



World Food
Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

2024: Pathways to Change

WFP operations in the Middle East, Northern Africa, and Eastern Europe



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2024 in Numbers

WFP, a lifeline for



22.1 M
beneficiaries



mostly assisted with
REDUCED RATIONS



52%
female



2.3 M
persons with disabilities

supported through



535,296 MT
food distributed



US\$667 M
cash transferred



US\$43 M
spent on capacity
strengthening

in collaboration with



308+
Cooperating
partners

52
government
institutions

96
INGOs
7
academia

17
UN agencies
136
local NGOs

Beneficiaries included



15.7 M
residents



3.7 M
refugees



2.3 M
internally
displaced
persons



429,651
returnees

Saving lives



18.7 M (87% of planned)
people received
emergency food

Malnutrition: Nutrition response

Treatment
for
1.7 M
people
(61% of
planned)



Prevention
for
1.4 M
people
(60% of
planned)



Healthy school meals for
3.6 M (78% of planned)
children

Changing lives



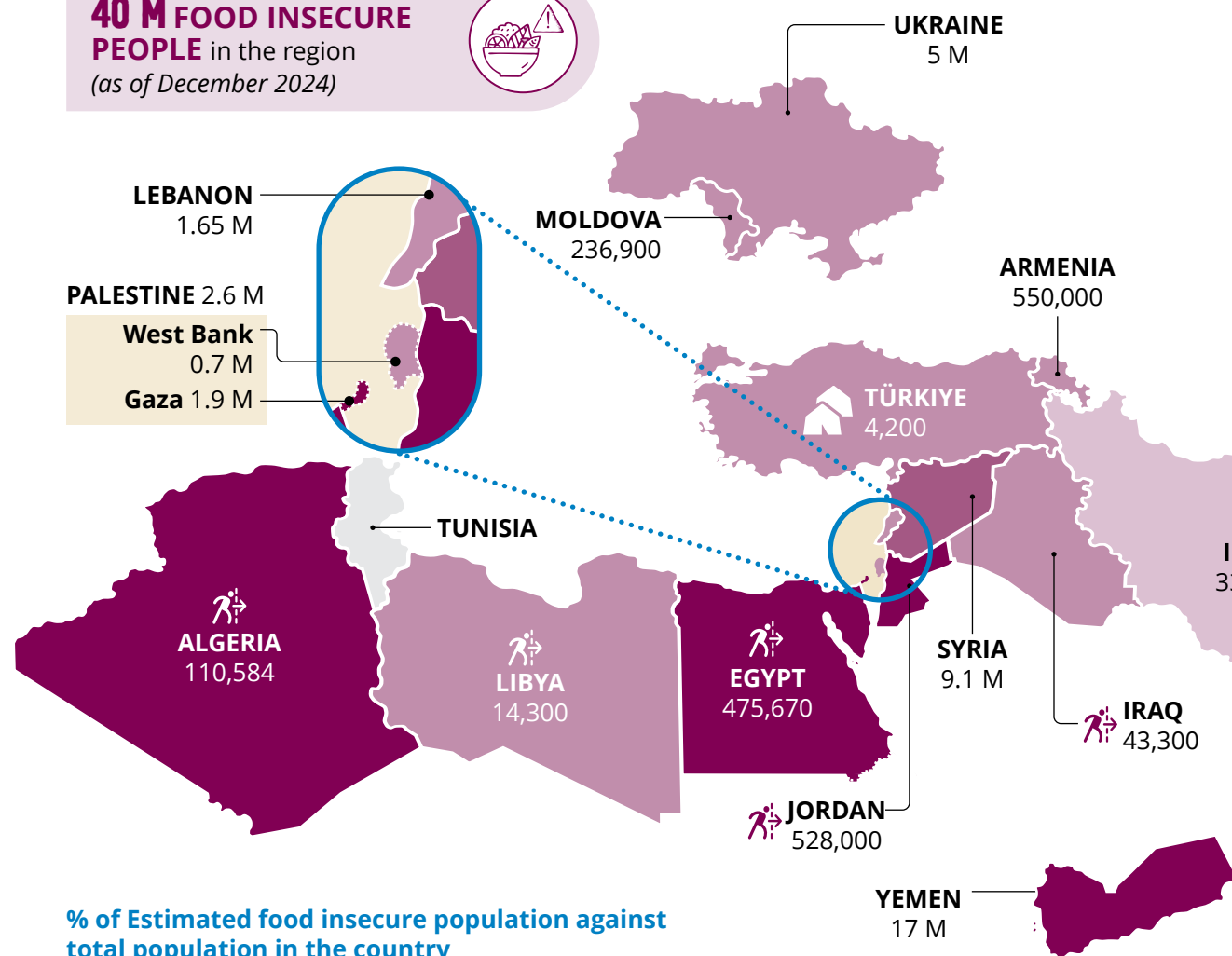
308,166
(44% of planned)
people empowered with
assets and Livelihoods
opportunities

