NMUN • NY

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME
BACKGROUND GUIDE 2015

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Contributions By: Josh Rogers

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Dear Delegates,

We are pleased to welcome you to the 2015 National Model United Nations Conference New York (NMUN•NY)! The staff of this year's World Food Programme (WFP) is: Director Jenna Biegel and Assistant Director Collin King at Conference A and Director Amanda Wong at Conference B. Jenna is a student of Geology and Computer Science at Washington and Lee University in Virginia. She has attended NMUN•NY since 2012, and this marks her second year on staff. Collin holds a B.A. in Government from New Mexico State University, and is currently completing his M.A. in Government from New Mexico State University. This is Collin's first year on staff at NMUN•NY. Amanda holds a B.A. in Political Science from Simon Fraser University in Canada, and is in her last year of her M.Sc. program in Environmental Management. This is Amanda's fourth year on staff at NMUN•NY.

The topics under discussion for WFP are:
I.   Empowering Women and Girls in the Fight against Hunger
II.   Humanitarian Assistance in the Central African Republic and South Susan
III. Disaster Risk Management and Food Security in Natural Disaster Situations

WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency working to resolve hunger worldwide. WFP is responsible for delivering food to victims of war, civil conflict, and natural disasters and the agency also plays a role in the community rebuilding process post-disaster. WFP has four major types of operations: emergency operations to provide immediate assistance, relief and rehabilitation operations for after an emergency, development operations to improve food security for communities, and special operations to develop infrastructure needed for emergency operations. The agency reports its activities annually to the Economic and Social Council and the Food and Agriculture Organization.

At NMUN•NY 2015, we are simulating the Executive Board of WFP in terms of composition and size; however, delegates are not limited to the strict mandate of the Executive Board, as a budgetary and administrative body, during the conference. On the contrary, for the purposes of NMUN•NY 2015, and in line with the educational mission of the conference, the committee has the ability to make programmatic and policy decisions on issues within the mandate of WFP in line with the overall function of the organization.

This background guide is not meant to replace further research and we highly encourage you to consider the background guide, Bibliography, and Annotated Bibliography as starting points as you explore in-depth your countries' policies regarding these topics. In preparation for the conference, each delegation will be submitting a position paper. Please take note of the NMUN policies on the website and in the Delegate Preparation Guide regarding plagiarism, codes of conduct/dress code/sexual harassment, awards philosophy/evaluation method, etc. Adherence to these guidelines is mandatory. The NMUN Rules of Procedure are available to download from the NMUN website. This document includes the long and short form of the rules, as well as an explanatory narrative and example script of the flow of procedure. It is thus an essential instrument in preparing for the conference, and a reference during committee.

If you have any questions concerning your preparation for the Committee or the Conference itself, feel free to contact the Under-Secretaries-General for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Andrea Wong (Conference A) and Rubai Aurora (Conference B). You can reach either USG at: usg.hr_ha@nmun.org.

We wish you all the best with your preparation and look forward to seeing you at the Conference!

Sincerely,

Conference A   **Conference B**

Jenna Biegel, *Director*   Amanda Wong, *Director*
Collin King, *Assistant Director*

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Abbreviations

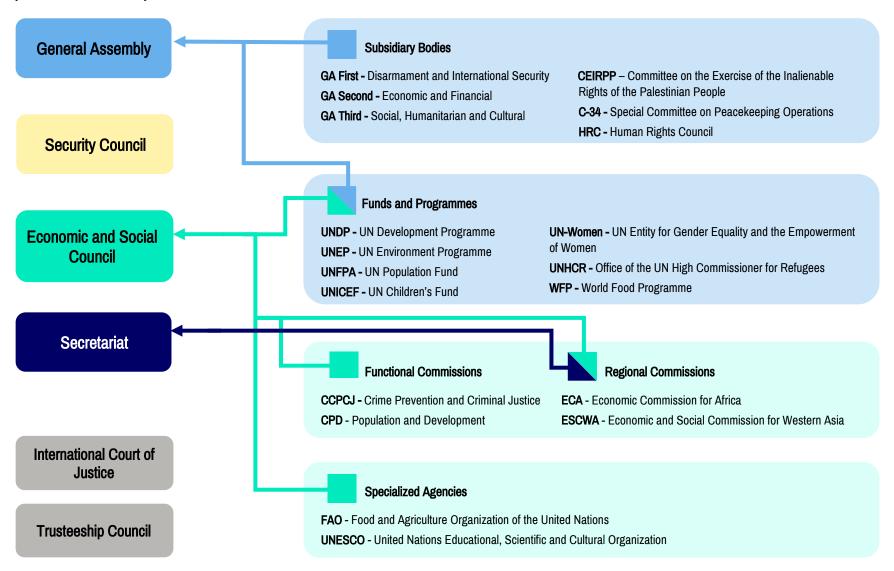|	
AMIS	Agricultural Market Information System
CAR	Central African Republic
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
CFA	Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes
CPPR	Community Practitioners' Platform for Resilience
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
EMOP	Emergency Operation
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GA	General Assembly
GNDR	Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction
HEWS	Humanitarian Early Warning Service
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HLTF	High-Level Task Force
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ICRC	International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
IDP	Internally displaced persons
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
IGC	Intergovernmental Committee
IGO	Intergovernmental organizations
LEAP	Livelihoods, Early Assessment and Protection
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MINURCAT	United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad
MISCA	Mission to the Central African
NGO	Non-governmental organizations
OCHA	Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OWG	Open Working Group
PRRO	Protracted Recovery and Relief Operation
PSNP	Productive Safety Net Program
RBA	Rome-based agencies
REACH	Renewed Effort to Address Child Hunger and Undernutrition
RRM	Rapid Response Missions
SC	Security Council
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SRSG	Special Representative of the Secretary-General
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNISDR	United Nations Office of Disaster Risk Management
UNMISS	United Nations Mission in South Sudan
USAID	United States International Development
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIA	Women in Agriculture
WTO	World Trade Organization

United Nations System at NMUN•NY

This diagram illustrates the UN System simulated at NMUN•NY. It shows where each committee "sits" within the system, to help understand the reportage and relationships between the entities. Examine the diagram alongside the Committee Overview to gain a clear picture of the committee's position, purpose and powers within the UN System.

General Assembly

Security Council

Economic and Social Council

Secretariat

International Court of Justice

Trusteeship Council

Subsidiary Bodies

GA First - Disarmament and International Security

GA Second - Economic and Financial

GA Third - Social, Humanitarian and Cultural

CEIRPP – Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

C-34 - Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

HRC - Human Rights Council

Funds and Programmes

UNDP - UN Development Programme

UNEP - UN Environment Programme

UNFPA - UN Population Fund

UNICEF - UN Children's Fund

UN-Women - UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

UNHCR - Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

WFP - World Food Programme

Functional Commissions

CCPCJ - Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

CPD - Population and Development

Regional Commissions

ECA - Economic Commission for Africa

ESCWA - Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Specialized Agencies

FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Committee Overview

Introduction

The World Food Programme (WFP) is the food aid arm of the United Nations (UN) system and the world's largest humanitarian agency handling hunger issues worldwide.[1] The organization is an "autonomous joint subsidiary programme of the UN and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)."[2] WFP is also one of the "Rome-Based Agencies" headquartered in Rome, Italy along with the FAO and the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD).[3] WFP delivers humanitarian aid and supports food security programs in least-developed and low-income countries for populations affected by displacement, natural disasters, food shortages, and conflicts.[4] As a program of the United Nations, the WFP is financed through voluntary contributions mainly from Member States.[5]

> The **World Food Programme (WFP)** is a Programme and Fund of the United Nations, reporting to the Economic and Social Council and General Assembly.

WFP's Executive Board, made up of contributing Member States reports yearly to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the FAO Council regarding its use of funds, organizational administration, and development of global statistics regarding food and nutrition.[6] The WFP also reports on its decisions and recommendations during its Executive Board sessions.[7] In 2013, WFP provided food assistance to 80 million people in 75 countries.[8] Of those assisted, 67.9 million were women and children, 34.2 million were refugees, 8.9 million people were internally displaced, and 1.3 million people were affected by HIV/AIDS.[9]

> At NMUN•NY 2015, we are simulating the **Executive Board of WFP** in terms of composition and size; however, delegates are not limited to the strict mandate of the Executive Board, as a budgetary and administrative body, during the conference. On the contrary, for the purposes of NMUN•NY 2015, and in line with the educational mission of the conference, the committee has the ability to make programmatic and policy decisions on issues within the mandate of WFP in line with the overall function of the organization.

History

In 1961, George McGovern, director of the United States' "Food for Peace Programme," proposed a program to create multilateral food aid.[10] Seven months later the FAO conference adopted resolution 1/61 of 24 November 1961 and the UN General Assembly (GA) adopted resolution 16/1714 of 19 December 1961, which established WFP on a three-year experimental basis.[11] Though the program was expected to launch in 1963, food aid services started earlier in order to respond to an earthquake in Iranian, hurricane in Thailand and the resettlement of 5 million Algerians in 1962.[12] In 1965, the FAO and GA adopted two additional resolutions that established WFP on a more permanent mandate, "for as long as multilateral food is found feasible and desirable."[13] WFP's first governing body was the Intergovernmental Committee (IGC), which began in 1962 and was subsequently replaced by the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (CFA) in 1976.[14] On 1 January 1996, the CFA was reconstituted from a 42-member to the current 36-member Executive Board.[15]

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[1] WFP, *Mission Statement,* 2014; WFP, *About*, 2014.
[2] WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, p. 13.
[3] WFP, *Rome-Based Agencies*, 2014.
[4] UN Information Centre Tehran, *World Food Programme*.
[5] UN Foundation, *What we do: Agencies, Funds and Programs*, 2014.
[6] New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2013-14*, 2013.
[7] WFP, *Annual Report of the WFP Executive Board to ECOSOC and the FAO Council on its activities,* 2012.
[8] WFP, *WFP in Numbers*, 2014.
[9] WFP, *The World Food Programme's Achievement in 2013*, 2014.
[10] WFP, *History*, 2014.
[11] FAO, *The /FAO world food programme*.
[12] United Nations Information Centre Tehran, *World Food Programme*.
[13] WFP, *History*, 2014.
[14] WFP, *Executive Board*, 2014.
[15] New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2013-14*, 2013.

Mandate

Established by the CFA in December 1994 during its thirty-eighth session, WFP's mission statement outlines the operational priorities of the agency as (1) to use food aid to support economic and social development; (2) to meet refugee and other emergency and protracted relief food needs; and (3) to promote world food security in accordance with the recommendations of the United Nations and FAO."[16] Furthermore, WFP official goals as outlined in its strategic plan establishes five goals: (1) save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies, (2) prevent acute hunger and invest in disaster preparedness and mitigation; (3) restore and rebuild lives and livelihoods after wars and disasters; (4) reduce chronic hunger and undernutrition; and (5) strengthen the ability of nations to curb hunger.[17]

Governance, Structure, Membership

WFP is comprised of two entities: the Executive Board, and the Executive Director and Secretariat.[18] Additionally, four separate documents combined into one document and referred to as the *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board* govern its programs.[19]

Executive Board
The Executive Board of the World Food Programme supervises all programs and initiatives.[20] The 36-member body meets four times a year in Rome at WFP Headquarters.[21] The substantive function of the Board is to make immediate decisions on funding and operational needs and establish long-term policy goals.[22] The Board's function in terms of administrative matters and management includes approving program proposals submitted by the Executive Director and reviewing the administration and execution of these programs.[23] The Executive Board also reports annually to ECOSOC and FAO regarding its decisions and policy recommendations.[24] Members are elected to the Executive Board by both ECOSOC and FAO, with each body electing 18 members for 3-year terms.[25]

Secretariat
The Executive Director also heads the Secretariat for WFP.[26] The Secretariat and the Executive Director are accountable to the Executive Board for the administration and implementation of WFP programs, projects and other activities.[27] The United Nations Secretary-General and Director-General appoint the Executive Director in consultation with the Executive Board members for a five-year term and up to one reappointment.[28] In addition to the Secretary-General and the Director-General, the Executive Director represents WFP in all matters, including as a liaison to Member States.[29] The current Executive Director, Ertharin Cousin is from the United States and in her role she has advocated for increased collaboration and the promotion of gender parity and mainstreaming within the three Rome-based organizations.[30]

Funding
WFP is funded through the support of governments, corporations, and individuals.[31] In addition, the United Nations Emergency Response Fund (CERF) also supports WFP programs.[32] In 2013, WFP received $4.3 trillion in funding, with the largest donations from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, European Commission, and Japan.[33] At

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[16] WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, p. 5.
[17] New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2013-14*, 2013.
[18] WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, p. 7.
[19] Ibid.
[20] New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2013-14*, 2013; WFP, *Executive Board*.
[21] New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2013-14*, 2013.
[22] WFP, *Executive Board*.
[23] WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, p. 7.
[24] WFP, *Executive Board*.
[25] WFP, *Members of the Board,* 2014.
[26] WFP, *Organization Chart of the WFP Executive Board Secretariat.*
[27] WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014.
[28] Ibid.
[29] Ibid.
[30] WFP, *Ertharin Cousin's biography*, 2014.
[31] WFP, *Funding,* 2014.
[32] UNHCR, *United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).*
[33] WFP, *Country Contributions,* 2014.

times, the WFP and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) may issue joint appeals for donations due to a shortage in international funds for humanitarian assistance.[34] The Executive Director is responsible for referring programs, projects and activities to the Executive Board, where Member States review and approve the allocation of funds.[35]

Function and Powers

WFP's functions are to:

- "aid in economic and social development, concentrating its efforts and resources on the neediest people and countries;
- assist in the continuum from emergency relief to development by giving priority to supporting disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation and post-disaster rehabilitation activities;
- assist in meeting refugee and other emergency and protracted relief food needs, using this assistance to the extent possible to serve both relief and development purposes; and
- provide services to bilateral donors, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations for operations which are consistent with the purposes of WFP and which complement WFP's operations."[36]

In carrying out these functions, there are also overlapping priorities that WFP shares with governments and other actors in breaking the cycle of hunger and achieving sustainable food security.[37] These priorities include preparing for and respond to food supply shocks, responding and rebuild lives and livestock, and reducing vulnerability and build lasting resilience.[38] WFP selects what projects to support either by request of the Secretary-General or through Member State reports.[39] Assistant agreements are put in place with governments, and governments are expected to give full support to WFP in the monitoring and implementation of programs.[40]

UN Emergency Response, through the Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), developed the Cluster Approach that coordinates WFP, UNHCR, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO) and other humanitarian organizations such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (ICRC) and civil society to respond to humanitarian emergencies.[41] Clusters are designated by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), comprised of key UN and non-UN humanitarian partners, in the areas of coordination, policy development and decision-making.[42] Cluster leads are responsible for technical knowledge, to serve as the central point of contact for governments and regional centers and coordination of aid delivery.[43] In an emergency response situation, WFP is mandated to lead logistics and emergency telecommunication clusters and co-leads the food security cluster with FAO.[44] WFP takes direction from OCHA during an emergency to coordinate inter-cluster issues, disseminate operational guidance, and organize field support.[45] Furthermore, in 1997, UNHCR and WFP revived an existing memorandum of understanding, which states that WFP would provide assistance to regions with more than 5,000 people in need of help and UNHCR would support smaller populations.[46]

In addition to handling emergencies and developmental programs, WFP also provides protracted relief and recovery for regions recovering from disaster.[47] This includes food for education and training programs, relief for refugees, and providing food as people from infrastructure and crop damages.[48] Additionally, WFP manages the United

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[34] WFP, *Heads of WFP & HCR Issue Urgent Appeal as Food Shortage Hit Nearly 800,000 in Africa*, 2014.
[35] WFP, *Executive Board*.
[36] WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, pp. 5-6.
[37] Phillips, *FAO: its Origin, Formation, and Evolution,* 1981, p. 169.
[38] Ibid.
[39] FAO, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, p. 14.
[40] Ibid., pp. 18-19.
[41] Phillips, *FAO: its Origin, Formation, and Evolution,* 1981, p. 169.
[42] Inter-Agency Standing Committee, *About the Inter-Agency Standing Committee*.
[43] OCHA, *The cluster approach*, 2012.
[44] WFP, *Food, Trucks and Radios: WFP's Role in The 'Cluster System'*, 2013.
[45] OCHA, *Cluster Coordination*.
[46] HCR, *World Food Programme*, 2014.
[47] WFP, *Protracted Reliefs and Recovery (PRROs)*.
[48] Ibid.

Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), which provides efficient air support for over 700 humanitarian organizations around the world.[49] For example, UNHAS provides transportation in Chad where air travel is the only means to reach populations in need of humanitarian assistance.[50] This is particularly important when peacekeeping missions, such as the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT), end, but aid relief is still required.[51]

Further, WFP works with the other Rome-based Agencies, FAO and IFAD to work on the common goals of eradicating hunger, each of these organizations also have different mandates to achieving this shared vision.[52] Whereas WFP provides food aid in emergencies, FAO's develops programs and strategies to raise nutritional levels increase sustainable agriculture activities.[53] Lastly, IFAD mobilizes and offers financial resource on concession terms for agricultural and rural development projects.[54] The three agencies work together to find joint solutions on emergencies and development by setting collective targets and goals, working on food aid projects together, collaborating on the distribution of information and press releases.[55]

Current Priorities

The mission of WFP is to end global hunger.[56] To achieve this, WFP has developed a strategic plan outlining four objectives: (1) to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies; (2) to support food security and nutrition and rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies; (3) to reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food and nutrition needs; and (4) to reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger.[57] The strategic plan also requires WFP to implement early warning systems to prevent food shortages to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies.[58] Additionally, in regards to building livelihoods, the strategic plan highlights good international engagement in fragile situations which includes working with local governments, other UN entities, NGOs, and the private sector to implement programs that meet food and nutritional needs while also strengthening human capital, gender equality, social protection and access to markets.[59] Partnerships with civil society play a key role in achieving humanitarian aid delivery and food security program objectives.[60] 74% of WFP's food is distributed with the assistance of the 1,400 civil society partners that WFP.[61]

A new initiative called the Purchase for Progress connects farmers to markets and leverages WFP's purchasing power to support local agriculture.[62] Their work will also include the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons.[63] Additionally, in regards to risk reduction, WFP works on empowering vulnerable communities from food insecurity and aid dependence through programs that help build national and local capacity to establish, manage, and scale up effective and equitable safety net systems.[64] Lastly, the implementation of nutritional programs aligned with national priorities and global goals works to reduce malnutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger.[65] This has included school meal program as an essential tool for the development and growth of school children, communities and societies.[66]

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[49] WFP, *UNHAS Current Operations.*
[50] WFP, *Chad*, 2014.
[51] WFP, *Chad*, 2014.
[52] IFAD, *FAO/IFAD/WFP: Working together to fight hunger and poverty*.
[53] Ibid.
[54] Ibid.
[55] WFP, *Rome-Based Agencies*, 2014.
[56] WFP, *Strategic Plan*, 2014.
[57] Ibid.
[58] WFP, *Policy Issues: Agenda item 5,* 2013.
[59] Ibid.
[60] WFP, *Non-governmental Organizations*, 2014.
[61] Ibid.
[62] WFP, *Purchase for Progress*, 2014.
[63] WFP, *Policy Issues: Agenda item 5,* 2013.
[64] Ibid.
[65] Ibid.
[66] WFP, *School Meals*, 2014.

WFP's work is also tied to Millennium Development Goal 1; to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, and to halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger between 1990 to 2015.[67] In 2012, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched the Zero Hunger Challenge in which WFP supports the goal of zero stunted children in less than 2 years and 100% access to adequate food all year-round.[68] Within its own policy and program direct, WFP is increasingly providing people with cash or vouchers to buy food rather than directly providing food.[69] This is particularly useful in places where there is food available but economically disadvantaged people cannot afford it.[70] These vouchers reduce transportation and storage costs, boost local economies, and offer choice and variety to users.[71]

Recent Sessions

The 2013 annual report of WFP highlighted its work in Syria, Philippines, Central Africa Republic and South Sudan.[72] These countries all received level 3 emergency responses, the highest response category possible for a WFP emergency.[73] Through global and corporate support to WFP's Country Offices and Regional Bureaus, 3.1 million metric tons of food was distributed with 86% of food procured from neighboring developing countries.[74] WFP programs operated 196 food aid related projects globally in 2013.[75]

In 2014, the Executive Director approved $2.2 million to provide support for the "Gender Mainstreaming Accountability Framework."[76] In its November 2014 meeting, the Executive Board will convene to meet on WFP's gender policy which will include changing the existing gender policy to include embedding gender responsive programming in country strategies and program cycles, and reviewing partnerships for better addressing gender issues.[77]

As of September 2014, WFP is faced with five large-scale emergencies in Central African Republic (CAR), South Sudan, Syria, Iraq and Ebola affected regions in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.[78] Additionally, WFP Secretariat has warned that funding shortfalls in Syria will result in smaller food rations and a reduction of food vouchers to refugees in the future.[79] The World Food Programme's appeals for funding from now until the end of 2014 stands at $352 million for operations for Syrian refugees alone.[80]

Conclusion

With over 80 million people assisted in 75 countries, WFP's work continues to be highly significant and necessary. Their tasks range from emergency relief to development, to providing support as communities rebuild themselves from natural disasters and conflicts. Additionally, WFP's work is a coordinated effort with other UN bodies, NGOs, private stakeholders and governments to eradicate hunger and provide assistance to the most vulnerable populations especially in times of disasters.

WFP's work has a significant global impact and delegates should consider how WFP's work supports the three topics to be discussed during the conference: (1) Empowering Women and Girls in the Fight against Hunger; (2) Humanitarian Assistance in the Central African Republic and South Sudan; and Disaster Risk Management and Food Security in Natural Disaster Situations.

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[67] UN General Assembly, United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/RES/55/2), 2000.
[68] WFP, WFP and Zero Hunger Challenge, 2014.
[69] WFP, *Cash and Vouchers,* 2014.
[70] Ibid.
[71] Ibid.
[72] WFP, *The World Food Programme's Achievement in 2013,* 2014.
[73] Ibid.
[74] Ibid.
[75] Ibid.
[76] WFP, *Update on the gender policy*, 2014.
[77] Ibid.
[78] WFP, *Five hunger emergencies,* 2014.
[79] WFP, *Funding shortfall forces WFP to announce cutbacks to Syrian Food Assistance operations,* 2014.
[80] Ibid.

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United Nations, Inter-Agency Standing Committee. (n.d.). *About the Inter-Agency Standing Committee* [Website]. Retrieved 10 August 2014 from: http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/pageloader.aspx?page=content-about-default
> *The IASC develops the plans and coordinates the various response teams in the event of an emergency. The WFP is one of the key players in this coordination process especially in the areas of food and telecommunication. This source will help delegates develop a stronger understanding of how the coordination process works and how various stakeholders and UN agencies contribute to humanitarian efforts.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2014). *Funding* [Website]. Retrieved 12 July 2014 from: http://www.wfp.org/about/funding
> *Funding for the WFP comes directly from donors including Member States and private donors. This link explains how the program is funded, the various sources of funding, and how individuals can contribute to the program. As funding is often a complex issue within the UN system and given how unique funding is for the WFP, this source will guide delegates in gaining a better understanding of the WFP's sources of revenue.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2014). *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*. Retrieved 12 July 2014 from: http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/govman/wfp244037.pdf
> *This the complication document that provides the legal structure for how the WFP operates. The document outlines how the program is structured and the operational procedures of the program. Furthermore, this document outlines how agreements are put in place to support food aid in countries and the powers that WFP has in the administration and monitoring of these programs. Delegates will find this document useful in learning more about how the WFP and the Executive Board's functions and operations.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2014). *Mission Statement* [Website]. Retrieved 12 July 2014 from: http://www.wfp.org/about/mission-statement
> *Though the mission of the WFP is clear, its implementation and monitoring is complex. This link expands on the mission and further describes the supporting mandates of the organization and how these goals reflect the principle of universality. The source also discusses the core policies and strategies of the WFP. Therefore, this webpage is useful for delegates gaining further understanding of how their proposed programs will be operationalized.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (n.d.). *Protracted Reliefs and Recovery (PRROs)* [Website]. Retrieved 10 August 2014 from: https://www.wfp.org/operations/relief
> *Protracted relief and recovery is one of the key activities conducted by WFP. PRROs go beyond the initial emergency response and provide longer-term support to people impacted by disaster. A PRRO, as defined by the UNHCR is one in which refugees are in long-lasting and intractable state of displacement living in camps. WFP's role is to provide basic services, and access to food as access may not be readily available. This source will provide delegates more information what PRROs entails and examples of PRROs in progress.*

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Funding shortfall forces WFP to announce cutbacks to Syrian Food Assistance operations. (2014, September 18). United Nations, World Food Programme. Retrieved 12 July 2014 from: http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/funding-shortfall-forces-wfp-announce-cutbacks-syrian-food-assistance-operation

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I. Empowering Women and Girls in the Fight against Hunger

Introduction

Widespread hunger is caused by poverty, lack of investment in agriculture, disruptive climate and weather, war and displacement, unstable markets, and food wastage.[81] In his 12th General Comment, the Special Rapporteur on the right to food specified that "the right to adequate food is realized when every man, woman and child, alone or in community with others, has physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement."[82] Pro-family farming policies that promote "equitable and sustainable development" for women and youth are a priority for the realization of the right to food.[83] Because the attainment of gender equality equates to "substantial" growth within a country's economy, gender equality has been described as the "single most important determinant of food security."[84]

Women are an important force in the production, processing, and preparation of food in both agriculture and aquaculture, where they make up 60% to 80% of the workforce.[85] However, women make up only a very small portion of the policy-making bodies, meaning women are far less likely to be included in decision-making processes at all levels.[86] The absence of political representation leads to explicit or de facto discriminatory setbacks for women in not only agriculture and the economy, but also society as a whole.[87] Currently there is a heavy imbalance of agricultural resources for women, evidenced by the fact that although women make up more than half of global agricultural workers, they own less than 1% of land and are offered less than 1% of credit.[88] Women lack representation, and are commonly prevented or discouraged from assuming social or economic leadership roles, stifling the voices of these key actors in the realization of food security.[89] Female economic empowerment efforts involve the cooperation of entire communities, as well as the inclusion of men in gender sensitization, in order to effectively address the needs of the community as a whole.[90]

The ideal of "empowerment" cannot be attained without a clear understanding of the term in the context of women's rights.[91] Empowerment is not granted in a single day. It requires gradual and enthusiastic change at both the individual and collective level, and it is contingent upon individual, societal, and institutional growth leading to the realization of autonomy of social, economic, and political decision-making, in addition to control over the resources that enable the quality of life protected by the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948).[92] Empowerment is tied closely to enablement through education, but empowerment also requires the realization of dignity of living condition.[93] And empowerment can have lasting effects only if the changes are sustainable, and as long as personal and external conditions are undisrupted.[94]

The third Millennium Development Goal (MDG) focuses on promoting equality between genders and the empowerment of women.[95] Equality of access to education is a major component of bettering the social, economic, and political conditions of women, and MDG 3 focuses primarily on eliminating "gender disparity in primary and secondary education."[96] There is often stark inequality of access in the areas of education, economic assets, and participation in government, which has led to the alarming observation that in "every developing region," women have less job security and fewer social benefits than men.[97] MDG 1 aims to target inequality of employment and

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[81] Asian Development Bank & FAO, *Gender Equality and Food Security*, 2013.
[82] UN Human Rights Council, *Report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/HRC/22/50)*, 2012.
[83] FAO, *United Nations calls for pro-family farming policies,* 2014.
[84] UN Human Rights Council, *Report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/HRC/22/50)*, 2012.
[85] Ibid.
[86] FAO, *Why gender*, 2014.
[87] Ibid.
[88] UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food, *Gender*, 2013.
[89] FAO, *Why gender*, 2014.
[90] WFP, *Beyond beneficiary numbers: Unlocking the potential of women farmers*, 2014.
[91] UNHCR & WFP, *Examining Protection and Gender in Cash and Voucher Transfers*, 2013.
[92] Ibid.
[93] UNHCR & WFP, *Examining Protection and Gender in Cash and Voucher Transfers*, 2013.
[94] Ibid.
[95] UN Department of Public Information, *United Nations Millennium Development Goals*, 2014.
[96] Ibid.
[97] Ibid.

eradicate "extreme poverty and hunger" by "[halving], between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger" and "[achieving] full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people."[98] Much progress has been made towards MDG 1; notably, as of 2014, 54% of developing countries have met or are on track to meet the goal of cutting extreme poverty in half, and the number of people living on less than $1.25 a day has decreased from 47% to 22%.[99] The gender equality targets of MDG 3 have progressed; gender parity in education is close to being achieved overall, although only two out of 130 countries have met the target at all levels of education.[100] Strategies for development beyond 2015 have thus far centered around the work of the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).[101]

According to a study of gender issues in rural Nigeria, the key issues and obstacles to equality and sustainability that women face are "customs, beliefs and attitudes that confine women mostly to the domestic sphere; women's economic and domestic workloads that impose severe time burdens on them; and laws and customs that impede women's access to credit, production inputs, employment, education, or medical care."[102] To combat these obstacles and pursue the targets of the MDGs for 2015 and beyond, the World Food Programme (WFP) works on three levels: emergency response, recovery, and development, in addition to formulating specific policies for the empowerment of women and girls in each operation.[103]

