NMUN•NY

New York City, NY, USA
24 - 28 March (Conf. A) / 14 - 18 April (Conf. B)

World Food Programme
Background Guide 2019

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the 2019 National Model United Nations New York Conference (NMUN•NY)! We are pleased to welcome you to the World Food Programme (WFP). This year's staff are: Directors Sara Belligoni (Conference A) and Lindsey Velde (Conference B). Sara is a former Trainee under the Exchange Visitor Program of the US Department of State. She is currently a PhD student in Security Studies at the University of Central Florida where she researches how to improve civil-military relations within the emergency response operations. Lindsey is a recipient of a BS in Marketing from the University of South Florida. She currently works as a campus director for a local community and entrepreneurial organization called Station House.

The topics under discussion for the World Food Programme are:

1. Improving Emergency Response Capacities to Safeguard Food Security
2. Responding to Food Insecurity in Syria
3. Improving Frameworks for the Supply of Food Aid

WFP is a pertinent and action-oriented body within the United Nations (UN) framework, assisting 80 million people in approximately 80 countries each year. The work of WFP is closely linked to the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2 and 17. Another item which delegates should consider when preparing for the conference is the new chapter that WFP has entered into with the implementation of the WFP *Strategic Plan (2017-2020)*, providing WFP with new planning and operational frameworks. The plan does not expand upon WFP's mandate; however, it leverages WFP's primary strengths to work towards achieving the SDGs. For the purposes of NMUN•NY 2019 the committee has the ability to make programmatic and policy decisions on issues within the mandate of WFP related to the overall function of the organization.

This Background Guide serves as an introduction to the topics for this committee. However, it is not intended to replace individual research. We encourage you to explore your Member State's policies in depth and use the Annotated Bibliography and Bibliography to further your knowledge on these topics. In preparation for the Conference, each delegation will submit a Position Paper by 11:59 p.m. (Eastern) on 1 March 2019 in accordance with the guidelines in the *NMUN Position Paper Guide*.

Two resources, available to download from the NMUN website, that serve as essential instruments in preparing for the Conference and as a reference during committee sessions are the:

1. *NMUN Delegate Preparation Guide* - explains each step in the delegate process, from pre-Conference research to the committee debate and resolution drafting processes. Please take note of the information on plagiarism, and the prohibition on pre-written working papers and resolutions. Delegates should not start discussion on the topics with other members of their committee until the first committee session.
2. *NMUN Rules of Procedure* - include the long and short form of the rules, as well as an explanatory narrative and example script of the flow of procedure.

In addition, please review the mandatory NMUN Conduct Expectations on the NMUN website. They include the Conference dress code and other expectations of all attendees. We want to emphasize that any instances of sexual harassment or discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, or disability will not be tolerated. If you have any questions concerning your preparation for the committee or the Conference itself, please contact the Under-Secretaries-General for the Development Department, Aiskell Roman (Conference A) and Marleen Schreier (Conference B), at usg.dev@nmun.org.

We wish you all the best in your preparations and look forward to seeing you at the Conference!

Conference A

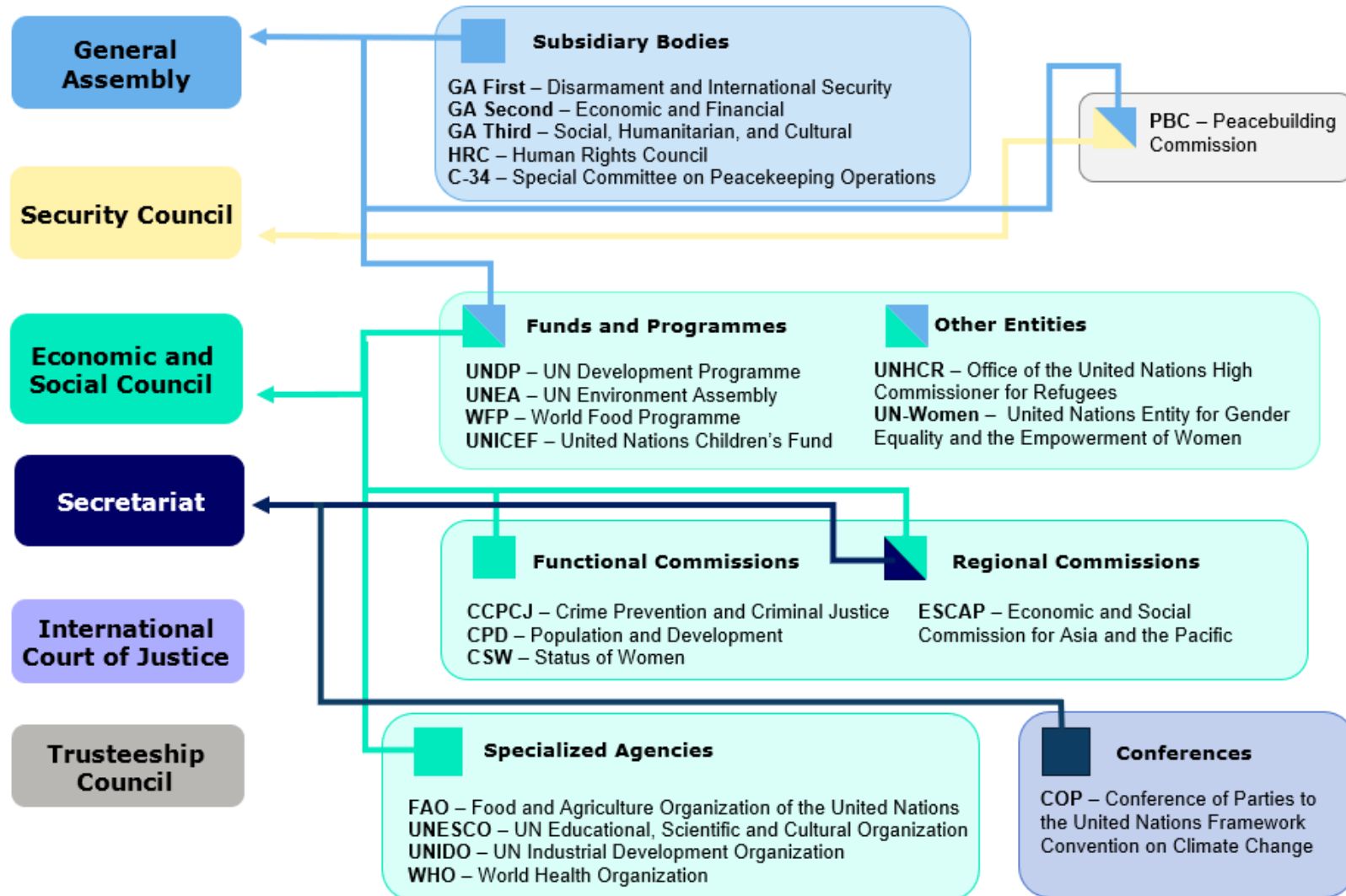Sara Belligoni, Director

Conference B

Lindsey Velde, Director

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United Nations System at NMUN•NY

This diagram illustrates the UN system simulated at NMUN•NY and demonstrates the reportage and relationships between 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
HRC – Human Rights Council
C-34 – Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

PBC – Peacebuilding Commission

Funds and Programmes

UNDP – UN Development Programme
UNEA – UN Environment Assembly
WFP – World Food Programme
UNICEF – United Nations Children's Fund

Other Entities

UNHCR – Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UN-Women – United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

Functional Commissions

CCPCJ – Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
CPD – Population and Development
CSW – Status of Women

Regional Commissions

ESCAP – Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Specialized Agencies

FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
UNESCO – UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNIDO – UN Industrial Development Organization
WHO – World Health Organization

Conferences

COP – Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Committee Overview

Introduction

The World Food Programme (WFP) is the United Nations (UN) agency in charge of providing and coordinating food aid, and is the leading international organization fighting hunger worldwide.[1] WFP has committed to the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2030 Agenda), specifically Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 to end hunger and achieve food security by 2030.[2] The agency focuses on emergency assistance, delivering humanitarian aid, and supporting food security programs in least-developed countries and low-income countries for individuals affected by, for instance, natural disasters, food shortages, poverty, and conflict.[3] Each year, WFP assists 80 million people on average in more than 80 countries.[4] The latest available figures in 2016 saw 815 million hungry people in the world, with 91.4 million of these individuals assisted by WFP with food or cash.[5] Of this 91.4 million, 52% were women and girls.[6] In 2017, 18.3 million children received school meals by WFP, yet a total of 155 million children under five are considered to be malnourished.[7] In 2017, WFP had 5,000 trucks, 92 planes, and 20 ships supporting the daily delivery of food and aid to keep hunger at bay.[8]

WFP is a subsidiary program of the UN founded by the UN General Assembly and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).[9] It is one of the three Rome-Based UN agencies and international institutions, along with FAO and the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), which work toward the common goal of eradicating hunger, each of them with a different mandate for achieving this vision.[10] IFAD mobilizes and offers financial resources on concession terms for agricultural and rural development projects.[11] FAO focuses on the overall initiative of food security on a global level, developing programs and strategies to raise nutrition levels and increase sustainable agriculture activities.[12] The three agencies work together to find solutions on emergencies and development by setting collective targets and goals, cooperating on food aid projects, and collaborating on the distribution of information and press releases.[13]

> At NMUN•NY 2019, 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 during the conference. For the purposes of NMUN•NY 2019, and corresponding 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.

In 1961, George McGovern, Director of "Food for Peace" in the United States, proposed a program for the delivery of multilateral food aid.[14] Seven months later, the FAO Conference adopted resolution 1/61 of 24 November 1961, and the UN General Assembly adopted resolution 1714 (XVI) of 19 December 1961,

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[1] UN WFP, *Overview*, 2018.
[2] Ibid.
[3] Ibid.
[4] Ibid.
[5] UN WFP, *The Year in Review: 2017*, 2018.
[6] Ibid.
[7] UN WFP, *Zero Hunger: Overcoming the odds*, 2018.
[8] Ibid.
[9] UN WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, p. 13.
[10] UN WFP, *UN Agencies and International Institutions*, 2018.
[11] IFAD, *Our approach*.
[12] FAO, *What we do*, 2018.
[13] UN WFP, *UN Agencies and International Institutions*, 2018.
[14] UN WFP, *History*, 2018.

which established WFP on a three-year pilot basis.[15] Food aid services started in 1962 to respond to an earthquake in Northern Iran, a typhoon causing landfall in Thailand, and the resettlement of five million Algerian refugees.[16] In 1965, FAO and the UN General Assembly adopted two additional resolutions that extended WFP's mandate "for as long as multilateral food aid is found feasible and desirable."[17] WFP's first governing body was the Intergovernmental Committee, which began in 1962 and was subsequently replaced by the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (CFA) in 1976.[18] On 1 January 1996, the CFA was reconstituted from a 42-member body to the current 36-member Executive Board.[19]

Governance, Structure, and Membership

Executive Board
WFP's Executive Board supervises all of the body's programs and initiatives.[20] The 36-member body meets three times per year in Rome, Italy, at the WFP Headquarters.[21] All decisions of the Executive Board are reached by consensus.[22] The substantive function of the Board is to make immediate decisions on funding and operational needs, as well as to establish long-term policy goals.[23] The Board's administrative and management functions include approving program proposals submitted by the Executive Director and reviewing the administration and execution of these programs.[24] The Executive Board reports annually to Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and FAO regarding its decisions and policy recommendations, use of funds, organizational administration, strategic outlook, and the development of global statistics regarding food and nutrition.[25] WFP reports on its decisions and recommendations during its Executive Board sessions to the General Assembly, as outlined in the WFP General Regulations.[26] Members are elected by both ECOSOC and FAO, with each body electing 18 members for three-year terms.[27]

Secretariat
The Executive Director heads the Secretariat of WFP.[28] The Secretariat and the Executive Director are accountable to the Executive Board for the administration and implementation of WFP programs, projects, and other activities.[29] The UN Secretary-General and Director-General of FAO appoint the Executive Director in consultation with the Executive Board members for a five-year term and up to one reappointment.[30] The Executive Director represents WFP in all matters, including as a liaison to Member States.[31] David Beasley has served as Executive Director since 2017.[32] In his closing remarks of the

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[15] FAO, *Utilization of food surpluses – World Food Program (FAO/1/61)*, 1961; UN General Assembly, *World Food Programme (A/RES/1714 (XVI))*, 1961.

[16] UN WFP, *History*, 2018.

[17] UN General Assembly, *Continuation of the World Food Programme (A/RES/2095(XX))*, 1965; UN WFP, *History*, 2018.

[18] UN WFP, *Executive Board*, 2018.

[19] New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *United Nations Handbook 2017-18*, 2017, p. 267.

[20] New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *United Nations Handbook 2017-18*, 2017, p. 267; UN WFP, *Members of the Board*, 2018.

[21] New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *United Nations Handbook 2017-18*, 2017, p. 267.

[22] UN WFP, *Executive Board*, 2018.

[23] Ibid.

[24] UN WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, pp. 8-9.

[25] New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *United Nations Handbook 2017-18*, 2017, p. 267.

[26] UN WFP, *Decisions and Recommendations of the 2018 Annual Session of the Executive Board*, 2018.

[27] UN WFP, *Members of the Board*, 2018.

[28] UN WFP, *Executive Board Secretariat*, 2018.

[29] UN WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, p. 11.

[30] Ibid.

[31] UN WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, p. 13.

[32] UN WFP, *Governance and leadership*, 2018.

