

# FACTS BLAST

## October 2009

### GLOBAL ISSUES AND IMPACT ON HUNGER

#### ■ **Financial Crisis**

-- While the global economy is showing tentative signs of recovery, low-income developing countries are still suffering the consequences of the global recession, which has left them with both external and fiscal financing gaps.<sup>1</sup>

-- As many as 90 million more people will be living in extreme poverty, on less than \$1.25 a day, by the end of 2010, the Bank predicts.<sup>2</sup> Currently, 1.4 billion live on \$1.25 a day.<sup>3</sup>

#### ■ **Food prices**

-- Despite a sharp decline in international prices since their peaks in 2008, domestic food prices in developing countries mostly remain much higher than before the soaring food price crisis.<sup>4</sup>

#### ■ **Climate change**

-- The combined effects of climate change could reduce potential (agriculture) output by up to 30% in Africa and up to 21% in Asia.<sup>5</sup>

-- 25 million more children will be malnourished in 2050 due to effects of climate change, according to a report by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).<sup>6</sup>

#### ■ **Food production**

-- World population is projected to rise to 9.1 billion in 2050 from a current 6.7 billion, requiring a 70% increase in farm production.<sup>7</sup>

### GLOBAL HUNGER

#### Trends

##### ■ **Latest numbers:**

-- **More than one billion people are undernourished worldwide** -- 1.02 billion people going hungry every day.<sup>8</sup> This is about 100 million more than last year.

-- Almost all of the world's undernourished live in developing countries. In Asia and the Pacific, an estimated 642 million people are suffering from chronic hunger; in Sub-Saharan Africa 265 million; in Latin America and the Caribbean 53 million; in the Near East and North Africa 42 million; and in developed countries 15 million in total.<sup>9</sup>

-- One in seven people (adults and children) goes to bed hungry each night.

##### ■ In developing countries, the proportion of undernourished in total population has been cut from 37 percent in 1969-1971 to 17 percent in 2000-2002.<sup>10</sup>

#### Human Cost

■ Hunger (underweight) is No.1 on the list of the world's top 10 health risks.<sup>11</sup>

■ Hunger kills more people every year than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>1</sup> World Bank: Protecting Progress: The challenge facing low-income countries in the global recession.

<sup>2</sup> <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22316262~pagePK:34370~ipK:34424~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

<sup>3</sup> The Developing World is Poorer Than We thought, But No Less Successful in the Fight against Poverty, World Bank Policy Research working Paper 4703 (August 2008)

<sup>4</sup> FAO: Crop Prospects and Food Situation No. 3, July 2009

<sup>5</sup> FAO Press Release Agriculture to 2050 – the challenges ahead, October 12, 2009

<sup>6</sup> IFPRI, Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture, Sep 29, 2009

<sup>7</sup> FAO Press Release Agriculture to 2050 – the challenges ahead, October 12, 2009

<sup>8</sup> FAO/WFP: The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2009

<sup>9</sup> Ibid

<sup>10</sup> FAO: The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2001, page 8 and Office of the FAO Director-General

<sup>11</sup> The World Health Report 2002

- One child every six seconds dies from hunger and related diseases (or 14,000 children a day).<sup>13</sup>

## **KEY WFP FACTS**

### **WFP'S Global Needs in 2009**

- **WFP's target is to meet the hunger needs of 108 million people, about 10 percent of the world's hungry poor.**
- To meet the most-urgent hunger needs of 108 million people, WFP requires to raise **US\$6.7 billion.**
- *Contributions to date stand at US\$2.9 billion.*
- The unprecedented shortfall in funds is leading to ration reductions and – in some cases – the complete suspension of food assistance.

