



Food Assistance Convention

FOOD ASSISTANCE CONVENTION 2022 ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

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ACRONYMS

AA	Anticipatory Action
ACF	Action contre la faim
ADA	Austrian Development Agency
ADC	Austrian Development Cooperation
AECID	La Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (Spanish Agency for International Development)
APTERR	ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve
AUD	Australian Dollar
BGRRF	Bishop Gassis Rescue and Relief Foundation
BML	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, Republic of Austria
CBPF	Country Based Pooled Funds
CBT	Cash-Based Transfers
CERF	UN Central Emergency Response Fund
CHF	Swiss Francs
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease
CSI	Christian Solidarity International
CSP	Country Strategic Plan
CVA	Cash and Voucher Assistance
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia
DG ECHO	European Commission's Directorate General for Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid
DI	Disability Inclusion
DREF	Disaster Response Emergency Fund
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EU	European Union
EUR	Euro
FAC	Food Assistance Convention
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FTS	Financial Tracking Service by UN OCHA
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GFA	General Food Assistance
GHD	Good Humanitarian Donorship
HIA	Humanitarian Innovation Accelerator
ICRC	International Red Cross Committee
IDP	Internally Displaced People
IFI	International Finance Institution
IFRC	The International Federation of Red Cross
IOM	International Office for Migration
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IRA	(WFP) Immediate Response Account
KAFACI	Korea-Africa Food & Agriculture Cooperation Initiative
KRW	Korean Currency Won
MAFRA	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs of the Republic of Korea
MAM	Moderate acute malnutrition
MFEA	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs
NGOs	Non-governmental organisations
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

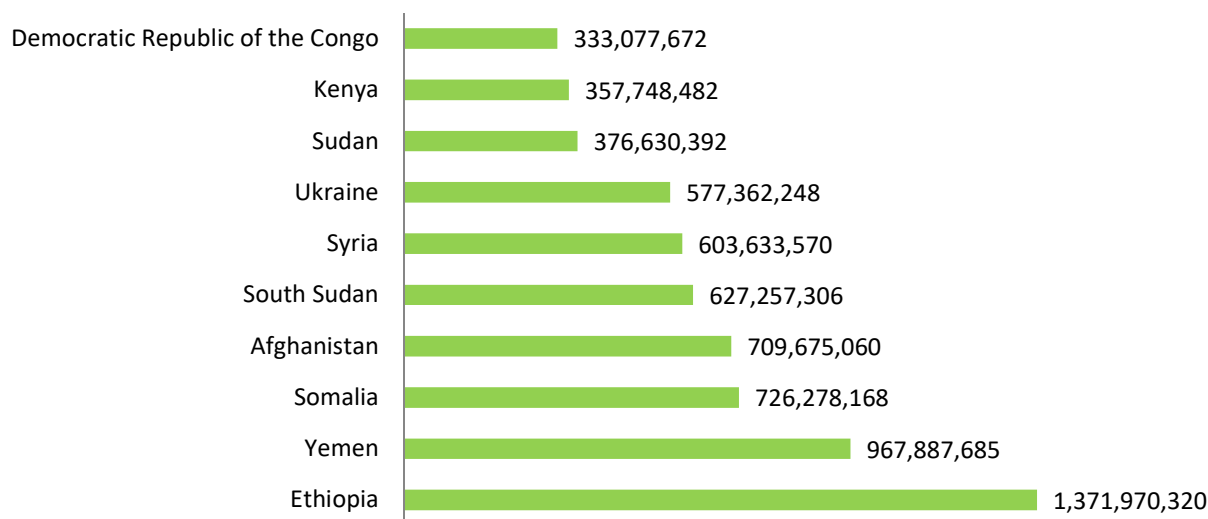
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ROK	Republic of Korea
RRM	Inter-Agency Rapid Response Mechanism
RuTF	Ready to use Therapeutic feeding
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SHA Unit	(SDC) Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit
Sida	Swedish International Development Agency
SO	Strategic Outcome
UN OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNHRD	United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
USD	United States Dollars
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WHS	World Humanitarian Summit

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Throughout 2022, food crises increased in size and severity, reaching record-breaking levels, with 258 million people acutely food-insecure and requiring urgent food assistance¹. Conflicts and mass displacement continue to drive global hunger. In connection to Russia’s war of aggression in Ukraine, the cost of food surged beyond the levels of 2019, which were already escalated due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This, coupled with widespread poverty, worsening inequality, and significant lack of development, resulted in an inability for vulnerable communities to access food. Furthermore, the ongoing climate crisis and occurrences of natural disasters have intensified an already precarious state of food insecurity.

In 2022, all parties fulfilled or substantially exceeded their commitments by collectively contributing over 10 billion US dollars to the improvement of worldwide food security. Cash-based transfer programming (CBT) continued to receive increased support, and contributions were mostly earmarked at country and activity or modality level. Key responses were supported in collaboration with various agencies and programmes of the United Nations, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, national governments in the developing world, and civil-society organizations. In 2022, the most food aid was given to Ethiopia, Yemen, Somalia, Afghanistan, South-Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Sudan, Kenya and Democratic Republic of the Congo.



Source of figures: FAC Secretariat

¹ The Global Report on Food Crises - <https://www.fightfoodcrises.net/events/grfc-2023>

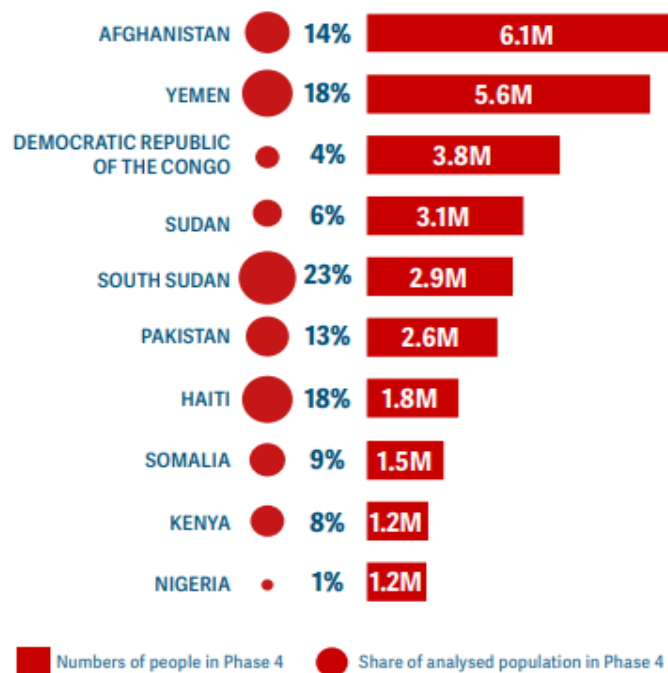
1. GENERAL CONTEXT

1.1 Global Food and Nutrition Situation in 2022

In 2022, around 258 million people (22.7% of the analysed population) across 58 countries and territories faced acute food insecurity at crisis or worse levels (IPC/CH Phase 3-5), up from 193 million people in 53 countries and territories in 2021. This is the highest number on record since the GRFC started reporting these data in 2017.

More than 40 percent of the population in Crisis (IPC/CH Phase 3 above or equivalent) resided in just five countries/territories: the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Nigeria and Yemen. Around 35 million people were in Emergency (IPC/CH Phase 4, FIGURE 1.) in 39 countries/territories. People in extremely severe situation face large food gaps, which reflect in high acute malnutrition rates and excess mortality or mitigated by use of emergency coping strategies. Around half of the total population identified in IPC/CH Phase 4, was found in Afghanistan, Yemen, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Sudan. People in seven countries/territories faced extreme lack of food even after full employment of coping strategies at some point during 2022.

FIGURE 1. COUNTRIES/TERRITORIES WITH OVER 1 MILLION PEOPLE IN IPC/CH PHASE 4 IN 2022



Source: IPC TWGs, 2022; and CH.

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More than half of the 376 400 people in Catastrophe (IPC/CH Phase 5) – starvation and death – were in Somalia, but these extreme conditions also affected populations in South Sudan, Yemen, Afghanistan, Haiti, Nigeria and Burkina Faso (FIGURE 2).



FIGURE 2. NUMBERS OF PEOPLE FACING CATASTROPHE IN (IPC/CH PHASE) IN 7 COUNTRIES IN 2022



Source: IPC TWGs, 2022; and CH.

The food crises are the result of interconnected, mutually reinforcing drivers – conflict and insecurity, economic shocks and weather extremes (FIGURE 3). In 2022, these key drivers were associated with lingering socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19, the effects of the Russian war of aggression in Ukraine and repeated droughts and other weather extremes. Economic shocks became the main driver in 27 countries with 83.9 million people in IPC/CH Phase 3 or above or equivalent – up from 30.2 million people in 21 countries in 2021. The economic resilience of many poor countries has decreased, and they now face extended recovery periods and less ability to cope with future shocks.

FIGURE 3. NUMBERS OF PEOPLE IN IPC/CH PHASE 3 OR ABOVE OR EQUIVALENT BY PRIMARY DRIVER, 2018-22

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
 Conflict/ insecurity	73.9M 21 countries	77.1M 22 countries	99.1M 23 countries	139.1M 24 countries	117.1M 19 countries
 Economic shocks	10.2M 6 countries	24.0M 8 countries	40.5M 17 countries	30.2M 21 countries	83.9M 27 countries
 Weather extremes	28.8M 26 countries	33.8M 25 countries	15.7M 15 countries	23.5M 8 countries	56.8M 12 countries

Source: IPC TWGs, 2022; and CH.

Conflict/insecurity was the most significant driver in 19 countries/territories where 117.1 million people were in IPC/CH Phase 3 or above or equivalent. Weather extremes were the primary driver of acute food insecurity in 12 countries where 56.8 million people were in IPC/CH Phase 3 or above or equivalent, more than double the number of people (23.5 million) in eight countries in 2021. These extremes included sustained drought in the Horn of Africa, devastating flooding in Pakistan, and tropical storms, cyclones and drought in Southern Africa.

Regions characterized by significant levels of acute food insecurity often experience a corresponding prevalence of child wasting, resulting in adverse effects on the development and overall well-being of populations in the short, medium, and long term. Based on data from the Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC), in 2022 more than 35 million children under the age of 5 were affected by wasting, with a staggering 9.2 million of them suffering from severe wasting—an extremely dangerous form of undernutrition that significantly contributes to child mortality.

Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine has not only caused immense devastation to the country and its people but has also had far-reaching consequences globally. Starting in February 2022, following eight years of conflict in the eastern regions, the war unfolded at a time when the global economy was still grappling with the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Numerous low- and middle-income nations were already struggling with limited resources to handle the additional burden imposed by mounting debt, high inflation, soaring commodity prices, sluggish growth, and tightened financial conditions. These macroeconomic challenges were further exacerbated by the onset of the war, posing a significant threat to the food and nutrition security of millions of people beyond Ukraine's borders.

1.2 The Food Assistance Convention

The Food Assistance Convention (FAC) was adopted in April 2012 in London and entered into force in January 2013. It is the latest in a long series of multilateral cooperation instruments in operation since 1967, including the Food Aid Convention 1999, and has been ratified by 16 Parties.

The current Convention expands the traditional focus on in-kind food aid for direct consumption. It includes a broader range of eligible activities and food assistance products such as cash, vouchers and products intended for protecting livelihoods, and a great focus on nutrition. It also provides an important set of guiding principles for the Parties to follow in implementing their food assistance programs.

The objectives of the FAC are to save lives, reduce hunger, improve food security, and improve the nutritional status of the most vulnerable populations by:

- i. Addressing the food and nutritional needs of the most vulnerable populations through commitments made by the Parties to provide food assistance that improves access to, and consumption of, adequate, safe and nutritious food.
- ii. Ensuring that food assistance provided to the most vulnerable populations is appropriate, timely, effective, efficient, and based on needs and shared principles; and

- iii. Facilitating information-sharing, cooperation, and coordination, and providing a forum for discussion in order to improve the effective, efficient, and coherent use of the Parties' resources to respond to needs.

To achieve these objectives, FAC Parties commit to provide a minimum level of food assistance on an annual basis. Additionally, Parties have embraced the notion of transparency and accountability in all food assistance operations. Consequently, they yearly report on how their food assistance policies, programs and operations have contributed to the objectives and principles of the Convention.

The FAC is also a forum for Parties to share information and best practices in food assistance delivery. Meeting twice annually, the FAC provides an open forum for Parties to discuss the most efficient and effective means of delivery of food assistance. Recognizing the changing landscape of emergencies and other assistance needs, Parties have prioritized the consideration of new modalities for food assistance aimed at reducing associated costs, while ensuring that the most in need are reached.

The FAC is governed by the Food Assistance Committee, which serves as a forum for member states to share information and best practices on food assistance. The International Grains Council (IGC) is the designated Secretariat of the FAC, to assist the FAC Chair with the associated tasks. After 2023 Finland completes its term as a chair and will hand over chairmanship to Austria.