2017 Annual Session of the Executive Board, Mr. Beasley noted that his objective during his term will not be to promote WFP, but to work toward achieving SDG 2 and promote ending of world hunger.[33]

Funding
Predictable funding is paramount for effective work by WFP, which is funded through the support of voluntary contributions by states, corporations, and individuals.[34] In addition, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund also supports WFP programs; WFP was its largest recipient in 2017, receiving $122.1 million.[35] These funds were allocated 80% to food and 20% to nutrition programs, with small amounts given to the multisector and common services.[36] In 2017, WFP received record levels of funding of $6.8 billion, with the largest donations coming from the United States, the European Commission, Germany, United Kingdom, and Canada.[37] 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.[38]

With the launch of the *WFP Strategic Plan* in 2017, WFP has implemented annual country portfolio budgets (CPBs) to more transparently facilitate country strategic plans (CSP), allocating funds to each country according to its needs.[39] Under the CSP, each country is given an action plan to facilitate sustainable solutions that are specific to each region.[40] The CPB approach formalizes and better aligns WFP activities with other UN agencies toward performance, planning, and resource mobilization.[41] In times of emergency, WFP, FAO, and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) may issue joint appeals for donations due to a shortage in funds for humanitarian assistance.[42] WFP has periodically been forced to cut assistance, as received funds regularly fall below the appeals made.[43] Through CPBs, the most recent *WFP Strategic Plan* aims to strengthen the financial links of short and long-term operational goals.[44]

Mandate, Functions, and Powers

Established by the CFA in December 1994 during its 38th 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 UN and FAO."[45] The new "WFP Core Values," a list of seven policy-guiding categories, underline these priorities by formulating ethical guidelines concerning inclusiveness, integrity, action-orientation, accountability, and transparency.[46] WFP's Strategic Plan is a conceptual framework for an innovated operational and planning structure and cooperation with other organizations.[47] It aims at increasing WFP's effectiveness by focusing on its core strengths: intervention in cases of disruption, structural poverty, and/or transitions and recovery.[48]

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[33] UN WFP, *Closing remarks by WFP Executive Director David Beasley to Annual Session of the Executive Board on 15 June 2017, in Rome*, 2017.
[34] UN WFP, *Funding and donors*, 2018.
[35] UN CERF, *Cerf Results, As Reported by CERF Recipients in 2017*, 2018; UN CERF, *2018 Allocations by Agency*, 2018.
[36] UN CERF, *Cerf Results, As Reported by CERF Recipients in 2017*, 2018.
[37] UN WFP, *Contributions to WFP in 2017*, 2018.
[38] UN WFP, *Executive Board*, 2018; UN WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, pp. 9, 12.
[39] Ibid.
[40] Ibid.
[41] Ibid.
[42] UN WFP, *Race Against Time to Save Millions of Lives in Yemen*, 2017.
[43] UN WFP, *Operations and Resource Situation*, 2018; UN WFP, *WFP Forced to Make Deeper Cuts in Food Assistance for Syrian Refugees Due to Lack of Funding (For the Media)*, 2016.
[44] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)*, 2017, pp. 44-45.
[45] UN WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, p. 5.
[46] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)*, 2017.
[47] Ibid.
[48] Ibid.

WFP's functions are to:

> "(a) … aid in economic and social development, concentrating its efforts and resources on the neediest people and countries; (b) to assist in the continuum from emergency relief to development by giving priority to supporting disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation and post-disaster rehabilitation activities; (c) to assist in meeting refugee and other emergency and protracted relief food needs … (d) to provide services to bilateral donors, [UN] agencies and non-governmental organizations for operations which are consistent with the purposes of WFP and which complement WFP's operations."[49]

WFP selects which projects to support either upon request of the UN Secretary-General or through Member State reports.[50] Assistance agreements are put in place with national governments, which are expected to give full support to WFP in the monitoring and implementation of programs.[51] In 2017, WFP's project categories were replaced by CSPs, which are all encompassing and "include policy and programmatic activities alongside supply chain and other non-programmatic support or assistance."[52]

When responding to humanitarian emergencies, WFP operates within the cluster approach, which coordinates key UN and non-UN humanitarian partners, such as WFP, UNICEF, the UN Refugee Agency, and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.[53] The approach was developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the UN's emergency response mechanism, and is managed through the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.[54] Cluster leads are responsible for technical knowledge of one particular aspect of humanitarian response; they coordinate aid delivery and serve as the central point of contact for governments and regional centers.[55] WFP leads the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunication Clusters and co-leads the Food Security Cluster with FAO.[56]

In addition to handling emergencies and development programs, WFP provides protracted relief and recovery for regions emerging from disaster.[57] This includes food for education and training programs, relief for refugees, and providing food for people in the wake of damage to infrastructure or crops.[58] WFP also works with the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), which gives air support for over 700 humanitarian organizations around the world.[59] For example, UNHAS provides transportation in Chad, where air travel is the only means to reach populations in need of humanitarian assistance.[60] This is particularly important when peacekeeping missions finish their mandates, but aid is still required.[61]

Recent Sessions and Current Priorities

Adopted in 2015, the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs constitute a new horizon for action.[62] WFP's mission to end global hunger correlates with the SDGs, particularly SDG 2 on zero hunger."[63] The *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)* provides a new operational framework for the organization, leveraging WFP's primary

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[49] UN WFP, *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*, 2014, pp. 5-6.
[50] Ibid., p. 14.
[51] Ibid., pp. 18-19.
[52] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)*, 2017, p. 39.
[53] Phillips, *FAO: its origins, formation, and evolution. 1945-1981*, 1981, p. 169.
[54] UN OCHA, UNOCHA *on Message: The Cluster Approach*, 2012; Inter-Agency Standing Committee, *IASC.*
[55] UN OCHA, UNOCHA *on Message: The Cluster Approach*, 2012.
[56] Hall & Hourihan, *Food, Trucks and Radios: WFP's Role in the 'Cluster System'*, 2013.
[57] UN WFP, *Protracted Relief and Recovery*, 2018.
[58] Ibid.
[59] UN WFP, *Supply Chain*, 2018.
[60] UN WFP, *Chad*, 2018.
[61] Ibid.
[62] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)*, 2017.
[63] UN DESA, *Sustainable Development Goals*, 2018.

strengths and capacities in humanitarian response, and aims to align the strategies and objectives of WFP with relevant SDGs.[64] The plan formulates two strategic goals, "support countries to achieve zero hunger" and "partner to support implementation of the SDGs."[65] These form the basis for five strategic objectives: ending hunger, improving nutrition, achieving food security, supporting SDG implementation, and partnering for SDG results.[66] The anticipated results of the objectives coincide with SDG targets, including SDG Target 2.1 and SDG Target 2.2.[67] This continues WFP's efforts to transition from being a food aid agency to becoming a food assistance agency.[68] Food assistance goes beyond aid by delivering holistic "hunger solutions," such as providing access to food through vouchers or cash transfers, to guarantee the provision of a given quantity, quality, or value of food.[69] WFP's focus on SDG 17 manifests in its close cooperation with the international community and civil society.[70] Partnerships with civil society play a key role in humanitarian aid delivery and food security, with approximately 75% of WFP's food and cash assistance being distributed with the support of its local civil society partners.[71]

2017 continued to be a challenging year for WFP, illustrated by the number of severe emergencies.[72] WFP worked on six Level 3 emergencies, meaning "the urgency, scale, or complexity of the situation overwhelms the immediate capability of the country office," in countries such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Syria, and Yemen.[73] This is the highest number of emergencies in WFP's history and continues to test its capacity limits.[74] Additionally, several major contextual factors have affected WFP's work and planning, such as record numbers of refugees and displaced people, ongoing conflicts, climate change and natural disasters, and continuing economic depressions worldwide.[75] In order to access people most in need who were located in areas under siege, WFP adopted different solutions, including cross-line, inter-agency convoys, cross-border shipments, high-altitude airdrops, and airlifts which were facilitated by the Logistics Cluster.[76] Funding shortfalls have been threatening WFP operations in several regions and led, for instance, to the discontinuation of the Ukraine operation.[77]

As gender equality and women's empowerment are central to WFP's mandate, the *WFP Gender Policy (2015-2020)* recognizes and aims to meet the differing food security and nutrition needs of women, girls, boys, and men.[78] Following its gender-transformative approach, WFP assisted 17.6 million women and 14.5 million men directly in 2016.[79] WFP operations in 2016 also reported that women's decision making in households had increased, including in some of the lowest-ranked countries for gender equality.[80]

In mid-June 2018, the Annual Session of WFP's Executive Board took place.[81] The Executive Board looked at items such as the Annual Performance Report for 2017 and several ongoing internal policy issues, as well as heard reports on several country portfolios.[82] One of the main outcomes from the meeting was the Executives Board approval of the Oversight Framework, which enhances the overall

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[64] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)*, 2017.
[65] Ibid.
[66] Ibid.
[67] Ibid.
[68] Ibid.
[69] Omamo et al., *Innovations in food assistance: issues, lessons and implications*, 2010, pp. 3-4.
[70] UN WFP, *Update on WFP's Role in the Collective Humanitarian Response*, 2018.
[71] UN WFP, *Non-governmental Organizations*, 2018; UN WFP, *NGO Partnerships, Strengthening National Capacity*, 2016.
[72] UN WFP, *The Year in Review: 2017*, 2018.
[73] UN WFP, *The Year in Review: 2017*, 2018, UN WFP, *WFP Emergency Response Classifications*, 2014.
[74] UN WFP, *Mid-Term Review of the WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017)*, 2016, p. 4.
[75] UN WFP, *The Year in Review: 2017*, 2018.
[76] UN WFP, *Reporting success stories: Six highlights from WFP's programmes in 2016*, 2017.
[77] UN WFP, *The Year in Review: 2017*, 2018.
[78] UN WFP, *WFP Gender Policy (2015-2020)*, 2015, pp. 3-4.
[79] UN WFP, *The World Food Programme: Gender Balance*, 2017.
[80] Ibid.
[81] UN WFP, *Decisions and Recommendations of the 2018 Annual Session of the Executive Board*, 2018.
[82] Ibid.

vision for oversight at the organization.[83] Additionally, it addresses the evolving architecture and activities in place to operationalize the vision, which include governance, Executive Board accountability, and reporting.[84] Lastly, the Executive Board has allowed for increased flexibility for the implementation timelines of the Integrated Road Map, but commits that the transition will be fully completed by 1 January 2019.[85] The Integrated Road Map was created to help facilitate efficiency in WFP's strategic decision making, use of resources, enhancing the business model, and overall processes in food delivery.[86]

Conclusion

WFP is an organization in transition from providing food aid to food assistance.[87] WFP tasks range from emergency relief and development assistance to providing support as communities rebuild themselves after natural disasters and conflicts.[88] 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.[89] WFP's work is action-oriented and very closely aligned to the 2030 Agenda.[90] The Strategic Plan, set to be delivered by 2019, builds on the activities of WFP to date and policies of the Executive Board and further align them in the context of the 2030 Agenda.[91]

Annotated Bibliography

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. Retrieved 13 August 2018 from: http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1
> *The* 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, adopted in September 2015, redefines the work of the UN system. The SDGs are a set of 17 overarching global goals with 169 targets between them. This has a subsequent effect on the work of WFP moving forward, and the manner in which its operations work and will be utilized within the international system. All of WFP's operations have a direct or indirect relation with the SDGs. Further research will be required by delegates to identify the SDGs which are directly correlated with the topics on the agenda.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2014). *General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board*. Retrieved 13 August 2018 from: http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/govman/wfp244037.pdf
> *This document is a comprehensive overview of how the Executive Board of WFP is structured and its operational procedures, as well as its funding. It demonstrates how programs are defined, categorized, supervised, and administered. Furthermore, it highlights the monitoring mechanisms for these programs. Delegates should utilize this document to educate themselves further on the mandate, functions, and powers of WFP. Additionally, it provides insightful information of the organizations segments and how it operates.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2017). *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)*. Retrieved 12 August 2018 from: https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000019573/download/
> *The aim of the strategic plan is to align WFP's operations with the 2030 Agenda, with a particular focus on achieving zero hunger by 2030 (SDG 2). It sets out WFP's principles and vision in light of the framework provided by the SDGs. It clarifies the priorities of WFP*

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[83] UN WFP, *WFP oversight framework*, 2018.
[84] UN WFP, *Decisions and Recommendations of the 2018 Annual Session of the Executive Board*, 2018.
[85] Ibid.
[86] UN WFP, *Integrated Road Map: Positioning WFP for a Changing World*, 2016.
[87] UN WFP, *Mid-Term Review of the WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017)*, 2016, p. 3.
[88] UN WFP, *The Year in Review: 2017*, 2018.
[89] Ibid.
[90] Ibid.
[91] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)*, 2017.

for the coming period and focuses on the operational and policy role WFP can play in achieving these goals. It is an excellent source for delegates to get an introductory understanding to the work of WFP, its principles and values, structure, and an overview of the current and upcoming policy priorities.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2018). *Annual Session of the Executive Board* [Website]. Retrieved 9 July 2018 from: https://executiveboard.wfp.org/meeting/492

> *The Annual Session of the Executive Board is a great resource that includes all of the most recent updates of the body from 2017. During this session, the Executive Board discussed annual reports including the annual performance report. Additionally, they covered policy issues, resources, financial, and budgetary matters, evaluation reports, operational matters, organizational and procedural matters, and administrative and managerial matters. Therefore, this resource will be extremely insightful for delegates to review during their independent research regarding the overall work of the body.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2018). *Funding* [Website]. Retrieved 12 August 2018 from: http://www.wfp.org/funding

> *Funding for WFP is predominantly provided by donors, including Member States. WFP has no independent source of funding. WFP's funding is vital for successful operations and provision of food assistance to millions of people globally. As funding is a complex issue within the UN system this source will provide delegates a better understanding of the sources of funding available. It is advised that delegates view this document in hand with the General Regulations, General Rules, Financial Regulations, Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board to gain an insight into how funding is procured, governed, and distributed.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2018). *Protracted Relief and Recovery* [Website]. Retrieved 13 August 2018 from: https://www.wfp.org/operations/relief

> *Protracted Relief and Recovery Operations (PRROs) are long-term programs run by WFP which help sustain communities affected by disaster. This extended relief can appear in many forms, for example, the agency can support the education of children in food-insecure areas by providing nutritious meals for schools in the area. For more detailed information on PRROs and the components which can be included in a PRRO, delegates should refer to this website. Reviewing this program will also provide delegates an understanding of how WFP allocates funds for emergency relief and protracted recovery efforts.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2018). *The Year in Review: 2017* [Report]. Retrieved 13 August 2018 from: https://publications.wfp.org/en/annual-report/2017/index.html

> *This document provides delegates with an overview of the work of WFP in 2017. The review contains an analysis on WFP's progress toward zero hunger. The report highlights WFP's dedication to supporting the 2030. The review also provides a comprehensive overview of all the programs provided by WFP and how they were implemented in countries and regions affected. This is an excellent resource for delegates as both an introduction to the work of WFP and an insight in how WFP programs are carried out in Member States.*

Bibliography

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Inter-Agency Standing Committee. (n.d.). *IASC* [Website]. Retrieved 13 August 2018 from: https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/about-iasc

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I. Improving Emergency Response Capacities to Safeguard Food Security

Introduction

The World Food Programme (WFP) of the United Nations (UN) is responsible for providing food aid to people in need.[92] In 2017, 68% of the WFP budget was spent on emergency responses by doubling WFP food aid expenditures and providing emergency aid to nearly 108 million people.[93] The same year saw an increase in people suffering from undernourishment for the first time in 17 years, as a result of prolonged conflicts, with 821 million people estimated to be undernourished worldwide.[94] The number of people experiencing emergency crises has risen by 55% since 2015; if continued, food insecurity could revert to pre-1990 levels.[95] Over the course of 2017, WFP responded to 15 food emergencies and reached 91.4 million people in 83 countries around the world.[96] WFP received $6 billion in funding in 2017, yet required $9.8 billion to reach all those in need.[97] The estimated required budget in 2018 is $9 billion, with 74% of projected resources being earmarked for relief and emergency responses.[98] The funding forecast for 2018 is $5.7 billion.[99]

