



## 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 2026-2029 has three main objectives:

- **Deliver effective emergency preparedness and response:** Provide rapid, principled and effective assistance to people in crisis, saving lives and avert famine.
- **Enhance resilience:** Build the resilience and self-reliance of people and communities affected by food insecurity, reducing future humanitarian needs.
- **Strengthen national systems and services:** Support governments in building and strengthening their own food security and nutrition programmes, while providing essential services to humanitarian and development partners.

## Added Value and Challenges

WFP's added value comes from its global footprint and extensive logistical network, enabling it to assist people even in the hardest-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 2025

WFP provided essential assistance to 121 million people, 54% of whom were female. Around one third received cash-based assistance and two thirds in-kind food support. Nearly 20 million children benefited from school-based programmes, while 10.7 million people were supported in developing more resilient livelihoods. WFP also contributed to the strengthening of national programmes and systems in 77 countries.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Type of organisation

Subsidiary organ of the UN General Assembly

### Head of organisation

Luke Lindberg (USA), Executive Director

### Headquarters

Rome (IT)

### Country offices

86

### Total Personnel

approx. 20,000

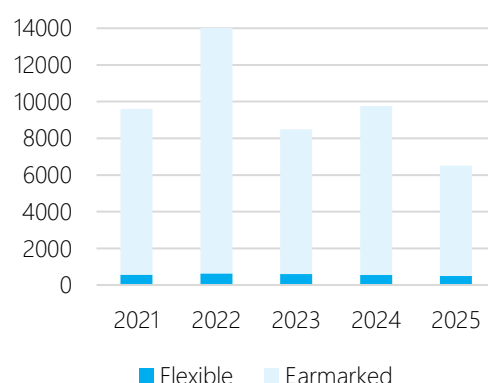
### Established in

1961

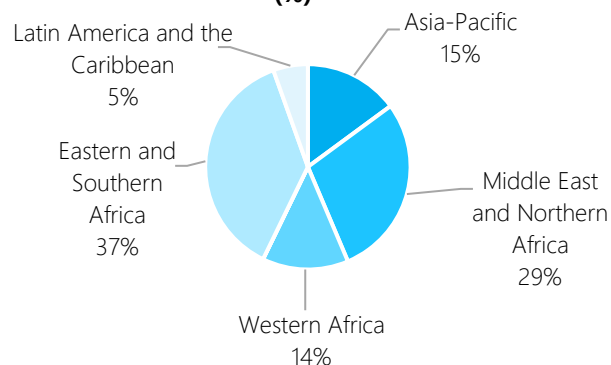
### Steering

Executive board with rotating membership

Revenues 2021-2025,  
in million USD



Expenditures 2021-2025, average by region  
(%)





Food distribution in Sudan. ©WFP/Abubakar Garelnabei

## Switzerland and WFP

### Switzerland's strategic priorities

- **Governance:** Switzerland supports WFP in implementing UN80 and Humanitarian Reset reforms and promotes a more inclusive and efficient Executive Board governance.
- **People-centred approaches:** Switzerland promotes the systematic integration of Protection, Accountability to Affected Populations and Gender Equality to make aid delivery safe, accountable and dignified.
- **Locally led action:** Switzerland supports WFP in implementing its Localization Policy, aiming to increase resources for local actors, promote equitable partnerships and capacity strengthening, and enhance their participation in decision-making.
- **Climate Risk Management:** Switzerland supports WFP in strengthening anticipatory action and climate risk financing, enabling earlier, faster and more predictable responses to climate-related shocks and strengthening national and local capacities.

### Cooperation at country level

Switzerland supports WFP's operations and the implementation of its policies at country level. Swiss contributions are largely flexible and predictable, allowing WFP to allocate resources according to evolving humanitarian needs and priorities. Switzerland also provides targeted funding to selected operations and services where WFP has a comparative advantage, including emergency response and critical common services such as the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS). Swiss cooperation teams exchange regularly with WFP country offices on the challenges faced on the ground and cooperate in their policy dialogue with national and subnational authorities.

### Cooperation at global level

Quality funding is a key priority for Switzerland, with an emphasis on flexible and predictable contributions that enable WFP to allocate resources according to evolving needs. Since 2011, Switzerland has been the leading donor to WFP's Immediate Response Account (IRA), its flexible emergency funding mechanism, which allows WFP to provide immediate assistance when crises emerge or escalate. Across its four strategic priorities (see above), Switzerland supports WFP through a combination of policy dialogue, targeted financial support and technical expertise from the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit (SHA).

## SWITZERLAND and WFP

### Contributions (2025)

Total: USD 80 million (11<sup>th</sup> largest gov. donor, 1.2% of budget)

Flexible: USD 40.6 million (6<sup>th</sup>)

Earmarked: USD 39.4 million

### Number of Swiss staff

17

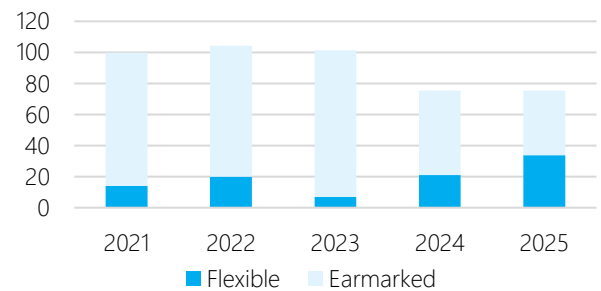
### Number of Swiss secondments

18

### Involved Swiss government entities

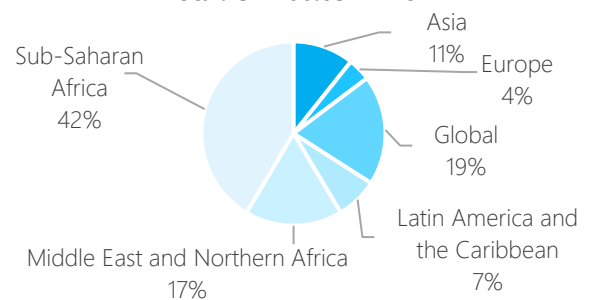
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### Swiss Contributions 2021-2025, in million USD



### Swiss Contributions per region 2025 (%)

Total: CHF 66.03 million



### Protection & Accountability to Affected People

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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