International and Regional Framework

In 1948, equality between men and women was first established as international law in the UDHR, and over the next several decades, women's rights and protections related to food and agricultural work became further specified.[104] In 1966, the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* guaranteed "the right to an adequate standard of living," reiterating that the human right to food must be ensured without discrimination.[105] Additionally, the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (1966) guaranteed the equality of all people before the law and prohibited discrimination on any ground.[106] The *International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (CEDAW) (1979) outlines that only the "maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields" can unlock the full developmental potential of a state.[107] CEDAW specifically accounts for rural women, emphasizing that their rights must be protected with equal vigor, particularly "in land and agrarian reform as well as in land resettlement schemes."[108] Further, CEDAW stipulates that States Parties must "take into account the particular problems faced by rural women and the significant roles which rural women play in the economic survival of their families."[109] CEDAW also guarantees adequate nutrition for women during pregnancy and lactation.[110] The *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (1989) refers to the responsibility of states to provide for the health and nutrition of its children through strategies such as ensuring "access to education" on "child health and nutrition [and] the advantages of breastfeeding."[111] In 1993, the *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action* called for renewed focus on promoting equality in agriculture and on the issue of women's rights within the United Nations.[112]

The *Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women* (1985) address all stages of the food production cycle, calling attention to the "fundamental role" of women, recommending development strategies and programs, and describing incentive programs and projects in the field of food and agriculture which aim to fully

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[98] UN Department of Public Information, *United Nations Millennium Development Goals*, 2014.
[99] UN DESA, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2014*, 2014.
[100] Ibid.
[101] International Institute for Sustainable Development, *OWG Report to be "Main Basis" for SDGs in Post-2015 Agenda,* 2014.
[102] Mukhtar & Ogunlela, *Gender Issues in Agriculture and Rural Development in Nigeria: The Role of Women*, 2009.
[103] WFP, *About*, 2014.
[104] Ibid.
[105] UN General Assembly, *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (A/RES/2200 (XXI))*, 1966.
[106] UN General Assembly, *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/RES/2200 (XXI))*, 1966, art. 26.
[107] UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/RES/34/180)*, 1979, Preamble.
[108] Ibid., art. 14.
[109] Ibid.
[110] Ibid., art. 12.
[111] UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/RES/44/25)*, 1989, art. 24.
[112] UN World Conference on Human Rights, *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*, 1993.

integrate women at all levels of planning and implementation.[113] The 1995 *Beijing Platform for Action* created strategic objectives for women and children in the economy, including "the facilitation of women's equal access to resources, employment, markets and trade, the elimination of occupational segregation and all forms of employment discrimination, and the prohibition of forced labor and child labor."[114] As a "prerequisite of eradicating poverty" and in order to stimulate lasting economic growth and sustainable development, the *Programme of Action* adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) created new strategies for eliminating existing inequalities and barriers to women in the workforce.[115]

The 2012 report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food recommended that states prioritize addressing the damaging cultural expectation that women and girls should shoulder the burden of household work alone and without pay, which greatly restricts or eliminates their ability to make a living.[116] The report emphasized that states should implement policies to "[subvert] the gendered division of roles" and redefine the social and political mindset that assumes the role of "head of the household" belongs only to men.[117] The Special Rapporteur further noted the necessity of coordination between all levels of government in order to combat all elements that limit women.[118]

Role of the International System

Within the United Nations, the Rome-based agencies (RBAs), which comprise WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), collaboratively lead efforts to eliminate world hunger.[119] Together, the RBAs target global hunger and poverty through five main focuses: providing advice on governmental strategy and devising policies to accomplish development goals; the *Comprehensive Framework for Action* developed by the United Nations High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis; climate change and the associated challenges to natural resource sustainability; the MDGs; and the transition from disaster relief to gradual development.[120] Looking to the post-2015 development processes, the RBAs have emphasized the importance of continuing progress towards the unmet targets of the MDGs, but have also begun planning to expand the scope of hunger targets by increasing focus on "malnutrition, sustainable and inclusive food systems, and their inter-linkages" in order to achieve the central target of "eradicating poverty in all its forms."[121] The RBAs have envisioned forward progress as a collaborative effort among "governments, with the private sector, with development institutions, and with all members of society, from producers to consumers."[122]

In 1961, by a joint decision of the United Nations and FAO, WFP was mandated to contribute to the economic and social development of Member States through food aid, but the organization has since expanded its mission to focus on combating world hunger and sustainable food markets in the areas of emergency response, recovery, and development.[123] The WFP Gender Policy, which sets out a framework for integrating inclusive gender policies into all levels of WFP's operations and programs, has been developed and modified since the 1990s.[124] The gender strategies for the WFP initiative Purchase for Progress have led to many promising outcomes, such as improved access to credit and increased functional literacy among women smallholder farmers.[125]

FAO was established with the principal objectives of improving lives by increasing the levels of nutrition attainable, improving aid outreach, increasing the standard of living in rural areas, and ultimately achieving freedom from

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[113] UN World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the UN Decade for Women, *Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women*, 1985.

[114] UN Women, *Fourth World Conference on Women*.

[115] UNFPA, *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1995.

[116] UN Human Rights Council, *Report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/HRC/22/50)*, 2012.

[117] Ibid.

[118] UN DESA, *Promoting Empowerment of People in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment integration and full employment and decent work for all*, 2013.

[119] WFP, *About*, 2014.

[120] Ibid.

[121] WFP, *UN Rome-Based Agencies Reveal Food Security And Nutrition Targets For Post-2015 Agenda*, 2014.

[122] Ibid.

[123] UNESCO, *Co-operation with the World Food Programme*, 1964.

[124] WFP, *WFP Gender Policy*, 2009.

[125] WFP, *P4P Global Gender Strategy*, 2011; WFP, *P4P's Women's Empowerment Pathways: Roadblocks and Successes*, 2014.

hunger for all humanity.[126] FAO lends its agricultural knowledge and experience to assist states with policy creation and development strategy formulation.[127] For example, in western Chad, FAO facilitated land-loan agreements for women's groups, for the first time building the capability of women to farm tenable plots of land in their own names.[128] IFAD works in developing countries, providing loans and direct aid with the aim of ending hunger and poverty in rural areas.[129] Country Strategic Opportunities Programmes are developed in partnership with governments, "socially responsible corporations and businesses," and with increasing frequency, smallholder farmers.[130] Throughout 2014, IFAD sponsored an International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas program in Tajikistan that educates both men and women on techniques for raising and breeding goats in order to bolster family incomes.[131] Other United Nations bodies that address world hunger or the empowerment of women and girls include the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which focuses its work on "basic education and gender equality, child health, and child nutrition and development"; the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), "the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women"; and UN Women, which "supports the leadership and participation of rural women in shaping laws, policies and programs on all issues that affect their lives."[132]

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), which play a vital role in the empowerment of women in the workforce, have demonstrated "growing commitment … to integrate women into all aspects of the development process."[133] For example, women's groups have served as "one of the most effective entry points for initiating activities and reaching poor households."[134] In Nigeria, local women's groups evolved into the state-sponsored Women in Agriculture (WIA) Program, bringing about increased funding, agricultural resources, and a higher rate of women's participation in agricultural activities.[135] The WIA used NGOs to help identify women for program staff to target for incorporation into the project as workers and potential leaders.[136] Other civil society organizations have a similar role in addressing women and girls in agriculture. Projects like the Sphere Project, which sets "minimum standards for humanitarian response in crises and aid missions," focus on improving accountability of response agencies while also involving civil society.[137]

Role of Women and Girls in the Economy

Gender discrimination has the harshest effect in low-income countries, where women's major contributions to the labor force have a significant impact in the food cycle of rural communities.[138] According to FAO, global food security would improve dramatically if women and men had equal access to agricultural resources and services.[139] Food output from developing countries would increase enough to "elevate 100-150 million people out of hunger."[140] In Burkina Faso, awareness projects have contributed to changing cultural attitudes towards female empowerment, which has helped provide women with more decision-making power within the community and create a more equitable division of household responsibilities between men and women.[141] Increased awareness about malnutrition and steady growth of the local economy were observed after one gender awareness project took place.[142] The full integration of women into the economy requires the investment of men in social transformation, which will begin

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[126] FAO, *Basic Texts of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Volume I: Constitution*, 2011, p. 2.
[127] Ibid.
[128] FAO, *Women of Kanem taking the lead in agricultural development*, 2014.
[129] IFAD, *Partners*, 2014.
[130] Ibid.
[131] IFAD, *Livestock and family farms: Boosting nutrition, incomes and resilience*, 2014.
[132] UNICEF, *About*, 2014; UN Women, *Commission on the Status of Women*, 2014; UN Women, *The role of women in rural development, food production and poverty eradication*, 2014.
[133] Austin & Srivastava, *Women and Non-Governmental Organizations in Developing Countries*, 2010.
[134] Mukhtar & Ogunlela, *Gender Issues in Agriculture and Rural Development in Nigeria: The Role of Women*, 2009.
[135] Ibid.
[136] Ibid.
[137] The Sphere Project, *The Sphere Project*, 2014.
[138] FAO, *FAO at Work 2010-2011: Women—key to food security*, 2011.
[139] Ibid.
[140] Ibid.
[141] WFP, *Changing Behavior, Changing Lives in Burkina Faso*, 2014.
[142] Ibid.

"when men recognize that the lives of men and women are interdependent and that the empowerment of women benefits everyone."[143]

The disempowerment of women stems from discrimination, violates the universal rights of women, and weakens society at large because of "the considerable productivity losses entailed."[144] Food security cannot be achieved without the full participation of women through the elimination of "institutionalized gender inequalities in the household and community."[145] Women face setbacks through both laws and customs in the areas of education, health, land and economic rights and gender roles; further, women remain underrepresented in politics, lawmaking, and administrative roles.[146] In order to recognize and advance the specific needs of women in agriculture, FAO has emphasized that the involvement of women in government and the leadership of women in the economy are "essential."[147]

CEDAW calls for all women to have access to the resources necessary to provide equal opportunity in the agricultural economy, specifically "agricultural credit and loans, marketing facilities, appropriate technology and equal treatment in land and agrarian reform as well as in land resettlement schemes"; but for many women, these resources are still far from view.[148] Restricted access to land is a major detriment to women around the world.[149] In areas of Africa, land reform programs have bypassed the landholding right of women, almost exclusively favoring men in the transfer of land to male heads of households or eldest sons.[150] Even where reforms to inheritance laws have been restructured to benefit women, local customs, illiteracy, and limited access to information hinder the reform and perpetuate the unequal distribution of land between men and women.[151] Even when women do own land, these plots are generally "smaller and less fertile than men's," restricting women's prospects.[152]

Health and Education
Regions exhibiting inequality of agricultural resources have "significantly more malnourished children."[153] Maternal health, infant health, and female education are inseparable components of the empowerment of women and girls and sustainable progress towards the elimination of hunger.[154] The challenges women face in establishing a recognized status in their societies begin with the lack of access to equal education and health care.[155] Teaching the "knowledge, skills and self-confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process" is one of the most crucial components of empowering women and girls to succeed in their pursuits.[156] WFP therefore focuses a large part of their development work on providing food incentives for girls to attend school.[157]

Emergency Response and Recovery

Human rights violations increase dramatically during emergency situations "arising from natural disasters, drought, diseases, civil conflict, market shocks and extreme climate events."[158] Both men and women suffer during emergency situations, but women and girls face particular vulnerabilities caused by the disruption of "food production, livelihoods, health care and law enforcement."[159] Because women are less likely to own land and livestock, their financial safety net during emergencies is much smaller or nonexistent.[160] A targeted focus on

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[143] Shah, *Women's right to health and the Millennium Development Goals: Promoting partnerships to improve access*, 2006.
[144] UN Human Rights Council, *Report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/HRC/22/50)*, 2012.
[145] FAO, *Agricultural Censuses and Gender Considerations - Concept and Methodology*, 1999.
[146] UN Human Rights Council, *Report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/HRC/22/50)*, 2012.
[147] FAO, *FAO at Work 2010-2011: Women—key to food security*, 2011.
[148] UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/RES/34/180),* 1979, art .14.
[149] Cotula, *Gender and Law: Women's Rights in Agriculture*, 2007.
[150] Mukhtar & Ogunlela, *Gender Issues in Agriculture and Rural Development in Nigeria: The Role of Women*, 2009.
[151] Ibid.
[152] Ibid.
[153] UN Human Rights Council, *Report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/HRC/22/50)*, 2012.
[154] Ibid.
[155] Ibid.
[156] UNFPA, *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1995.
[157] WFP, *Operations*, 2014.
[158] FAO, *FAO Programme: Emergencies*, 2014.
[159] FAO, *FAO Programme: Emergencies*, 2014; Save the Children, *State of the World's Mothers 2014*, 2014.
[160] FAO, *FAO Programme: Emergencies*, 2014.

women and girls assists communities attempting to recover from emergency situations and development gaps.[161] Governments and aid agencies must consider the particular needs of women and girls and build the knowledge and infrastructure necessary to ensure equal effectiveness of strategies for emergency response and recovery.[162]

Emergency Response
WFP's Emergency Operations (EMOPs) cover three main kinds of crises: sudden disasters, specifically "natural disasters which affect food access, or cause population displacements"; slow-onset disasters, "usually droughts and crop failures"; and complex emergencies, which can "involve conflict, widespread social and economic disruption and large population displacements."[163] As a part of WFP's focus on women, EMOPs have strategies for targeting and integrating women into the aid process.[164] An emergency maternal and child nutrition component was emphasized in the January – December 2013 Emergency Food and Nutrition Support to Food-Insecure and Conflict-Affected People EMOP in Yemen.[165] In collaboration with UNICEF, WFP combatted malnutrition in children under age two through supplementary feeding, treated malnutrition in children under age five, and directly aided pregnant and breastfeeding women through targeted supplementary feeding.[166]

Recovery Strategies
Recovery strategies focus on reconstructing individual economic capacity and access to food, as well as rebuilding the economy with new infrastructure and local food production.[167] Public works programs such as Food for Assets employ individuals who lack an alternative source of income, and reimburse participants with cash (cash-for-work), food (food-for-work), or a combination of both.[168] To improve equitable outreach between the genders, public works programs will often reserve a quota for female participants; however, the unequal household burdens placed on women in some areas may render such a quota system ineffective, thereby creating a limitation that requires more discussion in recovery policies.[169] As noted by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, equality will be achieved only when women are involved in the design and implementation of these programs, as well as included through employment in numbers equal to that of men.[170]

Cash and voucher transfers are an emerging preference for some recovery projects through WFP and other organizations.[171] Cash transfers are direct monetary aid to assist individuals or families struggling to secure basic human needs like food, clothing, and shelter; voucher transfers are certificates that can be exchanged for food and other goods, often used in areas of high inequality in standard of living.[172] This form of aid is beneficial as it cuts down on transportation costs and benefits local economies.[173] However, an examination of the successes and shortcomings of cash and voucher transfers in Malawi and Zambia identified a number of potential gender issues and safety concerns.[174] These included the lack of identification, which is required in order to receive aid; obstacles to targeting vulnerable groups; the lack of measures for the safety and protection of workers and recipients; and the potential for household violence to increase as a result of the cash and vouchers.[175] Positive results identified by the review included the promotion of choice, the avoidance of humiliation inherent in other forms of aid, and the economic education opportunities for individuals.[176] Despite these successes, it was found that physically working for aid was more often preferred than idly sitting by and accepting handouts, as it provided a greater sense of dignity.[177] While the amount of assistance provided was not substantial enough to improve the quality of life for all