According to WFP, food security exists when people have continuous access to adequate, healthy, and safe food to maintain a healthy and active life.[100] However, 124 million people faced critical food insecurity in 2017, an 11% increase from 2016.[101] Food insecurity can lead to two main health concerns: stunting, in which children don't receive enough nutrients to reach full mental and physical potential, and wasting, where people are underweight for their height.[102] Food insecurity can also lead to regional instability, exacerbating political and economic problems and fueling violent conflicts due to grievances over the lack of access to nutrition and available food.[103] Disasters, both natural and human-caused, are a common driver of food insecurity.[104] The concept of disaster risk reduction, defined as the prevention and mitigation of disasters, is required to increase food security before and immediately after a disaster strikes.[105] According to WFP, emergency response capacity is the ability to quickly and adequately respond to conflict zones and natural disasters that can lead to famine and hunger.[106] In order to effectively manage varying levels of emergency, WFP emergency response operations are classified into three levels: Level 1 responses are reserved for crises that can be managed by local WFP's offices, Level 2 responses are crises that exceed the capacity of the local offices and require regional support from intergovernmental organizations, and Level 3 responses require mobilization of the international community, including WFP at its central level.[107]

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[92] UN WFP, *History*, 2018.
[93] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, p. 7; UN WFP, *World Food Assistance 2017: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead*, 2017, pp. 15, 68.
[94] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, p. 6; FAO et al., *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World: Building Climate Resilience for Food Security and Nutrition*, 2018, p. v.
[95] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, p. 4.
[96] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, p. 4; UN WFP, *WFP: The Year in Review 2017*, 2018.
[97] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, p. 25.
[98] UN WFP, *WFP Management Plan (2018-2020)*, 2017, p. 2.
[99] Ibid., p. 12.
[100] UN WFP, *What is food security?*, 2018.
[101] Food Security Information Network, *Global Report on Food Crises 2018*, 2018, p. 2.
[102] UN WFP, *Nutrition-specific programming*, 2018; FAO et al., *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World: Building Climate Resilience for Food Security and Nutrition*, 2018, p. v.
[103] FAO et al., *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World: Building Climate Resilience for Food Security and Nutrition*, 2017, p. 53.
[104] UN WFP, *Disaster risk reduction*, 2018.
[105] UNISDR, *What is Disaster Risk Reduction?*.
[106] UN WFP, *Emergency preparedness and response*, 2018.
[107] UN WFP, *WFP Emergency Response Classifications*, 2014.

To improve emergency response capacities to safeguard food security, WFP has three main focuses: to provide immediate food aid, followed by mid-term food assistance, and to build long-term food security.[108] The current WFP strategy revolves around building national and local capacity and resilience and delivering food aid during emergencies.[109] Innovative technologies utilized and employed by humanitarian agencies, including WFP, can improve emergency response times, efficiency, and reduce aid costs.[110] Expansive and inclusive partnerships increase funding and provide humanitarian aid agencies with opportunities for more efficient emergency responses.[111]

International and Regional Framework

International efforts to reduce food insecurity during emergencies predates both the UN and WFP, beginning with the UN Conference on Food and Agriculture in 1943.[112] Food security was further enshrined within the goals and objectives of the UN in the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* of 1948, which established food access as a human right.[113] The *Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition* of 1974 further promoted access to food and nutrition as a universal and inalienable human right, and called for the international community to further develop emergency response capacities.[114] Since there was a recognized need for immediate food aid during disasters and emergencies, WFP was formed in 1961.[115] Furthermore, WFP established the correlation between development, food security, and emergency food by emphasizing the importance of food security as a driver for development.[116] The notion of food for development was expanded in the *World Declaration and Plan of Action for Nutrition* in 1992, and the *Rome Declaration on World Food Security* and *World Food Summit Plan of Action* in 1996, both of which encourage the use of emergency food aid to promote recovery and development.[117]

In 2000, the link between food security and development was reinforced through the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which sought first and foremost to halve poverty and hunger throughout the world by 2015 and galvanize international development efforts.[118] The number of malnourished people fell from 23.3% to 12.9% in 2015, nearly meeting MDG 1 to halve the number of hungry people in the world.[119] To continue and expand upon the MDGs, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the General Assembly in 2015 through the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2030 Agenda), to address the current challenges facing the world.[120] Goal 2 of the SDGs focuses exclusively on eliminating hunger and malnutrition by 2030, empowering the international community to increase emergency, short-term, and long-term food aid assistance.[121] Goal 17 deals specifically with building partnerships to support development through financial, technical, and operational means to assist the implementation of all other SDGs, including SDG 2 on ending hunger.[122]

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[108] UN WFP, *Overview*, 2018.
[109] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021) (WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2)*, 2017, p. 24.
[110] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, pp. 40, 90-91.
[111] Ibid., pp. 50, 60, 187-189.
[112] FAO, *The Hot Springs Conference*.
[113] UN General Assembly, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*, 1948.
[114] UN General Assembly, *Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition (A/RES/3348 (XXIX))*, 1974.
[115] FAO, *Utilization of food surpluses – World Food Program*, 1961.
[116] Simon, *Food Security*, 2012, pp. 13-14; UN General Assembly, *World Food Programme (A/RES/1714 (XVI))*, 1961, p. 21.
[117] UN International Conference on Nutrition, *World Declaration and Plan of Action for Nutrition*, 1992, p. 18; FAO, *World Food Summit*, 1996.
[118] UN General Assembly, *United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/RES/55/2)*, 2000.
[119] UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015*, 2015, p. 4.
[120] UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015.
[121] Ibid.
[122] Ibid.

Role of the International System

From governments to UN agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), there are many actors working to provide emergency food aid.[123] SDG 2 calls for the elimination of hunger and the development of global food security as a central focus of the UN.[124] The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), WFP, and the World Health Organization (WHO) partnered to create the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI), which measures global hunger, food security, and other metrics to report progress on achieving SDG 2.[125] WFP is the largest food aid agency in the world, providing the majority of international emergency aid, and works as part of the three food-focused Rome-based agencies (RBAs).[126] The RBAs all share a similar mandate, working toward eradicating hunger globally.[127] FAO focuses on technical expertise and policy building, data-sharing, and international agreements, and provides emergency agricultural livelihood assistance.[128] IFAD focuses on reducing food insecurity by utilizing rural development programs and policies, and provides financing to support governments and other agencies in emergency settings.[129] The introduction of the SDGs prompted the RBAs to develop in 2016 a common vision paper titled *Collaboration among the United Nations Rome-based Agencies: Delivering on the 2030 Agenda*, in which the three agencies pledged to collaborate in furthering the SDGs to increase operational capacity and efficiency in emergency responses.[130]

The UN also takes part in the development and support of emergency response capacities of food aid.[131] In 2008, then Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon established the High-Level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security (HLTF) in response to the global food price crisis, which threatened the food security of millions of people, triggered food riots and protests in over 40 countries, and endangered the progress made under the MDGs on food security.[132] The 2008 global food price crisis compounded food insecurity, created instability, and reduced the funding available for emergency responses, hindering emergency response efforts.[133] HLTF is currently working on developing public-private partnerships to improve emergency response initiatives during crises.[134] Additionally, the World Bank, which provides funding and expertise for development, approved a $50 million grant to provide direct food assistance in response to the famine in South Sudan in 2017.[135] UNICEF provides emergency treatment to children suffering from severe acute malnutrition, and collaborates with WFP on less severe cases of malnutrition.[136] For instance, WHO works in Ethiopia with agencies in the field to coordinate efforts to provide emergency food aid in a region affected by constant drought and famine.[137] To facilitate much of the UN's emergency responses is the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD), comprising of multiple

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[123] UN WFP, *Partners*, 2018.
[124] UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015.
[125] FAO et al., *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World: Building Climate Resilience for Food Security and Nutrition*, 2017, pp. v, 3-4.
[126] IFAD, *Rome-based UN Agencies*; UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, p. 6; IFAD, *Collaboration among the United Nations Rome-based Agencies: Delivering on the 2030 Agenda (EB 2016/119/R.45)*, 2016, p. 4.
[127] IFAD, *Collaboration among the United Nations Rome-based Agencies: Delivering on the 2030 Agenda (EB 2016/119/R.45)*, 2016, p. 3.
[128] Ibid.
[129] Ibid., pp. 3-4.
[130] Ibid., p. 13.
[131] UN General Assembly, *Agriculture development, food security and nutrition (A/RES/68/233)*, 2013, pp. 2, 4, 5, 8.
[132] UN Chief Executives Board, *High Level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security*, 2008.
[133] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2013)*, 2008, pp. 3, 18-22.
[134] UN HLTF, *Zero Hunger Challenge*, 2015, p. 27.
[135] World Bank, *World Bank Provides $50 Million Grant for Emergency Food and Nutrition in South Sudan*, 2017.
[136] UN WFP, Nutrition-specific programming, 2018.
[137] WHO, *Emergency and humanitarian action*.

locations, chosen for ease of access to roads, airports, and ports, enables rapid mobilization for its 86 partners for timely emergency responses.[138]

Regional organizations, NGOs, and Member States also contribute to emergency response capacities in emergency operations.[139] For example, the European Union (EU) is one of the largest food assistance donors, both directly to those in need and indirectly through WFP, by contributing almost 33% of its humanitarian aid budget to emergency food aid.[140] In 2016, the United States provided over $2 billion to WFP, amounting to over 33% of the 2016 WFP operational budget.[141] The African Union monitors drought and famine conditions across the Africa, and provides emergency funding to those in need.[142] The African Union also developed a specialized agency of the Union, the African Risk Capacity (ARC), which aids Member States improve emergency response capacities through a shared financial risk pool.[143]

Preventative Measures and Capacity-Building for Local Food Security Resiliency

Communities and governments that develop resiliency in food security also strengthen potential emergency response capacities.[144] Resiliency in food security is the ability of a community to absorb decreases in food security, referred to as shocks, such as drought or rising food prices.[145] Resilience decreases the likelihood of prolonged food insecurity while allowing communities and governments to devote financial resources to emergency response operations.[146] Preventing prolonged food crisis enables resources to be better utilized elsewhere, as 68% of the budget went to prolonged emergencies in 2017.[147] As WFP falls short in funding, a fundamental shift needs to be made to start capacity-building at the local level to allow communities to absorb shocks to food security and to prevent the need for continuous direct food aid to areas of low resiliency and food security.[148] The *WFP Strategic Plan 2008-2013* was the first step in shifting WFP efforts from reactionary food aid to capacity and resilience building for communities through food assistance, culminating in the *WFP Strategic Plan 2017-2021*.[149] This strategic plan establishes Country Specific Plans (CSPs) that focus on empowering governments to develop self-resiliency through targeted goals unique to a country.[150] CSPs build resilience capacity through three topics: Disaster risk reduction (DRR), improved governance, and post-conflict/post-crisis restoration.[151]

Natural disasters contribute significantly to the number of people in need of emergency food aid by disrupting infrastructure, displacing peoples, reducing rainfall or water availability, and destruction of crops and other food sources.[152] As such, implementing DRR programs can prevent food insecurity as a result of disasters, improving resilience in communities, and reducing the need for large-scale and

[138] UNHRD, *About Us*, 2018.
[139] UN WFP, *Partners*, 2018.
[140] European Commission, *Food Assistance*, 2018.
[141] UN WFP, *The Year in Review 2016*, 2017, pp. 30-31.
[142] UN WFP, *WFP and the African Union*, 2012.
[143] AU ARC, *About*, 2018.
[144] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2013)*, 2008, pp. 17-22.
[145] Ibid., pp. 17-18.
[146] Ibid., pp. 17-18.
[147] UN WFP, *Revolution: From Food Aid to Food Assistance*, 2010, p. 7; WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, pp. 7, 25; UN WFP, *WFP Management Plan (2018-2020)*, 2017, p. 2; UN WFP, *World Food Assistance 2018: Preventing Food Crises*, p. 22, 2018.
[148] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, p. 6; UN WFP, *WFP Management Plan (2018-2020)*, 2017, p. 2.
[149] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2013)*, 2008; UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021) (WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2*)*, 2017.
[150] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2013)*, 2008, p. 1; UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021) (WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2*)*, 2017, pp. 11, 32.
[151] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2013)*, 2008, pp. 16-23.
[152] UN WFP, *WFP Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management: Building Food Security and Resilience (WFP/EB.2/2011/4-A)*, 2011, p. 5.

prolonged emergency food aid operations.[153] Climate change, which has been recognized as a serious threat to global food security, has also been addressed through WFP programs like the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative.[154] This initiative focuses on preventing food crises due to climate change by providing rural farmers with resource management skills, insurance, income diversification, and financial savings to build food security.[155] WFP has specific programs for disaster risk reduction including emergency response training for local communities, such as WFP's DRR training in Lesotho in 2014; conservation techniques for food, water and environmental stabilization methods through programs such as the Food Assistance for Assets (FFA); and the establishment of early warning systems (EWSs).[156]

WFP acknowledges that the primary responsibility of food security and capacity-building lies with national and local governments.[157] Strong government efforts to implement capacity-building toward food security and resilience will free up the annual budget, and allow for greater resources to be dedicated to crisis events and emergency responses.[158] For example, in 2004, Namibia was recovering from a severe drought, and 17.8% of the population was living with HIV/AIDS, leaving a high number of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) in need of assistance.[159] From 2004 to 2006, WFP partnered with Namibia to provide food assistance to OVCs while Namibia prepared to absorb the OVCs into the national safety net.[160] Namibia later began the process of absorption, eventually taking responsibility of the OVCs previously being assisted by WFP.[161] By strengthening the Namibian's national safety net, WFP ended the need for WFP food assistance for OVCs and increased Namibia's capacity to handle future emergencies.[162]

After a disaster or conflict, infrastructure is destroyed or in disrepair, preventing access to important resources.[163] WFP, through FFA programs, allows for communities to develop, repair, and create infrastructure vital to food security by giving food to communities in exchange for their work on infrastructure projects.[164] For example, a rural village in Afghanistan had roads washed out from flooding, but did not have the resources to both sustain themselves and repair the roads to maintain outside access.[165] The FFA program provided rural villagers with food in exchange for their work on flood diversion basins, creating sustainable infrastructure to prevent future washouts, and give food to those in need.[166] Rebuilding roads, like in the above example, is part of the broad WFP strategy to rebuild important infrastructure, including irrigation canals and damaged fields.[167]

