

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

## A YEAR IN REVIEW

## FOR WFP OPERATIONS ACROSS THE MIDDLE EAST, NORTHERN AFRICA, AND EASTERN EUROPE

AUGUST 2023



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## Foreword

A big thanks to all the humanitarian workers who provide life-saving food assistance to the millions of people affected by crises in the Middle East, Northern Africa and Eastern Europe (MENAEE) region. They work at the frontlines, putting their lives at risk to reach those who need our support.

2022 was marked by the war in Ukraine and its impact on the heavily import dependent MENA region. Conflict, displacement, refugees and massive food price inflation resulted in increased hunger across the region. Overall, by the end of 2022, WFP supported 37 million of the most vulnerable across 15 countries in the region - 32 percent more than reached in 2021 and established two new WFP country offices in Ukraine and Moldova.

I was part of the WFP team that responded to the devastating war in Ukraine, and I witnessed thousands of mothers leaving their homes behind, suitcases in hand, children clinging to them, in desperate search for the familiar. Amidst the sadness, one thing was evident – they all shared the common hope that this is temporary. WFP returned to Ukraine and scaledup rapidly to reach 10 million people in 2022.

Our operations are set to respond to humanitarian needs close to the frontlines, and to restore & augment local capacity so that we can leave Ukraine and Moldova again when the time is right.

This region, where the reality for millions of people continues to grow dire, as a result of conflict, political crises, and a steep economic decline, is further impacted by the Ukraine crisis. Unfortunately, with food and transport prices at a 10-year high, the dollar buys significantly less and as a result WFP had to reduce support in most of our operations at a time when hunger remains at an all-time high. When needs increase and resources shrink, WFP must prioritize the most vulnerable people, and also strive to reduce the humanitarian needs. That's why in addition to our large-scale emergency operations, we prioritize programmes that support governments to put in place more effective social protection systems, and increase largescale community-based resilience projects. With limited investment and with our partners we can help people take care of themselves, graduate out of assistance and ultimately reduce the humanitarian needs. When we reduce the needs at scale, we lessen the burden on donors and taxpayers, to whom we are incredibly grateful for their continued and generous support.

I invite you to read this review which highlights WFP's achievements in 2022 and plans for the region in 2023 and beyond. Corinne Fleischer Regional Director for the Middle East, Northern Africa, and Eastern Europe

## Overview

In 2022, across a region with a population of 514 million, more than 52 million people were food insecure, a 50 percent increase since 2020 (Pre-COVID-19). Vulnerable communities in the import-dependent Middle East, North Africa and East Europe countries were among the worst affected and the situation deteriorated due to the Ukraine crisis.

Between January 2020 to December 2022, the average cost of the food basket soared, most notably in Lebanon (1,750 percent), Syria (920 percent), Yemen (140 percent), and Türkiye (108 percent). As a result, the cost of living rose drastically, eroding households' purchasing power, at a time incomes were falling due to the lack of decent employment opportunities.

In 2022, WFP scaled up its response in MENAEE region reaching 32 percent more beneficiaries compared to 2021. Its operations covered life-saving and life-changing programme in 15 countries.

WFP's approach in the MENAEE region is through its five strategic priorities.

#### WFP MENAEE 5 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

RESPOND TO, SHIFT, REDUCE NEEDS

\*

**DELIVER IN EMERGENCIES** 

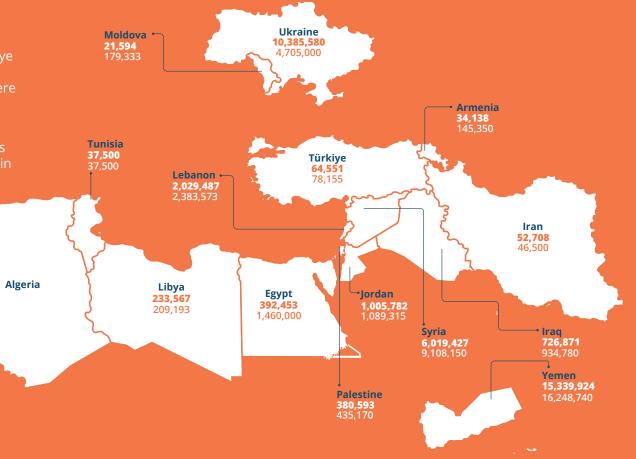
- PEFECTIVE NATIONAL SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS
  - SELF-RELIANCE FOR REFUGEES
- (i) YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

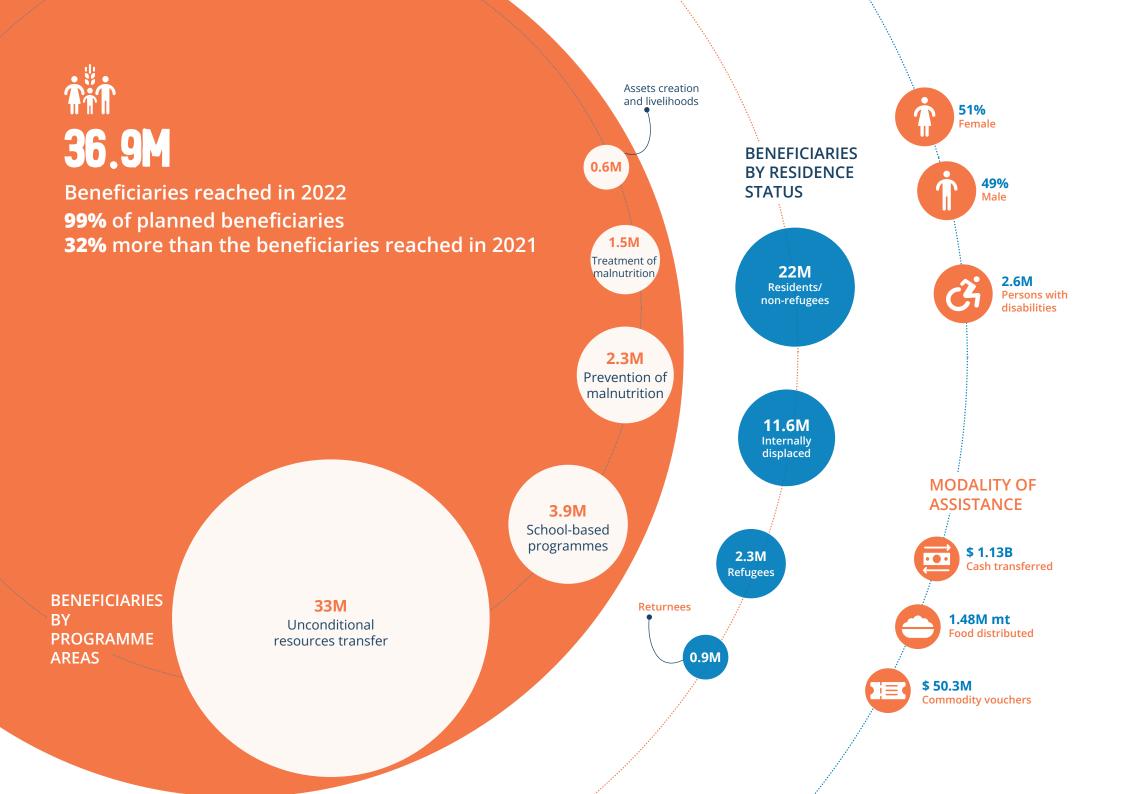


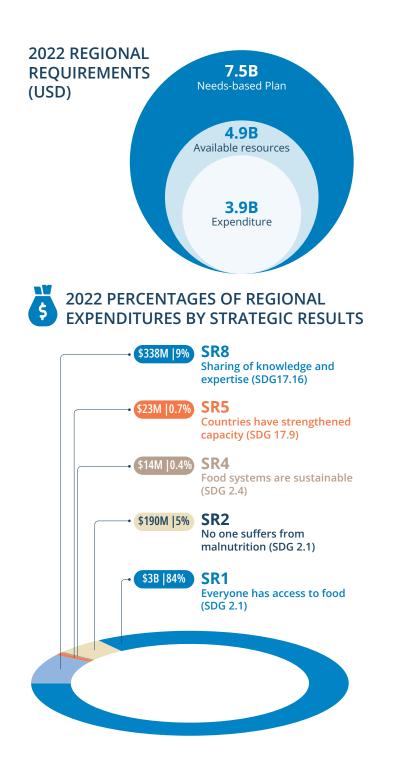
CLIMATE CHANGE AND WATER SCARCITY

#### **2022 REGIONAL OPERATIONS OVERVIEW**

**Reached Beneficiaries in 2022 - 37M** Planned Beneficiaries 2022 - 37M

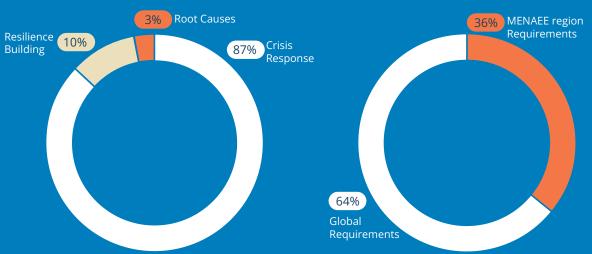




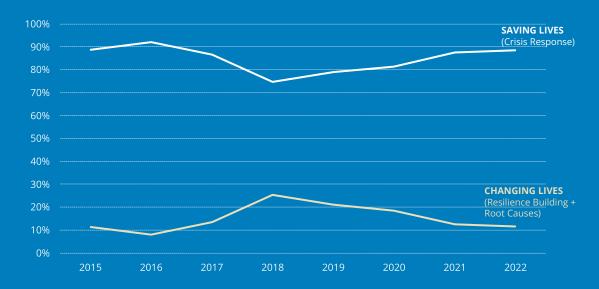


#### 2022 REGIONAL OVERALL REQUIREMENTS BY FOCUS AREA





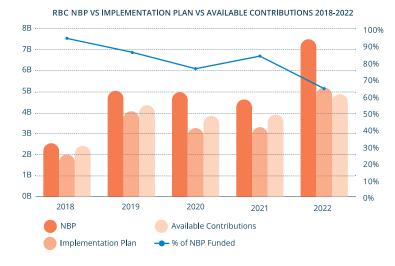
REGIONAL EFFORTS TOWARDS SAVING LIVES AND CHANGING LIVES, (2015-2022 BY % OF BENEFICIARIES REACHED)



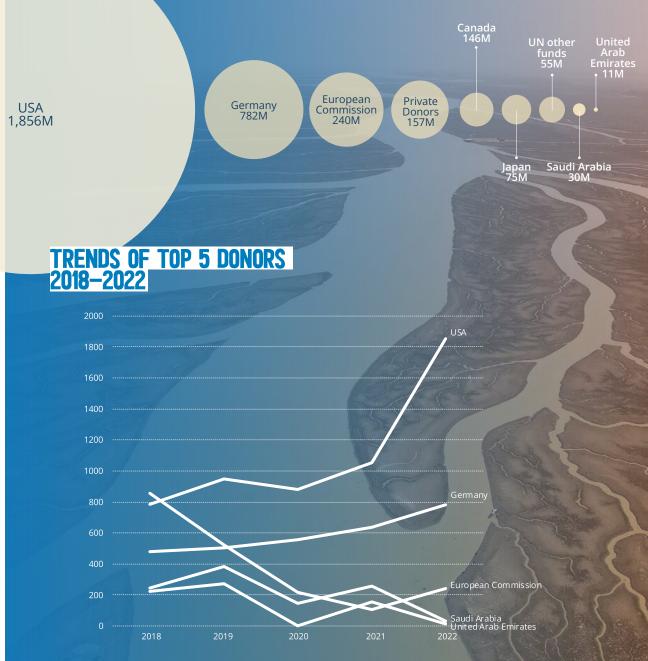
#### PARTNERSHIPS & RESOURCING

## Resourcing in 2022

In 2022, the MENAEE region received a record high contribution against its needs-based plan thanks to generous contributions from its donor partners. However, compared to 2021, needs across the region had increased by 61 percent due to the addition of two new countries -**Ukraine** and **Moldova**. From the total received in 2022 (USD 3.7 billion) 27 percent (USD 1.2 billion) was directed to **Ukraine** operations. However, without considering contributions for the **Ukraine** emergency operation, a drop in the level of funding compared to 2021 was seen. In addition, funding from donors that would have likely gone to other countries in the region was re-allocated to respond to the emergency in **Ukraine**. Apart from **Ukraine**, other COs also received funding to respond to the impact of the Ukraine crisis which has not been excluded from the USD 2.7 billion that does not include **Ukraine**.



