



WFP ACTION PLEDGES TO THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME  
**Pledge #1: Responding to climate-related emergencies**

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### **Background**

WFP fights hunger on the front lines of complex humanitarian crises. Some of these crises—such as droughts and floods, crop failures, degradation of natural resources, and conflicts over access to natural resources—will increasingly be linked to or exacerbated by climate change. As the world’s largest humanitarian agency, WFP’s experience and capacity as an implementing partner for governments across the world are critical contributions to the global response to climate change.

WFP has the capacity to respond to climate-related emergencies through a global logistical apparatus, global communications infrastructure and an extensive network of 76 country offices, 270 sub-offices and 9,000 staff in the field, often in high-risk settings.

### **Overall objectives**

- Respond to NWP Call for Action3: “Promoting understanding of impacts of, and vulnerability to, climate change, current and future climate variability and extreme events, and the implications for sustainable development;” corresponding to the **climate-related risks and extreme events work** area of the NWP.
- Affirm and augment WFP’s capacity to respond to emergencies, both climate- and non-climate-related, while adapting to the increase in vulnerability to food insecurity that is expected to result from climate change.

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### **Project purpose**

- Maintain an appropriate level of emergency response capacity, to be deployed in the event of an extreme climatic event or crisis.
- Prepare for the increased risk of hunger associated with some of the impacts of climate change by augmenting WFP’s existing rapid response capacity in the field.
- Reflect the emphasis on responding to climate change contained in WFP’s Strategic Plan (2008-2011), including through promoting risk management approaches and management measures such as early warning systems, and risk-sharing mechanisms such as index-based weather insurance.

### **Activities**

- Revise and devise strategies for responding to climate- and non-climate-related emergencies, using novel and innovative approaches where possible, including risk-sharing mechanisms such as index-based weather insurance.
- Maintain, to facilitate the deployment of multi-sectoral responses to climate-related emergencies, the UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) system, which is available to the UN Humanitarian Agencies, International Humanitarian Organizations, and NGOs, and of which WFP is the manager.
- Lead the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Logistics Cluster and co-lead the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster, facilitating the international logistical response to emergency situations, taking note especially of climate change.
- Gear relief and recovery activities toward increasing reliance and adaptive capacity to climate change.

- Consult experts in climate change science, vulnerability, adaptation, agricultural production, food supply networks, etc., and adjust WFP's existing field operations accordingly.
- Use tools such as Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping, Early Warning and Needs Assessments to meet hunger and humanitarian needs in ways that are as sensitive as possible to local needs and vulnerability patterns.

### **Expected outcomes**

- Rapid, comprehensive and effective response capacity to humanitarian emergencies, including those linked to, or exacerbated by climate change in order to save lives and protect and rebuild livelihoods.