Advanced Tools and Technological Innovations to Improve Emergency Responses

WFP utilizes different methods to assess impacts of disasters, predict budgets, and pinpoint areas of need through the utilization of technology and specialized tools to improve emergency response

[153] Ibid., p. 6.
[154] UN WFP, *WFP Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management: Building Food Security and Resilience (WFP/EB.2/2011/4-A)*, 2011, p. 6.
[155] UN WFP, *Climate Change and Hunger: Towards a WFP Policy on Climate Change*, 2011, pp. 2-3; UN WFP, *R4 Resilience Initiative*, 2018, pp. 1-12.
[156] UN WFP, *Disaster risk reduction*, 2018; UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021) (WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2*)*, 2017; UN WFP, *WFP Involves Community in Development*, 2014; UN WFP, *Food Assistance for Assets*, 2018.
[157] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2013)*, 2008, pp. 8-9.
[158] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021) (WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2*)*, 2017, p. 25.
[159] UN WFP, *Revolution: From Food Aid to Food Assistance*, 2010, pp. 365-376.
[160] Ibid.
[161] Ibid.
[162] Ibid.
[163] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2013)*, 2008, pp. 16-19.
[164] UN WFP, *Food Assistance for Assets*, 2018.
[165] Amani & Lewis, *Rebuilding infrastructure and livelihoods in rural Afghanistan*, 2018.
[166] Ibid.
[167] UN WFP, *Protracted Relief and Recovery*, 2018.

capacities to safeguard food security.[168] The use of new innovations can also increase productivity, reduce costs, and create new opportunities.[169] During an emergency, WFP's Fast Information Technology and Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team (FITTEST) establishes communication lines in disaster areas and emergency response operations, installs electricity in the field using renewable energy, and provides IT services to humanitarian organizations and operators.[170]

Blockchain
Blockchain is a decentralized encrypted ledger that allows for the tracking of financial transactions without the need for traditional financial institutions.[171] Implementation of blockchain through vouchers or pre-paid debit cards, along with supply chain management innovation, has resulted in an increase of productivity of $140 million by avoiding transactional fees.[172] Without transactional fees, WFP can redirect resources to ongoing food emergencies.[173] WFP's Building Blocks project is responsible for establishing pilot programs for blockchain usage in transfers, with 100,000 users in January of 2018, and a further 500,000 to be given access to the system over the course of 2018 in Jordan.[174]

Early Warning Systems
An EWS is a system put in place in order to identify disasters, provide timely warnings, and use seismographs, weather radar, satellite, and aerial imagery to quickly identify developing threats and disasters.[175] EWSs can provide early information on food security, disasters, and imminent food crises, which allows for timely food deliveries and interventions.[176] WFP utilizes multiple different EWSs to achieve maximum results.[177] Since 2013, WFP's mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM) has been utilized to track food security, by using phone interviews in targeted areas to provide data on current food security issues.[178] WFP also developed the Corporate Alert System, which utilizes data, and partners with local, regional, and other WFP branches to assess evolving risks.[179] The decisions reached from this system allow WFP to take early action in developing situations to prevent deterioration and mitigate risks.[180] WFP also utilizes the Automatic Disaster Analysis and Mapping System (ADAM), which uses visual and spatial overlays over real-time details for earthquakes and tropical storms, allowing humanitarian aid responses to begin organizing within minutes of a disaster striking.[181]

Other Technological Innovations
Efficiency can be achieved in many areas, and WFP continues to look for innovations in every sector of its work.[182] WFP, began utilizing aerial images taken by unmanned drones to map targeted areas in 2017, providing data to aid agencies with increased speed and accuracy.[183] WFP has plans to incorporate artificial intelligence into the analysis of these aerial images to further reduce analysis times.[184] WFP also began use a new design of parachute, the 3 Ring Release Deployment System, which allows for aerial food drops from fixed-wing aircraft, thereby saving money and reducing potential losses.[185] In 2016, WFP's Innovation Accelerator was established in Munich, Germany, to provide a space that supports

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[168] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, pp. 40, 90-91.
[169] Ibid.
[170] UN WFP, *FITTEST*, 2010; UN WFP, *FITTEST*, 2018.
[171] UN WFP, *Building Blocks*, 2016.
[172] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, p. 90.
[173] Ibid.
[174] UN WFP, *Building Blocks*, 2016.
[175] UN WFP, *Developing Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacities*, 2014.
[176] Ibid.
[177] Ibid.
[178] UN WFP, *Mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM): Delivering real-time food security data through mobile technology*, 2013.
[179] UN WFP, *Corporate Alert System: Linking early warning to early action in the Sahel*, 2018.
[180] Ibid.
[181] Anthem, *Meet ADAM – A Powerful Weapon in WFP's Emergency Response*, 2015.
[182] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, p. 40.
[183] Ibid.
[184] Ibid.
[185] Ibid., p. 90.

creativity, innovation, and collaboration for entrepreneurs to develop their ideas, and provide solutions to global hunger.[186] The Innovation Accelerator is currently developing hydroponics resources, food deliveries via aerial drones, and virtual farmers markets, all of which have the potential to increase WFP's emergency response capacity to safeguard food security.[187]

Bridging Gaps Through Multilateral Partnerships

WFP works in collaboration with international partners, including Member States, over a thousand NGO partners, the other RBAs, the UN system, and private partnerships to improve capacity, increase distribution efficiency, and fund operations.[188] The primary partnership exists between WFP and national governments, where governments can play a role in every aspect of WFP operations.[189] Member States are also the largest contributors to WFP's budget, yet WFP fell $3.8 billion short of their $9.8 billion goal required to meet global hunger needs in 2017.[190] The 2018 budget forecast expects a funding gap of $3 billion.[191] Additionally, nearly all of the current Level 2 and Level 3 emergencies are the result of ongoing conflicts, creating large barriers to the delivery of food aid.[192] In line with SDG 17, WFP implemented the CSP policy to enable countries to be the primary force in eliminating hunger.[193] CSPs allow WFP to partner directly with national governments to develop targeted policies and programs to aid in emergency response capacity and food security.[194] Each CSP, of which there are now 35, is developed based on a country's specific needs and is implemented by the country, utilizing WFP as a resource in experience, technical know-how, and operational efficiency.[195] WFP's expertise allows for the development of viable and impactful programs and policies at the national level.[196] All CSPs follow WFP's *Strategic Plan 2017-2021* and SDGs 2 and 17.[197]

Conclusion

In 2017, WFP dealt with a record number of emergency crises, most of which stemmed from violent conflict, which stretched the limits of its emergency response capacity.[198] However, WFP's emergency response to an unprecedented level of food insecurity was largely successful.[199] WFP's shift from food aid to food assistance, through CSPs and resilient development, will begin a new era of humanitarian food aid.[200] By focusing on resilience and local capacity, WFP's funds can be freed up for emergency responses and increase local food security.[201] While budget gaps and shortfalls reduced WFP's ability to provide aid, innovation and new methods, techniques, and technologies have led WFP to increase productivity, save cost, and directly improving emergency response capacities to safeguard food security.[202] In addition to increased productivity, WFP will need to find new and impactful partnerships to

[186] UN WFP, *Innovation Accelerator*, 2016.
[187] UN WFP, *2017: A Year in Review*, 2018.
[188] UN WFP, *Partners*, 2018.
[189] Ibid.
[190] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, p. 31.
[191] UN WFP, *WFP: The Year in Review 2017*, 2018; UN WFP, *WFP Management Plan (2018-2020)*, 2017, p. 12.
[192] UN WFP, *WFP: The Year in Review 2017*, 2018.
[193] UN WFP, *Policy on Country Strategic Plans (WFP/EB.2/2016/4-C/1/Rev.1*)*, p. 7; UN General Assembly,
  Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1), 2015.
[194] UN WFP, *Policy on Country Strategic Plans (WFP/EB.2/2016/4-C/1/Rev.1*)*, 2016, p. 7.
[195] Ibid., p. 4.
[196] IFAD, *Rome-based UN Agencies*; UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*,
  2018, p. 6; IFAD, *Collaboration among the United Nations Rome-based Agencies: Delivering on the 2030
  Agenda (EB 2016/119/R.45)*, 2016, p. 4.
[197] UN WFP, *Policy on Country Strategic Plans (WFP/EB.2/2016/4-C/1/Rev.1*)*, p. 11; UN General Assembly,
  Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1), 2015.
[198] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, pp. 4-7.
[199] Food Security Information Network, *Global Report on Food Crises 2018*, 2018, p. 31.
[200] UN WFP, *Integrated Road Map: Positioning WFP For A Changing World*, 2016.
[201] UN WFP, *Revolution: From Food Aid to Food Assistance*, 2010, pp. 365-376.
[202] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, pp. 40, 90-91.

maintain operational efficiency otherwise emergency response capacities will be diminished.[203] With emergencies caused by ongoing conflict showing no signs of ending, finding solutions to food insecurity will require a highly efficient, productive, and collaborative emergency response to safeguard food security.[204] Bridging the funding gap, utilizing new innovations, and deploying current systems to areas of need will continue to be some of the largest issues facing WFP.[205]

Further Research

Due to ongoing global food insecurity and emergency crises, improving emergency response capacities to safeguard food security is of vital importance. In this regard, how can WFP develop cost-saving measures, improve efficiency, and acquire more funding to close the funding gap? What technologies and innovative strategies could be utilized to improve the overall effectiveness of emergency food aid programs in addition to already in place systems such as the EWSs? In what ways can WFP utilize food to aid in development of resilience and food security? A large majority of food crises are currently fueled by violent conflicts; in what ways can WFP gain access to conflict zones, and overcome barriers caused by conflict? WFP has continued to shift its strategy toward food assistance, resilience, prevention, and mitigation of food crises. In what ways can WFP provide resources to local communities to increase food security, and build local emergency response capacities to food crises? How can WFP continue to collaborate with governments at the national and local levels to increase regional emergency response capacities?

Annotated Bibliography

Food Security Information Network. (2018). *Global Report on Food Crises 2018.* Retrieved 8 July 2018 from: https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000069227/download/?_ga=2.157566394.1406810809.1531118445-1657503436.1530851352
> *The document aggregates data on the food crises around the world into a single annual report. It covers all major food crises through country overviews and reports, providing discourse on contributing factors, root causes, and barriers to aid for each individual country. It also includes important statistics, including food insecurity by population, progress made, and other important data sets. By examining this document, delegates can obtain specific information on nations currently experiencing food insecurity, famine, or malnutrition, allowing for the development of targeted solutions on both a local, and regional level.*

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1).* Retrieved 6 July 2018 from: https://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1
> *The SDGs define the UN's priorities for the future. From poverty eradication, to all life on land, the SDGs have set the tone for the UN's actions for the next 15 years, providing precise targets to attain a more equitable world for all. WFP focuses on SDG 2 and 17, zero hunger and partnerships for sustainable development, heavily incorporating both goals into their current and future strategies. Understanding both goals will aid in the formation of solutions for improving emergency response capacity to safeguard food security. Delegates will understand the constraints under which WFP operates and develop solutions that fall within the scope of WFP and the relevant SDGs.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2008). *WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2013).* Retrieved 9 August 2018 from: https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/e5b112ba670040f285c961fa025554e6/download/
> *The Strategic Plan set into motion the shift from direct food aid, to food assistance. The policies focus on creating food security and resilient communities, attempting to move away from direct food aid, and instead attempting to address the root causes of hunger.*

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[203] UN WFP, *WFP Management Plan (2018-2020)*, 2017, p. 2.
[204] Food Security Information Network, *Global Report on Food Crises 2018*, 2018, pp. 160-172.
[205] UN WFP, *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1)*, 2018, pp. 4-7, 25-27, 96, 100-104.

Future programs will focus on prevention and mitigation, while giving local communities and governments the means to self-reliance and continuing to provide life-saving humanitarian aid. Delegates will attain a historical context for the current WFP strategic plan and knowledge of programs that have been tried in the past.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2010). *Revolution: From Food Aid to Food Assistance* [Report]. Retrieved 8 July 2018 from:
https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/newsroom/wfp228797.pdf
The publication is a comprehensive guide to WFP innovation in the face of global hunger. Detailing the specific programs, tools, and strategies utilized by WFP, the overall narrative describes the shift in strategy from an immediate, emergency aid-based strategy, to capacity and resilience building measures within the food assistance strategy. It also provides specific case studies of different country operations, issues faced, and solutions utilized. Successes and barriers of programs are discussed, from emergency food aid to food assistance. Delegates will gain valuable, detailed overviews and descriptions of current WFP programs and efforts and will develop deep understanding of potential solutions from this publication.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2011). *WFP Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management: Building Food Security and Resilience (WFP/EB.2/2011/4-A)*. Retrieved 6 July 2018 from:
https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/newsroom/wfp247914.pdf
This document updated WFP policies on disaster risk reduction by incorporating best practices to streamline disaster risk mitigation efforts, while building community resilience and food security. The policies were updated to provide the tools and expertise WFP has acquired to local communities and governments for DRR. Recognizing the intersectional effects of natural disasters, climate change, poverty, and political instability on risk management, community capacity and resilience, and food security. The updated policy seeks to develop capacity to prevent food insecurity before it happens. Delegates can attain useful knowledge in capacity-building, emergency preparedness, and disaster risk and management efforts undertaken by WFP and provide a launching point for the creation of impactful solutions for the topic at hand.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2016). *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021) (WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2*)*. Retrieved 8 July 2018 from: https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/e889f1e2-d50d-4afd-b104-418a4a89403e/download/
The current strategic plan is the most up-to-date document detailing the strategies being undertaken by WFP. The shift to CSPs will allow for increased efficiency in both programs and budgets. It also improves WFP and government partnerships, in line with SDG 17. The document showcases the large changes WFP structure is undergoing, from technological innovations, CSPs, SDG integration, improved financial frameworks, and acknowledged mandate boundaries. The report details the path forward for WFP, and what direction they are heading. Delegates will understand the current structure of WFP, and what the future holds in food security and emergency responses.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2018). *Corporate Alert System: Linking early warning to early action in the Sahel* [Report]. Retrieved 5 August 2018 from: https://sway.office.com/b3TyY9XDEI3e7i3Q
As the structural shift takes place in WFP toward a more preventative and proactive strategy, this publication provides a case study of a developing drought in the Sahel region in Africa and demonstrates the benefits of EWS and proactive measures. Through EWSs and analysis, WFP was able to predict a potential famine and take effective action to prevent it. While funding is still being requested to fully implement preventative measures, the ability to predict and take action on potential food insecurity situations is vital in improving emergency response capacity. Delegates will gain an understanding in how WFP handles potential crises, and the effectiveness of WFP EWSs.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2016). *Policy on Country Strategic Plans (WFP/EB.2/2016/4-C/1/Rev.1*)* [Report]. Retrieved 10 August 2018 from:
https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/eb/wfp286746.pdf

