

Overview of Operations 2009

Looking forward into 2009, WFP currently plans to reach **93.3 million persons** with food assistance. The corresponding projected WFP food assistance needs are estimated at **6.0 million tonnes¹, valued at approximately US\$6.2 billion, of which 5.2 million tonnes worth US\$5.0 billion** represent the level of new donor resources that will be needed to meet 2009 beneficiary needs.

2009 PROGRAMME OF WORK						
Programme Category	(mt)			(US\$ million)**		
	Beneficiary Needs	Expected Carry-over	Expected Shortfall	Beneficiary Needs*	Expected Carry-over	Expected Shortfall
EMOP	1,615,287	235,198	1,380,089	1,855.6	258.2	1,246.3
PRRO	3,702,283	449,137	3,253,179	3,587.7	443.6	3,106.9
SO	-	-	-	268.5	-	268.5
DEV	647,901	116,693	531,208	520.6	103.7	413.5
Grand Total	5,965,471	801,028	5,164,476	6,233	806	5,035

* Needs and carry-overs are based on best estimates as of September 3, 2008

** Values in this table and throughout this document include ISC.

Evolving Operational Requirements

WFP works in crisis areas that are subject to rapid change and food assistance needs fluctuate throughout the year. The total projected requirements for relief operations include ongoing operations and expected expansions based on best available estimates as at **3 September 2008**. Requirements will be further refined following current and upcoming needs assessment missions. Naturally, the estimated beneficiary caseloads and food assistance needs would be adjusted based on any new emergencies during 2009, and thus, the eventual WFP global beneficiary numbers and requirements in 2009 may be adjusted.

Updated information on WFP's changing requirements is available through:

- WFP's web site (www.wfp.org), including the Operational Priorities;
- WFP's operational requirements, shortfalls and priorities publication (White Pages) which reports on estimated yearly food needs and shortfalls for WFP operational activities, issued three times a year to coincide with each Executive Board session;
- donor consultations, including ad hoc meetings in response to sudden crises, and donor visits to countries receiving WFP food assistance; and
- the UN Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP).

Operational Requirements for 2009

WFP is present in 72 countries around the world delivering assistance to those affected by acute and/or chronic hunger as caused by conflict, disasters, other shocks, and by debilitating poverty and food insecurity. WFP food assistance needs, and particularly those for relief operations, remain substantial.

1. Estimated US\$ values for ongoing projects proceeding in 2009 are based shortfalls plus carry-over value. Shortfalls are calculated based on 2009 planning rates plus ISC, while the carry over stock is based on average 2008 actual commodity rates and transport rates with the addition of other associated costs in 2009 (excluding ISC). Beneficiary needs and shortfalls for new projects are based on 2009 planning figures plus ISC and carry over stock based on 2008 average actual commodity rates and transport rates plus other associated costs (2009 rates, excluding ISC).