### **WFP and Local Purchases**

#### **Food<sup>14</sup>**

- **In the first six months of 2009**, WFP purchased food valued at **US\$532 million (1.4 million tonnes)**. 74 percent was purchased in developing countries and; 26 percent in developed countries.
- In 2008, WFP bought food from around the world valued at **US\$1.4 billion (2.8 million tonnes)**, up from US\$767 million (2.1 million tonnes) in 2007. 78 % was purchased in developing countries; 22 % in developed countries.
  - **WFP food purchases in developing countries** nearly doubled to **US\$1.1 billion (2.1 million tonnes)**, from **US\$612 million (1.6 million tonnes)** in 2007.
  - **WFP food purchases in developed Countries** were valued at **US\$315 million (691,000 tonnes)**, compared with **US\$155 million (428,000 tonnes)** in 2007.
  - The continent where WFP purchased the most food, for the fourth consecutive year, was **Africa (US\$427 million; 1 million tonnes of food)**, followed by **Asia (US\$ 424 million; 846,148 tonnes of food)**.

#### **Non food**

- **In 2008**, WFP purchased **US\$395 million worth of non-food goods and services** worldwide and spent more than **US\$740 million on transport-related activities** - landside transport, storage and handling (LTSH).

#### **Purchase for Progress (P4P)**

- Launched in September 2008, Purchase for Progress (P4P) is a five-year pilot initiative that builds on WFP's already extensive experience in local food procurement, and takes it a step further – reaching smallholder and low-income farmers and strengthening their access to markets by more actively engaging them in supplying food to the agency's global operations. P4P will be implemented in a total of 21 countries<sup>15</sup>.
- *Since its launch, P4P has purchased over 17,000 tonnes of food from smallholder farmers in 11 pilot countries.*

### **Logistics**

- WFP has greater logistical power and operates a larger transport network than any other humanitarian organisation. On any given day, WFP has an average 30 ships, 5,000 trucks and 70 aircraft delivering food across the globe.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>12</sup> In 2007, 2 million AIDS deaths (source: UNAIDS global report, 2008); 1.7 million TB deaths in 2006, including 231,000 people with HIV (WHO); and nearly 900,000 malaria deaths (WHO 2009).

<sup>13</sup> [www.unicef.org/media/media\\_40855.html](http://www.unicef.org/media/media_40855.html) and Under five deaths by cause 2006 doc from UNICEF

<sup>14</sup> WFP: Food Procurement Annual report 2008

<sup>15</sup> List of pilot countries: 1st phase includes Burkina Faso, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Tanzania and Uganda; the 2nd phase includes Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Laos, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Zambia

<sup>16</sup> WFP Logistics Info Pack

## Staffing and Countries where WFP Operates

- **10,200 employees**<sup>17</sup>. 91% in the field.
- **WFP staff work in 91 countries** (74 countries receiving food assistance; 7 countries where we have an operational presence and 10 where we have the HQs and liaison offices).

## Staff Security

### WFP staff and contractors killed or injured in the line of duty (January to October 15)

- **Seven WFP staff members were killed as a result of malicious acts** (two in **Somalia** and five in **Pakistan**); and **one WFP staff** died in a work-related accident in **Ethiopia**.
- **Four drivers of WFP contractors were killed as result of malicious acts** (two in **Afghanistan**, one in **Gaza** and one in **Sudan**); and three died in work-related traffic accidents (two in the **Central African Republic** and one in **Somalia**).
- **Twelve WFP Staff injured due to malicious acts** (one in **Afghanistan**, nine in **Pakistan** and two in **Sudan**); and **seven injured due to accidents** (excluding traffic accidents -- one in **Malawi**, five in **Ethiopia** and one in **Sierra Leone**)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Global Food Aid Flows in 2008<sup>18</sup>

- Global food aid deliveries totalled 6.3 million tonnes, 3.8 percent more than in 2007. Emergency food aid accounted for 76 percent of global food aid deliveries. 64 percent of global food aid was delivered through WFP.
- Countries in sub-Saharan Africa received 4.0 million tonnes (64 percent) of global food aid deliveries, while 23 percent was delivered to the Asia region.

## Tons to People

### In emergencies

- One metric ton of food (mixed commodities) is enough for about 1,800 individuals for one day.
- One metric ton of high energy biscuits is enough for 2,100 people for one day.
- Recommended daily energy intake - 2,100kcal.
- Total quantities per person per day - WFP standard ration, an average 550 grams; one packet of high energy biscuits = 466 grams.

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<sup>17</sup> The total number of WFP employees excludes employees with temporary contracts of 11 months or less.

<sup>18</sup> WFP: 2008 Food Aid Flows