> *With the adoption of the SDGs, WFP evaluated its current government partnerships. It was decided that WFP should no longer provide aid apart from governments, but to empower governments to establish their own programs and methods to address food insecurity and disasters within their countries. WFP works with governments to establish targeted programs unique to the country's own specific problems. By adopting CSPs, WFP can address SDG 2 and 17 more directly, and give communities and governments the resources to become self-sufficient. Delegates will gain an in-depth look at the rational for and implementation of CSPs.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2018). *Annual performance report for 2017 (WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev. 1)* [Annual Report]. Retrieved 7 July 2018 from:
https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/5c0a93ecec0f4dcc9916c3978bae238e/download/

> *The report discusses and outlines all efforts undertaken for 2017 by WFP, including program successes, regional aid discussions, total aid delivered, shortfalls of current aid efforts, and barriers to food aid effectiveness. The document provides baseline data on WFP operations to delegates and looks into regional trends in food security. The report also shares insights on the need for adaptive changes to many important issues, which includes improving emergency response capacities for food security. This is the required annual report from WFP Executive Board to ECOSOC and FAO.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2018). *World Food Assistance 2018: Preventing Food Crises* [Report]. Retrieved 8 July 2018 from:
https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000070719/download/?_ga=2.181667943.1585351318.1536968431-1657503436.1530851352

> *This report analyzes both short-term and long-term contributing factors for the development of effective strategies to both prevent and mitigate food crises. Every emergency WFP dealt with in 2017 has data, including food insecurity hotspots, and the number of affected persons. This is a compilation of all emergency response efforts WFP undertook the previous year. With country breakdowns of food insecurity, delegates can also glean a look into food security predictions for 2018 on a regional and individual country basis. This report also provides delegates a basis for the development of policies, strategies, and solutions in capacity-building to create a more food secure world.*

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II. Responding to Food Insecurity in Syria

"Syria has become the great tragedy of this century – a disgraceful humanitarian calamity with suffering and displacement unparalleled in recent history."[206]

Introduction

The Arab Spring protests began in 2011 and can be considered as the starting point for the onset of the Syrian civil war.[207] Public discontent toward the Assad government quickly turned into a full-scale civil war between the Syrian government and anti-government rebel groups causing more than 400,000 casualties in Syria as well as millions of displaced people since the war began.[208] The United Nations (UN) Security Council has discussed the Syrian conflict and has adopted 23 resolutions to encourage the international community to provide Syrians with humanitarian aid and advocate for the strengthening of the Syrian government.[209] Approximately 13 million people are seeking humanitarian assistance in Syria due to the prolonged civil conflict.[210] More than 6 million are food-insecure due to limited access to essential goods.[211] For instance, humanitarian intervention faces challenges as a result of fragile governmental frameworks and hard-to-reach territories due to isolation, military occupation, and infrastructure collapse.[212] Continuous bombardments have destroyed bridges, cities, and roads.[213] These challenges pose additional obstacles for humanitarian operators when logistically planning the delivery of humanitarian aid.[214] Thus, it is important for the international community to take action on implementing more efficient ways to provide Syrians with food aid.[215]

The World Food Programme (WFP) is committed to providing Syrians with adequate, effective, and timely delivery of both food and non-food items, including household items, clothes, and personal care items.[216] Every month, WFP provides about 4.5 million people with food assistance.[217] Since the 75% of the Syrian population still require humanitarian assistance, the work of WFP is essential to ensure acceptable standards of living for those populations.[218] WFP's experience in both natural and human-caused emergencies makes the UN agency a principal actor for responding to food insecurity in Syria.[219] The Syrian population strongly relies on the agricultural sector and the prolonged conflict coupled with subsequent periods of drought has brought rural families to face financial and distribution loss due to the inability to produce and sell food.[220] Coordination between WFP and specialized agencies, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), has become a necessary approach to improve the logistical emergency response strategies and to strengthen agricultural resilience in Syria.[221]

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[206] UNHCR, *UNHCR: Two million Syrians are refugees,* 2013.
[207] Council of Foreign Relations, *Civil War in Syria*, 2018.
[208] Ibid.
[209] UN DPI, *Syria*, 2018.
[210] UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018.
[211] Ibid.
[212] International Committee of the Red Cross, *Protracted Conflict and Humanitarian Action. Some Recent ICRC Experiences*, 2016.
[213] Ibid.
[214] UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018.
[215] Ibid.
[216] UN WFP, *Overview*, 2018.
[217] UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018.
[218] Ibid.
[219] UN WFP, *Overview*, 2018.
[220] UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018; Kelley et al., *Climate change in the Fertile Crescent and implications of the recent Syrian drought*, 2015.
[221] UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018.

International and Regional Framework

The UN Human Rights Council (HRC) stresses the importance of food as a fundamental right in accordance with the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948).[222] Article 25 of the UDHR considers food as a critical element for ensuring an adequate standard of living for people.[223] During the 2009 World Summit on Food Security, FAO called upon the UN Member States and specialized agencies on agriculture and development to commit to analyze and solve food insecurity.[224] In this forum, the *Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security* was adopted to set the basis for a global partnership to cope with food insecurity by improving global governance while strengthening the role of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition (FSN Forum) to provide up-to-date data and insights of the current crisis.[225]

During the Second Conference on Nutrition, organized by FAO and WHO in 2014, the *Rome Declaration on Nutrition* was adopted.[226] The Declaration aims to ensure access to food as a basis to guarantee a healthy and prosperous life.[227] Article 5 of the Declaration focuses on malnutrition as a result of poverty, food shortfalls, and humanitarian crisis.[228] Furthermore, the Declaration highlights the importance of timely and efficient food aid delivery to mitigate the impact of malnutrition in human development.[229] This is one of the main points of the Declaration that make it sensitively resonant to respond to food insecurity in Syria.[230] Thus, it is essential to help those affected by the Syrian crisis and WFP's plays a crucial role in ensuring the timely delivery of food aid.[231]

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 on zero hunger, of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015) focuses on finding strategies to end hunger worldwide.[232] SDG 2 has been recalled several times by UN entities to stress the importance of ending food insecurity in Syria.[233] Malnutrition is caused by shock that has involved household livelihoods, posing the population in a condition of starvation, extreme poverty, and unemployment.[234] Malnourishment and growth disorders are being registered among Syrian children under the age of five.[235] SDG 2 also aims at ending malnutrition among vulnerable groups (SDG 2.2), yet due to the prolonged conflict, children are suffering from malnutrition related growth disorders causing lower life expectancy and irregular physical and mental development.[236]

Role of the International System

As the ongoing Syrian civil war became a transnational conflict, the UN Security Council adopted resolution 2165 of 2014 on the situation in the Middle East to allow humanitarian agencies and partners to use roads and transportation infrastructures across conflict lines.[237] Throughout the years, it has become

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[222] UNHRC, *The right to food (A/HRC/RES/34/12)*, 2017.
[223] UN General Assembly, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*, 1948, Art. 25.
[224] FAO, *Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security*, 2009.
[225] Committee on World Food Security, *About*, 2018; FAO, *Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition*, 2018; FAO, *Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security*, 2009, Art. 3.
[226] FAO & WHO, *Rome Declaration on Nutrition*, 2014.
[227] Ibid., Art. 3.
[228] Ibid., Art. 5.
[229] FAO and WHO, *Rome Declaration on Nutrition*, 2014.
[230] Ibid.
[231] UN WFP, *Overview*, 2018.
[232] UN General Assembly, *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015.
[233] FAO, *Crisis in Syria*, 2018; UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018.
[234] Ibid.
[235] UN General Assembly, *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*, 2015; UNWFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018.
[236] Ibid.
[237] UN Security Council, *Middle East (S/RES/2165 (2014))*, 2014; UN Security Council, *The Situation in Middle East (S/RES/2393 (2017))*, 2017

even more necessary to ensure that people in hard-to-reach zones are provided with humanitarian aid.[238] Thus, to improve aid delivery, the UN Security Council adopted the resolution 2397 in 2017 titled "The Situation in Middle East" to authorize the presence of humanitarian operators in conflict zones until January 2019.[239]

The UN General Assembly has focused its attention on the human rights situation in Syria, including the right to food.[240] In General Assembly resolution 72/191 of 2018 titled "Situation of Human Rights in the Syrian Arab Republic," the urgency to provide humanitarian assistance to over 5.3 million refugees is stressed, particularly when it comes to vulnerable groups such as women and children.[241] In order to accomplish the General Assembly goal of providing humanitarian assistance, WFP is managing the UN Air Humanitarian Service (UNHAS) operation to timely provide emergency aid.[242] In partnership with UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD), WFP is able to obtain and deliver food and non-food items stored in locations worldwide within 24/48 hours from the onset of an emergency.[243]

The Rome-based agencies (RBAs), including WFP, FAO, and IFAD, are working together to ensure a prompt response to the Syrian emergency by building population resilience and promoting sustainable development through agricultural resilience initiatives.[244] Together with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), WFP is working to assist more than 11 million Syrians affected by the humanitarian crisis through the provision of food and non-food items throughout the entire Syrian territory.[245] Every month, following WHO's nutritional guidelines, WFP provides more than 4.5 million Syrians with meals containing 1,700 kcal per day.[246]

WFP is committed to supporting children's nutrition through special programs such as the School Meals for Syrian children in the area of Aleppo.[247] Since March 2017, WFP continues to distribute meals to Syrian children attending public primary schools, allowing them to receive the necessary minerals and vitamins for healthy growth.[248] In addition, this program is considered an incentive to encourage parents to send their children to school since the project guarantees at least one meal a day for each child.[249] Recently, the WFP also launched the School Snack Programme which reaches more than 400 schools through Syria.[250] This special programme is aimed at providing children and young people with fortified bars.[251] Moreover, WFP establish a special project in Aleppo city to provide nutritional bars once a day and encourage families to send their children to UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) supported schools.[252] By sending their children to school, UNICEF provides families with cash-based-transfers to buy food in local stores.[253] Furthermore, the World Health Organization (WHO) has delivered more than 14 million medical treatments across the country, including children vaccinations and malnourishment screening.[254]

According to UNICEF, almost 2 millions of Syrian children do not go to school, and another 2.5 million are refugees.[255] Children living in the area of Eastern Ghouta lack the access to food and it is causing

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[238] UN Security Council, *The Situation in Middle East (S/RES/2393 (2017))*, 2017.
[239] Ibid.
[240] UN General Assembly, *Situation of Human Rights in the Syrian Arab Republic (A/RES/72/191)*, 2018.
[241] Ibid.
[242] UN WFP, *UN Humanitarian Air Service*, 2018.
[243] UNHRD, *Overview*, 2018.
[244] UN WFP, *Rome-Based Agencies*, 2017.
[245] UNOCHA, *Syria*, 2018.
[246] UN WFP, *The WFP Food Basket*, 2018.
[247] UN WFP, *WFP Provides School Meals to Syrian Children Across Aleppo City*, 2017.
[248] Ibid.
[249] Ibid.
[250] UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018.
[251] Ibid.
[252] UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018; UNICEF, *Syria*, 2018.
[253] Ibid.
[254] UN DPI, *Syria*, 2018.
[255] UNICEF, Syria, 2018; UNICEF, *Syrian Crisis*, 2018.

widespread malnourishment.[256] A UNICEF's study reports that the 11.9% of children under five years old in the area of East Ghouta are malnourished and the 2.1% suffer acute malnutrition.[257] The study also stresses that children are at risk of death or delayed development due to malnutrition.[258] Also, mothers are unable to breastfeed or nourish themselves during pregnancy because of the scarcity of food and continuous displacement due to violence across the country, leading to health challenges for mothers and children.[259]

WFP is also looking at restoring livelihoods with the aim of promoting food security.[260] Among the activities addressed to rebuild livelihoods, WFP launched the FFA program.[261] The program consists of providing food-insecure Syrians with cash, food transfers, or vouchers to buy food items while building their assets for long-term food security.[262] These initiatives aim to increase community access to markets, allow for the development and management of natural resources, and provide training to improve assets' management skills.[263] The FFA initiative benefits Syrians that are working hard to restore their assets and livelihoods in lands previously occupied or affected by bombardments.[264]

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is one of the leading active humanitarian operators in Syria.[265] The ICRC focuses on helping Syrians in the following areas: civilian protection, health and sanitation, economic security, water and environmental protection, and food security.[266] The ICRC, in coordination with WFP, is working to provide Syrians with food assistance.[267] It also coordinates its efforts with other humanitarian entities, including UN OCHA, WFP, and Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the latter is also responsible for managing the humanitarian intervention through the cluster approach.[268] The IASC promoted the cluster approach in 2006 within the UN Humanitarian Reform process.[269] The cluster approach intends to divide the humanitarian intervention into sectors and nominate an entity that can take the leadership of the cluster due to its expertise.[270] The WFP has been nominated the leader of the Logistics Cluster because of its extensive experience in providing emergency aid when and where is needed.[271]

Efficient Logistical Operations to Address Food Insecurity

When operating in a complex emergency situation such as in Syria, logistical planning plays an essential role in the timely delivery of humanitarian aid.[272] The Logistics Cluster managed by IASC and led by WFP continue to improve its guidelines and framework for actions with the intent to strengthen the efficiency of emergency response.[273] One of WFP priorities is to ensure timely delivery of food items to people in need.[274] Therefore, WFP uses the Food Security Monitoring Systems (FSMS) as an early warning system

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[256] Ibid.
[257] ReliefWeb, *Child Malnutrition levels increase sharply in besieged East Ghouta*, 2017.
[258] Ibid.
[259] Ibid.
[260] UN WFP, *Food Assistance for Assets (FFAA)*, 2018.
[261] Ibid.
[262] Ibid.
[263] Ibid.
[264] Ibid. 2018.
[265] ICRC, *Protracted Conflict and Humanitarian Action. Some Recent ICRC Experiences*, 2016.
[266] ICRC, *Protracted Conflict and Humanitarian Action. Some Recent ICRC Experiences*, 2016; ICRC, *Syria in Focus*, 2018.
[267] ICRC, *Syria in Focus*, 2018.
[268] ICRC, *Protracted Conflict and Humanitarian Action. Some Recent ICRC Experiences*, 2016. ICRC, *Syria in Focus*; IASC, *About*, 2018; IASC, *Cluster Approach*, 2018.
[269] IASC, *About;* IASC, *Cluster Approach*, 2018.
[270] IASC, *IASC Reference Module for Cluster Coordination at Country Level*; Logistics Cluster, *About Us*, 2018.
[271] IASC, *IASC Reference Module for Cluster Coordination at Country Level*, 2018.
[272] Logistics Cluster, *About Us*, 2018.
[273] Ibid.
[274] Ibid.

