



World Food Programme

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WFP Global Operational Response Plan 2023

Update #9

November 2023

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Executive Summary

CATASTROPHIC COSTS OF INACTION

As many as **333 million people are acutely food insecure in 2023** in the 78 countries with WFP operations and where data is available. This is an increase of 184 million people compared to pre-pandemic levels.¹

In 2023, an estimated **47.3 million people in 54 countries are in Emergency or worse levels of food insecurity** (IPC/CH Phase 4+, including severely food insecure based on CARI²), which is an increase of 6.9 million people compared to the estimate from June.

Women and girls bear the brunt of the food security crisis, engaging in high-risk coping strategies such as resorting to survival sex to feed their families, early marriages and they are at higher risk of gender-based violence.

Currently, an estimated **45 million children under five years of age suffer from acute malnutrition**, with numbers predicted to rise.

The number of **pregnant and breastfeeding women and adolescent girls suffering from acute malnutrition has increased by 25 percent** since 2020 in the 12 countries hit the hardest by the global food and nutrition crisis.

Protracted **conflict, climate disasters, economic shocks** and the prolonged financial aftermath of the pandemic continue driving up needs, while **funding levels dwindle**, and **access constraints** reduce the humanitarian space and increase operational costs.

The **historic funding decline** amidst a persistent global food crisis means **acute food insecurity** is expected to **increase significantly in severity in 2024 and beyond**, with consequences weighing heavier on women and girls.

Almost **half of WFP country operations have already reduced**, or plan to soon reduce, the size and scope of food, cash, and nutrition assistance programmes.

This expected leap in the funding gap will have untold consequences for the growing millions of people going unassisted and hungry, for **global stability and increased risks of mass migration**.

With less funding, the cost of inaction is rampant: **every one percentage point cut** in WFP assistance could push more than **400,000 additional people into emergency hunger**.

Country offices are **already employing prioritization strategies to meet expected funding levels** and will continue doing so into 2024. This means, WFP is implementing **further targeting of its assistance** based on levels of vulnerability to address the most urgent needs.

UNWAVERING COMMITMENT



Between January and June this year, WFP was able to reach an estimated **119.5 million people** with food, cash, and commodity vouchers.³

This is **8 million more people reached than the same period last year**. Still, in many countries, people have been excluded from assistance completely, while in others, people have been **assisted with reduced rations, or for a shorter period of time**, stretching assistance to enable a greater coverage of populations in need.

As of October, **WFP planned to reach 177.4 million people in 2023**, with projected operational requirements at US\$ 23.5 billion. WFP recognizes that **funding levels will not sustain the planned figures**.

For 2024, WFP plans to reach 157.3 million people, based on current funding outlooks and needs. The net funding requirements for the next six months (November 2023 to April 2024) stands at US\$ 8.8 billion.

Multi-year, **flexible funding** remains **more crucial than ever**. The Immediate Response Account allowed WFP to **act promptly** when conflict broke out in the **State of Palestine and Armenia**, during a sudden natural disaster in **Libya**, and when protracted crises worsened in **Afghanistan, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo**.⁴

APPEAL TO DECISION MAKERS



1. Leverage the power and influence of all stakeholders to **advocate for political solutions** for improved **humanitarian access, peacebuilding, and for the safe delivery of assistance**.
2. Invest in **food security of women and girls** and in emergency responses that are gender-sensitive, and transformative as a means to strengthen protection.
3. Prioritize **flexible, multi-year funding** to enable WFP to respond to and pre-empt emergencies.
4. Invest in **preparedness and anticipatory actions** to avert losses and damages for communities on the frontlines of crises.
5. Invest in scaling up **long-term solutions** that lift communities from the recurrent cycle of crises by building resilience.



Section I: The Cost of Inaction

DISTRESSING TRENDS

This year, WFP struggled to provide assistance to the 333 million acute food insecure people around the world. The historic funding decline amidst a persistent global food crisis means acute food insecurity is expected to increase significantly in severity in 2024 and beyond. This expected leap will have untold consequences for the growing millions of people going unassisted and hungry, for global stability and increased risks of mass migration.

These consequences will weigh heavier on women and girls; food insecurity is more prevalent among adult women than men in every region of the world,⁵ and systemic gender inequalities force women and girls to undertake dire coping strategies to survive, further amplifying the risk of experiencing higher rates of sexual assault and gender-based violence.⁶

Protracted conflict, climate disasters, economic shocks and the prolonged financial aftermath of the pandemic, continue driving up needs, while funding levels dwindle, and access constraints increase operational costs. Despite WFP's efforts to do *better* with less, it cannot do *more* with less. The cost of inaction due to the funding crisis is disastrous, risking hunger and instability to spiral out of control, often at the cost of women and girls who experience these shocks at disproportionately higher levels.

Sustained and flexible funding will be needed to stave off worsening global hunger and its catastrophic consequences. While many countries are grappling with protracted recessionary implications stemming from the pandemic and the conflict in Ukraine, the required funding level is nowhere in sight of being reached.

The insufficient humanitarian response occurs alongside shifts in global geopolitics and structural challenges, with the maintenance of good governance defied and undermined by non-state armed actors in fragile contexts.

Delivering humanitarian assistance often requires interaction with de facto authorities in dangerous and volatile political contexts. This is coupled with the growing trend in conflict settings of short term and shifting interests among warring parties hindering humanitarian principles of neutrality and impartiality. The humanitarian sphere of action is diminishing.

Without necessary funding and space for principled humanitarian action, WFP will not be able to respond to these growing humanitarian needs as required, and, with development investment also being affected by reluctance to engage in unstable contexts, the progress made is now jeopardized.

Protracted conflict-induced crises in **Sahel, Yemen, Syria** and **Afghanistan**, and recent worsening in **Sudan** and the **Democratic Republic of Congo** remain grossly underfunded despite attempts to scale up operations. The phasing down of some United Nations stabilization missions is accompanied by risks of increased insecurity, adding complexity to humanitarian access and boosting the costs of reaching the most vulnerable food insecure people.

THE CATASTROPHIC COST OF INACTION

Globally, humanitarian needs are extremely high and growing, while 68 percent of the total humanitarian financial requirement for 2023 is currently unmet.⁷ The trends in needs and funding levels are bifurcating, needs are soaring while funding levels are dwindling, with crippling funding gaps forcing WFP to apply strict prioritization of assistance and scale back life-saving support at a time when acute hunger is at record levels. Cutting assistance at this juncture will have untold consequences for millions of people around the world, risking reversing years of development gains and work fighting hunger and malnutrition.

Reducing assistance means taking away from the hungry to feed the starving. This is likely to push acutely food insecure people from Crisis levels to Emergency levels of hunger, and to increase acute malnutrition among the most vulnerable. A 30 percent cut in assistance could increase the number of people in Emergency levels of acute food insecurity globally by 13.2 million, adding about one third to an already staggering number. A 50 percent cut to assistance could increase that number by 23.6 million. This means that on average, every one percentage point cut in WFP assistance could push more than 400,000 additional people into emergency hunger.⁸

Almost half of WFP country operations have already reduced, or plan to soon reduce, the size and scope of food, cash, and nutrition assistance programmes. WFP is now being forced to save the starving at the cost of millions of others who are already hungry, and at risk for the unassisted to move closer to the edge of starvation. This is taking a significant toll on women and girls, as they bear the brunt of the food security crisis. Women often have less access to food and engage in high-risk coping strategies when they cannot access assistance, and the impact of crisis is exacerbated by gender inequality around the world.

The current funding crisis is preventing WFP and all its humanitarian partners from taking necessary action at the required scale. The cost of inaction is nothing short of catastrophic. Providing less food to hungry people only has one end result: more hunger.

THE FOOD CRISIS PERSISTS

The Global Food Crisis Corporate Scale-Up activated in 2022⁹ marked a shift in the recent history of hunger. In 2022, the number of acute food insecure people was at an unprecedented high, with a record 349 million people estimated to be food insecure. Since then, numbers have reduced slightly. Updated estimates for the 78 countries where WFP has an operational presence and where data is available indicate that 333 million people are acutely food insecure this year.¹⁰ This is an increase of 184 million people compared to pre-pandemic levels in early 2020. The slight reduction compared to the June estimate of 345 million acutely food insecure people is primarily due to reduced geographic coverage of the estimate and methodological adjustments. It should, however, be noted that updated data for some of the major food crises remain pending, including **Ethiopia, the State of Palestine, Syria and Yemen.**¹¹

The Small Print

Numbers on global acute food insecurity can differ among reports due to differences in methodology, timeframe, and purpose of each report. The global number presented in this report is different from the number presented in the Global Report on Food Crisis (GRFC). While the GRFC relies on consensus-based agreement by all partners (IPC/CH and equivalent sources), this report aims at providing relevant information for all WFP operations – also including remote data (rCARI – a WFP indicator for food insecurity).

This results in reports covering different countries and thus providing different figures: in this edition, this report provides information for 78 countries, while the 2023 GRFC reports data for 58 countries. The variation in global numbers can also be due to differences in time references. While this report keeps a forward-looking analysis and provides an estimate of the current year, the GRFC reports on the past year's numbers, or – in the mid-year update – numbers available in the first half of the year.

On a regional and country level, the use of different cut-off, peak or most recent data might lead to diverging numbers: This report provides an overall estimate for the reporting year, using the peak number of acutely food insecure people reported throughout the year for each country. Numbers reported by regional offices can differ from numbers presented here due to different objectives: The Regional Bureau in **Nairobi** uses the most recent data for their seasonal updates. The Regional Bureau in **Panama** tracks food security continuously using the most recent data and reports only values for the most vulnerable populations (IPC/CH Phase 4+ / CARI/ rCARI severely food insecure). The Regional Bureau in **Johannesburg** reports totals which include more countries from the wider region than the ones included in this report's regional estimates.

At the same time, while the overall number may have slightly decreased, the number of people in Emergency levels of hunger has increased, and the drivers of the food crisis are worsening. Armed violence and conflict, with recent escalations in the **Gaza Strip**, **Sudan** and the **Sahel**, continues to drive global displacements and food insecurity. The current El Niño climate event is negatively affecting agricultural production across various regions disrupting food availability. Additionally, the deteriorating global economic context poses added risks, including soaring domestic food inflation, a tight global rice market, and debt distress.





In 2023, an estimated 47.3 million people in 54 countries are in Emergency or worse levels of food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 4+, including severely food insecure based on CARI), which is an increase of 6.9 million people compared to the June estimate. Without urgent life-saving action, these populations will be at risk of falling into catastrophic or famine-like conditions.¹²

In the Rohingya refugee camps in **Bangladesh**, WFP had to reduce the cash-based transfer values from US\$ 12 to US\$ 10 per month per individual in March, with a further reduction to US\$ 8 in June. As a result, refugees are receiving only 83 percent of their minimum daily food intake. Since then, the food security situation in households have deteriorated and malnutrition rates have steadily increased after implementation of the cuts.¹³

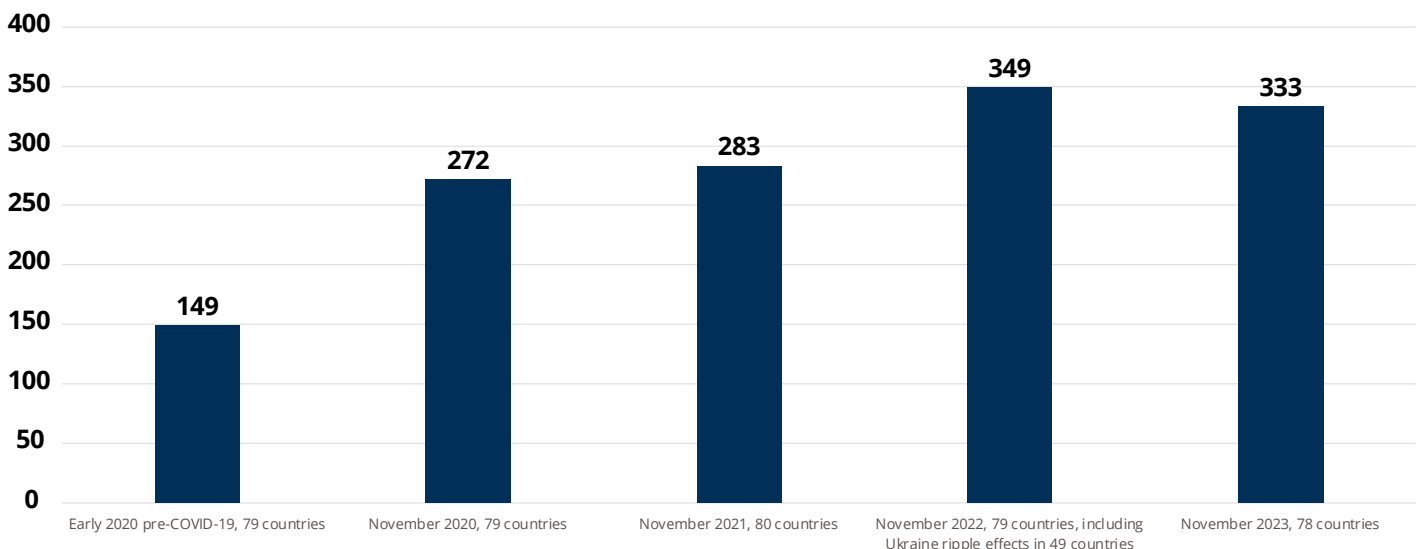
In addition, the number of Rohingya refugees reaching out to report a lack of food through WFP’s community feedback mechanism increased eight-fold to 6,000

monthly reports after the most recent (June) ration cut – including numerous reports of children losing weight and falling sick.

A post-distribution monitoring survey in June revealed that three-quarters of refugees reported they were concerned for their family’s safety, amidst rising tension in the camps following the ration cut. It also revealed the highest risk of forced or early marriage and property destruction due to worsened security situation.

At least 129,000 people in **Burkina Faso, Mali, Somalia, and South Sudan** were already facing Catastrophic level conditions (IPC/CH Phase 5) in 2023. This represents a reduction compared to 2022, a positive result which has been achieved also with the support of the prompt scale up of humanitarian assistance; a positive outcome that is likely to be reversed due to the inability to sustain the level of assistance required.

Acute food insecurity remains high Number of people in acute food insecurity, in millions



MOTHERS AND CHILDREN AT RISK: THE CONTINUING NUTRITION CRISIS

The global food crisis is also a nutrition crisis. The need for services to prevent and address malnutrition around the world remains high. Currently, an estimated 45 million children under five years of age suffer from acute malnutrition, with numbers predicted to rise.¹⁴ The global food crisis is deepening the nutrition crisis for women and girls, as the gender gap in food insecurity more than doubled from 2019 to 2021, and is only worsening.¹⁵

In the **Sahel**, in **Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania** and **Niger**, the estimated number of children affected by acute malnutrition reached 6.3 million children this year, compared to 3.8 million in 2019. Across East Africa, 11.4 million boys and girls are estimated to fall victim to acute malnutrition this year, in just five countries in the region: **Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, and South Sudan**.¹⁶ Nutrition screenings among Sudanese refugee children affected by the **Sudan** crisis in the **Central African Republic, Chad, and South Sudan**, showed over 15 percent are acutely malnourished. This suggests that children under five years of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women were already in a very precarious situation before their arrival.

In Eastern **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, the prevalence of acute malnutrition in internal displacement camps in North Kivu has reached 10 percent¹⁷ of the total number of camp residents which, combined with the already high levels of chronic malnutrition, significantly increases the mortality risk for children. Children affected by both acute and chronic malnutrition are between nine and twelve times more likely to die than well-nourished children.¹⁸ In **Afghanistan**, even before the recent devastating earthquakes, 12 of the country's 34 provinces had rates of acute malnutrition higher than 15 percent.¹⁹

In Latin America and the Caribbean, acute malnutrition is expected to continue to rise in the Central American Dry Corridor due to El Niño. **Guatemala**, which already experienced high prevalence of stunting, is currently showing wasting prevalence significantly higher compared to 2022.²⁰ In **Haiti**, some areas have reported rates of malnutrition higher than 10 percent²¹.

The global food crisis has overall worsened the undernutrition situation of women and girls especially, whose livelihoods, income and access to nutritious food have been disproportionately affected by conflict, climate change, poverty, and other economic shocks. Women and girls have less access to nutritious diets due to rising poverty and discriminatory norms, less access to information, and

have practices that limit their intake of nutritious food and utilization of health services.²² The number of pregnant and breastfeeding women and adolescent girls suffering from acute malnutrition has increased by 25 percent since 2020 in the 12 countries hit the hardest by the global food and nutrition crisis.²³

THE GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS IS A LOCAL FOOD CRISIS

The global food crisis continues to be intricately intertwined with the international economy. While international food, fertilizer and energy prices have fallen from their peaks in 2022, they remain well above pre-pandemic levels. Food prices are currently 25 percent higher than in December 2019, fertilizer prices 98 percent higher and energy prices 56 percent higher than the pre-COVID levels.²⁴ The overall price decline in recent months masks increases for individual commodities. Rice prices have risen to levels not seen in 15 years on the back of export restrictions and adverse weather conditions in major producing countries such as India and Thailand, including altered or exacerbated weather patterns related to the El Niño phenomenon.²⁵ Sugar prices have similarly increased substantially over the last year.²⁶ These price increases are detrimental to vulnerable communities already struggling to afford or access food, and pushing hungry people further into poverty.