1.3 Reporting on Food Assistance Operations

Following each calendar year, Parties provide a financial and a narrative report on food assistance operations, detailing how their respective commitments were fulfilled. The standardized financial and narrative reporting template helps to improve the quality of the data and transparency of the commitments and contributions of the reporting parties.

In 2022, Parties to the FAC contributed a total of USD 10,200.8 million. This is an increase of 48% compared to FAC contributions in 2021 (USD 6,866.76 m). Reporting members fulfilled their obligations, with many Parties substantially exceeding their 2022 commitments. The vast majority of total contributions were provided fully in grant form. A significant amount of the contributions were earmarked on a country and activity or modality level.

Humanitarian and developmental partners vary across Parties, with WFP, FAO, ICRC, OCHA and UNDP as the most common partners. Contributions to civil society organisations such as Action Against Hunger, Emergency First International, Aga Khan Foundation, among others, were also reported. In 2022, the top 10 FAC Recipient Countries were Ethiopia, Yemen, Afghanistan, Somalia, Syria, South Sudan, Ukraine, Sudan, Kenya and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

1.4 Committee Meetings

The 16th FAC Session was held in a hybrid format on Friday 30 September 2022 in London. The seminar aimed at reviewing insights from the 2022 Effectiveness Survey and extract key

elements to improve the work of the FAC. The purpose of the survey had been to gain an insight into the effectiveness of the FAC and assess what was working well and what could be improved. The survey was responded and submitted by 11 Parties: Austria, Canada, Denmark, European Union, France, Japan, Luxembourg, Russia, Slovenia, Switzerland and the United States. According to the survey, donor coordination is not seen as priority in practice and lack of information on future planning hinders co-operations among FAC members. Furthermore, it is not always clear how the promoted knowledge and shared practices actually reach FAC members. Still, improving the effective and consistent use of the parties' resources provided by the discussion forum is considered important. Participants also highlighted the need for a simplification of the financial report. Whilst it is considered a time-consuming exercise, participants highlighted its added-value and usefulness for their own analysis and internal/external reporting on food security.

The Committee also reviewed the global situation regarding hunger, malnutrition and current food emergencies against the backdrop of recent developments, including the supply and demand outlook for global grains, rice and oilseeds markets. The IGC Secretariat updated the Committee on the latest developments in grains and oilseeds markets, which included the impact of the Black Sea Grain Initiative and the resumption of seaborne shipments from Ukraine. FAC members voiced strong support for the Black Sea Grain Initiative, which has already moved more than 3 million metric tons of grain and oilseeds from Ukrainian ports to world markets and highlighted that this essential initiative should continue without interruption. All members present - except one - overwhelmingly expressed concern about the direct effects of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on global food security.

From the 7 to 11 of November, the European Union (EU) led a mission of the Food Assistance Convention to Madagascar, attended by representatives from the United States, Finland, Japan and Luxembourg. The objective of the visit was to observe the evolution of food security and nutrition in the Grand Sud in recent months, in the context of an ongoing drought, and unprecedented global food insecurity, aggravated by the ripple effects of the Russian invasion in Ukraine. The mission also aimed to draw on lessons learned from recent humanitarian interventions in Madagascar, which helped to avert a famine in the country, and to explore the potential for innovative approaches, such as anticipatory action, and move Madagascar further into the development space. The delegation visited the regions of Anosy and Androy, where they were able to observe many humanitarian and development interventions and meet with technical and financial partners, members of the Administration and people affected by the crisis.

There were three key elements highlighted to reverse the situation in the Grand Sud: Support access to water and improve its management, strengthen the integration and establishment of a multi-sectoral early warning mechanism, and make available agricultural extension services, which would integrate into agro-ecological approaches and effective partnerships with the private sector. The mission also called for better communication and coordination between the interventions of the different actors, encouraged the government to facilitate the operationalization of existing strategic documents, and proposed the adoption of nexus approaches to facilitate the sequencing, complementarity, synergy and effectiveness of

humanitarian and development actions. Furthermore, the mission emphasized the need to take into account people with special needs in their interventions, such as persons with disabilities.

2. OVERALL ASSISTANCE BY FAC PARTIES

2.1 FOOD ASSISTANCE IN 2022

Australia

Australia's commitment under the Food Assistance Convention for 2022 was AUD 80 million (USD 55.4 million). Australia exceeded its commitment by more than 100 percent.

Australia provides all food assistance as untied, cash-based support. In 2022, Australia provided the UN World Food Programme with USD 124.7 million (AUD 179.9 million) in food assistance, USD 27.7 million (AUD 40 million) of which was fully flexible core funding. The remaining USD 86.4 million (AUD 139 million) was loosely earmarked at the regional level (Horn of Africa) and country level to 12 countries, including multi-year funding commitments to WFP's operations in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar. Australia also provided its multiyear commitment of USD 7.6 million (AUD 11 million) to the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and USD 27.6 million (AUD 39.8 million) to UN OCHA Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) in Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Ukraine. Funding through these agencies provides coordinated support to populations affected by protracted conflict, food insecurity and displacement.

Throughout 2022, Australia maintained support for populations affected by protracted conflict, food insecurity and displacement in countries across Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Australia provided emergency food assistance and protracted relief through WFP valued at USD 124.7 million (AUD 179.9 million). This assistance targeted conflict-affected populations in Myanmar, Ukraine, Yemen, as well as refugee communities in Bangladesh, Iran, and Pakistan. This assistance was further supplemented by Australia's core funding, which in 2022 totalled AUD 40 million (USD 27.7 million) and was assigned by WFP to its highest priority and most underfunded operations. Australia also worked through WFP to address ongoing food insecurity in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Lebanon, and Sri Lanka, and provided assistance to a resilience-building and anticipatory action pilot in Kenya and Uganda, and an anticipatory action pilot in the Asia-Pacific region.

Austria

In 2022, Austria responded to food insecurity and humanitarian crises caused both by conflict and disasters. Austria exceeded its financial commitment within the framework of the Food

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Assistance Convention (FAC) of EUR 1,495 million (USD 1,571 million²), increasing the Austrian commitment within the reporting period to total contributions amounting to EUR 1,6 million (USD 1,68 million). The food assistance contributions on behalf of Austria committed within this reporting period were implemented via the World Food Programme (WFP).

Since 2015, the annual funds allocated for food assistance activities provided by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) are administered by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the operational unit of the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC). This step was taken in order to establish a whole-of-government approach to ensure coherency and enhance effectiveness in Austria's aim to raise food security.

As in 2021, Austria's food assistance continued to focus on protracted crises in two of the world's most indigent countries in 2022. In doing so, Austria reinforced attention and emphasis both towards the grave funding shortage in Somalia and Yemen as well as the immense humanitarian need in the region.

In 2022, Austria funded activities that contributed to direct and immediate food assistance for people most affected by food insecurity, malnutrition, and disease, focusing especially on emergency food assistance, immediate and swift crisis relief response and to alleviate sustained chronic hunger. This allowed access to lifesaving and nutritious food for the most vulnerable populations worldwide.

With its renewed contribution to two of the biggest hunger hotspots in the world, Somalia and Yemen, Austria remained committed to being a reliable partner in humanitarian crises and food assistance in 2022. At the same time, to allow for maximum flexibility, Austria provided their commitments unearmarked regarding modalities or activities, thus ensuring the assistance is used as efficiently and effectively as possible. This flexibility is backed by a perseverative, trustful cooperation with our long-term partners

Canada

Canada continued to provide much needed assistance in 2022 in response to an all-time high food insecurity, driven by conflicts, forced displacement and severe weather extremes, exacerbated by the impacts of COVID-19, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and widespread increases in the cost of living. Canada provided USD 609.8 million (CAD 784.8 million) in FAC eligible contributions in 2022, substantially exceeding its commitment of USD 192.1 million (CAD 250 million). Of this funding, approximately 90 percent was provided at country level through multilateral, Red Cross/Crescent and NGO partners. The remaining 10 percent was provided as un-earmarked funding, including long-term institutional support, providing partners with the flexibility to respond to evolving needs.

As part of Canada's response to food needs across the globe, it continued to support experienced partners to provide immediate food and nutrition assistance, including allocating

² FAC Secretariat Exchange Rates – Calendar Year Average for 2022: USD 1 = EUR 0,951, 1 EUR = 1,051 USD

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additional humanitarian resources to help prevent famine in several hotspots, such as Somalia and Yemen. As a result, Canada provided significant funding to respond to major food crises including in the Middle East (USD 144.2 million), Afghanistan (USD 92.3 million), the Horn of Africa (USD 62.1 million), the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin (USD 55.7 million), South Sudan (USD 34 million), the Democratic Republic of Congo (USD 19.6 million), and Haiti (16.8 million)

In line with its Feminist International Assistance Policy, Canada continued its efforts in 2022 to strengthen gender responsive food and nutrition assistance through innovative efforts. Canada will also continue to work to strengthen resilience to future shocks and address longer-term solutions food and nutrition needs, including through strategic interventions that target the most vulnerable such as school feeding.

Canada's food and nutrition assistance is provided to key humanitarian food and nutrition UN and NGO partners to help provide life-saving services, such as food assistance, emergency cash and vouchers, and ready-to-use therapeutic food used for emergency feeding of acutely malnourished children, antenatal care, micronutrient supplementation. Furthermore, assistance is supporting fortification programmes, breastfeeding, as well as complementary water and sanitation and health interventions that support food security and nutrition outcomes.

Canada has made the provision of food and nutrition assistance a key component of its humanitarian assistance portfolio over time, increasing the share of its humanitarian funding to these sectors from 30% of Canada's total humanitarian budget in 2017 to nearly 48% in 2022, using evidence-based and impartial needs assessments provided through well-established and coordinated humanitarian mechanisms. This was achieved in part through the allocation of significant extra budgetary resources for humanitarian food and nutrition assistance during the year. This funding allowed experienced UN, Red Cross and Canadian NGOs to respond to critical food and nutrition needs around the world, and to support complementary multi-sectoral services that bolster food security and nutrition outcomes.

In response to growing acute malnutrition, Canada provided CAD 36 million to support UNICEF's emergency nutrition response efforts through a focused program to procure and distribute Ready to use Therapeutic feeding (RuTF) in key humanitarian contexts across Central Asia, the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Canada is also a key donor to the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and Country Based Pooled Funds, which also support food assistance activities. Notably, food assistance was the CERF's most funded sector in 2022 with allocations of USD \$126 million over 42 countries to help tackle rising hunger and support the most vulnerable people in some of the most forgotten crises.

Denmark

In 2022, Denmark has responded to food insecurity crises caused by a wide range of conflicts, natural disasters and economic shocks. Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine has disrupted global supply chains and led to rising prices of food, energy and fertilizer, aggravated the existing global food crisis, and further exacerbated food security challenges across the world. Denmark has sustained its focus on providing assistance to fragile and food insecure countries, while also responding to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.

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Denmark's total food assistance contributions in 2022 amounted to DKK 579 million (USD 84.50 million). Denmark exceeded its financial commitment within the framework of the Food Assistance Convention (FAC) of DKK 210 million (USD 30.6 million) by a large margin of DKK 369 million (USD 53.8 million). Denmark's food assistance included a Humanitarian Emergency Package of DKK 250 million (USD 37 million) for efforts to address global humanitarian consequences of the war in Ukraine that contributed to record high levels of food insecurity and hunger.

Denmark is committed to carry its share of the burden in reaching Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 2: "Zero Hunger". Denmark's contributions towards SDG2 in 2022 included a wide range of development and humanitarian interventions, predominately in collaboration with UN agencies and programmes, as well as Danish civil society organisations. Interventions include, but are not limited to, food assistance in protracted crises and emergencies, support to resilience and food security, forecast-based financing and anticipatory action, cash-based transfers, and agricultural development. Furthermore, Denmark is part of Team Europe's response to food insecurity and provides funding through IFIs for longer term food security and the transformation of food systems to become more sustainable and green.

Denmark's contribution to food assistance in 2022 was to a large extent implemented through the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). Additionally, Denmark contributed to the achievement of food security through funding to UNICEF, United Nations Central Emergency Fund (CERF), and Country-based Pooled Funds (CBPF), as well as partners among Danish civil society organisations and their local partners. Localisation of assistance is high on the agenda for Denmark's humanitarian assistance and development cooperation as a way to ensure effective assistance that reaches those most in need and most difficult to reach

Denmark provides an annual contribution of DKK 210 million (USD 30.7 million) of flexible and softly earmarked funding under its multi-year Multilateral Partnership Agreement with WFP, covering 2023-2025. An additional DKK 218.5 million (USD 32.37 million) were allocated to WFP country- or programme specific interventions.

