

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

#### **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 2023**

WFP provided essential assistance to a total of 152 million people. Of these, 51,6 million received cash-based assistance, while 100,6 million received in-kind food support. Additionally, nearly 20 million people were supported in developing more resilient livelihoods. A total of 58 countries were better equipped to manage emergencies, thanks to WFP's expanded contribution to national emergency preparedness and response systems.

#### **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. 23'000

Established in:

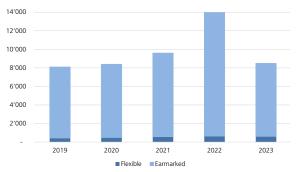
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Steering:

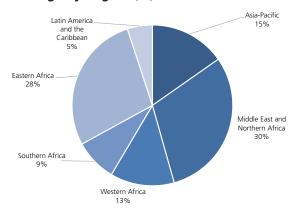
Executive Board with rotating

membership

## WFP Revenues 2019-2023, Flexible vs. Earmarked, in million USD



#### WFP Expenditures 2021-2023, Average by Region (%)





Food distribution in Sudan @WEP/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 22 secondments in 2023, 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 (2023):

Total: CHF 122 million

(9th largest gov. donor, 1.7% of budget)

Flexible: CHF 11.2 million (15th) Earmarked: CHF 110.8 million (9th)

Number of Swiss staff:

10

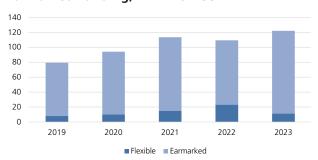
Number of Swiss Secondments:

22

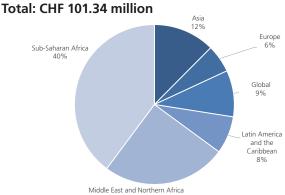
Involved Swiss government entities:

SDC

### Swiss Contributions 2019-2023, Flexible vs. Earmarked Funding, in million USD



### SDC Contributions 2023, by Region (%)



### 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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