128,393
(76% of planned)
smallholder farmers assisted

54,817
(26% of planned)
people protected against
climate shocks

2024 Food Insecurity Outlook

40 M FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE in the region
(as of December 2024)



% of Estimated food insecure population against total population in the country

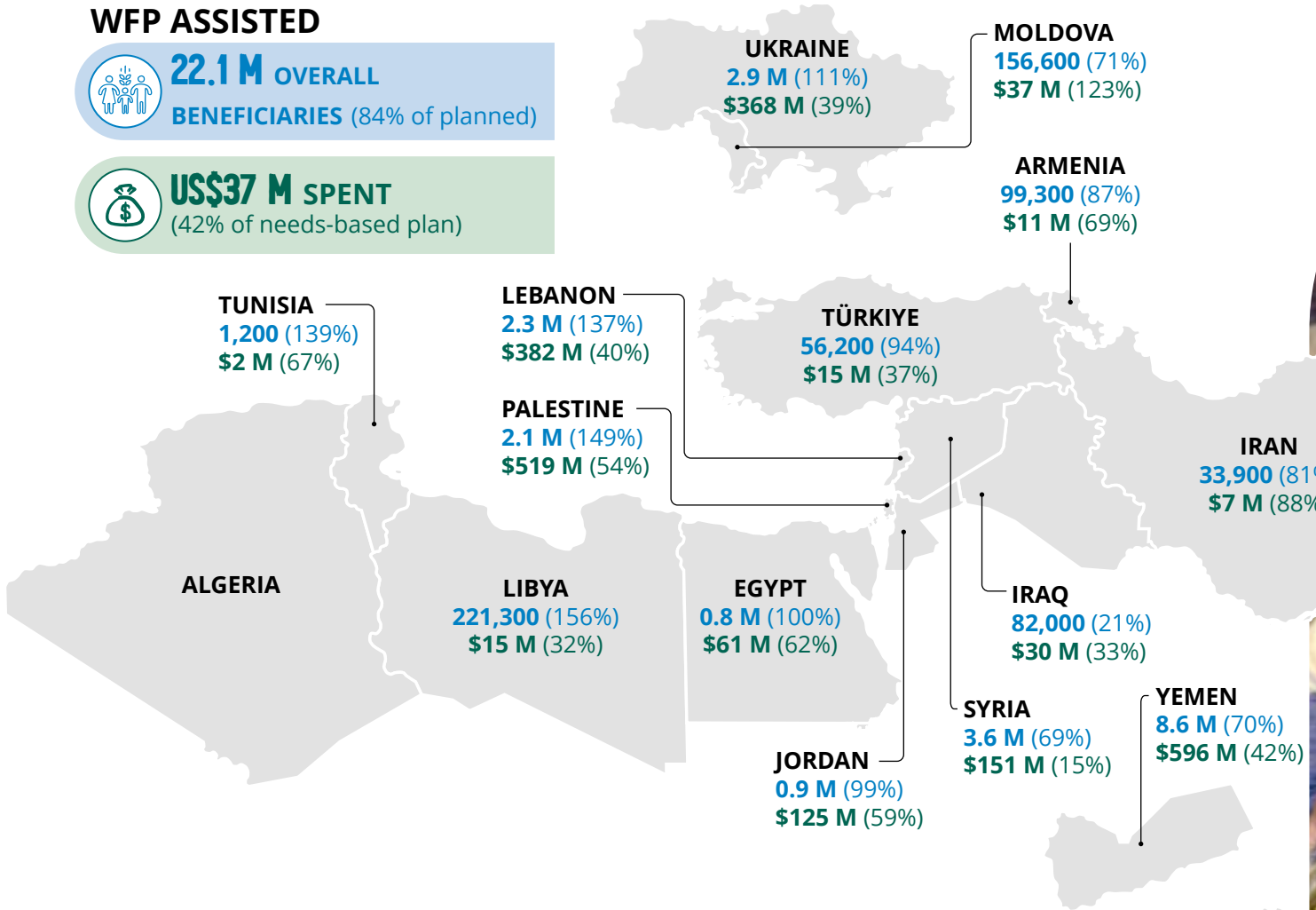


Our Beneficiaries and Expenditures

WFP ASSISTED

22.1 M OVERALL BENEFICIARIES (84% of planned)

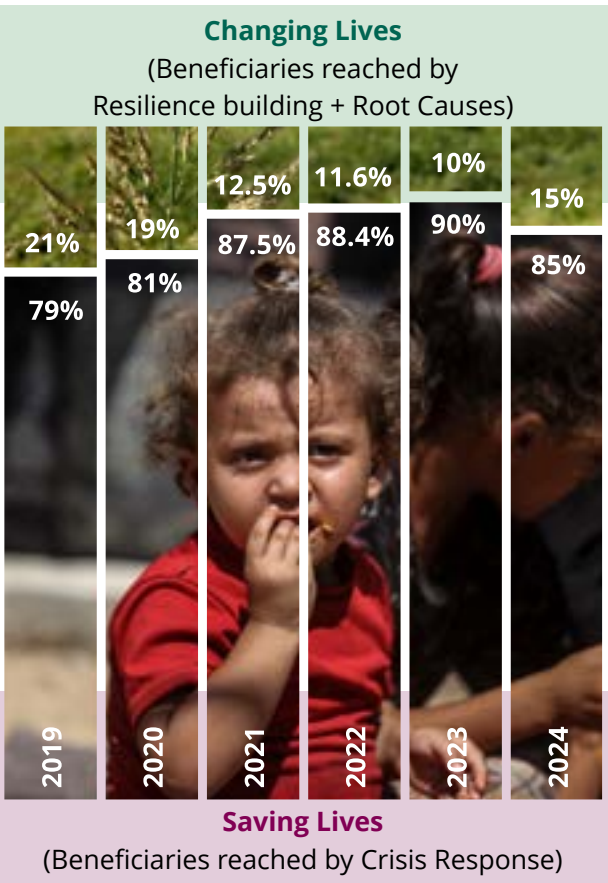
US\$37 M SPENT (42% of needs-based plan)



