



World Food  
Program USA

# STATEMENT OF IMPACT

JANUARY -  
MAY 2026



**318M**  
PEOPLE  
EXPERIENCING  
HUNGER

**123**  
COUNTRIES &  
TERRITORIES

**45M+**  
CHILDREN  
MALNOURISHED  
UNDER 5

*Lin stands outside their family tent while holding one-year-old Hayat. The family relies on WFP assistance and hot meals provided by humanitarian organizations. Photo: WFP/Maxime Le Lijour/Gaza/2026*

**Persistent funding shortfalls and escalating crises in early 2026 threaten to cause a significant spike in acute hunger around the world this year.**

**45 M**

Worldwide, malnutrition rates remain high, with around 45 million children under the age of 5 facing acute malnutrition.

The crisis in the Middle East has caused ripple effects around the world, with rising food and fuel prices putting additional strain on families already facing hunger. If the conflict continues, it may push as many as 45 million more people into extreme hunger this year.

Despite extraordinary challenges, the World Food Programme (WFP) is doing everything it can to reach those in the most difficult circumstances. In crisis zones like Gaza and Sudan, WFP is scaling up to assist people living in catastrophic conditions. However, a massive funding shortfall is preventing WFP from reaching everyone in need. In some areas, WFP is reducing rations and downsizing its reach due to reduced funding.

Your support is critical for WFP to overcome these challenges and fight hunger. The Spring 2026 Impact Report underscores the importance of WFP's work during this time of extreme need. WFP's expertise and reach allow them to provide people with essential food, cash and nutrition assistance every day. Read on to see how your contributions allow WFP to continue to save lives in crisis areas and provide the resources to uplift communities from hunger.

*Cover Image: La Guajira is an Indigenous territory located near the border of Colombia in Venezuela. There, Wayuu Indigenous families face extreme weather conditions, such as droughts and floods, which affect their livelihoods and makes access to food difficult. Since 2025, WFP has been supporting more than 3,000 families through the Community Food Program, delivering monthly take-home food baskets. Photo: WFP/Gustavo Vera/Venezuela/2026*



More than 2 million pounds of ready-to-eat food is pre-positioned at a WFP warehouse in Beirut. Photo: WFP/Mustapha Ghabris/Lebanon/2026

**Since late February, the escalation of conflict in the Middle East has cost many lives and displaced millions of people.** A fragile ceasefire has brought a measure of calm, but the ripple effects continue to affect the region and the rest of the world.

WFP is facing the most significant humanitarian supply chain disruptions since COVID and the onset of the Ukraine conflict. Trade routes are closed and insurance costs are higher, limiting the flow of essential goods and driving up import costs. At the same time, higher fuel prices are increasing transportation, storage and production costs across food supply chains. As a result, food prices are rising fast. According to WFP assessments, Gaza experienced a wheat flour price increase of nearly 115% between late February and mid-April.

WFP immediately activated its rapid response at the start of the escalation, using its experience in complex emergencies to work quickly and reach those most in need. WFP is on the ground in countries like Lebanon and Syria to provide food and cash to hundreds of thousands of displaced people falling deeper into hunger each day. No other agency can match WFP's frontline operations and experience in emergency food assistance – whether in Türkiye, Iraq, Syria, or other impacted countries across the Middle East. The agency is adapting its supply chains to keep food moving, cut costs and adjust operations in real time based on ever-changing circumstances.



Hayat uses WFP-provided cash to buy iftar ingredients for her family, a bright spot amidst many difficult days. Photo: WFP/Maxime Le Lijour/2026

Conflict in Gaza has displaced Hayat, a mother of four, to Deir al-Balah for over a year and a half. She has a job that provides her with a modest income, but she still can't afford much fresh food due to rising prices. When she received a message from WFP about her digital payment, she was overwhelmed with joy.

***"I keep this money for food only, as I don't want to spend it all and lose it. We bought fish, vegetables, and we kept [the rest of the money] for the end of the month."***

**HAYAT, GAZA 2026**

Several months into the ceasefire, conditions in Gaza remain extremely fragile. All cargo enters Gaza through limited crossing points, which significantly restricts the amount of aid that can reach people. More corridors into Gaza, particularly from Jordan and Egypt, are essential to increase the flow of food assistance at scale.