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[161] WFP, *P4P Global Gender Strategy*, 2011.
[162] Ibid.
[163] WFP, *Operations*, 2014.
[164] Ibid.
[165] WFP, *Emergency Operation Yemen: Emergency Food and Nutrition Support to Food Insecure and Conflict-Affected People*, 2013.
[166] Ibid.
[167] WFP, *Food Assistance for Assets*, 2014.
[168] Ibid.
[169] Ibid.
[170] UN Human Rights Council, *Report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/HRC/22/50)*, 2012.
[171] UNHCR & WFP, *Examining Protection and Gender in Cash and Voucher Transfers*, 2013.
[172] WFP, *Cash and Vouchers*, 2014.
[173] Ibid.
[174] UNHCR & WFP, *Examining Protection and Gender in Cash and Voucher Transfers*, 2013.
[175] Ibid.
[176] Ibid.
[177] Ibid.

beneficiaries, it was observed that the aid did have the intended effect of children regularly attending school.[178] Nonetheless, the study found it "unclear" but "unlikely" that the behavior would continue if the cash and vouchers ended before the economic situation of families stabilized.[179]

Social and Economic Development Programs and Strategies

As the largest humanitarian provider of school meals worldwide, WFP considers incentivizing school attendance a key project in the development phase of WFP assistance.[180] The 1994 ICPD *Programme of Action* identified education of women and girls as a foundation for social and economic development, and identified investing in the education of young girls as "one of the most effective ways to reduce poverty."[181] The two types of school feeding are student meals at school and take-home rations for the families of children who attend school regularly.[182] Daily meals not only incentivize attendance, but also allow children to "focus on their studies rather than their stomachs," and boost the quality of their education by "decreasing drop-out rates and improving cognitive abilities."[183] A new WFP incentive tailors programs to include take-home rations provided to adolescent girls in areas where there is a gender gap in education.[184]

Programs and initiatives that support sustainable agricultural improvements are a large part of WFP's development strategy.[185] Poor farming techniques and storage are to blame for the staggering annual 20% loss of global harvest.[186] In Burkina Faso, WFP aid workers educated local farmers in effective agricultural practices and provided improved storage technology, which resulted in a 98% reduction in food losses.[187] The successes of this operation inspired a 14-month WFP Special Operation with the ultimate goal of establishing food security among participating farmers, while actively targeting women smallholder farmers.[188] Farm practice training and food-saving grain silos were given to 41,000 farmers between March and July 2014 to prepare for the next year of harvests.[189]

Post-2015 Development Goals and Priority Targets

The MDGs are projected to expire in 2015 before all targets have been fully achieved.[190] All targets of the MDGs have seen improvement, and a number have also been met in advance of the deadline.[191] The international community has made considerable headway towards some targets; for example, child mortality has been almost halved.[192] Progress towards other targets has advanced much more slowly; for example, chronic undernutrition of young children has declined, but one in four children are still affected.[193] Evaluating the specific focuses of the MDGs, and considering new priorities that have manifested since 2000, the RBAs developed five targets for the post-2015 development agenda focusing on food access, food production, food post-production, ending malnutrition, and securing equal and adequate resources for men and women.[194] Target one deals with ensuring year-long access for safe and adequate food, which considers issues such as long-term stability, extreme weather preparedness, and the effect of environmental pollutants on agriculture and livestock.[195] Target two considers a more universal interpretation of ending malnutrition, which involves both undernutrition and overnutrition as issues based largely in food availability and access.[196] Target three is concerned with both the productivity and stability of a food

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[178] UNHCR & WFP, Examining Protection and Gender in Cash and Voucher Transfers, 2013.
[179] Ibid.
[180] WFP, *Operations*, 2014.
[181] UNFPA, *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development*, 1994.
[182] WFP, *School Meals*, 2014.
[183] Ibid.
[184] Ibid.
[185] WFP, *Operations*, 2014.
[186] WFP, *How Can Reducing Post-Harvest Losses Support Food Security?*, 2014.
[187] Ibid.
[188] Ibid.
[189] Ibid.
[190] UN DESA, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2014*, 2014.
[191] Ibid.
[192] Ibid.
[193] Ibid.
[194] FAO et al., *Post 2015 Development Agenda: Rome-based Agencies—Targets and Indicators*, 2014.
[195] Ibid.
[196] Ibid.

production system, as well as its environmental impact, which ties the economic aspect of food security to the ultimate global stability that allows for long-term food security.[197] Target four aims to secure adequate resources and information for male and female small food producers, which requires efforts towards the increased education of women, improved access to legal information, and more equitable opportunities for resource distribution.[198] Target five focuses on strategies to improve post-production systems, such as improving infrastructure to expedite transportation and building structures and knowledge necessary for more effective food handling and storage in order to "reduce the global rate of food loss and waste by 50 percent."[199] The five RBA targets represent WFP, IFAD, and FAO's specific areas of focus, and were developed to provide the input and expertise of the UN's food-related agencies as a contribution to the OWG's "negotiation mode" of SDG formulation.[200]

Beginning in 2013, the OWG began crafting the 17 SDGs and their many definitive targets, which they submitted to the General Assembly (GA) in September 2014.[201] On 10 September 2014, the GA announced that the SDGs "shall be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda," signifying a renewal of global investment in development.[202] The work of the RBAs will be essential to SDG 2, "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture," and SDG 5, "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls."[203]

The SDGs focus on a more universal application than the MDGs, in that they emphasize continued individual improvement in all states, rather than reaching minimum standards in the least-developed countries.[204] The over-emphasized focus on numbers and figures in the MDGs lessened the attention on "disparities and inequalities within populations."[205] Additionally, MDG 1 has been criticized for its gender-blindness, and failure to recognize the different needs of men and women.[206] In contrast, the consideration of the needs of women are incorporated more universally throughout the SDGs, and the objectives are geared towards varying different population groups, as opposed to the MDGs.[207] For example, target 2.3 under SDG 2 states a commitment to "double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment."[208]

Conclusion

The equal rights of men and women were first guaranteed by the UDHR in 1948, but despite nearly seven decades of progress, "there is a long way to go before women and girls can be said to enjoy the fundamental rights, freedom and dignity that are their birthright and that will guarantee their well-being."[209] Closing the gender gap in agriculture is a top priority both today and tomorrow. "Harnessing all our energies and resources" is necessary in order to feed a world population expected to reach nine billion by 2050.[210] Only the "full and equal participation of women" will bring about the changes needed to reach the targets of the SDGs and create an empowered world fighting for the end of hunger.[211]

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[197] FAO et al., *Post 2015 Development Agenda: Rome-based Agencies—Targets and Indicators*, 2014.
[198] Ibid.
[199] Ibid.
[200] International Institute for Sustainable Development, *OWG Report to be "Main Basis" for SDGs in Post-2015 Agenda*, 2014.
[201] Ibid.
[202] Ibid.
[203] UN General Assembly, *Report of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals (A/68/970)*, 2014, p. 10.
[204] Swedish International Agricultural Network Initiative, *Food security in the Sustainable Development Goals: Where is the process heading?*, 2014.
[205] De Schutter, *Advancing women's rights in post-2015 development agenda and goals on food and nutrition security*, 2013.
[206] Ibid.
[207] Swedish International Agricultural Network Initiative, Food security in the Sustainable Development Goals: Where is the process heading?, 2014.
[208] UN General Assembly, Report of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals (A/68/970), 2014.
[209] UN Women, *Secretary-General's Message for 2012*, 2012.
[210] FAO, *FAO at Work 2010-2011: Women—key to food security*, 2011.
[211] Ibid.

Further Research

Arriving at the sustainable development doorway of 2015, delegates should consider what new directions should be explored, what old initiatives must be renovated and expanded, what actions WFP should take, and what initiatives Member States should prioritize in order to empower women and girls in the fight against hunger. Delegates should investigate questions such as: What universal economic and educational protections still stand out of reach for women and girls in developing areas? In what new ways could these be advanced through WFP programs? Recognizing the similarities of challenges across regions, what can WFP do in order to expand its outreach? Acknowledging the unique differences in every area, how should WFP prioritize issues in local projects? How can Member States collaborate with WFP to encourage the social, economic, and political change that must occur in order to empower women and girls in traditionally discriminatory societies? What gaps exist between programs? What new strategies and directions should be investigated to help empower women in girls in all three levels of WFP response?

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. (2011). *FAO at Work 2010-2011: Women—key to food security.* Retrieved 9 July 2014 from: http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/am719e/am719e00.pdf
> *This document provides crucial context for the importance of women in agriculture and the necessity of political will to address gender inequality. The document will inform delegates of the current and potential impacts of female agricultural workers in order to direct focus for new strategies of incorporation. It discusses how the approach of FAO has evolved to focus on recovery and development, as well as to address gender inequalities in agriculture that stunt growth and success of programs. The document also provides highlights of a year's worth of initiatives for delegates to research for additional background.*

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Fund for Agricultural Development & World Food Programme. (2014). *Post 2015 Development Agenda: Rome-based Agencies—Targets and Indicators*. Retrieved 9 July 2014 from:
http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/communications/wfp263949.pdf
> *A collaboration of the RBAs with a common vision for food security has culminated in five sustainability targets recommended to the OWG and shared with the United Nations General Assembly in September 2014. This document includes indicators and means of implementation, and discusses how to measure and monitor progress in world food security and nutrition and sustainable agriculture for moving beyond the MDGs. Delegates will take away the precise foci of the RBAs that will inform future action.*

Mukhtar, A. & Y. Ogunlela, (2009). *Gender Issues in Agriculture and Rural Development in Nigeria: The Role of Women.* Retrieved 20 July 2014 from: http://www.idosi.org/hssj/hssj4(1)09/3.pdf?origin=publication_detail
> *This thorough examination of the unique challenges rural women in Nigeria face in attaining economic empowerment will provide delegates with a concrete example of successes and failures in rural Nigeria. This report discusses universal obstacles to women, including access to health care and discrimination through gender bias, but also specifies the local customs that diminish the feasibility of female empowerment in agriculture. Delegates will better understand the broader issues of development with this regional view of the topic.*

Save the Children. (2014). *State of the World's Mothers 2014.* Retrieved 12 July 2014 from: http://www.savethechildren.net/sowm
> *This is an essential resource for delegates on this topic because this annual report gives a human rights emphasis to the conversation of gender equality, primarily discussing current crises such as armed conflict, political instability, and natural disasters that undermine the well-being of mothers and their children. This report highlights the social importance of motherhood in addition to the economic role of mothers. The document discusses the importance of proper investments and planning to meet women's health and nutrition needs, in addition to the effect of human rights violations on a woman's ability to provide for her family, to ensure advancement of the next generation of mothers.*

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees & World Food Programme (2013). *Examining Protection and Gender in Cash and Voucher Transfers*. Retrieved 9 July 2014 from:
http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/communications/wfp260028.pdf
> *This document provides an in-depth investigation of gender issues in the context of cash and transfer programs, including safety, corruption, technology, and household violence. Case studies from Zambia and Malawi show ways in which gender and community dynamics were affected by these programs. Benefits and drawbacks are analyzed to assess the value of cash and voucher transfers. This report will assist delegates with developing an understanding of both the achievements and limitations of this recovery program and an appreciation of the risks involved in women-targeted programs.*

United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2014). *United Nations Millennium Development Goals* [Website]. Retrieved 17 July 2014 from: http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/

This webpage provides a comprehensive look at the MDGs, discusses progress made, and provides information on what work has been done on formulating post-2015 goals. News on projects oriented towards the MDGs is included in this resource, and delegates will benefit from investigating the included projects and organizations with relevant missions. The MDGs are a central focus of this guide and are inseparable from the goals of this topic. This page will serve as a quick but highly informative resource for delegates on what has already been planned and achieved as they prepare to understand the SDGs in the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-eighth session. (2014). *Report of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals (A/68/970)*. Retrieved 12 October 2014 from: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/68/970

The OWG report outlines the future of global development goals beyond the 2015 deadline of the MDGs. This is a vital resource for delegates to comprehend in order to understand the goals and targets for sustainability that relate to all UN and global entities. Goals 2 and 5 explicitly relate to WFP's work, and goals 1, 3, 8, 11, and 13-17 address targets inseparable from issues of gender equality and food stability. The targets of each goal illuminate the particular universal issues that limit the attainment of sustainable development. These goals and targets will direct delegates to investigate what strategies their own countries employ and where there is room for progress.

United Nations, Human Rights Council, Twenty-second session. (2012). *Report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Olivier De Schutter: Women's rights and the right to food (A/HRC/22/50)*. Retrieved 22 July 2014 from: http://www.srfood.org/images/stories/pdf/officialreports/20130304_gender_en.pdf

This extensive overview of issues and obstacles includes a thorough examination of women in agriculture, the impacts of food aid, and the potential for growth. The report considers issues such as women's access to employment in agriculture, women's access to social protections, and women's access to productive resources. Such issues, which have been included in discussions about post-2015 development, are at the core of empowering women and girls in the fight against hunger. Delegates should familiarize themselves with the current issues identified by the Special Rapporteur in this report and investigate the recent actions also mentioned within.

United Nations, World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the UN Decade for Women. (1985). *Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women*. Retrieved 19 July 2014 from: http://www.un.org/womenwatch/confer/nfls/

These strategies, developed nearly four decades after the UDHR first promised equality between men and women, as well as the human right to food, illustrate a serious reappraisal of possibility for action in these protections. Delegates should familiarize themselves with this key framework in order to understand the development of policies and the role of female empowerment in the fight against hunger. The specific section discussing women in agriculture illustrates actions still underway today.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2014). *P4P's Women's Empowerment Pathways: Roadblocks and Successes* [Report]. Retrieved 9 July 2014 from: http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/special_initiatives/wfp265434.pdf

This document discusses how WFP has approached gender mainstreaming through the P4P initiative by adopting gender policy considerations in the pursuit of women's economic empowerment. It contrasts achievements with the strategic goals expressed in the proposal, and pinpoints the P4P Global Gender Strategy as a major instrumental tool for the empowerment of women and success of agricultural development. The document provides insight into the potential of gender strategies in all WFP programs.

