



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Resilient Food Systems for Climate Action

The World Food Programme (WFP), as the world's largest humanitarian agency, saves lives on the frontlines of the climate crisis, in fragile and conflict-affected settings. WFP supports governments and communities, helping them adapt to the impacts of climate change, build resilience to climate shocks, and create more resilient food systems for a more sustainable world.

Resilient food systems are crucial for addressing climate change, by enhancing food security, improving nutrition, and supporting livelihoods while reversing environmental damage. WFP contributes to more resilient food systems through its advocacy and technical support to governments, direct programming, and collaboration with various partners including communities, UN agencies, NGO, the private sector, and academia.

November 2024

WHY STRENGTHEN FOOD SYSTEMS' RESILIENCE?

Today's food systems are failing to deliver minimum food security and nutrition outcomes and to support equitable livelihoods for almost 800 million people worldwide. They are exposed to increasingly complex risks, shocks, and stressors – including conflict, climate change, and the soaring cost of food. They can negatively impact the environment and can contribute to increasing vulnerability, especially in fragile areas.

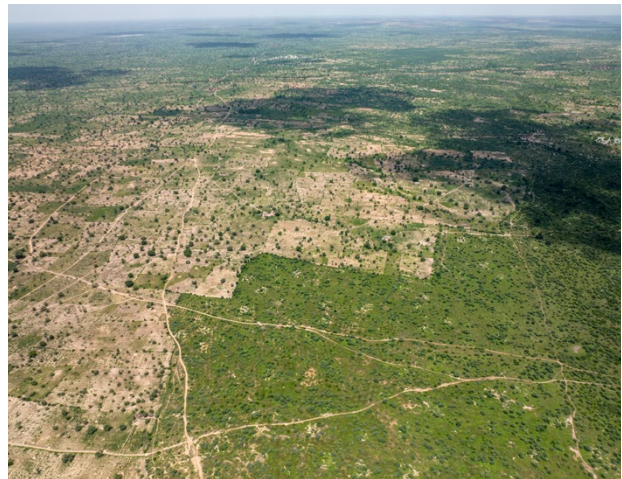
Global food systems contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions and drive environmental crises such as deforestation, soil degradation, and biodiversity loss, worsening climate change, threatening food security, and undermining resilience to climate shocks.

Food systems should have the capacity to provide sufficient, safe, and affordable food and healthy diets for all, while aiming to be resilient in the face of major shocks and stressors, economic disturbance, and climate change.

WFP'S APPROACH TO RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS

WFP is addressing the critical intersection of food insecurity and climate action, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected settings. Through an integrated approach, WFP empowers governments and communities to mitigate, adapt to, and protect themselves from climate-related risks, advancing resilient food systems.

- **Restoring Livelihoods and Ecosystems:**
WFP works with communities to restore degraded ecosystems and livelihoods through regenerative practices, agroforestry, water harvesting, as well as by building or rehabilitating small infrastructure, such as irrigation systems, roads, and water points. WFP promotes diversified and sustainable farming practices to retain soil moisture, increase soil organic content and productivity. These efforts support biodiversity, foster social cohesion, and reduce communities' vulnerability to climate shocks.
- **Smallholder Agricultural Market Support:**
WFP's Smallholder Agricultural Market Support programme is WFP's value chain development approach aiming at improving the livelihoods of smallholder farmers, reducing post-harvest losses, and promoting nutrition and climate sensitive local value



chains, and strengthening the resilience of local food systems.

- **Minimizing WFP’s Carbon Footprint and Sustainable Food Production:**

WFP minimizes its carbon footprint and enhances the environmental sustainability of its supply chain operations. Across its programme portfolio, WFP is promoting planet friendly, diversified, resource-efficient, and localized food production – including through the scaling of ‘home-grown’ school meal programmes. WFP provides communities with clean energy access, installing energy-saving cooking technologies and solar-powered tools to boost productivity and improve livelihoods.

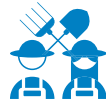
WFP also supports governments and communities prepare for and anticipate the impacts of short-term climate related risks. Through enhanced early warning systems, emergency preparedness, shock-responsive safety nets, access to insurance, and anticipatory action plans, WFP enables timely responses to climate hazards like droughts and floods.



IMPACTS IN 2023



WFP supported **7.9 million people** across **47 countries**, rehabilitating over 376,000 hectares of land and improving essential infrastructure.



WFP supported **1.3 million smallholder farmers** in **44 countries**, leading to 95,937 metric tons of sales valued at \$72 million from WFP-supported farmers group.



WFP’s sustainable energy programs benefited **over 1.5 million people** across **14 countries**.



WFP through its Early Warning & Anticipatory Action supported governments and communities in **36 countries**, covering **over 4.1 million people**.



WFP-supported Climate Risk Insurance programmes provided **5.1 million people** in **27 countries** with financial protection from extreme climate events.



WFP GLOBAL ENGAGEMENTS - TRANSFORMING FOOD SYSTEMS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

WFP engages in the following initiatives globally with governments, UN agencies, NGOs, advocating for policies and providing technical assistance towards national strategies for climate-resilient food systems aligned with global climate goals.

- [The Food Systems and Climate Action Convergence Initiative](#): developed by the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, this initiative aims to integrate food systems transformation with climate action. Through dialogues and consultations, it supports national convenors in aligning food systems pathways with climate targets, maximizing synergies, and promoting sustainability.
- UN coordination group convened around the UAE-Belem two-year Work Programme - part of the [UAE-Belém Framework for Global Climate Resilience](#), which aims to guide the achievement of the [Global Goal on Adaptation](#).
- [NDC Partnership](#): a global initiative designed to support countries in fulfilling their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, which emphasize including the importance of transforming food systems to mitigate climate change and improve food security.
- [UN Food Systems Summit](#): a global event convened to transform food production and consumption, aiming to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by addressing hunger, malnutrition, and climate

change challenges. Since 2021, WFP has served as one of the five core UN agencies hosting and lead agency for “resilient food systems”. WFP is engaged with 10 Food Systems Coalitions building partnerships, organize high-level events (at UNGA, COP and N4G), and raise awareness of WFP’s value proposition. Currently WFP is a participating member in the Task Force.

- **Harmoniya Initiative**: set to be launched at COP29, the Baku Harmoniya Climate Initiative for Farmers aims to offer a platform for knowledge and experience exchange, catalyse investments in agrifood system transformation from both private and public sectors, and empower farmers in the development of climate-resilient villages and rural communities for adaptation action in the food, agriculture and water sectors.



CLIMATE AND RESILIENCE SERVICE

World Food Programme

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Photo page 1: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua

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