#### TOP 10 DONORS IN 2022



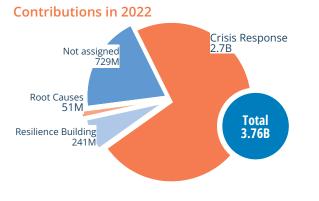
#### **MULTI-YEAR FUNDING**

As more country offices in the region transition out of crisis response to resilience building, multiyear contributions can be particularly valuable to support long-term planning and sustainability of interventions. However, in line with the global trends, in 2022, most funds received by RBC were single-year contributions (87 percent) against a relatively small amount of multi-year contributions (13 percent).

#### **FLEXIBLE FUNDING**

Flexible funds provide WFP with greatest flexibility and predictability to kick start operations and enhance our response to the most in need.

In 2022, only three percent of resources allocated to MENAEE was flexible funding. In line with the global trends, the majority of contributions to the region were earmarked at activity level (66 percent), 17 percent were earmarked at country level and 14 percent at Strategic Outcomes level. In line with the trends in the past five years, in 2022, the majority of contributions to the region were allocated to crisis response.



WFP utilized internal financing mechanisms wherever possible, based on the type and flexibility of contributions. The Immediate Response Account (IRA) played a major part in coping with funding restraints and sudden emergencies in 2022.

#### **DIVERSITY OF FUNDING**

Diversity in funding sources is yet to be seen in the region as most operations in the country offices continued to heavily rely on few donors to cover over 25-49 percent of the total needs in the past five years. The 2022 top 10 donors provided an average of 81 percent of the overall funding, with other donors only providing an average of 19 percent, in the past five years.

WFP is working to expand partnerships with International Financial Institutions and Private Donors to increase diversity in funding.

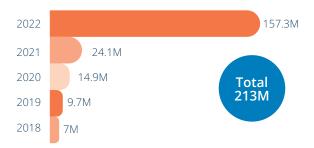
#### • International Financial Institutions (IFI)

While dialogues were ongoing in various countries with IFIs to strengthen partnerships some key results were seen through partnerships with IFI in 2022. In **Lebanon**, WFP signed a service agreement worth USD 241.5 million to implement social protection activities on behalf of the World Bank. In **Ukraine**, WFP signed an agreement with the Ministry of Health for USD 1.5 million to transport and store medical equipment with financing from the World Bank. In **Egypt** USD 0.3 million were received by WFP for refurbishment activities at the Luxor cooperation centre in Egypt on behalf of the African Export-Import Bank.

#### Private Sector Overview

Over the past five years, contributions from the private sector to operations in the region have seen an increasing trend. Between 2018 to 2022 contributions increased from USD 7 million to over USD 150 million. In 2022, the top three recipient countries were **Ukraine** (USD 127 million), **Yemen** (USD 22 million) and **Moldova** (USD 3.5 million). Other COs in the region that received private sector funding in 2022 were: **Syria, Lebanon**, **Palestine, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Armenia** and **Iran**. Corporate contributions represented 65 percent, foundations and charity represented 19 percent and individual giving 16 percent.

## Private Sector – Contributions to RBC Over Past 5 Years





## Partnerships

#### **PARTNERSHIP OVERVIEW**

Strengthening and expanding on partnerships continued to be a key priority WFP in the MENAEE region. In 2022, WFP had established partnerships at all stages of its operations with both existing and new partners- including Governments (host and donors), private donors, research institutions, and international financial institutions

#### TAKING IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL WITH HOST **GOVERNMENTS**

A key achievement in 2022 was the increased engagement with government entities and local actors to deliver WFP's food assistance, whether food or cash, to beneficiaries. This was built on the existing strategic partnerships in some countries like Armenia, Egypt, Jordan and Syria. In addition, beyond the traditional cooperation WFP worked with Governments as cooperating partners doing direct implementations in Ukraine, where WFP signed Memorandums Of Understanding with local provinces for general food assistance and worked closely with oblasts to implement school feeding activity.

#### **PRIVATE RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS:**

WFP made efforts to expand partnership with research institutions to test innovative ways of working and targeting the most vulnerable. In **Egypt**, in collaboration with private research centers WFP and UNHCR worked to improve

the Proxy Means Testing methodology used for targeting. In Iraq, WFP signed an agreement with the University of Muthana and renewed its agreements with its research institution partners to establish a new agricultural incubator to strengthen youth skills.

In **Tunisia**, in partnership with a research firm a field surveys were completed in ten governorates to assess national and regional markets that can support school meals.

#### **JOINT PROGRAMMES IN 2022**

In strong partnership with UN sister agencies, joint programmes running in 2022 with the aim to leverage resources and capacities. In **Iraq**, the digitization of the government's social protection system was possible through a joint Programme formed in 2021. WFP, the European Union, UNICEF, and the International Labour Organization (ILO) continued in 2022 to support the Government in building an integrated social protection system.

In Lebanon, WFP with the overall objectives of national food security and imports substitution, strengthened its partnerships with the Ministry of Agriculture and FAO to support local agricultural production. The national social protection strategy was approved by the Government in mid-2022 which was the outcome of the collaborative efforts of the joint Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Fund programme by WFP, the UNICEF, ILO and UN





Cooperating partners in the MENAEE 213 region (127 local partners)

- 156 Non-governmental Organizations
- 28 **Government entities**

íſſ Semi government

13 **UN Agencies** 

Countries – Joint programmes with **UN** agencies

Increase in the resources channelled 13% via local CPs, going from 47% in 2021 to 58% in 2022





Women. The programme engaged key actors in the Social Safety Net Partners Forum including the World Bank, the European Union, and civil society actors.

In **Palestine**, WFP partnered with ILO, UNICEF, and the MoSD on the joint programme to enhance the social protection system for persons with disability and older persons. With FAO WFP co-lead the Food Security Sector, with UNICEF, WFP collaborated on the support to the national protection systems and nutrition projects, and with UN Women, WFP commissioned a Gender study of WFP Palestine beneficiary households to improve gender transformative programming and mainstreaming. WFP was also the partner of choice in Palestine for several humanitarian actors due to its wellestablished platform for cash assistance. Eight UN agencies and NGOs used this platform to reach over 766,000 people in 2022.

In **Libya**, through a joint programme with UNHCR and ILO, WFP continued to implement food assistance to persons of concern and asylum seekers and migrants in urban settings.

In **Yemen**, beginning October 2022, WFP, FAO and UNDP started the implementation of a joint multi-year programme (2021-2023), which was a World Bank-funded Food Security Response and Resilience Project (FSRRP). The project aims to jointly improve food and nutrition security while building resilience and enhancing social cohesion

#### LOCALIZATION

There were 127 local partners in the MENAEE in 2022.

In line with WFP's commitment to localization, WFP continued to expand partnerships with local institutions, especially in emergency response. In the MENAEE region, local NGOs spent almost 58 percent of WFP's total expenditures via NGOs, with an increase of 11 percent compared to 2021.

WFP opted to signing multi-year agreements with local partners in several countries, investing in longer-term engagement and capacity strengthening, with the ultimate objective of handing over to local communities to ensure sustainability. In Ukraine, WFP localized its emergency bread programme. By buying bread from bakeries located in the frontline and newly accessible areas, WFP supported people involved in the supply of bread (production and the delivery) contributing to employment security in 2022. Similarly, in **Türkiye**, Since the initiation of its livelihood assistance programmes in 2019, WFP increased its partnerships with local actors almost five-fold compared to 2020, through field-level agreements to implement in-camp and livelihood activities in communities.

## REAL LIFE STORIES

## A PATH TO FOOD AND FREEDOM

"WFP helped us during a very tough time," Javahir explains. "For us this assistance is a real gift, allowing us to experience happiness, stability, and peace of mind at home with our children. WFP gave us life. The card is helping us buy the food items we need the most." - Armenia



2022 in Review | Middle East, Northern Africa, and Eastern Europe

## **Deliver in Emergencies**

In 2022, WFP was able to provide cash-based assistance to 35.6 million people in 15 countries as the situation in the region continued to deteriorate. Armed conflict remained the major driver of food insecurity, followed by economic turmoil, natural hazards, soaring inflation and sharp currency devaluations. Climate extremes, water scarcity, fertilizer shortages, and unsustainable agricultural practices added to the list of significant regional problems, as a consequence of which food insecurity reached alarming levels.

However, funding constraints compelled WFP to target only a limited number of households and the extremely vulnerable. In **Yemen**, **Iordan**, Libya, Algeria and Syria, ration reductions were initiated to maintain essential support for all targeted beneficiaries. WFP successfully adapted its operations to meet rising needs, including the opening of the Moldova Country Office to cater for Ukrainian refugees and people from the host population affected by the crisis next door.

#### **DELIVERING IN TIME AT SCALE**

In **Ukraine**, WFP started ensuring the access to food of crisis-affected communities from the moment the war started February 2022. WFP's assistance evolved according to developments on the battle front

WFP launched its operation in **Moldova** in response to a volatile emergency, with an emphasis on contingency measures designed to stimulate

social cohesion, thereby advancing the overall humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

**Yemen** faced the cumulative effects of eight years of conflict and surges in global commodity prices. Food availability was increasingly at risk, as Yemen imports 90 percent of its cereals, of which approximately half is sourced from Russia and Ukraine. Extremely high levels of food and nutrition insecurity persisted. WFP provided emergency food assistance in response to conflict-induced population displacement and floods. Famine was averted in Yemen in 2022, with WFP food assistance a key factor.