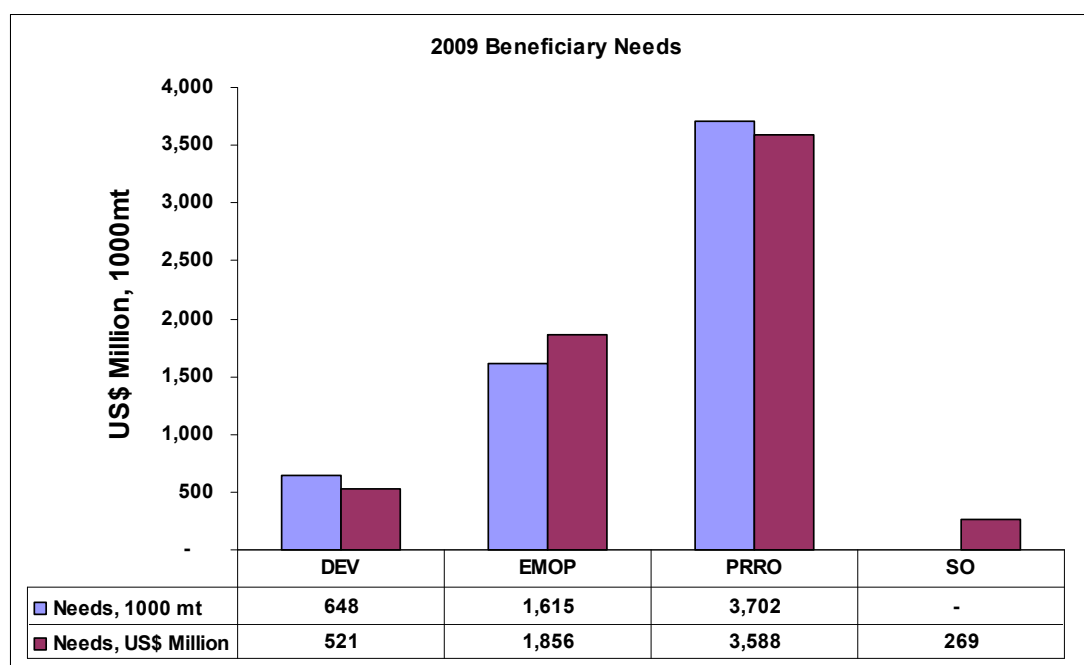
Overview of Operations 2009

About 46.6 percent of the total estimated requirements, in terms of metric tonnes, will be concentrated in Southern, Eastern and Central Africa.

Of the planned 93.3 million beneficiaries:

- 2.4 million refugees, 2.2 million returnees, and 7.5 million internally displaced persons (IDP);
- 18.1 million boys and girls who will be given school meals through school feeding programmes and over 3.7 million school children who will be given take-home rations;
- 2.5 million beneficiaries who are impacted by HIV-AIDS; and
- 5.4 million persons who are expected to participate in food-for-work and an additional 1.7 million in food-for-training activities; and
- At least 52 percent will be women and girls.

The 2009 operational requirements, by project category, are as follows:



Emergency Operations (EMOPs)

Projected funding needs for EMOPs will remain high in 2009, at 1.6 million tonnes valued at some US\$1.9 billion. Given that new humanitarian emergencies cannot be predicted, WFP emergency requirements may increase during 2009.

Some highlights of significant WFP operations that are expected to be operational in 2009 are as follows:

- WFP continues to require the massive support of the international community to address the needs of 6.3 million Sudanese people. The expected EMOP needs in **Sudan** in metric tonnage presently account for 42 percent of total WFP worldwide emergency funding needs in 2009.
- In **DRPK**, WFP will provide comprehensive food assistance to 5.6 million food-insecure populations through mother child health and nutrition activities; feeding of primary school children, elderly people and other vulnerable groups; and food for community activities.
- In **Chad**, WFP will continue to support more than 620,000 beneficiaries by meeting the food needs of the Sudanese refugees and the longer term needs of IDP, and host populations.

Overview of Operations 2009

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operations (PRROs)

Current projected requirements for PRROs suggest they will constitute WFP's largest programme category, requiring funding for 3.7 million tonnes of food assistance in 2009, valued at US\$3.6 billion.

The PRRO category and operational needs have grown substantially in recent years in view of continuing protracted crises. Large-scale food assistance support for relief and recovery will be required for millions of beneficiaries through these projects. Some highlights include:

- The **Afghanistan** PRRO will support 8.8 million vulnerable people severely affected by natural disasters, extreme weather and increasing food and fuel prices by enhancing food security and improving the human and productive capital of food-insecure Afghans.
- In **Zimbabwe**, WFP will continue the support to 4 million food-insecure people through vulnerable group feeding, social-based and health-based programming.
- The PRRO in **Somalia** will assist 2.6 million chronically food-insecure Somalis, who have been affected by the rapidly deteriorating food security situation caused by continued conflict, hyper-inflation, droughts and successive crop failures.