The fall in international prices has not trickled down to all consumers, as food inflation remains high in many countries. Food inflation of over 10 percent is currently recorded in 52 countries, while in four countries food prices have more than doubled in the past 12 months.²⁷

Persistently high food inflation rates are reinforced by national macroeconomic dynamics. High public debt is often a major cause of economic instability, and the increasing cost of servicing debt – linked to monetary tightening in advanced economies – increases the risk of debt distress. As foreign exchange reserves are depleted, central banks in several countries fail to stabilize their currencies. Currencies in 26 countries have weakened by more than 15 percent against the US dollar over the past year. Weak currencies, in turn, keep prices for imported food high. Rising debt payments leave many developing countries with impossible decisions between repaying their debt or servicing their people. 3.3 billion people, nearly half of the world's population, live in countries that spend more on paying debt interest than on providing health or education services to their populations.²⁸ This lack of basic services compounds the difficult situation faced by many households worldwide, who are already suffering from the unaffordability of food.

IMPACTS OF THE NON-EXTENSION OF THE BLACK SEA INITIATIVE

The termination of the Black Sea Initiative (BSI)²⁹ in mid-July raises concerns, and has led to inefficiencies in WFP's operations. In addition to enabling transport of commodities to some of WFP's most complex operations, the BSI had contributed to stability in global food markets, including reductions in the price of wheat. From a global perspective including global access to grain, the collapse of the deal has profound implications for the grain market and is an unwarranted shock for the millions of food insecure people around the world who relied on the grain.

A HUNGRY WORLD IS AN UNSTABLE WORLD

Conflict remains one of the main drivers of hunger in most of the world's food crises. Seven out of ten acutely food insecure people – 235 million out of 333 million – live in fragile or conflict-affected situations. Notably, six out of ten of food insecure people are women and girls. In countries where catastrophic food insecurity conditions are experienced this year, there are high levels of armed violence. Food insecurity inevitably worsens when fighting drives large numbers of people from their homes and livelihoods, and when conflict restricts access to people in need of life-saving assistance. Violence breeds hunger, while hunger exacerbates fighting over scarce resources. Additionally, in some cases in fragile contexts, hunger and starvation are deliberately used as a tactic of war.

Across countries, mass displacement due to conflict is linked to higher levels of food insecurity, pushing people further into hunger and to resorting to high-risk coping mechanisms. Displacement also impacts agricultural production and disrupts markets; for example, this is the case in Eastern **Democratic Republic of Congo**, where massive displacement due to the conflict has severely disrupted crop harvesting, reducing food availability and increasing prices. In this region, some women and girls report having to resort to survival sex work to earn as little as 1 US dollar per day to feed their families. This type of gender-based risks increases in conflict-affected areas when women often become the single adult responsible for providing food and essentials for their household. During times of conflict, women and girls are also often subjected to sexual violence, child marriage, abuse, and abduction from their homes³⁰



WFP'S RAPID RESPONSE IN THE STATE OF PALESTINE

The conflict in Gaza, home to over two million Palestinians, has triggered a large-scale humanitarian crisis. Nearly one-third of the population of Palestine – 1.5 million people – were already food insecure before the conflict erupted, most of them in Gaza. Now, with each passing moment, the humanitarian situation in Gaza intensifies, with needs becoming more critical. The acute shortage of basic necessities such as fuel, water, power, food, and medical supplies is pushing people's lives to the edge of catastrophe.

WFP began providing emergency support since the onset of the conflict. As of 31 October, around 665,000 affected people in Gaza and the West Bank have received WFP assistance. Over the next months, WFP aims to aid 1.1 million affected people with emergency assistance in Gaza and the West Bank. In parallel, WFP is establishing a robust and agile supply chain network in the region to support the delivery of relief into Gaza via key access points, in particular the Rafah crossing in Egypt, contingent on humanitarian access.



CONFLICT & DISPLACEMENT IN SUDAN

The consequences of the Sudan conflict have been catastrophic. Over five million people have had to flee their homes to escape brutal violence, and hunger and disease are on the rise.

The fighting has created a humanitarian emergency both inside Sudan and in the wider region, both of which were already struggling to cope with mass displacement, economic turmoil and climate shocks before the latest crisis erupted.

The number of people internally displaced has nearly doubled since the start of the conflict. Since then, WFP Sudan has reached nearly three million people with general food assistance and critical nutrition support across 17 states in Sudan. WFP is planning to reach 5.9 million people by the end of this year, and anticipate coverage in all 18 states of Sudan in October 2023.

In Khartoum, where the conflict is most intense, WFP Sudan has been a lifeline for nearly 150,000 people in desperate need of assistance. Additionally, WFP Sudan successfully executed the third convoy from Chad to West Darfur, benefiting over 100,000 recipients. Cash-based transfers resumed in Kassala and WFP is looking to expand cash coverage in the states of Blue Nile, Gedaref and Red Sea.





INSTABILITY AND DISPLACEMENT IN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) – a nation wracked by decades of conflict – remains one of the most complex and protracted situations in the world. A surge in violence is once again pushing people out of their homes - for many, this is not the first time they have had to flee. They are worn down and homeless as hunger and malnutrition are pushing them towards the precipice.

In Ituri, North Kivu and South Kivu, the three conflict-affected eastern provinces, 5.5 million people are in acute hunger (IPC Phase 3+), of which 1 million remain in crisis levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 4).

Increased levels of desperation have resulted in the adoption of drastic measures to meet basic needs. In camps in and around Goma, the absence of livelihood opportunities for women means they are often left with few alternatives, forcing them to engage in survival sex.

This year, WFP has assisted 2.8 million people in Ituri, North Kivu and South Kivu, under its emergency response in-kind food, cash and nutrition programmes.

Due to a funding crisis, life-saving assistance for 3.6 million people in need in eastern DRC hangs in the balance. Despite raising the alarm as the fighting intensified, WFP has received little funding for its operations in the east.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE: THE DISPLACEMENT CRISIS



The world is facing a global displacement and refugee crisis marked by unprecedented numbers of people forced to flee their homes or countries due to armed conflict, persecution, and environmental disasters. As of the end of last year, an estimated 108.4 million people were forcibly displaced globally, a twofold increase in the last decade since 2010. This year, latest figures point to a further increase bringing the total number of refugees and displaced to an overwhelming 114 million people.³¹

Currently, the largest number of internally displaced persons is found in the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, with 5.8 million displaced.³² In the beginning of October, renewed fighting in North Kivu in Eastern DRC pushed out 146,000 people from their homes, some displaced multiple times.

Displaced people are often more vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition after abandoning their livelihoods and assets, undertaking difficult journeys, and settling in areas with limited access to basic services. In **Sudan**, since conflict erupted in April this year, 5.9 million Sudanese citizens have been displaced comprising 4.6 million internally displaced and an additional 1.1 million who have sought refuge across the borders in the neighbouring countries of **Egypt, Libya, Chad, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, and Ethiopia**.³³

The drivers of displacement in the eastern African region continue to remain complex, as conflict and insecurity intersect with human rights violations, socio-economic factors, and climate induced disasters. The region now hosts nearly 17 million internally displaced persons and approximately five million refugees and asylum seekers.

The Sahel is also facing one of the fastest growing displacement crises in the world, with armed conflict, deteriorating security and climate change leading to massive displacement across **Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger**. Over four million displaced people, including around three million internally displaced persons (IDPs), require humanitarian assistance.

WFP is responding to these crises by providing lifesaving humanitarian assistance to displaced people, as well as working with partners to bring sustainable and durable solutions to displacement – such as advocating for the extension of national social protection systems and basic services to include internally displaced persons and refugees.





LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS TO TACKLE THE VICIOUS CYCLE

In a bid to stem growing humanitarian needs, WFP's response must be integrated with longer term solutions that reduce future needs and prevent future flare-ups of acute hunger. Investments in multi-year, long-term programmes to complement emergency responses are essential to address the underlying root causes of hunger and help communities and governments escape the recurrent cycle of crisis and humanitarian assistance.

WFP's multi-year integrated resilience programmes and interventions in food system strengthening have been shown to reduce humanitarian needs over time, while also increasing communities' capacity to mitigate and adapt to severe and recurrent shocks related to impact of climate, the environment, health and the economy.

For over a decade, WFP has prioritised advancing financial protection as a means of building resilience to extreme weather events. Given the severe effects of the climate crisis, it is essential to enable households and communities to recover from losses and damages caused by climate-related shocks and prevent them from being pushed into hunger and food insecurity.

With the climate crisis accelerating, it is also imperative that – in parallel to saving lives – we strengthen the resilience of communities and enable governments to build better climate risk management systems.

Recognizing that most climate-related crises are predictable, WFP continues to scale up Anticipatory Action systems within global, regional, and national disaster risk management, social protection and humanitarian systems. WFP also actively supports the positioning of Anticipatory Action in the global humanitarian, development, and climate agendas.

WFP also supports strengthening national systems for long-term sustainability through school-feeding programmes, a key safety net, employing its six-decade experience in working with governments to support school meals and health, collaborating with more than 100 countries to set up sustainable national school meal programmes.

In the long term, WFP can also reduce the need for humanitarian interventions by working to strengthen the capacity of governments and national social protection and emergency preparedness systems. For example, through leveraging expertise in humanitarian response, WFP can assist governments in establishing more robust, adaptive social protection systems that are able to build social cohesion and improve support to vulnerable populations during or before a foreseeable shock. In doing so, WFP can help governments better meet the needs of their own populations, facilitating impact at a scale far exceeding the direct capacity to respond, and at a fraction of the cost.

WFP's shared goal must be to foster long-term solutions and end the vicious, unsustainable, and costly cycle of crisis and response.



AFGHANISTAN

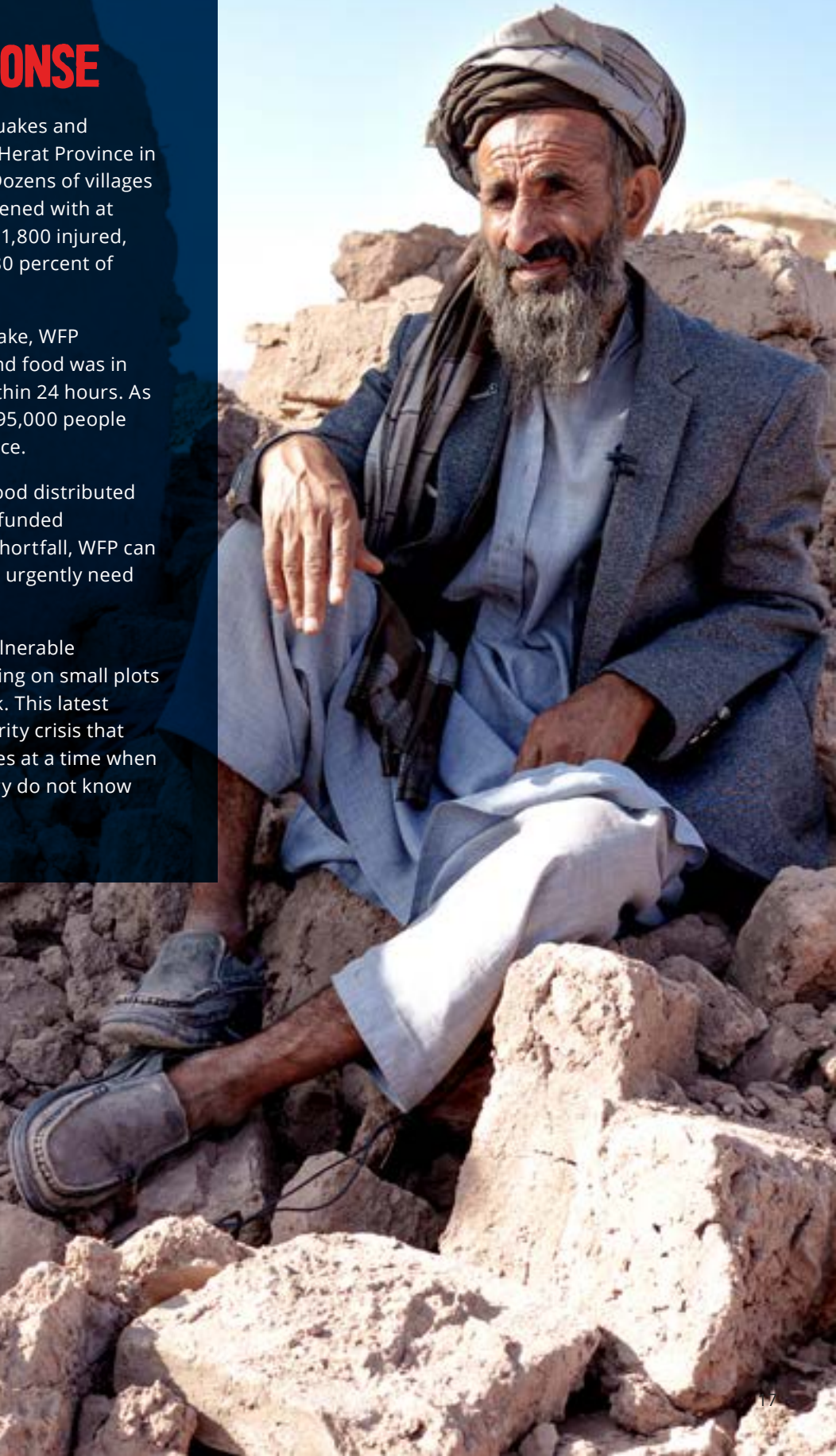
EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE

In October, three 6.3 magnitude earthquakes and multiple intense aftershocks struck the Herat Province in western Afghanistan within nine days. Dozens of villages are affected, many of them entirely flattened with at least 1,400 people killed and more than 1,800 injured, according to official figures. More than 80 percent of victims are women and children.

Within eight hours of the initial earthquake, WFP dispatched food to the affected areas and food was in the hands of the affected population within 24 hours. As of 21 October, WFP had reached nearly 95,000 people with 802 mt of emergency food assistance.

WFP is assisting the survivors, but the food distributed is taken from an already severely underfunded programme. Due to a massive funding shortfall, WFP can only support one out of five people who urgently need assistance to survive.

The earthquakes have struck already vulnerable communities barely able to eke out a living on small plots of land with just a few heads of livestock. This latest disaster only exacerbates the food security crisis that already existed in Afghanistan and comes at a time when over 15 million people across the country do not know where their next meal will come from.³⁴





Section II: WFP's Global Response

PEOPLE REACHED JANUARY TO JUNE 2023

While WFP's principled focus remains on striving to meet the needs of food insecure people, it is conscious of the many hungry people left behind. Between January and June this year, WFP was able to reach an estimated 119.5 million people with food, cash, and commodity vouchers.

This is eight million more people reached compared to the same period last year. Still, in many countries, recipients of assistance have been excluded from assistance completely, while in others, people have been assisted with reduced rations, or for a shorter period of time, stretching assistance to enable a greater coverage of populations in need.

This reflects the trade-offs country offices needed to make, given unprecedented needs and historic funding gaps.

TARGETING FIGURES FOR 2024

As of October, WFP planned to reach 177.4 million people in 2023, with projected operational requirements at US\$ 23.5 billion. WFP recognizes that funding levels will not sustain the planned figures. For 2024, WFP plans to reach 157.3 million people with US\$ 22.7 billion in operational requirements as per the 2024 Management Plan, based on current funding outlooks and needs. The net funding requirements for the next six months (November 2023 to April 2024) stands at US\$ 8.8 billion.

WFP is implementing targeting of its assistance based on levels of vulnerability and prioritizing to address the most urgent needs in key operations. These efforts will be replicated and implemented across contexts while building capacity to provide hands-on support to priority operations.

Empowerment through cash-based transfers

WFP cash empowers people to choose how to meet their essential needs, especially unrestricted cash, and is a way to provide aid in ways that give the people we serve dignity of choice so they can provide for their households in the way that is best for them. Cash assistance also supports markets, economically empowers women, and promotes financial inclusion to fight hunger and decrease inter-generational poverty. From January to September this year, WFP delivered US\$ 2.3 billion in cash-based transfers – US\$ 1.5 billion of which is unrestricted - and commodity vouchers to 46.7 million people (January – June) across 74 countries. This accounts for 38 percent of WFP's total assistance portfolio, a two percent increase compared with the same period, last year.

Up to 76 percent of the cash assistance was distributed in emergency operations, with **Somalia** leading at US\$ 380 million, followed by **Lebanon** at US\$ 214 million, and **Afghanistan** at US\$ 170 million.

Women's financial inclusion is a critical part of fighting food insecurity. Today for each dollar men earn, women make only 51 cents,³⁵ their employment is more precarious, and they carry the additional burden of providing care for family members.

Cash-based transfers and access to financial services can give women the power they need to make decisions, better cope with the impact of shocks, and build financial freedom and resilience. When women are economically empowered, everyone benefits - economies grow, women's participation in the labour market keeps girls in school, it reduces child marriage, and improves nutrition status and access to food. This is why WFP is taking important steps towards prioritizing women through the recently launched Cash-Based Transfer Policy and the reassurance work to strengthen accountability.