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II. Humanitarian Assistance in the Central African Republic and South Sudan

Introduction

The World Food Programme (WFP) manages global humanitarian aid delivery and is responsible for responding to emergency food crises all over the world.[212] When violence breaks out in regions where food insecurity is already high, it takes a combined effort from WFP local, regional, and global offices to respond and provide food aid for the people affected.[213] Currently, WFP is focused on responded to three "Level 3" emergency operations: Central African Republic (CAR), South Sudan, and Syria.[214] A Level 3 emergency is used to refer to a humanitarian crisis that cannot be managed at the national office or regional bureau level and requires a full international effort.[215] Additionally, CAR and South Sudan are also designated "hunger hotspots," which is a term applied to areas at risk for severe food insecurity.[216] In response, WFP has increased food aid dramatically to the region, worked towards stronger cooperation with other humanitarian agencies, and provided education on food production and stability.[217] The recent violent conflict and increase in displaced populations in CAR and South Sudan have caused a similar level of humanitarian crisis, food security problems, and common challenges to aid delivery in the two neighboring countries.

Central African Republic (CAR)
CAR has seen internal crisis and conflict with its neighbors, particularly Chad, frequently over the last two decades. The current crisis in CAR was triggered in December 2012 when the authority of President Patassé was challenged by a coalition of opposition forces known as Séléka.[218] The Séléka, a coalition of five rebel groups, is comprised of largely Muslim militia.[219] In March, Séléka overthrew the Patassé government and rebellion leader, Michel Djotodia, declared himself president. Within a few months, Djotodia resigned, and the National Transitional Council elected the current President, Catherine Samba-Panza.[220] However, despite President Samba-Panza and the international community's efforts, internal conflict and violence continues in CAR, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis.[221] Many of the refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) are farmers, traders, or businessmen whom the food trade industry depended on.[222] Reports state that 70% of the country's traders have fled, which has resulted in an economic collapse and a decrease in food stock.[223] Additionally, fighting has destroyed or resulted in the theft of food and seed stocks, tools and equipment, livestock, and farmable land.[224] As a result, food stocks have diminished by nearly 80%, and close to 50% of livestock have been killed, or carried across borders.[225] IDP camps report that 78% of people have gone more than a full day without eating.[226]

South Sudan
In 2011, South Sudan gained its independence and became the newest member of the UN.[227] For the past five years, 10% of the population experienced severe levels of food insecurity during harsher seasons each year.[228] Additionally, because 90% of the population is dependent on crop farming, raising livestock, fishing or forestry for survival, their source of livelihood is highly unpredictable.[229] In October 2013, 3.7 million people or 34% of the population had inadequate food consumption.[230] Adequate food consumption, as defined by the World Food Summit

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[221] Ibid.
[222] FAO/WFP, *FAO/WFP Markets and Food Security Assessment Mission to the Central African Republic*, 2014.
[223] Ibid.
[224] Ibid.
[225] Ibid.
[226] Ibid.
[227] BBC, *South Sudan Profile*, 2014.
[228] WFP, *South Sudan-Overview*, 2014.
[229] Ibid.
[230] WFP, *FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission to South Sudan*, 2014.

of 1996, is defined as "all people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, to meet dietary need for a productive and healthy life."[231] It was during this period that WFP and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) sent a Food Security Assessment Mission to South Sudan.[232] The Mission noted in a report that the three states most affected by food insecurity were Jonglei, Unity, and Upper Nile; one month later, in December 2013, conflict broke out in these three states.[233]

In Jonglei, Upper Nile, and Unity in December 2013 violence broke out between militia groups.[234] Within a matter of weeks, thousands had been killed in ethnic conflict, and 800,000 people were forced to leave their homes.[235] Looting, destruction, and desertion have all contributed to a widespread loss of food stocks, fields, and livestock.[236] Interrupted trade routes, influxes of IDPs, and a sudden decrease in inter-state trade have increased the need for food aid in other states as well.[237] Recent estimates say that over 4 million South Sudanese, representing 60% to 75% of the population, are entering emergency levels of food insecurity.[238] In 2013, WFP was able to reach 2.4 million people affected by the conflict and plans to assist 2.9 million people in the area by the end of 2014.[239]

International and Regional Framework

The basic principles of the UN, outlined in Article 1 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), include solving international humanitarian problems by means of international cooperation.[240] The *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) states in Article 25 that the right to food falls under a person's right to an adequate standard of living.[241] In 1966, the UN General Assembly (GA) adopted the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* and Article 11 of the treaty confirming the right to an adequate standard of living and that Member States have a responsibility to provide this inasmuch as they are able.[242] The Covenant further states that world food supplies should be distributed according to need, and that international cooperation should be engaged when required.[243]

Food Security

In 2008, two GA resolutions were adopted regarding food security.[244] The first was resolution 63/187, entitled "The Right to Food."[245] The resolution stresses the urgency of food insecurity and recognizes the specific need to address gender equality and adopt a gender perspective when confronting this issue.[246] It also describes the desperate need of assistance for children in poverty and the importance of South-South cooperation.[247] The GA also adopted resolution 63/235 on "Agriculture Development and Food Security," which recognized the important role of agricultural development in food security and calls on international actors to take further action in the future regarding these issues.[248] The most recent development was the adoption of the *Food Assistance Convention* in 2012.[249] The Convention establishes basic principles of food assistance such as when it is necessary, how it should be administered, and who should be responsible.[250]

Role of International System

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[231] UN DESA, *International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005-2015*, 2014.
[232] WFP, *FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission to South Sudan*, 2014.
[233] Ibid.
[234] UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan, Conflict in South Sudan: A Human Rights Report, 2014.
[235] BBC, *South Sudan Profile*, 2014.
[236] FAO and WFP, FAO/WFP Markets and Food Security Assessment Mission to the Central African Republic, 2014.
[237] WFP, *FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission to South Sudan*, 2014.
[238] WFP, *UNICEF and WFP Stepping Up Assistance To Desperate People In Remote Areas Of South Sudan*, 2014.
[239] WFP, *South Sudan: 9 Hunger Facts*, 2014.
[240] *Charter of the United Nations*, 26 June 1945, Ch. 1.
[241] UN General Assembly, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*, 1948.
[242] UN General Assembly, *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (A/RES/2200 (XXI))*, 1966.
[243] Ibid.
[244] UN General Assembly, *Resolutions-63rd Session*, 2009.
[245] UN General Assembly, *The Right to Food (A/RES/63/187)*, 2009.
[246] Ibid.
[247] Ibid.
[248] UN General Assembly, *Agriculture Development and Food Security (A/RES/63/235)*, 2009.
[249] UN General Assembly, *Food Assistance Convention*, 2012.
[250] Ibid.

The United Nations Security Council (SC) established the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA) in December 2013 through resolution 2127 (2013).[251] The peacekeeping mission was mandated to protect civilians, stabilize the country, and create conditions that would support humanitarian assistance.[252] Though the deployment was critical in saving lives, the scale of the crisis and the security requirements far exceed the capabilities of troops.[253] In September 2014, the UN Multilateral Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) took over responsibilities from MISCA.[254] Further, the SC unanimously adopted resolution 2149 (2014) in April 2014, which established this peacekeeping force for a period of one year.[255] The mandate of MINUSCA is to focus on priority tasks including the protection of civilians, supporting transition processes, facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid, disarmament, and supporting international justice and the rule of law.[256]

Similar missions have been established in South Sudan. In Security Council resolution 1996 (2011), adopted in July 2011, the Council determined that the situation in South Sudan was a threat to international peace and security and, as such, established the UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS).[257] The mandate of UNMISS was to support the government in peace consolidation which would lead to long-term stability in the region and economic development.[258] The mandate also included conflict prevention, protection of civilians, establishing the rule of law and strengthening local military personnel.[259] In December 2013, due to increasing violence, the SC adopted resolution 2132 (2013), which saw an increase in troops to 12,500 personnel.[260] Adopted in May 2014, SC resolution 2155 (2014) reprioritized the mandate for UNMISS to focus on the protection of civilians, human rights monitoring, and supporting the delivery of humanitarian assistance.[261]

WFP and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), with significant financial support from the United States International Development Agency (USAID), have led the food security cluster humanitarian response in CAR.[262] With the support of about 20 local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), has provided seeds and tools for over 35,000 displaced families.[263] FAO continues to provide technical assistance and direction for stabilizing agriculture efforts and methods of domestic food production while WFP focuses on providing immediate food rations. NGO partners are instrumental in the distribution of agriculture and food products to affected populations.[264]

In September 2014, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WFP, through coordination under the Cluster Approach delivered food aid and nutritional supplements in South Sudan to 500,000 people including 100,000 children under the age of 5.[265] The multi-agency response team sent experts out in the field to conflict areas and based on their assessments would radio for supplies to be delivered by air.[266] These Rapid Response Missions (RRMs), comprised of approximately eight UNICEF specialists and ten from WFP, are also able to set-up temporary clinics to vaccinate children for polio and measles and provide nutritional supplements to prevent and treat malnutrition.[267]

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[251] UN Security Council, *Situation in the Central African Republic (S/RES/2127 (2013))*, 2013.
[252] UN DPI, *Security Council Unanimously Adapting Resolution 2127 (2013) Mandates Mission in Central African Republic to Protect Civilians Restore State Authority*, 2013.
[253] UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, *MINUSCA Background*, 2014.
[254] Security Council Report, *September 2014 Monthly Forecast*, 2014.
[255] UN Security Council, *Central African Republic (S/RES/2149 (2014))*, 2014.
[256] UN Department of Public Information, *Security Council Authorizes United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission Central Africa United Nations*, 2014.
[257] UN Security Council, *Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan (S/RES/1996 (2011))*, 2011.
[258] UN Mission in Sudan, *Mandate*, 2014.
[259] Ibid.
[260] UN Security Council, *Situation in South Sudan (S/RES/2132 (2013))*, 2013.
[261] UN Security Council, *Situation in South Sudan (S/RES/2155 (2014))*, 2014.
[262] United States, *Central African Republic - Complex Emergency Fact Sheet #20*, 2014.
[263] Ibid.
[264] FAO, *Central African Republic – Executive Brief October 2014*, 2014.
[265] WFP, *UNICEF and WFP: Mission Reach More Than 500,000 in South Sudan*, 2014.
[266] Ibid.
[267] Ibid.

Protecting Vulnerable Groups

These two conflicts have not only led to an influx of refugees in neighboring countries, but also caused high levels of internal displacement. Some of these people have fled as IDPs or have taken refuge in neighboring countries where food shortages already exist.[268] In the Northern region of CAR, WFP runs a "Protracted Recovery and Relief Operation" (PRRO).[269] PRRO provides general food distribution for about 33,000 IDPs, returnees within CAR.[270] It also provides nutrition assistance to malnourished children, mothers, and caretakers.[271] In South Sudan, WFP's emergency operation aims to provide food assistance to up to 3.1 million people over two years.[272] It the aims to support high risk groups, assist in the creation of community livelihood assets to enhance food and essential services, reduce undernutrition in mother-and-child, and support education and skills training.[273] In cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), WFP has taken over responding to moderate acute malnutrition issues while UNICEF focuses on severe acute malnutrition.[274] Additionally, NGO's have played a crucial role in the support of WFP programs.

Currently, there are close to one million people displaced in South Sudan, and over half of them are children.[275] As many as 675,000 children are expected to face moderate malnutrition and 235,000 under the age of 5, are expected to face severe malnutrition.[276] UNICEF predicts that unless WFP is able to reach more children, 50,000 children under the age of five are likely to die this year due to malnutrition, making the work of the WFP and affiliates of the utmost importance.[277] WFP has been working alongside the government of CAR to provide meals to children in school as a way to provide aid while encouraging families to send their children back to school.[278] Currently in CAR, only 63% of primary school children are enrolled while nearly 80% of school-aged children overall are not in school.[279] WFP provides meals to 55,000 primary students in northern CAR and 76,000 primary students alongside 4,300 pre-school children in South Sudan.[280] This program is also piloting a new program called "prescription for food," where they are providing aid to 2,400 people living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) in CAR.[281]

Further, women are disproportionally affected by hunger and often cannot easily access food aid and humanitarian assistance.[282] Due to the conflict, many women assume the role of head of household and are responsible for feeding the remaining family members.[283] Additionally, they are subject to discrimination in the community, may not be aware of methods of receiving aid or distribution centers are inaccessible for a displaced woman. Further, women are at added risk of sexual violence and kidnapping.[284] In South Sudan, for example, nearly 60% of those seeking refuge outside of the country are women.[285] In both South Sudan and CAR, displaced women and girls' report significant concern regarding the potential for gender-based violence, particularly sexual violence.[286] Inside displaced person sites, women and girls avoid using latrines with no locks.[287] In more remote areas, many women, including pregnant and elderly women, walk up to five kilometers a day to fetch up 90 kilograms of food and risk being attacked. Further, there is a lack of qualified midwives and medical care for mothers and newborns.[288] It is

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[268] UN DPI, *UN increasingly concerned for people fleeing Central African Republic, South Sudan*, 2014.
[269] WFP, *Central African Republic- WFP Activities*, 2014.
[270] Ibid.
[271] Ibid.
[272] WFP, *South Sudan – Current Operations*, 2014.
[273] Ibid.
[274] WFP, *How WFP Fights Malnutrition*, 2014.
[275] WFP, *UNICEF and WFP Stepping Up Assistance to Desperate People in Remote Areas of South Sudan*, 2014.
[276] Ibid.
[277] Ibid.
[278] WFP, *Central African Republic- WFP Activities*, 2014.
[279] Ibid.
[280] Ibid.
[281] WFP, Central African Republic- WFP Activities, 2014.
[282] WFP, *Emergency Field Operations Pocketbook*, 2002, p. 3.
[283] Ibid.
[284] Ibid.
[285] NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, *Monthly Action Points on Women, Peace and Security*, 2014.
[286] Ibid.
[287] Ibid.
[288] Ibid.

essential that humanitarian programming in both South Sudan and CAR applies a gender lens and delivers gender-specific services and materials.[289]

WFP, with NGO partners, has required distribution centers and aid facilities to consider challenges specific to women and account for them.[290] These include creating distribution centers specifically for women, close to camps and accessible markets.[291] The threat of sexual violence has also been raised by the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Ms. Zainab Hawa Bangura. The SRSG's office has advocated for government capacity-building, and further sought to train rapid response teams to monitor and respond to protection needs of individuals at risk for, as well as survivors of, sexual violence in CAR.[292] Sexual violence is prevalent in both conflict situations and requires specific gender responsive training for humanitarian aid workers and gender-sensitive humanitarian assistance.[293]

Barriers to Access for Aid Delivery

Another challenge facing aid delivery is accessibility and lack of transportation infrastructure.[294] Two types of transport lines have been blocked in aid efforts: getting food to aid centers and getting people from rural areas to the aid centers.[295] In CAR, rainy seasons and some outbreaks of violence along main trade routes have required the WFP to search for alternative trade routes.[296] One transportation strike on the border with Cameroon caused a backlog of aid delivery to the CAR for two weeks.[297] Additionally, insecurity along the Ugandan border has also blocked many trade routes for food delivery to South Sudan.[298] Adding to these challenges is a lack of security from the state.[299] Aid workers can only enter areas where their safety is guaranteed, and as violence escalates, these areas are becoming less accessible.[300] Each year during the rainy season, 60% of South Sudan becomes inaccessible by road.[301] Combined with insecurity, this prevents aid workers from reaching most rural areas that are in great need.[302]

