



World Food  
Program USA



# STATEMENT OF IMPACT

SPRING 2024

# ENDING HUNGER IS OUR COLLECTIVE MISSION.

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**A snapshot of hunger today reveals that 309 million people around the world face acute hunger.**

Conflict, the climate crisis and economic shocks are fueling this hunger crisis and often overlap to drive displacement and limit economic and educational opportunities. Humanitarian needs are highest in Gaza, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Haiti, where violent conflict is driving hunger.

In response, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is providing millions of people with food and cash assistance to meet their immediate nutritional needs in emergencies. WFP also invests in programs that address the root causes of hunger and promote long-term sustainable development.

Faced with one of the worst funding shortfalls in its 60-year history, WFP has reduced the amount of food assistance it provides in almost half of the countries it works in. Each ration cut pushes people deeper into hunger.

As part of World Food Program USA, your generous partnership helps WFP save and change lives in over 120 countries and territories. In 2023, WFP reached an estimated 152 million people.

**150M** This year, WFP aims to reach over 150 million people.

The Spring 2024 Impact Report explores how WFP responds in conflict settings, provides school meals and invests in communities affected by the climate crisis. It is our hope that the report informs you of the realities facing millions of people today and inspires your commitment to ending hunger.

*Cover Photo: Siham prepares an iftar meal for her family during Ramadan on the rubbles of her family home. Photo: WFP/Ali Jadallah*



من إيد بلادك

From the Hands  
of Your People

مشروع توزيع الوجبات الساخنة  
للحفاظ على قطاع غزة



WFP works with partners and community kitchens to deliver hot meals in southern and central Gaza. Photo: WFP/Ali Jadallah



# WFP'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN CONFLICT SETTINGS

*In April alone, 1.6 million people received WFP assistance in Gaza. Photo: WFP/Ali Jadallah*





# GAZA

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**Humanitarian aid to Gaza is severely limited, making it nearly impossible to distribute food to all who need it.**

In the north, rates of acute malnutrition among children under 2 doubled in only two months. Markets are either empty, too far for families to reach or food is too expensive to buy.

This year, WFP has continued to distribute food assistance despite immense challenges. Since March, over 400 trucks have reached northern Gaza. In April, a new coordinated route and use of the Erez border crossing and Ashdod port allowed WFP to double aid to the north and help four bakeries reopen.

**1.6M** WFP assisted 1.6 million people across Gaza in April through emergency rations, hot meals, wheat flour and specialized nutrition products.

As of May 20, WFP is still on the ground working with partners to deliver food to people in the north and in central areas. Operations are very limited in the south, but WFP is still providing some hot meals and supporting the four bakeries that are operating in central Gaza.

WFP continues to call for a humanitarian ceasefire. During a brief pause in fighting last November, WFP and its partners doubled distribution points and were able to bring in four times more assistance. A humanitarian ceasefire is needed to allow people to access assistance safely and facilitate the movement of supplies to address needs.

## **How does WFP's assistance extend beyond providing meals?**

WFP has worked to rebuild Gaza's supply chain by providing bakeries with the necessary resources – including wheat flour, sugar, salt, yeast and fuel – to operate. WFP also works to improve aid logistics. A recently introduced self-registration tool enables faster assistance by allowing people to update their location if they are forced to move or evacuate an area.



## **STAY UP TO DATE**

Scan or click to follow the latest updates from Gaza. WFP is on the ground providing emergency food assistance.



*In South Sudan, families board boats to attempt to return home. Photo: WFP/Hugh Rutherford*



# SUDAN

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## In April 2023, conflict broke out in Sudan.

The violence has forced millions of people to flee their homes, with 8.6 million people displaced. 1.7 million people face emergency hunger levels in Sudan's Darfur Region, where access is severely limited. Many refugees fled to neighboring countries such as South Sudan and Chad. Chad's refugee population has doubled over the past year.

A record 18 million people, or 37% of Sudan's population, now face acute hunger, with almost 5 million of those people facing emergency levels of hunger. Around 90% of people experiencing emergency levels of hunger in Sudan live in areas where access is extremely restricted.

The war has destroyed essential infrastructure, including food factories, hospitals, banks, agricultural land, bridges, and gas pipelines. Sudan experiences the effects of the war daily as tens of thousands of people face a lack of food, water and shelter.

