of a full ration.

- In **Latin America and the Caribbean**, weather forecasts confirm an earlier, more active and intense hurricane season for 2022. Areas in the northern Caribbean and eastern Central America are at particular risk and critical funding is required for WFP to support emergency preparedness and response. WFP's net funding requirements for the region are 65 percent for the next six months.
- In the **Middle East, North Africa and Eastern Europe**, WFP faces significant funding shortfalls in Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Syria and Yemen. In Yemen, WFP's assistance to 6 million people will be reduced to 55 percent of caloric needs between July and December if no additional funding is received. In Jordan, WFP has had to prioritize assistance to only targeting refugees in camps and extremely vulnerable refugees in communities as of June.
- In **Southern Africa**, resourcing remains insufficient to meet even the very basic needs of vulnerable households, so WFP has reduced food rations for refugee operations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania, and reduced programme implementation in some countries including Zimbabwe.
- In **Western Africa** as the Sahel enters the lean season, WFP has had to reduce the number of people who receive assistance, cut rations and prioritize. Even before the conflict in Ukraine, WFP had to cut rations by up to 50 percent in Nigeria, the Central African Republic, Chad, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, Mauritania and Niger due to funding shortfalls. Now, WFP is being forced to take from the hungry to feed the starving.

### World Food Programme

Via Cesare Giulio Viola 68/70,  
00148 Rome, Italy - T +39 06 65131

[wfp.org](http://wfp.org)

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