#### **IN NUMBERS**



35.6M **Beneficiaries reached** in Crisis Response



\$ 1.18M Cash transferred

1.48M mt Food distributed



**Under Corporate Attention**: Lebanon Syria Ukraine Yemen



Early Action and Emergency Response: Tunisia Palestine



In **Syria**, more than half the population - more than 12 million people - were food insecure. WFP's plans included a general food assistance contingency in case of any sudden emergency or significant return of refugees.

In **Lebanon**, about 1.98 million residents and Syrian refugees were given Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 3 (Crisis) status or above. WFP scaled up technical help to the government' social assistance programs. WFP continued providing emergency in-kind assistance to Syrian refugees and Lebanese affected by the economic crisis to cover gaps while existing national safety nets scale up. The infrastructure and capacity set up by WFP also serves as an emergency preparedness measure for WFP's programmes in the event of a collapse of the financial and banking sectors.

#### BUILDING DRR AND EPR CAPACITIES

**Palestine's** protracted conflict, economic stagnation and unprecedented levels of rising food and fuel prices compounded by the economic impact of the Ukraine conflict, posed serious challenges to the food security of Palestinians. Over 1.5 million people were food insecure, of which 750,000 were severely food insecure. WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Palestinian Civil Defense to strengthen joint efforts in enhancing respective emergency preparedness and response capacity in case of natural disasters, as earthquakes, droughts, landslides, and floods.

**Jordan** is struggling to improve its weak economic performance, impacted by the Syrian crisis and places extra pressure on a limited labour

market, social welfare and natural resources. WFP supported the Government in enhancing its emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction systems.

The Armenian economy was impacted by conflict, high unemployment, increasing inflation, and other factors. WFP **Armenia** included a wider range of scenarios related to conflicts and improved coordination with other humanitarian organizations. In response to the escalations of protracted confrontations, WFP supported displaced populations at the beginning of 2022.

Prolonged conflict in **Libya** continued to impact the food needs of the most vulnerable population. **Libya** continued to progress gradually towards peace, moving from emergency response to longterm development programming. In 2022, the Rapid Response Mechanism to provide emergency food assistance enabled WFP to assist internally displaced persons; food-insecure persons of concern and asylum seekers, migrants and to support fire-affected people.

With soaring food prices and inflation, along with currency devaluations, food insecurity among refugees in **Egypt** rose significantly in 2022. WFP continued to assist vulnerable refugees nationwide with monthly cash assistance.

**Algeria**, near Tindouf, remained the setting for one of the world's most protracted crises, characterized by extreme heat and very low rainfall. Despite more than 30 years of uninterrupted assistance, 72 percent of the refugee population remained moderately food insecure, and 2,600 severely food insecure. In **Iran**, WFP continued to support the government's emergency preparedness and response programme through the provision of emergency in-kind assistance to crisis-affected populations. In 2022, many areas in the country experienced severe floods. WFP provided 5,000 emergency family food packs for 20,000 persons affected by flood for one month.

In **Tunisia**, WFP adjusted its assistance to support the government's emergency response in support of its most vulnerable people. WFP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Maritime Fisheries and the Pole of Competitiveness developed a national strategy to strengthen the resilience of the Tunisian food system to crises and disasters.

**Türkiye** hosts the largest refugee population in the world – with 3.77 million Syrian refugees and more than 322,000 from other countries. Although most refugees live alongside the host population of nearly 84 million, there are still around 47,000 refugees living in camps. Of those living in camps, 16 percent are food insecure (including 2 percent severely food insecure). WFP assisted the refugees living in camps through the e-voucher programme to help them manage their food security.

In **Iraq**, the situation remained unstable as a result of political and economic uncertainty, social unrest due to unemployment, eroded public services and persistent low standards of living. More than 1.06 million people were acutely food insecure (residents, returnees, IDPs and Syrian refugees). WFP continued to directly assist vulnerable people with food and cash. UKRAINE & MOLDOVA

## Emergency Response Highlights



people assisted with food and cash by WFP

WFP set out to assist 4.7 million people at any given month in 2022.

In the end, WFP consistently supported 3 million people each month.

The operations in the emergency response were carried out in three pillars:

#### (I) RESTORE

By helping people meet basic food needs.



8M+ LIVES Improved with food supply.

(II) STABILIZE

By supporting local economy

#### → 2M+ PEOPLE



•••• Reached with cash, leveraging advanced digital literacy, and existing sophisticated financial and government system.

#### (III) SUSTAIN

By supporting the institutions that serve the Ukrainian people

#### **COORDINATED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE**

WFP

Enabled Food Security and Livelihood Cluster, Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster.

## Nutrition Interventions

#### NUTRITION SITUATION OVERVIEW

As a consequence of deteriorating food security situations, high malnutrition rates were recorded in various countries in the region in 2022.

In **Algeria**, a nutrition survey conducted in 2022 showed that Sahrawi refugee households faced worsening of malnutrition and a clear, significant, indication of greater food insecurity, with Global Acute Malnutrition and stunting prevalence at high and medium thresholds respectively and considered to be of great public health concern.

Similarly in **Egypt**, malnutrition was a public health concern based on a 2021 Family Health Survey, with 13 percent stunting, 14 percent being overweight and/or obese, and 43 percent of children under five, being anaemic.

In **Ukraine**, the ongoing crisis further affected the nutrient intake among infants and young children while in **Syria** and **Yemen**, nutrition surveillance data also showed high and increasing acute malnutrition rates among children under five, and pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWGs).

In **Libya** a nutrition survey was conducted in 2022 to profile the nutrition status of children and women, as well as infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices to inform nutrition intervention strategies in 2023.

#### WFP NUTRITION RESPONSE

As a critical component of its food assistance, in 2022, WFP provided nutrition interventions in five operations with an aim of preventing malnutrition and implementing treatment where possible.

#### PREVENTION OF ACUTE AND CHRONIC MALNUTRITION AND MICRONUTRIENT DEFICIENCIES

In **Algeria**, WFP contributed to diet diversification and anaemia prevention among Sahrawi refugee school children through mid-morning snacks and among PLWG using micronutrient powders and cash-based transfers. These were provided through electronic food value vouchers redeemable from local markets where beneficiaries were able to obtain preselected fresh food items.

In **Egypt**, WFP provided cash top-ups to Egyptian PLW and children (0-23 months old) under the Ministry of Social Solidarity's (MOSS) 'Takaful and Karama' social protection programme.

In **Syria**, WFP provided specialized nutritious food to children aged 6-23 months whose families were enrolled in WFP's General Food Assistance. WFP also provided CBT, via value vouchers to PLWG to improve their dietary diversity and micronutrient intake as PLWG have increased nutritional needs during pregnancy and lactation.

In **Ukraine**, WFP provided supplementary cereals to children (aged 6-23 months old) of war-



affected families with beneficiaries receiving 30-day general food distribution rations.

In **Yemen**, WFP provided children aged 6-23 months with monthly rations (1.5 kg) of medium quantity lipid-based nutrient supplements (LNS-MQ) and PLWG with monthly 3 kg of super cereal.

#### TREATMENT OF MODERATE ACUTE MALNUTRITION (MAM)

In **Algeria**, WFP used fortified blended flour (Super Cereal) with sugar and vegetable oil, and Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food to treat MAM in PLWG and children respectively.

In **Syria**, WFP and Nutrition sector partners implemented a community management of acute malnutrition (CMAM)-approach where community outreach workers conducted screenings, referrals, on-site treatment, and follow-up visits for management of malnutrition cases at both fixed and mobile clinics. Children aged 6-59 months and PLWG were provided with specialized nutritious food under this treatment programme.

In **Yemen**, WFP treated MAM children aged 6-59 months with LNS-LQ for 90 days and MAM PLWG with monthly 6 kg of Super Cereal from the beginning of the second trimester of pregnancy until the child is six months old.

#### NUTRITION PARTNERSHIPS

To ensure the success of nutrition interventions, WFP worked through various cooperating partners during the planning of nutrition strategies as well as implementation in beneficiary country offices. In **Algeria**, WFP worked closely with UNHCR to provide a detailed map of the nutritional profile of Sahrawi refugees, while in **Egypt** WFP aligned its nutrition strategy with the Government of Egypt's national strategy 'Egypt's Vision 2030, and the National Nutrition Strategy.

In **Syria**, WFP partnered with UNICEF to conduct the first Joint Approach to Nutrition and Food Security Assessment (JANFSA) to inform the nutritional status of the population and continued its successful partnership with UNFPA for integrated nutrition strategies where nutrition activity beneficiaries were additionally able to purchase hygiene items along with fresh foods, thereby improving their dietary diversity and reproductive hygiene care.

Similarly, in **Yemen**, WFP collaborated with various partners, including UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO), to deliver nutrition awareness sessions and implement an integrated package of nutrition services.

#### SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL CHANGE COMMUNICATION (SBCC)

WFP has been actively supporting various countries in the implementation of SBCC to improve nutrition, health, and hygiene outcomes.

In **Algeria**, WFP delivered messages on harmful dietary practices and IYCF through a local TV show. In **Armenia**, WFP collaborated with other UN agencies to develop a curriculum promoting healthy eating habits and lifestyles for children, created interactive learning courses, and introduced a milk distribution project to encourage nutritious breakfast choices. In **Egypt**, WFP conducted awareness campaigns, targeting school age children and adolescents, on healthy diets and hygiene practices through radio and social media platforms. WFP and partners also raised awareness on breastfeeding and IYCF practices through a conference on maternal and child health, as well as a series of advocacy sessions for doctors, nurses and parents. Similarly in **Syria**, WFP delivered awareness sessions targeting pregnant and lactating women (PLW) on dietary and hygiene practices to prevent malnutrition. In **Iraq**, WFP organized workshops on SBCC and food safety and quality, engaging with the government for the implementation of the strategy.

In **Jordan**, WFP and partners targeted PLW, providing training on dietary needs and conducted counseling sessions to promote better micronutrient consumption. WFP in **Palestine** implemented a comprehensive SBCC intervention involving additional cash transfers to purchase Iron-rich foods, nutrition awareness sessions, cooking sessions, home gardening interventions, and social media engagement on nutrition tips and information. In **Tunisia**, WFP proposed promoting sustainable cereal consumption through SBCC in the framework of the National School Feeding Programme, and conducted research on nutritional behaviors. In **Yemen**, WFP provided awareness sessions to PLW on nutrition. infant feeding practices, hygiene, and health. These SBCC initiatives have contributed to enhancing knowledge and behavior change, ultimately improving the overall well-being of the populations in these countries.