THE IMPACT OF IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

When a sudden crisis hits, it is critical that WFP responds quickly and efficiently to save lives before it is too late. During times of funding constraints, the Immediate Response Account (IRA) is WFP's flexible funding mechanism that allows emergency responses to mobilize quickly. The IRA allows WFP to prioritize immediate life-saving responses in an urgent emergency scale-up and be able to support people in dire need such as during the floods in **Libya**, and the sudden escalation of conflict in **Armenia** and the **State of Palestine** – all of which required rapid, immediate interventions. As of 30 October 2023, WFP has allocated US\$ 313.5 million from the IRA to support emergency responses.

Following the conflict in the **State of Palestine**, the IRA enabled WFP to swiftly distribute ready-to-eat food consisting of fresh bread and canned tuna to 132,000 civilians affected by the violence as well as the provision of additional vouchers of US\$ 5 to 164,000 people already receiving WFP assistance within the initial three days of the crisis.

The IRA proved invaluable by streamlining food prepositioning, eliminating waiting times in the procurement pipeline, and enabled an agile supply chain network, allowing for 5,230 mt of food to be available for dispatch in **Gaza, West Bank, Jerusalem, and Egypt** within ten days post-outbreak. WFP also utilized IRA funding to activate the Logistics Cluster for the response, facilitating logistics access, storage, assessments, analysis, and coordination to assist the broader humanitarian community. In **Libya**, WFP launched its life-saving food assistance within 24 hours after Storm Daniel in early September, that led to large scale flooding in the north-eastern part of the country. Since then, IRA funding has allowed WFP to provide food assistance to over 35,300 affected people with 216 mt of food across 26 locations addressing immediate food needs. WFP aims to assist 100,000 flood-affected individuals with in-kind food distributions and cash assistance for a crucial three-month period following the crisis.

In September, when the crisis started in South Caucasus, causing an influx of people through the Lachin Corridor into **Armenia**, WFP was on the ground to respond to the food needs of the affected population. In the immediate aftermath, WFP assisted 30,000 people, and was able to scale up to be ready to assist 68,000 people with rations sufficient for the first three months. WFP took swift action providing hot meals, ready-to-eat food, and in-kind food parcels in areas where the displaced arrived. Over the coming months, WFP will shift towards a cash-based assistance modality while prioritizing early recovery programming among the displaced and host communities to contribute to longer term resilience.

Ensuring consistent and principled access to people in need

The proliferation of armed conflicts, insecurity and civil unrest is greatly worsening food and nutrition insecurity to historic levels.

An example of how conflict affects food security is evident in **Haiti**, where insecurity and violence are rampant and multiple armed groups have deliberately targeted critical infrastructure including seaports, fuel terminals, airports, and key road networks, causing disruptions to the availability of food resources and services, further straining the food system. In **Burkina Faso**, armed groups intentionally cut off access to food and basic services, pushing populations into further starvation and forcing WFP to rely upon expensive airlift operations to reach those in need.

Conflict also jeopardizes humanitarian access to those in need. As WFP operations face humanitarian access constraints across the globe, from **Niger** to **Sudan** to **Myanmar**, working within the WFP corporate approach to access, the Operational Access (OA) and Humanitarian-Military Interaction (HMI) teams work to enable the delivery of programmes and tackle access constraints resulting from a wide range of factors, including conflict, political instability, and bureaucratic and administrative impediments.

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, WFP continues leveraging its access expertise to enable and sustain scale-up response by engaging with parties to the conflict in a conflict-sensitive manner. Recently, this resulted in the safe resumption of nutrition activities in areas affected by the conflict.

In **Mali** with the accelerated withdrawal of the UN Peacekeeping mission, MINUSMA,³⁶ and in **Niger** with the recent military-led change in central authority, WFP focussed efforts on maintaining access for humanitarian activities in rapidly changing environments. In **Sudan**, WFP access efforts have contributed to the resumption of programme activities in Darfur through cross-border operations from **Chad**, and the establishment of supply corridors in several areas of the country within **Sudan**. Nonetheless, the financial costs of relying on cross-border corridors to safely supply humanitarian assistance remain a concern.

Within the **State of Palestine** Crisis, WFP is key in facilitating coordination with partners and remains a central participant in ongoing discussions to secure sustainable humanitarian access to, and within Gaza.

ACCOUNTABILITY AMIDST CRISIS

When crises strike, WFP needs to mobilize quickly to send affected people life-saving assistance to help them through some of the toughest moments in their lives. In these situations, it is imperative that WFP strikes and manages the balance between the ethos of humanitarian delivery, and accountability towards both the people we serve, as well as our donors who entrust us the funds with which we carry out our mission. WFP achieves this balance through consideration of the risk, potential mitigation measures or alternative controls, and a clear framework for accountability and assurance.

In May this year, WFP paused its food distributions in Tigray, **Ethiopia** following deeply concerning reports of diversions. WFP takes these risks very seriously and has embarked on an ambitious Assurance Project to ensure vital food assistance can be provided to the most vulnerable across **Ethiopia**. The pause in assistance is having a major impact on food security and malnutrition in the country. While general food distributions are on hold, WFP’s nutrition assistance to children, pregnant and breastfeeding women, school meals, and activities for building the resilience of farmers and pastoralists continue.







In August, WFP launched an Accountability and Assurance Strategy in **Sudan**. The strategy focuses on identifying context-appropriate solutions, and considers capacity challenges, access, and partnership dynamics. It presents in three scenarios ranging from active conflict with restricted or suboptimal access to improved access, providing a framework that will guide WFP’s programming.

Across the organization, WFP has designed and continues to improve and implement various measures to ensure food assistance reaches and meets the needs of its intended recipients. WFP is further scaling up our monitoring work, as a critical component of any prioritization of resources.

DRASTIC CUTBACKS

During the first six months this year, WFP reduced rations on average by 42 percent compared to the plan, while the average ration reduction during the same period in 2022 was at 32 percent.³⁷ During the same six-months period, the average size of a daily ration was reduced by 15 percent compared to last year. At the same time, due to funding constraints, country offices had to reduce the number of persons reached with nutrition programmes, both treatment and prevention, in areas where there is still high food insecurity.

As a result, malnutrition is likely to increase as reduced ration is no longer sufficient to help meet the full nutritional needs of food insecure people, while many children under the age of five and pregnant and breastfeeding women are no longer receiving nutrition assistance to manage malnutrition due to funding cuts.

Average size of a daily ration, January-June 2023 compared to January-June 2022			
		-30%	Asset Creation and Livelihood Cash
		+4%	Asset Creation and Livelihood Food
		-7%	School based programmes Food
		-19%	Unconditional Resource Transfers Cash
		-13%	Unconditional Resource Transfers Food
		-15%	Total All modalities

The increase in number of people reached has been accompanied by a reduction in the daily ration or entitlement size in food and cash programmes. Across most modalities and activities, ration have been reduced more this year than last year.



WFP country operations are making these hard prioritization calls to adapt to the reduction in available funding. Prioritization means having to choose who will eat, who will not, and how much. As examples:

- In **Afghanistan**, in March, funding shortfalls meant WFP was forced to cut rations from 75 to 50 percent for communities facing Emergency levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 4). Then, in both May and September, WFP was forced to exclude people from its assistance programme, cutting a total of 10 million people from critical food and cash assistance – a reduction from 23 million in 2022 to now only serving three million people with life-saving assistance. This is despite humanitarian needs remaining at steady and worrying levels.
- In **Syria**, assistance was cut for 2.5 million of the 5.5 million people who rely on WFP for their basic food needs. These 5.5 million were already on half rations. As further reductions in ration sizes were not possible, WFP was forced to deselect and cut back assistance to three million Syrians as of July.
- In **Yemen**, WFP has been forced to reduce the scope and scale of most of its activities. 13 million people receiving general food assistance are already on significantly reduced rations, and further large-scale assistance cuts are imminent. More than two million children and pregnant and breastfeeding women are no longer receiving preventative nutrition support. Without additional funding, WFP will be forced to scale down its programme for the treatment of malnourished children and women.
- In **South Sudan**, funding constraints mean WFP can only provide half rations and must prioritise life-saving assistance for those closest to famine. Two-thirds of the population (7.76 million people) are facing hunger (IPC Phase 3+), including 43,000 people facing catastrophic hunger. Yet, WFP is only able to provide assistance to 3.2 million people facing the highest levels of food insecurity due to funding shortfalls. Malnutrition prevention activities were implemented merely in areas with IPC Phase 4 and above, and the target for the treatment programme was reduced by 10 percent.
- In **Haiti**, WFP has been forced to reduce the number of people who receive emergency food assistance by 25 percent since July. The cut means 100,000 of the most vulnerable Haitians are without WFP emergency food assistance. At current levels of funding, WFP will be unable to reach an additional 700,000 people who are in desperate need of food assistance this year.
- In **Malawi**, funding shortfalls forced WFP to cut rations to 51,000 refugees living in Dzaleka Refugee Camp by half starting in July. WFP had already been distributing reduced rations since 2020.
- In **Mozambique**, WFP was forced to cut rations in April 2022 and has not been able to fully reinstate them since. WFP is currently providing assistance every other month to 600,000 people affected by conflict.
- In **Niger**, funding cuts prior to the political crisis meant that WFP was forced to reduce the number of people assisted during the June-August lean season from 1.5 to 1.1 million, while also reducing the assistance duration from three to two months and cutting rations from 80 percent to 65 percent affecting 510,000 conflict-affected refugees, IDPs and members of the host community. Challenges linked to the ongoing crisis mean that WFP could be forced to make even deeper cuts to its assistance.

Given the current abyss between soaring needs and reduced funding levels, the majority of WFP operations will experience severe cuts during the remainder of 2023 and into 2024, resulting in surging costs of inaction.



MPOSHI BILIMA JOZEPHENE



RECOGNIZING GENDER DIMENSIONS ACROSS RESPONSES



The cost of inaction on women and girls is appalling - especially when it worsens violence. Between January and September this year, 56,312 cases of gender-based violence were reported in the conflict-ridden eastern provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo.³⁸ Women are experiencing high rates of sexual assault when travelling to find food, access markets, undertake agricultural activities, and to collect wood to sell for income and for use in cooking. Women within displacement camps are also involved in survival sex in order to generate income to meet household needs, including food.

To mitigate the increased risk of gender-based violence due to food insecurity, WFP is implementing gender-responsive approaches across its programming in countries by:

1. scaling up assistance giving families better access to food and resources and limit exposure to violence,
2. adopting a flexible approach in the modalities used for assistance and ensure continuity of assistance,
3. engaging in strategic partnerships with gender actors, and
4. pending additional funding, introducing safe alternative income generating activities for women to reduce their resort to risky coping mechanisms that expose them to violence.

In Afghanistan, economic collapse, drought, and a food crisis, joined with structural inequalities, are severely impacting women's access to food, education, and economic opportunities. This situation is greatly affecting the capacity of women and men to provide for and protect the overall health, wellbeing and nutritional requirements of themselves and their families.

Prioritizing gender in WFP's work means also looking at ways to compensate for costs that women incur by participating in livelihood activities, ensure safer distributions to increase access to assistance for women, advocate to address specific gendered barriers, and engage with men to be gender-equality champions. All of this work requires in-depth context-relevant analyses of socio-economic dynamics in order to be more transformative³⁹ in addressing underlying root causes of gender inequalities.

INNOVATION FOR BETTER USE OF RESOURCES

Innovation remains a critical priority to invest in long-term solutions and transform how WFP serves vulnerable communities worldwide. The WFP Innovation Accelerator reached 37 million people last year, supporting diverse innovators to tackle food security and livelihood challenges. This year, WFP expects an even greater impact with continued scaling and the introduction of new innovations to the WFP portfolio.

Optimus is one of the innovations backed by the WFP Innovation Accelerator, which uses data from various sources to provide insights on food basket design, sourcing, and distribution. This helps WFP teams optimize responses despite constraints and saved the organization over US\$ 50 million last year.

The WFP Innovation Accelerator also collaborated with WFP **India** to support Solar for Resilience (S4R), a solution benefiting female smallholder farmers through micro-loans and solar tech. By using solar dryers to process perishable foods that otherwise would have gone to waste, the 300,000 S4R microentrepreneurs have raised a collective US\$ 12 million in additional income while averting 350 mt of CO2 emissions and 50,000 kg of postharvest losses.

Innovation has a unique capacity to reach women and girls with both high and low technology solutions, adapting to community needs and addressing hunger and poverty.

The complex crisis in Haiti

For several years, **Haiti** has been experiencing a complex crisis, intensified by growing insecurity, armed group control of key points of access in and out of Port-au-Prince, socio-political turmoil, natural disasters, rapid inflation, and the re-emergence of cholera. An alarming 44 percent of the population, or 4.35 million people, are acutely food insecure.⁴⁰ Inflation and trade interruption at the border could push an additional 500,000 people into food insecurity.⁴¹ The country currently has 200,000 displaced persons, primarily a result of increased violence, especially in the metropolitan area.

A critical funding shortfall is constraining WFP's ability to assist a total of 2.3 million people through emergency food assistance, nutrition-sensitive safety nets, school feeding, and resilience programmes. On 2 October 2023, the UN Security Council passed a resolution approving the deployment of a Multinational Security Support Mission to Haiti. The implementation of humanitarian initiatives and long-term solutions continues vital to support efforts for re-establishing security and stabilizing the country.

CAPITALIZING ON SCARCE RESOURCES THROUGH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

While WFP strives to do better with less, emergency preparedness remains a salient asset that not only saves money in the long term by reducing the need for expensive emergency responses, but better prepares communities and saves lives.

Emergency preparedness is a proven tool and continues to be one of WFP's key strategic investments to achieve faster, more effective, and more cost-efficient emergency responses. For every US\$ 1 invested in emergency preparedness, US\$ 2.60 is saved in future response costs.⁴² Investing in preparedness activities was found to result in a 14-day reduction in the time it takes to respond after a crisis occurs, resulting in the faster delivery of assistance.

Since the launch of the renewed emergency preparedness approach last year, WFP continues to enhance its preparedness efforts by providing tailored support to countries with imminent risks.

For example, this year, customized technical support was provided to **Peru** that contributed to national-level preparedness led by the government and triggered inter-sectoral coordination in national preparedness planning. This cooperation influenced the government to make important decisions such as allocating US\$ 820 million to emergency preparedness and response to strengthen readiness for the possible impacts of El Niño.

This renewed emergency preparedness approach has been mainstreamed across the Latin American and the Caribbean region with specific support provided to **Haiti, Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia, El Salvador, Cuba, Dominican Republic, and Barbados**. This prepared for the increased risks from El Niño that WFP operations continue to implement. This also includes preparedness activities such as monitoring multi-hazard early warning alerts, employing specific cash preparedness measures, ensuring broader access to micro- and macro-insurance coverage, and bolstering support to enhance shock-responsive social protection systems.

After Cyclone Freddy devastated countries in Southern Africa earlier this year, **Malawi** has been strengthening their preparedness capacity to address the most imminent risks such as cyclone-induced floods and anticipated drought from the projected El Niño. WFP is initiating preparedness activities to streamline cross-cutting processes for emergency response and to implement the renewed preparedness strategies that combine early warning analysis data with operational programming. This is expected to not only save lives but reduce programmatic spending of emergency responses needed the next time a disaster hits.



COORDINATION FOR GREATER EFFICIENCY

Responding efficiently to emergencies requires the coordinated work of several partners – be they humanitarian agencies, governments, or private sector operators – each contributing their unique expertise and know-how.

Drawing on its operational experience, research and use of innovative tools, WFP is the lead agency of the Logistics Cluster and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster, and co-leads the Food Security Cluster with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

LOGISTICS CLUSTER

In response to the onset of emergencies due to the floods in Libya and the intensifying crises in Burkina Faso, Niger, Sudan and across the Sahel, the Logistics Cluster continued to demonstrate its pivotal role in bridging common logistics gaps and increasing efficiency by rapidly scaling up its support for humanitarian partners and contributing to a collective and coordinated response.

In its leading role in humanitarian logistics, WFP has established a presence in Port Said, **Egypt** to enhance WFP and its partners capacity to respond to the **Gaza** crisis. Additionally, plans are in place to augment logistical capacity at key locations in Egypt to support the Egyptian Red Crescent led humanitarian response efforts for the **State of Palestine** emergency operations, with increased storage and transport capacity. Collectively, these activities have continued to ensure that humanitarian aid could be delivered more efficiently and effectively to those in need.

EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS CLUSTER

Connectivity and communications services are provided by the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) to the entire humanitarian community responding to emergencies. In 2023, the ETC connected 9,195 humanitarian users from 360 organizations across 10 emergency countries.

The ETC's preparedness initiatives, notably in regions such as the Pacific, emphasize resilience and advanced readiness in information and communications technology at both global and national levels. This year, the ETC initiated or sustained emergency responses in **Bangladesh, Nigeria, Palestine**, the Sahel region, **Sudan, Syria, Türkiye, Ukraine**, and **Yemen**.

FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER

In 2023, the Food Security Cluster (FSC) sought to assist 152 million people across 30 countries, a 12 percent increase from 2022, due to mounting global demands.

Despite severe financial constraints and a funding shortfall of 80 percent for the cluster, the FSC and its partners displayed unwavering commitment, delivering food support to 94 million people in need and extending agricultural and livelihood support to 16 million people in need. The FSC successfully assisted in the flood response in **Libya**, the earthquake response in **Afghanistan**, and other crises in **Haiti, DRC**, and **Sudan**. With a focus on strengthening coordination, the FSC is gearing up to tackle rising challenges head on.