Another issue affecting the WFP is the looting and destruction of WFP offices and warehouses.[303] Warehouses holding enough food for thousands have been broken into and completely cleared out, and offices have been ransacked.[304] In January 2013, WFP confirmed that three sites in rebel-held cities in CAR were looted, and this looting occurred when the WFP had suspended operations due to the deteriorating security situation.[305] In South Sudan, the WFP confirmed in January 2014 that more than 3,700 tons of food was stolen.[306] This supply of food could feed 220,000 people for a month.[307]

Lack of Funding

While the WFP shares resources with humanitarian organizations and NGOs, its primary source of funding is from national governments.[308] Due to the extreme circumstance of the multiple Level 3 crisis, funding has been inadequate to cover efforts in South Sudan and CAR.[309] As of March 2014, only one-third of the funding required by

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[289] NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, *Monthly Action Points on Women, Peace and Security*, 2014.
[290] WFP, *Emergency Field Operations Pocketbook*, 2002, p. 3.
[291] Ibid.
[292] Ibid.
[293] Ibid.
[294] WFP, *Central African Republic: Situation Report #41*, 2014.
[295] Ibid.
[296] Ibid.
[297] Star Africa, *CAR-Cameroon truck drivers end strike,* 2014.
[298] WFP, *FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission to South Sudan*, 2014.
[299] Ibid.
[300] Ibid.
[301] WFP, *South Sudan: 9 Hunger Facts*, 2014.
[302] Ibid.
[303] WFP, *South Sudan: WFP Food Distributions Go On Despite Huge Challenges*, 2014.
[304] Ibid.
[305] Voice of America, *WFP Warehouse in Central African Republic Looted,* 2013.
[306] Reuters, *South Sudan Looters Steal Food to Feed 220,000 for a month: U.N.,* 2014.
[307] Ibid.
[308] WFP, *About-Funding*, 2014.
[309] Ibid.

the WFP to operate in CAR had been obtained.[310] Lack of funding for CAR has left many without assistance, and has caused food baskets to be sent incomplete and without staples such as wheat, or rice, vegetable oil, sugar, salt, and essential vitamins.[311] In July 2014, WFP Executive Director Ertharin Cousin and UN High Commission for Refugees Antonio Guterres made a joint plea for $186 million to restore rations and prevent reductions through till December 2014.[312] With 2.4 million refugees in 22 countries, the number of people needing assistance is far outpacing the level of funding for humanitarian operations.[313]

Conclusion

Recent conflicts in both South Sudan and CAR have devastated local communities and left thousands displaced and millions in need of food assistance. WFP, along with many other organizations, has been helping to solve these humanitarian crises, and food security remains to be an issue. In addition, especially vulnerable populations such as women, children and IDPs require aid delivery approaches that are designed to reach them. Further, issues such as sexual violence require specially trained humanitarian aid personnel to deliver aid effectively. WFP depends heavily on the support and collaboration with other humanitarian organizations and especially relies on a network of international and local NGOs to reach populations in need. Challenges of security, accessibility, high vulnerable populations, and lack of funding plague these missions and the WFP must seek innovative solutions to these problems.

Further Questions

When considering a Member State's position on these topics, delegates should consider several questions. How have previous relief efforts been successful, and how may they be improved? How can inter-agency cooperation between the UN and civil society be increased to have a greater impact on humanitarian efforts? How can the infrastructure of the WFP be modified to accommodate greater numbers of Level 3 or complex emergencies? What plans can be put into place to maintain food security in these regions after stability has been obtained? By addressing these questions, delegates will be able to formulate a comprehensive approach to humanitarian assistance in CAR and South Sudan.

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[310] Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice, *Special Issue # 1 on the Central African Republic*, 2014.
[311] FAO and WFP, *FAO/WFP Markets and Food Security Assessment Mission to the Central African Republic*, 2014.
[312] WFP, *Heads of WFP & UNHCR Issue Urgent Appeal as Food Shortages Hit Nearly 800,000 Refugees in Africa*, 2014.
[313] Ibid.

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> *This report is a compilation of several studies and analyses of the food security crisis in South Sudan. This report analyzes the severity of food insecurity in the region and the ability of the local populations to find means of food production and access food aid. Through this report, delegates will gain a further understanding of needs of those populations in South Sudan and the affect it has on food security in the region.*

United Nations, General Assembly. (2012). *Food Assistance Convention*. Retrieved 9 September 2014 from: https://treaties.un.org/doc/source/signature/2012/CTC_XIX-48.pdf

> *This treaty opens by acknowledging the effectiveness of the Food Aid Convention of 1999 and states outlines the many improvements that must be made to the existing protocols. These changes are seen in the emphasis placed on aid reaching vulnerable groups and the responsibility each State has towards their citizens. This document will assist delegates in understanding the current global dialogue surrounding food aid, especially for those States who are members of the Treaty.*

United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan. (2014). *Mandate* [Website]. Retrieved 15 October, 2014 from: http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/unmiss/mandate.shtml

> *UNMISS's mandate has changed over time as the conflict in South Sudan has evolved. There is a greater focus now on humanitarian assistance whereas its previous mission was more focused on governance and keeping the peace. Delegates will obtain a brief history of the evolution of the mission through this source. The coordination of response between WFP and UNMISS efforts is important to understand and build on.*

United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan. (2014). *Conflict in South Sudan: A Human Rights Report* [Report]. Retrieved 10 July 2014 from: http://www.unmiss.unmissions.org/Portals/unmiss/Human%20Rights%20Reports/UNMISS%20Conflict%20in%20South%20Sudan%20-%20A%20Human%20Rights%20Report.pdf

> *This link is the Human Rights Report of the United Nations Mission to the Republic of South Sudan. The report provides a detailed description of the events leading up to the violence in South Sudan and a description of the conflict itself, describing in detail all of the human rights abuses involved. This report provides a reliable source of information based on over 900 interviews with civilians and government officials, medical records, forensic analysis, and review of video and photographic evidence.*

United Nations, Department of Peacekeeping Operations. (2014). *MINUSCA Background* [Website]. Retrieved 15 October 2014 from: http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/minusca/background.shtml

> *This mission was established subsequent to the African-led peacekeeping force in CAR. This source will provide updated information on the number of troops that have been deployed to the region and the challenges that the mission faces in resolving the crisis in CAR. It also provides a good sense of the level of combines UN intervention in this conflict and allows delegates to understand the divisions of responsibilities between peacekeeping forces and humanitarian aid organizations in delivering humanitarian aid.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2014). *Central African Republic: Situation Report #41* [Report]. Retrieved 11 July 2014 from: http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/ep/wfp266156.pdf

> *This document is the most up to date report from WFP regarding aid delivery in the CAR. In this document, the most recent statistics on the number of people who have received WFP aid (over 250,000 monthly) and the most recent initiatives are delineated. The WFP has embraced a back to school program and provided children with daily school lunches. Some of the newer challenges facing aid delivery are evident, most importantly transportation and what appears to be imminent famine. For example, rain has delayed food trucks by several days, and a challenge at the border with Cameroon kept aid out of the country for several days.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2014, September 30). *UNICEF and WFP: Mission Reach More Than 500,000 in South Sudan* [Article]. Retrieved 15 October 2014 from: https://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/unicef-and-wfp-missions-reach-more-500000-south-sudan
> This article outlines how UNICEF and WFP have reached rural or difficult to reach groups in South Sudan. The accessibility to air transportation has allowed aid workers to hike into communities in order to provide humanitarian assistance to individuals that cannot travel to main cities. This source will guide delegates to more innovative ways of supporting remote populations.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2014). *UNICEF and WFP Stepping Up Assistance To Desperate People In Remote Areas Of South Sudan* [Article]. Retrieved on 10 July 2014 from: http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/unicef-and-wfp-stepping-assistance-desperate-people-remote-areas-south-sudan
> This report is the most recent update on the assistance being provided to people in South Sudan. This report describes the most recent initiatives in the country. The new foci of the mission have become helping children, particularly under the age of 5, and reaching rural areas. This report describes how many people in rural areas have to travel for many days to reach cities where aid is delivered. This report is extremely important for understanding issues related to access for vulnerable populations and highlights how WFP works with another UN agency to deliver aid.

Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice. (2014). *Special Issue # 1 on the Central African Republic*. Retrieved 03 September 2014 from: http://www.iccwomen.org/news/docs/WI-WomVoices7-14/WomVoices7-14.html#1
> This page gives a detailed description and timeline of events leading up to the conflict in Central African Republic, and describes the current situation in the State. This page is excellent for getting a thorough background and understanding of the conflict, and it provides numerous other sources to draw from. Delegates will also be able to review and explore some of the challenges faced by civilians in the conflict.

World Health Organization. (2014). *Moderate Malnutrition* [Website]. Retrieved 15 October from: http://www.who.int/nutrition/topics/moderate_malnutrition/en/
> Treating moderate malnutrition can prevents deaths and reduces the long-term impacts of nutrition-related health issues. WFP is the main UN agency that deals with moderate cases of malnutrition. This source guides delegates in gaining a better understanding of moderate malnutrition and the technical aspect of WFP food aid targets of keeping populations with access to basic sustenance and the priorities of food aid delivery.

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III. Disaster Risk Management and Food Security in Natural Disaster Situations

"We do not see many references these days to the food crisis in the news. It has been eclipsed by economic fears. But we are still not out of the woods. I call it our forgotten crisis - because it has not gone away."[314]

Introduction

The United Nations Office of Disaster Risk Management (UNISDR) defines "disaster" as a "serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources."[315] UNISDR notes that disasters are caused by natural hazards, which are "natural process[es] or phenomen[a] that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage."[316] Natural hazards leading to disaster situations directly affect the food security of the local population; in particular, environmental damage can directly reduce or eliminate food supplies, leading to short-term food shortage.[317] Further, economic disruption from a disaster can result in price instability and rapid inflation within the food market, which can cause at risk individuals to lose access to the nutrition needed to lead a successful life.[318]

The World Food Programme (WFP) is responsible for providing assistance, capacity, and expertise in regards to food security, which "exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life."[319] Key factors include "availability, access, utilization, and stability," as well as nutrition.[320] WFP's mission to promote food security is severely affected in regions that have experienced a natural disaster and in fragile ecosystems that experience particularly heavy natural hazards.[321]

Hydrologic meteorological disasters have the greatest negative impact on food security and nutrition for the most at risk and impoverished individuals.[322] These types of disasters include long-term under-abundance of water in the form of drought and sudden overabundance of water after a flood, tsunami, or hurricane.[323] Concerted efforts by the international community to manage disaster risk and respond to natural hazards are essential to meet food security-related goals such as the Secretary-General's Zero Hunger Challenge, which was issued during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in 2012 to highlight aspects of poverty and hunger that must be eliminated in a world of plenty.[324]

International and Regional Framework

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) elaborate on the need for food security.[325] MDG 1 specifically correlates with WFP's mission to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.[326] This goal consists of three major targets; of these, Target 1.C of MDG 1 aims to "halve… the proportion of people suffering from hunger" by 2015.[327] While progress has been made, there are still approximately 805 million people suffering from chronic

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[314] UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, *Secretary-General's remarks to Rio+20 Conference Ceremonial Opening Session,* 2009.
[315] UNISDR, *Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2009, p. 9.
[316] Ibid., p. 20.
[317] WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017)*, 2013.
[318] Ibid.
[319] FAO, *Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security*, 2009, p. 1.
[320] Ibid.
[321] WFP, *About: Mission Statement*; WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017)*, 2013.
[322] UNISDR, *Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2009, p. 20.
[323] UNISDR, *Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2009, p. 20; Devereux, *The Impact of Droughts and Floods on Food Security and Policy Options to Alleviate Negative Effects*, 2007.
[324] UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, *Secretary-General's remarks to Rio+20 Conference Ceremonial Opening Session,* 2009.
[325] UN Department of Public Information, *Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty & hunger*.
[326] Ibid.
[327] Ibid.

undernourishment.[328] Additionally, progress in this arena faces setbacks, particularly when encountering the varied challenges of disaster response.[329]

The United Nations (UN) General Assembly declared the decade from 1990-1999 to be the *International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction*.[330] Goals of the decade focused on decreasing the loss of life, property destruction, and social and economic disruption caused by natural disasters, and its mid-decade conference in Yokohama laid out specific goals and targets for the reduction of the impact of natural disasters on persons worldwide.[331] The outcome document from this conference, the *Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World* (1994), called for the strengthening of sub-regional, regional, and international cooperation to "prevent, reduce, and mitigate natural disasters."[332] In 2005, the World Conference on Disaster Reduction adopted the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015*, which continues to provide the basis for disaster risk reduction and response within the UN system.[333] The *Hyogo Framework for Action* highlights five major areas to be addressed, including effective preparedness for response to and recovery from natural disasters, which falls within WFP's purview.[334] The *Hyogo Framework for Action* emphasizes the high disaster cost to the poor, particularly in the context of increased unplanned urbanization, an endemic problem that decreases food security as urban poor often have difficulty obtaining foodstuffs during disaster situations when food prices are prone to rapid change.[335]

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's Zero Hunger Challenge of 1 June 2012 is particularly relevant to disaster situations in which food security faces more compound challenges.[336] The Zero Hunger Challenge highlights five major goals: zero stunted children under the age of two; 100% access to adequate food year-round, universal food system sustainability; a 100% increase in smallholder productivity and income; and zero food loss or waste.[337] UN agencies, including WFP, have worked in partnership with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) to support the Zero Hunger Challenge.[338] On 25 September 2014, a High-Level Side Event was held during the 69th regular session of the General Assembly to demonstrate the impact of the Zero Hunger Challenge.[339] The meeting examined the progress made towards the targets of MDG 1 and the Zero Hunger Challenge; while the global percentage of individuals suffering from hunger has fallen by more than 40% since 1990, there are still 805 million people who are chronically undernourished.[340] The High-Level Side Event noted the success of programs in Brazil and the Caribbean that had dramatically reduced hunger and called for Member States, civil society groups, and NGOs to continue working together to realize the goals of the Zero Hunger Challenge.[341]

In 2014, the Open Working Group (OWG) of the General Assembly on SDGs completed a final report that proposed 17 SDGs and 169 targets to guide the post-2015 development agenda.[342] Disaster risk reduction is a key component of the proposed SDGs, the second of which is to "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture."[343] SDG 2 includes a target to "ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality."[344] SDG 11, which is to "Make cities and human settlements