Furthermore, Denmark was the 6th largest donor to the CERF and the 10th largest donor to the UN Country-based Pooled Funds in 2022 - CERF and many of the Country-based Pooled Funds allocate substantial funding to countries experiencing food insecurity or at risk of famine. 44.8% of the Danish contributions to the CERF can be attributed to food assistance (agriculture, food assistance, and nutrition) in 2022.

Denmark prioritizes and continues to provide a very large part of its humanitarian funding in a way that is flexible, predictable and non-earmarked or softly earmarked. Core contributions to UNICEF, OCHA and the CERF as well as Denmark's framework for strategic partnerships with Danish civil society organisations underscores this approach. This is further explained in Denmark's national [Grand Bargain-report for 2022](#).

In light of the events in Ukraine, Denmark has supported the Grain from Ukraine-initiative implemented by WFP with DKK 10 million (USD 1.48 million), contributing to the purchase, transportation and distribution of grain from Ukraine to countries affected by food insecurity. An

additional DKK 29 million (USD 4.29 million) was allocated to scale up WFP's operations in Ukraine to improve food security through cash-based transfers and food supplies. Furthermore, Denmark provided a top-up for existing partnership agreements with Danish civil society organisations and their local partners amounting to an additional 75 million (USD 11.1 million). This allocation contributed to the expansion of existing engagements in countries across Africa and the Middle East affected by acute humanitarian food insecurity needs aggravated by Russia's war on Ukraine.

Denmark supports the transition to sustainable and climate-robust agro-food systems and Denmark expects to provide significant support (DKK 100 million, USD 14.8 million) to the World Bank's Food Systems 2030 Trust Fund. Denmark emphasizes the need for close cooperation between the UN organisations, including via the Resident Coordinator system at country level, governments, the IFIs and other relevant actors, including civil society organizations and the private sector.

European Union

The European Union's (EU) humanitarian assistance is funded through European Commission's Directorate General for Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (DG ECHO).

The EU increased its humanitarian aid budget from the EUR 2.19 billion (USD 2.3 billion) mobilised in 2021 to EUR 2.63 billion (USD 2.76 billion) in 2022. This 20% increase reflects the EU's efforts to tackle the soaring humanitarian needs in 2022, a year largely marked by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, which caused a humanitarian catastrophe not seen in decades on European soil. Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine has further aggravated an already challenging humanitarian context driven by conflict, economic shocks, the effect of climate change and extreme weather events, and the ripple effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and more frequent epidemics.

In response to unprecedented humanitarian needs, DG ECHO intervened not only in large-scale humanitarian crises attracting widespread attention – like Ukraine and Afghanistan – but also in forgotten crises, i.e., severe, protracted humanitarian crises, often with a low media interest, where affected populations are receiving insufficient international aid. DG ECHO supported operations in 83 countries and remained a key global humanitarian donor, covering an 8.2% share of the total funding mobilised in the global humanitarian system³.

The EU's commitment under the Food Assistance Convention for 2022 was EUR 350 million (USD 366 million). In view of the enormous scale of global food insecurity in 2022, the EU almost tripled its response to this commitment, allocating EUR 1.036 billion (USD 1.089 billion) from the humanitarian budget to food assistance and nutrition. This allocation represents 79% more than in 2021, and more than doubles that of 2020. It is also well above 25 percent of the total EU budget for humanitarian assistance in 2022 (EUR 2.63 billion). Around 50 percent of

³ UN Financial Tracking System, Global Funding Overview Summary 2022.

this amount was provided in the form of cash transfers, including multi-purpose cash transfers⁴, which illustrates DG ECHO's commitment to driving further efficiency in its response by promoting cash as a key implementation modality. Projects were carried out all over the world, with over 60 countries covered and several regional projects. More than 40% of the assistance was provided to Sub-Saharan Africa countries.

EU-funded projects target people who are food insecure or malnourished as result of conflict, natural disasters, or economic shocks. Throughout 2022, food crises increased in size and severity, reaching record-breaking levels, with 258 million people acutely food-insecure and requiring urgent food assistance⁵. Food insecurity was exacerbated by the direct effects of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on the global economy, including on food prices, global supply of grains, as well as on the price of energy, fertilisers, and freight. These factors compounded food crises that were already raging due to conflicts, weather extremes (notably droughts and flooding resulting from climate change), and economic shocks due to the fallout from the Covid-19 pandemic.

DG ECHO reacted swiftly and stepped-up efforts to address the hunger crisis in 2022. It increased funding for the countries most at risk and bolstered advocacy efforts in key countries such as Ethiopia, Somalia, Afghanistan, or Haiti. Longer-term measures included strengthening coordination with international actors, including with G7 members, intensifying anticipatory action and improving data collection and usage.

Finland

In 2022, Finland's commitment under the Food assistance Convention for 2022 was EUR 8 million (USD 8.4 million). Finland exceeded its commitment, contributing food assistance with EUR 47.5 million (USD 49.9 million). Most of the food assistance, EUR 29 million (USD 30.7 million) was channeled through WFP.

Some food assistance, voucher or cash components are also included in the multi-sectoral operations of Finnish NGO's, Fida International, Finnish Refugee Council, Save the Children Finland and World Vision Finland. In addition, Finland provides support to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (both ICRC, IFRC and the Finnish Red Cross) and food assistance components are included in these operations. However, it is not possible to calculate the exact amount of food assistance in the aforementioned NGO and Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement contributions, as all of them also include humanitarian aid in other sectors. Therefore, they are not included in the figures above for Finland's overall assistance.

In 2022, Finland's food assistance targeted populations at country and regional level in Ukraine, Syria, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Myanmar, Somalia, Yemen, Eswatini and DR Congo. The most

⁴ According to research conducted by DG ECHO in 2023, the EU estimates that at least 50 percent of multi-purpose cash transfers are typically used to cover food and nutrition needs.

⁵ The Global Report on Food Crises - <https://www.fightfoodcrises.net/events/grfc-2023>

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food aid was granted to Somalia, Ukraine and Syria. Countries and crises were largely based on the need expressed by partners, based on the humanitarian needs and funding shortfalls at the time. Furthermore, Finland funded WFP with core funding of EUR 8 million (USD 8.4 million) and WFP's school meal programs with EUR 1 million (USD 1.05m).

France

While its initial commitment to the Food Assistance Committee amounted to EUR 112 million / USD 117.8 for 2022, France ultimately allocated EUR 140.4 million / USD 147.6m to its Food Assistance Program (FAP) in 2022 – an increase of more than 55% when compared to 2021 (EUR 90.5 million / USD 95.2m). 118 interventions were financed under this program, implemented in 47 countries (i.e. 10 more than in 2021) and supporting more than 5.4 million direct beneficiaries. Overall, France did more than double its financial support to WFP in 2022, to reach EUR 160 million / USD 168.2m through FAP and its voluntary contributions to this organization.

Particular attention was paid to the Sahel and West Africa, where food insecurity and malnutrition have once again increased, as well as to the Horn of Africa, affected by several successive droughts. More than 66% of the funds allocated in 2022 benefited Africa (92.9 million EUR / USD 97.7m), in particular the Sahel region (the G5 Sahel countries are the first recipient area, with nearly 25% of the funds), including EUR 9.9 million / USD 10.4m for Niger. An increased effort was also made for Ethiopia (EUR 11 million / USD 11.6m), Burkina Faso (EUR 9.27 million / USD 9.7m) and the DRC (EUR 8 million / USD 8.4m), as well as for Mali (EUR 6.5 million / USD 6.8m). New countries have been allocated funds in 2022, such as Cuba, Gambia, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Togo and Ukraine. Ukraine alone received EUR 8 million in 2022; all throughout the budget year, the effort consisted in preventing any crowding out effect at the expense of other food crises, which were themselves exacerbated by the effects of the war in Ukraine.

WFP remains the leading partner for French Food Assistance Program, with EUR 85 million / USD 89.3m allocated in 2022 (61% of the funds). Other partners included international organizations (ICRC, UNICEF, FAO, UNRWA, IOM, UN Women) and international, French and local NGOs – among which *Action Against Hunger* (EUR 6.7 million / USD 7.0m). In line with its *International Strategy for Food Security, Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture (2019-2024)*, France strengthens its action in nutrition, notably through the Food Assistance Program. The French strategy primarily targets under-nutrition and pregnant and lactating women and children under two years of age, the so-called *1 000 days* period. France will host the next edition of the *Nutrition for Growth/N4G* Summit, end 2024 or early 2025.

France also co-leads the *School Meals Coalition* initiated by the WFP, alongside Finland. School feeding programs contribute to the fight against hunger, promote access and retention of students in school – especially girls – improve learning, health and student nutrition and support local food systems and markets. France will host the first Global Meeting of the Coalition in Paris, from 18th to 19th October 2023.

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In line with French commitments to gender equality and within the framework of France's feminist diplomacy, more than 80% of the projects funded under the Food Assistance Program include a gender perspective. French Food Assistance Program also supports local food production, as well as agricultural training projects.

Japan

Japan's contribution in 2022 was USD 298.1 million increased from its contribution in 2021 (USD 259.4 million) and exceeded its annual FAC commitment of JPY 10 billion (approximately USD 92.6 million) while providing an array of programmes including bilateral food assistance, food assistance through international organizations, grant aid, and emergency grant aid. The total amount of Japan's contribution in 2022 resulted in an exceptionally large scale, addressing the global food security affected by the situation in Ukraine.

Japan concluded the Exchange of Notes (E/Ns) with 12 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (Burundi, Cabo Verde, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Gambia, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal and Togo) for bilateral food assistance programmes at JPY 4.0 billion (USD 37.0 million).

Japan also worked with WFP to respond to the food and nutrition needs of 15 countries and area in the Middle East and Sub-Saharan for food assistance programmes at JPY 3.6 billion (USD 33.3 million). At the same time, facing the critical humanitarian needs of countries and regions in Asia, the Caucasus, the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Ukraine and its neighboring countries in response to the global food security affected by the situation in Ukraine, Japan provided JPY 14.7 billion (USD 136.1 million) for Emergency Grant Aid. Other funds were allocated to WFP's activities, including assistance for unstable food security in Asia, the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Ukraine and its neighboring countries at JPY 8.3 billion (USD 77.0 million). In addition, Japan contributed JPY 540 million (USD 5.0 million) to WFP as an unearmarked grant.

Japan also supported UNRWA to distribute food to Palestinian refugees, including Emergency Grant Aid projects in the Gaza Strip at JPY 859 million (USD 8.0 million). In addition, Japan contributed JPY 176 million (USD 1.6 million) to UNRWA as an unearmarked grant.

The Government of Japan has been leading a conference, Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), since 1993, co-hosted by United Nations, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Bank and African Union Commission (AUC). On 27th - 28th August, 2022, the Eighth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 8) was held in Tunis, Tunisia. 48 African countries, including 20 heads of state and government, participated in the conference.

Focusing on people as individuals, specifically "invest in people" and "the quality of growth", Japan will promote its initiatives with approaches quintessentially Japanese. Through the Food Security initiative, Japan is going to provide USD 300 million to bolster food production through co-financing with the African Development Bank and assist with capacity building for 200,000 people in the agriculture sector in order to help create a resilient society over the next three years.

Luxembourg

In 2022, the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (Luxembourg MFEA) allocated more than 106 million Euros (or 111 million USD) towards its responses to humanitarian crises globally. Throughout the year, Luxembourg, in collaboration with national and international civil society partner organisations as well as multilateral partners, provided a needs-based and principled humanitarian assistance for vulnerable populations affected by humanitarian crises in countries across the Middle East, the Sahel region, the Horn of Africa, and Asia, among others. Since its accession to the Convention in 2014, Luxembourg has committed to contribute 4 million Euros (4.2 million USD) annually under the Food Assistance Convention (FAC). For the last nine years, Luxembourg's financial contribution to interventions related to food security has regularly exceeded this pledge. More than 27 million euros (or 28.4 million USD) for humanitarian food assistance and nutrition allocations have been made in 2022. Food assistance still represents the biggest sector of contribution with a total of 26 percent of Luxembourg's overall humanitarian budget.

Globally, as part of its humanitarian action, Luxembourg thus made substantial funding available to support the humanitarian operations carried out by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and United Nations (UN) agencies, such as the World Food Programme (WFP) and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), as well as to support Luxembourgish non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to implement emergency projects. In line with its strategic priorities, Luxembourg continued to support humanitarian interventions in various contexts, particularly in so-called forgotten or underfunded crises, and School Feeding Programmes in Senegal, Mali and Nicaragua with a total of 2 million Euros (1.9 million USD).

Throughout 2022, Luxembourg maintained support for populations affected by protracted conflict, food insecurity and displacement across 47 countries in the Sahel region, the Horn of Africa, the Middle East, South-East Asia and Ukraine, among others. In addition to supporting shelter, education, protection and WASH initiatives through the UN and international agencies, as well as national/international NGOs, Luxembourg provided overall funds for food security interventions amounting to more than 27 million Euros (28.4 million USD).

