



World Food
Programme

Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial

Programa
Mundial de
Alimentos

برنامج
الغذية
العالمية

The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations

WFP FACTSHEET

16 September 2009

HUNGER IN 2009 – A RECIPE FOR DISASTER

The Challenge:

- Today, there are more hungry people and less food aid than we have seen in decades.
- The number of hungry people will pass 1 billion this year for the first time in history, but the flow of food aid is at a twenty year low.
- The UN World Food Programme (WFP) is facing a serious budget shortfall with barely one-third of the funding it needs to feed 108 million people this year.

What it Means:

- Ration reductions and cuts in programmes that provide a lifeline to the world's hungriest people.
 - In Kenya, where drought and high food prices have pushed almost 4 million into the hunger trap, WFP is preparing to reduce rations in October.
 - In Guatemala, WFP's vital programme providing nutritious food supplements to 100,000 children and 50,000 pregnant and lactating women, is hanging by a thread.
 - In Bangladesh WFP is reaching barely 1 million people out of a target 5 million who cannot afford to buy the food they need for their families.

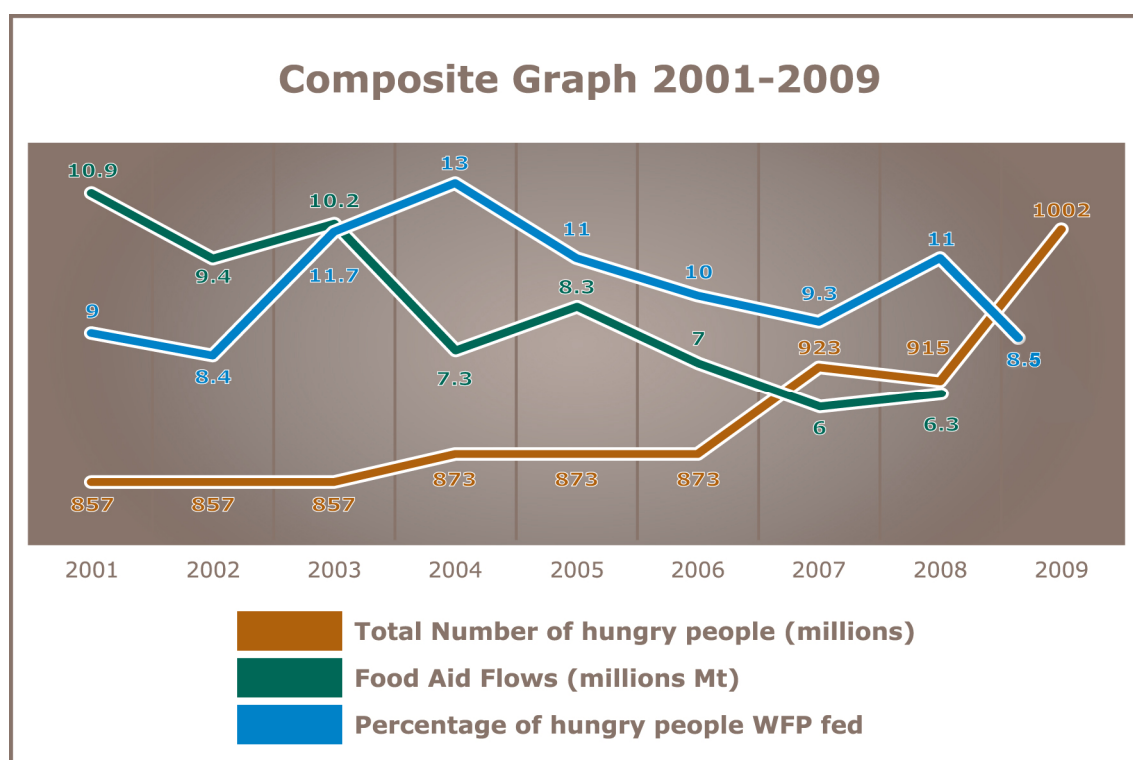
What can be done:

- WFP needs an extra US\$3 Billion to bridge the gap in its budget this year.
- Governments, private corporations and members of the public can all help WFP meet urgent hunger needs in places like Kenya, Guatemala and Bangladesh.
- With the United Nations General Assembly and the G20 summit in Pittsburgh on the horizon, there is an ideal opportunity for world leaders to put hunger on the map.

**Facts and Figures:**

Number of hungry people in 2009:	1.02 Billion*
Number of people WFP aims to feed in 2009:	108 million
WFP budget for 2009:	US\$6.7 Billion
Confirmed WFP funds (September 2009):	US\$2.6 Billion
Forecast WFP shortfall in 2009:	US\$3 Billion

* UN Food and Agriculture Organization



Total number of hungry people:	UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Food Aid Flows:	INTERFAIS (http://www.wfp.org/fais/)
% hungry people fed:	Calculation based on WFP beneficiaries against FAO figure for total number of hungry people

Video footage from Bangladesh, Guatemala and Kenya, illustrating the impact of the budget shortfalls on WFP operations can be accessed via the following link:

<https://rcpt.yousendit.com/739461831/4c30303fe2678a5f6fbb6afd7fbeeec3>

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency and the [UN's frontline agency for hunger solutions](#). In 2009, WFP aims to feed 108 million people in 74 countries.



WFP now provides RSS feeds to help journalists keep up with the latest press releases, videos and photos as they are published on WFP.org. For more details see: <http://www.wfp.org/english/?n=999>.

WFP now has a dedicated ISDN line in Italy for quality two-way interviews with WFP officials.

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