Special Operations

Special Operations are a separate programme category complementing WFP relief operations, mainly by addressing operational bottlenecks that hinder the flow of food to beneficiaries. Special Operations are used in WFP interventions to rehabilitate and enhance transport and logistics infrastructure to permit timely and efficient delivery of food assistance, to meet emergency and protracted relief needs, or to enhance coordination in the UN system with other partners by providing designated common services. Special Operation activities include airlifts of food and non-food items, information and communications technology (ICT) and air services for the international humanitarian community, projects to rehabilitate roads, airports, railways and ports and operational support activities involving specialized equipment and action against landmines. Current forecast suggests a requirement of US\$268.5 million for Special Operations in 2009. The Special Operations in Sudan accounts for 47 percent of the estimated 2009 requirements.

Development Portfolio

The total estimated beneficiary needs in 2009 for approved and planned development activities amounts to some 648,000 tonnes, valued at US\$521 million. The overall total reflects commitments under WFP's approved **country programmes** and **development projects**, which will be operational in 2009. WFP is making every effort to mobilise resources to meet development needs and will continue to prioritise its available multilateral resources for development to WFP projects/country programmes in countries that:

- are least developed or have equally low income (per capita GNI three-year average less than US\$900); and
- face a problem of chronic malnutrition measured as a rate of under-five child stunting greater than 25 percent.

The implication of this prioritization is that countries requiring food assistance but not meeting the above criteria will need to obtain resources through directed multilateral contributions, and/or from the recipient governments.

Overview of Operations 2009

Measuring Results

WFP will focus on five Strategic Objectives, derived from its mandate, its mission statement and the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). These include:

- SO1: Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies;
- SO2: Prevent acute hunger and invest in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures;
- SO3: Restore and rebuild lives and livelihoods in post-conflict, post-disaster or transition situations;
- SO4: Reduce chronic hunger and under-nutrition; and
- SO5: Strengthen the capacities of countries to reduce hunger, including through hand-over strategies and local purchase.

To illustrate what food assistance will help to achieve in 2009, country offices and their government and NGO partners have provided details on expected outputs.

Assuming that each project's 2009 requirements are fully resourced, expected initial results e.g. include disaggregated information, where available, on the following:

- **Beneficiaries of WFP food in 2009** - defined in this publication as the number of targeted people who will actually eat WFP food at any time during 2009 and thus includes beneficiaries such as family-members of Food-for-Work participants for all programme categories.
- **Refugees, internally displaced persons, and returnees** – only indicated when applicable.
- **Beneficiaries of general food distribution** - includes all beneficiaries receiving gratuitous emergency food assistance.
- **Expectant and lactating women and children given WFP food under MCH programmes** - includes beneficiaries of supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes as well as support provided through mother and child health programmes.
- **Beneficiaries impacted by HIV-AIDS** - includes beneficiaries of WFP-supported programmes for persons infected with, or affected by, the HIV-AIDS pandemic with supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes as well as support provided through mother and child health activities.
- **School children given school meals** - includes beneficiaries of all school feeding programmes.
- **School children given take-home rations** - where applicable, and usually implies a family ration.
- **Participants in food-for-work activities** – includes all direct beneficiaries of food-for-work (FFW)/physical asset creation programmes in which a family ration is usually provided. It should be noted that the size of a family ration, which generally averages five persons, can vary from country to country.
- **Participants in food-for-training activities** – Similar to food-for-work above.

As WFP projects and operations have specific implementation modalities designed to meet local circumstances (e.g. family ration can range from 4-8 persons) and different project components may be operational only under particular circumstances (e.g. FFW within EMOPs, or school feeding under PRROs), not all project beneficiary information fits neatly into the above-listed categories. In addition, not all partners' M&E systems allow for the level of planning that enables a comprehensive description of expected results. Consequently, the expected output information may be somewhat uneven and the figures provided should be considered as tentative estimates.

All expected output figures, as reported by country offices, are included next to each operation and beneficiary figures are aggregated by regional bureau.

Overview of Operations 2009

Below is an overview of planned beneficiaries for 2009.