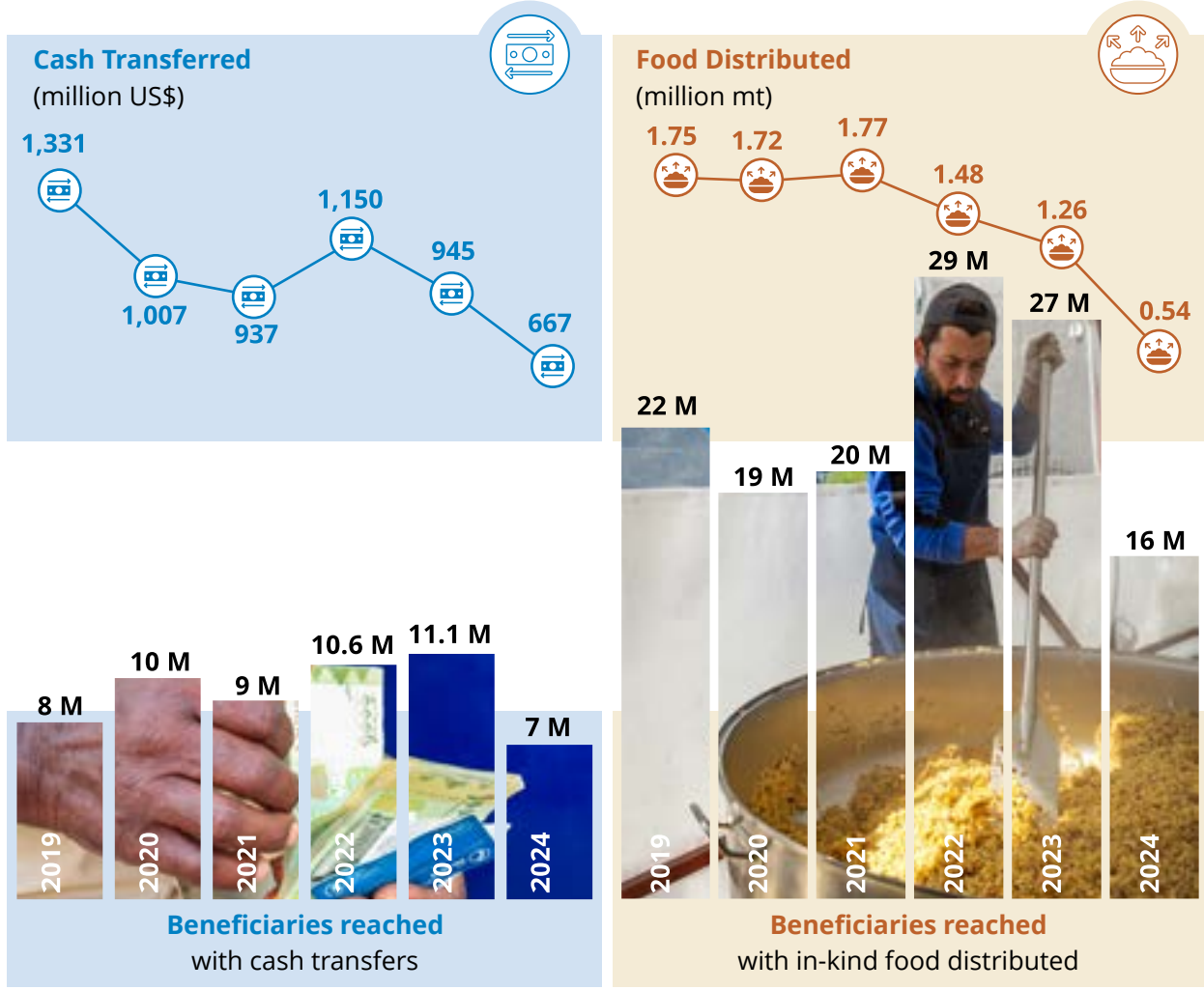
Delays in resource confirmations from major donors during the year triggered operational challenges, forcing a scale-back in the number of beneficiaries reached and reducing 2024 expenses. Unspent balances have been carried over into 2025.



Saving Lives, Changing Lives

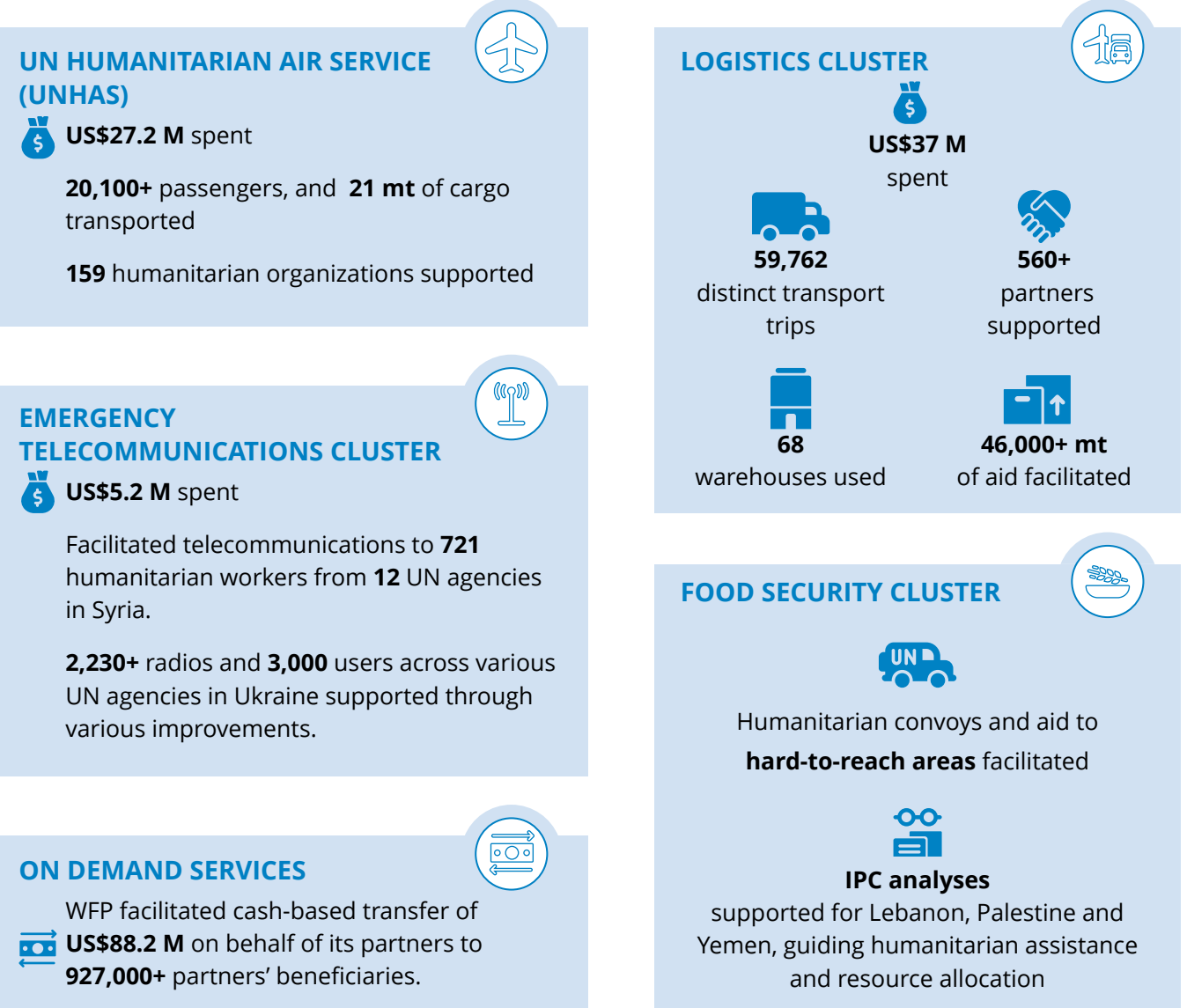


Crisis response continued to shape MENAEE operations in 2024, following historic trends. However, more country offices are transitioning towards resilience-building as they innovate to better prepare for future challenges and create a more sustainable future for all.