Food insecurity and malnutrition rates remain extremely high. At least 1.6 million people are still facing acute hunger across the Gaza Strip and urgently need humanitarian aid. While two crossings – one in the north and one in the south – are now open, prices remain high. Families are still struggling to afford vegetables, protein, and dairy products, and nutrition rates among pregnant and breastfeeding women are worsening.

In March, WFP reached more than 1 million people through 50 distribution sites. However, without an improved flow of deliveries across all corridors and crossings, WFP was forced to cut rations in half in February and March. Thirty-five WFP-supported community kitchens remained operational across the Strip in March, producing about 350,000 hot meals each day. WFP also supported 29 bakeries that delivered 129,000 bread bundles per day on average.

## LEBANON

Families in Lebanon have withstood high levels of hunger for years, but the escalation of conflict in the Middle East has placed further strain on their resources.

**650 K**

WFP has reached 650,000 conflict-affected people across Lebanon with emergency food and cash assistance.

More than 150,000 displaced people inside shelters have received WFP food assistance, including 3 million hot meals and thousands of cold meals, ready-to-eat rations, bread packages, food boxes and snacks.

WFP is also delivering essential food supplies to border communities that are cut off due to the conflict. Since the escalation, WFP has sent 12 truck convoys to deliver aid to hard-to-reach border villages in Lebanon despite extraordinary security challenges, assisting almost 93,000 people.

WFP also pre-positions stocks at the port of Beirut. These ready-to-eat supplies shorten WFP's response time by weeks and enable them to quickly scale-up emergency operations. This preparedness is essential to delivering food to families when they need it most.

*WFP distributes hot meals and date biscuits to displaced families in Lebanon. Photo: WFP/Marco Frattini/2026*



## IRAN

Due to the escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, about 3.2 million people have fled from major cities in Iran to the north of the country and rural areas. More people are expected to flee if the situation worsens. High levels of food production within the country have helped cushion the shock, and many people can still find groceries despite supply chain disruptions. However, rising prices have made it incredibly difficult for families to afford the food that's available.

**131 %**

According to WFP assessments, the cost of basic goods in Iran are now 131% higher compared to April of last year.

WFP operations in the country continue uninterrupted, assisting about 33,000 Afghan refugees across 20 settlements with food and cash, including about 800 refugees displaced due to the recent escalation.



Ahmad, 30, receives WFP food assistance to sustain his family after his crops failed in 2024. In 2025, he received a small grant from WFP to replant so he can feed his family next year on his own. Photo: WFP/Philip Vinter/2025

Tens of thousands of Syrians who once found refuge in Lebanon are now turning around and heading back. As of April 25, more than 279,800 Syrians and nearly 56,600 Lebanese have crossed into Syria. WFP has provided date bars to more than 125,000 of these refugees as they pass through the Jdeidet Yabous and Jousieh crossings on their long journey to safety.

The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) works in Syria to transport personnel and cargo to remote areas.

## APRIL 8

On April 8, all air corridors into Syria were reopened after a long closure, allowing UNHAS to resume operations between Damascus and Aleppo.





*Saaed and his family recently returned to Afghanistan after fleeing the conflict. WFP provides his family with wheat flour, fortified cooking oil, salt and nutrition supplements so they can survive. Photo: WFP/Danijela Milic/2026*

Afghanistan is facing pressures due to the escalation of conflict in the Middle East. Economic collapse, supply route disruptions, climate extremes, displacement and deep funding cuts to humanitarian assistance have driven an estimated 17.4 million people into extreme hunger. In the aftermath of winter, WFP is especially concerned about regions where malnutrition has reached emergency levels for women and children.

**2M**

Thanks to generous contributions and WFP's strong logistics capabilities, the agency was able to reach up to 2 million people with emergency food and nutrition assistance each winter month.

