

WFP and Climate Change

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Climate change and hunger

The Challenges

- Poverty
- Population pressure
- Rising food / fuel prices
- Human disease
- Fragile ecosystems
- Conflict

Climate Change aggravates vulnerability to hunger

The extent of the Worlds Hungry

- FAO estimates 923 million people in 2007
- 98% of undernourished in developing countries
- Positive progress to reduce hunger has reversed – proportion of hungry people in the developing world has slid back by almost 17 percent
- Risk of additional undernourished people between 40 million and 170 million

Projected impacts of climate change

- Poorest nations will be disproportionately impacted
- Severest impact likely to be in sub-Saharan Africa
- Arid lands will face an increase in moisture stress
- Negative shifts in agricultural patterns expected
- Increased frequency of heat stress, droughts and flooding events will reduce crop yields and livestock productivity

What does this mean to the world's hungry?

- Households forced to adopt extreme coping strategies to meet immediate food needs
- Extreme coping strategies can accelerate environmental degradation -increasing vulnerability to agricultural failure
- Climatic shocks happening more frequently - with less time for populations to adequately recover between them
- Inability to sufficiently rebuild asset bases before the next crisis
- Most vulnerable on the margins of food insecurity slip downwards into destitution

What can be done?

- Humanitarian and developmental policies and strategies to be rethought
- New analytical and operational approaches required that take into consideration the current realities
- Countries and communities need to develop policies and strategies that allow response and adaptation
- Many developing countries lack necessary financial, emergency response and preparedness capacities - needs to be supported
- Climate change discussions must address impact on livelihoods of recurrent climate induced emergencies

The Role of WFP – Humanitarian response

- WFP provides humanitarian assistance to 86 million poor people unable to manage the risks of food shortages
- WFP assistance geared to supporting households to effectively cope with emergencies
- WFP projects in chronically food insecure areas focus on building household resilience to mitigate current risks and anticipate future shocks.
- WFP actively supports governments and communities to build and improve their Emergency Preparedness Capacity

The Role of WFP – Technical contributions

Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM):

- Established to provide food security information
- Covers more than 80 countries.
- Partnerships - ensures a shared understanding of food security problems and common priorities for action

Monitoring Systems:

- Food Security Monitoring Systems (FSMS) - monitors risks and livelihood trends
- Allows WFP to better anticipate, prepare for and respond to future crises
- Generates timely warnings
- Contributes to improvements in agricultural monitoring

The Role of WFP – Capacity Building

- Considerable levels of investment in capacity building required
- Approach advocates analytical skills in government, universities, NGOs, the private sector and civil society
- WFP is supporting the African Union Commission and NEPAD in livelihood risk analysis, vulnerability mapping and food security monitoring
- Specific projects under development in the East, Central, and Southern African Regional Bureau of WFP (OMJ) in partnership with the AUC and NEPAD

The Role of WFP – Capacity Building

Climate for Development (ClimDev Africa):

- ClimDev integrates Climate Risk Management into policy and development strategy processes

Africa Wide Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping Network:

- Contributes to strengthening risk management and emergency response capacities

Climate Change Information and Food Security:

- Focus on supporting coordinated response to climate risks at national, regional and continental levels

South Africa funded capacity building project:

- Strengthen the emergency preparedness and risk management capacity of the South African Government

Thank you



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