More specifically, Luxembourg provided food assistance through WFP and UNHAS valued at around 8 million Euros (8.4 million USD), as part of its multiannual Strategic Partnership Framework and additional contributions at the end of the year. Another crucial modality for the MFEA are the CBPF and the CERF, to which Luxembourg contributed a total of 10.6 million Euros (11.1 million USD) in 2022 and which allowed emergency interventions related to nutrition and food security in countries affected by protracted or emergent humanitarian crises. Finally, Luxembourg allocated funds to several national humanitarian NGOs for the implementation of emergency food assistance for vulnerable populations in countries such as Mali, Burkina Faso, South Sudan or Ethiopia. By the end of the year, Luxembourg made additional contributions to its trusted partner the WFP to support forgotten crises, such as Colombia, Haiti, Libya, Philippines and Sri Lanka with a total amount of 1.75 million Euros (1.84 million USD).

One of Luxembourg's strategic objectives is the promotion of sustainable humanitarian action. This includes addressing the root causes of the systemic challenges that generate humanitarian

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needs and vulnerabilities. In the case of food assistance, this includes preventive nutrition assistance, chiefly for children, as well as the agricultural development of local communities. To achieve this, Luxembourg provides funding to the WFP school feeding programme and UNICEF nutrition programmes, as well as support to both national and international NGOs that implement multi-year projects aimed at increasing the resilience of populations and their local agricultural and food systems, mitigating and adapting to climate change, as well as providing school meals.

Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea (ROK) contributed KRW51.9 billion in 2022 (USD 40.2 million), exceeding its KRW 46 billion annual commitment. 2022 marks the fifth consecutive year for ROK to contribute to implementing Food Assistance Projects through the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) since 2018.

Despite the difficulties that arose due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the global inflation, the Government of ROK has donated 50,000 mt of Korean rice through the Food Assistance Projects of WFP, addressing the urgent humanitarian needs of targeted populations. The rice was successfully distributed to Yemen, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and Lao PDR, following the ROK's commitment during the High-Level Annual Consultation held at the end of 2021.

In 2022, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs of the Republic of Korea (MAFRA) provided food assistance for five countries in Africa and the Middle East (Yemen, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and Lao PDR), which are in dire need of humanitarian assistance due to conflicts, natural disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic. With the ROK's contribution of KRW 51.9 billion, WFP purchased Korean rice and implemented food assistance on the ground. 50,000 mt of rice was distributed to Yemen, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Lao PDR, each receiving 18,686 mt, 13,000 mt, 11,000 mt, 6,000 mt and 1,314 mt, respectively. The rice was utilized to maintain pipelines of five WFP Country Offices and support for refugees, internally displaced people (IDPs), and school feeding programmes, reaching approximately 4.7 million beneficiaries annually. Furthermore, MAFRA continued its flexible funding of USD 100,000 to WFP in 2022.

Russia

In 2022, the Russian Federation exceeded its annual Food Assistance Convention commitment of USD 15 million with a food assistance contribution of USD 20 million. It was distributed among developing countries on bilateral and multilateral basis. The WFP was the key multilateral channel for the Russian food aid to foreign populations in need.

In 2022, the Russian Federation contributed USD 20 million to the UN World Food Program (WFP) Fund. The country's contribution in 2022 was distributed as follows: Tajikistan – USD 4 million; Kyrgyzstan – USD 3 million; Syria – USD 3 million; Yemen – USD 2 million; Nicaragua – USD 2 million; Cuba – USD 2 million; Sri Lanka – USD 2 million; Palestine – USD 1 million; Afghanistan – USD 1 million.

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In addition to direct food supplies, Russia funds WFP initiatives aimed to develop sustainable school feeding systems. Being at the intersection of humanitarian aid and development assistance, they have an integrated positive effect on combating hunger, promoting a healthy diet, and improving the educational environment. Russia and WFP continue implementing school-feeding projects in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Nicaragua, Cambodia, the Lao PDR, Jordan, Cuba and Sri-Lanka. In 2022, Russia provided USD 10.5 million to the WFP Fund in order to continue these efforts in aforementioned countries.

The *Debt for Development* project implemented in Mozambique since 2017 will come to its end in 2024. The project allows to convert the USD 40 million debt into a national school feeding programme. In 2020-2023, a joint Russia-WFP programme *Food, nutrition and livelihoods provision to the affected population* is implemented to provide food assistance to the Syrian Arab Republic with Russia's funding amounting to USD 20 million.

In 2022, the FAO project *Building capacity to strengthen food security and nutrition in several Central Asian and Transcaucasian countries* implemented with Russia's financial support was completed. Russia financed this initiative since 2015 with total funding of USD 6 million.

In 2022, Russia continued to contribute agricultural support and development programs in partner countries under the UNDP and the UNIDO. These activities are devoted to strengthening the climate resilience of the agro-industrial sector; improving agricultural producers' skills; facilitating agricultural products entry to the markets and building sustainable value chains.

Slovenia

The commitment of Slovenia under the FAC for 2022 remained at EUR 30.000 (USD 31.544). Slovenia exceeded its commitment comfortably in the same year, since the total food assistance and nutrition allocations from the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs in 2022 amounted to EUR 2.039.000 (USD 2,143,948).

Funds were distributed through international organisations and NGOs. More than three quarters (77 %) of the contributions were disbursed through international organisations, mostly through WFP. Roughly one quarter (23 %) was distributed through Slovenian non-governmental organisations in cooperation with local partners.

Most of the contributions through WFP were country-earmarked, while the largest (EUR 1 million (USD 1.05 million)) went to the Grain from Ukraine programme. Contributions through Slovenian NGOs were used for food and nutrition.

In 2022 Slovenia strengthened its long-term support to WFP in L3 and increased the number of recipients from 3 to 11 countries. Largest contributions included EUR 100.000 (USD 105,147) to Ukraine and three separate contributions in value of EUR 50.000 (USD 52,574) to Burkina Faso, Haiti and South Sudan. Furthermore Slovenia contributed EUR 1 million (USD 1,05 million) to the Grain from Ukraine platform. Additionally Slovenia contributed EUR 50.000 (USD 52,574) through FAO for emergency humanitarian assistance in Somalia. Overall contributions through international organisations amounted for EUR 1.529.000 (USD 1.607,698).

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At the bilateral/project level Slovenia expanded its number of food-assistance related projects from five to seven. In addition to multi-year projects in Rwanda, Sudan and two in Uganda, Slovenia extended its efforts to Ethiopia and Ukraine. The overall support in food assistance, nutrition and access to drinking water, particularly for vulnerable groups such as Ukrainian refugees, through bilateral projects amounted to EUR 460.000 (USD 483,676).

Spain

The Spanish (EU) commitment under the Food Assistance Convention for 2022 was EUR 10 million (USD 10.5 million). Spain exceeded its commitment comfortably with food assistance and nutrition allocations of a total amount higher than 28.900.000 Euros (USD 30.500.000). The Spanish commitment for 2022 was maintained in 10 million Euros (USD 10.5 million). The Spanish funds have been implemented via a wide range of entities, with WFP being our main partner with more than 45%.

Throughout 2022, Spain has considerably increased its support for populations affected by food insecurity in countries across Africa (35%), Latin America (19%), Northern Africa (19%) and the Middle East (10%). For the last years, Spain has kept its focus in three particular crises: the Saharai refugee camps (where Spain is the first donor in terms of total contributions, with a particular concern regarding food security), the Venezuelan refugee crisis (assisting displaced personas fleeing Venezuela) and the multidimensional crisis in the Sahel. However, in 2022 Spain has considerably increased its funds for the horn of Africa in order to tackle the dire food security situation in the region.

Sweden

Sweden's commitment under the Food Assistance Convention for 2022 was 200 million SEK (19.2 million USD). Sweden exceeded its commitment comfortably in 2022. Sweden's total contribution to food assistance in 2022 amounted to over 3 471 million SEK (333 million USD). This amount includes a total of 2 542 million SEK (244 million USD) to the World Food Programme (WFP), of which 1000 million SEK (96 million USD) consisted of core, flexible funding under Sweden's multi-year Strategic Partnership Agreement with the World Food Programme (WFP) 2022-2025 and 750 million SEK (72 million USD) was committed in additional flexible funding during 2022. A total of 792 million SEK (76 million USD) was allocated to WFP country-level or programme-level activities in 2022. Sweden also contributed a total of 450 million SEK (43 million USD) to country-level or programme-level activities of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in 2022, and 436 million SEK (42 million USD) to country-level or programme-level activities of Action Against Hunger in 2022. Sweden also provides voluntary flexible global funding to FAO (173 million SEK/17 million USD in 2022-25).

Sweden also contributed to SDG2 on zero hunger and global food security through its contributions to Unicef, the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), UN country-level pooled funds, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as well a number of civil society organisations.

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Sweden is committed to deliver an effective and flexible humanitarian response, including in food security issues. Sweden's contributions to the above-mentioned partners include a high level of flexible or programme-level funding, in order to contribute flexible response by its partners. Wherever possible, Sida's country-level funding has a programme-based rather than project-based approach, to ensure effective and agile functioning of its partners. Sweden's support follows a needs-based approach and intends to reach the most vulnerable, including in hard-to-reach areas. Sweden also integrates a food security analysis into its support to system-strengthening efforts through research and policy development. Sweden also continues to provide support to climate change adaptation, resilience-building and anticipatory action to prevent a further increase in food insecurity.

In response to the continued negative trend in global food security, exacerbated by Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Sweden increased its support to global food security. Sweden substantially increased its flexible funding of World Food Programme, including flexible contributions to WFP's response to the global consequences of Russia's aggression. Furthermore, in response to the negative trend, Sida continued its voluntary flexible global funding to FAO. Sweden contributed to country-level responses of key food security implementing partners in over 30 countries worldwide. Sweden's key country-level responses in terms of emergency food security response included Ukraine, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Myanmar/Bangladesh, DRC, and the Sahel region.

Switzerland

Switzerland's commitment under the FAC for 2021 was of CHF 34 million (or USD 35.6), similar to 2021. Total food assistance and nutrition allocations from Switzerland in 2021 reached USD 130.6 million, thus significantly exceeding its commitment. It surpassed its 2021 contributions (USD 119 million, a 9% increase). This total was a result of extraordinary funding granted responding to both the Ukraine crisis and reallocation of unspent ODA funds against the global food crisis.

Regarding the type of partners, 78% of Switzerland's food assistance was implemented through support to the World Food Program (WFP) with a total USD 94.2 million. The remaining part of its contributions was distributed as follows: USD 17.7 million (14%) was allocated to NGOs, USD 9.2 million (7%) to UN organizations such as FAO, IOM, UNWRA, OCHA or various other partners through global or core funding. Compared with past years, contributions to WFP expanded whereas contributions to NGOs or other partners decreased. This can notably be explained by the continuous deterioration of access and conflict-induced hunger in countries with conflict situations. School feeding programmes were not particularly a focus of Swiss-funded projects with in its dialogue with its main partners such as WFP; Switzerland focuses its dialogue on Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations, Anticipatory Actions, Nexus programming and locally-led humanitarian action.

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In addition to funding, 12 experts eligible under the FAC criteria (whose support was estimated at USD 1.2 million, against 9 and 0.9 million in 2021) from the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit (SHA Unit) were seconded to WFP in 2021. They provided expertise in cash-based transfer programming (CBT) and Shock-Responsive Social Protection, Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations, Logistics, Climate and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) finance.

Switzerland takes a holistic approach in addressing global food security challenges and combines humanitarian aid, development cooperation, multilateral instruments, diplomatic measures as well as peace building initiatives, wherever feasible. Of all the UN agencies, WFP receives the largest amount of Swiss funding for humanitarian interventions. In 2022, Switzerland contributed a record of USD 108 million to WFP, including USD 94.2 million eligible under the FAC; it was among the 18th largest donor.

In terms of geographic breakdown, Switzerland's 2022 contributions allocated to support populations suffering from acute food insecurity and malnutrition went accordingly: about 27% to Africa, about 7% to Asia, about 11% to the Middle East, about 5% to the Americas and about 30% as core / global. In line with its commitment to the Good Humanitarian Donorship principles, Switzerland made a fully un-earmarked contributions of USD 24.9 million to WFP Immediate Response Account (IRA), making it its second largest donor in 2022; it enabled WFP to provide immediate food assistance in 49 countries and contexts, in particular in Afghanistan, Somalia or Yemen. Switzerland contributed to the CERF and OCHA-led Country-Based Pool Funds (CBPFs) in 16 countries with USD 51.5 million of which about a third was dedicated to emergency food security. Overall, the humanitarian aid of Switzerland provided food assistance in 37 countries.