WFP LOGISTICS RELIEVING THE FERTILIZER CRISIS

WFP has continued to undertake its role, as requested by the UN Secretary-General,⁴³ of providing logistics services to assist in unblocking supply chains for Russian and Ukrainian fertilizers stranded in various European ports. In addition to transporting fertilizer to both **Kenya** and **Malawi** late last year and early this year, WFP has facilitated the transport of 23,140 mt of fertilizer from Belgium and Latvia to **Mozambique**, for onward transport to **Zimbabwe**. Additionally, WFP is preparing to transport 33,812 mt to **Nigeria** and 55,000 mt from Latvia to **Sri Lanka**. This fertilizer is expected to sustain agricultural yields in these countries, potentially contributing to more stable food prices and food security as a result.

MITIGATING IMPACTS OF THE NON-EXTENSION OF THE BLACK SEA INITIATIVE

As of 17 July this year, when the Black Sea Initiative was not extended, close to 33 million mt of grains and other food products - primarily corn, wheat, and oil or oil seeds - had been exported from Ukraine under the initiative since the first vessel left the Port of Odessa on 1 August 2022. Of this, WFP loaded and transported approximately 725,000 mt of wheat on 24 vessels, for delivery to five operations: **Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia** and **Yemen**.

Due to the discontinuation, WFP has activated alternative sourcing options for wheat grain. Alternatives are available on the global market, but at a higher price and with longer lead times – jeopardizing the effectiveness and efficiency of deliveries of food to those we serve. Operations have now become more expensive, and products may take longer to deliver. WFP will continue to pursue efficient options and of the lowest cost to the organization, including from Ukraine.





Section III: Appeal to Decision Makers

Collective effort is needed to tackle the current bifurcating trend between soaring needs and dwindling funding levels, compounded by increased operational costs in contexts of conflict-induced shrinkage of the humanitarian space. WFP will not be able to do more with less, but will strive to do *better* with less.

WFP appeals to decision makers, partners and stakeholders to support: political solutions to improve humanitarian access; gender sensitive responses; flexible and multiyear funding; and more investment in anticipatory action, preparedness, and longer-term solutions to strengthening national governments' ability to respond.

THE FUNDING GAP

Amidst global demands for urgent humanitarian and development assistance at a time when resources for such action are stretched to their limits, WFP, as the largest humanitarian agency, is this year facing the largest gap between needs and resources. The projected operational requirements for 2024 are currently US\$ 22.7 billion, while the forecasted contributions are at US\$ 10 billion, leaving a funding gap of a breathtaking 56 percent. Country offices are already employing strategies for reductions to meet the actual funding levels and will continue doing so into 2024.

As of 30 October, this year WFP has received US\$ 6.2 billion, which is 40 percent lower than received at the same time last year and represents only 26 percent of the US\$ 23.5 billion in operational needs this year.

Continued close cooperation with partners is critical to uphold the humanitarian principles, promote the centrality of protection, implement conflict-sensitive programming, maintain humanitarian access and leverage humanitarian diplomacy. In this era of rising global needs and shrinking resources, effective partnerships are needed to ensure that the people who need assistance receive it safely, in full, and without interference.

The cost of inaction in addressing food insecurity is extremely high, extending beyond immediate suffering of food insecurity and malnutrition but also including longer-term consequences for peace and stability, socio-economic development, gender equality, and human capital gains.

To maintain impact amid the funding gap, WFP adapts its humanitarian action by capitalizing on its resources and reprioritizing assistance. To improve sustainability of these responses, it is also necessary to proactively invest in long-term programmes and solutions that address adequate emergency preparedness, tackle the root causes of hunger, build communities' resilience to shocks, and break the cycle of recurring crises, hunger, and destitution. Programmes that address the underlying causes of hunger require commitments over many years to deliver success.

Continued diversification and engagement of new funding sources and mechanisms will be critical for the prevention of the most drastic consequences of the current funding crisis and flexible funding is key to support more efficient and effective use of limited resources.

BROADENING PARTNERSHIPS

Continued diversification and engagement of new funding windows and mechanisms will be critical for the prevention of the most drastic consequences of the current funding crisis.

Increasing the breadth of engagement will allow WFP to utilize more diverse resources and expand our responses. By engaging with new partners, including increasing collaboration with the private sector and new government partners, WFP will seek to reach new audiences and improve future funding outlooks.

WFP continuously strives to broaden partnerships through new engagements and increased diversity in collaborations.

THE FLEXIBILITY TO RESPOND WITHOUT DELAY

The Immediate Response Account (IRA) is WFP's flexible funding mechanism to allocate funds to jump-start life-saving emergency activities within 72 hours of a sudden-onset shock. This allows WFP to scale-up needs faster while donor appeals are made, or as a "last resort" to fund life-saving assistance when contributions are not yet available or forecasted.

As of 30 October 2023, WFP has allocated US\$ 313.5 million from the IRA to support emergency responses, including recent allocations to support life-saving activities in **Burkina Faso, Haiti and Libya** which are all designated for corporate attention, as well as the **State of Palestine** for the emergency corporate scale-up response.

In 2023 so far, the IRA has received US\$ 96.8 million in direct contributions and nearly US\$ 125 million in allocations have been repaid to the account with eligible donor contributions. WFP will continue to advocate for increased flexible funding.

KEY ASKS

WFP's call to decision makers and stakeholders

1. Leverage power and influence to advocate for political solutions for improved humanitarian access, the safe delivery of assistance, and address the drivers of hunger.

Conflict is often a key barrier to the delivery of assistance, causing blockages of humanitarian access, obstructive bureaucratic impediments, and extreme risks to humanitarian staff, all of which prevent the necessary assistance from being distributed to those most in need. Collaborating for peacebuilding in fragile contexts and advocating for both safe access for humanitarians, and the delivery of assistance based on humanitarian principles, must be supported by governments and key stakeholders - to save lives and enable humanitarian action.

2. Invest in food security of women and girls and in emergency responses that are gender-sensitive, as a means to strengthen protection.

When a crisis strikes - whether it be conflict, climate disasters, or economic shocks - women and girls are disproportionately affected and often bear the brunt of the impacts. By investing in women and girls and ensuring funding and responses account for complex gendered dimensions, carefully designed activities can address underlying gender disparities that are exacerbating humanitarian needs.

WFP calls to stakeholders to support the economic empowerment and food security of women and girls.

3. Prioritize flexible, multi-year funding to enable WFP to respond to and pre-empt emergencies.

WFP needs to do better with less. Multi-year and flexible funding remain more crucial than ever for WFP to swiftly respond to emergencies, and to adapt effectively to changing situations on the ground. This will also ensure that preparedness and anticipatory action initiatives are put in place to pre-empt crises to save lives and resources in the long term. The lives and livelihoods of the people WFP serves depend on the timely provision of assistance. WFP's Immediate Response Account is pivotal to rapidly respond to save lives.

4. Invest in preparedness and anticipatory actions to avert losses and damages for communities and generate significant efficiency gains.

The ongoing El Niño climate event is negatively affecting agricultural production, while the climate crisis is only worsening. The consequences are primarily being suffered by already vulnerable communities around the world. Some countries are facing multiple Impacts such as socio-economic challenges and conflict escalations. Supporting and scaling-up the implementation of early warning systems, preparedness and anticipatory actions will help communities withstand these shocks and minimize losses, while also staving off the later more costly emergency responses.

5. Invest in scaling up long-term solutions that lift communities from the recurrent cycle of crises by building resilience.

Many crises where WFP works are protracted in nature, driven by the root causes of hunger and famine that keep fragile communities dependent on long-term humanitarian support. Investment across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus, can help WFP to scale up some of these proven solutions - helping to build communities' resilience to the drivers of hunger and famine, and sustainably reduce the need for cyclical humanitarian support. This requires development actors to invest in restoring stability in fragile contexts through a "whole of society approach".





Section IV: WFP Operations of Corporate Concern - November 2023

OPERATIONS OF CORPORATE CONCERN

(NOVEMBER 2023)

EARLY ACTION

ARMENIA
BANGLADESH
BOLIVIA
CAR
COLOMBIA
EGYPT
GUATEMALA
HONDURAS
KENYA
LESOTHO
MADAGASCAR
MALAWI
MOZAMBIQUE
PAKISTAN
TOGO
UKRAINE
ZIMBABWE

CORPORATE ATTENTION

AFGHANISTAN
BURKINA FASO
CHAD
ETHIOPIA
HAITI
LEBANON
LIBYA
MALI
MYANMAR
NIGER
NIGERIA
SOMALIA
SOUTH SUDAN
SYRIA
YEMEN

CORPORATE SCALE-UP

DRC
PALESTINE
SUDAN

The designations employed and the presentation of material in the map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of WFP concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory, city or sea, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The list is not exhaustive. Across all WFP's operations, funding gaps affect all or some part of its programme and the cost of inaction are increasingly rampant. Section IV provides additional details by country on WFP's response plan and funding requirements for the coming six months.

WFP's Operations of Corporate Concern November 2023

WFP's Operations of Corporate Concern are the countries where the severity and scale of WFP's operational requirements, the urgency of funding gaps, operational complexity, and heightened risks intersect. Operations are selected based on assessment of the five emergency criteria adapted from the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Humanitarian System Wide Scale-Up Activation: Scale, Urgency, Complexity, Capacity, and Risk of Failure. The Democratic Republic of Congo, State of Palestine and Sudan are the operations currently undergoing Corporate Scale-Up, while 15 countries are identified for Corporate Attention, and other 17 for Early Action.

The **Democratic Republic of Congo, State of Palestine and Sudan** are the operations currently undergoing Corporate Scale-Up, while 15 countries are identified for Corporate Attention, and other 17 for Early Action.

Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

Jammu & Kashmir: Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in the map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of WFP concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory, city or sea, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Section V: WFP Response by Country

Asia and the Pacific

The region is facing unprecedented levels of acute food insecurity and mounting humanitarian needs, with 77.9 million people experiencing acute food insecurity in 2023. Conflict, political instability, extreme weather, and the impact of the global food crisis worsen the regional food security and nutrition.

Humanitarian funding is struggling to keep pace with rising needs. In **Afghanistan**, funding shortages have forced WFP to scale down its operations, with 10 million people already cut from assistance, leaving support for only 1 out of 5 in need of food assistance (IPC Phase 3+, May–October 2023). In **Bangladesh**, WFP was left with no choice but to reduce the value of its life-saving food vouchers for 900,000 Rohingya refugees, leading to increasing malnutrition and a deteriorating security situation. Meanwhile, conflict and political turmoil have persisted in **Myanmar**, with 15.2 million people facing acute food insecurity. In **Pakistan**, economic deterioration and rising unemployment are exacerbating political instability amid security concerns, climate, and monsoon-related risks.

WFP 2024 TARGET BENEFICIARIESⁱ

30.3M



6-MONTH NET FUNDING REQUIREMENT (NOV 2023 – APR 2024)

US\$ 1,174M

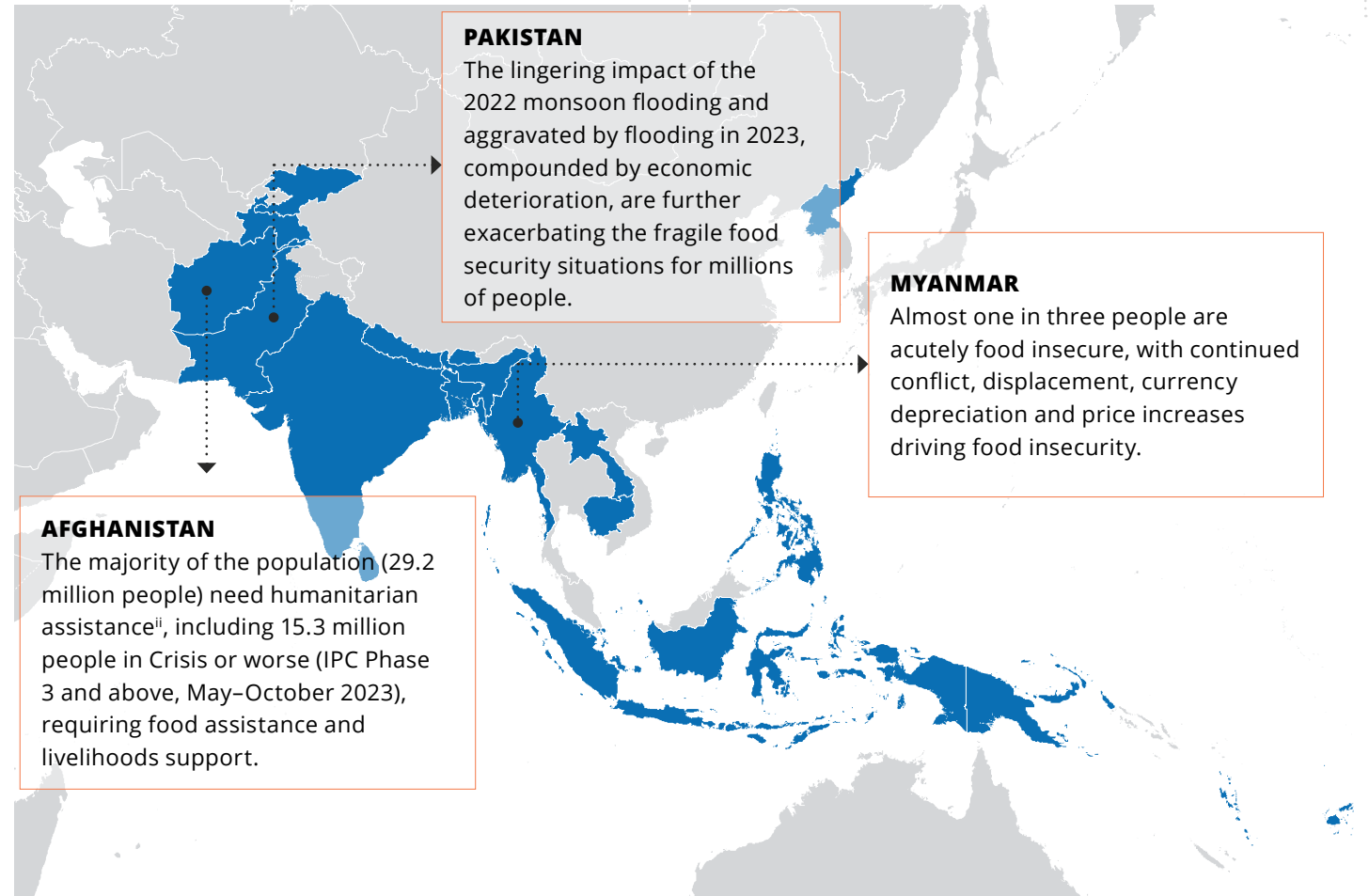
(72% OF TOTAL REQUIREMENT)



WFP OPERATIONS OF CORPORATE CONCERN

CORPORATE ATTENTION: AFGHANISTAN, MYANMAR

EARLY ACTION: BANGLADESH, PAKISTAN



The designations employed and the presentation of material in the map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of WFP concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory, city or sea, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The list is not exhaustive. Across all WFP's operations, funding gaps affect all or some part of its programme and the cost of inaction are increasingly rampant. Section IV provides additional details by country on WFP's response plan and funding requirements for the coming six months.