Now, in response to the recent escalation of conflict in the Middle East and growing supply gaps, more than 881,000 pounds of fortified biscuits are en route from the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot in Dubai.

#### FUNDING GAP

These are modest achievements, and overlapping crises continue to affect WFP's ability to reach most of the families facing the worst levels of hunger. Without more funding, the agency can only provide food assistance to a fraction of those in need of malnutrition treatment, reaching just 1 in 4 affected children and 1 in 3 at-risk pregnant or breastfeeding women. Afghanistan is at a breaking point, and it will get worse if aid cannot keep up with needs.



*Once the conflict began, Yulia began collecting wild mushrooms to feed her family. Now, she sells these mushrooms at a WFP-installed market, giving her an income where jobs are scarce. Photo: WFP/Sayed Asif Mahmud/2025*

Even before the war in Ukraine, Yulia struggled to support her two children due to her husband's disability. He became ill and now needs to pay skyrocketing medical expenses, leaving little money for food and other essentials. Once the conflict started, their situation worsened – they feared for their lives each day and hid from shelling in the hallways of their home. In 2022, their nearest hospital was damaged, forcing them to evacuate to western Ukraine so her husband could continue receiving treatment.

WFP's cash assistance transformed their lives. Yulia bought pigs, geese and animal feed, which had never been possible before.

***"We finally have a household. We have work, purpose and a way to provide for our family."***

**YULIA, UKRAINE 2026**

As conflict continues to rage in Ukraine, WFP's work to reach people like Yulia has become more difficult. In February, local administrations' vehicles were attacked during last-mile bread deliveries, causing WFP to suspend operations. The pause affected 6,000 people in frontline areas.

WFP continues to provide emergency food and cash assistance in conflict-torn areas of Ukraine where markets cannot operate normally. In February, the agency provided 135,000 people with food boxes in seven frontline regions. In areas where markets are still functional, WFP continues to provide cash, reaching more than 129,000 people in February so they can buy the food they need most.

## EAST AFRICA

# SUDAN

After more than 1,000 days of intense conflict, Sudan remains one of the world's largest hunger crises with more than 19 million people facing acute hunger. Famine has been confirmed in El Fasher in North Darfur and Kadugli in Kordofan. The conflict has forced more than 12 million people to flee their homes, worsening livelihoods and cutting people off from their income sources. Children and mothers are facing record levels of malnutrition.

WFP is a critical lifeline for millions of people across the country, providing food to 4 million people every month on average, including in previously hard-to-reach areas across the Darfur and Kordofan regions and Khartoum and Al Jazira states.

WFP's Emergency Crisis Response Safety Net project is one way the agency supports these communities. The project provides cash assistance to families facing hunger in Kassala so they can buy staple foods from local markets. Not only does this help them meet their daily caloric needs, it also strengthens local food systems and economies. Cash vouchers enable people to purchase what they need most, restoring their flexibility and dignity during hard times.

### FUNDING GAP

WFP's emergency assistance has been essential to many people in Sudan, but funding shortfalls have forced WFP to reduce rations to the absolute minimum for survival. With enough funding, WFP could activate its full resources to scale up and save more lives.

*WFP's Sudan wheat production project supports farmers in four key wheat-producing states to improve crop yields and strengthen local food production systems. Photo: WFP/Abubakar Garelnabei/2026*



## EAST AFRICA

# ETHIOPIA

The people at camp Ura in Ethiopia's Benishangul-Gumuz region, established in 2024 for Sudanese refugees, rely almost entirely on WFP for survival. The agency provides monthly rations, including hot meals for new arrivals and specialized nutrition support for women and children. However, massive funding shortfalls have forced WFP to reduce rations for many residents.

The recent influx of Sudanese refugees has placed further strain on its resources amidst already high hunger rates driven by conflict, economic pressures and climate shocks. Ongoing insecurity continues to displace people and disrupt livelihoods in regions such as Amhara, Oromia and parts of Tigray.