to alert the international community about situations with potential risk of food insecurity.[275] The FSMS can provide humanitarian operators with up-to-date information about households' food consumption, crop productivity, and market prices.[276] Based on specific indicators, the FSMS can elaborate an Emergency Food Security Assessment when an area, region, or country is considered at risk of food insecurity.[277] Once the assessment is completed, the WFP coordinates with its partners, including the RBAs, in order to plan the delivery of the emergency aid.[278]

In addition to the early warning given by the FSMS, WFP uses the Geographic Information System (GIS) to elaborate informative maps.[279] The GIS analyzes, gathers, and manages data through different online database and satellite measurements.[280] It can organize layers of information into an informative map (2D or 3D) that humanitarian operators share in online platforms, such as ReliefWeb.[281] WFP is one of the main contributors of the ReliefWeb platform for humanitarian operators.[282] ReliefWeb contains articles, fact sheets, humanitarian dashboards, and reports elaborated by the humanitarian organization which freely share them on the platform, also making them available for the international community.[283] One of the latest contributions of WFP to ReliefWeb about Syria is an infographic of July 2018 which considers Syria a level 3 out of 3 of emergency.[284] Hence the main intervention priorities still involve delivery of food items, basic needs, and medicines.[285] By using technologies such as the GIS, WFP has been able to elaborate the 2018 emergency dashboards food insecurity in Syria which includes essential figures for humanitarian operators and that can help the logistics planning of food items' delivery.[286]

Once the crisis assessment is complete, WFP, through nine humanitarian depots supported by UNHRD, has access to a range of humanitarian aid materials, including food and non-food items, in areas close to those of the intervention.[287] Since 2012, UNHDR has reached Syria with 137 shipments containing various humanitarian items for a total value of about 12 million USD.[288] UNHRD has sent 2,125 MT of cargo supplies in cooperation with several partners, among those the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UN Development Program (UNDP), WHO, and WFP.[289] The rapid response capacity of UNHRD is also assisted by the ground transportation of international, regional, and local partners, as well as the air one provided by UNHAS.[290] UNHAS is managed by WFP to promptly intervene and deliver food items, ship medical supplies, and transport people, to and from hard-to-reach areas, such as the rural towns in the north of Syria.[291]

Strengthening Syrians Resilience to Food Security

According to WFP's 2017 report, *Livelihoods, and Resilience – Syria*, Syria has lost four decades of development since the conflict began in 2011, with 85% of the population living in poverty.[292] The international community is working to respond to the food insecurity crisis by dealing with the increase in

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[275] UN WFP, *Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS)*, 2018.
[276] Ibid.
[277] Ibid.
[278] Ibid.
[279] UN WFP, *WFPGeoNode: Get Started*, 2018.
[280] Ibid.
[281] UN WFP, *WFPGeoNode: Get Started*, 2018; ReliefWeb, *About*, 2018.
[282] ReliefWeb, *About*, 2018.
[283] Ibid.
[284] Ibid.
[285] Ibid.
[286] ReliefWeb, *Syria Emergency Dashboard*, 2018.
[287] UNHRD, *Overview*, 2018.
[288] UNHRD, *UNHRD Operations Overview*, 2017.
[289] UNHRD, *UNHRD Operations Overview*, 2017; UNHCR, *About Us*, 2018; UNDP, *About Us*, 2018; WHO, *What We Do*, 2018; UN WFP, *Overview*, 2018.
[290] UN WFP, *UN Humanitarian Air Service*, 2018.
[291] Ibid.
[292] UN WFP, *Livelihoods, and Resilience – Syria 2017*, 2017.

the price of agricultural commodities and scarcity of natural resources.[293] Drought has also worsened the humanitarian situation in Syria by creating food shortages and reducing arable land.[294] These challenges, coupled with prolonged conflict, are worsening the situation for the Syrian population and hindering recovery and development.[295] Due to the loss of arable land, which Syrians living in rural areas rely on, 69% of the Syrian population face extreme poverty.[296] WFP elaborated a strategy to restore food security in Syria by supporting livelihoods, local markets, and strengthening Syrians' agricultural resilience.[297] WFP partnered with FAO, UNDP and the Institute Européen de Coopération et de Développement (IECD) to build resilience against poverty in Syria.[298] These organizations provide farmers with training, seeds, and livestock to let them restore their livelihoods as well as learn how to better manage potential future shocks due to natural disasters or human-caused crisis.[299] Together with UNDP, WFP is working on a pilot program to allow women to receive food for them and their families while being trained about agricultural techniques.[300]

In April 2018, FAO presented the Syrian Refugee Resilience Plan (SRRP) with the intent to support Syrian refugees primarily in Turkey.[301] One of the main goals is to promote the social integration of Syrian refugees with hosting communities by providing food aid to address food insecurity, which is affecting refugees, and to enhance their resilience.[302] The SRRP is coordinated by the FAO Representation in Turkey which is working closely with the Turkish authorities, including the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD), the Ministry of Development (MoD), and the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock (MFAL).[303] By focusing on agriculture, the SRRP aims at strengthening resilience against emergencies and promoting integration into the local market by allowing about 45,000 Syrian refugees' households located across the Turkish border in 11 different provinces to sell their products.[304]

Conclusion

Syria is currently facing one of the worst food security crises in decades.[305] The UN is working diligently to respond to the humanitarian crisis by cooperating with local authorities and Syrian refugee-hosting countries by implementing new and better guidelines for logistical operations, and building resilient communities and agricultural plans.[306] To improve access and availability of food, the local agricultural sector plays a primary role in food production, nutrition, and strengthening of the Syrian economy.[307] However, the fragile political context and the challenging distribution of aid in hard-to-reach areas make the work of the international community much harder than expected.[308] To increase food delivery efficiency, WFP, as the Logistics Cluster leader, is managing the delivery of the humanitarian aid in Syria by coordinating efforts UNOCHA and FAO's local and regional offices to promptly intervene and deliver both food and non-food items.[309] Thus, to achieve food security, international efforts must focus on

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[293] UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018.
[294] Selby et al., *Climate change and the Syrian civil war revisited*, 2017.
[295] Ibid.
[296] UN WFP, *Livelihoods, and Resilience – Syria 2017*, 2017.
[297] UN WFP, *Livelihoods and Resilience – Syria 2017*, 2017; UN WFP, *WFP Syria*, 2018; *Livelihoods and Resilience Strategy*, 2015.
[298] UN WFP, *Livelihoods and Resilience – Syria 2017*, 2017.
[299] Ibid.
[300] Ibid.
[301] FAO, *Syrian Refugee Resilience Plan 2018-2019*, 2018.
[302] Ibid.
[303] Ibid.
[304] Ibid.
[305] UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018.
[306] Ibid.
[307] Ibid.
[308] Ibid.
[309] UN WFP, *Rome-Based Agencies*, 2017.

strengthening resilience and ensuring continuity of local programs and policies to succeed over the Syrian civil war.[310]

Further Research

Food insecurity in Syria is ongoing, and it is affecting the majority of its population. How can the international community strengthen global partnerships to promote SDG 17 in order to increase access to food? Considering the complex emergency affecting Syria, how could the IASC's cluster approach help the international community to better respond to the Syrian emergency? What other logistical operations or capacity-building strategies can be implemented to continue to support food aid in Syria? How can the Syrian agriculture be strengthened to empower Syrians against food insecurity? How can Member States support the work of WFP to provide long-term food to Syrians?

Annotated Bibliography

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. (2018). *Crisis in Syria* [Website]. Retrieved 5 July 2018 from: http://www.fao.org/emergencies/crisis/syria/en/
> *FAO manages the website "FAO in emergencies" which provides the reader with an overview of the emergency management stage for each affected country. The resource focuses on the humanitarian crisis in Syria providing data and figures about food insecurity and malnutrition affecting the country. FAO is part of the UN RBAs committed to providing food aid, building agricultural resilience, and promoting development together with WFP and International Fund for Agricultural Development. This source will help delegates to understand coordination efforts between these three entities.*

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. (2018). *Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition.* Retrieved 31 July 2018 from: http://www.fao.org/fsnforum/home
> *The Global Forum on FSN Forum) is a platform which allows members to stay informed about food security-related issues and recent developments in food insecurity management strategies. Members of the FSN Forum can discuss and share information about global policies related to food security. The FSN Forum, works closely with FAO.. Delegates can benefit from learning more about the initiatives coordinated by UN specialized agencies, in particular, the Rome-Based ones.*

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. (2018). *Syrian Refugee Resilience Plan 2018-2019.* Retrieved 2 August 2018 from: http://www.fao.org/3/I9240EN/i9240en.pdf
> *Resilience is one of the most critical issues to take into consideration within the continuum emergency rehabilitation development. Emergency management focuses on emergency intervention to facilitate the rehabilitation from the shock, working on the development and, consequently, strengthening the population's resilience to disasters. Given that the crisis in Syria is one of the worse of the century, the RBAs are cooperating to fulfill the need of allowing Syrians to respond to the humanitarian crisis by empowering their abilities in recovering from shocks. The FAO has implemented the* Syrian Refugee Resilience Plan 2018-2019 *in Turkey to help both internally displaced people and refugees that also need to integrate within the social context of hosting countries. The resource represents an important starting point for delegates in order to start working on potential and additional ways of responding to food insecurity in Syria.*

Inter-Agency Standing Committee. (2015). *IASC Reference Module for Cluster Coordination at Country Level* [Report]. Retrieved 1 August 2018 from: https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/cluster_coordination_reference_module_2015_final.pdf

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[310] UN WFP, *Syrian Arab Republic*, 2018.

The IASC established a cluster approach to better coordinate humanitarian operations. This resource explains why the cluster approach was necessary to develop and it highlights the characteristics that are making a difference in recent emergency response operations. By dividing the emergency response into areas of operations, the cluster approach pointed out a leader for each sector to coordinate the within the cluster. IASC and the UNOCHA manage emergency response operations by setting guidelines and priorities at the international level. Delegates can benefit from understanding the cluster approach as a way to improve emergency management. In addition to the chance to learn more about the role of the WFP as leader of the Logistics Cluster.

Logistics Cluster. (2018). *Syrian Arab Republic* [Website]. Retrieved 4 July 2018 from: https://logcluster.org/ops/syr12a

The Logistics Cluster's website focuses on the situation in Syria analyzed from a logistics-oriented approach. The resource gives a general overview of the logistics operation concepts while providing a better understanding of common notions used in emergency management. Furthermore, the resource gives a panoramic view of what has been done by the humanitarian operators. Specifically, it focuses on which are the key documents and guidelines of reference when it comes to emergency management. Since the World Food Programme leads the Logistics Cluster, the resource is also able to provide delegates with a better understanding of the agency's mandate and its practical implications.

United Nations, Human Rights Council, Thirty-fourth session. (2017). *The right to food (A/HRC/RES/34/12)* [Resolution]. Retrieved 5 July 2018 from: http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/34/12

The right to food can be considered the basic principle to guide the response of food insecurity in Syria. By stressing the importance of providing food items to people affected by the humanitarian crisis as in Syria, this resource provides essential information of the situation of the food right and links to additional documents and actions of the United Nations. Delegates can benefit from reading the document to gain an overview of how the UN approach promotes food as a human right.

United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (2018). *Syria* [Website]. Retrieved 4 July 2018 from: http://www.unocha.org/syria

This resource represents a key one to access up-to-date information about the humanitarian crisis in Syria. The UNOCHA is the leading organization for the coordination of humanitarian response at the international level. The resource will allow delegates to access a list of information coming from different entities that are now providing humanitarian aid to Syria. Moreover, UNOCHA coordinates the efforts of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the lead entity in clusters management. WFP is the leader of the Logistics Cluster and co-leader of the Food Security cluster approach; thus, this resource allows delegates to access information about the current logistical and humanitarian operations led by the WFP in Syria.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2017). *Rome-Based Agencies* [Website]. Retrieved 4 July 2018 from: http://www1.wfp.org/rome-based-agencies

Since WFP works closely with FAO and IFAD, this resource provides a clear overview of the three agencies coordination in case of emergency response. The three agencies focus on agriculture-related issues, yet each one has a different approach. WFP is the agency able to provide aid in the immediate aftermath of an emergency, while FAO and IFAD work jointly to promote the rehabilitation, building the resilience, and working on development initiatives. Delegates will benefit from analyzing each of their focus areas and how can cooperation between them make emergency response more efficient.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2018). *2017 - Syria Year in Review* [Report]. Retrieved 4 July 2018 from: http://www.wfp.org/content/2017-syria-year-review?_ga=2.79300189.898950163.1530794125-999265666.1530547480

The Syrian humanitarian crisis was at its worst in 2017 as food insecurity and malnutrition reached an all-time high. The review elaborated by the WFP can provide delegates with a series of fact and figures about the humanitarian operation that have taken place in 2016-2017. The report highlights the top priorities for WFP's operations in 2017-2018 including enhancing logistics operation and delivery of food items to hard-to-reach areas. The WFP also urges the international community to respond to the Syrian refugee's crisis.. This resource will give a clear, up-to-date, and compelling idea to delegates about what the WFP is doing as the logistics coordinator of the emergency response in Syria.