# THE STORIES OF OUR BENEFICIARIES OF OUR BENEFICIARIES

For Kawthar, whose house was affected by the Beirut blast, the monthly food parcel she receives is a big support for her and her family. «When the blast first happened, I went to register for cash assistance, but was given food parcels instead. I didn't know their true worth until now», she says. According to Kawthar, the monthly food parcels remove a big part of her family's expenses given the significant increase in food prices and allow them to use their money to pay for other necessities. - Lebanon

> FOR THE FULL STORY OF KAWTHAR, SCAN/CLICK THE QR CODE



## Enhancing Shock-Responsive Social Protection Systems

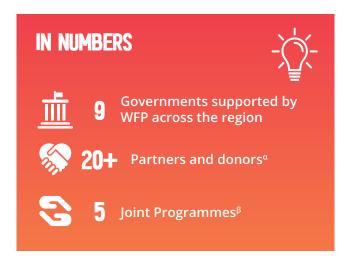
WFP believes that strong national social protection systems play a vital role in the pursuit of a world with Zero hunger, and are key to help vulnerable people meet their food security and nutrition needs and cope with crises and shocks. In the MENA region, where needs are rising exponentially, 60 percent of people do not have access to social protection, higher than the global average of 53 percent. MENA countries spend only 6.2 percent of their GDP on social protection, under half the global average (12.9 percent)<sup>y</sup>.

Despite the recent progress of Eastern Europe countries in extending social protection for all, recent shocks underscored their need to harness existing programs to reach the most vulnerable<sup>A</sup>.

In 2022, leveraging its field presence and expertise, WFP has continued to support governments through its country office operations to strengthen their national social protection systems at three levels: system architecture, programme design and delivery, and knowledge and learning.

Through a number of enablers, WFP supports countries in the region to reform their social protection systems through:

- (1) evidence-generation on food insecurity and vulnerabilities,
- (2) integration of food security and nutrition objectives, and
- (3) enhancing their flexibility and shock-responsiveness.



#### SOUTH-SOUTH KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

WFP, along with UNICEF and the World Bank, facilitated the first inter-ministerial social protection exchange between the Palestinian and Jordanian Ministries of Social Development to share lessons learned on shock-responsive social protection, and beneficiary targeting.

Also, WFP staff from Iraq and Libya country offices conducted an internal knowledge exchange mission to India to learn more about the digitization of the public distribution system in the country, as a first step towards longer-term south-south cooperation efforts to commence in 2023 between both countries.

#### **TRANSFORM ARAB REGION INITIATIVE**

WFP, UNICEF, UNDP and UN-ESCWA joined efforts to adapt TRANSFORM, an innovative learning package on the administration of national social protection floors originally focused on sub-Saharan Africa, to the Arab region needs. This adaptation aims to provide Arab



policymakers and social protection practitioners with useful guidance to strengthen capacity and advocacy for inclusive social protection, including the mainstreaming of issues related to gender and disability. In Jordan, 31 social protection experts from 10 countries attended a TRANSFORM Arab Region Training of Trainers in November 2022 to enable future trainers to provide support to Arab countries in carrying out their significant reforms.

#### ARMENIA

In 2022, WFP supported the Government of Armenia to integrate food security and nutrition objectives into its five-year National Labour and Social Protection Strategy. WFP **piloted the distribution of food cards to 100 food-insecure families** through the Unified Social Service (USS) of Armenia, and supported the development of the delivery chain (from registration, targeting, assessment, through to transfer modality) and trained USS staff to expand the service to 1,500 food-insecure families in 2023. With thanks to the European Union's generous contribution, WFP is also joining hands with UNDP and UNICEF to enhance the shock-responsiveness of the national social protection system in Armenia in 2023. Joint efforts enabled the design of national shock-responsive social protection protocols to be able to respond to the immediate needs of affected populations, in instances of an emergency.

#### <u>EGYPT</u>

WFP has supported efforts towards enabling more nutrition-sensitive social protection programming in Egypt. As part of the national 'First 1,000 Days' nutrition programme, WFP provided **cash top-ups to about 30,000 vulnerable Egyptian mothers and their infants** registered under the Ministry of Social Solidarity's social safety net programme 'Takaful and Karama'. Assistance was conditional on health checks for infants and concurrently, WFP enabled information sessions to support raising nutritional awareness. WFP has also been supporting efforts to look at opportunities to transition beneficiaries to jobs.

#### 

Through the EU-UN Joint Programme, WFP, UNICEF and ILO are supporting the Government of Iraq to reform its social protection system across the country with focus on capacity development and operational excellence. WFP advanced the **digitalization of the Public Distribution System**, Iraq's largest social protection programme, across the Governorate of Najaf and is extending it to three other governorates, while working with the Government for its further scale-up. WFP is also supporting **the creation of a national Single Registry** as an interoperable platform that enables effective coordination between relevant government entities and inclusive delivery of integrated social protection and social services scheme for those in need.

#### MOLDOVA

WFP supported the Government to develop aid.md, a unified beneficiary management system to manage humanitarian assistance. It also contributed to enhancing the design of the refugee-hosting households registration platform (uahelp.md). Together with UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF and IOM, WFP launched an emergency cash assistance programme for **more than 40,000 vulnerable Moldovans** who have been affected by the impact of Ukraine crisis, notably through rising energy prices, to meet their essential needs for six months. Together with related partners, WFP is also supporting efforts towards a more shock-responsive national social protection system.



#### JORDAN

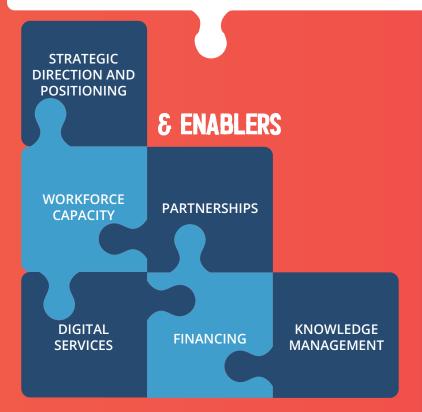
WFP supported the **National Aid Fund (NAF)**, Jordan's primary social assistance provider, to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of its programmes **benefitting over 1 million vulnerable Jordanians**. Since 2019, WFP has been providing technical assistance and support across five main workstreams: data collection for beneficiary validation; digital payments and systems integration; monitoring and evaluation (M&E); complaints and feedback mechanism; and human resources. WFP also helped the Ministry of Social Development - the custodian of the national social protection strategy - to institutionalize evidence generation by developing a M&E framework aligned with the national social protection strategy.

#### **LEBANON**

WFP supported efforts to enable social assistance schemes in Lebanon to increase four-fold in 2022, **reaching over 1 million extremely poor Lebanese**. WFP enabled some 400,000 people to receive cash transfers through the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP), while also supporting transfers through the Emergency Social safety Nets (ESSN) programme benefitting an additional 702,000 people.

WFP is also supporting efforts to establish a grievance and redress mechanism and call centre for the NPTP, while working with UN-Women to enable a more **gender-sensitive** social protection system.

Through the joint SDG Fund programme, WFP, UNICEF and ILO supported the Government to develop an integrated and inclusive social protection architecture and engage key actors which resulted in the development of a national social protection strategy approved by the Government in mid-2022.



#### PALESTINE

Jointly with ILO, UNICEF, and the Palestinian Ministry of Social Development (MoSD), WFP continued to implement the final phase of the Joint Programme funded by the Joint SDG Fund, aiming to enhance the social protection system in support of persons with disabilities (PwD) and older persons. On behalf of the MoSD, WFP provided **cash assistance to 2,669 households with PwD** in Hebron and helped to **register 20,510 PwD** in the West Bank into the unified social registry. Thanks to a new contribution from the UN Joint SDG Fund, WFP and ILO are working to enhance Palestine's National Cash Transfer Program shockresponsiveness and diversify its financing.

#### 

WFP has assisted the Ministry of Social Affairs to scope ways in which to enhance the shock-responsiveness of the existing national social protection programme, 'AMEN Social'. WFP has also supported with top-ups to the Government's social assistance programme with **a one-off food assistance to 37,500 vulnerable individuals** to help them recover faster from crises. WFP is also supporting efforts to establish a food security monitoring system that can inform social assistance considerations.

#### LIBYA

WFP continues to engage with the Government to support efforts to steer effective reform of social protection programmes in Libya through capacity-building and national policy dialogue, working closely with all relevant stakeholders. To inform these efforts in 2022, WFP and the World Bank completed **a joint assessment of Libya's social protection system.** 

#### 

WFP became the partner of choice for the Government of Ukraine in **support to set up the Unified Information System for the Social Sphere**, a single social registry platform to enable improved vulnerability targeting and better address gaps in coverage of humanitarian assistance, and national social protection schemes. WFP will continue to **support efforts** to enhance the shock-responsiveness and adaptation of Ukraine's social protection system through digitalization and capacity building, to support the food security and nutrition needs of crisis-affected people in an inclusive, safe and dignified way.

## School Feeding, a critical safety net for children education and nutrition

School meal programs provide a social safety net aiming to improve children's nutrition, influence their dietary choices, and strengthen the agrifood economy through local procurement. In the MENAEE region, only 33 percent of primary school-attending children benefit from a school programme in 2022<sup>£</sup>. Across 14 RBC countries, WFP has been acting either as a strategic partner providing knowledge, expertise, and guidance to government-led school feeding programmes, delivering school meals alongside the government programme or solely to support children education, nutrition and reduce gender disparities in schools.

Following the closure of schools during COVID-19, the increase in the number of children receiving WFP school meals in 2022, compared to 2021, suggests that WFP and Government partners succeeded to build back their school feeding programmes and reach the numbers of children assisted prior to the pandemic. Monitoring findings in 2022 confirmed the positive education outcomes of school feeding. Iraq showed a stabilized retention rate of 97 percent for boys and girls for the academic year 2021-2022 compared to the COVID-19 period. Refugee girls receiving cash incentives in Iran returned to reopened schools after the pandemic, marking a decreased dropout rate. In Lebanon, caregivers of students enrolled in the school feeding programme reflected a unanimous desire for

the programme to continue and commended its financial benefits for the families. In Yemen, school feeding contributed to keeping children in school despite the ongoing conflict with low dropout rates, above-targets attendance rates and a consistently higher enrolment rate for girls. In Syria, school snacks and meals contributed to bringing and retaining children in schools, helping to prevent the creation of a "lost generation" of children.

#### DRIVING CHANGE THROUGH POLICY SUPPORT AND CAPACITY-STRENGTHENING

WFP has been increasing its policy support and capacity strengthening to the Governments in the region to ensure sustainability and national ownership of school feeding programmes.

In **Armenia**, WFP has been implementing school feeding since 2010, providing over 100,000 schoolchildren with hot and nutritious meals every day. In 2022, WFP completed the gradual handover of the School Feeding Programme to the Government, which started in 2017, along with building the capacities of the School Feeding Child Welfare Agency to implement it independently. WFP also supported the formulation of a National School Feeding Strategy, a crucial component of Armenia's vision for food security, education, and nutrition.

#### **IN NUMBERS**





Governments are receiving WFP School Feeding Support

**B** 5

~11.000

Governments are members of the <u>School Meals Coalition</u><sup>δ</sup>

Children assisted with WFP school feeding, up from 3M in 2021

Public and community schools supported

In **Jordan**, following the approval of the National School Feeding Strategy (2021-2025) formulated with WFP support in 2021, WFP focused in 2022 on its operationalisation as an increasingly important national safety net programme for both vulnerable Jordanian and refugee children and a source of income generation for vulnerable women, Jordanian food producers and suppliers.

