

THE TRIPLE NEXUS AND THE ROLE OF WFP

Preventing Need, Alleviating Need, Ending Need

Side event on the margins of the annual session of the Executive Board

Tuesday, 19 June 2018 from 8:15 – 9:45

Aula I, Aula Delegatis, WFP Headquarters

Context

Providing food assistance to save lives is a humanitarian imperative. Sustainable livelihoods, food security and strong food systems underscore the resilience of individuals and communities. Food assistance and food security also play a central role in mitigating risks and fragility, contribute to community and sub-national stability, and support broader efforts to build peaceful and stable societies. At the same time, the direct relation between conflict and hunger needs more attention. Food and food systems are therefore central to an integrated approach to the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus.

The Secretary-General's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustaining Peace Agenda, and the Agenda for Humanity set out an interlocking way forward to prevent, alleviate and end humanitarian need. WFP's Strategic Plan has therefore committed to realising SDG 2 and 17 in pursuit of 'zero hunger', and in support of this SDG 16 for peaceful, just, and inclusive societies. The Nexus of humanitarian, development and peace action provides an essential framework for linking these three spheres of international support to countries and people most in need – 'leaving no one behind'.

The humanitarian, development and peacebuilding sectors are now tasked with understanding what is required to define and institute systemic and operational change accordingly. Thinking and action on the Nexus is nascent at all levels, from programming to global policy. A selection of countries in crisis are spearheading innovative thinking around collaboration and delivery. Individual agencies, member states and partners have a range of initiatives and strategic commitments under which they have begun delineation of what the Nexus means in real terms.

As part of its work in this direction, WFP has this year established a partnership with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The partnership will develop the evidence base for understanding how best WFP contributes to strengthening impact within the triple Nexus and thus supports peace outcomes through enhancing food security. It will also contribute to better identifying and understanding risks before crises take hold, and how these may be addressed through both operational refinement and policy formulation.

The event will bring together WFP voices and external experts to discuss actions and commitments on the Nexus, both within WFP and the wider aid community. The discussion will reflect on the opportunities and challenges for moving forward and instituting the change needed to deliver better in a rapidly changing world. It precedes and complements an event hosted by Switzerland on humanitarian protection, whereby 'reaching those farthest behind' will be discussed, including the link to peaceful societies.

Objectives

In this panel-event hosted by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, WFP will outline how it is deepening the institutional approach to the Nexus by listening to various perspectives, and taking a layered approach across the following five objectives:

- **Evidence building:** Collecting and analysing key data that furthers the understanding of the linkages between conflict and hunger.
- **Operational innovation, change, and refinement:** Employing the evidence to inform operations, positioning WFP to better respond to crises caused by insufficient or poorly functioning food systems; clarifying the scope of WFP's mandate and working to integrate and align WFP humanitarian and development interventions and, when or where possible, assist in preventing conflict through smart, inclusive food assistance programmes developed jointly with development and peace actors in support of national governments.
- **Programme Performance Measurement on the Nexus:** Establishing the parameters by which a programme performance measurement system may be developed for the purposes of planning, monitoring and reporting WFP's work in a Nexus environment.
- **Policy development and strategic engagement:** Contributing to an enabling environment by engaging in the United Nations Reform process and ensuring its relevance and responsiveness to the challenges of instituting change on the ground; deepening the evolution of WFP's institutional response to the global challenges and commitments on the Nexus; establishing a leadership role in defining how agencies can improve collaboration for better collective outcomes.
- **Financing for the future:** Understanding the financial implications of delivering collectively across the Nexus, and highlighting the continued need for an increase in multi-year, flexible funding in line with Grand Bargain commitments.

Participants

- Mr David Beasley (TBC), Executive Director, World Food Programme
- H.E. Robert Rydberg, Ambassador to the Republic of Italy, the Republic of San Marino and Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations agencies based in Rome
- Mr Dan Smith, Director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)
- Mr Paul Howe, Deputy Country Director, Afghanistan, WFP

The event will be chaired by Ms Denise Brown, Director of Policy and Programme Division, WFP.

Agenda

- 8:15 – Breakfast in the Aula Delegatis
- 8:30 – Welcome and opening remarks
- 8:35 – Interventions from panellists
- 9:05 – Facilitated discussion and Q&A
- 9:25 – Mr David Beasley (TBC), closing remarks