Jammu & Kashmir: Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

i. The 2024 target beneficiaries are based on the Management Plan 2024 - 2026 data collection process.
ii. [OCHA. 2023. Afghanistan: Revised Humanitarian Response Plan 2023 - Afghanistan.](#)

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC		SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2024		TOTAL REQUIREMENTS ⁱⁱⁱ IN US\$ MILLION (NOV 2023 -APR 2024)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS ^{iv} IN US\$ MILLION (NOV 2023 -APR 2024)	% OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (NOV 2023 -APR 2024)
Afghanistan	Severe funding constraints forced WFP to cut 10 million people from emergency food assistance since April, and all rations remain reduced to 50 percent of the minimum requirement. Due to persisting funding constraints, WFP can only support 3 million out of 15.3 million people requiring emergency food assistance. With multiple earthquakes devastating over 100,000 people in October, and millions of people teetering on the edge of destitution as the winter lean season approaches, WFP requires US\$919 million to sustain operations over the next six months.	1,086	919	85%		
Bangladesh	Reduced rations remain a reality for 913,000 Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar. As rations were reduced to only US\$8 per person per month (against the full ration of US\$12), families have been skipping meals, forgoing nutritious foods, and taking on debts. Meanwhile, an increasing number of children are being admitted for malnutrition treatment. WFP urgently needs US\$165 million to restore the full ration until the end of 2024. Another US\$9.6 million is required under the Humanitarian Response Plan to assist 180,000 people affected by severe floods in southern Bangladesh.	158	86	54%		
Bhutan	WFP's support of the national school feeding and nutrition programme will continue in 2024. WFP supports the government in improving agricultural value chains, food security, and smallholder farmers' production; and strengthening national emergency preparedness and response capacities in logistics, emergency telecommunications, and food security. From March 2024, WFP will implement its next Country Strategic Plan focusing on expanding investments and capacities in resilient food systems, integrating nutrition into social protection programmes such as school feeding, and strengthening systems for emergency preparedness and response.	2	0.212	10%		
Cambodia	WFP prioritizes evidence generation for programme design and advocacy. It collaborates with the government to monitor the impact of global events on food prices in-country. WFP ensures nutritious school meals, supports smallholder farmers, and is institutionalizing the national school feeding programme. WFP supports national capacity in social protection, disaster risk management, food security and nutrition, and promoting resilience and sustainable development.	10	0.388	4%		
DPR Korea	The DPRK government has begun to announce procedures for entry of goods and people post-COVID-19 but has not yet indicated when UN international staff may return. WFP is in close contact with DPRK authorities and the UN Country Team, and once its international staff has returned, WFP plans to resume food assistance for children in nurseries, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and children in pediatric wards and hospitals, including 770,590 beneficiaries to receive nutrition assistance.	35	11	32%		
India	WFP provides technical assistance and capacity support to the government to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of national assistance programmes such as the food-based social protection schemes. Through capacity strengthening, WFP contributes to strengthening access to food, reducing malnutrition, enhancing livelihoods, and promoting women's empowerment. WFP also supports vulnerable communities to effectively tackle climate-induced challenges to food security and nutrition. Further, WFP facilitates countries in the Global South to learn from India's experiences through South-South Cooperation.	3	0	0%		
Indonesia	WFP supports the enhancement of national capacity to generate and utilize high-quality evidence for decision-making on food security and nutrition, early warning mechanisms, and climate change resilience-building. WFP continues to support the capacity strengthening of National and Provincial Logistics Clusters to support critical services during emergencies. In collaboration with stakeholders, WFP-generated evidence has informed the development of resilient food supply chain concepts for national food systems and anticipatory actions. In 2024, WFP will continue national capacity strengthening to further develop, implement, and institutionalize these concepts.	2	0	0%		

iii. All direct operational costs, and direct and indirect support costs related to approved programmes and programmes that are expected to be submitted for approval.

iv. The resources required to fully meet the requirements over the next six month, considering the operational shortfalls, contributions that have not yet been programmed, and net of outstanding advances.

Kyrgyz Republic	WFP continues to strengthen national capacities and systems for shock-responsive and nutrition-sensitive social protection, disaster risk management and climate change adaptation. WFP supports the country in optimizing the national school meals programme, creating community assets, diversifying livelihood skills, improving climate services, insurance schemes, and risk profiling. WFP will also focus on bolstering the government's emergency preparedness and response capacities, including improving monitoring and forecasting tools, warehousing, and cash-based transfer coordination. Given the fragile economic resilience of vulnerable communities, WFP will be monitoring economic, climate and other stressors.	9	2	21%
Lao People's Democratic Republic	The macroeconomic environment deteriorated sharply in 2023. Households struggled to meet their basic food and other needs, and emigration is gaining pace. In 2024, WFP will enhance its support to the government to mitigate the impact of its current hardships. WFP will expand nutrition-sensitive and climate-smart agriculture initiatives, help the country transition towards a nationally-owned and locally-managed school meals programme, and increase its support to better prepare communities to prepare for and respond to climate and other shocks. Quarterly food security monitoring will inform trends and programming.	9	1	6%
Myanmar	In 2024, WFP will focus on providing targeted life-saving assistance and resilience support to the most vulnerable among the millions affected by food insecurity and conflict in Myanmar. In 2023, approximately 17.6 million people required humanitarian assistance, including 15.2 million people facing acute food insecurity. The conflict has displaced almost 500,000 people in 2023, with 1.95 million now internally displaced. Myanmar also faces major climate and disaster risks, while lacking resilience infrastructure. WFP will employ conflict-sensitive approaches and collaborate with diverse stakeholders to address these challenges.	131	77	59%
Nepal	WFP supports the government to strengthen systems to improve nutrition and food security, support livelihoods, and enhance resilience to shocks and impacts of climate change. This includes augmenting national emergency preparedness and response capacities while maintaining WFP's readiness to respond to major shocks, if required. Early warning and anticipatory action are key for monsoon response. Technical and capacity strengthening support to the government, school feeding programmes, food security monitoring, rice fortification activities and the Food Systems agenda remain central to WFP's work.	9	3	32%
Pacific Island Countries	WFP began the implementation of its new Multi-Country Strategic Plan in July 2023. It is committed to supporting 14 Pacific governments and regional stakeholders in strengthening national and regional capacity, systems, and coordination. This includes strengthening capacity in national and regional logistics, food security, cash-based transfers, emergency telecommunications architecture, food security and nutrition data collection and analysis, and the implementation of innovative approaches in social protection and climate action. WFP also has a contingency to provide common services and platforms for supporting national disaster preparedness and response efforts.	5	2	35%
Pakistan	WFP's activities in its Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027) will provide technical support to the government while focusing on nutrition-sensitive social protection, anticipatory action, crisis preparedness and response, climate-smart resilience building, food system strengthening, and education support. WFP has partnered with the government to implement a nationwide stunting prevention programme through WFP-managed facilitation centres. WFP has partnered with federal and provincial-level governments, international financial institutions and the private sector to unlock additional funding while continuing engagement with traditional donors and partners to address food insecurity and malnutrition.	124	44	35%
The Philippines	WFP will continue to augment national and sub-national government capacities through direct support and technical assistance to strengthen emergency preparedness and response, and food- and social protection systems. Moreover, WFP will support two national priority programmes: the government food e-voucher: <i>Walang Gutom</i> (No Hunger) 2027 which aims to support more than 1 million poor households; and the home-grown school feeding to tackle poverty and hunger and promote human capital development.	21	14	65%

Sri Lanka	17 percent of the population is food insecure, an improvement from 28 percent in 2022. WFP plans to provide targeted food assistance to 700,000 crisis-affected people through cash and vouchers, and in-kind food assistance ^v . Additionally, 1 million children with school meals and 700,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under five years of age will be supported. These initiatives aim to support the transition from emergency relief to early recovery. WFP continues to provide technical assistance to the government in improving nutrition and resilience of communities.	9	3	35%
Tajikistan	In 2023, WFP began providing emergency food assistance to 165,000 people. In 2024, it will transition part of the caseload to resilience building programmes. WFP monitors the food security situation and provides technical assistance to the government to strengthen national emergency preparedness and response capacities. WFP provides technical assistance to enhance national social protection systems, while contributing to climate change adaptation. WFP urgently requires US\$3 million to meet the food needs of 450,000 school children in the last three months of the school year.	18	11	58%
Timor-Leste	El Niño poses a threat to Timor-Leste's most vulnerable population during the November 2023 to April 2024 lean season. An upcoming IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis will include projected El Niño impacts. The November 2022 IPC analysis reported increased food insecurity due to floods, COVID-19, and high food prices, with 300,000 people experiencing Crisis and Emergency levels (IPC Phases 3 and above). WFP collaborates with the government to strengthen El Niño readiness and response and invests in human capital, encompassing nutrition, school feeding, and climate-resilient food systems.	4	2	45%

v. According to WFP's Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission 2023.



Eastern Africa

WFP 2024 TARGET BENEFICIARIES^{vii}

38.3M



WFP 6-MONTH NET FUNDING REQUIREMENT (NOV 2023 – APR 2024)

US\$ 2,082M

(69% OF TOTAL REQUIREMENT)



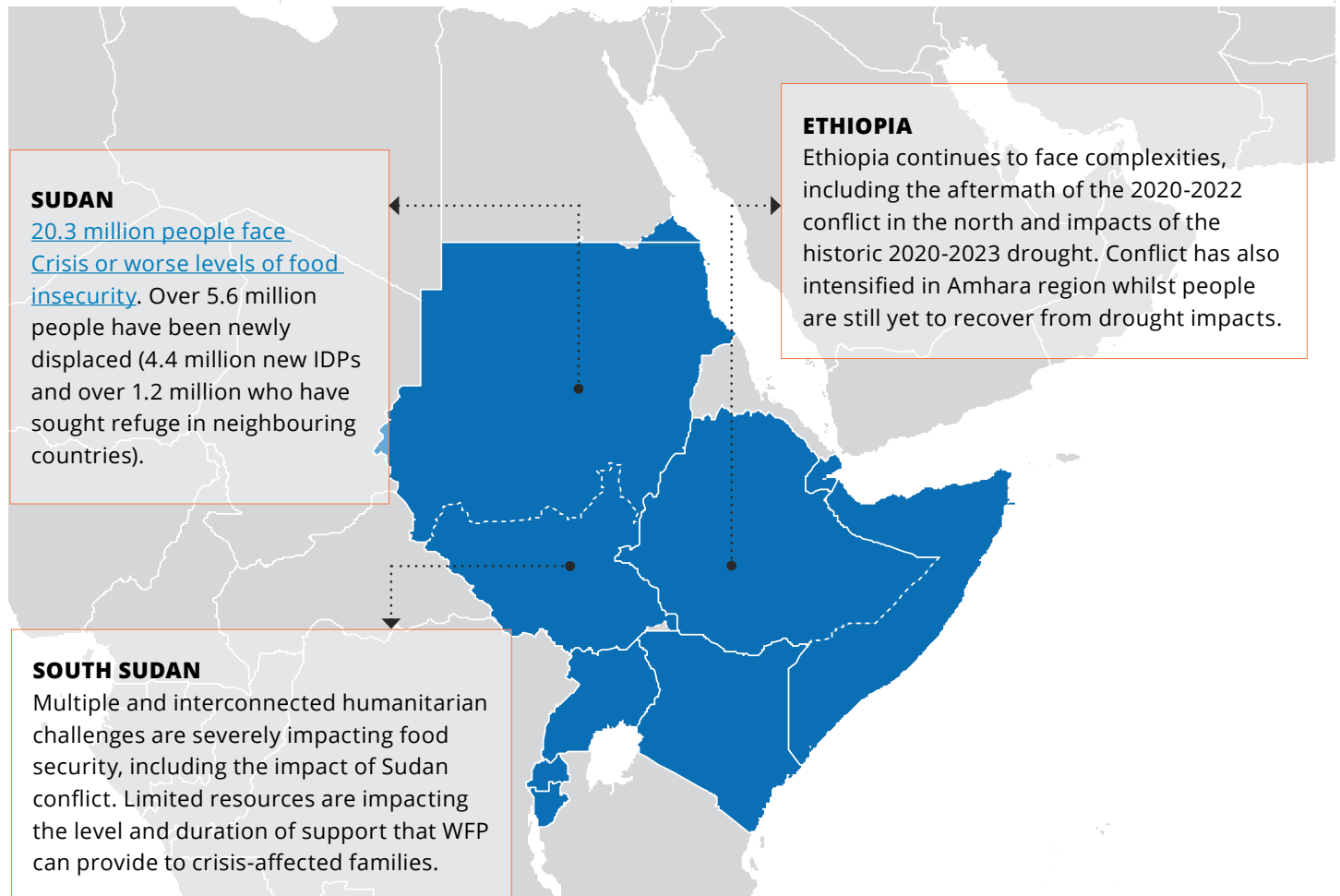
WFP OPERATIONS OF CORPORATE CONCERN

- CORPORATE SCALE-UP: SUDAN**
- CORPORATE ATTENTION: ETHIOPIA, SOMALIA, SOUTH SUDAN**
- EARLY ACTION: KENYA**

Despite improvements in food security due to the scale-up of humanitarian assistance and improved rains during the March- May 2023 season, the Eastern Africa region continues to face complex intersected humanitarian challenges which have left an estimated 71.9 million people food insecure.^{vi}

The region has nearly 17 million IDPs and approximately 5 million refugees and asylum seekers. The conflict in Sudan has led to a regional crisis with more than one million people displaced in neighbouring countries already dealing with multiple crises.

The funding situation is dwindling amidst increased needs in the region, leading to prioritization and ration cuts. The ongoing strong El Niño event, which is forecast to reach peak intensity in late 2023 and then dissipate by mid-2024, will have both negative and positive effects on acute food insecurity. WFP has put in place anticipatory actions and response plans in high-risk countries in the Eastern Africa region.



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Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

vi. See also the box "the small print" on different food insecurity numbers.
 vii. The 2024 target beneficiaries are based on the Management Plan 2024 - 2026 data collection process.

EAST AFRICA	SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2023	TOTAL REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLION (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLION (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)	% OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)
Burundi	Assistance to affected population continues to be negatively impacted by a lack of resources amidst an influx of refugees from DRC, and the influx of Burundian refugees returning from exile has doubled since September 2023, Currently, refugees are only receiving 70 percent of the food basket due to funding constraints. Meanwhile, WFP continues to support longer-term investments to change lives, including livelihoods and nutrition activities, and school feeding initiatives.	56	26	47%
Djibouti	WFP provides monthly food and nutrition assistance to refugees and asylum seekers through a combination of in-kind and cash-based modalities. Due to funding shortfalls, refugees are facing ration cuts, receiving 70 percent of the food basket. WFP is also supporting the government in addressing malnutrition among women and children by providing specialized nutritious foods. Additionally, WFP is playing a leading role in supporting the government to design the new social protection strategy (2023-2027) and in the implementation of the National School Feeding Programme.	18	6	36%
Ethiopia	A total of 20.1 million people are in need of food assistance across Ethiopia. Following large-scale food diversions, WFP is implementing an Assurance Project to improve relief operations. This include enhancements in vulnerability-based targeting, digital registration and beneficiary identity management protocols, new bag markings to allow WFP to tracking food commodities, and strengthened community feedback mechanisms. In October, WFP together resumed refugee distributions in Afar, Gambella, and Somali putting in place new assured and rigorous controls.	576	270	47%
Kenya	An estimated 2.8 million people are acutely food insecure in the July to September 2023 period, while 1 million children and pregnant and breastfeeding women face acute malnutrition. WFP plans to provide food and nutrition assistance to approximately 2 million people. Kenya continues to receive an influx of refugees and asylum seekers; WFP scaled up assistance to refugees from 400,000 to over 600,000 this year. However, due to resource constraints, WFP has been providing 60 percent of the minimum food basket to refugees and asylum seekers since July.	203	117	58%
Rwanda	WFP continues to provide general food assistance (GFA) to Congolese and Burundian refugees hosted in camps and transit centres. General food distribution (GFD) is provided to refugees based on their vulnerability status, currently rations are reduced due to funding constraints. In August 2023, WFP's transfer value for the highly vulnerable group was 26 percent less than the average actual food basket cost and 63 percent less for moderately vulnerable refugees. WFP will be facing a complete pipeline break in November 2023 and requires US\$ 4 million to extend support to both refugees and new asylum seekers until the end of 2023.	31	26	83%
Somalia	An unprecedented scale-up enabled WFP to reach record-high numbers with humanitarian food assistance which helped avert famine last year. However, due to funding gaps in 2023, WFP is scaling down and prioritizing the most vulnerable communities and regions with the aim of supporting 1.8 million food insecure people. WFP's monthly nutrition support aims to reach 333,000 people in the final months of 2023. Through longer-term investments to change lives, complemented by engagements with the Government, WFP continues to support livelihoods activities, shock responsive social protection, and school feeding initiatives benefiting 1.4 million people.	579	435	75%

South Sudan	An estimated 7.76 million people are estimated to be acutely food insecure in South Sudan in 2023, representing 63 percent of the population, and including 43,000 people in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). The ongoing conflict in Sudan compounds an already dire situation as more than 291,000 people have crossed into South Sudan exacerbating the situation straining primary services for South Sudanese and new arrivals. Out of the 5.4 million targeted for assistance in 2023, WFP had reached 4.9 million people by 31 August including more than 300,000 individuals in Sudan response.	968	840	87%
Sudan	Sudan's conflict has displaced over 1.1 million to neighbouring countries and has resulted in a surge in food needs. An estimated 20.3 million people (42 percent of the country's population) are facing Crisis levels or worse of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above). The nutrition situation has also deteriorated, 2.8 million children are suffering from acute malnutrition. WFP has scaled up assistance to reach an estimated 3 million people and is planning to reach 5.9 million people by the end of 2023 with life-saving assistance.	433	237	55%
Uganda	Uganda continues to provide general food assistance at prioritized rations to 1.4 million refugees from mainly South-Sudan and DR Congo. Due to funding shortfalls, WFP has weaned off 5 percent of refugee beneficiaries from food assistance. WFP provides schools meals to 217,000 learners across 315 schools in Karamoja sub-region. Due to funding shortfalls, WFP is cutting rations for learners from 100 percent to 80 percent in Karamoja sub region. WFP is mobilising funds to carry out a lean season response in Karamoja where 342,000 people are facing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above).	146	127	86%



Latin America and the Caribbean

Latin America and the Caribbean continue to face multiple crises. Food prices remain high, despite some decreases in the first half of 2023. In Haiti, food inflation was already at 38 percent prior to the closure of the border^{viii}. The region is witnessing exceptional levels of migration, with a three-fold increase of migrants via the Darién gap compared to last year. El Niño phenomenon is leading to below-average rainfall especially in Central America, Colombia and Bolivia as well as flooding in Peru and Ecuador. Currently, an estimated 39.9 million people, where WFP operates, are acutely food insecure, with 10.4 million severely food insecure. Looking forward, food prices across the region are expected to be affected by continued disruptions to grain exports from the Black Sea region as well as disruptions to agricultural output caused by El Niño, highly likely to persist until February 2024 and potentially affecting 5 million people.