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2018). *The WFP Food Basket* [Website]. Retrieved 24 July 2018 from: https://www.wfp.org/food-assistance/kind-food-assistance/wfp-food-basket
> *The WFP Food Basket is a ready-to-use kit of food in case of humanitarian crisis. The WFP Food Basket is composed of a series of bars and other food items that are able to provide the right nutrients to people affected by disasters. Delegates would benefit from learning more about this project and consider other potential solutions that could promote long-term provisions of food items to populations affected by protracted conflicts like the one in Syria.*

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III. Improving Frameworks for the Supply of Food Aid

"The quest for food security can be the common thread that links the different challenges we face and helps build a sustainable future."[311]

Introduction

Despite a decade-long decline, recent years have shown a sharp rise in world hunger.[312] One in nine people are currently facing food insecurity and undernourishment.[313] The recent increases in food insecurity and hunger throughout the world have also caught the attention of the United Nations (UN), as shown through the adoption of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2030 Agenda) and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015, which committed the UN and its Member States to work toward a world with no hunger by 2030.[314] UN organizations such as the World Food Programme (WFP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) acknowledge that food insecurity can negatively impact a country's development.[315] For instance, in Western Africa food insecurity is linked with the slowdown of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth and the rise of food prices.[316] In recent years, climate change has become an important global concern affecting agriculture, food supply, as well as effective food aid.[317] With populations in Yemen, Nigeria, South Sudan, and Somalia currently at risk for famine, it is critical for WFP to have an efficient and responsive framework to provide food aid.[318]

WFP works toward the realization of sustainable development by providing food aid and fighting hunger.[319] Food aid is provided in three types: (1) emergency food aid, where food is freely distributed short-term to victims of political conflict or natural disasters; (2) project food aid, which is primarily used in support of nutritional, developmental, and agricultural projects and interventions; and (3) programme food aid, where food is not distributed to a target group, but to specific governments to distribute.[320] WFP's supply of food aid is centered around the most food-insecure areas, in which nutrition is too scarce to support the general health and well-being of the population.[321]

In recent years, the concept of "food aid" has changed toward the development of newer, more sustainable practices.[322] The 2017 *World Food Assistance* report describes new activities and instruments which were created to replace transactional concepts of food aid in order to provide more sustainable and constant access to nutritious food.[323] The new concept of food assistance aims to directly empower food-insecure or vulnerable individuals and communities to purchase their own food through vouchers, rather than relying on food distributions.[324]

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[311] FAO, *No Sustainable Development Without Hunger Eradication*, 2012.
[312] FAO, *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World*, 2018, p. 1.
[313] Ibid., p. 1.
[314] UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (*A/RES/70/1*), 2015; UN WFP, *Decisions and Recommendations of the First Regular Session of the Executive Board, 2017* (*WFP/EB.1/2017/14*), 2017.
[315] FAO, *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World*, 2018, p. 4.
[316] Ibid., p. 4.
[317] UN WFP, *Climate Change Policy* (*WFP/EB.1/2017/4-A/Rev.1*), 2017.
[318] FAO, *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World*, 2018, p. 4.
[319] UN WFP, *Climate Change Policy* (*WFP/EB.1/2017/4-A/Rev.1*), 2017.
[320] UN WFP, *2012 Food Aid Flows*, 2013, p. 4.
[321] UN WFP, *Consolidated Framework of WFP Policies: An Updated Version (November 20010)* (*WFP/EB.2/2010/4-E*), 2010, p. 12; UN WFP, *Update on WFP's Role in the Collective Humanitarian Response* (*WFP/EB.A/2018/5-E*), 2018, p. 1.
[322] UN WFP, *World Food Assistance 2017: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead*, 2017, p. 8.
[323] Ibid., p. 8.
[324] Ibid., p. 8.

International and Regional Framework

The *Food Aid Convention* (1999) is one of the most important conventions in the international response to food aid and food insecurity.[325] While acknowledging the outcomes in other works such as the *World Food Summit Plan of Action* (1996) and the *Rome Declaration on World Food Security* (1996), the *Food Aid Convention* aimed to alleviate hunger and poverty for all vulnerable groups, as well as ensuring agricultural development in countries in need.[326] In addition, the 1999 Convention called for the international community to improve their response to emergencies in developing countries through providing frameworks for cooperation between States parties to the Convention maximizing quality and effectiveness of provided food aid.[327]

The *Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security*, adopted by the FAO in November 2004, continued the international discussion of food aid policy.[328] The guidelines primarily focus on the importance of human rights in the context of food supply and guide states to implement progressive policies on human rights within the context of food security.[329] The Voluntary Guidelines created a bridge to integrate human rights into food and agriculture-based agencies and were used around the world to address the fight against hunger.[330] Further aid and development commitments were made through the *Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness* (2005) and the *Accra Agenda for Action* (2008).[331] Both the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda called for an increased emphasis on aid and its impact on development, with the Accra Agenda reaffirming the Paris Declaration during the Third High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2008.[332] The Accra Agenda focused primarily on the objectives of the Paris Declaration through priority areas of capacity-building, ownership, delivering results, and inclusive partnerships.[333]

The international discussion of food aid and food security continued in the High-Level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security and the *Food and Nutrition Security: Comprehensive Framework for Action* (2011).[334] The framework summarizes the need for obtaining sustainable food and nutrition security at the national, regional, and global scales.[335] The framework sets forth four principles, which include the need for comprehensive approaches, more investments into the security of food and nutrition, regional support for country-led strategies, and taking accountability for the results.[336] These principles reflect an ongoing learning process taking place at the local, national, and international levels regarding food aid delivery.[337]

With the adoption of the *Food Assistance Convention* (2013), the discussion of food security became more modernized.[338] As the 1999 Convention committed almost exclusively to traditional food aid deliveries, the 2013 Convention expands its commitments to include monetary food assistance in the

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[325] Food Aid Committee, *Food Aid Convention*, 1999.

[326] Ibid.

[327] Ibid.

[328] FAO, *Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security*, 2004.

[329] Ibid.

[330] Ibid.

[331] OECD, *The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness: Five Principles for Smart Aid*, 2005.

[332] OECD, *The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action*, 2015.

[333] Ibid.

[334] UN HLTF, *Food and Nutrition Security: Comprehensive Framework for Action*, 2011.

[335] Ibid.

[336] Ibid.

[337] UN HLTF, *Food and Nutrition Security: Comprehensive Framework for Action*, 2011; UN WFP, *Consolidated Framework of WFP Policies: Establishing and Maintaining a Governance Tool* (*WFP/EB.A/2002/5-A/2*), 2002.

[338] Food Assistance Committee, *Food Assistance Convention*, 2013.

form of currency and vouchers.[339] These new products for food assistance provide a greater focus on nutrition, which in turn provides more protections for a person's livelihoods.[340]

The SDGs, adopted in the General Assembly resolution 70/1 "Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," establish ambitious goals to end world hunger and address other environmental and humanitarian global issues.[341] The 2030 Agenda provides an outline for the international community, using the SDGs as groundwork for plans to make the world more sustainable and environmentally friendly.[342] This is done through the use of development projects and partnerships with other governmental bodies to raise awareness.[343] The 2030 Agenda is now one of the primary frameworks for improving food security, addressed in SDG 2 on ending hunger.[344]

Role of the International System

WFP is the leading UN entity on food aid delivery.[345] In the most recent annual report, the Executive Board introduced the *WFP Strategic Plan 2017-2021* to provide improved frameworks aligned with the 2030 Agenda.[346] The strategic plan emphasizes WFP's contributions to emergency food aid through effective partnerships with other organizations and agencies.[347]

WFP's strategic plan also reaffirms its additional commitments to SDG 17 for global partnerships to achieve the SDGs.[348] Similar to SDG 2, the plan includes strategic objectives such as facilitating partnerships in order to yield development results, as called for by SDG 17.[349] To expand upon SDG 17, WFP partners with other UN organizations, local governments, and corporate partners to address food insecurity.[350] For instance, WFP maintains a strong relationship with the credit card company MasterCard, which helped fundraise over $7 million for the body's work in 2017 and is projected to raise over $10 million by the end of 2018.[351] WFP recognizes the importance of good nutrition as an outcome of the SDGs and recently updated its nutrition policy.[352] The policy, as well as the SDGs, note the importance of reaching people who are in the most vulnerable positions, specifically children.[353] The policy notes that the first 1,000 days of a child's life are the most critical, because chronic malnutrition is most likely to develop during this time.[354] With nutritional intervention, children will be able to benefit from a boost in physical and cognitive functions, as well as to develop a stronger immune system.[355] WFP works to improve food access to children through schools, providing children with meals during school hours.[356] In addition, a child's education can contribute to better food access, which can lead to improving health conditions and a reduction in long-term food aid reliance.[357] WFP, building upon its support of

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[339] Ibid.
[340] Ibid.
[341] UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (*A/RES/70/1*), 2015.
[342] Ibid.
[343] Ibid.
[344] Ibid.
[345] UN WFP, *Annual Performance Report for 2017* (*WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1*), 2018, p. 11.
[346] Ibid., p. 11.
[347] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)* (*WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2*), 2016, p. 2.
[348] Ibid., p. 3.
[349] Ibid., p. 3.
[350] UN WFP, *Investment to Achieve Zero Hunger: WFP's 2018-2022 Private Sector Partnerships and Fundraising Strategy*, 2018, p. 5.
[351] Ibid., p. 6.
[352] UN WFP, *WFP Nutrition Policy*, 2017, p. 4.
[353] Ibid., p. 8.
[354] Ibid., p. 8.
[355] Ibid., p. 8.
[356] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2014-2017)* (*WFP/EB.A/2013/5-A/1*), 2013.
[357] Ibid.

development initiatives, promotes building healthy diets and satisfying nutrient needs through providing an immediate access to health facilities.[358]

Food Aid and Humanitarian Response
WFP places an emphasis on strengthening livelihoods in emergency situations through the use of food aid.[359] Livelihoods, as mentioned in the 2003 report *Food Aid and Livelihoods in Emergencies: Strategies for WFP*, refer to a particular sets of skills and assets needed to maintain a quality of life.[360] During emergency situations, the policy recommends that food aid to be bundled with non-food items which contribute to the well-being and welfare of aid recipients.[361] In addition to WFP, other agencies such as the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) play a key role in providing humanitarian relief in times of need.[362] OCHA advocates for accessing states in crisis to deliver food aid and coordinates with other agencies such as the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to assist in funding food aid in times of crisis.[363] In states such as Ethiopia, OCHA partnered with the national government to support the development of an Integrated National Food/Cash Plan, working in line with the New Way of Working program.[364] When Secretary-General António Guterres launched his call to action to help avoid famine in Yemen, Nigeria, South Sudan, and Somalia, OCHA played a key role in food aid efforts.[365] Additionally, the FAO has taken steps to connect humanitarian aid and food aid through early warning systems.[366] Established during the world food crisis in the early 1970s by the FAO, the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) provides the next step toward improving food security.[367] The GIEWS has played a prominent role in food security early warnings by analyzing and providing remote sensing data for food supply and demand markets.[368]

Challenges to Effective Food Assistance Practices

Climate Change and Food Assistance
While updated policies and programs have led to the advancement of effective food aid practices over time, the international community continues to face challenges which can prevent further advancements.[369] One of the most pressing ongoing challenges is the effect of climate change on food security across the globe which, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, has the potential to increase the risks of malnutrition and hunger up to 20% by the year 2050.[370] As referenced in WFP's *Climate Change Policy* (2017), today's changing climate presents a struggle for food-insecure individuals and families to obtain a nutritious diet.[371] Approximately four out of five people in the world live in areas more prone to natural disasters such as droughts, flooding, earthquakes, and storms, which can easily destroy important agricultural resources such as livestock, crops, and land.[372] Climate change affects food supplies by decreasing the availability of water, degrading the agricultural environment, and perpetuating pests and diseases affecting the health of crops, among others.[373] WFP addresses climate

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[358] UN WFP, *WFP Nutrition Policy*, 2017, p. 10.
[359] UN WFP, *Update on WFP's Role in the Collective Humanitarian Response* (*WFP/EB.A/2018/5-E*), 2018.
[360] UN WFP, *Food Aid and Livelihoods in Emergencies: Strategies for WFP* (*WFP/EB.A/2003/5-A*), 2003, p. 4.
[361] Ibid., p. 10.
[362] UN OCHA, *Annual Report 2017*, 2018, p. 8.
[363] Ibid., p. 9.
[364] Ibid., p. 16.
[365] Ibid., p. 8.
[366] FAO, *FAO Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS): Improving Monitoring and Analysis of Food Supply/Demand and Markets*, 2016.
[367] Ibid.
[368] Ibid.
[369] UN WFP, *Annual Performance Report for 2017* (*WFP/EB.A/2018/4-A/Rev.1*), 2018.
[370] IPCC, *Climate Change 2014 Synthesis Report*, 2015.
[371] UN WFP, *Climate Change Policy* (*WFP/EB.1/2017/4-A/Rev.1*), 2017, p. 4.
[372] Ibid., p. 4.
[373] Ibid., p. 4.

change as a long-term challenge that requires a comprehensive plan from the international community to mitigate its effects on food security.[374]

Climate Change and Food Assistance: Dominica and Hurricane Response
In September 2017, the Commonwealth of Dominica experienced catastrophic impacts from Hurricane Maria, striking the island as a Category 5 storm with winds in access of 157 miles per hour.[375] Estimates from the UN showed almost 90% of the population saw damage to their properties and livelihoods and 25,000 people were estimated to need continued support after WFP's immediate action of food assistance was provided.[376] In addition, Maria severely damaged farms, livestock and crop production, forest reserves, and irrigation systems throughout the island.[377] Infrastructure damage from the storm led shops and supermarkets to remain closed, leading to a rapidly declining availability of food.[378] WFP, in conjunction with the government of Dominica, ensured those most affected by the storm were given the equal and adequate food rations they needed to meet daily food and nutritional needs.[379] WFP provided a two-week long supply of rations to the most affected areas and continued to supply more until markets could reopen.[380] In turn, the government provided non-food tools, such as fuel for cooking, water containers, and other materials for proper sheltering to ensure prioritizations of both food and non-food assistance to those affected.[381] The emergency operation lasted until March 2018 and cost over $4 million to complete.[382] There were, however, challenges involved during recovery efforts.[383] Dominica is an area prone to tropical cyclones and natural disasters and the sudden onset of another natural disaster could have interrupted the recovery response.[384] WFP also had little control over assistance to affected areas, and could only monitor the delivery of food to social systems through government systems.[385]

Gender Equality and Food Assistance
Women are disproportionately affected by food insecurity during disasters and conflict.[386] According to WFP, women are more likely to develop negative coping strategies, such as rationing their own food for the rest of the family and skipping meals during times of food insecurity.[387] They also give themselves cheaper and less nutritious food, and in extreme cases, resort to prostitution for an additional food income.[388] To prevent further negative coping mechanisms for women, WFP promotes gender equality and women's empowerment throughout the international community.[389] The *Gender Policy (2015-2020)* specifically states "everyone is responsible for promoting gender equality and women's empowerment as preconditions for effective development."[390]

WFP has taken steps in the past to address the links between gender equality and food security.[391] For example, the body launched the Participatory Action Learning (PAL) program in Senegal, which studies the involvement of men are in the care and nutrition of children.[392] PAL looks into how men could

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[374] Ibid., p. 4.
[375] UN WFP, *Emergency Food Assistance to Communities Affected by Hurricane Maria in Dominica*, 2018, p. 1.
[376] Ibid., p. 1.
[377] Ibid., p. 3.
[378] Ibid., p. 3.
[379] Ibid., p. 6.
[380] Ibid., p. 6.
[381] Ibid., p. 8.
[382] Ibid., p. 1.
[383] Ibid., p. 9.
[384] Ibid., p. 9.
[385] Ibid., p. 9.
[386] UN WFP, *WFP Gender Policy (2015-2020)*, 2015, p. 1.
[387] UN WFP, *Food Aid and Livelihoods in Emergencies: Strategies for WFP* (*WFP/EB.A/2003/5-A*), 2003, p. 5.
[388] Ibid., p. 5.
[389] UN WFP, *WFP Gender Policy (2015-2020)*, 2015, p. 1.
[390] Ibid., p. 1.
[391] Ibid., p. 8.
[392] Ibid., p. 8.