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[328] FAO, *The State of Food Insecurity in the World*, 2014.
[329] WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017)*, 2013, p. 10.
[330] UN General Assembly, *International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (A/RES/44/236)*, 1989, p. 2.
[331] Ibid.
[332] UN World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, *Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World*, 1994, p. 3.
[333] UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction, *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters*, 2005.
[334] Ibid.
[335] Ibid., p. 3.
[336] UN Department of Public Information, *Rio+20: Secretary-General challenges nations to achieve 'zero hunger'*, 2012.
[337] UN Department of Public Information, *Zero Hunger Challenge*.
[338] UN Department of Public Information, *Rio+20: Secretary-General challenges nations to achieve 'zero hunger'*, 2012.
[339] FAO, *Zero Hunger is not just a dream, says FAO Director-General*, 2014.
[340] FAO, *The State of Food Insecurity in the World*, 2014.
[341] FAO, *Zero Hunger is not just a dream, says FAO Director-General*, 2014.
[342] UN DESA, *General Assembly adopts resolution on SDGs report*, 2014.
[343] UN General Assembly, *Report of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals (A/68/970)*, 2014, p. 11.
[344] Ibid., pp. 11-12.

inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable," incorporates targets to improve disaster resilience and risk management and to reduce deaths, people affected, and economic losses resulting from "disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations."[345] On 10 September 2014, the General Assembly adopted a resolution confirming that the proposed SDGs would constitute "the basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda."[346]

Role of the International System

As the food aid arm of the UN, WFP's most substantial contribution to food security comes from food aid and missions to 75 countries worldwide.[347] Food aid is especially critical for countries and regions suffering from a natural disaster, and a key element of WFP's mission is to provide targeted interventions for the most at risk individuals.[348] WFP works primarily with the other Rome-based agencies (RBAs), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which focuses on technical agricultural expertise, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), which provides financial assistance to foster resilience and response to natural disasters.[349] The Rome-based agencies contribute substantively to the UN's development efforts: FAO provides agricultural expertise, IFAD provides financial support, and WFP provides necessary food aid and logistical support.[350] The RBAs have also adopted a list of targets and indicators for post-2015 development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).[351] The targets and indicators mirror the Secretary-General's Zero Hunger Challenge and elaborate on the metrics for realizing a world free from hunger.[352]

In addition to immediate aid rendered to vulnerable communities and countries, WFP combines efforts with other UN agencies, NGOs, and IGOs to reduce the overall need for food aid interventions by increasing precautions and preparedness for natural disasters and building the response capacity at the sub-regional, regional, and international levels.[353] WFP facilitates response, reduction, and rebuilding activities by bringing in other actors to supplement the multifaceted process of disaster risk management, reduction, and response to reduce vulnerability and build lasting resilience.[354] For example, the "Scaling Up Nutrition" movement and the "Renewed Effort to Address Child Hunger and Undernutrition" (REACH) partnership allow WFP, other UN agencies, NGOs, civil society, and the private sector to manage nutrition programs and safety net systems linked to local agricultural supply chains.[355]

In order to continue the work on MDG 1 and to facilitate the transition to sustainable development, WFP identified four strategic objectives for 2014-2017: "save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies; support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies; reduce risk and enable people, communities and countries to meet their own food and nutrition needs; and reduce undernutrition and break the intergenerational cycle of hunger."[356] WFP noted that adjusting to crises from price instability, meteorological disasters, and other types of natural disasters in volatile fragile environments constitute a significant challenge to accomplishing these objectives.[357]

In 2008, a global food price crisis resulted from increased demand from a growing population coupled with reduced crops available for consumption, attributed to maize use for ethanol, and structural and transport issues within developing Member States.[358] Consequently, the UN assumed a leadership role with respect to food security

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[345] UN General Assembly, *Report of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals (A/68/970)*, 2014, p. 18.
[346] UN General Assembly, *Report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/288 (A/68/L.61)*, 2014.
[347] WFP, *Our Work: Operations List*, 2014.
[348] WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017),* 2013.
[349] WFP, *About: Rome-Based UN Agencies*.
[350] UN Department of Public Information, *Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty & hunger*.
[351] UN General Assembly, *The future we want (A/RES/66/288)*, 2012; FAO et al., *Post-2015 Development Agenda: Rome-based Agencies—Targets and Indicators*, 2014.
[352] FAO et al., *Post-2015 Development Agenda: Rome-based Agencies—Targets and Indicators*, 2014.
[353] WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017)*, 2013, p. 11.
[354] Ibid., p. 10.
[355] Ibid., pp. 4, 11.
[356] Ibid., p. 4.
[357] Ibid., p. 8.
[358] UN HLTF, *Background*, 2011.

practices that led to the creation of the Secretary-General's High-Level Task Force (HLTF) on the Global Food Security Crisis.[359] The HLTF created a Comprehensive Framework for Action in July 2008 and followed up with a Programme of Work for 2009 that specifically examined both immediate intervention efforts and long-term investment strategies.[360] The HLTF updated the Comprehensive Framework for Action in 2010 to include responses to natural disasters and address the necessity for providing both immediate food aid and assistance with long-term capacity-building and risk reduction strategies in vulnerable locations worldwide.[361]

The UN disaster response and mitigation organization, UNISDR, works within the context of the MDGs and the discussions on the SDGs.[362] UNISDR is the focal point for disaster reduction efforts in the UN system; its tasks include disaster risk reduction and building disaster-resistant cities, hospitals, and schools, while increasing the strength of the response of the international community during disaster situations.[363] UNISDR accomplishes these tasks through four distinct sets of actions: coordination of disaster preparedness and response; campaigning to emphasize the necessity for disaster resilience in all Member States; advocating for women and children in disaster recovery, the need to address climate change, and sustainable development projects; and informing relevant stakeholders through publications on disaster events, terminology, and statistics, as well as the maintenance of PreventionWeb, a natural disaster information database.[364]

The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) provides critical coordination between stakeholders in disaster situations, advocates for people in need, promotes disaster preparedness and prevention, and facilitates the achievement of sustainable solutions in regions with high natural hazard risk.[365] OCHA accomplishes its coordinating purpose by reducing overlap between responses from UN and non-UN organizations through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Cluster Approach.[366] The Cluster Approach groups different UN and non-UN agencies that respond to one particular aspect of disaster recovery within one "cluster" in order to provide coordinated, targeted, and non-overlapping relief across all aspects of disaster relief, including food security; water, sanitation and hygiene; logistics; and nutrition.[367] This approach streamlines and facilitates the work of agencies with similar priorities within a disaster region.[368]

The World Trade Organization (WTO) works to promote food security in conjunction with UN organizations and other IGOs.[369] The majority of the WTO's work on food security involves market forces and price volatility; to that end, the WTO participates, along with several other organizations including WFP, in the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS).[370] The structure of AMIS aims to accomplish agricultural market price stability through five major initiatives: first, a market monitor that tracks the current trends in international food markets; second, analyses of issues that relate to international food markets, including energy markets and investment mechanisms; third, statistical data gathering and analysis of production, trade, and agricultural commodities to predict future trends; fourth, strengthening capacity by providing workshops, training sessions, and technical expertise to nations at risk; and fifth, engaging policymakers in outreach and dialogue that focuses on reducing price volatility worldwide.[371] AMIS provides relevant analytical expertise to explain price volatility in the agricultural market, which increases with duress from disaster events; solving pricing concerns would provide a critical piece for increasing food security in natural disaster situations.[372]

Addressing the incredibly broad and context-dependent problem of food security in disaster situations requires partnering with members of civil society that have access to knowledge, infrastructure and support that would

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[359] UN HLTF, *Background*, 2011.
[360] Ibid.
[361] UN HLTF, *Updated Comprehensive Framework for Action*, 2010, p. 2.
[362] WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017)*, 2013, p. 11.
[363] UNISDR, *Our Mandate*.
[364] UNISDR, *What we do*.
[365] OCHA, *Who we are*.
[366] OCHA, *Cluster Coordination*.
[367] OCHA, *Humanitarian Response: What is the Cluster Approach?*
[368] Ibid.
[369] WTO, *Food Security*, 2014.
[370] Ibid.
[371] Agricultural Market Information System, *About AMIS*, 2014.
[372] WFP, *WFP Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management*, 2011.

otherwise be unavailable to WFP.[373] Activities in which civil society partners complement or assist WFP include asset creation, nutrition, general food distribution, school feeding, and capacity development.[374] WFP collaborated with 1,392 NGOs in 2013, and increasing the speed and efficiency of combined response efforts remains essential to WFP's work in food security, disaster risk reduction, and disaster recovery.[375] At the 2013 Annual WFP Partnership Consultation, NGO and civil society partners reviewed the effectiveness of WFP's efforts to increase the speed of disaster response by streamlining and simplifying coordination between relevant actors.[376] Representatives from World Vision International, the Cash Learning Partnership, and Right to Play called for regular consultation between WFP and NGOs on an ad hoc basis in order to effectively respond to fluid crises rapidly.[377] Opportunities for further collaboration remain, as NGOs and WFP noted that there are no formal regional response structures to coordinate NGOs and civil society in disaster risk reduction, disaster response, or disaster recovery.[378]

UNISDR maintains two major networks for coordinating NGOs and civil society stakeholders in addition to PreventionWeb: the Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR) and the Community Practitioners' Platform for Resilience (CPPR).[379] GNDR seeks to connect civil society organizations across all decision-making levels in order to effectively implement disaster risk reduction strategies.[380] CPPR aims to connect grassroots community-based groups seeking to increase their resilience and reduce their vulnerability to climate and natural hazards in rural and urban areas.[381]

Disaster Risk Management

Disaster risk management refers to "the systematic process of using administrative directives, organizations, and operational skills and capacities to implement strategies, policies and improved coping capacities in order to lessen the adverse impacts of hazards and the possibility of disaster."[382] According to UNISDR, disaster risk reduction includes activities such as response training and preparedness, infrastructure improvements, and emergency planning.[383] Disaster risk management differs from disaster response in both time frame and scope; disaster risk management occurs prior to disasters to increase capacity and reduce the impact of potential disasters, while disaster response occurs after a disaster begins and involves responding to the humanitarian needs of those affected.[384] In 2011, WFP published the *Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management*, laying out high-level policy responses to food insecurity caused by both natural and man-made disasters.[385] The policy is designed to build "the resilience and capacity of the most vulnerable people, communities and countries, by working to ensure food and nutrition security while reducing disaster risk and protecting and enhancing lives and livelihoods."[386]

Preparation

Disaster preparedness, particularly capacity-building efforts such as building grain storage or constructing watershed management infrastructure like levees and dams, simultaneously reduces the risk of flood events and of droughts while providing a more stable food and water supply to at risk regions.[387] WFP currently uses two major operations to provide emergency food aid, ensure continued increase in productive capacity, and increase economic and agricultural resilience, ideally leading to faster recoveries and reduced reliance on emergency food aid.[388] WFP's Food Assistance for Assets operation incentivizes activities that reduce a community's risk and susceptibility to disasters by providing food vouchers or cash transfers for work on irrigation and water systems, storage facility

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[373] WFP, *WFP Collaboration with Civil Society Partners: 2013 Facts & Figures*, 2013.
[374] Ibid.
[375] Ibid.
[376] WFP, *Annual WFP Partnership Consultation 2013: The Spirit of True Partnership*, 2013, p. 2.
[377] Ibid.
[378] Ibid.
[379] UNISDR, *Civil Society Organizations*.
[380] Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction, *Who We Are*.
[381] Huairou Commission, *Community Practitioners Platform*, 2010.
[382] UNISDR, *Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2009.
[383] Ibid.
[384] WFP, *WFP Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management*, 2011.
[385] Ibid., p. 3.
[386] Ibid., p. 3.
[387] Ibid., p. 3.
[388] Ibid., p. 3.

construction, and infrastructural upgrades to increase the efficiency of transit and reduce waste from spoilage.[389] Additionally, the WFP operation Purchase for Progress (P4P) seeks to reward smallholder farmers, particularly women, by using WFP's purchasing power to buy surplus grains and foodstuffs from smallholders for use in food assistance and food aid projects worldwide.[390] The dual benefits of P4P are food aid for those facing hunger and increased stability through the form of profits for smallholders, which allow smallholders to invest in equipment and advance their farms.[391] P4P also facilitates information sharing by connecting smallholders with technical expertise and access to markets for any surplus product.[392]

WFP also undertakes special initiatives that aim to increase the resilience of communities in targeted regions.[393] For example, WFP launched an "Action Research Trial" in 2013 to educate farmers in sub-Saharan Africa on farming and food storage techniques.[394] All 400 farmers selected for the trial reduced their food wastage by 98% or more.[395] The trial provides an example of effective capacity-building in at risk locations and demonstrates that improving food storage capacity reduces the risks presented by long-term drought and other natural hazards.[396] Improved disaster preparedness increases food stability in disaster situations.[397]

Response
Disaster response by WFP encompasses assessment of need, emergency food or cash response, and long-term recovery tactics.[398] Following a natural disaster, WFP designs an Emergency Operation (EMOP) that considers the need of an affected area and the best aid and types of programs for the given situation.[399] Some situations will benefit from aid in exchange for work; other more desperate situations require direct food assistance.[400] WFP often acts with NGOs and state actors during response missions.[401] For example, in June 2014, Colombia and WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a cooperative alliance for disaster response in the area.[402] Pursuant to the memorandum, WFP donated supplies to Colombia for raising the country's capability to respond to emergencies, and both parties agreed to share knowledge and information in order to "save lives and protect livelihoods during emergencies."[403]

Women, Children, and Disaster Risk Management
Food insecurity during disaster situations affects women and children disproportionately.[404] The negative effects of drought on children include an increased likelihood of malnourishment, below average height and weight, and stunted growth in the first two years of life.[405] Another effect of disaster is the increased incidence of gender-based violence, which may result from an increase in high risk male coping mechanisms such as alcohol consumption, the frequent exclusion of women from the post-disaster decision-making process, or stressed or non-functional justice systems in post-disaster situations.[406] Finally, gender-based violence may also increase because of overcrowding, as individuals move to areas of shelter from disaster events, which leads to a relative reduction in law enforcement and judicial response as demand for response services increases.[407] Gender-based violence in post-disaster situations and the particular risk faced by women smallholder farmers is reflected in both the *Hyogo Framework for Action* and WFP's Strategic Plan for 2014-2017, which recognizes that women face additional risk of violence and extreme

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[389] WFP, *Our Work: Food Assistance for Assets*, 2014.
[390] WFP, *Our Work: Purchase for Progress*, 2014.
[391] Ibid.
[392] Ibid.
[393] WFP, *How Can Reducing Post-Harvest Losses Support Food Security?*, 2014.
[394] Ibid.
[395] Ibid.
[396] WFP, *Our Work: Purchase for Progress*, 2014.
[397] WFP, *WFP Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management*, 2011, p. 3.
[398] WFP, *About: Mission Statement*.
[399] WFP, *Emergency Operations (EMOPs)*.
[400] Ibid.
[401] WFP, *Colombia: WFP and the Disaster and Risk Management Unit Agree to Strengthen Emergency Response Capacities*, 2014.
[402] Ibid.
[403] Ibid.
[404] WFP, *WFP Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management*, 2011.
[405] Ibid., p. 5; UN Department of Public Information, *Zero Hunger Challenge*.
[406] UNISDR, *Guidance Note on Recovery: Gender*, 2010, p. 13.
[407] United States Gender & Disaster Resilience Alliance, *Mitigating gender violence*, 2014.