As an observer state of WFP's Executive Board in 2021, Switzerland remained actively involved in the Executive Board's informal consultations and sessions. In particular, it continued to play a leadership role in supporting WFP in the implementation of WFP's Protection and Accountability to Affected Population policy. It maintained the focus of its engagement on specific thematic priorities such as resilience-building and DRR (including through climate finance, anticipatory actions), logistics (UNHRD) or research on climate change adaptation.

USA

The United States (US) Government maintains its commitment to global food security and to improving the ability of the international community to respond to emergency food insecurity and other food needs of developing countries.

In September 2022, was announced over USD \$2.9 billion in new assistance from the U.S. Government at the United Nations General Assembly, to address global food insecurity. This was addition to the USD \$6.9 billion in U.S. government assistance to support global food security already committed last year. This funding helped save lives in countries facing food security crises, including through food and nutrition assistance, health care, safe drinking water, protection for the most vulnerable, and other vital relief. It increased emergency food security programming in those countries most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate crisis,

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and the rise in food prices and supply chain constraints resulting from Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

In December 2022 U.S. Government announced an additional USD \$2 billion of new emergency humanitarian assistance for Africa at the U.S-Africa Leaders' Summit. Additional humanitarian and development assistance saw the United States contribute over USD \$13.5 billion in 2022 to fight global hunger, with the United States funding over half of the World Food Program's budget.

In Fiscal Year 2022, the United States (US) Government, through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) exceeded its FAC commitment of USD \$2.5 billion with nearly USD \$7.6 billion in food, livelihoods and related assistance, reaching millions of people in 64 countries. About 95% of USAID's food, livelihoods and related assistance addressed emergency needs, while 5% was non-emergency assistance tackling the underlying and chronic causes of hunger. Proportionally, US in-kind food assistance represented 29% of USAID food, livelihoods and related assistance in 2022, while food purchased outside the United States represented 31%. Food vouchers represented 11% of food, livelihoods and related assistance, cash transfers represented 16%, and other modalities such as essential complementary activities represented 12%.

Additionally, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded a total of USD \$443.35 million in new funding, to provide school meals and support capacity building initiatives that work to improve agricultural production and economic expansion in developing nations. Through the USDA international food assistance and capacity building programs more than 5.1 million direct participants in 51 developing countries were supported in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022.

The McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program (McGovern-Dole) funds school meals, education and nutrition programs that are implemented by private-voluntary organizations and other international organizations for women, infants, and children in countries with high food insecurity. The program's statutory objectives are to reduce hunger, increase literacy, and improve the health and dietary practices of school-age children, with an emphasis on girls. In FY 2022, McGovern-Dole reached more than 4.7 million participants with all active programming.

The Food for Progress Program (FFPr) focuses on improving agricultural productivity and expanding agricultural trade in developing countries and emerging democracies. The FFPr statute directs USDA, when awarding projects, to consider a country's commitments to promote economic freedom and expand efficient domestic commodity markets. Projects are funded primarily by proceeds from the sale of donated U.S. agricultural commodities. The projects are intended to strengthen the capacity of foreign countries to engage in international trade and enhance global food security. In FY 2022, FFPr reached more than 444,000 direct participants. Through FFPr assistance, more than 317,000 individuals applied improved technologies or management practices, and farmers increased sales of their agricultural products.

Furthermore, USAID continues to track the impact on food insecurity resulting from COVID-19 and worked with partners to adapt and contextualize existing food assistance programs to fit

local needs and improve COVID-19 readiness efforts around the world, in addition to adapting existing programs to respond to increasing needs driven by the pandemic. The U.S. expected commitment for food security in 2023 is at least USD \$3.5 billion.

2.2 KEY RESPONSES

1. Ukraine

Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine quickly turned into a deepening humanitarian crisis with global ripple effects. From March to December 2022, an estimated 17.7 million people needed humanitarian assistance as a result of the conflict.

The war has also drastically reduced the total cultivable land due to the widespread unexploded ordnance and landmines. It is estimated around 30 percent of farmlands are inaccessible, forcing farm workers to move, threatening food security and livelihoods. An estimated 11.1 million people are experiencing moderate to severe food insecurity in Ukraine, a number sadly on the rise.

It also severely diminished the national export capacity as Ukraine's ports were blocked, preventing the normal outflow of commodities, and in turn causing a shortage of adequate agricultural storage facilities. Unmoved agricultural cargo led to double income losses for farmers for the unsold harvest, but also limited their ability to invest in sowing for subsequent seasons. In addition, continued hostilities caused an energy crisis, as repeated damages to key critical energy infrastructure led to frequent and prolonged blackouts, no heating or water, and unstable telecommunications amidst gruelling winter conditions. Food production, value chains, storage and logistics have all been affected, worsening food insecurity.

Most of the FAC parties provided life-saving assistance to people in need in Ukraine via its humanitarian partners, including UN agencies, the Red Cross and INGOs. Sectors of intervention included provision of humanitarian food assistance, support to basic needs including through multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA), water and sanitation, shelter and non-food items (NFIs), health and protection, including gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), child protection and Education in Emergencies.

2. Horn of Africa (Ethiopia and Somalia)

The Horn of Africa is one of the most food-insecure regions in the world. An increase in needs is due to conflicts, climate change, natural disasters, and disease, as well as consequences of the war in Ukraine. The majority of the FAC parties supported Somalia and Ethiopia in 2022.

In Ethiopia, the estimated number of food insecure people increased from 18 million in 2021 to more than 22.6 million by the end of 2022. The operating environment became increasingly challenging and complex, affecting ability to deliver a response proportionate to the needs. In late 2022, access for humanitarian aid deliveries into Tigray began to be facilitated. Until then, there had been many challenges with food aid delivery into the region that had been in fits and starts at best, and completely blocked at worst. The lack of access to many areas, the absence of comprehensive needs assessments, the limited and eroded livelihood and crop production

opportunities have led to an extreme food security crisis in the region. Simultaneously, another food insecurity crisis unfolded in the drought-hit southern and South-Eastern Ethiopia and beyond. Pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities – still not recovered from previous shocks, such as previous droughts, the desert locust infestation, conflict and disease – were severely affected by a fifth consecutive failed rain season that continued to destroy their fragile livelihoods, nutrition sources and coping capacity. Over 4.5 million livestock are estimated to have been lost, while a significant portion of the remaining livestock weakened and emaciated.

Somalia is one of the worst hunger hotspots in the world. In 2022, the drought severely affected more than 7 million people, almost 50% of Somalia's population. The people struggled to deal with failed harvests and the death of their livestock. According to IPC, approximately 4.5 million people across the country were in a state of extremely concerning malnutrition (Phase 3 or higher), whereas an additional 2 million people were in acute need of emergency food assistance (Phase 4). Even more concerning were projections of famine amongst people living in Central and Southern Somalia: At least half a million people in these regions faced existential food insecurity in 2022. Several FAC members supported both Somalia and Ethiopia in 2022. The contributions were mainly channeled through WFP, but also projects by for example FAO, ICRC, international NGOs and the OCHA country-based pooled fund were supported.

3. Afghanistan

Afghanistan's humanitarian situation and the economy are in a very critical state. The Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan in August 2021 was followed by an economic crisis characterized by high unemployment, rising food prices, and cash shortages on top of already severe drought conditions. By 2022, a record-breaking 22.8 million people were acutely food-insecure, including 8.7 million people on the brink of famine. The food security situation improved slightly by May 2022; however, for the first time ever in Afghanistan, 20,000 people experienced famine-like conditions (IPC Phase 5 - Catastrophe), in extremely remote parts of Ghor Province, where the delivery of food assistance over the winter months had been hampered by harsh weather conditions. As is often the case, women and girls felt the effects most deeply

The massive scale-up of humanitarian assistance in 2022 was credited with preventing further IPC Phase 5 conditions from emerging. While overall, food insecurity levels were lower at the end of 2022 compared to 2021, they remained among the world's highest, with significantly more people requiring emergency support to meet their basic food needs compared to previous years.

The majority of the FAC parties supported Afghanistan in 2022. In addition to WFP activities, contributions were also made through other UN actors, international and local NGOs, ICRC and the World Bank.

4. Yemen

Yemen and the Yemeni people are experiencing one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, living in a state of civil war, economic crisis and an ever-increasing need for assistance across all sectors for the eight consecutive year. The protracted crisis was compounded by the knock-on effect of the war in Ukraine.

As a result, the dire humanitarian situation has reached a new critical point in early 2022: Acute food insecurity was spreading across the country at a rapid rate and reached alarming levels. Almost 75% of the total population – an estimated 22 million people – needed humanitarian assistance, 17 million people lived through extreme hunger and malnutrition (IPC Phase 4). Increased tensions in the country, economic volatility and inflation as well as severe underfunding of life-saving assistance have exacerbated the prolonged crisis even further and exposed large segments of the Yemeni population to unprecedented levels of food insecurity, malnutrition and disease.

The majority of the FAC parties supported Yemen in 2022. The EU played a leading role in mobilising and coordinating principled international support for the Yemen crisis. The EU urged all parties to the conflict to respect International Humanitarian Law and to prioritise the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, while also calling upon donors to pledge more assistance and disburse pledged funding.

5. The Syrian Arab Republic (including neighbouring countries)

In 2022, populations living in Syria faced another year of severe hardship, perpetuated by the Syrian government and other parties to the conflict and compounded by the worst economic and humanitarian crisis the country has faced since the start of the conflict in 2011.

Lebanon has an estimated population of 5.8 million, including 3.8 million Lebanese residents, 1.5 million Syrian refugees, 207,700 Palestinian refugees and around 14,800 refugees from other countries. The country has the highest share of displaced people with respect to the total population in the world (LCRP, 2021). The first Lebanon IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis indicated that, between September and December 2022, about 1.98 million Lebanese residents and Syrian refugees corresponding to 37 percent of the analyzed population, were in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or above. A total of 306,000 people (6 percent) indicated to be in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 1.68 million people (31 percent) in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis).

The majority of the FAC parties supported The Syrian Arab Republic (including neighbouring countries) in 2022.

6. South Sudan

The South Sudanese refugee population, the largest in the region, remains extremely vulnerable. At the end of 2022, there were 2.3 million South Sudanese refugees in camps, settlements, and urban areas in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda, living in precarious conditions, exacerbated by the ongoing drought and food insecurity. After nearly a decade of conflict and despite efforts towards implementing the peace agreement, South Sudan continued to grapple with sporadic violence, economic instability and the devastating impact of massive floods.

About 6.6 million people, or over half of South Sudan's population (54%), are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity, classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse between October and November. Of those, 2.2 million people are experiencing worse conditions in Emergency (IPC

Phase 4) acute food insecurity and an estimated 61,000 people in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) acute food insecurity.

Given the high levels of severe acute food insecurity in South Sudan, there is a need for immediate scale-up of multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance to save lives and prevent the total collapse of livelihoods in the affected counties, particularly those with a high share of populations in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) and Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) acute food insecurity. For populations in Minimal (IPC Phase 1) and Stressed (IPC Phase 2) acute food insecurity, there is a need for resilience-building support and enhanced disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies to mitigate the effects of climate change. Several FAC members supported South Sudan in 2022. Contributions were channeled through WFP, FAO, UNDP, the OCHA country-based pooled fund for South Sudan, ICRC and several international and local NGOs.

7. Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is one of the largest populations in Africa (estimation of 98.3 million according to the DRC Bureau of Statistics) and has the largest number of food insecure people in the world.

Armed conflict, leading to massive population displacement, continues to reduce the purchasing power of the poorest households with the populations most affected by acute food insecurity being IDPs and households hosting displaced or returned families as well as households living in areas affected by armed conflict. 73% of the population have been living in extreme poverty with a situation of conflict and vulnerability for almost 40 years.

At the national level, the food insecurity situation will be exacerbated by a sharp increase in fuel prices and food in general – directly related to the war in Ukraine as well as poor infrastructure and more structural factors. A number of FAC members supported the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2022. The members made contributions through WFP, ICRC, UNICEF, the UNDP humanitarian fund and INGOs.

8. Central Sahel region (Burkina Faso, Mali, North-Nigeria)

The central Sahel countries continue to be affected by a serious humanitarian crisis as a result of conflict and displacement combined with climate change that has led to rising temperatures, poor harvests in previous years and inflation of the price of basic foods. The security situation has created difficult living conditions, hampered income opportunities for the affected population and made it challenging to deliver humanitarian aid.