increase their involvement in care.[393] Group discussions revealed the reasons behind a lack of male involvement stems from a fear of being mocked by others, as an involvement in a child's nutrition is not considered a man's role.[394] WFP acknowledged the need to change these attitudes by engaging men in open discussions on child nutrition.[395] However, work still needs to be done in addressing these attitudes in order to promote gender equality in food security.[396] Women continue to face discrimination when obtaining access to food and control over their health and livelihoods.[397] Women and girls are more likely than men and boys to experience gender-based violence in the pursuit of food resources.[398]

Food Aid to Food Assistance

WFP's transition from "food aid" to "food assistance" began with the *Strategic Plan (2008-2011)*, in which the body adopted a new approach to reducing hunger through more preventative measures.[399] Many of the new strategic objectives included protecting livelihoods in emergencies and preventing acute hunger, as well as reducing malnutrition and chronic hunger throughout the world.[400] The book *Revolution: From Food Aid to Food Assistance, Innovations in Overcoming Hunger*, published by WFP in 2010, describes two main objectives for food assistance.[401] The first target is to implement social protection baselines to provide more sustainable ways to eradicate hunger, as well as to provide a cushion to disaster-prone areas.[402] Establishing baselines of social protection would require an increased institutional capacity to guarantee assistance and extensive knowledge on the best forms of practice.[403] The second target is an effective response to emergency situations, and preventing natural disasters from becoming a humanitarian crisis.[404] New distribution strategies, such as food vouchers and cash-based transfers (CBTs) have been introduced, guaranteeing that food of a certain quality and value is provided in times of crises.[405] Additionally, seed and fertilizer vouchers are available as a substitute for food vouchers in areas where natural disasters have wiped out agricultural resources.[406]

WFP strongly supports the use of CBTs within local economies, as they strengthen local markets by purchasing food locally.[407] The new strategies have been introduced in areas of low economic stability such as Burkina Faso, which saw the use of food vouchers for the first time in Africa in response to high food prices.[408] In Malawi, the Cash and Food for Livelihoods Pilot project launched in October 2008, investing in disaster reduction to prevent the development of acute hunger by providing a mix of food and cash transfers in exchange for participation in the construction of community assets under a protracted relief and recovery operation.[409] Despite rising in popularity, CBTs have been less successful in certain areas.[410] Several areas around the world lack the proper infrastructure to receive CBTs through digital deliveries, lacking the funds and technological expertise to efficiently deliver the assistance.[411] WFP also

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[393] Ibid., p. 8.
[394] Ibid., p. 8.
[395] Ibid., p. 8.
[396] Ibid., p. 1.
[397] Ibid., p. 1.
[398] Ibid., p. 6.
[399] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2011) – Extended to 2013 as per Board Decision* (*WFP/EB.A/2008/3*), 2008, p. 3.
[400] Ibid., pp. 5-6.
[401] UN WFP, *Revolution: From Food Aid to Food Assistance, Innovations in Overcoming Hunger*, 2010, p. xv.
[402] Ibid., p. XV.
[403] Ibid., p. XV.
[404] Ibid., p. XV.
[405] Ibid., p. 4.
[406] Ibid., p. 53.
[407] UN WFP, *Cash-Based Transfers for Delivering Food Assistance*, 2017, p. 1.
[408] UN WFP, *Revolution: From Food Aid to Food Assistance, Innovations in Overcoming Hunger*, 2010, p. 5.
[409] Ibid., p. 89.
[410] UN WFP, *Cash-based Transfers: Analytical Paper on WHS Self-Reporting on the Agenda for Humanity*, 2017, p. 1.
[411] Ibid., p. 3.

reports a disagreement on a universal definition of the term "cash-based transfers."[412] There is additionally a lack of systems to measure the amount of cash involved in CBTs, and how valuable the cash can be.[413] More evidence is needed in the future to ensure CBTs are meeting expectations.[414] The use of CBTs allows WFP a quicker response time to those who are in need of assistance.[415] Traditional food handouts are still used on a short-term basis, but should be phased out once affected communities are able to begin the recovery process.[416] Improvements to phase out traditional food handouts are needed, mainly to help empower the people to feed themselves through vouchers and CBTs.[417] UNDP has noted that food assistance requires strong partnerships in order to be successful.[418]

Food Systems: Systemic Food Assistance
WFP defines a food system as an interlocking network of activities and functions involved with processing, producing, and marketing agricultural-based foods.[419] Food systems can successfully produce and deliver safe, nutritious food to consumers with little to no delays or spoilage of food.[420] Higher performing food systems play a key role in the core functions of efficient and predictable food production and consumption by delivering safe and nutritious food to consumers.[421] Food systems can benefit developing countries in the "structural transformation" of economies, leading to an increase in worker productivity and an increased income to reduce poverty and hunger.[422]

However, WFP has acknowledged that food systems are currently not meeting societal needs.[423] Globally, 800 million people are affected by food systems failure due to factors such as violent conflict and climate change.[424] Broken or failed food systems can lead to a number of negative impacts, including an increased difficulty for those in poverty to afford nutritious food, an increase in food prices, and diminished profits for farmers.[425] WFP has attempted in the past to improve the function of food systems through CBTs to fix inefficiencies along the supply chain in Kenyan refugee camps.[426] WFP also attempted to connect farmers to a supply chain of school meal programs through the Home Grown Small Meals project.[427] Despite these attempts by WFP to address problematic food systems, there are still major areas of concern the body has not yet addressed.[428] Operational areas such as climate action and nutrition can be used as enhancing initiatives to develop stronger food systems and address the three key problems observed throughout food systems by WFP.[429] They include: (1) the "last-mile" problem, where the majority of poor and hungry people are isolated and difficult to reach; (2) the "lean season" problem, where poor families lack needed resources to meet their food needs when crops fail; and (3) the "good year" problem, where a surplus of crops can lead to an improper capacity to store them, causing both the quality and price to drop.[430]

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[412] Ibid., p. 4.
[413] Ibid., p. 4.
[414] Ibid., p. 4.
[415] UN WFP, *Cash-Based Transfers for Delivering Food Assistance*, 2017, p. 2.
[416] UN WFP, *In-kind Food Distribution*, 2018.
[417] UN WFP, *Food Assistance: Cash and In-kind*, 2018.
[418] UN WFP, *Revolution: From Food Aid to Food Assistance, Innovations in Overcoming Hunger*, 2010, p. 13.
[419] UN WFP, *Systemic Food Assistance: WFP's Strategy for Leveraging Food Assistance to Improve Food System Performance*, 2018, p. 2.
[420] Ibid., p. 3.
[421] Ibid., p. 2.
[422] Ibid., p. 3.
[423] UN WFP, *Food Systems*, 2018.
[424] Ibid.
[425] Ibid.
[426] Ibid.
[427] Ibid.
[428] UN WFP, *Systemic Food Assistance: WFP's Strategy for Leveraging Food Assistance to Improve Food System Performance*, 2018, p. 10.
[429] Ibid., p. 10.
[430] UN WFP, *Food Systems*, 2018.

Conclusion

The WFP strongly emphasizes the importance of the 2030 Agenda and the need to cooperate with all stakeholders to address issues of food insecurity and malnutrition, fulfilling its commitment to SDG 2 and SDG 17.[431] A transition into modernized food assistance and introducing new frameworks and policies to improve upon food aid have led to more efficient ways of fighting hunger and reaching food-insecure people.[432] In addition, it is important to leave no person behind when addressing food insecurity.[433] As the international community continues to embrace the SDGs and develop new frameworks to supply food aid, there are major obstacles, such as climate change and gender inequalities, that can slow down the process of achieving a world without hunger.[434]

Further Research

Food security continues to be a major area of focus within WFP, as well as within the UN system.[435] Delegates should consider questions such as: Are there other strategies besides those discussed in which WFP and its partners can improve upon to supply food aid to the most food-insecure areas of the world? How can the transition from food aid to food assistance affect least-developed countries? What strategies can WFP provide to ensure CBTs are held to certain standards? What else can WFP do to slow the effects of climate change on food security? How can WFP continue to connect gender equality to food security? What other strategies can be used to fully address the three key problems of food systems?

Annotated Bibliography

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> *A renegotiated version of the 1999 Food Aid Convention, the Food Assistance Convention is the sole international treaty on food aid that is legally binding. The treaty, unlike its predecessor, has a general focus on "nutritious food," and it is up to the States parties to the Convention if their commitments be in monetary terms or through donations of food. Delegates can reference this treaty as a basis to addressing food security in developing countries and develop their own strategies to improve existing frameworks and food aid policies.*

United Nations, General Assembly, Seventieth session. (2015). *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (*A/RES/70/1*). Retrieved 9 July 2018 from: http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/1

> *The 2030 Agenda introduces the SDGs, an extension of the expired Millennium Development Goals. Through collaborations between Member States, Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs), and other UN agencies, the agenda encourages implementation of the plan on a global scale to effectively achieve each goal and become a more sustainable world. WFP stresses the importance of the agenda by adopting it into its recent strategic plan and newer policies. Delegates can use this resolution in conjunction with WFP's strategic plan as a basis for adopting new frameworks, as well as integrating the SDGs, specifically SDG 2, into existing frameworks to combine with food aid efforts and to improve sustainability.*

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[431] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)* (*WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2*), 2016, p.1.
[432] UN WFP, *Consolidated Framework of WFP Policies: An Updated Version (November 2010)* (*WFP/EB.2/2010/4-E*), 2010; UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)* (*WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2*), 2016; UN WFP, *World Food Assistance 2017: Taking Stock and Looking Forward*, 2017.
[433] FAO, *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World*, 2018, p. 1.
[434] UN WFP, *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)* (*WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2*), 2016.
[435] Ibid.

United Nations, High-Level Task Force on Global Food Security. (2011). *Food and Nutrition Security: Comprehensive Framework for Action (Summary of the Updated Comprehensive Framework for Action)*. Retrieved 11 August 2011 from:
https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Full_Report_1887.pdf

> *This framework provides a summary on global food and nutrition security. The demand for nutritious food far outweighs the supply provided by those who work in agriculture due to events such as exposure to climate-related disasters. The framework provides guiding principles for providing sustainable food and nutrition on a global scale. Delegates are encouraged to refer to this document in order to form a stronger understanding on frameworks for the supply of food aid.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2003). *Food Aid and Livelihoods in Emergencies: Strategies for WFP* (*WFP/EB.A/2003/5-A*) [Report]. Retrieved 9 July 2018 from:
https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/4e54383196644a3680aba9af5d046aff/download/

> *WFP reports on how livelihoods should be protected in emergency situations, which can effectively be complemented by a well-timed supply of food aid. WFP recommends early intervention when supporting livelihoods and suggests strengthening strategies of emergency response when appropriate. The support of livelihoods and strengthening of partnerships is critical for food aid, so delegates should keep this in mind when reviewing the document.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2008). *WFP Strategic Plan (2008-2011) – Extended to 2013 as per Board Decision (WFP/EB.A/2008/3)*. Retrieved 12 August 2018 from:
https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/e5b112ba670040f285c961fa025554e6/download/

> *This document is key as it details WFP's transition from food aid to food assistance. The strategy includes newer objectives for WFP, focusing on sustaining and rebuilding livelihoods in emergencies and taking more preventative measures to end hunger. The policy describes innovative tools developed to provide food assistance, and how they can be used in this rapidly changing environment. When using this document, delegates will be able to see the foundations of the transition from food aid to food assistance and use it as an example for updating policies with newer activities and innovations in addressing food insecurity.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2010). *Consolidated Framework of WFP Policies: An Updated Version (November 2010)* (*WFP/EB.2/2010/4-E*) [Report]. Retrieved 9 August 2018 from:
https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/e95544cc85064cb7b7b4207cb8dda551/download/

> *The Executive Board first consolidated the WFP framework policies in its 2002 annual session. The current report is an update of the 2008 policies, approved by WFP's Executive Board in 2010. The update includes additional policies in development and humanitarian responses in emergency situations. This report is useful for delegates in noting how each policy has been updated over time to include newer programs and objectives. The report can be used as a reference to create new policies or to update past and present policies.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2015). *WFP Gender Policy (2015-2020)* [Informal Consultation]. Retrieved 8 August 2018 from:
https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/resources/wfp272282.pdf

> *The need for gender equality is critical for WFP to meet its global commitment to addressing gender issues. In order to achieve effective development on a global scale, WFP believes everyone must be responsible in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. Not only is it important to empower women, but it is also important to include men in the dialogue of gender equality for it to be successful. Delegates can refer to this policy when discussing gender equality, which in turn can also be used to support the improvement of livelihoods in certain situations.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2016). *WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021)* (*WFP/EB.2/2016/4-A/1/Rev.2*). Retrieved 9 July 2018 from: https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/e889f1e2-d50d-4afd-b104-418a4a89403e/download/

> *The report builds upon past Executive Board-approved activities and strategic plans and presents them within the context of the 2030 Agenda. The goal of the current plan is to reinforce newly implemented policies for WFP's contribution to providing emergency assistance and an end to hunger by 2030. Delegates are encouraged to use the strategic plan in conjunction with the 2030 Agenda as a basis for adopting new frameworks, as well as integrating the SDGs into existing frameworks to combine with food aid efforts and to improve sustainability.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2017). *Climate Change Policy* (*WFP/EB.1/2017/4-A/Rev.1*). Retrieved 8 August 2018 from:
https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/36e15e94e2b74daaaf95356b4270897f/download/

> *This policy presents the challenges of climate change for food security and provides long-term strategic solutions to affected food, crops, and land. The policy suggests ways to address the issue of climate change through guiding principles, specifically focusing on preventing and mitigating loss and damage of crops due to extreme climate disasters, strengthening institutions to prepare and support sustainable recovery efforts, and address the impacts of climate change on food security and nutrition. The policy can be used for delegates to create new strategies to address climate change, as well as providing ways support and promote sustainable recovery efforts from natural disasters.*

United Nations, World Food Programme. (2017). *World Food Assistance 2017: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead* [Report]. Retrieved 9 July 2018 from: https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000019564/download/

> *The report outlines the objectives, the trends and patterns, the challenges and solutions, and the future of food assistance. One of the primary goals in Food Assistance 2017 is to transition from traditional styles of food aid into more modernized activities and programs in order to provide more effective uses of food assistance and achieve food security. This report can be used for delegates in referencing data from WFP and other IGOs to establish or improve upon relevant frameworks and policies.*

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