In **Iraq**, WFP school feeding support has been evolving from direct assistance for 449,000 students in 13 governorates to capacity-building and technical support, paving the way for a gradual hand-over by 2026. In 2022, WFP was engaged in strengthening the capacities of the Ministry of Education to design policies, monitoring and fundraising mechanisms to deliver a nationally owned, nutrition-sensitive and transformative school feeding programme.



#### In **Egypt**, WFP trained over 300 staff of the Ministry of Education and Technical Education on the operationalisation and supply chain of school feeding. Moreover, it co-led the planning of school feeding operations with the Government for the academic year 2022/2023 and complemented them with fortified snacks delivered to over 116,000 rural community school students across the poorest 11 governorates. Together, WFP and the government also expanded the "Digital school" initiative to an additional 450 community schools to increase access of students in rural areas to quality and tailored digital education.

In **Lebanon**, WFP school feeding programme, initially serving 10,000 Lebanese and Syrian schoolchildren in 22 schools in 2016, has expanded to reach 71,000 girls and boys in 115 public primary schools in 2022. In 2023, WFP will support the Ministry of Education and Higher Education to develop a national school feeding strategy, based on the five-year National Education Plan, to establish a national school feeding programme as a sustainable safety net for girl and boy students to access education while supporting their nutritional needs.

In **Ukraine**, WFP has been supporting safety net efforts since the conflict began and is piloting school feeding in 58 hub schools in 2023, targeting those with the highest number of IDP children, offline education, and highest level of food insecurity.

#### SCALING UP HEALTHY SCHOOL FEEDING THROUGH GREEN, LOCALIZED DELIVERY CHAIN

In **Jordan**, WFP has been promoting the healthy/ central kitchens and the home-grown school feeding models (HGSF) across the region as multi-pronged interventions with benefits. beyond education and nutrition. By buying food locally from smallholder farmers, HGSF build their longer-term resilience, encourage crop diversification and strengthen local agriculture. In Jordan, WFP established the HGSF, benefiting nearly 90,000 vulnerable Jordanian and refugee students and generating income for 300 local smallholder farmers and 300 vulnerable women. The model uses blockchain technology to trace production, ensuring superior and safer fruit and vegetable options for children. In Lebanon, WFP will pilot a de-centralized HGSF model in 2023, linking school kitchens to smallholder farmers.

Healthy kitchens also provide employment opportunities for vulnerable women from low-income households, contributing to their economic empowerment. In **Yemen**, WFP scaled up the Healthy Kitchens project in 2022 beyond the initial pilot area of Aden city (under the internationally recognized Government of Yemen, IRG) to Sana'a city (under the Sana'a-based authorities, SBA), reaching 27,600 children, close to three times as many as in 2021. In Syria, WFP expanded healthy kitchens to highly vulnerable governorates, reaching 55,100 children including 532 children with disabilities across 76 schools and five social centers in Aleppo, Damascus, and Rural Damascus. Kitchens generated income for a workforce of 182 vulnerable women, either

internally displaced or returnees with no other source of income.

WFP also introduced school gardens producing vegetables used to prepare healthy and nutritious school meals for children. They strengthen their green education and knowledge of agroecological methods as sustainable means of preserving the environment. In **Algeria**, WFP set up 10 school gardens using Groasis Waterboxxes, a planting technology with considerably less water, enabling farming in dry areas. In **Tunisia**, WFP helped to establish gardens in five schools in Siliana to produce vegetables used to prepare healthy and nutritious school meals.

Moreover, WFP rehabilitated school kitchens and canteens and equipped them with modern equipment and solar panels to help them shifting to energy efficient cooking practices and reduce their costs. In **Armenia**, WFP supported schools to replace white wheat bread in their feeding programme with more nutritious wholegrain wheat locally sourced from bakeries. WFP provided these bakeries, as well as SMEs with solar systems, cooking and agriculture equipment, saving up to 30 percent of their costs and increasing their productivity. School feeding has then evolved from a tool to support and protect children into an essential part of local community development, contributing to a varied diet for children and boosting the growth of the SMEs ecosystem. WFP also provided water management support and natural composting capacity building to 44 schools to increase their efficiency. In **Tunisia**, WFP 'Last Mile Ecosystem' application was successfully launched, linking the production of small farmers to school canteens through a network of transporters and facilitating the transport of hot meals from central to satellite canteens.

#### SHARING SCHOOL FEEDING EXPERIENCES THROUGH SOUTH-SOUTH EXCHANGE

Exposing governments to the experiences of other countries and engaging them in peer learning initiatives is a key pillar of WFP's efforts. This type of learning paves the way to strengthening national school feeding systems and programmes and promotes local innovations across the region.

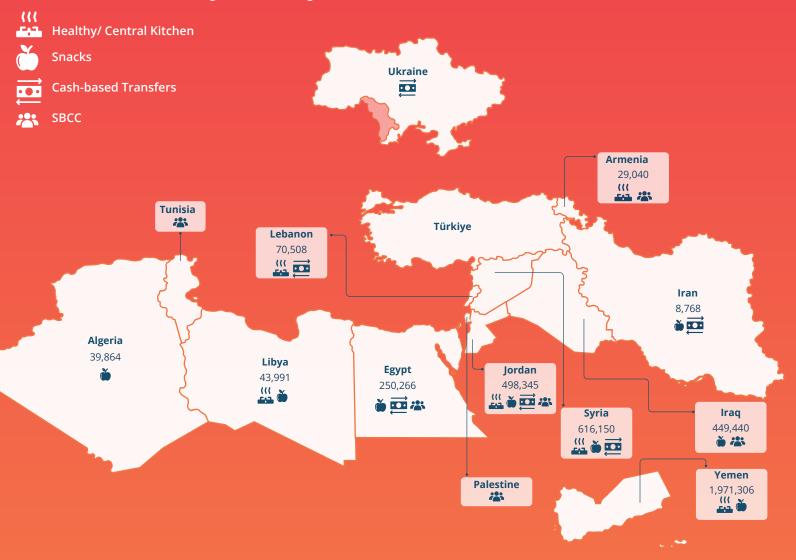
In 2022, WFP facilitated a mission of an official delegation from the Government of Iraq to Armenia to learn about its advanced School Feeding experience. It concluded with an agreement for WFP to support Iraq to pilot a greenhouse school garden for the academic year 2023 – 2024, as well as training public education professionals on building public-private partnerships.

Moreover, WFP along with Libyan government officials visited the HGSF programme in Zambia and the Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM), to explore the potential of replication in Libya.

WFP participated with Tunisia's Office of School Works in the Global Child Nutrition Forum held in Benin. Tunisia's delegation presented its national school feeding programme and exchanged lessons learned and best practices with other countries.

#### **REGIONAL OVERVIEW OF SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMMES**

2022 Reached Beneficiaries through School Feeding- 4M



## REAL LIFE STORIES

## SHURUQ TRIUMPHS OVER ADVERSITY

Since birth, Shuruq could not speak or hear, which caused a significant impediment to her education. WFP gave Shuruq the opportunity to work in one of the healthy kitchens in her village under the healthy school feeding programme. She has now been working in the programme for more than three year. She feels appreciated at work as she is now financially independent. - Jordan

FOR THE FULL STORY OF SHURUQ, SCAN/CLICK THE QR CODE



## CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITIES

## Gender

In 2022, WFP actively worked to promote gender equality and empower women in the region. Efforts focused on capacity-building, data collection, awareness-raising, and targeted interventions to achieve gender equality. Our programmes had components with the aim to create more inclusive and equitable societies by addressing specific challenges faced by women and girls and promoting their active participation.

Through its country programmes, WFP enables awareness and incentives to promote women's economic empowerment and participation in decision-making processes. Joint programmes were carried out in **Tunisia** – IP RWEE 'Accelerating Progress Towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment, that seeks to eliminate the gender-based constraints that rural women face in accessing and controlling resources and opportunities. Similarly in **Palestine**, WFP partnered with UNDP, FAO, and UN Women, for mitigating the effects of COVID-19 on women's economic participation by providing technical assistance and capacity building to 20 female-led small and medium enterprises in the agri-food sector. To increase their revenues, WFP connected them to its network of local shops as an avenue to sell their products. In conflict-affected regions like Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen, WFP implemented gender-responsive programming, addresses gender-based violence, and supports livelihood interventions.

To assess the extent to which gender and age considerations are integrated into its programmes. WFP uses a Gender and Age Marker (GAM) tool. The GAM score ranges from 0 to 4, with 4 indicating that gender and age considerations have been fully integrated into the programme design, implementation, and monitoring. All WFP operations in the region had GAM scores ranging from 3-4 for all applicable strategic outcomes.

## Protection and AAP

Progress was made to mainstream protection and AAP standards across its programmes. Integrated Protection, AAP, PSEA, Data Protection and DI strategies and action plans are being implemented in **Iraq, Syria, Ukraine, Yemen** to ensure meaningful access to assistance while expanding accountability mechanisms. Corporate data protection standards and data-sharing protocols have been implemented in **Armenia**, **Egypt, Jordan, Moldova, Syria, Yemen** to ensure beneficiary personal data is safely managed.

WFP Community Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs) provided a confidential and accessible feedback channel for beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. In Ukraine, the CFM processed 1,500 calls daily in both Ukrainian and Russian languages. WFP Palestine CFM usage expanded significantly in 2022 with more than 210,000 enquiries and complaints received across the year. In **Lebanon**, calls received by the WFP call centre increased four-fold compared to 2021, indicating increased awareness, trust, and uptake of the service.

WFP also multiplied collaborative, upskilling and capacity building opportunities with local partners to ensure the centrality of protection, and DI across operations. In **Egypt**, **Lebanon** and **Syria**, WFP trained cooperating partners frontline staff, mostly women, at food distribution (FDPs), and security guards at cash redemption points, and security guards at FDPs and cash redemption points on safe and dignified crowd management practices. In result, beneficiaries in **Lebanon**, especially women, expressed an increased sense of safety when redeeming their assistance. In **Jordan**, WFP staff and partners were engaged in inter-agency training on protection, referral pathways, child safeguarding, and PSEA. WFP ensured relevant categories and referral mechanisms were included in the CFM ticketing database.

## Environment

WFP is working to promote environmental sustainability in the region. Some of initiatives include: Using solar panels to generate electricity to reduce WFP's reliance on fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions. WFP has installed solar panels in its offices in several countries in the region, including **Armenia, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Jordan, Syria, Yemen** and **Palestine**. WFP has recycled over 100 tons of paper in the region in the past year in **Palestine, Iran** and **Türkiye**.

In 2022, WFP offices in **Egypt, Algeria, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine** and **Libya**, screened all activities and field level agreements to ensure that environmental and social sustainability are well-incorporated in programme implementation. Meanwhile, in **Jordan, Iran, Türkiye, Syria** and **Yemen**, offices screened environmental and social risk for some of their activities. In WFP **Ukraine, Moldova, Armenia** and **Tunisia** the environmental screening of agreements and legal documents will start in 2023.