In 2022, more than 19 million people in Nigeria were projected in IPC/CH phase 3 or above during the 2022 lean season, up by 52 % from 2021. Nigeria was part of the seven countries with populations in IPC/CH phase 5, facing catastrophic conditions due to extreme lack of food. Food security needs remained overall very high in the country, especially in the conflict-affected Northeast (Borno, Adamawa and Yobe States - BAY) and in the North-West, where food and nutrition needs have significantly increased over the years. The levels of acute malnutrition among new arrivals from the inaccessible areas in the Northeast were worrying (IPC Acute Malnutrition scale phase 4) with the overall Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate at 20.9 % and

Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) at 8.2 %. In Borno State, the government-led camp closure, relocation, resettlement, and return policy, which affected 140 000 people in 2022, led to a deterioration of the food security and nutritional situation of displaced populations. Many FAC members supported countries in the Central Sahel region in 2022. The members supported activities by WFP, ICRC, UNICEF, FAO, OCHA and local and international NGOs.

9. Bangladesh (Rohingya Crisis) and Myanmar

Due to atrocities and human rights violations erupting in 2017, the Rohingya community living in Myanmar had to seek refuge in the neighbouring country of Bangladesh. In 2022, Bangladesh continued to host more than 900,000 Rohingya refugees in 33 camps in Cox's Bazar District and Bhasan Char Island of Noakhali District, of whom about 52% are children.

It is likely that household access to food will further deteriorate in this period due to the slow recovery from shocks that occurred in 2022 – severe flooding and prolonged exposure to high food prices – as well as a lean season.

In Myanmar, the 2021 military coup led to an increase in conflicts and a massive increase in food security needs. There are 600'000 estimated stateless Rohingya in Rakhine State of which close to 150'000 are living in displacement camps under squalid conditions, almost entirely dependent on international humanitarian aid. The resumption of the conflict since the informal ceasefire of end 2020 will impact all both Rakhine and Rohingya residents and lead to large-scale food insecurity. By end of 2022, the number of food insecure people was estimated at 15.2 million, compared to 2.8 million before the coup

Numerous FAC members supported both Myanmar and Bangladesh in 2022. Contributions were provided through WFP, ICRC, INGOs and the OCHA country-based pooled fund for Myanmar.

2. FORGOTTEN CRISIS AND/OR OTHER AREAS

1. Central America and the Caribbean (Haiti, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Cuba)

In Central America, the Covid-19 pandemic started a global inflationary trend that the conflict between Russia and Ukraine has exacerbated, pushing up the international prices of basic foods of which the countries of Central America depend. In 2022, the share of households with an income below the cost of the basic food basket has increased by more than 5% compared to 2019, disproportionately affecting women, informal workers or rural populations. In particular in Guatemala over 3.9 million people out of the 17.4 million people analysed have experienced IPC 3 or worse between March and May 2022. About 2.3 million people in Honduras are likely experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity through May 2023 due to high food prices and natural disasters, including floods and tropical storms.

Haiti has one of the highest levels of chronic food insecurity in the world with half of its total population chronically food insecure and 22 % of children chronically malnourished. Haiti is assessed as particularly fragile, and vulnerable to natural disasters and accidents. 5.2 million

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Haitians need humanitarian aid due to the food crisis, violence, migration crisis, cholera epidemic, and natural disasters. An estimated 4.9 million people experience food insecurity. Underlying drivers of this situation include high inflation, fueled by the depreciation of the national currency against the dollar and the rising cost of transportation, and the deteriorating security conditions. This contributes to a reduction in the purchasing power of the poorest households, who are forced to resort to unsustainable livelihood coping strategies. Moreover, the IPC/CH results of September 2022 showed that 19 000 people living in Cité Soleil, one of the poorest neighborhoods of Port au Prince, were in the catastrophic IPC/CH phase 5. The situation in Haiti has deteriorated rapidly and the risk is that the humanitarian crisis will also spread more widely in the region. A number of FAC members supported countries in the Central America and the Caribbean in 2022. Contributions were mainly made through WFP, UNICEF as well as local and international NGOs.

2. Kenya

According to the IPC analysis, acute food insecurity in Kenya represents a significant increase driven by prolonged drought and skyrocketing food prices. More specifically, the severity of the food security situation is mainly attributed to a combination of shocks, including, a fourth successive below-average rainy season - short lived and poorly distributed - resulting in poor crop and livestock production; localised resource-based conflict; the effects of the conflict in Ukraine; and the high food prices generated by both the latter and low production.

Based on the July 2022 analysis, malnutrition levels were extremely critical (IPC AMN Phase 5) in Turkana North, Turkana South and Laisamis sub-counties, critical (IPC AMN Phase 4) in Mandera, Garissa, Turkana West, Turkana central, Wajir, Isiolo, Samburu, North Horr, and Tiaty in Baringo County. Saku, Tana River and West Pokot Counties were classified in serious phase (IPC AMN Phase 3), while Moyale was in the alert phase (IPC AMN Phase 2). A number of FAC members supported Kenya in 2022.

3. Sri Lanka

Deteriorating economic and political conditions in Sri Lanka—driven by civil unrest, consecutive failed harvest seasons, power outages, rising prices for basic goods, and shortages of fertilizer, food, fuel, and medical supplies—have generated a complex humanitarian emergency in Sri Lanka.

Approximately 7 million people—more than 30 percent of the country's population—remain in need of humanitarian assistance such as food security and livelihood support as of March, according to the UN. Over 2 million people have received WFP assistance since the start of the emergency response in June 2022. 32 percent of households are food-insecure, and 73 percent of households continued to adopt negative food and livelihood-based coping strategies. Sri Lanka remains susceptible to natural hazards, including coastal erosion, cyclones, drought, floods, landslides, monsoons, and tsunamis. A limited number of FAC members supported Sri Lanka in 2022. Contributions were made through, for example, WFP.

4. Timor Leste

Timor Leste is highly vulnerable to recurring extreme weather events and natural hazards—such as droughts, earthquakes, floods, storms, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions—that can result in casualties, displacement, and other humanitarian impacts. Due to climate change, hydrometeorological disasters are increasing in frequency and intensity.

In Timor Leste, floods have affected food insecurity significantly in 2022. During the current period of analysis (November 2022 to April 2023), corresponding to the lean season, nearly 300,000 people representing 22% of the total population face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above), of which 286,000 people (21% of the total population) are classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), and 13,000 (1%) in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency). Urgent action is required to protect livelihoods, reduce food consumption gaps, and save lives and livelihoods of the people experiencing Crisis or Emergency food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above). Out of the fourteen municipalities, eleven are classified in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), whereas three municipalities are in IPC Phase 2 (Stressed). Out of the FAC members, the US supported Timor Leste in 2022.

3. COORDINATION AMONG DONORS

3.1 Global Network against Food Crises

Held in Istanbul in May 2016, the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) took place at a critical juncture, as an unprecedented level of humanitarian need is challenging the humanitarian system's ability to respond, driven largely by protracted crises and rising displacement. The WHS brought together high-level leadership from 173 countries as well as UN agencies, NGOs, and technical expertise to exchange ideas on how the international community can best respond to growing crises and promote closer linkages with the development sector.

The Global Network's partners operate at national, regional and global level along three interlinked dimensions: i) understanding food crises; ii) strategic investment in food and nutrition security; and iii) going beyond food by fostering political uptake and functional coordination across clusters and sectors to address other dimensions driving the food crisis scenarios.

The European Commission Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) and European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), together with FAO and WFP are the co-founding members of the Global Network, and remain the "core group" together with the US.

The Global Report on Food Crises is the flagship publication of the Global Network. It focuses on food crises that exceed the national coping capacities and therefore require the mobilisation of the international community. The 2023 edition, covering the year 2022, the EU released on 3 May 2023 and reported on 58 countries, three more than the previous edition. An update will be released in October 2023. The Network also produces the Hunger Hotspots report, an early warning tool that identifies the countries of highest concern, notably those that are considered at risk of famine.

Several FAC Members support and participate in the Global Network and the Coalition and reiterated its commitment to a coordinated and integrated approach to implementing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

3.2 Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD)

The Good Humanitarian Donorship initiative is an informal donor forum and network launched in June 2003 by donor governments, UN agencies, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other organisations involved in humanitarian action. Its members endorse the Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship, which set out commonly agreed definition and objectives for humanitarian action, as well as a set of guiding principles and good practices. The commitments include high-quality funding, i.e. flexible and non-earmarked funding, improving the quality of humanitarian work, and learning and accountability towards people affected by the crisis. Several FAC members expressed their commitment to follow the principles of the GHD. These include providing predictable and flexible funding and the respect for international humanitarian law (IHL).

In 2022, Finland led the good humanitarian Donorship (GHD) funding group together with Belgium. During the Presidency of last two years, a total of four high-level and four expert-level meetings were held in Geneva and New York, as well as thematic webinars. Latest topics have included humanitarian diplomacy and the politicisation of aid, localisation and protection work, including work against gender-based violence and inclusion of persons with disabilities. The group has also discussed with NGOs and civil society local participation and the decolonisation of aid.

3.3 Global ODA Forum for Good Humanitarian Donorship

MAFRA hosted the 2022 Global ODA Forum for Sustainable Agricultural Development under the theme of 'Exploring International Development Cooperation Measures for Food and Nutrition Security in a Changing Environment' on 21st to 22nd November 2022 in Seoul, ROK. Various experts and officials from multinational organizations and communities joined the Forum, which was held offline. The Forum was composed of four sessions focusing on the following topics: conflict, climate change, carbon neutrality and infectious disease. Through 12 presentations and four heated discussions, participants shared experiences, ideas and insights about effectively delivering sustainable agriculture development to developing countries.

MAFRA has contributed to sustainable agricultural development by transferring Korea's experience in agricultural and rural development. The Global ODA first began in 2017 to identify the international trends in international agricultural development cooperation and develop effective methods of implementing ODA projects.

3.4 Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA)

The European Council Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA) is the main forum within the European Union for strategic and policy discussions on humanitarian assistance between the EU Member States and the European Commission. Its work is guided

by the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, and International Humanitarian Law.

The Working Party i) monitors humanitarian needs resulting from man-made and natural disasters outside the EU; ii) ensures the coherence and coordination of the EU's collective response to these crises; iii) discusses international, horizontal and sectorial humanitarian policies; and iv) promotes the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, the humanitarian principles and IHL.

Several FAC Parties are active members of and contributor to the monthly meetings of the COHAFA. At these meetings, ECHO and the EU Member States exchange information on humanitarian crises and assess humanitarian needs. They also seek to improve the coherence of aid efforts at both the EU level and global level.

3.5 Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

Established by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2006 as the United Nations global emergency response fund, CERF's primary role is to provide fast and strategic funding to enable humanitarian actors to respond to emerging or escalating crises by delivering life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable people, when and where needed the most.

Funding from CERF allows UN agencies and partners to collectively jump-start relief efforts before other funding sources are available. The Fund also serves as a strategic instrument for addressing critical funding gaps in underfunded emergencies. In 2022, CERF allocated funds for urgent humanitarian action to meet the dire needs of people responding to sudden crises such as the devastating floods in Pakistan, the war in Ukraine, and to prevent famine in the Horn of Africa. In 2022, CERF helped improve the quality of humanitarian programming by prioritizing support for the most vulnerable, including women, girls and people with disabilities.

The total amount of contributions to CERF in 2022 was one of the highest ever received. FAC parties* provided funds to the CERF for a total of more than USD 200 million, with increase 20 million** from last year. CERF's largest contributions from FAC parties were received from Sweden, Denmark and Canada.

Member	2022 Contribution to the CERF (USD)
Australia	8 005 789,00
Austria	2 020 270,00
Canada	22 893 630,00
Denmark	30 863 841,00
Finland	16 498 300,00
France	8 928 571,00
Japan	123 148,00
Korea	6 000 000,00
Luxembourg	5 541 000,00
Russian Federation	3 500 000,00
Slovenia	49 470,00

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Spain	2 662 407,00
Sweden	74 796 371,00
Switzerland	5 965 955,00
United States of America	15 000 000,00
Total	202 848 752,00

Source: <https://cerf.un.org/our-donors/contributions-by-donor>

* European Union is not contributing to CERF.

**The 2021 annual report incorrectly stated that the CERF would have been funded with USD 116,730,023 by FAC parties. The correct amount for total funds from FAC parties to the CERF in 2021 was USD 186,169 Million. Part of the increase in 2022 is due to the incomplete information in the 2021 annual report (US contribution to the CERF was not available 2021 and total amount was incorrectly calculated).

3.6 World Food Programme (WFP)

The World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian organization. A member of the UN, WFP is governed by an Executive Board consisting of 36 Member States, which provides intergovernmental support, direction and supervision of WFP's activities. The organization is headed by an Executive Director, who is appointed jointly by the UN Secretary-General and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Working closely with private sector partners, WFP makes assets and functionalities available to fellow humanitarian operators. Humanitarian support includes food procurement, emergency stockpiling, cargo transportation, telecommunications and engineering support, among other services.

According to WFP 2022 was the year of the polycrisis: needs reached unprecedented levels. In 2022 WFP collaborated with a wide spectrum of partners to deliver emergency food, cash and nutrition assistance, provide logistics services, reinforce national social protection systems, offer climate-adaptive solutions and strengthen the resilience of communities. WFP worked together with governments, UN agencies, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, international and local NGOs, international financial institutions (IFIs), the private sector, academia, and think tanks.