## How does WFP respond to hunger in the region?

WFP has reached over 6.5 million people with food and nutritional assistance since the conflict began. Despite challenges in access to Darfur, WFP convoys carrying aid for 250,000 people recently reached the area for the first time in months. WFP distributes cereal, iodized salt and oil to new arrivals in refugee camps, along with specialized nutritional food to young children and pregnant and breastfeeding women. WFP plans to reach over 7 million people in 2024 if access and funding allow.

## Meet Awadiya

Tea vendor and activist Awadiya Mahmoud found refuge in Port Sudan. Awadiya fled to Wad Madani, Gezira's state capital, and then fled again in December as conflict rose in that area.

She now runs a soup kitchen where people pool their resources. "WFP came and gave us sorghum, peas, salt and oil," she said. "It helped because people had nothing. WFP really stood by our side."

*Awadiya runs a soup kitchen in Port Sudan.  
Photo: WFP/Abubakar Garelnabei*





*WFP works with more than 20 bakeries across Ukraine to produce bread that is delivered to hundreds of thousands of people living near the frontlines each month. Photo: WFP/Antoine Vallas*



# UKRAINE

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**February 24, 2024, marked two years since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, which has left nearly 6 million Ukrainians displaced across Europe and another 5.1 million displaced internally.**

3.4 million people in Ukraine need food assistance. The generosity of our partners assists WFP's lifesaving work in Ukraine, which includes emergency food assistance, cash-based support, school meals and logistical support.

Since March 2022, WFP has distributed food and cash assistance equivalent to 2.5 billion meals to Ukrainians affected by the war, partnering with local responders. WFP supports 2.4 million people per month, providing food assistance near the frontline and cash assistance throughout the country where markets are still functioning.

WFP's programs are designed to help stabilize the local economy and food systems, aiming to distribute locally bought food in Ukraine.

**100K** WFP has recently expanded its school meals program, supporting daily nutritious meals to over 100,000 children in more than 700 schools across the country.

WFP also remains committed to supporting the export of grain from Ukraine, which is an important source of affordable food across the world.

WFP advocates for the safe passage of commercial vessels to and from the Ukrainian Black Sea ports, carrying grain and foodstuffs. As the war continues, WFP remains committed to assisting the people affected by war in Ukraine.

**“[This contract] is a lifesaver for us.”**

**Vitalii manages a bakery, supported by WFP, and supplies bread to be distributed to families on the frontline areas of the Donetsk region.**

“When this war started, people started moving out, we had no employees left to work, and we had to move all our equipment to Cherkasy. But a few months later we decided to bring it back. We managed to find people, more people were returning, and there were very few bakeries functioning, so we were working 24 hours a day without a break.

... To be honest, [this contract is] a lifesaver for us. And it's the right thing to do. Because not many people can bring this bread in the places you go to.”



# SCHOOL MEALS

SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAMS  
ARE AN AFFORDABLE AND  
EFFECTIVE INVESTMENT IN  
CHILDREN'S FUTURES.

*6-year-old Palwasha is a first grade student in  
Farah's Posht-e-Road district in Afghanistan.  
Photo: WFP/Mohammad Hasib Hazinyar*





## At 25 cents per meal, school meals offer daily nutrition, support and stability for children and their families.

Millions of children go to school hungry each day, affecting their ability to concentrate and learn. School meals provide an incentive for students to attend school who otherwise may not.

Many students, especially girls, are kept at home because their families need assistance on the farm or with at-home duties. School meals help address these challenges by improving access to education, preventing malnutrition and hunger, and supporting communities through strengthening food systems and economies.

The value of school meals is equivalent to nearly 10% of household income, allowing families to save money and pay for other important needs like medicine.

## AFGHANISTAN

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WFP established its school meals program in Afghanistan in 2002. Since then, it has worked with local partners to support national efforts to implement the program.

WFP aims to increase attendance and enrollment among primary schoolchildren and improve nutrition through a daily distribution of mid-morning snacks and monthly take-home rations.

*Girls eating WFP high-energy biscuits at break time in their school. Photo: WFP/Mohammad Hasib Hazinyar*





# SCHOOL MEALS AS A CLIMATE SOLUTION

ON APRIL 22, WE RECOGNIZED EARTH DAY AND ALL THE WAYS WFP IS PROTECTING THE PLANET.

School meals programs address the climate crisis through climate-smart innovation and locally grown products.

