



FACTSHEET

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP)

WFP is the world's largest humanitarian organisation, fighting hunger and malnutrition in more than 110 countries. WFP distinguishes itself from other UN agencies by its dual mandate of humanitarian aid and development cooperation, providing food assistance to populations in emergencies and supporting long-term food security.

Governance

WFP is governed by an Executive Board, which oversees policy, activities, and compliance. It is composed of 36 member states, including Switzerland. The Board meets three times a year in Rome.

Strategic Objectives

WFP's Strategic Plan 2022-2025 aims to:

- Save and change lives by enabling people to better meet their urgent food and nutrition needs; have better nutrition, health and education; achieve improved and sustainable livelihoods;
- Enable governments or humanitarian and development actors to respond more effectively to emergencies by strengthening national systems and enhancing WFP's provision of critical services to humanitarian and development actors.

Added Value and Challenges

WFP's added-value comes from its global footprint and extensive logistical network, enabling it to attain people even in the most hard-to-reach areas.

Yet, humanitarian access is increasingly politicised. WFP is struggling to balance growing needs with the necessity to keep agile structures and is challenged by the mismatch between its long-term objectives and the short-term pattern of its revenues. WFP also faces the difficulty to mainstream gender equality, climate change adaptation, nutrition, environmental sustainability, localisation of aid, as well as the Centrality of Protection and the Leave No One Behind principles.

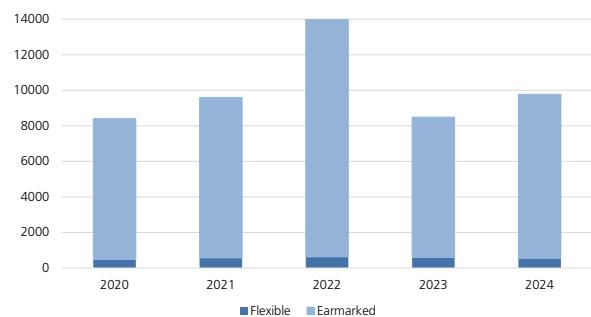
Key Results in 2024

WFP provided essential assistance to a total of 124 million people. Of these, 41 million received cash-based assistance, while 90 million received in-kind food support. Additionally, nearly 20 million people were supported in developing more resilient livelihoods. A total of 76 countries were enabled to improve their national social systems towards zero hunger.

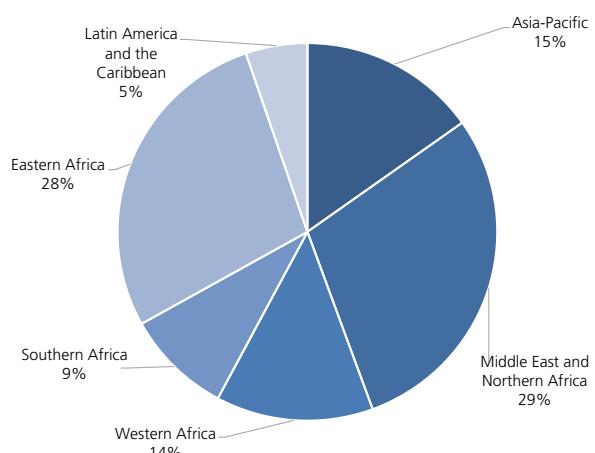
FACTS AND FIGURES

Type of organisation:
Subsidiary organ of the UN General Assembly
Head of organisation:
Cindy McCain (USA), Executive Director
Headquarter:
Rome, Italy
Country Offices:
83
Total Personnel:
Approx. 20'000
Established in:
1961
Steering:
Executive Board with rotating membership

WFP Revenues 2020-2024, Flexible vs. Earmarked, in million USD



WFP Expenditures 2021-2024, Average by Region (%)





Food distribution in Sudan. ©WFP/Abubakar Garelnabei

SWITZERLAND'S PARTNERSHIP WITH WFP

Switzerland's Strategic Priorities

- Governance: Switzerland supports WFP towards a more inclusive and efficient Executive Board governance and more diversified partnerships.
- Centrality of Protection: Switzerland wants WFP to implement its Protection and Accountability Policy to make aid delivery safe, accountable and dignified.
- Locally-led action: Switzerland supports WFP in developing a Localisation Policy aiming at promoting equitable partnerships, capacity building and better integration of local organisations and structures.