3.7 ICRC Donor Support Group (DSG)

The Donor Support Group (DSG) of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), made up of the organization's major donors, is a platform for exchange on key ICRC policies and programming. Established in Denmark in 1997, the DSG meets yearly to examine and discuss issues of mutual interest such as management and human resources policy, operational concerns, policy issues and thematic issues. All FAC Parties but Korea, Russia and Slovenia are members of the DSG.

3.8 Asian Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR)

The ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve (APTERR) is a regional cooperation mechanism established in Indonesia in 2011 by the Ministers of the Agriculture and Forestry of the ASEAN Plus Three Members to respond promptly and effectively to food crises due to

disasters in the region. To accomplish that, the 13 APTERR Parties contribute in kind to a shared rice reserves system to respond to food emergencies. Since 2017, the Republic of Korea has contributed with rice to APTERR reserves. In 2022, 600 mt and 400 mt of rice were provided to Myanmar and the Philippines, respectively

3.9 FARM and Save Crops initiatives

In 2022, France, together with the European Union and its member states, was highly mobilized to avert a further worsening of the food crisis already unfolding, as well as the weaponization of food security by Russia. Solidarity corridors put in place by the EU and the Black Sea Grain initiative made it possible to help lower grain prices. In order to respond to this worsening of global food insecurity and malnutrition, the FARM initiative (*Food and Agriculture Resilience Mission*), launched during the French Presidency of the EU Council, aims to address the following three challenges: 1) the free movement of agricultural foodstuffs and market transparency, 2) greater solidarity with the most vulnerable and 3) the increase in agricultural and food production capacities, while strengthening their resilience and sustainability. During the United Nations General Assembly's High-Level Week 2022, France, along with Senegal, the African Union, the European Commission and Lebanon also launched the Save Crops initiative, to promote access to fertilizers and other critical inputs in vulnerable countries – especially in Africa.

4. POLICY INITIATIVES

4.1 The Grand Bargain

The Grand Bargain is an agreement between donor countries and international aid organisations from the United Nations, international non-governmental organisations and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The Grand Bargain is a set of 10 non-binding political commitments that donor governments and humanitarian organizations plan to jointly pursue to strengthen the effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability of humanitarian assistance to people in need.

The enabling priorities for the Grand Bargain are quality funding, localisation and participation. Other core commitments are increase transparency, increase the use and coordination of cash programming, reduce duplication and management costs, improve joint and impartial needs assessments, harmonise and simplify reporting requirements and enhance engagement between humanitarian and development actors.

The 2.0 version of the Grand Bargain was made in 2021, where both the work areas were narrowed and the commitments were renewed. Grand Bargain 2.0 articulated two enabling priorities: quality funding and localisation/participation. Furthermore, four 'caucuses' were established on cash, quality funding, intermediaries and funding for localization. A more streamlined structure was introduced, including the closure of a number of thematic workstreams as technical coordination bodies. The signatories agreed to implement this framework over a two-year period – 2021 to 2023. Progress achieved and challenges faced by signatories towards their commitments are assessed in an [Annual Independent Report 2022](#).

4.2 DG ECHO thematic policy on cash transfers

The EU endeavours to promote the use of cash transfers in the interest of the affected populations, of cost-efficiency and of effectiveness. This is in line with the EU's Grand Bargain commitment to deliver 35% of its humanitarian aid through cash transfers globally. As part of the Basic Needs Approach (BNA), the EU prioritises multipurpose cash (MPC) to meet basic needs, complemented by other modalities and timely referrals to meet specific sectoral outcomes.

In its cash interventions, the EU expects from its partners:

- Contributing to operationalise the HDP nexus through systems approaches that strengthen local capacity and link to durable solutions;
- Targeting the most vulnerable, based on needs alone;
- Adequacy, equity, and timeliness;
- Effectiveness and efficiency, including through a better harmonisation of tools and approaches, system interoperability, digitalisation and avoiding duplications;
- Accountability, putting people at the centre, giving them a voice in the process, and safeguarding beneficiary data;
- Measurability, through continuous and consistent monitoring and evaluation activities;
- For large-scale cash programmes (EUR 10 million and above), specific requirements regarding segregation of functions, cost-efficiency, and transparency.

In March 2022, the EU published a thematic policy on cash transfers⁶ that elaborates on each of the above points, and includes a check-list with key considerations for partners.

4.3 Team Europe response strategy to the global hunger crisis

In response to the global food crisis, the EU and its Member States adopted on 20 June 2022 an ambitious and comprehensive Team Europe response strategy⁷ to fight the global food crisis. This is a comprehensive response strategy that provides a common framework for the European response. It is built around four pillars:

- i. Solidarity (including the humanitarian response),
- ii. Production (aiming at promoting sustainable food production and resilience in affected countries),

⁶ [Cash Transfers \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁷ [Global Food security | EEAS \(europa.eu\)](#)

- iii. Trade (which includes the Solidarity Lanes initiative, as well as the defense of open and operational markets), and
- iv. Effective multilateralism (aiming at an EU response that is well coordinated and integrated with the actions of other global actors).

The “solidarity” pillar reflects the importance of the nexus, of tailor-made interventions adapted to each specific context, and stresses that short-term relief should be accompanied by efforts to support local production and resilience. The European Commission supports this initiative with a commitment of EUR 8.3 billion for the period 2021-2024. Together with Member States contributions, the total envelope is around EUR 18 billion.

The humanitarian response (integrated in the “solidarity” pillar) will be supported by around EUR 2.5 billion by the EU, including the over EUR one billion already allocated in 2022.

4.5 “The World We Share”

“The World We Share”, Denmark’s strategy for development cooperation and humanitarian action, provides the overall framework for all Denmark’s efforts to prevent and fight poverty, conflict and displacement and restore balance to the planet. Among the objectives of the strategy is that Denmark will work for greater food security and access to water; and help ensure effective access to protection and life-saving assistance in crises situations, including food aid. Another objective is to support climate-smart agriculture and sustainable food systems, prevent food loss and food waste, promote agro-organic cultivation methods, and strengthen green value chains. This will contribute to building resilience, improving food security and generating employment.

4.6 Hunger and Conflict

Like previous years, as a supporter of the Resolution 2417, Spain paid particular attention to the links between Hunger and conflict as intertwined causes of one another. Spain allocated funds to Action Against Hunger for a set of reports on such links in different context, starting with Syria. Among other things, its aim is to gather sufficient information to raise awareness and bring possible solutions to the table, in order to prevent Hunger to be used as a weapon.

4.7 School Meals Coalition

Finland and France co-chair the Taskforce of the School Meals Coalition initiated by the WFP.

School meals are a rapidly growing success story in global development. National school feeding programs have reached more children than ever before, making it the largest social safety net globally. These programs have positive effects in various areas such as agriculture, entrepreneurship, and women’s empowerment. Finland’s focus has been particularly on humanitarian contexts.

According to *The Review of Forming Process of School Meals Coalition* - initiated by the MFA of Finland - the SMC’s major achievement is the restoration of school meal access lost during the pandemic. The success of the SMC is due to the involvement of high-level political actors and a

flexible governance structure. The coalition's composition and focus on country-led action have enhanced its effectiveness.

The significant expansion of school meal programs is a result of global appreciation, as well as the integration of these programs into national policies, with over 90 percent of funding now sourced domestically. The review recommends multilateral sharing through policy dialogues on a recognized issue, prioritizing local needs and benefiting multiple parties instead of fostering competition. It is recommended to include continued efforts to improve meal quality and sustainability, integration of local food producers, and raising awareness of the program's sustainability.

The SMC should continue and maintain its momentum and address specific recommendations for future success. A coalition that can establish a spiral of positive impact, despite a clearly defined thematic item, can generate multi-stakeholder interest and be sustainable over time.

4.8 Global Network against Food Crises and the World Food Summit 2022

The World Food Summit is an annual accelerator of the actions required to transform the food system to become more sustainable and responsible in response to the SDGs. In 2022, Denmark hosted ministers from all across the world in a discussion of how to transform the global food systems to combat climate change.

In 2022, Denmark has continued to support WFP's efforts as a member of the multi-stakeholder Global Network against Food Crises, to apply a nexus approach when monitoring food crises and the impact of WFP programmes. The EU provides financial support for the Global Network against Food Crises.

4.9 Minimum environmental requirements

In line with the commitments under the European Green Deal, the EU adopted its approach to reducing the environmental footprint of humanitarian aid in 2020. The approach stipulates that, by adopting a new way of working through mainstreaming environmental considerations across projects, programmes and organisational management, and by taking a precautionary approach, we can mitigate the environmental impacts of humanitarian aid. The approach covers both projects and programmes as well as the EU's own activities in headquarters and field offices.

One of the main deliverables of the approach are the minimum environmental requirements and recommendations for EU-funded humanitarian aid operations⁸. Developed in consultation with partners in three rounds of consultation, they were formally released at the European Humanitarian Forum in March 2022.

The requirements focus on priority areas where readily available solutions can provide the greatest environmental benefits such as: providing clean energy solutions, avoiding

⁸ [Climate change and environment \(europa.eu\)](https://climate.ec.europa.eu/en/climate-change-and-environment)

deforestation, avoiding plastic where possible, implementing a robust waste management system, choosing materials with a lower carbon footprint, greening the organisation's logistics including the entire supply chain, and working more closely with local actors to decrease long-distance transport.

The minimum environmental requirements represent criteria partners need to address in a humanitarian response. Partners were encouraged to apply them in 2022, in anticipation of them becoming mandatory as of 2023. The minimum environmental requirements are complemented by recommendations: actions that are encouraged and looked at favourably; nevertheless, their incorporation in EU's proposals remains optional for the time being and will not affect the overall project evaluation outcome.

A guidance document for partners, which goes into detail on the implementation of the requirements and recommendations, was released in August 2022. An accompanying virtual classroom training for partners was developed and was rolled out throughout the second half of 2022.

5. INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO FOOD ASSISTANCE

5.1 Cash coordination and innovation

Call to Action Letter on Cash Coordination and the *Grand Bargain Caucus on Cash Coordination* had led to the IASC endorsement of a new model on cash coordination which should improve the scale, quality and timeliness of humanitarian response – including in food assistance. This model ensures predictable and accountable mechanisms for cash coordination which can take timely decisions as needed. It leverages existing coordination structures, ensures clear accountability to one agency, mitigates conflict of interest in performing coordination duties and provides a referral path in country and globally. The model is built on the principle of localization, enabling more inclusive coordination with greater participation of national and local actors, and helping to ensure decisions regarding cash interventions are made closer and with greater accountability to the crisis-affected population.

DG ECHO promotes cash responses which build on technological advances and innovations, using technology and linking to longer term solutions. In particular, DG ECHO has a preference for digital solutions where these make sense from a cost, effectiveness or efficiency standpoint, including the advantages inherent in electronic cash transfers and digital identities.

The obvious advantages lie in the greater flexibility and choice for beneficiaries while also boosting the local economy. This modality also increases financial inclusion of groups that were previously excluded from the banking system, such as women. WFP is moving towards multi-purpose cash transfers (MPC), going beyond food assistance and allowing beneficiaries to prioritise their own needs. In this context, WFP is also conducting studies on the impact of different transfer modalities and monitoring the risk analysis.

5.2 Humanitarian Cash and Voucher Assistance

Based on the Joint Donor Statement on Humanitarian Cash Transfers, Switzerland and like-minded donors continuously worked to improve coordination in humanitarian cash operations. In 2022, the donor group supported humanitarian organizations in rolling-out the IASC Cash Coordination Model, which should improve the scale, quality and timeliness of humanitarian response – including in food assistance.

The model is built on the principle of localization, enabling more inclusive coordination with greater participation of national and local actors, and helping to ensure decisions regarding cash interventions are made closer and with greater accountability to the crisis-affected population.

Throughout 2021, Switzerland continued to maintain a solid dialogue with its main partners on CVA and had an active role in global discussions for CVA to become a systematically considered response option. In 2022, to advance CVA in humanitarian response, Switzerland seconded 17 CVA experts to humanitarian partners such as UNOCHA, WFP, UNICEF, IFRC, ICRC, and others, including on topics such as Shock-Responsive Social Protection.

5.3 Disability Inclusion

Finland has worked to enhance WFP's work on disability inclusion. Influence work has been done actively in the WFP executive board, bilateral negotiations and in cooperation with other like-minded countries. WFP is currently creating metrics for disability inclusion and intends to incorporate the principle also to all its country programs. Finland has funded WFP's Disability Trust Fund, which has led to WFP's pioneering work to make humanitarian aid disability inclusive.