Fewer beneficiaries were assisted with food and cash across the region in 2024, receiving drastically reduced food rations and cash transfers, as marked by the 30 percent decrease in the amount of cash distributed and the drop by over half in the food delivered compared to 2023.

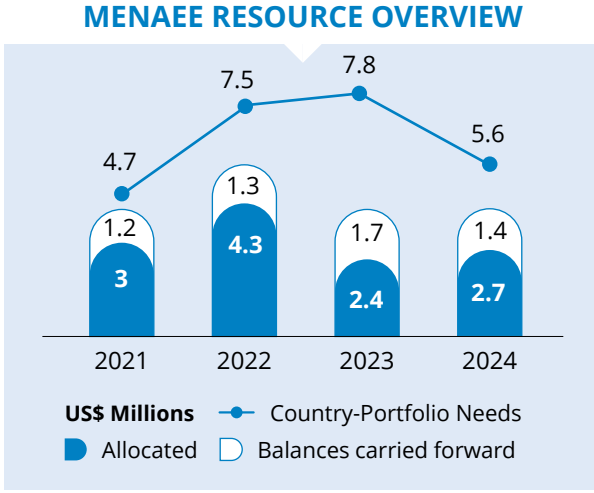
Support to the Humanitarian Community



Constrained Funding Landscape

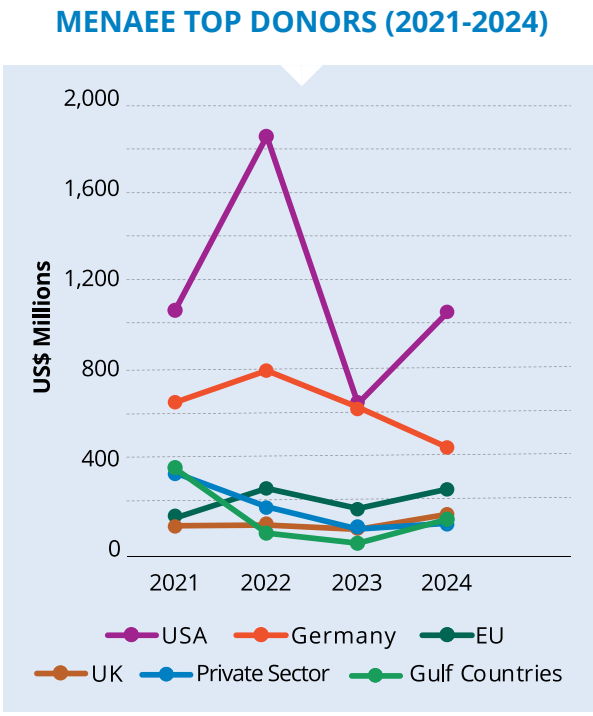
MENAEER received the largest share of WFP global contributions (28 percent of US\$8.27 B), reflecting the scale of emergency operations and conflict-affected food-insecure areas in the region.

However, the increase in contribution in 2024 did not keep pace with the unprecedented needs, showing a 32 percent funding gap.



MENAEER continued to face significant risk due to the reliance on a limited donor base-with the same donors accounting for nearly three-quarters of the contributions in the region. The US accounted for 38 percent of contributions received by MENAEER, of which most part was directed to Yemen (37%), followed by Palestine

(36%) and Syria (7%). Germany contributions continued to decline, arriving late in the year, which largely impacted COs.