**Despite the challenges, WFP assisted more than 1 million people in February - including 800,000 refugees across 30 sites - with a mix of food and cash assistance.** New arrivals from Sudan and South Sudan received full rations so they can recover from their harrowing trek. WFP also provided more than 2,000 child refugees under 5 and pregnant women with malnutrition prevention and treatment programs.

*Hajir, 8, waits to receive food at the Ura refugee camp in Ethiopia's Benishangul-Gumuz regions. Photo: WFP/Michael Tewelde/2026*



# SCHOOL MEALS



Students at a primary school enjoy meals prepared from locally grown foods, including whole-grain fonio fortified with nutrient-dense moringa leaves. Photo: WFP/Richard Mbouet/The Gambia/2026

WFP's school meals program encourages families to send their children to class. A daily meal can transform the life of a child, allowing them to improve their nutrition, education and future. In The Gambia, school meals programs are taking an innovative approach with an old-school idea: Grow food locally.



# 50

Fifty schools across the country now source many of their ingredients from nearby WFP-supported farms, which provides a consistent supply of fresh food for students and a source of income for farmers.

The program has already improved attendance at school and reduced dropout rates.

The homegrown model connects small-scale farmers to cooperatives that then connect them with reliable markets that can provide stable income. At the same time, children can access a more diverse diet of fresh produce that improves their nutrition. **The results are incredible: Since 2022, food security has increased 12% in communities with homegrown school meals programs.**





WFP provided this community with an irrigation system that allows families to grow tomatoes, cucumbers, okra and watermelon on their own plots.  
Photos: WFP USA/Daniel Pino/2026

In March, a group from World Food Program USA visited Senegal to see WFP's lifesaving work firsthand. Our travels included Matam, one of Senegal's poorest regions due to climate shocks that degrade the land and break down food systems. In response, WFP supports small-scale farmers and provides school meals, both of which uplift entire communities by improving education, income opportunities and access to food.

The group also visited the Tékinguel Community Farm, where they saw what happens when WFP trains communities how to grow their own crops and sell the surplus at local markets.



***"When WFP came here, they explained to us what is possible and what we could receive. That's why we created a cooperative in the community. Once WFP leaves, the cooperative will operate on its own."***

**COMMUNITY LEADER, TÉKINGUEL COOPERATIVE,  
SENEGAL 2026**

The farm is made up of many individual plots and one community plot that benefits the entire cooperative. The money earned from the community plot is invested back into the farm, allowing everyone to reap the benefits.

WFP provided an irrigation system for 12 acres, including a water tower and sprinkler system, as well as a fish pond, storage shed and livestock feed units. Community leaders learned about soil protection, land restoration and water conservation so they could sustain the gardens themselves.

The community's hard work and engagement allows the farm to thrive, earning every plot owner about \$1,000 each harvest - a lifechanging amount of money for families facing poverty. Investments like this help people stay in their homes - they don't need to migrate or look for work internationally. Your support helps WFP expand these kinds of long-term food security programs.



Women living in La Guajira rely on food from WFP to support their families amidst extreme weather like droughts and floods.  
Photo: WFP/Gustavo Vera/2026

The state of hunger in Venezuela is extreme: More than 5 million people need food assistance. Rising prices make it nearly impossible for families to afford nutritious food. Disasters like floods, droughts and landslides make things worse by straining agriculture, infrastructure and food production.

# 3K

Since 2025, WFP has supported more than 3,000 families there with monthly take-home food baskets.

For communities living in rural areas, access to healthy diets is especially difficult. In La Guajira for example, an Indigenous territory in Venezuela near the border with Colombia, Wayuu families often face extreme weather conditions. These climate shocks affect their livelihoods and make it difficult for them to access food.



*Fernanda, 4, eats cornmeal, rice and beans at the Chiaquelane center in Gaza province as a part of WFP's food assistance in the wake of flooding.  
Photo: WFP/Ana Mato Hombre/Mozambique/2026*

In January, heavy rains and flooding impacted 700,000 people in the central and southern provinces of Mozambique. More than 930 miles of roads became impassable, disrupting key supply routes that cut people off from food aid. The storm devastated agriculture, killed 325,000 livestock and ruined 704,000 acres of land.