Forecasted Beneficiaries in 2009

The following initial results are expected, if the project/activity is fully resourced in 2009:

(Figures in million)

	Female	Male	Total
Total number of beneficiaries of WFP food in 2009	48.87	44.45	93.32
Asia	17.57	16.81	34.38
Middle East, Central Asia, Eastern Europe	3.03	2.97	5.99
West Africa	6.50	5.62	12.12
Southern, Eastern and Central Africa	16.24	14.39	30.63
Latin America and the Caribbean	2.16	1.76	3.92
Sudan	3.37	2.91	6.28
	Female	Male	Total
Number of refugee beneficiaries	1.21	1.18	2.38
Number of IDP beneficiaries	4.22	3.27	7.49
Number of returnee beneficiaries	1.34	0.83	2.17
Number of beneficiaries of general food distribution	18.18	16.46	34.65
	Female	Male	Total
Number of beneficiaries impacted by HIV/AIDS	1.37	1.10	2.47
	Women	Men	Total
Number of participants in food-for-training activities	1.31	0.43	1.74
Number of participants in food-for-work activities	2.60	2.78	5.38
	Girls	Boys	Total
Number of children given school-meals	8.63	9.48	18.12
Number of children given take-home rations	2.53	1.20	3.73
<i>of whom: receiving both take-home rations and school meals</i>	1.35	0.51	1.86
	Women	Children	Total
Number of pregnant and lactating women and children in MCH/Supplementary feeding	3.13	5.92	9.05

* Beneficiaries may appear in more than one sub-total. Therefore, sub-totals may not equal the total number of beneficiaries.

WFP will annually report back to the donor community on resources spent and both output and outcome results obtained in the annual Standard Project Reports (SPRs). SPRs are prepared for all WFP activities (with the exception of bilateral projects) and lay out the objectives of the project, the mode of implementation, the resources used for implementation and the results obtained by project. In order to improve WFP's accountability for resources used, results obtained during the reporting period will be presented in SPRs through results-based reporting.

The Annual Performance Report (APR) is WFP's primary accountability tool used to report on WFP achievements and results to the Executive Board (EB). The APR, increasingly considered an important management tool by internal and external stakeholders, informs the EB of the depth of WFP commitment to RBM and presents the WFP corporate focus on results.

The Global Food Price Crisis

The steep rise in fuel and food prices during 2007-2008 generated an economic shock, affecting the food access of the poorest people in the world most severely. A new World Bank poverty estimate suggests that 1.4 billion people are now living on less than \$1.25 a day, 400 million more than earlier estimates. According to the latest FAO estimate, 75 million more people are now below the hunger threshold, pushing the total to 923 million. WFP is a

Overview of Operations 2009

member of the Secretary-General's High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis and, in consultation with the task force, is supporting a phased response to the crisis, including:

- Immediate steps to meet urgent needs, prevent malnutrition and stabilize the situation;
- Medium term measures to boost agricultural production;
- Longer term efforts to build a conducive policy environment for pro-poor growth.

Poor households that already spend the bulk of their income on food are responding to the high prices by eating less, buying less nutritious food, cutting expenses in health care and education, selling assets and incurring additional debt. The result is that vulnerability is increasing as poor people mortgage their future to meet current needs. Women and children are of particular concern. A critical challenge for WFP is that price-related hunger is exposing rural and urban populations to greater degrees of hunger.

During the second half of 2008, WFP allocated multi-lateral funds to 30 countries (mainly in sub-Saharan Africa) to respond to new caseloads of beneficiaries whose food security was threatened by the acute rise in food prices. WFP aligned its response with government plans for emergency assistance and enhanced safety net programmes to meet the urgent needs of those who are unable to produce or purchase sufficient food. Activities include targeted food distributions in urban areas, cash and voucher transfers; expanded school feeding and mother and child nutritional support; and food assistance to small farmers linked with agricultural support provided by partner organizations.