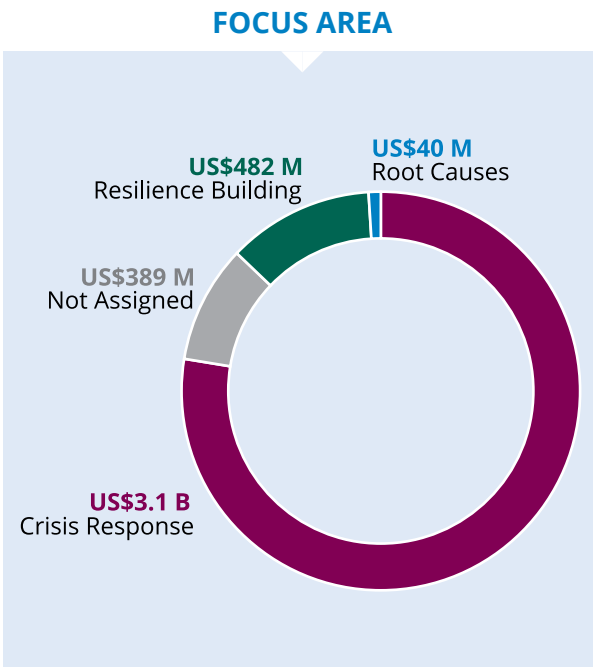


PRIVATE SECTOR

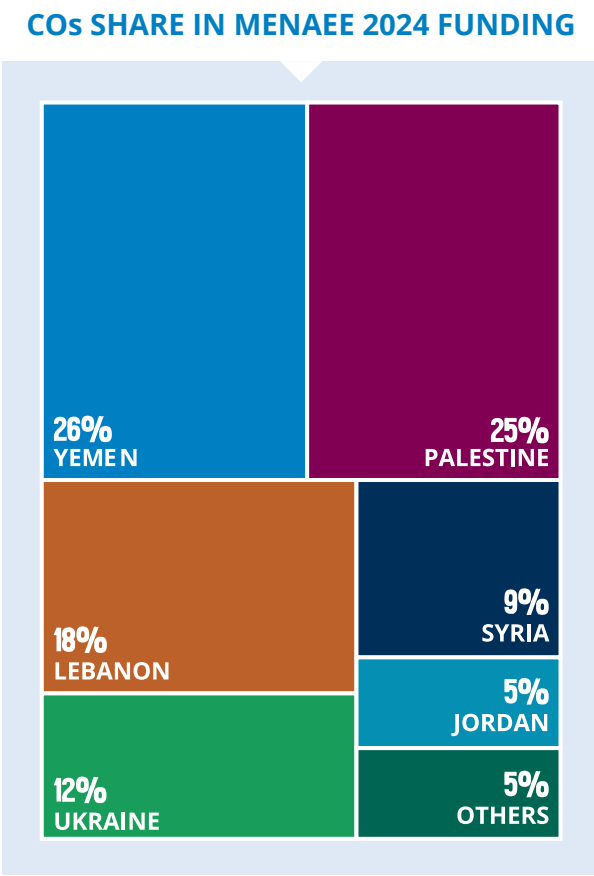
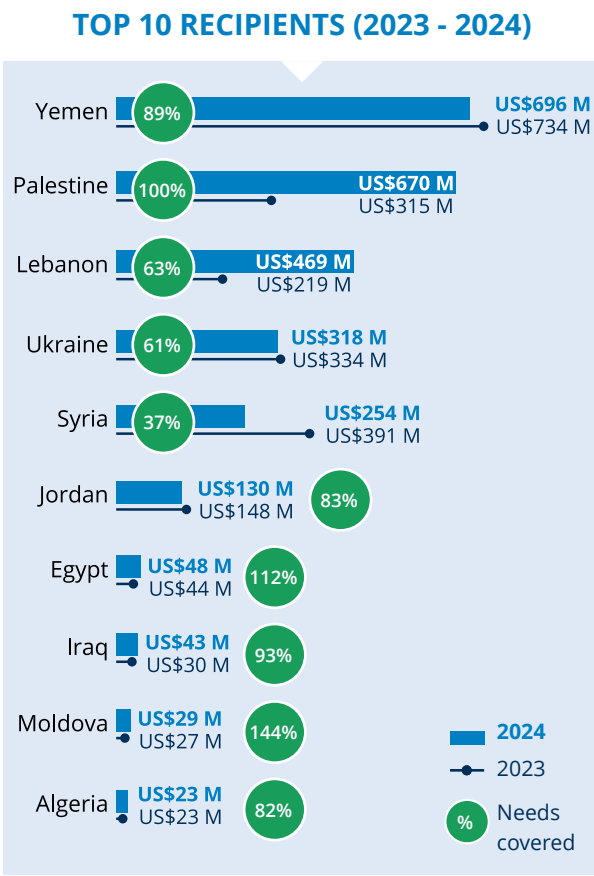
In 2024, MENAEER witnessed a growth in private sector contributions by 43 percent, which were vital to support WFP's life-saving operations, namely Palestine (72%), Ukraine (9%) and Yemen (4%).



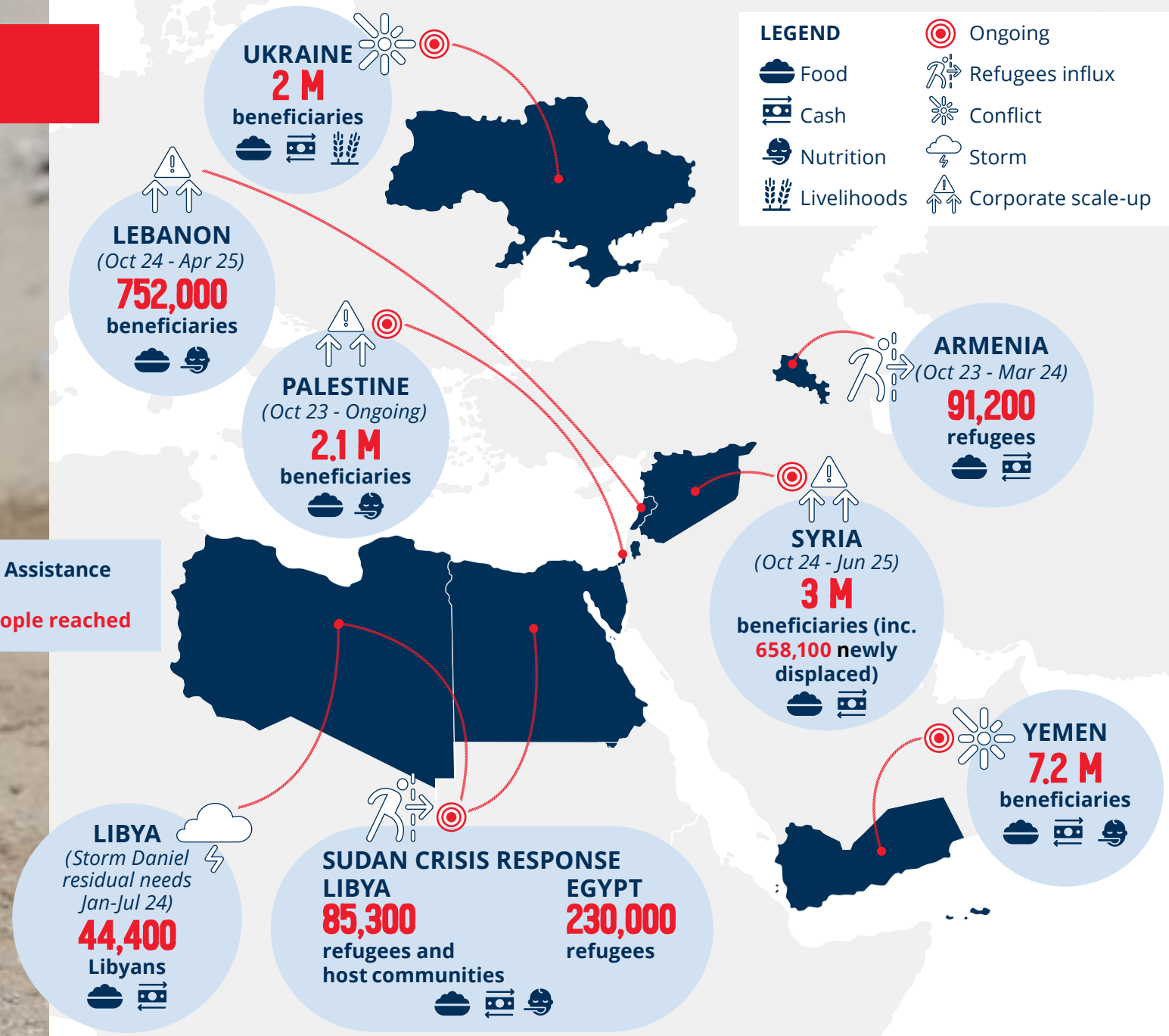
Over 70% of funds were directed to emergency response operations given the high humanitarian needs and rapidly evolving crises in the region while 9% were allocated to resilience-building activities. The majority (61%) of 2024 contributions to the MENAEER region were earmarked at activity level, with a very little portion entirely flexible (5%) limiting WFP's ability to direct assistance towards emerging needs. Flexible funds decreased in 2024 for MENAEER compared to 2023 while the contributions earmarked for CSP and strategic outcome levels (33%) remained stable.