Cooperation at Country Level

Switzerland is supporting WFP in the implementation of policies and programmes at country level. It contributes to WFP operations in about 40 countries. In general, grants are fully unearmarked and allow for a flexible use during a 24-month timeframe. Switzerland is also funding key WFP projects where its added-value is highest, such as to United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flights in the Sahel, general food assistance in Afghanistan or school meals in Venezuela and Syria.

Swiss Cooperation Teams exchange regularly with WFP country offices on the challenges faced on the ground and cooperate in their policy dialogue with national or subnational authorities.

Cooperation at Global Level

Switzerland has been the leading donor to WFP's Immediate Response Account (IRA) – the organisation's emergency funding mechanism – since 2011. In addition, it is among the countries providing the highest number of seconded experts through the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit, with 19 secondments in 2024, primarily in the areas of protection and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA).

Switzerland financially supports the implementation of WFP's Protection and AAP Policy and has initiated the States-led "Group of Friends of Protection and AAP" to collectively promote the Centrality of Protection. It supports WFP's policy elaboration process on localisation of aid, which aims to strengthen the capacity of local actors and promote equal partnerships. Lastly, Switzerland provides financial contributions to WFP's anticipatory action fund.

SWITZERLAND AND WFP

Contributions (2024):

Total: USD 75.4 million
(9th largest gov. donor, 1.7% of budget)

Flexible: USD 21 million (15th)

Earmarked: USD 54.4 million (9th)

Number of Swiss staff:

19

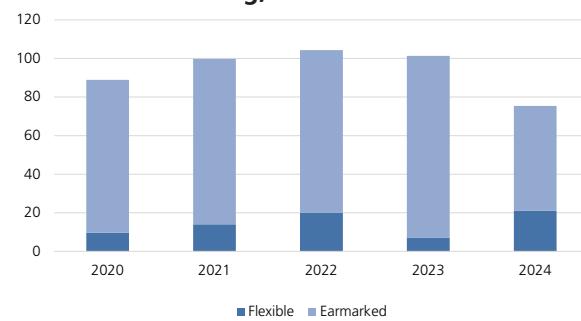
Number of Swiss Secondments:

22

Involved Swiss government entities:

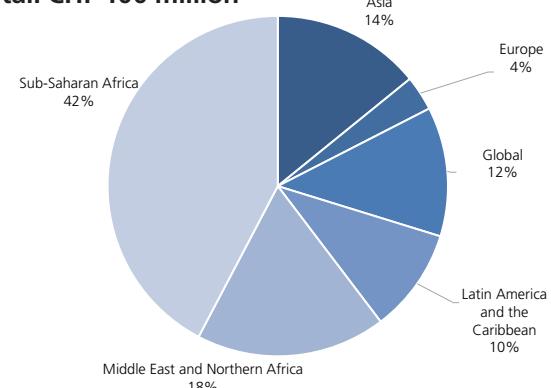
SDC

Swiss Contributions 2020-2024, Flexible vs. Earmarked Funding, in million USD



SDC Contributions 2024, by Region (%)

Total: CHF 100 million



Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

WFP developed its Policy on Protection in Humanitarian Actions in 2013, which was later updated in 2020 as the Protection and Accountability Policy. Switzerland has been and remains a strong supporter of WFP in integrating protection and AAP across its activities and programmes at three levels: As a donor, by providing financial support for the implementation of the Protection and Accountability Policy. As an actor, by seconding protection experts from the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit. And as an advocate, by leading the Group of Friends on Protection and AAP, and by promoting protection and AAP in policy dialogues, particularly through its role in the Executive Board.

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