## Regional Refugee Response

#### **IN NUMBERS**

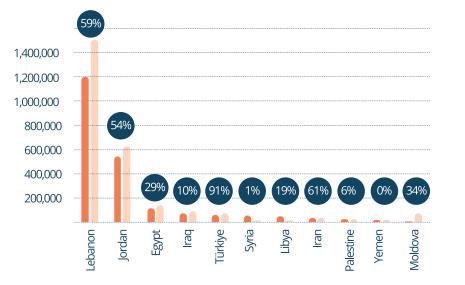
#### **STATE OF REFUGEES**

 According to UNHCR and UNRWA it is estimated that in 2022 MENAEE hosted approximately **10M** refugees, asylum seekers and persons of concerns.

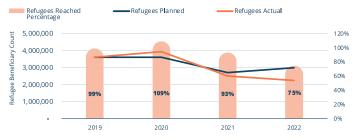
## Displacements in the region are **WIDESPREAD, PROTRACTED, DISPERSED,** and **DIVERSE**.



In 2022, WFP continued to prioritize its refugee response through **12 operations** in the MENAEE region, supporting countries hosting some of the largest and most protracted refugee populations in the world. Most of these operations were in countries with extremely challenging socioeconomic, environmental and political contexts.



#### Regional Planned/ Reached refugees since 2019 (Pre-COVID)



## 2022 percentage of refugees reached per activity



2022 in Review | Middle East, Northern Africa, and Eastern Europe



Thanks to the funding and support from Donors and Partners. WFP assisted 2.3M vulnerable refugees in the region with lifesaving food assistance through a mix of in-kind food. cash. other innovative approaches and whenever possible carried out long term livelihood and resilience projects targeting refugees.



In **Lebanon** that hosts approximately 1.5 million (registered and non-registered) Syrian refugees, the largest number of refugees per capita and per square kilometer in the world, WFP provided monthly Cash-Based Transfers (CBT) to 1.2 million Syrian refugees and 7,000 refugees of other nationalities.

Throughout 2022, WFP in Lebanon, cooperated with UNICEF, UNHCR, and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in Lebanon to distribute fresh meals and nutritious snacks to Lebanese and Syrian students in public primary schools.

Additionally, to build individual and community resilience to crises, WFP provided incomegenerating and individual and institutional capacitystrengthening opportunities to Syrian refugees in Lebanon. This included Food Assistance for Assets and Training on various agricultural practices to improve local production while providing marketable skills and experience to improve employability in the long-term.

In **Jordan**, that hosted around 760,000 refugees, making it the country with the second largest number of refugees per capita, WFP provided over 467,000 refugees in both camps and communities with unconditional cash-based food assistance as well as school meals via the national school feeding programme. WFP in Jordan also provided conditional cash-based transfers to 2,300 participants for asset creation relevant to sustainable natural resource management. Notably, WFP in Jordan and the UNHCR established an unprecedented level of collaboration, strategically and operationally in a massive data collection exercise to document the vulnerabilities and capabilities of refugees on a census basis. The joint data repository for future targeting will lead to the establishment of an information management system in 2023 to be used as a one-stop shop by UN agencies and development actors for targeting and two-way referrals between unconditional and conditional assistance for refugees.



In **Algeria**, WFP supported the most food-insecure Sahrawi refugees in Tindouf with both In-Kind food and CBT to meet their basic food and nutritional needs while preventing and treating malnutrition among refugee children aged 6 to 59 months old as well as pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) via specialized nutritious food.

WFP also assisted children attending kindergarten and primary schools in the Sahrawi camps.

WFP in **Algeria**, also focused on building resilience among the refugee community through innovative livelihood approaches, with an aim to improve local fresh food production through an integrated and sustainable food production system consisting of fish, camel, and goat farm projects. This included providing agricultural training on local resource optimization using water-saving technology as well as synergies between production techniques to beneficiary families and the community.

In **Egypt**, WFP sustained monthly unrestricted cash assistance to over 100,000 refugees from nine countries (including Syrian refugees) to secure their basic food needs and provided cash assistance for nutrition to some 8,500 pregnant and lactating refugee women for five months.

Furthermore, joint collaborations with UN agencies included preparations for the launch of a Targeting Hub' developed with UNHCR for enhanced identification and management of support to vulnerable refugees.

In **Iraq**, WFP provided monthly unconditional resource transfers to Syrian refugees through different modalities such as cash-based transfers,

cash-for-food vouchers, family food rations, and Immediate Response Rations. The different modalities allowed for adaptation to the specific context of each vulnerable group to support their food and nutrition needs. Cash-for-food vouchers, for instance, were utilized in two camps due to movement restrictions and the lack of a functioning local market.

Under its e-voucher programme, WFP in **Türkiye** and the Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) supported around 53,000 Ukrainians and unregistered Syrian refugees in seven Government-run camps with monthly cash assistance. Through the Socioeconomic Empowerment and Sustainability (SES) programme, WFP made significant progress towards improving the well-being and livelihoods of refugees through vocational and applied training that helped provide 11,800 refugees with improved access to the labor market.

In **Libya**, thanks to the funds channeled from the European Union (DG NEAR) through United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), WFP continued to implement a joint programme providing in-kind food and cash assistance to persons of concern, asylum seekers and migrants in urban settings.

In **Iran**, WFP supported 32,000 Afghan and Iraqi refugees living inside 20 settlements with unconditional food assistance through a combination of locally procured in-kind food and cash-based transfers. Additionally WFP supported the education and nutrition of 8,800 refugee boys and girls and 625 Iranian teachers at primary and junior high schools through its school snacks programme and provided a cash incentive to 2,800 girls at primary and junior high schools to support their education throughout the school year. Furthermore, WFP continued to implement livelihood activities to refugees through the provision of supplementary support for existing income-generation activities or by putting in place new ones such as establishing four new bakeries and providing a suit-making workshop.

In all operations WFP sought to provide support while ensuring social tensions between host communities and refugees is avoided and putting in place measures as necessary. In **Moldova**, that received an influx of Ukrainian refugees that necessitated the establishment of a dedicated WFP office for the response, WFP led the design of a joint partnership with the Government of Moldova and four UN agencies to direct assistance to particularly vulnerable Moldovans that were hosting these refugees. Through the partnerships the existing social protection system was used to provide emergency cash to support 56,000 vulnerable Moldovan households.

In **Palestine**, **Yemen** and **Syria**, WFP had applied similar approaches to ensure social cohesion between refugees and host communities.



## A NEW PASSION AND TRADE

Decades of conflict and war have taken their toll on most Afghans, forcing displacement for many families. Mohammad and his three girls, went to school every day and received WFP's nutritious school snacks. His daughters received WFP education cash incentives for girls as well. - Iran

> FOR THE FULL STORY OF MOHAMMAD, SCAN/ CLICK THE OR CODE



2022 in Review | Middle East, Northern Africa, and Eastern Europe

## Scaling up Climate Action and Resilient Food Systems

#### **IN NUMBERS**

**108,000** Smallholder farmers <u>trained/supp</u>orted

<u>\$</u> 35,400

Hectares of land rehabiliated

**40,600** People provided with access to energy products

**7,891** Productive assets created

or maintained

**FFT 26,520** Participants trained

**985** Community family and school gardens created **2.24M** Tree seedlings produced

) 674

Km of drainage/irrigation canals constructed/ rehabilitated

Being mobilized for climate action by 2025

- 95

Water ponds, tanks or wells constructed for domestic and irrigation use

The MENAEE region, densely populated and highly urbanized, is highly vulnerable to the combined effects of climate change and global food crisis. Rising temperatures, desertification, water scarcity, droughts and changing rainfall patterns lead to crop failure, and further degrade land. Along with unsustainable agricultural practices, these climate extremes are jeopardizing the region's food security. Rural and urban livelihoods are becoming increasingly difficult to sustain, impeding the ability of the poorest and most vulnerable people to meet basic food and nutrition needs.

These threats are exacerbated by protracted conflict and forced displacement whereas over half of the countries in the region is living in crisis or undergoing the ripple effects of years of political instability. Moreover, because of the region's economic volatility and overreliance on food imports, it was one of the hardest-hit by the prolonged effects of COVID-19 and the repercussions of the conflict in Ukraine. Although the MENAEE countries have been significantly accelerating their climate change commitments and initiatives, the region remains among the lowest recipients of international climate finance in the world, slowing its progress towards resilience.

**Every USD 1** invested in resilience programs saves USD 3 in humanitarian assistance. In MENAEE's fragile context, WFP is stepping up its resilience action at multiple levels to help change the lives of food-insecure and climate affected populations and contribute to peace and stability. Building on an integrated approach to reduce vulnerabilities to shocks and enhance resilience at all levels of the food system, WFP seeks to increase individuals' purchasing power, restore agricultural assets and natural resources to communities and strengthen capacities of the Government and other key stakeholders.

WFP also supports governments to access climate finance from multilateral funding mechanisms such as the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund.

## INVESTING IN HUMAN CAPITAL AND LIVELIHOOD DIVERSIFICATION

At the individual and household level, WFP equips food-insecure people, youth and women in particular, with market-oriented skills to embark on more sustainable livelihoods that shield them from the negative impacts of climate shocks and

stressors. Trainings included literacy and numeracy, tailoring, perfume production, jam and pickle production, first aid, solar panel maintenance, business



management and marketing.

#### In Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, and Yemen, WFP

vocational training, revolving loans and seed funding helped small businesses led by vulnerable women to increase their income and generate additional job opportunities. WFP mobile training units supported 600 Egyptian youth at risk of irregular migration and helped around one quarter of them to secure jobs.

#### In **Iraq**, building on the success of the

Empowerment in Action (EMPACT) project, WFP partnered with the Government and the private sector to launch Jousour, (Bridges) initiative on a wider scale in universities, with an emphasis on developing a future



workforce with enhanced and market-oriented digital skills.

In **Türkiye**, WFP Socioeconomic Empowerment and Sustainability programme supported 11,800 Turkish nationals and refugees across 15 provinces with vocational training in information technology, food, hospitality, and manufacturing sectors. In **Jordan**, WFP supported 2,360 impact-driven and innovative start-ups at different growth stages through capacity-strengthening, youth climate change hackathons, seed funding and acceleration boot camps.

#### ENABLING FARMING COMMUNITIES TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

At the community level, WFP provides smallholder farmers with water-saving agriculture technologies, climate-smart equipment and green services that boost their food production, processing and preservation to better withstand natural shocks.

In the harsh Sahrawi camps of **Algeria** and the arid climate of **Libya**, WFP hydroponics and fish farming trainings enabled over 420 refugees and farmers to establish their fish farms and family gardens and feed their livestock, increasing people's access to iron-rich fresh fish and fresh vegetables.

In **Egypt**, WFP enabled 68,000 smallholder farmers in 90 of the poorest villages to double their productivity and reduce their costs through training on climate-adaptive agricultural and irrigation practices, enhanced market linkages, financial literacy, and diversification of income. Over 12,600 rural community members, mostly women, received in-kind loans of heat-tolerant breeds of ducks, chicken and goats along with training on animal nutrition to support their livelihoods diversification. In **Armenia**, WFP supplied 40 smallholder farmers, SMEs and communities affected by escalations on the border, with high-value plants and solar systems which increased their productivity and saved their electricity costs.