In line with WFP's corporate shift to a more realistic budgeting approach, many of MENAEER largest operations reduced their needs-based plans for 2024, except for Palestine as a result of the ongoing crisis, and were largely covered. Yemen received the largest share of contributions although it declined compared to 2023. Given the emergency scale up response in Palestine and Lebanon, both operations witnessed a double increase in their contributions of 2024 compared to 2023. In 2024, Syria had the lowest resourcing level in recent years, a 35 percent decline in contributions compared to 2023, covering only 37 percent of its needs-based plan.



Emergencies



Building Resilience: From Consumption to Production

In the MENAEE, food insecurity is attributed to **persistent conflicts, climatic disruptions, economic instability, and inadequate institutional capacities**. In 2024, WFP actively engaged in transforming food systems to prevent, withstand, adapt to, and recover from these various shocks and stresses across the region.



1

NATURAL RESOURCE BASE

1.7 M

Tree seedlings provided

2,417 HA

Land reforested/afforested

3,018

Assets to reduce deforestation and forest degradation

16,352 HA

of agricultural land benefiting from improved irrigation

274 KM

of canals improved to save water



2

PRODUCTION

128,743

smallholder farmers supported

173,441

production input kits provided

16,221 HA

of land brought under improved agricultural production

3,032

people provided energy for food production

22,150

climate adaptation assets provided

60,298

people accessing info on weather/climate risk

US\$1.4 M

investment in agricultural production input/equipment

13,397

smallholder farmers given agricultural inputs and equipment



3

AGGREGATION AND FOOD PROCESSING

US\$242,858

for post-harvest and processing equipment

147

other value chain actors supported

3

smallholder farmer groups provided with post-harvest equipment & infrastructure



4

MARKET AND DISTRIBUTION

US\$195 K

value of storage/transportation equipment provided

2,143

smallholder farmers trained

FOOD ACCESS AND CONSUMPTION

818,000

people provided with access to energy

3

kitchens or food storage premises

39,402

participants engaged in IGA



5

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

\$397 K

value of institutional support

134

Institutions supported

2,684

people engaged in capacity strengthening

LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT

US\$12.5 M

Transfers

290,311

People receiving assistance

209,288

People benefiting from assets and climate adaptation practices

46,352

Participants completed skills training

3.1 M

Indirect beneficiaries

Nutrition and School Feeding Sustained

Treatment of Malnutrition
1.7 M people reached

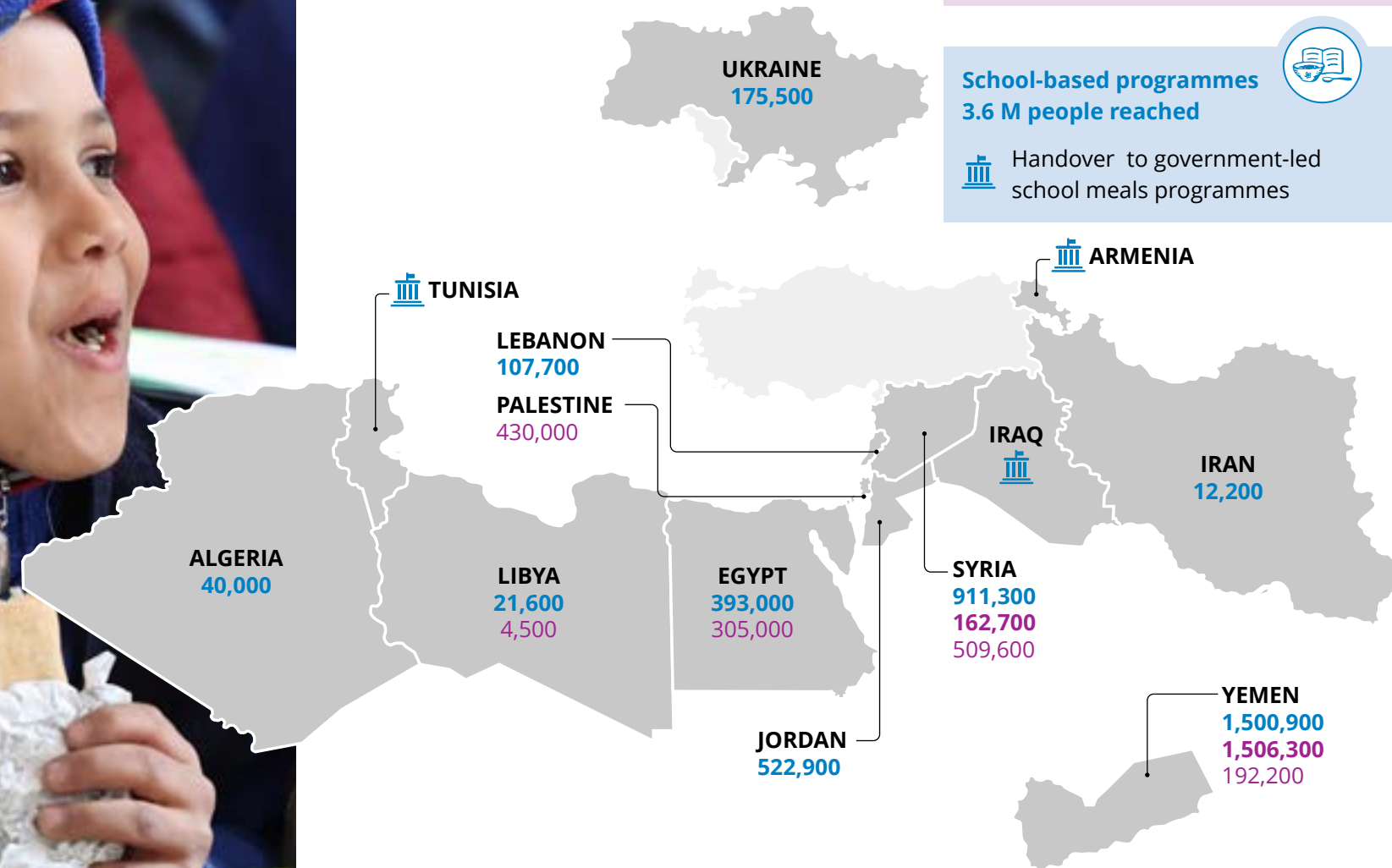
Prevention of Malnutrition
1.4 M people reached