WFP 2024 TARGET BENEFICIARIES^{ix}

9.9M



WFP 6-MONTH NET FUNDING REQUIREMENT (NOV 2023 – APR 2024)

US\$ 397M

(68% OF TOTAL REQUIREMENT)



WFP OPERATIONS OF CORPORATE CONCERN

🚨 CORPORATE ATTENTION: HAITI
⚠️ EARLY ACTION: BOLIVA, COLOMBIA, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS

GUATEMALA

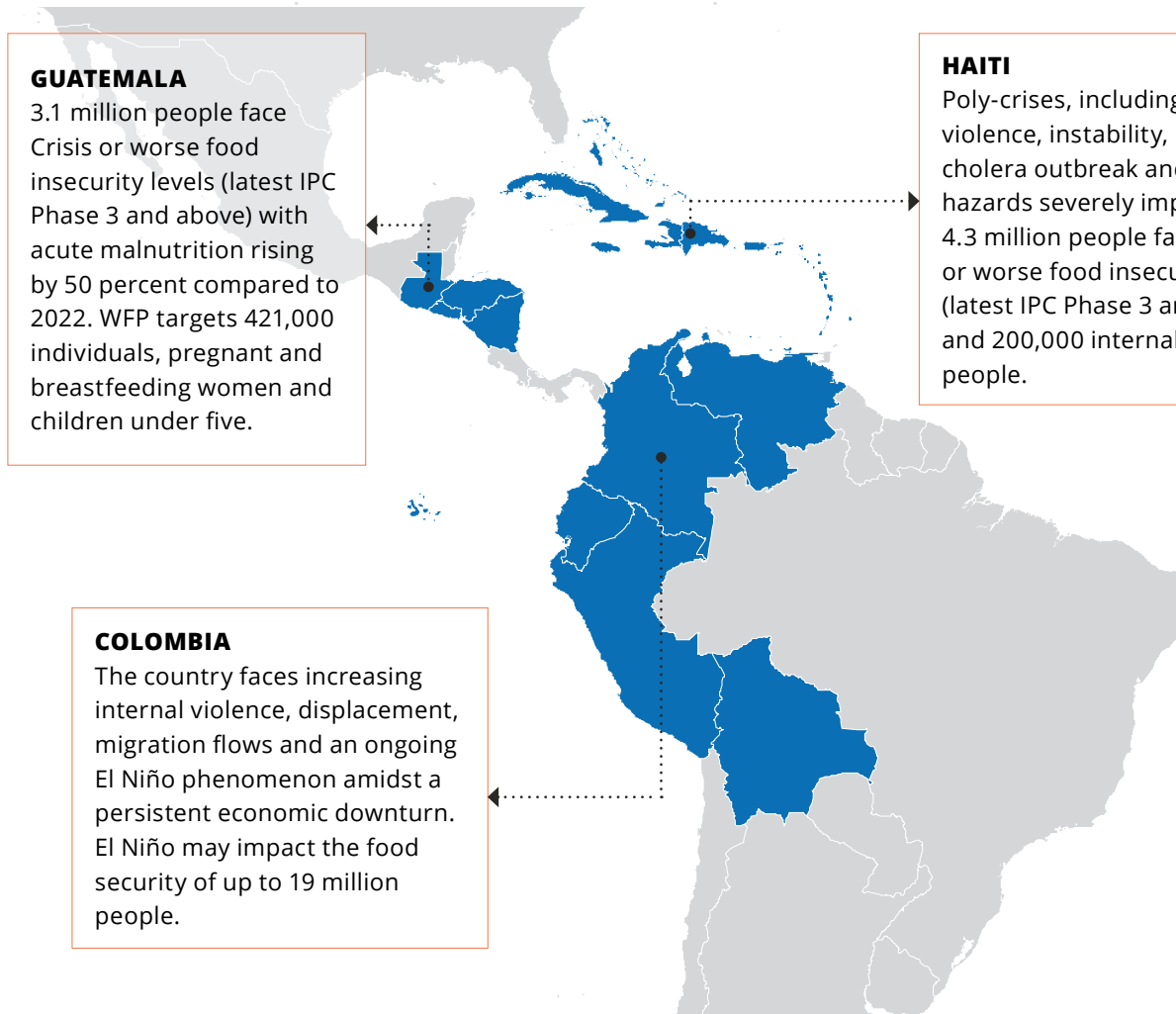
3.1 million people face Crisis or worse food insecurity levels (latest IPC Phase 3 and above) with acute malnutrition rising by 50 percent compared to 2022. WFP targets 421,000 individuals, pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under five.

HAITI

Poly-crises, including heightened violence, instability, inflation, cholera outbreak and natural hazards severely impact Haiti with 4.3 million people facing Crisis or worse food insecurity levels (latest IPC Phase 3 and above) and 200,000 internally displaced people.

COLOMBIA

The country faces increasing internal violence, displacement, migration flows and an ongoing El Niño phenomenon amidst a persistent economic downturn. El Niño may impact the food security of up to 19 million people.



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viii. The border closure between the two countries officially started on 15 September. The Dominican Republic partially reopened its border only for commercial purposes on 11 October.
 ix. The 2024 target beneficiaries are based on the Management Plan 2024 - 2026 data collection process.

**LATIN
AMERICA
AND THE
CARIBBEAN**

SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2023

		PROJECTED OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (FEB - JUL 2023)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLIONS (FEB - JUL 2023)	% OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS
Bolivia	<p>Bolivia faces various risks stemming from the international context, including the high instability of commodity prices, economic deceleration, and increasing international interest rates. The country is also prone to climate-related disasters, such as the drought which is affecting an estimated 580,000 families.</p> <p>In the first six months of the year, WFP Bolivia assisted 17,000 people affected by extreme weather events. Looking ahead, WFP aims to expand its support targeting up to 55,000 beneficiaries to address the impacts of El Niño.</p>	5	3	61%
Colombia	<p>In Colombia, 30 percent of the population faces severe food insecurity . Rising internal violence, forced displacement, migration and climate emergencies exacerbate this crisis amidst a persistent economic downturn Due to El Niño, additional 3.5 million people might experience food insecurity, bringing the number of food-insecure individuals to 19 million. WFP focuses on interventions supporting the peace process, social protection and inclusion, while expanding nutritional initiatives. Limited resources may force WFP to reduce its emergency response despite escalating humanitarian needs.</p>	114	87	76%
Cuba	<p>Cuba is confronting a multitude of challenges, including climate-related disasters, reduced foreign exchange, supply chain disruptions, fuel scarcities, power outages, all of which are restricting the accessibility of essential goods and services. WFP is mobilizing additional resources for the socioeconomic recovery strategy, supporting the government towards a social protection model based on vulnerability analysis and targeting and addressing the urgent food needs of 1 million beneficiaries, including the elderly, children and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls.</p>	7	3	47%
Dominican Republic	<p>In the Dominican Republic, 1.2 million people (11 percent of the population) are experiencing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) between March and June 2023. The situation on the Haiti border has led to economic disruptions, affecting food exports and disrupting the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and retailers. The ongoing Hurricane season remains a potential threat, such as spill over effects from bordering Haiti. Funding constraints may affect WFP's plan to reach 290,000 beneficiaries in 2023.</p>	4	3	61%
English and Dutch Speaking Caribbean (Barbados)	<p>The 2023 Atlantic hurricane season has already seen 14 percent more tropical storms than in 2022, and 1 out of 3 storms became a hurricane. Thus, strong emergency preparedness and response, including social protection systems, are critical. WFP urgently needs additional funds to finalize the Caribbean Regional Logistics Hub and strengthen vital national systems to provide life-saving emergency support to 1.5 million men, women, boys and girls.</p>	12	6	51%
Ecuador	<p>Ecuador faces increasing violence and insecurity, an economic downturn and disruptions in paddy harvests due to El Niño, impacting food prices. Thus, 9.3 million Ecuadorians and 303,000 migrants are moderately or severely food insecure (based on rCARI). Due to funding constraints, WFP can only assist 151,500 beneficiaries, reducing the 90 days assistance for food-insecure households, the 1000-day programme for migrants, and cutting nutrition cash-based transfers for Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women and Girls by 26 percent.</p>	24	11	46%

El Salvador	The latest available food security analysis revealed that in 2022 907,000 people were in acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above), amidst a persistent inflation (3.1 percent) and rising costs of essential food items. Over the next six months, WFP total requirements are US\$ 201 to assist 829,300 targeted people, focusing on supporting the government in emergency assistance, early recovery, and school feeding. Limited funding prevents WFP from assisting smallholder farmers affected by El Niño, school children, at-risk youth, migrant returnees and particularly girls and women.	21	16	78%
Guatemala	In Guatemala, 3.1 million people are estimated to be acutely food insecure (IPC Phase 3 and above) between September 2023 and February 2024, while acute malnutrition cases are 50 percent higher than in 2022. WFP is targeting 421,000 people in 2023; however, due to current funding levels, WFP can reach only 120,000 people. Additionally, WFP cannot scale its integrated resilience and nutrition activities to an additional 32,000 people. WFP prioritizes areas with Emergency levels of food insecurity as well as pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under five nationwide.	36	12	32%
Haiti	Heightened armed group violence, sociopolitical instability, soaring inflation and cholera outbreak severely impact food security with 4.35 million people experiencing Crisis or worse levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) between August 2023 and February 2024. Among them, 1.4 million people are in the Emergency Phase (IPC Phase 4). Due to funding shortfalls, WFP had to reduce by 25 percent the number of people reached by its emergency activities in July. Overall, without further funding, WFP may not reach 800,000 people among the targeted 2.3 million people.	167	136	81%
Honduras	In Honduras, 2.4 million people are experiencing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) between June and August 2023, a situation exacerbated by El Niño event. WFP plans to provide cash transfers, commodity vouchers and value vouchers for a period of 90 days to food-insecure people severely affected by disasters. WFP needs US\$ 22.8 million over the next six months to reach 230,000 people with a first round of assistance and strengthen local capacities to promote rapid response and early recovery.	65	44	69%
Nicaragua	El Niño caused a 40 percent deficit in precipitation in the Dry Corridor of Nicaragua, endangering production. Inaction threatens households' food security in 33 municipalities, in a country where 3.9 percent of children under five, triple the regional average, currently suffer from wasting. Families resort to negative coping strategies, especially affecting women and girls who often see their food intake reduced. WFP requires US\$ 4.8 million to reach 437,600 people targeted in 2023, prioritizing school feeding for 182,000 children and resilience activities.	19	9	47%
Peru	Peru faces severe food insecurity (based on rCARI) affecting 16.8 million people. Heavy rainfall since February disrupted supply chains, impacting over half a million individuals. The ongoing El Niño phenomenon is anticipated to worsen conditions for over one million people, accentuating existing challenges and underscoring the urgency of coordinated responses. WFP aims to reach 198,000 beneficiaries this year through cash-based transfers, capacity strengthening, and logistics services. To respond to the El Niño phenomenon, WFP plans to assist an additional 60,000 people.	14	5	37%
Venezuela	Despite economic recovery, Venezuela continues to register increasing food prices, impacting the purchasing power and food security of the most vulnerable households. Since the beginning of the operation, WFP has assisted 500,000 people through its school-based programme and, in the school year 2023-2024, plans to expand the hot meals modality throughout early education schools across prioritized municipalities. WFP will also continue to provide take-home rations in special education schools, as an additional incentive to families in the most vulnerable areas.	99	61	62%



Middle East, Northern Africa, and Eastern Europe

Protracted conflicts and escalating hostilities, volatile economies and increasingly erratic climate and natural shocks continued to exacerbate humanitarian needs in the MENAEE region, increasing the regions vulnerability to food insecurity. Despite a slight reduction in the number of food-insecure in the region reaching 45.6 million people in 2023, soaring food prices, inflated by the impact of the global food crisis, hit the poorest households, forcing them to reduce the quantity of food consumed or skip meals because of lack of resources. Concurrently, dwindling funding is obliging WFP to prioritize much-needed assistance to millions of vulnerable people across the region. WFP continues to advocate for additional support to avert further assistance cuts. It also invests in resilience and shock-responsive social protection programmes and capacity strengthening for the governments to help alleviate food insecurity and strengthen food systems across the region.

WFP 2024 TARGET BENEFICIARIES^x

39.3M



WFP 6-MONTH NET FUNDING REQUIREMENT (NOV 2023 – APR 2024)

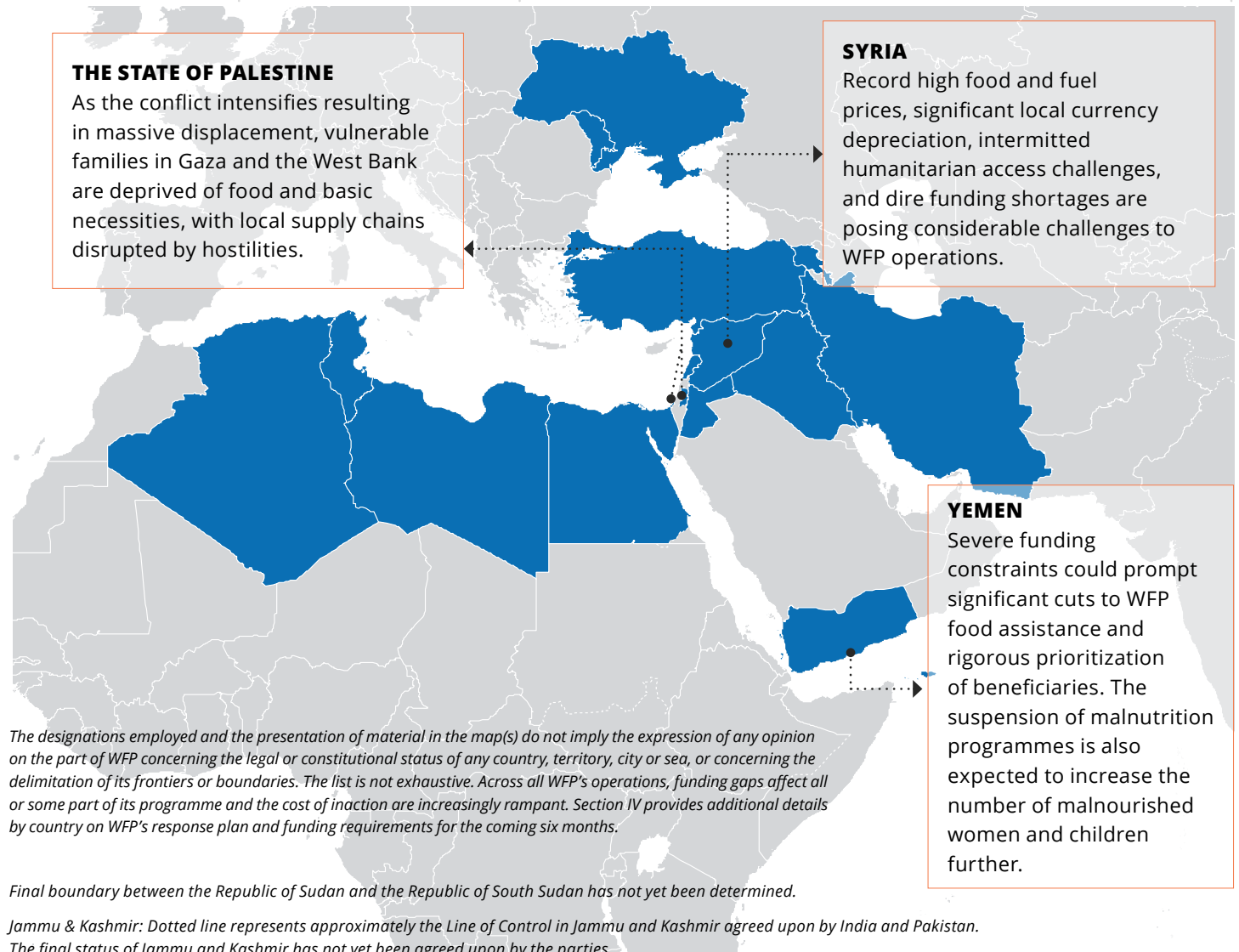
US\$ 3,407M

(81% OF TOTAL REQUIREMENT)



WFP OPERATIONS OF CORPORATE CONCERN

- CORPORATE SCALE-UP: STATE OF PALESTINE**
- CORPORATE ATTENTION: LEBANON, LIBYA, SYRIA, YEMEN**
- EARLY ACTION: ARMENIA, EGYPT, UKRAINE**



x. The 2024 target beneficiaries are based on the Management Plan 2024 - 2026 data collection process.
xi. The 2024 target beneficiaries are based on the Management Plan

