

Funding Requirements in USD

Country	Total 2017 requirements	2017 confirmed contributions	% funded 2017	Net funding requirements Sept 2017 to Feb 2018 (unfunded)
Nigeria	416 million	175 million	42%	143 million
Somalia	492 million	276 million	56%	294 million
South Sudan	784 million	405 million	52%	211 million
Yemen	1,079 billion	526 million	49%	330 million
Total	2,771 billion	1,382 billion	50%	978 million

Key Messages

- Conflict and drought keep over 20 million people on the brink of famine, and a further 10 million need urgent help.**
- Where WFP has consistent access and sufficient funds, improvements are apparent: food consumption has improved.**
- Relief and resilience programmes are not enough to end human suffering—people urgently need peace and security to rebuild lives and livelihoods.**

The Situation

- Conflict and hunger are drivers of displacement.** A WFP study found that countries with increasing food insecurity coupled with armed conflict have the highest outflow of migrants and refugees. For every 1 percentage point increase in hunger, an extra 200 people out of 10,000 will leave their country.
- Strengthening resilience is critical to avert famine.** Protecting livelihoods can save lives in fragile contexts. WFP is working with FAO, combining food rations with agricultural inputs.
- Alleviating hunger helps sustain peace.** In a climate of perpetual hunger, young people lose faith in the future. If they do not know where their next meal is coming from, they become targets for those who would recruit them into armed groups.
- Using food as a weapon of war is unacceptable.** All parties to conflict – and those with influence over them – must abide by International Humanitarian Law and allow aid workers access to those in need.
- Civilians caught in conflict, including aid workers, should not be targets in conflict.** Those participating in conflict must protect civilians and spare schools and hospitals.

Achievements and Needs

- A massive famine has been averted so far but we must keep up the fight.** Action across all four countries has prevented famine. Nigeria, Somalia and South Sudan have made it through the lean season, the period each year when food from the last harvest runs out.
- Results are evident where WFP has resources and access.** In Yemen, though WFP is reaching twice as many people as in January, only half of these people receive full rations and the other half receives 60 percent. In Nigeria, food consumption has improved, but the situation remains volatile.
- Despite significant contributions from key donors, WFP has only reached 50% of its funding target for the four countries at risk of famine.** We need governments to do more. All Member States can play a part, through financial contributions and peace-making efforts.
- Timely and flexible funding is vital.** On average, the lead-time for purchase and delivery of food into Yemen is more than four months. Predictability of financing allows WFP to maintain a steady supply of food into famine-threatened countries.
- WFP uses corporate tools such as advance financing and emergency procurement and logistics systems to reach people in need with agility and cost efficiency.** In 2017 almost US\$ 300 million has been advanced to the four countries fighting famine through internal project lending and the Immediate Response Account. In these four countries, WFP's Global Commodity Management Facility has reduced the lead time for food deliveries by 70% (36 days versus the 120 day average).
- Preventing famine requires more than just food.** Malnourished people are dying from disease or dehydration. Healthcare, sanitation and clean water are vital to save lives.

Summary of People in Need and Reached by WFP

Country	Total people in need (IPC*3,4,5)	Total reached (July)
Nigeria	5.2 m	1.1 m
Somalia	3.2 m	2.3 m
South Sudan	6 m	2.9 m
Yemen	17 m	6.8 m**

The Response

WFP and partners provide an integrated food security and nutrition response, comprising both treatment and prevention and covering food security, nutrition, health, water, sanitation and hygiene and livelihoods support. Current impediments include cholera outbreak, rainfall, insecurity, physical access and inadequate financing. In July, the response reached 12.3 million people, consisting of:

- General food distribution.
- Cash-based transfers.
- Treatment and prevention of moderate malnutrition among children under age five and pregnant and new mothers, linked with UNICEF's treatment of severe malnutrition.
- Rapid Response Teams including staff from WFP, UNICEF, other UN agencies, and NGO partners, assist people in over 80 hard-to-reach areas in South Sudan.
- Resilience support through seed protection programmes, provided in close partnership with FAO.

Country Contexts

Nigeria

Conflict has disrupted food security, families are exhausting their last reserves as the lean season progresses and food prices remain high. Working with government and partners, WFP provides food or cash-based transfers to the most vulnerable. While access to areas at risk of famine has increased, the situation is unpredictable following suicide bombings and attacks on civilians. The rainy season is also impeding transportation in many areas.

WFP and partners are forging ahead with a New Way of Working together: a Rapid Response Mechanism of UN agencies and NGOs, an Emergency Tracking Tool for population movements, and a partnership between WFP and FAO combining food assistance and food production support; in July WFP assisted 609,400 FAO beneficiaries through a livelihood programme.

While the funding situation has improved, the operation still faces challenges to reach some volatile areas and to increase malnutrition prevention, which had been reduced in April. At the same time, WFP is responding to the recent influx of Nigerian refugees returning from Cameroon.

Somalia

The crisis is caused by three consecutive seasons of poor rainfall, compounded by conflict, displacement and poor governance. Vulnerable people are suffering hunger, malnutrition and disease, including cholera. The 2017 main harvest season is 37% below average and poor conditions for livestock have shrunk herds as much as 40 to 60 percent.

While there are similarities to the conditions that led to the famine in 2011, WFP is in a stronger position to respond. Food is being distributed in more places than before, and WFP provides cash-based assistance through a digital platform introduced two years ago.

South Sudan

The crisis in South Sudan is man-made. Conflict and displacement has eroded people's capacity to provide for themselves, driving food insecurity to its highest levels ever recorded. The June IPC report said 1.7 million people are on the brink of famine (IPC Phase 4). The number of South Sudanese that fled violence and hunger to shelter in Uganda is now over 1 million.

WFP continues to scale up its assistance, reaching more than 2.8 million people in 2017. Despite famine conditions easing due to the emergency response, there has nevertheless been an increase of 1 million people in need of food assistance since February. The rainy season is contributing to a rise in food prices and with decreased purchasing power, together with currency depreciation and poor infrastructure, there are profound impacts on food security.

Cholera continues to spread since last year's outbreak. WFP is actively engaging with the health and water and sanitation clusters to support the response.

Yemen

Yemen's crisis is fuelled by war, a high risk of famine and cholera. Humanitarian aid alone cannot hold back Yemen's near total collapse.

Sixty percent of the population—17 million people—are severely food insecure. WFP is providing assistance to the most vulnerable, and in August was able to reach 6.8 million people in 19 out of 20 governorates. Despite recent contributions, WFP was able to provide only half with a full ration, with the other half receiving 60% of the 2,200 kilocalories per day required.

Yemen is suffering the largest cholera outbreak in the world, with half a million suspected cases—nearly 2,000 have died. In collaboration with partners, WFP is scaling up logistical and IT support to the WHO and UNICEF-led response, as well as preparing to provide food assistance for patients and caregivers in over 100 treatment centres.

Meanwhile, free access to the port of Hudaydah must be safeguarded. At least 70% of food imports arrive via the port. Further disruptions would have grave consequences for Yemen.

The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Stage 5 Definition of Famine:

1. At least **20%** of the population face **extreme food shortages**
2. At least **30%** of children under 5 suffer from **Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM)**
3. **Daily deaths are occurring at double the normal rate**—more than 2 deaths/10,000 adults/day or more than 4 deaths/10,000 children/day

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