One way WFP addresses the climate crisis is through its homegrown school meals programs which source food directly from local small-scale farmers. Buying food locally shortens supply chains, creates stable markets in local communities and reduces food waste through smaller and more frequent food orders.

*The Stampriet School Garden project in Namibia was introduced in December 2021 to diversify school meals and help children learn about healthy diets. Since its implementation, the project has yielded many vegetables such as spinach, beetroots, squash and tomatoes, leading to a harvest of over 1,300 pounds of produce. Photo: WFP/Erxi Wang*





# RESILIENCE & COUNTERING THE CLIMATE CRISIS

AS PART OF ITS MISSION TO END HUNGER, WFP INVESTS IN COMMUNITIES THAT ARE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THE CLIMATE CRISIS.

More than 80% of people experiencing food insecurity live in countries that are prone to extreme weather. WFP's resilience projects help communities prepare for disasters ahead of time so they can quickly recover and address hunger more effectively in the long run.

*Mohammed Keddah is a farmer on land that his family has cultivated for generations in Yemen. Through the Multi-Year Livelihoods Project, Mohammed received fertilizer, seeds, pesticides and cash assistance, allowing him to reclaim his land after Cyclone Tej wrecked havoc in 2023. Photo: WFP/Mehedi Rahman*







*Iler Cambronne, a plantain grower in Haiti, can supply up to 50 dozen bunches of plantains to schools every week and currently employs 10 people. Photo: WFP/Pedro Rodrigues*

## HAITI

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**High levels of hunger remain in Haiti as the country's humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate.** More than 200,000 people have been displaced by violence. Today, one in three Haitians faces severe hunger.

WFP is focused on meeting people's immediate food needs and delivered support to nearly 1.7 million people in Haiti this year. WFP also remains focused on sustainable development and works with the government to develop social assistance systems, link farmers to local markets and deliver school meals to students across Haiti.

WFP supports long-term agricultural solutions by providing financial security through climate risk insurance for farmers experiencing climate effects such as extreme weather or drought.

**5K** WFP currently supports about 5,000 farmers with climate risk insurance and plans to expand to 50,000 farmers in 2024.



# THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

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**23.4 million people in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), or a quarter of its population, face crisis levels of hunger or worse.** Many people live in poor conditions with limited access to food, health services and education.

The climate crisis exacerbates issues caused by conflict, which is surging in the east, and humanitarian needs have grown. Roads and bridges are often damaged, destroyed or blocked, causing transit issues for aid convoys. Droughts, floods and other climate effects destroy crops, making it more difficult for farmers to access markets.

**5.3M** Across the DRC, WFP reached 5.3 million people in 2023 with emergency assistance.

WFP also provided nutritional products to 1.4 million children and pregnant and breastfeeding women. WFP also works with communities to implement long-term solutions to hunger and the climate crisis. Through agricultural training programs, WFP helps improve the food security and living conditions of rural populations while boosting the sustainability of local food systems.

*In March 2024, WFP Executive Director Cindy McCain visited a farm in the DRC where people are learning how to grow vegetables and farm fish. Photo: WFP/Shelley Thakral*





# ETHIOPIA

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Limited rainfall, droughts, floods and conflict have driven an estimated 15.8 million people across Ethiopia into acute hunger.

Resilience projects such as the Amino Small-Scale Irrigation Project provide innovative, long-lasting solutions to hunger. This project supports refugees and host populations in Ethiopia's Somali Region by promoting sustainable irrigation, allowing for crops to flourish while managing water use effectively.

*Osman Ali Mursan is a father of 14. He is working on the Amino irrigation project, which was designed by WFP and its partners to transform refugee communities' livelihoods. The project uses solar water pumps to irrigate farmland in the Somali Region.*  
*Photo: WFP/Michael Tewelde*







**THANK YOU FOR  
JOINING OUR  
MISSION TO END  
HUNGER GLOBALLY.**

WITH YOUR HELP, WE  
CAN CONTINUE PROVIDING  
LIFESAVING AND  
LIFE-CHANGING SUPPORT  
TO THOSE EXPERIENCING  
HUNGER AROUND THE WORLD.

*Aden Mohamed works on a WFP-supported irrigation  
project at the banks of the Genale River in Ethiopia.  
Photo: WFP/Michael Tewelde*





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1750 H St NW, #500  
Washington, DC 20006  
[wfpusa.org](http://wfpusa.org)