**MIDDLE EAST,
NORTHERN
AFRICA, AND
EASTERN
EUROPE**

SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2023

		TOTAL REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLION (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLION (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)	% OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)
Algeria	Under the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) 2019-2024, WFP Algeria is maintaining food assistance in camps near Tindouf. WFP also provides gender-sensitive nutrition, school feeding, and livelihood activities in the camps to complement its food assistance. The increase in commodity and shipping prices since 2022 doubled the costs of WFP operations in Algeria.	19	12	65%
Armenia	Following the influx of over 100,000 displaced people through the Lachin corridor, WFP plans to support the food and early recovery needs of 72,500 affected people - displaced people, hosting households and vulnerable residents throughout Armenia - over the next six months. Additionally, WFP continues to invest in national capacity, enhance resilient social protection systems, strengthen food systems, and provide income-generating opportunities for vulnerable communities across Armenia.	23	19	86%
Egypt	WFP is providing support to vulnerable Egyptian and refugee communities through cash-based transfers, school feeding, climate-smart agriculture, women's economic empowerment, and capacity strengthening under the new Country Strategic Plan (CSP) (2023-2028). However, funding constraints have led to reduced refugee assistance. In September 2023, WFP reduced the number of refugees assisted from 100,000 to 67,000. Since April 2023, WFP has been providing emergency food assistance to people transitioning from Sudan into Egypt, reaching over 260,000 people so far. In response to the State of Palestine crisis, WFP is supporting critical efforts to dispatch lifesaving food supplies to Gaza through the Rafah border.	51	21	40%
Iran	Under the current Interim Country Strategic Plan for 2023-2025, WFP provides food (in-kind and cash) and livelihood assistance to around 33,000 Afghan and Iraqi refugees. WFP's school feeding programme is supporting some 9,000 refugee students and their 650 teachers. Additionally, 3,000 refugee girls are receiving education incentives. Refugees with disabilities have also been receiving a monthly cash top-up in addition to their regular entitlement since April 2023.	7	6	84%
Iraq	Due to funding constraints, WFP concluded its crisis response assistance to around 65,000 displaced except around 37,000 refugees and some 2,000 internally displaced (IDPs) in Jada'a 1 camp who lack social support. WFP is advocating for the inclusion of IDPs in the government of Iraq's Social Safety Net programme. WFP and the government are collaborating on resilience-building activities focused on empowering the Iraqi youth through vocational training, digital skills, critical climate change interventions, institutional capacity building as well as support for school feeding and social protection programmes.	69	53	77%
Jordan	In 2023, funding shortages led to a one-third reduction in assistance to refugees in communities in July and to those in camps in August. A retargeting exercise prioritized the most vulnerable, reducing assistance to refugees from 465,000 to 410,000 since September 2023. WFP continues to enhance the shock-responsiveness in national social protection programmes through school feeding and support to the National Aid Fund. WFP is expanding its climate action to strengthen sustainable management of natural resources. WFP supports the government in the operationalization of the National Food Security Strategy.	127	105	83%

Lebanon	WFP assists over 1 million refugees and 700,000 Lebanese in meeting their basic food needs. An additional 400,000 Lebanese benefit from the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) programme. WFP aims to support harmonization of the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) and ESSN programmes towards a unified Social Safety Net System. Due to funding constraints, an ongoing retargeting exercise is expected to reduce assistance by around 30 percent starting January 2024, potentially impacting social cohesion, given the broad support to vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian refugees.	920	599	65%
Libya	Following the severe flooding that ravaged eastern Libya in September 2023, WFP scaled up food and cash emergency assistance, reaching over 50,000 flood-affected people. WFP is currently planning the transition of the flood emergency response towards early recovery to support the longer-term needs of those affected. Under the current Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2023 - 2025, WFP continues to provide assistance to the crisis-affected, vulnerable people. Due to funding shortfalls, WFP prioritised 37,000 vulnerable people for unconditional cash or food assistance in June 2023. WFP also strives to link vulnerable people to social protection and livelihood programmes in partnership with other stakeholders.	26	16	62%
Moldova	In 2023, WFP plans on providing food and nutrition assistance to around 163,000 Ukrainian refugees and the host community in Moldova. Building on the existing t-ICSP, in 2024, WFP will aim to address essential needs in its next (ICSP) March 2024 - February 2026. This will be achieved through strengthening the shock-responsiveness of the national social protection system to promote social cohesion between refugees and the host community. WFP will integrate its support to existing government programmes for a smooth transition while maintaining its agility for emergency response capacity.	33	22	67%
Palestine	Following the conflict escalation in Gaza in early October, WFP is responding swiftly to people who have been displaced or are in shelters with food and cash assistance. WFP is also resuming regular assistance to vulnerable people, gearing towards reaching around 1.1 million vulnerable people in total within the coming months. Prior to the hostilities, funding shortages forced WFP to reduce the caseload by 40 percent since June 2023 and to reduce the cash-based transfers (CBT) transfer value by 17 percent (from US\$ 12.4 to US\$ 10.3) for all beneficiaries since May 2023.	125	84	68%
Syria	In July 2023, due to unprecedented funding constraints, WFP Syria reduced assistance level by 40 percent and tightened targeting criteria. WFP now assists 3.4 million people per month with emergency food assistance. WFP continues to implement school meals, livelihoods, and nutrition programmes. Prioritization is needs-based and across all regions and lines of control in Syria - the only exception being the camp settings in the northeast. WFP requires US\$ 30 million per month to sustain efforts at these significantly reduced levels.	642	645	100%
Tunisia	WFP aims to improve food security through the National School Feeding Programme, by strengthening the capacity of national institutions. WFP is also working to increase the accessibility of the school feeding market to smallholder farmers. Through the Joint Programme on Rural Women's Economic Empowerment, WFP supports 2,220 rural women, 780 men, and 60 professional agricultural organizations. These programmes aim to improve livelihoods by increasing women's access to resources, assets, and technologies that are essential for climate-resilient agricultural production.	1	0.097	7%
Türkiye	In Türkiye, WFP is currently supporting 53,000 refugees living in camps with e-vouchers. Since 2021, WFP also offers livelihood opportunities, including vocational training and paid internships, to around 5,600 refugees living in cities and vulnerable host community members to help them become self-reliant. By the end of 2025, the livelihoods programme aims to reach over 48,127 beneficiaries. WFP will soon start a recovery programme to support food value chain actors to help meet the residual needs in the earthquake-affected areas.	17	5	31%

Ukraine	Amidst ongoing conflict, WFP is addressing humanitarian needs in Ukraine with food and cash assistance, aiming to assist 2.4 million people this winter. Efforts to reinforce national social protection systems continue through cash programmes for conflict-affected pensioners and vulnerable recipients, along with an expanded school feeding programme. An agricultural mine-action project is helping rural food producers in reclaiming safe agricultural lands. WFP is procuring 75 percent of its food locally, boosting the Ukrainian economy and facilitating the export of grain to address global food demands.	715	556	78%
Yemen	WFP's operation in Yemen is facing critical funding shortages and an increasingly difficult operating environment. All 13 million general food assistance recipients are already receiving reduced rations, and without additional funding, WFP will be forced to significantly scale back its provision of food assistance as of Q4 2023. 1.4 million school children are already missing out on school feeding this year, and more than 2 million children and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls are no longer receiving nutrition support.	1,436	1,261	88%



Southern Africa

WFP 2024 TARGET BENEFICIARIES^{xi}

17.1m



WFP 6-MONTH NET FUNDING REQUIREMENT (NOV 2023 – APR 2024)

US\$ 779M

(72% OF TOTAL REQUIREMENT)

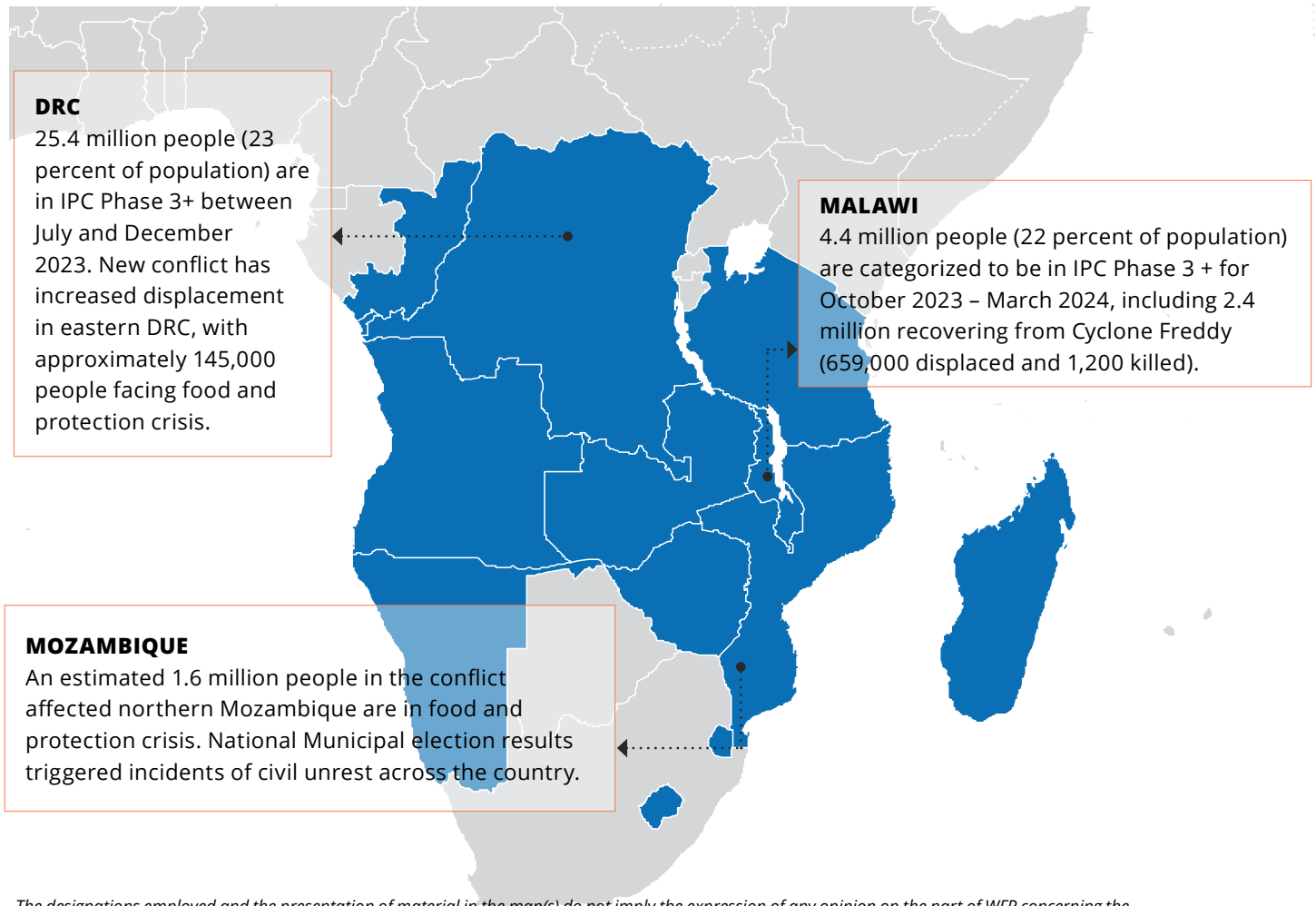


WFP OPERATIONS OF CORPORATE CONCERN

▲ CORPORATE SCALE-UP: DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

▲ EARLY ACTION: LESOTHO, MADAGASCAR, MALAWI, MOZAMBIQUE, ZIMBABWE

In 2023, 46.9 million people are acutely food insecure in the region; the main drivers of food insecurity are armed conflict, climate and exacerbated by high food, fuel, and fertilizer prices, linked to the global economic crisis. WFP aims to reach 16.9 million beneficiaries through its crisis response in Southern Africa in 2023. The ongoing strong El Niño phenomenon which is forecast to reach peak intensity in late 2023 is expected to depress rainfall across most of the agriculturally productive areas of the region. This is expected to increase the risk of food insecurity especially in areas that had a poor 2022/23 season that include parts of Namibia, southern Angola, parts of Zambia, Zimbabwe Mozambique and Eswatini. WFP has started to respond through anticipatory actions in Madagascar, Mozambique, Lesotho and Zimbabwe. At the same time, lean season interventions are being planned by government and partners supported also by WFP, but these remain largely unfunded.



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Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

SOUTHERN AFRICA		SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2023		TOTAL REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLION (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLION (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)	% OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)
Angola	The food security and nutrition situation remain alarming, particularly in the southwest of Angola due to prolonged drought and the expected impact of El Niño. mVAM data shows that 4.1 million people have insufficient food consumption and 12.3 million are adopting crisis or above crisis-level food-based coping strategies. The challenging funding environment continues to be the main risk for WFP's operations. The net funding requirement for the next six months (November 2023 – April 2024) is US\$ 9 million. These funds are needed to scale up drought response interventions in the south.	12	9	78%		
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	25.4 million people in DRC are currently experiencing food insecurity under category IPC Phase 3+ (July - December 2023); with 3.5 million people being in IPC Phase 4. Intensifying conflict in eastern DRC, population displacement and poor rural development are increasing the need for humanitarian assistance. WFP is prioritizing life-saving assistance in Ituri, North Kivu, and South Kivu. WFP's ability to reach all those who are severely food insecure is threatened by a significant gap in available resources.	545	379	70%		
Eswatini	Eswatini has high probability to be affected by the El Niño which will worsen the situation of the estimated 32 percent of the population living below poverty. The lean season which starts in October to March and meant to cover 250,000 people is currently unfunded. Available In-kind Assistance will cover not more than 5,000 people for a period of 3 months (Nov 2023 – Jan 2024). The total requirements for the 2023/2024 lean season are US\$ 10 million, net funding requirements of US\$ 7 million, and 70 percent NFR of total requirements.	14	11	79%		
Lesotho	WFP intends to provide food assistance to 115,000 food insecure people experiencing the highest food insecurity during the lean season (October 2023 to March 2024), out of which a total of 41,300 will also be supported through Anticipatory Action cash transfers from November 2023 to January 2024. However, the 23 percent available resources (77 percent shortfall) are only for the anticipatory action.	21	16	76%		
Madagascar	About 1.32 million people will experience Crisis or worse acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 and above) between October and December 2023, increasing to 1.72 million people between January and April 2024. With available resources, WFP's emergency response aims to reach 890,982 people through in-kind at half rations in drought affected areas of the South and 145,000 people in the cyclone prone South-East. A full-scale funding break is expected in February 2024, while a cash-based transfers (CBT) pipeline break is foreseen already in December 2023.	113	132	117%		
Malawi	WFP is providing cash transfers to 52,000 refugees at reduced ration (from 75 percent to 50 percent) from July 2023. 4.4 million people are expected to be in IPC Phase 3+ between October 2023 and March 2024. With an upcoming El Niño-induced drought event at 90 percent likely and following the aftermath of Cyclone Freddy affecting the agricultural livelihoods and the current lean season affected population, the situation in Malawi remains challenging and uncertain. CO has no funding for upcoming lean season.	55	41	74%		

Mozambique	Preliminary results of the IPC analysis conducted in July show that during the upcoming lean season in Mozambique 3.3 million people will suffer Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity. The protracted conflict forecasted severe drought conditions due to El Niño, and expected cyclones will impact across provinces compounding prolonged food insecurity in the country. WFP Mozambique requires US\$ 93 million to cover the needs of 2 million people, amounting to 63 percent of the total pipeline requirement from November 2023 to April 2024.	148	93	63%
Namibia	The economic crisis remains a concern in Namibia, with disrupted livelihoods, staggeringly high inflation, and a significant reduction in agricultural production. 694,000 people (26 percent of population) are in category IPC Phase 3 and the government is providing support in food and value vouchers for affected populations. WFP is providing technical assistance within the framework of the Namibia Vulnerability Committee to government to strengthen capacities in early warning system, emergency operation center and information management systems for beneficiary management and redemption.	5	5	102%
Republic of the Congo	As of end of September 2023, WFP Congo continued to assist refugees and asylum seekers from CAR and DRC respectively with in-kind food and cash-based transfers (CBT) in Ngabe District. WFP plans to continue assisting around 25,000 refugees and asylum seekers and supporting the nutrition programme countrywide. From May - September 2023, WFP reached 172, 402 beneficiaries through different programmes and reached its peak in July when the urban vulnerable people received a once off in-kind donation from China.	19	6	33%
Tanzania	Tanzania is expecting above average rainfall as projected by the influence of El Niño, which may improve crop production and recovery in areas affected by prolonged dry spell in the previous season. Increased rainfall presents greater potential for flood events and may also create risk of crop damage and water-borne disease. WFP is supporting the government with El Niño contingency planning and preparedness. WFP is also embarking on a five-year institutional support programme for Anticipatory Action.	53	21	40%
Zambia	Acute food insecure population is projected to rise to 2.04 million people (IPC Phase 3+) between October 2023 to March 2024, with 58,000 in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Economic weather are the main factors. WFP is working with the government to prepare for and respond to these shocks, including supporting national systems such as early warning, climate services, anticipatory action, and shock-responsive social protection. WFP's current crisis response activities cover 8,000 refugees from DRC. This could rise to 8,500 by December 2023.	9	4	43%
Zimbabwe	The 2023 vulnerability assessment report projected that 2.8 million people will be food insecure at the height of the lean season (Jan-Mar 2024). This situation is likely to worsen as the El Niño impacts take effect in the coming months; however, the country office is implementing anticipatory actions to secure agriculture production and cushion the vulnerable. The annual consumer blended inflation continued on a downward trend from 101.3 percent in July to 77.2 percent as reported in August 2023.	91	60	66%



Western Africa

WFP 2024 TARGET BENEFICIARIES^{xii}

22.5M



WFP 6-MONTH NET FUNDING REQUIREMENT (NOV 2023 – APR 2024)

US\$ 1,000.5M

(69% OF TOTAL REQUIREMENT)



WFP OPERATIONS OF CORPORATE CONCERN

CORPORATE ATTENTION: BURKINA FASO, CHAD, MALI, NIGER, NIGERIA

EARLY ACTION: TOGO, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

Overall, the region hosts a heightened number of refugees (2.1 million) and IDPs (8.1 million) which represents an increase of 10.5 percent of refugees since the last report. Regionwide, conflict and violence, forced displacement, and competition over limited resources are likely to persist and expand further in the next six months, with 50.5 million people experiencing acute food insecurity in the region.