School-based programmes
3.6 M people reached



Handover to government-led
school meals programmes



225,771 MT
of specialized nutritious foods
provided to treat or prevent
malnutrition

US\$79 M

total value of cash and vouchers
transferred to people

7,637
WFP-assisted health centres or sites

11,269
government and public sector staff
participating in training and other
technical assistance initiatives

2.4 M
people reached through
interpersonal SBCC approaches

15,541 MT
of food distributed

US\$27.2 M

total value of cash and vouchers
transferred to people

15,660
schools or institutional sites reached
through school-based programming


13,139+
government and public sector staff
participating in training and other
technical assistance initiatives


1.2 M
children covered by HGSF based
programmes


8
member countries in School Meals
Coalition in the region


Social Protection

WFP has played a crucial role in improving social protection systems throughout the region by providing technical assistance, policy guidance, and capacity-building efforts to strengthen inclusive and shock-responsive safety nets.

 **29,811**
partner's staff engaged in WFP's initiatives to enhance capacity of **320 national institutions**

 **830**
trainings/workshops facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities

 **196**
digital tools or products developed or revised to enhance national systems

 **US\$803,990**
Value of assets and infrastructure handed over to national stakeholders

WFP SCALED UP SHOCK-RESPONSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION

Lebanon: Integrated NPTP with World Bank-funded ESSN, forming a unified framework.

Palestine: 166,000 Palestinians supported through shock-responsive safety nets.

Moldova: Enhanced digital MIS for efficient beneficiary tracking.

ENHANCING NATIONAL SYSTEMS FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTCOMES

Iraq:

- Launched the first Single Registry platform, improving beneficiary targeting.
- Provided technical support to modernize Iraq's Public Distribution System.

Palestine: strengthened digital payment mechanisms, improving cash assistance delivery.

Armenia: WFP partnered with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to revise emergency response policies; 90,000 refugees supported.

Egypt: WFP collaborated with the Ministry of Social Solidarity to expand social safety nets and integrate food security into national policies.

Moldova: Strengthened digital MIS for streamlined beneficiary tracking.

Syria: Engaged in policy dialogue to align food security and social protection strategies.

Ukraine: Automated 75 percent of social benefit processing, improving transparency and response time.

Jordan: Transitioned key support programmes to government ownership, integrating social protection and food security initiatives.



Evaluation

23 EVALUATIONS IN 13 COUNTRIES IN 2024

Evaluations play a crucial role in WFP by providing evidence-based insights that inform decision-making, enhance programme effectiveness, and ensure accountability. These evaluations help WFP to continuously improve its initiatives, address challenges, and maximize the impact of its efforts in enhancing food security and nutrition across various countries. In 2024, WFP evaluations of various initiatives across the MENAEE, highlighted achievements, challenges, and lessons learned in enhancing food security and nutrition.

Armenia: WFP evaluations of the School Feeding Programme and the Country Strategic Plan revealed WFP's positive contributions to education and nutrition, with innovative models enhancing learning about healthy lifestyles and sustainable practices.

Egypt: WFP improved community feedback mechanisms, enhancing communication with beneficiaries through a revamped hotline and digital tools, significantly increasing response rates.

Iran: Adjustments were made to target beneficiary numbers and increase cash transfers following feedback on insufficient

assistance for refugees, responding to economic conditions.

Iraq: WFP's shift to a development-centered strategy has strengthened resilience and social protection, although sustained long-term contributions are essential to maintain these critical gains.

Jordan: An evaluation revealed that the healthy meal model effectively reduced absenteeism and improved dietary diversity among children, while also benefiting kitchen staff economically.

Lebanon: Evaluations emphasized the National Poverty Targeting Programme's role in poverty alleviation but suggested a need for a more integrated approach linking cash assistance with other services.

Libya: Challenges in delivering aid due to access restrictions were highlighted, with calls for improved coordination among UN agencies to enhance humanitarian response.

Syria: Despite financial constraints, WFP's dual approach combining humanitarian aid with recovery support was recognized as essential in addressing food insecurity.

Ukraine: Evidence from WFP's evolving

response to the Ukraine crisis demonstrated significant adaptation and learning. Data-driven insights shaped the transition, highlighting the effectiveness of balancing immediate humanitarian aid with longer-term system strengthening.

Yemen: WFP used lessons from oversight and impact assessments to improve the re-targeting and registration strategy for SBA-controlled areas and the roll-out of the targeted emergency food assistance (TEFA) programme. Progress under the Global Assurance Project further strengthened accountability and internal controls through the implementation of a comprehensive Augmented Assurance Plan.