In supporting the response to the high food prices, which continues into 2009, WFP has brought onboard additional expertise to help country offices identify who is most affected and where they are, through improved assessments and vulnerability analysis, and to design programmes that respond most appropriately and creatively, within the parameters set by governments and capitalizing on the direction provided by the Strategic Plan 2008-2011. WFP's operational focus will continue to be expressed through a wide range of practical relief and assistance programmes. Assistance may also take the form of technical advice, including facilitating logistics arrangements for governments and partners to move non-food items e.g. seeds and fertilizer, contributing to long-term government programmes such as food security and nutritional surveillance monitoring and piloting procurement and food fortification innovations. It may include advocacy on broader policy issues such as reviewing subsidies and tariffs, addressing land reform challenges, leveraging private sector investment and implementing sustainable mechanisms to deal with international price fluctuations. In this challenging context, WFP will work hard to share experiences across countries and regions to champion sound and sustainable policies and practical approaches to address hunger within the framework provided by the High-Level Task Force, and in collaboration with the World Bank, UNDP, FAO, IFAD, UNICEF and other partners.

Support Processes for Operational Activities

In 2009 WFP will continue to strengthen its operational efficiency through a number of ongoing and planned initiatives. Some of these include the use of advance financing facilities and the mainstreaming of emergency needs assessments and linkages with response. Further information on these is presented below.

Use of Advance Financing Facilities

Immediate Response Account

The IRA is a multilateral fund facility that enables WFP to respond swiftly to emerging and rapidly increasing humanitarian needs. Since its inception, the IRA has repeatedly proved to be one of the most effective financing mechanisms for emergency response.

Overview of Operations 2009

Between 1 January and 15 October 2008, US\$135.9 million was made available from the Immediate Response Account to a total of 44 WFP operations. In the same period, US\$ 74.2 million was revolved into the IRA from new donor contributions to operations.

Of the amount made available, 96 percent was advanced to EMOPs and PRROs to prevent breaks in pipelines or to preposition food before the onset of adverse weather conditions. Just under three percent of the total was advanced to Special Operations to provide logistics capacity augmentation urgently needed for the delivery of humanitarian assistance. A residual amount (just over one percent) was made available to fund emergency preparedness measures.

In 2008, the IRA was essential in providing up-front financing for sudden emergencies such as the devastating floods in Myanmar, as well as in Georgia, Pakistan, Ecuador, Cuba, Haiti, India and Nepal.

The IRA was also used in 2008 to prevent serious pipeline breaks in WFP's operations in the Horn of Africa, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Afghanistan.

Donors can support the IRA in a number of ways:

- easing restrictions on bag markings and purchasing restrictions, which limit the possibility of revolving back to the IRA;
- agreeing to revolve the IRA with directed contributions to operations that have already received an IRA loan;
- agreeing to transfer up front to the IRA any cash balances on directed contributions to EMOPs, PRROs or SOs of less than US\$10,000; and
- replenishing the account, through direct contributions to the IRA.

Working Capital Financing

Advance financing has become a critical element in helping WFP meet the needs of its beneficiaries. The streamline process, adopted in 2007, has ensured a quick turn around time of maximum 72 hours for smaller loan transactions.

By addressing the timing gap between the time contributions are received and when cash is needed, the WCF facility continues to be a very useful mechanism in improving on-time availability of food assistance for beneficiaries. 2008 is a record year for the Working Capital Financing (WCF) facility: In 2007, the WCF facility loaned US\$157 million; while from January to mid-October 2008, the Working Capital Financing (WCF) provided US\$290 million in advance financing to assist 34 operations. Almost 70 percent of loan transactions were below US\$5 million.

As a result of increased commodity prices, the WCF loaned US\$45.2 million to selected priority countries to strengthen the operational pipeline. In addition, in June, the WCF loaned US\$60 million to establish the Forward Purchase Special Account. This facility was set up to conduct forward food purchases in Africa based on regional requirements and contribution forecasts. Some 182,000 mt of cereals were purchased which have subsequently been allocated to individual projects in the Southern and Horn of Africa regions. The strategic forward purchases strengthened commodity pipeline management, significantly reduced average lead-time from 2 to 3 months and allowed WFP to procure on local and international markets at more favourable prices.