As recent developments in the Central Sahel sub-region could lead to a humanitarian catastrophe (political crisis in Niger, MINUSMA withdrawal in Mali and restart of violent hostilities between government and NSAGs and Sudan crisis spill-over in Chad and Central African Republic), effective interventions are urgently required to save lives, while prioritizing local and long-term solutions to strengthen the resilience of communities and national systems to withstand shocks and fast-growing needs.

Additional pressure is already evident in the Gulf of Guinea countries and Mauritania amidst a regionwide severe funding challenge which has forced WFP to reduce the number of people that will be receiving assistance and cut rations in some countries.

GULF OF GUINEA (BENIN, COTE D'IVOIRE, GHANA & TOGO)

Around 8 million people from the northern regions of the Gulf of Guinea could be potentially affected by increased insecurity in the Central Sahel that has already expelled over 125,000 asylum seekers from Burkina Faso and IDPS from border villages.

CENTRAL SAHEL (BURKINA FASO, MALI & NIGER)

Over 4 million displaced people, including around 3 million IDPs require humanitarian assistance. WFP is developing a Regional Supply Chain and a Humanitarian Access Strategy to continue delivering amidst a rapidly deteriorating security context with increased food needs.

SUDAN CRISIS (CHAD, CAR)

New Sudanese arrivals continue arriving in Chad and the Central African Republic. Overall, the number of new refugees and returnees in Chad is expected to reach 600,000 by the end of 2023, according to UNHCR and IOM.

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Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

xii. The 2024 target beneficiaries are based on the Management Plan 2024 - 2026 data collection process.

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA		SUMMARY OF WFP RESPONSE PLAN 2023		TOTAL REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLION (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)	NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN US\$ MILLION (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)	OF NET FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (NOV 2023 - APR 2024)
Benin	The 2023/2024 school feeding programme has started reaching 5,540 schools thus far. 60 schools remain inaccessible due to flooding and insecurity. WFP will also pursue its assistance to the population affected by the Sahel crisis spillover in Atacora and Alibori, north of Benin, targeting over 26,000 persons (IDPs, refugees and host communities), with cash based transfers to support their basic food and nutrition requirements.	38	2	4%		
Burkina Faso	Between January and September, WFP reached 2.1 million (75 percent of the annual target) through emergency, nutrition, and resilience-building interventions. As violence and insecurity intensify, humanitarian access constraints are expected to persist, requiring continuing airlift operations to blockaded communities inaccessible by road. Furthermore, ongoing suspension of cash-based transfers (CBT) in the Sahel and Centre-Nord regions coupled with funding shortages may limit WFP's ability to reach all people in need.	235	130	55%		
Cameroon	WFP has reached over 636,000 people (60 percent of the annual target) through emergency assistance, nutrition, resilience-building and school meals programmes. Over the next six months, WFP plans to implement new initiatives such as cash transfers for nutrition activities, upscale of school meals programme and resilience-building. WFP will also scale up government's capacity strengthening through south-south missions to Namibia and Brazil and support the development of food systems. However, its efforts are hampered by critical underfunding, ration cuts, access constraints and heightened insecurity in certain regions.	78	53	69%		
Cape Verde	WFP successfully delivered school meals to 90,715 students in 857 schools, out of the targeted 90,000 students in 788 schools. WFP worked closely with its partner government agency, Fundação Cabo-Verdana de Ação Social Escolar (FICASE), to ensure the smooth implementation of the programme, and will continue its efforts to provide technical assistance for post-distribution data collection and monitoring. The provision of these meals has had a positive impact on students' retention in school and their access to food.	1	1	81%		
Central African Republic	Since January, WFP has reached over 679,000 people. Funding constraints forced WFP to further reduce its lean season targets, prioritizing only 28 percent of those in need of assistance. Without additional funding and capacity to procure commodities locally or from WFP stocks prepositioned in Douala, WFP will struggle to assist refugees from Sudan and will also have to limit both its general food distribution (GFD) and nutritional assistance to IPC Phase 4 communes only, as well as interrupt its resilience activities in November and home-grown school-feeding in December 2023.	110	77	69%		
Chad	Since January, WFP has reached 2.3 million people. WFP has successfully scaled up its response to the Sudan crisis providing food and nutrition assistance to more than 442,000 new refugees, returnees, and the most vulnerable among host communities. Due to underfunding, prioritization of new arrivals, and earmarking, several IDPs and refugees in urgent need of food and nutrition assistance were not reached. Moreover, WFP's lean season response was only able to meet 20 percent of its plan, reaching 200,000 people in 2023.	319	261	32%		
Côte d'Ivoire	WFP provided cash assistance to 5,600 refugees relocated to transit sites, in response to the increasing influx of refugees in northern Côte d'Ivoire. For the next six months, WFP aims to expand its assistance to 45,000 refugees and 2,500 host community households, in addition to blanket supplementary feeding for refugees' children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls, in the targeted affected communes in the North. WFP is also expanding its school feeding coverage to enable access to education for refugees' children.	11	6	50%		

The Gambia	WFP Gambia supports access to basic food and nutrition needs to crisis-affected populations and provides nutritious meals to primary school children in food-insecure areas using local produce. WFP is currently developing its next Country Strategic Plan for 2024-2028 to support vulnerable populations and sustain the progress made in reducing moderate acute malnutrition while maintaining support to households affected by high food prices.	6	2	39%
Ghana	WFP's Country Strategic Plan targets 115,000 people of which 82 percent have been reached to date. In September, WFP provided cash assistance to 3,270 food-insecure and vulnerable host community individuals (55 percent of the initial target). In the next six months, WFP plans to reach 12,200 individuals, 6,200 will comprise asylum seekers and 6,000 vulnerable host community members. Currently, there are over 33,000 Burkinabe asylum seekers in northern Ghana requiring food assistance.	3	3	100%
Guinea	Food insecurity situation improved in 2023 compared to 2022, yet 6 percent of the population remains food insecure. WFP conducted its largest food distribution since the Ebola crisis thanks to a contribution from the government of Guinea through the IMF Food Shock Window loan. Between August and early October, the operation reached around 862,300 beneficiaries. Distributions are underway to assist 41,373 people in October. Overall, over 1.2 million people will receive immediate food aid, school meals, nutrition, and resilience support through this programme.	11	0	0%
Guinea-Bissau	WFP has prioritized reaching the planned number of beneficiaries under its school meals and nutrition programmes. Due to funding constraints, nearly 200,000 children will be assisted with reduced rations and feeding days. At the same time, the emergency resilience programme is supporting smallholder farmers through agricultural inputs thanks to a tripartite agreement between African Development Bank (AFDB), the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and WFP. However, to tackle the growing threat of food insecurity, WFP urgently needs funding to continue these programmes.	13	4	28%
Liberia	Liberia faced two calamities (caterpillar infestation and floods), that further worsened the already dire food security situation. WFP coordinated a rapid multi-sectoral assessment that served as baseline for the strategic response. Funding constraints limited WFP's intervention to the provision of technical assistance to the Ggovernment. This includes support in planning the 2023 security and nutrition assessment. WFP will also continue to work with the government and partners to strengthen national social protection.	7	1	19%
Mali	Due to funding constraints, WFP reached 725,000 people out of the target of 1.3 million acutely food-insecure people including IDPs targeted in its 2023 lean season response. WFP prioritized IPC Phase 4+ populations in Menaka with full rations for four months while in other regions IPC Phase 4+ populations received full rations and IPC Phase 3 populations received half rations for two months. Furthermore, WFP will reduce beneficiaries of the integrated preventive nutrition programme to 150,000 children (50 percent) and 15,400 women (30 percent) if additional funding is not secured.	142	74	52%
Mauritania	There are over 105,000 Malians refugees in Mauritania and a potential large-scale arrival is expected following the MINUSMA withdrawal. WFP is preparing a contingency plan as the suspension of cash assistance to refugees poses a risk of food insecurity leading to negative coping strategies. WFP has prioritized IPC Phase 3+ areas but was unable to garner sufficient resources for malnutrition prevention. However, WFP maintained its integrated resilience package in vulnerable areas prioritizing women's participation in management committees, farmers groups and women-only cooperatives.	18	13	75%

Niger	The ongoing political crisis, border closures and access restrictions are heightening humanitarian needs. According to the March CH, nearly 3.3 million people in Niger are acutely food insecure, and based on most likely scenario, the political crisis could increase the number of food insecure people up to 5 million people by end 2023. Considering the current situation, WFP aims to slightly increase its implementation plan to reach 3.6 million people through crisis response and resilience activities in 2023, if funding available.	170	157	92%
Nigeria	WFP will pursue its assistance in the Northeast, providing essential food and nutrition assistance, complemented by medium to large-scale resilience-building initiatives. In the next six months, WFP will sustain life-saving food assistance whilst strengthening national capacity for nutrition-focused programmes and policies. This includes support for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition among children aged 6-59 months and the National Home-Grown School Feeding Programme. WFP has also planned support for 200,000 women and youth smallholder farmers through livelihood diversification and creation along the food value chain.	263	207	79%
São Tomé and Príncipe	In 2023, WFP operations remain focused on strengthening government's capacity to implement home-grown school feeding programme and facilitating smallholder farmers' access to markets. Additionally, WFP will continue to enhance its emergency preparedness as the country is prone to climate-related disasters, whilst since Covid, the food security and nutrition situations have worsened and further aggravated due to the impact of the conflict in Ukraine. As the country is a net food importer, soaring food and fuel prices are severely hindering vulnerable households' access to food.	0.045	0.350	775%
Senegal	WFP Senegal and partners remain committed to supporting Senegal's 2024 national response to the escalating food and nutrition crisis. In 2023, WFP Senegal provided emergency food assistance through digital transfers to 6,115 vulnerable households, providing US\$ 126.36 per household in the vulnerable eastern region. WFP intends to continue its efforts by addressing moderate acute malnutrition in 16,825 children aged 6 - 23 months and assisting 14,246 pregnant and lactating women in Northern Senegal as part of its ongoing response.	12	6	48%
Sierra Leone	WFP Sierra Leone delivers cash assistance to crisis-affected populations, ensuring access to basic food and nutrition needs. It also provides year-round nutritious meals for primary school children in food-insecure areas. Malnutrition prevention efforts involve strengthening Mother Support Groups for nutrition education, screenings, cooking demonstrations, and behavior change communication. WFP will continue to collaborate with the Farmer-Based Organizations (FBOs) for resilient livelihoods and food security through climate-smart agriculture.	5	2	45%
Togo	WFP will launch a 3-month cash distribution in November to assist over 65,000 beneficiaries affected by conflict and forced displacements due to the spill-over of the Sahel crisis. Additionally, WFP aims to assist 20,000 beneficiaries in the same region, with the construction or rehabilitation of various infrastructures and to provide cash-based transfers (CBT) to 85,000 beneficiaries over the next six months despite access constraints. The 18 months' GOG strategy response in Togo still requires US\$ 8.4 million (72 percent of the operational requirements).	14	3	21%

Endnotes

- 1 The estimated number of people in acute food insecurity covers 78 countries with WFP operations and where data is available. The slight reduction compared to the June estimate of 345 million acutely food insecure people is primarily due to reduced geographic coverage of the estimate and methodological adjustments. It should, however, be noted that updated data for several major food crises remain pending, including Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria, and the State of Palestine.
- 2 Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Insecurity (CARI).
- 3 Between January and June this year, WFP reached 119.5 million people with food, cash and commodity vouchers. The number for the full year of 2023 are not yet available.
- 4 The full list of countries receiving Immediate Response Account life-saving allocations in 2023 as of 1 November include (Alphabetically by region RBB, RBC, RBD, RBJ, RBN, RBP) Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Armenia, Egypt, Libya, the State of Palestine, Syria, Türkiye, Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria, Togo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, Bolivia, Colombia, Haiti, and Peru.
- 5 [The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2023](#), FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP, WHO.
- 6 Care, 2022. [Gender-based violence and food insecurity: what we know and why gender equality is the answer](#).
- 7 OCHA. 2023. [Global Humanitarian Overview 2023, September Update \(Snapshot as of 30 September 2023\)](#).
- 8 WFP. September 2023. [Estimating the food security impact of cuts in WFP assistance – a look at the global level](#).
- 9 In June 2022, WFP activated a Corporate Scale-Up for the Global Food Crisis in response to the scale of the [unprecedented needs in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine crisis](#). The Scale-Up was maintained for the maximum time in accordance with the Emergency Activation Protocol, namely six plus three months, and deactivated 16 March 2023.
- 10 This November 2023 estimate is the ninth update of WFP's acute food insecurity estimates for the Global Operational Response Plan, which began in June 2020 and is covering 78 countries with WFP operational presence and where data is available. Included are countries: a) where WFP implemented unrestricted resource transfers in 2023; or b) with an active Country Strategic Plan (CSP) or Limited Emergency Operation (LEO) and acute food insecurity data available. The analysis covers displaced populations, and in countries where operations only cover displaced populations (and potentially host communities), only these populations have been included. This estimate is based on most recent assessment data and projections for 2023 (or latest available) from Integrated Phase Classification (IPC), Cadre Harmonisé (CH), WFP Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI), remote CARI (rCARI), or comparable analyses. Expected peak-numbers for 2023 (or latest available) are used (see also the [methodology paper](#) and the paper "[Numbers explained](#)"). Outdated estimates of COVID-19 and Ukraine effects, which were included in former editions, have been excluded, also for countries without updated food insecurity data. This affected six countries. As also mentioned in the call out box "the small print", numbers reported by regional offices can differ from numbers presented here due to different objectives: the Regional Bureau in Nairobi uses most recent data instead of peak data for their seasonal updates. The Regional Bureau in Panama tracks food security continuously and reports only values for the most vulnerable populations (IPC/CH Phase 4+ / CARI/ rCARI severely food insecure). The Regional Bureau in Johannesburg reports totals which include more countries than the ones included in the Global Operational Response Plan (GORP) regional estimates.
- 11 Some countries under the global food crisis do not yet have available updated data for 2023, thus reference is still made to 2022 data. Analyses/updates are still to take place.
- 12 Famine is the most severe form of a food crisis and is declared when several specific criteria are met: 1) 20 percent of a population suffers from extreme food shortages; 2) 30 percent of children under the age of five are experiencing acute malnutrition; 3) the death rate in an area has doubled, or two people – or four children – out of every 10,000 people die each day.
- 13 Nutrition Sector. September 2023. [The Impact of General Food Assistance Ration Cuts on Nutrition. Monitoring update \(Round 2\)](#).
- 14 UNICEF, WHO, World Bank. 2023. [Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates \(JME\) — Levels and Trends – 2023 edition](#).
- 15 UNICEF. March 2023. [Undernourished and Overlooked: A Global Nutrition Crisis in Adolescent Girls and Women](#).
- 16 OCHA. 2023. [HNO/HRP 2023. \(Hasina to provide correct link\)](#)
- 17 DRC North Kivu SMART Survey 2023 (The SMART methodology provides basic, integrated method for assessing nutritional status and mortality rate in emergency situations, based on two main indicators: nutritional status of children under the age of five, and mortality rate of the population).
- 18 Charlotte M Wright, John Macpherson, Ruth Bland, Per Ashorn, Shakila Zaman, Frederick K Ho. [Wasting and Stunting in Infants and Young Children as Risk Factors for Subsequent Stunting or Mortality: Longitudinal Analysis of Data from Malawi, South Africa, and Pakistan](#). The Journal of Nutrition, Volume 151, Issue 7, 2021, Pages 2022-2028.
- 19 Afghanistan SMART Survey 2023.
- 20 Guatemala Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance, 2023.
- 21 Haiti SMART Survey 2023.
- 22 UNICEF. March 2023. [Undernourished and Overlooked: A Global Nutrition Crisis in Adolescent Girls and Women](#).
- 23 Ibid.
- 24 IMF. [IMF primary commodity prices](#). Data referring to September 2023.
- 25 The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). October 2023. [Global rice markets face stresses from El Niño, India export restrictions](#). [accessed 20/10/2023]
- 26 FAO. [The FAO Food Price Index \(FFPI\)](#). [accessed 20/10/2023]
- 27 Trading Economics, [Food inflation](#), considering data no older than July 2023; estimate based on WFP food basket for DRC, Myanmar, Sudan and Syria. [accessed 20 October 2023]

- 28 UNCTAD. 2023. [A World of Debt](#).
- 29 Formerly known as the Black Sea Grain Initiative.
- 30 The World Bank. 2022. [Tackling gender-based violence in fragile contexts](#).
- 31 United Nations High Commissioner for refugees Filippo Grande, [addressing the Security Council 31 October 2023](#).
- 32 OCHA. [County page on the Democratic Republic of Congo](#).
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