A comprehensive overview of WFP emergency response in the MENAEE region from 2018 to 2024 highlighted WFP effectiveness, efficiency, and challenges faced. It demonstrated WFP's strong ability to adapt its emergency responses to evolving contexts and new available evidence, upholding the dignity of beneficiaries during the delivery of assistance. It emphasized the need for improved coordination, strategic local partnerships, and sustainable funding to plan and deliver transition programming.



2025 Way Forward

EMERGENCY LEVEL

Corporate scale up

Corporate Attention

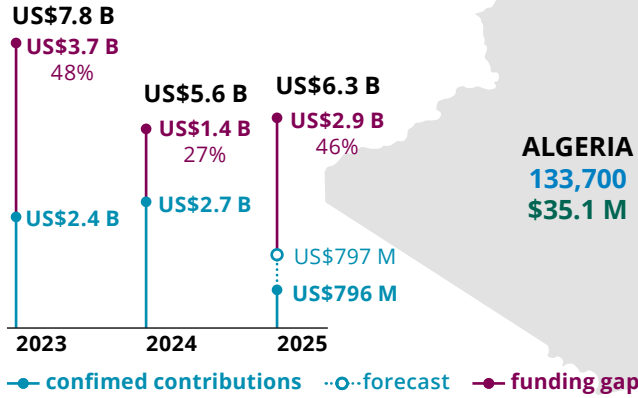
PEOPLE IN NEED

38 M Acutely food insecure (12% lower than 2024)
8.3 M in Emergency or worse (IPC 4+)

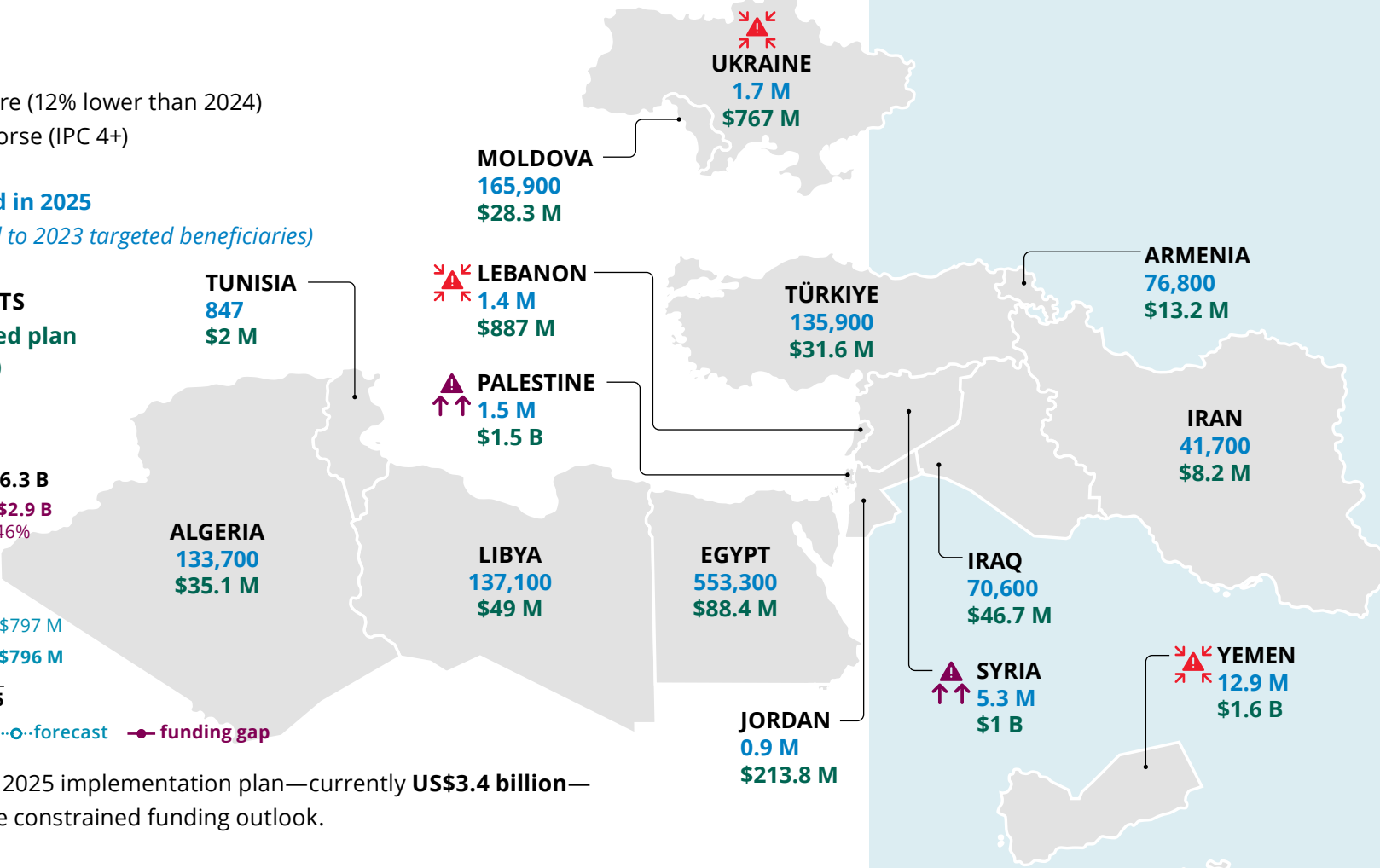
25 M people targeted in 2025
(41% decline compared to 2023 targeted beneficiaries)

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

US\$ 6.3B Needs-based plan
(13% higher than 2024)



MENAEERO is revising its 2025 implementation plan—currently **US\$3.4 billion**—downward in line with the constrained funding outlook.



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List of Acronyms

ESSN	Emergency Social Safety Net
HGSF	Home-Grown School Feeding
IGA	Income-Generating Activity
IPC	Integrated Phase Classification
MENAE	Middle East, North Africa and Eastern Europe
MENAEERO	Middle East, North Africa and Eastern Europe Regional Office
NPTP	National Poverty Targeting Programme
SBCC	Social and Behaviour Change Communication



PATHWAYS TO CHANGE

2024: WFP operations in the Middle East, Northern Africa, and Eastern Europe

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