In **Iraq**, WFP helped over 2,000 smallholder farmers to increase their productivity through provision of seeds, greenhouses, livestock, and beekeeping. WFP partnership with PepsiCo

Foundation in northern Iraq is allowing local farmers to learn modern farming techniques to cultivate industrial potatoes, mitigating the climate change's impact on local agriculture.



#### In water-scarce

**Jordan**, under MADAD project, WFP and partners developed the first national farmer registry identifying vulnerability criteria to better target smallholder farmers. WFP scaled up **Decapolis**, an innovative blockchain-based food safety & quality platform, helping 600 smallholder farmers to increase their revenues by 82 percent through improving the quality of their produce, eliminating pesticide residue and connecting them to larger markets.

In **Lebanon**, WFP-FAO farmer voucher project provided 3,800 smallholder farmers with vouchers (USD 300) to buy inputs such as fertilizer, seedlings, and irrigation material to

ensure continued production.

#### In Palestine,

WFP equipped smallholder farmers and 22 institutions supporting women with low-income, atrisk youth, orphans and PwDs with 543 smart climate-



resilient agricultural assets such as solar panels, greenhouses as well as training and linkages to markets. This helped some of them to double their income from agricultural production, and reduce their energy expenditures.

In **Syria**, WFP enhanced the farming, irrigation, and poultry breeding practices of 19,700 farmers by providing on-field technical guidance and inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, water sprinklers, hens, and fodder. Beneficiaries were also provided with protective food assistance to counteract assetdepleting coping mechanisms such as using grains as food.

#### CONTRIBUTING TO NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION

WFP also restores degraded land and watersheds that serve as a natural buffer against climate impacts and man-made shocks, restoring preexisting infrastructure and assisting farmers and vulnerable communities to advance from food insecurity to surplus production. In **Armenia**, WFP restored supply canals for 11 villages affected by the border escalations, enabling 13,000 farmers to irrigate 1,175 ha of cultivated land. WFP also provided cash to 780 beneficiaries who constructed 35 km of irrigation canals benefitting 350 households dependent on agriculture.



In **Iraq**, WFP is assisting the Iraqi water directorates to improve its management of water resources through the rehabilitation of water stations and canals, and promotion of modern irrigation techniques such as sparkling systems and drip irrigation. WFP's livelihood program has boosted cultivated area of 35 percent<sup>K</sup> of beneficiaries and 87 households are now using greenhouses to increase production.

In **Jordan**, around 288 ha of farmland were planted with olive and fruit trees, while 35,350 m of stone walls and fences were constructed to protect neighbouring farms and communities against soil erosion and flash floods. Over the last five decades, WFP planted over half of olive trees in Jordan in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture's (MoA), worth USD 1.4 billion revenues in olive oil. Under MADAD project, WFP and partners rehabilitated 150 ha of rangelands and forests and supported 16 seedling stations to produce 2.2 million seedlings, accounting for 75 percent of MoA production.

In **Lebanon**, satellite imagery analysis of agricultural assets showed that 63 percent of WFP irrigation canals and agricultural roads built improved vegetation and soil conditions. Over five years, WFP supported hundreds of Lebanese farmers and Syrian refugees to plant over 1 million trees at 550 sites across the country, preserve 600 has of trees and supported six forests natural reserves. At the institutional level, WFP signed an agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture to jointly develop a crop-mapping system to assess domestic agricultural production, complementing an ongoing census of smallholder farmers led by FAO.

In **Libya**, WFP in partnership with the United States Institute of Peace rehabilitated 2 markets in Ubari and Sebha regions where families can sell local agriculture products and organize social cohesion events, thereby enhancing inter-communal dialogue between different communities.

In **Egypt**, newly established water users' associations managing irrigation schedules, canal lining and solar-powered pumps were recorded to induce a 35 percent reduction in water usage and costs (of diesel fuel) while promoting efficient use of clean energy and minimizing conflicts related to water management. Moreover, the cement-lining of mud canals and the utilization of solar-powered irrigation pumps reduced irrigation time by 80 percent.

In **Yemen**, one of the world's most waterscarce countries, WFP rehabilitated medium and largerscale community assets and provided sustainable and climate-sensitive water management solutions to restore



local productive capacities: 218 km of community access roads rehabilitated, more than 500 ha of agricultural land benefitted from new irrigation schemes, 800 m<sup>2</sup> of plant nurseries supported, close to 4,000 ha of staple foods planted, more than 30,000 m<sup>2</sup> of water harvesting systems rehabilitated and 42 solar-powered water pumps installed in local communities across five governorates benefitting an estimated 60,000 people. WFP constructed or rehabilitated flood protection embankments to protect productive land, as well as water catchment and water collection centres for the efficient utilization of scarce water resources.

In **Syria**, a USD14 million investment in WFP's irrigation project will save USD 50 million in food assistance per year and create nearly 90,000 jobs. WFP completed 19 early recovery projects in five governorates, benefiting over 335,000 food-insecure people. WFP rehabilitated 632 km of irrigation systems enabling over 104,000 farmers daily to resume the agricultural production of wheat. Furthermore, WFP rehabilitated a wholesale farmers market in North-West Syria which will revive the local food system and agricultural

produce market for the benefit of some 25,000 farmers and cattle keepers. An impact study in 2022 showed that

the rehabilitation of the irrigation system in Deir Ezzor Governorate was highly successful, benefiting 57,000 people, doubling the amount of land used for farming, and increasing wheat production almost ten-fold.



### STRENGTHENING EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS AND FOOD VALUE CHAINS

At the institutional and systems level, WFP supports the scale-up of climate action through early warning systems, and investments in more resilient value chains and food systems.

In **Lebanon**, WFP supported the Disaster Risk Management department of the Government to strengthen its early warning system through monitoring the impact of forest fires, floods, and other natural disasters while also training and equipping responders.

In **Egypt**, WFP supported the operationalisation of a simple early warning system jointly managed by MALR and Community Development Associations (CDAs) in 75 rural communities. The system allowed CDAs to obtain reliable weather data and provide timely information and technical advice to farmers to undertake needed adaptation measures and reduce production losses in extreme weather spells.

In **Yemen**, WFP established the first early warning center in Mukalla to provide accurate predictions of catastrophes and climate concerns to inform the early action of the authorities. Weather forecasts ensure the safety of fishermen during their journey on the sea.



In **Syria**, WFP works on restoring the wheat value chain, through the "Farm-to-Bread" approach, which seeks to restore bread supply as a basic service to the food insecure population. WFP rehabilitated four bakeries to provide fresh daily and subsidized bread to around 160,000 people. In addition, WFP rehabilitated Al-Tawarij Silo in Al-Hassakeh Governorate, securing the storage of 12,000 tons of wheat, providing enough flour to bakeries to reach up to 100,000 people daily.

REAL LIFE STORIES OF OUR BENEFICIARIES

## SAVING LIVES, CHANGING LIVES

The economic downturn led to skyrocketing prices across the country, Ghufran's income fell short of making ends meet. That was when she turned to the World Food Programme. WFP's mission goes beyond direct needs and helps to also build human capital, stabilise communities and build their resilience to be able to survive shocks. - Syria

FOR THE FULL STORY OF GHUFRAN, SCAN/CLICK THE OR CODE



## Supply Chain Overview

#### **2022 NEW OPERATIONS**

**Ukraine**'s Limited Emergency Operation (LEO) was initially planned for three months but extended until Dec 2022. LEO focused on assisting vulnerable people in frontline areas. A Moldova operation started under LEO, supporting the government with technical assistance to enhance social protection and food security systems.

WFP leveraged its supply chain capacity and logistics expertise to ensure food and essential items reach those in need.

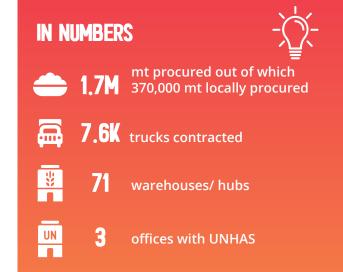
Despite export challenges in 2022, WFP exported 480K mt of Ukrainian wheat and commodities worth USD 160 million. This represents over half of WFP's 2021 purchases from Ukraine. The result was achieved through the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI), brokered by Turkiye, Ukraine, Russia, and the UN. WFP shipped 380,000 mt of bulk wheat from Ukrainian ports onboard 12 WFP-chartered vessels, enabling the resumption of exports through a safe maritime humanitarian corridor. WFP plans to continue exporting from Ukraine and explore increased exports of value-added products.

#### WFP SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS IN 2022

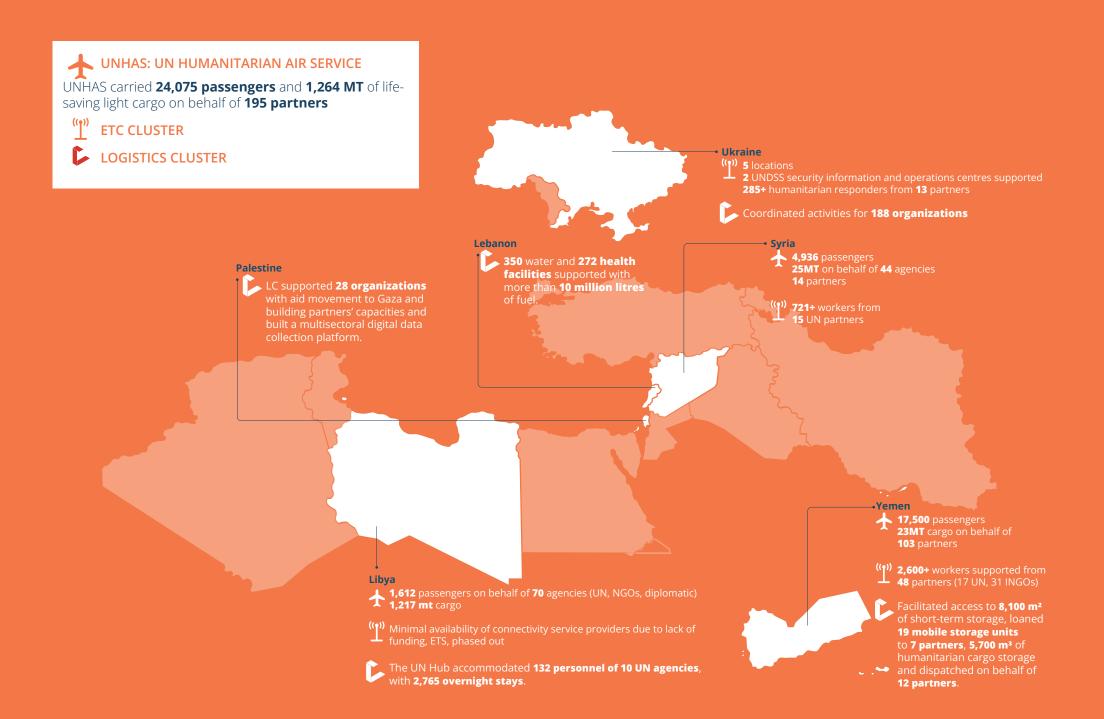
In **Ukraine**, WFP localized its supplier base and adapted the food basket composition to address access challenges in hard-to-reach areas. Power generators were provided to warehouses facing power outages. Through its Bilateral Service Provision (BSP) activity in Yemen, WFP leveraged its supply chain expertise to offer on-demand services on a costrecovery basis. In 2022, 41 partners utilized WFP BSP services, a 50 percent increase from 2021. WFP BSP delivered 28 million litres of fuel through its Revolving Fuel Facility, ensuring uninterrupted services in health centers, WASH facilities, and vaccination centers across all 22 governorates. Additionally, WFP provided 1.4 million litres of locally sourced fuel to support NGOs and UN agencies. WFP **Yemen**, in partnership with WFP Shipping, facilitated the safe transport of 12.4,000 m<sup>3</sup> of cargo by sea. However, the volume of cargo transported by sea and air in 2022 decreased by 34 percent due to reduced demand for COVID-19related health cargo.