In 2008, DSC and ODOC advances from the DSC advance facility totalled US\$22.5 million to support 35 operations. Of this amount, 30 percent was allocated to Special Operations, 28 percent to EMOPs and PRROs, 16 percent to development projects and 26 percent to the Global Vehicle Leasing Pool.

Overview of Operations 2009

Mainstream Emergency Needs Assessments and improve Linkages with Response

Based on the achievements of the Strengthening Emergency Needs Assessment Implementation Plan (SENAIP), WFP has updated its guidelines for Emergency Food Security Assessments and Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analyses (baselines). Other needs assessment guidelines have also been updated in cooperation with partner agencies, including guidelines for Joint UNHCR/WFP Assessment Missions (JAMs) and for Joint FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Missions (CFSAMs). WFP has embarked on a set of capacity building activities to upgrade WFP staff and partner skills for food security assessments in accordance with the updated guidance.

WFP also continues to improve the analysis of response options and the use of assessment results for programme design. The challenges posed by the High Food Price crisis, particularly in terms of market analysis, urban assessments and cash-based responses, provided an impetus to further develop capacities in these areas. Communication tools and procedures are also being developed to make sure that decision-makers understand the importance and role of food security assessments, and that assessment results are used for taking decisions on programmes and funding.

WFP remains committed to ensuring the transparency and quality of its food security analyses. The vast majority of WFP assessments are conducted in partnership with governments and other agencies. Reports are posted on the public website and an internal quality monitoring system is in place. In addition to specific training, technical backstopping is provided to Country Offices and partners through experienced staff posted in the Regional Bureaus and Headquarters.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Enhancing emergency preparedness will continue to be a priority for WFP. WFP will increasingly use its own capacities in emergencies to support the work of the humanitarian community. Progress in improving emergency procedures will allow for faster emergency response. Advance financing mechanisms will be rationalized to give field emergency coordinators faster and simpler access to start-up funding.

WFP will improve its early-warning systems internally, and via phase II development of the Humanitarian Early-Warning Service (HEWS), a system run by WFP on behalf of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC). WFP will roll-out information management and contingency planning tools developed during the course of 2008, and will conduct applied analysis of trends impacting the humanitarian environment, including climate change and urbanisation.

WFP will continue to improve operations by evaluating and learning from partners to address the needs of beneficiaries and increase the effectiveness of its responses. WFP will operationalize its Spatial Data Infrastructure for the harmonisation of geographic information, and will continue to pioneer innovative remote sensing impact analysis and mapping services.

WFP will continue its lead role in the logistics and emergency ICT cluster. Preparedness will remain a priority for these clusters; WFP will continue to contribute to advanced interagency planning, joint assessments, joint training, inter-agency response teams and a multisectoral tracking system for humanitarian goods.

Humanitarian Response Depots

In an effort to constantly improve its response capacity, WFP has replicated the successes of UNHRD Brindisi in key strategic locations around the world. Humanitarian Response Depots (HRDs) facilities are now operational in Dubai,

Overview of Operations 2009

Accra, Panama and with the recent addition of Cambodia - an interim solution offered to users awaiting the signature of the MoU with the Malaysian Government - the UNHRD Network has reached coverage of South-East Asia as well.

The network is also designed to serve the needs of the wider humanitarian community (UN agencies, governmental and NGOs). Currently there are 29 partners in the network. Recent cases where the network has successfully supported emergency operations include:

- Panama HRD in support to the floods response in Haiti and Cuba
- Accra HRD in support to the floods response in Togo, and
- Dubai HRD for strategic airlifts in support the operations in Myanmar.

In addition to the above listed operational responses, the UNHRD has also initiated a solid and future heading restructuring of its information systems. By 2010 users of the UNHRD Network will be able to benefit from an on-line portal which will provide them with real-time situations of their respective stockpile and will also have the possibility of creating their packing list on the web for a faster and more efficient response to emergency. Also, the introduction of bar coding technology in all the HRDs will ensure a more reliable and timely stock management for all the users