Asia and the Pacific Regional Overview

EB.A/2019

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Main Findings/Recommendations:

• Stronger use of conceptual frameworks

• Expansion of multi-sectoral approach

• Enhanced accountability of stakeholders

• Consider competing country priorities and pursue increased advocacy efforts

• Deeper analysis of challenges for policy changes and related costs

• Elaborate links with other SDGs
UN REFORM/INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

• Food Security & Nutrition (FSN) Governance

• UNCT Coordination: FAO/RBA, UNICEF, WHO, etc.

• RC: Common Funds (Joint SDG Fund)

• Common Country Assessment (CCA)/UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (ex-UNDAF)

• Regional Reform/Multi-Country Office (MCO) Review

• Management Reforms
Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Operations

Afghanistan: Post-drought (residual IDP’s); increased conflict IDPs in run up to elections; returnees/refugees; access issues; flood preparations; **USD 54 million required to end 2019.**

Pakistan: Drought response; nexus programming in Afghanistan border areas; flood preparations; **USD 30 million required to end 2019.**

Bangladesh (L2): General Food Distribution; residual nutrition requirements; SCOPE enrolment/UNHCR registration; monsoon & cyclone preparedness; Host Community support; **USD 134 million required to end 2019.**

Myanmar (L2): Access to IDP’s in Border Areas; **USD 30 million required to end 2019.**

Philippines: IDP returns (eg Marawi); new IDPs (e.g., Maguindanao); support to Autonomous Government in Mindanao (BARMM); **USD 4.5 million required to end 2019.**
**Poor Harvests:** 2018 under production due to multiple natural disasters (drought, flooding and storm) compounding effects of the poor 2017 harvest and resulting in a 1.5 million MT food deficit announced by government earlier this year. The 2019 harvest could be adversely affected by poor snowfall and recent low rainfall, although average levels of rain forecast for Q3.

**Assessments:** 2017 UNICEF Nutrition survey (MICS) found reduction in stunting/malnutrition since 2012 but noted regional disparities; WFP’s November 2018 Household assessment found signs of food insecurity and micronutrient deficiency; WFP/FAO Rapid Food Supply Assessment Mission (April 2019) cites a 1.36 million MT overall deficit with 10.1 million food insecure.

**WFP Response plans:** expand ICSP over next 12 months using established mechanisms of targeted institutional feeding with greater geographical coverage plus increased FFA work for DRR.

**Challenges:** Sanctions affecting shipping, banking channels, and fuel/energy supplies for internal transport and food transformation; access for monitoring (including sub-offices); staffing (e.g. Korean speakers, visas).
Future Concerns:
Storm/Monsoon Season and El Niño

Storm Season:

- **North Pacific/Philippines**: Storm season has begun and runs through November 2019. Forecasts are for an above average numbers of storms/tropical cyclones.

Monsoon:

- **South Asia**: forecast of average rainfall with some flooding effects; Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar and Sri Lanka are of particular concern.

- **Southeast Asia**: normal conditions but drier near equator affecting Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands.

**El Niño**: Low probability/weak conditions through Q3.