To overcome procurement and importation lead times in **Syria**, WFP used its Internal Project Lending facility to advance 37 percent of the received contributions in 2022. Purchases from WFP's Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF) were utilized to address global supply constraints for nutrition commodities and prevent assistance disruptions.

In **Libya**, WFP encountered challenges in procurement and distribution processes due to security conditions and intermittent clearance issues.









## FOOD SYSTEMS AND Local Economy

The conflict severely disrupted Ukraine's food systems, hampering the country's ability to export agricultural products, putting a strain on storage facilities, and leaving Ukrainian farmers with potentially devastating income losses.

WFP exported 480,000 mt of Ukrainian wheat and other commodities worth USD 160 million in 2022.

## BRAVE COMMANDER BEIRUT

FOR THE FULL STORY OF WFP IN UKRAINE, SCAN/ CLICK THE QR CODE



## **Evaluations and Learning**

WFP has instituted robust evaluation systems to ensure all programme activities are tracked and measured and data is used to identify corrective action wherever needed. In 2022, WFP offices in **Algeria**, **Egypt**, **Jordan** and **Palestine** conducted Country Strategic Plan (CSP) Evaluation. Additionally, WFP offices in **Lebanon**, **Türkiye**, **Palestine** and **Egypt** conducted Decentralized Evaluations.

Based on key evaluation results and recommendations of **Algeria**'s Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP), a revision of the cash-based transfer (CBT) value following inflation rate, market dynamics and monthly price monitoring was completed to inform possible changes in the ongoing CBT activity in line with expected nutritional outcomes. WFP explored opportunities to provide access to possible local production of fresh foods, also in response to key finding.

WFP **Egypt** concluded a final evaluation of its 2018-2023 CSP. WFP is increasing emphasis on localization and national institutional capacity strengthening efforts for evidence generation, to better inform development programmes. Additionally, a decentralized evaluation of the 'First 1,000 Days' Programme (from mid-2017 to mid-2021) was conducted. Mirroring similar results, the programme was found to be well aligned with Government and development objectives.

In 2022, WFP **Jordan** underwent an internal audit, an external audit and an independent evaluation of the Country Strategic Plan (2020-

2022) which provided further assurance of WFP Jordan's operations. The recommendations made by the evaluation of the CSP were systematically incorporated into the new CSP for 2023-2027. Overall, the evaluation showed that the CSP was aligned with the direction of the Government, with WFP maintaining an essential humanitarian response during the protracted Syrian refugee crisis as the vulnerabilities of Syrian refugees and Jordanians deepened. The evaluation also showed that WFP evolved further in the transition from the use of unconditional cash assistance to resilience and self-reliance activities and the development of more predictable social safety nets in partnership with the Government and other actors.

In December 2021, WFP Lebanon and

UNHCR jointly commissioned an independent decentralized evaluation of the Joint Action for Multipurpose Cash Assistance covering all joint programming between 2019 and 2021. The evaluation will generate evidence to inform joint UNHCR-WFP future programming for cash interventions, to strengthen gender-sensitive programme delivery in a context of continuing socio-economic crisis. Results and learning from this evaluation will be available and used in 2023.

WFP **Palestine**'s new five years CSP built on all its achievements, evaluations, and lessons learned in response to high food insecurity. The CSP evaluation found that WFP achieved strong results in a challenging context and made progress towards achieving its strategic outcomes. Its monitoring and analysis helped WFP to make the



strategic shifts set out in the CSP and to adapt to the changing context. The choice to move most of WFP's support to e-vouchers created efficiencies and fostered collaborations with UN agencies and civil society organizations. WFP also played a role in stabilizing and supporting conditions for peace, particularly in Gaza. Whilst the cessation of funding from WFP's largest donor had a dramatic impact, WFP responded rapidly and was able to mitigate the impact on beneficiaries. However, sustaining achievements is at risk due to donor fatigue and limited resources, and will require continued engagement and investment.

**Türkiye:** The findings of WFP's Decentralized <u>Evaluation</u> completed in December 2022 provided evidence that the Socioeconomic Empowerment and Sustainability (SES) programme made significant progress towards improving the wellbeing and livelihoods of refugees and Turkish nationals through improved access to the labor market. Building on this, WFP will keep working with the SES programme stakeholders to address evaluation recommendations and achieve better outcomes. In parallel, the programme contributed to institutional capacity strengthening by enhancing the inclusion and targeting of refugees in the national vocational training programmes.

#### WAY FORWARD

## 2023 Needs and Plans

### SUSTAINING RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO THE MOST VULNERABLE

Amid soaring food prices and persistent funding shortfalls failing to meet rising needs across the region, RBC will continue to safeguard and prioritize needs-based assistance to those furthest behind, embodying humanitarian principles. Through regular and robust needs assessment, RBC targeting will remain transparent, participatory, context-specific and people-centred to avert food insecurity and malnutrition risks.

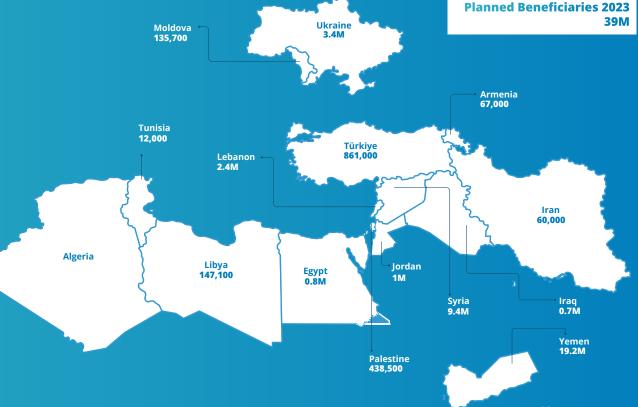
### ENHANCING TRANSITIONAL AND INTEGRATED PROGRAMMING

RBC will accelerate long-term transitional and integrated programming across its operations in the region, yielding lasting impact on people's food security and resilience. This entails multisectoral and coherent programmes, rather than scattered activities, with multi-benefits that address root causes of hunger and vulnerabilities and strengthen resilience capacities. Informed by resilience context analysis, these programmes will seek to shift beneficiaries from direct relief assistance to human capital development and food systems reform to transform their lives.

### STRENGTHENING ANTICIPATORY ACTION AND PRO-ACTIVE RISK MANAGEMENT

With increasingly frequent and severe climate disasters in the region, WFP is advocating for

and expanding anticipatory action for food security to build the countries' preparedness and response capacities against future emergencies, while integrating it with their social protection mechanisms for impact and sustainability. Going forward, WFP will support policy development, and knowledge exchange to help governments and vulnerable households anticipate, absorb and rapidly recover from climate shocks and stressors and reduce humanitarian needs over time.



## Endnotes

#### **SOCIAL PROTECTION**

**a** Partners and donors include European Union (ECHO), Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, UK, USA; ILO, IOM, IPC-IG, Sodexo, UNDP, UN-ESCWA, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN SDG Joint Fund, UN-Women, World Bank

β Joint Projects in Armenia, Iraq, Moldova, Lebanon, Palestine

**y** World Social Protection Report 2020–22: Regional companion report for Asia and the Pacific (ilo.org)

**λ** RBC covers Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine in Eastern Europe. "Coll-Black, Sarah; et al. 2023. Social Protection in a World of Crisis: Learning from the Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus. Social Protection and Jobs Discussion Papers; No. 2304, June 2023. © Washington, DC: World Bank. http://hdl.handle.net/10986/39950

#### **SCHOOL FEEDING**

**δ** Armenia, Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Morocco

E https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000147725/ download/?ga=2.106082947.1651681133.1684675 603-737649453.1604224906

#### **REFUGEES RESPONSE**

**ζ** UNHCR's Refugee Population Statistics Database as of 15/4/2023 : <u>https://</u> <u>www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/</u>

 $\pmb{\eta}$  According to Government of Lebanon estimates there are 1.5 million Syrian refugees in Lebanon

**0** According to Government of Iran estimates, 2.2 million undocumented Afghans also live in Iran.



#### SCALING UP CLIMATE ACTION AND RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS

₭ FFA activities supported 92 percent of beneficiary farmers in cultivating their lands, resulting in an increased cultivated area for 35 percent of these beneficiaries compared with the same season last year. FFA activities also helped five percent of beneficiaries mainstream cultivation using greenhouse strategies; of these, 80 percent expanded their area under cultivation, and 83 percent reported an increase in production and diversification of crops compared to the same season last year. WFP Resilience Activity -Food for Assets-Baseline and Endline Monitoring, December 2022.



## Acronyms

AAP	Accountability to Affected Populations
CBT	Cash-based transfers
CFM	Community Feedback Mechanism
COP27	The 27th Conference of Parties
CO(s)	Country office(s)
CSP	Country Strategic Plan
DI	Disability Inclusion
DRR	Disaster risk reduction
EPR	Emergency preparedness and response
EU	European Union
FFA	Food for Assets
GFA	General Food Assistance
GFD	General Food Distribution
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HGSF	Home Grown School Feeding
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
ILO	International Labour Organization
ΙΟΜ	International Organization for Migration

IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
LEO	Limited Emergency Operation
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MENAEE	Middle East, North Africa and Eastern Europe
mt	Metric Tonnes
NBP	Needs-Based Plan
PLW	Pregnant and Lactating Women
PLWG	Pregnant and Lactating Women and Girls
PSEA	Protection from Sexual
	Exploitation and Abuse
PwD	Persons with disabilities
RBC	Regional Bureau in Cairo
SAMS	SmallHolder Farmers
SBCC	Social and Behaviour Change Communication
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SMEs	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SR	Strategic Result

UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN-ESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency
UN-Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women
WHO	World Health Organization



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wfpMENA
@wfp\_mena
wfp\_mena

For more information, contact us at: RBC.OIM@wfp.org RBC\_OIM@wfp.org



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