poverty in disaster and post-disaster situations, particularly when women are broadly left out of recovery and risk reduction planning efforts.[408]

Weather Index Insurance

Smallholders and at risk persons, such as women and children living in particularly fragile ecosystems, often take conservative, risk-averse approaches to disaster preparation.[409] Smallholders are likely to save any surplus resources to prepare for disaster events, instead of investing resources with the goal of increasing overall yields.[410] These practices focus primarily on short-term sustainability at the expense of long-term capacity for disaster mitigation and economic growth.[411] This restricts at risk populations to a perpetual condition of stagnant defense and vulnerability, rather than promoting investment, growth, and increased resiliency.[412] In response, Weather Index Insurance, a financial product that smallholder and at risk farmers may purchase, functions to provide farmers, in particular smallholders that face recurring risk from droughts and floods, with a mechanism to mitigate risk.[413] Weather Index Insurance is a financial risk management product analogous to many other types of insurance; the individual purchases the insurance and becomes a part of a shared risk group.[414] In exchange for manageable payments, the insured shareholder may file a claim when affected by a disaster event and receive relief in some form from the result of the disaster.[415] Challenges to implementing Weather Index Insurance include creating real value for the insured, making smallholders aware of insurance options and products, and accessing international risk-transfer markets.[416]

Climate Change

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change defines climate change as "a change in the state of the climate that can be identified (e.g., by using statistical tests) by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties, and that persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer."[417] Climate change threatens food security, as it "result[s] in more frequent and intensive disasters" that already jeopardize the food security of vulnerable, agriculture-dependent regions.[418] Each year between 2000 and 2007, 230 million people were affected by natural disasters, 98% of which were climate-related.[419] The outcome document of Rio+20, entitled *The Future We Want*, emphasized the need for developing sustainable growth practices, particularly in response to climate change.[420] In light of the increasing frequency of climate-related emergencies, "effective disaster risk management needs to consider changing climate risk patterns" in relation to both long-term global shifts and short-term climate disasters.[421]

Disaster Information Systems

PreventionWeb, a knowledge and information sharing web platform, aims to reduce the effects of food insecurity crises caused by natural disasters.[422] PreventionWeb maintains country-by-country information for citizens, governments, and non-governmental organizations on disasters and disaster response projects in countries affected by disasters.[423] PreventionWeb also serves as a means for institutional and individual authors to share their work and disseminate information related to disaster risk reduction.[424] For example, as part of the United Nations

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[408] WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017)*, 2013.
[409] WFP & IFAD, *The Potential for Scale and Sustainability in Weather Index Insurance,* 2010; WFP & IFAD, *Weather Index-based Insurance in Agricultural Development*, 2010.
[410] WFP & IFAD, *The Potential for Scale and Sustainability in Weather Index Insurance*, 2010.
[411] Ibid.
[412] Ibid., p. 4.
[413] Ibid., p. 1.
[414] Ibid., p. 4.
[415] Ibid.
[416] Ibid., p. 1.
[417] UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report*, 2007.
[418] WFP, *How Climate Change Affects Hunger,* 2014; FAO, *Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management*, 2008; UNISDR, *Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2009, p. 6.
[419] FAO, *Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management*, 2008.
[420] Ibid.
[421] Ibid.
[422] UNISDR, *About PreventionWeb*, 2014.
[423] Ibid.
[424] Ibid.

Development Program's (UNDP) follow-up meeting to the *Hyogo Framework for Action*, the first section of a report, *At Risk: Natural hazards, people's vulnerability and disasters*, was made public on PreventionWeb.[425] The report addressed several concerns and critiques of the *Hyogo Framework for Action* and suggested changes for increased efficacy.[426]

Early warning systems provide another possible lifesaving resource to Member States.[427] In particular, early warning systems for emerging drought conditions provide Member States with the ability to plan and manage dwindling water resources in order to avoid compounding a drought with a food shortage caused by resource mismanagement.[428] In 2011, WFP launched the new Humanitarian Early Warning Service (HEWS), which provides real-time information on a variety of natural hazards and disasters worldwide.[429] The HEWS provides alerts for droughts, floods, extreme weather events, tsunamis, earthquakes, and other natural disasters, and delivers updates as conditions change.[430] This provides global, regional, and local actors with information to strengthen disaster response efforts, thereby reducing the overall impact of disasters from natural hazards.[431]

Improving Water Security

A state of water security entails universal access to water in amounts sufficient enough for a healthy and productive lifestyle.[432] Water security is generally achieved through water management strategies, including regulating limited water resources, preparing for floods, and allaying the effects of droughts, which all directly affect food security and disaster reduction and mitigation.[433]

For the countries of the Near East and North Africa where water availability is tenuous, water management is particularly important.[434] In June 2013, FAO launched a pilot water management initiative in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Oman, Tunisia, and Yemen.[435] The pilot program focuses on sharing best water management practices between states and highlights areas that can be managed with good governance and increased awareness.[436] By focusing on water capacity-building and drought mitigation, the pilot program works to reduce disaster risk caused by drought.[437] Several countries in Africa further collaborated on water scarcity issues during the Sixth World Water Forum, creating the Partnership for Strengthening Water Security in Africa.[438] The Partnership fosters the sharing of resources and techniques to manage scarce water, particularly in rural areas and sanitation efforts to increase water utilization.[439] Successful water management is central to food security; access to and use of water by smallholders increases resilience of the most impoverished and at risk individuals.[440] The Global Water Initiative in East Africa launched a five-year plan to review and increase the capacity of rainfed water systems, greenwater, surface water in lakes or rivers, and groundwater or bluewater systems in a way that will benefit smallholder capacity and resilience by providing additional and stable sources of water resources needed for agricultural production.[441]

Livelihoods, Early Assessment and Protection in Ethiopia
WFP's Livelihoods, Early Assessment and Protection (LEAP) partnership in Ethiopia has provided experience and insight into the challenges and possible solutions to water scarcity and drought conditions.[442] Ethiopia's high risk for drought was emphasized by the Ethiopian government in 2004 with the passage of the Productive Safety Net

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[425] Wisner et al., *At Risk: Natural hazards, people's vulnerabilities and disasters*, 2003.
[426] Ibid.
[427] UNISDR, *About PreventionWeb*, 2014.
[428] WFP, *WFP Launches Redesigned Humanitarian Early Warning Service*, 2011.
[429] Ibid; UN Inter-Agency Task Team on Preparedness and Resilience, *Humanitarian Early Warning Service*.
[430] WFP, *WFP Launches Redesigned Humanitarian Early Warning Service*, 2011.
[431] Ibid.
[432] FAO, *Impact of Water Scarcity on Food Security a Priority for Near East and North Africa Meeting*, 2014.
[433] Ibid.
[434] Ibid.
[435] Ibid.
[436] Ibid.
[437] African Development Bank Group, *Sixth World Water Forum-Partnership for Strengthening Water Security in Africa*, 2012.
[438] Ibid.
[439] Ibid.
[440] FAO, *Impact of Water Scarcity on Food Security a Priority for Near East and North Africa Meeting*, 2014.
[441] Global Water Initiative – East Africa, *Global Water Initiative – East Africa: Secure Water for Smallholder Agriculture*, 2014.
[442] WFP, *Livelihoods, Early Assessment and Protection Project*, 2014.

Program (PSNP).[443] The PSNP encouraged participation of smallholder farmers through a combination of "predictable multi-year assistance" and community capacity-building.[444] The PSNP encourages individuals to participate in capacity-building efforts by rewarding community infrastructure and asset building with food or cash transfer programs.[445] LEAP was subsequently developed in 2008 by the Ethiopian government in concert with WFP and the World Bank.[446] LEAP expands the PSNP program by providing a fund managed by the World Bank that can be accessed at the early stages of a drought event.[447] LEAP itself is an early warning tool that uses data based on projected yields for farm and range land under the given climate data; this is then cross-referenced with population information, resulting in a highly accurate estimate of the number of individuals who will be in need of assistance.[448] In addition to accurate and predictive modeling through the LEAP program, Ethiopia benefits from more efficient disbursement of funds; if crisis response is rapid, the amount of resources required to provide food aid and food security is far less than when crisis response is slower and more reactive.[449] LEAP ultimately enables Ethiopia, by leveraging the expertise and capability of WFP and the World Bank, to move from disaster response towards disaster risk management, by building capacity and responding to natural hazards before they result in disaster events.[450]

Conclusion

Disasters affect all aspects of food security for more than 200 million people annually, presenting a serious challenge to sustainable development that requires an integrative approach incorporating the expertise of organizations specializing in poverty reduction, good governance, and disaster risk reduction.[451] WFP works on two levels to ensure food security in natural disaster situations: first, by providing immediate food aid to individuals at highest risk; and second, by working with the Rome-based agencies to increase resilience and capacity in developing communities through incentivizing capacity-building activities and mitigating risk factors for the most disadvantaged smallholders, particularly women and children.[452] Global food security and disaster relief and reduction are primary concerns of the *Hyogo Framework for Action*, WFP's *Strategic Plan for 2014-2017*, and the SDGs.[453] As the UN transitions from the MDGs to the SDGs, the Secretary-General's Zero Hunger Challenge will continue to motivate the international community to fill the gaps in policy and response that previous frameworks overlooked.[454]

Further Research

How can Weather Index Insurance be implemented to provide food aid in natural disaster situations? What is the most effective manner to address, prepare for, and respond to the varied disasters from natural hazards on a global scale? What is the ideal role of WFP in disaster risk reduction and food security? How can WFP coordinate more effectively with civil society? How can WFP assist Member States with the transition from short-term disaster response to long-term disaster risk management? What are ideal methods for addressing water scarcity and resource scarcity in relation to food security? How does the Secretary-General's Zero Hunger Challenge inform WFP's approach to disaster response? What is the relationship between disaster risk reduction and sustainable development?

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[444] Ibid.

[445] Ibid.

[446] Ibid

[447] Ibid.

[448] Ibid.

[449] Ibid.

[450] Ibid.

[451] UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction, *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters*, 2005, p. 3.

[452] WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017)*, 2013.

[453] Ibid.

[454] UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, *Secretary-General's remarks to Rio+20 Conference Ceremonial Opening Session*, 2009; UN Global Survey for a Better World, *The World We Want*, 2014.

Devereux, S. (2007). *The Impact of Droughts and Floods on Food Security and Policy Options to Alleviate Negative Effects*. United Nations Children's Fund. Retrieved 12 July 2014 from:
http://www.unicef.org/socialpolicy/files/The_Impact_of_Droughts_and_Floods_on_Food_Security.pdf
> *This will provide delegates with an in-depth understanding of the manifold problems caused by both droughts and floods, and the impact each event has on food security. The document highlights drought and flood impact combined with fluctuations in agricultural market prices as a major source of food insecurity. It also provides basic ideas for policy solutions to the problems caused by droughts and floods.*

United Nations Global Survey for a Better World. (2014). *The World We Want* [Website]. Retrieved 6 August 2014 from: http://www.worldwewant2015.org
> *Delegates will find this website incredibly useful for aggregating research done by the UN, NGOs, and IGOs on the SDGs. The website displays data and data linkages in a way that provides an ease and fluidity to research about the greatly interrelated problems of food security and disaster. The source provides delegates with a rich and dynamic set of data on the topic of food security as well as disasters and disaster relief efforts.*

United Nations, General Assembly, Sixty-sixth session. (2012). *The future we want (A/RES/66/288)*. Retrieved 22 July 2014 from: http://undocs.org/A/RES/66/288
> *This resolution is a critical document for all delegates to read. It lays out the intended goals for post-2015 sustainable development, particularly the necessity to end extreme poverty and hunger. It addresses the necessity for sustainable development in all countries and the particular challenges that are faced by small and developing countries.*

United Nations, Inter-Agency Task Team on Preparedness and Resilience. (n.d.). *Humanitarian Early Warning Service*. Retrieved 28 July 2014 from: http://www.hewsweb.org/hp/
> *This website provides real-time information on natural hazards and disasters. The website includes an interactive map on global natural disasters by type and severity. The website demonstrates the benefits of a comprehensive early warning system, which allows for the development of further strategies for disaster response in at risk and food-insecure locations.*

United Nations, World Food Programme & International Fund for Agricultural Development. (2010). *The Potential for Scale and Sustainability in Weather Index Insurance* [Report]. Retrieved 9 July 2014 from:
http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/communications/wfp220176.pdf
> *This document focuses on the primary natural disaster that adversely impacts food security: drought. Delegates learn of one possible solution: Weather Index Insurance, a system that would insure rural farmers by measuring rainfall and other inputs in order to provide a scaled response to drought conditions. Delegates will find this document useful as an example of disaster risk management and reduction; it provides an example of action that can be taken to mitigate the effects of drought.*

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http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/communications/wfp242409.pdf
> *Following up on the potential of Weather Index Insurance, IFAD and WFP provide this technical document which assesses the two pilot Weather Index Insurance programs in China and Ethiopia. This technical guide provides delegates with an in-depth primer on the success and challenges facing Weather Index Insurance. When addressing food insecurity resulting from drought, Weather Index Insurance pursued by WFP and IFAD through the Weather Risk Management Facility provides an intriguing solution.*

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http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/newsroom/wfp247914.pdf
> *This document provides a critical resource to delegates on the current policy of WFP with respect to disaster risk reduction and food security. The document lays out the high-level strategy of WFP for addressing natural disasters. The document assesses the problems from natural disasters,*

specifically drought, and details responses from the Hyogo Framework for Action and *the Rome-based agencies' response plans.*

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> *This strategic plan is a crucial resource for delegates. It highlights WFP's broad strategic goals and notes where WFP is currently, as well as the strengths and future requirements of WFP. The document highlights upcoming challenges and notes that WFP is mandated with bringing together multiple agencies to accomplish food relief and food security goals.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2014). *Livelihoods, Early Assessment and Protection*. Retrieved 11 July 2014 from: http://www.wfp.org/disaster-risk-reduction/leap
> *Ethiopia faces high risk from both droughts and floods. In response, the Ethiopian government launched the PSNP, which is designed to move rural farmers away from reliance on emergency food relief. LEAP, which was founded in 2008 by WFP, provides Ethiopia with a timely warning mechanism to scale up the PSNP. Delegates will find these programs useful as examples of long-term disaster reduction initiatives.*

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> *This book provides very useful background information on the manifold types of natural disasters that face global communities. Published as a follow-up action to the Hyogo Conference in 2005, the book is organized in chapters by disaster type. This allows delegates to focus on disasters of particular interest to their respective Member State and benefit from a broad introduction to disaster risk.*

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