WFP activates emergency plans before extreme weather events hit. Before flooding, the agency alerted people of the storms in Gaza and Sofala provinces.

## 450 K

Immediately after the January storms hit, WFP helped the government to activate mobile outreach units in areas hit the hardest, using amphibious vehicles that drive on land and through water, boats, trucks, planes and helicopters to reach 450,000 people.

On February 14, Cyclone Gezani hit the coast as an intense tropical cyclone, worsening conditions in areas already affected by flooding. WFP pre-positioned stocks and organized evacuations in high-risk zones so it could distribute food quickly.

### FUNDING GAP

While WFP has the teams and logistics skills to rapidly scale up in Mozambique, limited funding is restricting its ability to meet the increasing needs. Flooding has doubled the number of crisis-affected people WFP is supporting throughout the country, and needs are outpacing resources.



*The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) in Haiti established a new cross-border operation with the Dominican Republic so humanitarian deliveries could continue despite the suspension of other air travel between the two countries. Photo: WFP/Benoit Lognone/2026*

In Haiti, humanitarian needs persist due to conflict, economic hardships and climate shocks. More than 5.9 million people, over half the population, are facing extreme hunger. Nearly 1.4 million people are now displaced, which limits their incomes and access to food. At the same time, climate shocks such as flooding in the northeast temporarily halted WFP's food distributions, school meals programs and support for small-scale farmers, worsening the state of hunger in the region.

In addition to these immediate challenges, the people of Haiti are still recovering from Hurricane Melissa which hit in October 2025. Since then, WFP has supported more than 200,000 people through food and cash assistance, anticipatory actions and microinsurance.

Despite this accomplishment, funding shortfalls are impacting the agency's reach. WFP can currently only assist those facing emergency levels of hunger, often intervening too late when people are already at risk of starvation. Fully funded, WFP could reach more people and intervene earlier.

#### FROM MAY TO DECEMBER 2025, UNHAS TRANSPORTED:



**11.5 K**  
passengers



**14 K POUNDS**  
of humanitarian cargo



**FROM 181**  
organizations

WFP's logistics support is integral to transporting humanitarian workers and cargo. Since May 2025, WFP has managed the EU Humanitarian Aid Flight helicopter strategically based in Cap-Haitien. From May to December 2025, it transported more than 11,500 passengers and 141,000 pounds of humanitarian cargo from 181 organizations.

# ZERO HUNGER GENERATION



Left: In March, Zero Hunger Activist Council Member Maddy DeVita taught a cooking class to ZHG members and discussed how food transforms lives. Photo: WFP USA

Right: In April, Zero Hunger Activist Council Member Manolo Vergara (left) interviewed WFP Director of Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Jean-Martin Bauer (right) during a ZHG webinar to discuss global food security and Bauer's book, *The New Breadline*. Photo: WFP USA

World Food Program USA's flagship youth engagement program, Zero Hunger Generation (ZHG), continued to grow as a platform for young people to take action in the fight against hunger, with membership surpassing 1,900 advocates nationwide.

As the program approaches its one-year anniversary in July, ZHG has deepened engagement with its members by partnering with our Zero Hunger Advisory Council and staff from WFP country offices (pictured above). These offerings provide ZHG members with valuable opportunities to learn about WFP's initiatives directly from staff and explore professional development pathways in the humanitarian sector.

The program has also expanded its range of offerings with more ways to volunteer, advocate, fundraise and build networks. ZHG is equipping young people with the skills, knowledge and opportunities to drive meaningful change.

*"My parents come from a country where poverty was high, so I understand why we should end world hunger. I think everyone has the right to have food. Furthermore, World Food Program USA and the Zero Hunger Generation have impacted my life by giving me the opportunity to bring this issue to light and to spread awareness of world hunger so that maybe, one day, world hunger can be reduced."*

EMILY TRAN, VIRGINIA

## THANK YOU

Thanks to supporters like you, WFP can support millions of people around the world with lifesaving assistance. Your contributions are vital in working towards Zero Hunger.

Visit our [website](#) to learn about the ways you can make a difference.

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