Persons with disabilities are taken into account in the future, among other things, in procurement, accessibility of facilities, information and in communication technology and in meetings and in training materials.. Also, Finland, among other donors has been encouraging UN OCHA to improve their disability inclusion. Today for example OCHA's CERF has highlighted persons with disabilities as an underfunded priority, which is taken into account in their funding decisions.

5.4 Anticipatory action

Anticipatory action (AA), also known as early action, is defined as acting ahead of predicted hazards to prevent or reduce acute humanitarian impacts before they fully unfold. AA is based on forecasts and risk analysis that allow humanitarian actors to mobilise dedicated funds prior to a hazard based on pre-agreed triggers and protocols for action. AA also strengthens the resilience of vulnerable communities. Where it can be applied, it is an efficient, cost effective and dignified form of humanitarian action, which places affected people at the centre of action and provides them with agency to protect themselves and their means of living. Denmark supports WFP in scaling up Anticipatory Action for food security in relation to climatic shocks especially on the Horn of Africa.

The Asia-Pacific region is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of natural hazards, with disasters affecting millions of people each year. Past decades have seen an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events because of the growing impacts of climate change. As a result, countries are increasingly having to prepare for and respond to more

intense and often unexpected hazards. Coping capacities and assets of vulnerable communities have been progressively eroded by consecutive impacts from disasters, with food insecurity and malnutrition levels on the rise in several countries.

Increasingly, humanitarian organizations, donors and governments are focusing on supporting at-risk communities ahead of a potential extreme weather event, rather than waiting to respond in their aftermath. For WFP this entails the adoption of a more proactive, forward-looking risk management approach across its operations, considering both current and future risks and vulnerabilities. DFAT contributed USD 1 million (AUD 1.5 million) to help WFP move closer to reaching scale in the Asia-Pacific region and generating the necessary evidence to further institutionalize the approach and scale- up to cover more areas, more countries, more people as well as multiple hazards. DG ECHO currently funds around 30 projects with anticipatory action components, amounting to approx. EUR 50 million (USD 53 million). This includes a pilot Programmatic Partnership with FAO specifically focused on AA and implemented in Bangladesh, Laos, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Vietnam over three years (2021-2023) for EUR 12 million (USD 13 million). Another example of an anticipatory action project is the “SUFAL” project with CARE, focused on monsoon floods in Bangladesh. Additionally, part of our contribution to the DREF (Disaster Relief Emergency Fund) supports Early Actions carried out by National Red Cross/Red Crescent societies.

In the 2021 Communication on the EU’s Humanitarian Aid and the related Council conclusions, DG ECHO committed to scale up anticipatory action. As a result, an internal note was drafted, outlining options to scale up AA in 2023.

5.5 Global Strategic Programme

Recognizing that rigorous, evidence- and consensus-based analysis of food insecurity and acute malnutrition situations is crucial to an effective humanitarian response, Canada provides support to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Global Strategic Programme. CAD 5 million over 3 years 2022-2024, to help support the humanitarian sector with the best possible food security analysis upon which to base decisions, and ensure impartial, needs-based policy and programming.

5.6 Digital innovation and solutions

Through a partnership with *Action Against Hunger Canada*, Canada provides support to the Technical Support Team of the Global Nutrition cluster, which provides technical expertise to improve nutrition outcomes in emergencies. This includes on-site technical expertise in the form of technical experts deployed in-country; remote support from technical experts; recommendations of vetted consultants; or other capacity building initiatives.

In 2022, Luxembourg provided multi-annual funding support to WFP’s Innovation Accelerator (250,000 Euros per year until 2025) (237,750 USD) under its new Strategic Partnership Framework 2022-2025, which sources, supports, and scales high-impact innovations to achieve Zero Hunger. Through the Accelerator, WFP is leveraging unprecedented advances in digital innovation – such as mobile technology, artificial intelligence, big data, and blockchain – and new business models to transform the way we serve vulnerable communities across the world.

5.7 Innovative resilience and Livelihood

Luxembourg has launched the Humanitarian Innovation Accelerator (HIA) project with the WFP Innovation Accelerator. This project aims to pilot the development and scaling up of innovative solutions to strengthen the capacity of humanitarian actors in order to address the most complex challenges in the most difficult conditions. The project has a total duration of 26 months (started in November 2022) and received 2.5 million Euros (2.4 million USD) of funding in 2022.

Sweden remains a strong advocate of innovative development assistance. In 2022, Sida supported a total of 70 programmes supporting digitalisation and/or a resilient digital ecosystem, of which many have clear links to resilience and livelihood. This includes by providing more rigorous and secure humanitarian data management, strengthening local and national level social security networks, improving information management for sustainable energy, and innovating climate for investments in low- and middle-income countries.

5.8 Grain from Ukraine Platform

Even throughout the war, Ukraine remained WFP's biggest supplier of wheat in 2022, supplying more than half of WFP's global wheat grain procurement.

In 2022, Slovenia was keen to cooperate in Grain for Ukraine platform, which serves as a successful approach to innovative food assistance. Correspondingly, this represents the largest Slovenian contribution in the field of food security, as well as one of the largest humanitarian contribution in Slovenia's history in general.

5.9 Planning the K-Rice Belt Project with Seven African Countries

ROK achieved rice self-sufficiency in the 1970s thanks to the high-yield variety called 'Tong-il', developed by MAFRA. Based on that experience, MAFRA initiated a project in 2017 to develop a new rice variety for African countries, which provides two-three times higher yield than the traditional varieties in the continent, and ISRIZ-7 was introduced. The potential of the new variety was proved through a pilot with WFP in Guinea in 2021-2022, and MAFRA announced the K-Rice Belt project through which MAFRA supports seven African countries from the West region to the East region of Africa by building seed production systems with the new variety and establishing the value chain with the rice production. The seven countries are Gambia, Guinea, Ghana, Senegal, Cameroon, Kenya and Uganda, and they expect to produce over 1 million mt of rice in five years through the project, which is to commence in 2023. Since other African countries show a good interest in the project, MAFRA expects more countries will participate in the project in the coming years.

6. BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED IN 2022

6.1 Flexible funding

The lack of significant amounts of flexible and predictable (multi-year) funding as a hindrance to more effective and efficient programming is a repeated finding in WFP's evaluations of country strategic plans. Where possible, Australia builds flexibility into funding arrangements to allow partners to respond to needs as they arise and provides flexible and multi-year core funding. In

2022, Australia's earmarking remained at the country level or above. Australia renewed their multi-year Strategic Partnership Framework for another four years. The flexible nature of the Australian funding had a critical impact in Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

Luxembourg has made a long-term commitment towards flexible humanitarian funding instruments, such as the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the Country Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) and the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF). Through these pooled funds, Luxembourg's Humanitarian Action supports not only a quick and efficient response to urgent crises but also maintains funding towards protracted and "forgotten" crises. Luxembourg also supports WFP's Immediate Response Account (IRA) with 1.15 million Euros (1.09 million USD), which underlines the importance the Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (Luxembourg MFEA) places on flexible and predictable funding, allowing WFP to respond rapidly to emergencies as they arise. As this contribution is part of a multi-year agreement (2022-2025), the IRA strengthens the principles of timeliness, predictability and flexibility.

In 2022, Slovenia saw a six-fold increase in the area of food assistance in comparison to the previous year. Furthermore, Slovenia participated at the Grain from Ukraine platform with one of the largest humanitarian contributions in Slovenia's history.

6.2 Localization

Denmark continues to support local leadership and capacity building of local actors across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus and in climate -and environmental action. Denmark strives to find more suitable, direct funding modalities for local actors and communities in fragile and conflict-affected settings. There is a need for a fundamental shift in power and resources towards local actors in partner countries when addressing food insecurity. The priorities, capacities and needs of local actors must be at the center of approaches to support local leadership in development cooperation and humanitarian action.

Denmark insists on engaging directly with local actors at country level to develop and evaluate our efforts to support local leadership. During 2022, Denmark took over the co-chairmanship of the Grand Bargain Work-stream on Localisation together with IFRC. The overall purpose of this engagement is to contribute to strengthening access to long term, predictable and quality funding for local and national actors. During 2022, Denmark is also a member of Grand Bargain caucus on funding for localization. Moreover, Denmark engages with other donors in strengthening WFP's engagement with national and local partner organizations. Localization is a cross-cutting priority in Denmark's Strategy for Engagement with WFP in 2022-2025.

Luxembourg continued to support activities aimed at preventing food insecurity, while building the capacity of national actors as first responders in crisis-affected countries, thus also reinforcing the localisation of the humanitarian response.

6.3 Nexus approaches

The framework for strategic partnerships with Danish civil society organisations encourages nexus-approaches by providing civil society partners one single allocation of funds that covers both humanitarian and development action. This allows for a holistic, adaptive and integrated approach to programming and food assistance interventions.

Luxembourg has continued supporting its partners to meet the needs of vulnerable people, with a view to strengthen a coordinated and coherent humanitarian, development and peace nexus, while still making sure however that a distinction between these three pillars is maintained in fragile contexts.

6.4 Disability inclusion

For Finland, it was clear that food assistance for persons with disabilities was stronger, especially at country-level, where there was 1) management support, 2) dedicated budget for disability inclusion, 3) staff with dedicated time and objectives for it, supported by technical experts from the region/headquarters. Additionally, if the country had a network of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities linked to the humanitarian sector, this was a conducive factor.

6.5 Early Transfer of Contribution Against the War

In the usual practice, ROK government exchanged the pledged Korean currency contribution for the rice assistance of 50,000 mt into the USD and transferred it to WFP in March every year. The conflict between Russian Federation and Ukraine affect the global economy and food security, and the foreign currency exchange market is very vulnerable to that impact. To remove the uncertainty, ROK government decided to transfer the contribution one month earlier than usual to mitigate the loss from the adverse foreign exchange rate for ROK. The total contribution amount of KRW 51.9 billion was transferred on 14th February 2022 at KRW 1,204 per USD, and the Russia-Ukraine war outbreak one week later with Russian Federation's invasion. After the war, the currency market largely fluctuated, and the average currency exchange rate in March 2022 was KRW 1,235 per USD. Thanks to the early action, ROK provide WFP with a sufficient contribution in USD for the whole 50,000 mt. WFP expressed its appreciation for the high predictability of the ROK's rice contribution in its thanking messages.

6.6 TV Documentary for Informing the Global Food Crisis and ROK's Contribution

ROK is a shining example of a country that was able to overcome hunger within just one generation, and it is now the FAC member with five-consecutive-year food assistance since 2018. MAFRA and WFP planned to produce a documentary film which shows ROK's remarkable transformation from the food assistance recipient to the donor. This unique history gives insights into the developing countries which experienced the challenges ROK had gone through in the 1970s as well as allows the public to acknowledge the ROK's role in the international community and highlight the continuing food assistance for the most vulnerable people. JTBC, one of the major Korean TV stations, accompanied the field mission of the ROK delegation to the Jijiga refugee camp in Ethiopia in August 2022. The delegation comprised the Members of the Parliament of ROK and government officials. The one-hour documentary was aired on Korean Far er's Day (11th November 2022) and informed the importance of food

assistance amidst the current global food crisis by showing ROK's zero-hunger story and how Korean rice supports the families in the camp.

7. SCHOOL FEEDING IN DAC ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

School feeding programmes contribute to several objectives: better nutrition of children, higher school attendance and sustainable livelihoods, particularly when food is locally purchased from smallholders. The School Meals Coalition as one the goal is to guarantee everyone the world access to school meals for children by 2030.

Finland and France co-chair the Taskforce of the School Meals Coalition initiated by the WFP. Several projects funded in 2022 through the Food Assistance Program supported school feeding, in particular in Ukraine (up to 5 million EUR / USD 5.3m), but also in Algeria, Gambia, Guinea, Haiti, Lebanon, Mauritania, Niger, Togo, Venezuela and Yemen. On the occasion of the first ministerial meeting of the Member States of the School Meals Coalition's Taskforce, held in Helsinki on October 18, 2022, France announced that 28 million EUR / USD 29.4m would be devoted to support school feeding programs in its partner countries in 2022, through different instruments (including the Food Assistance Program). France also announced that the first global meeting of the Coalition would be hosted in Paris on October 18 and 19, 2023.

Canada funded the World Food Programme (WFP) for the Support to School Health and Nutrition project (CAD 15 million) as part of its COVID-19 emergency response funding. Canada supported school feeding through WFP in South Sudan, Somalia, Burkina Faso, Niger and Côte D'Ivoire. Denmark has also supported WFP school meals programmes in the Sahel and on the Horn of Africa as an investment in the fight against malnutrition and for learning, development and equality, but mainly provides support through un-earmarked funding for WFP's humanitarian assistance in relevant crisis situations. The EU supports school meals activities in several countries, primarily under the development cooperation agenda. Japan provided more than 15 million USD to WFP and implemented school meals programmes assistance in 8 countries, mainly in Asia and Africa.