



WFP ACTION PLEDGES TO THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME
**Pledge #2: Scaling up local and community-based projects to
reduce vulnerability**

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 and communities across the world are critical contributions to the global response to climate change.

Pledging to scale-up household and community-based projects to reduce social and environmental vulnerabilities to climate change, WFP responds to **NWP Call for Action 5** and **Call for Action 6**: “Promoting the development and dissemination of methods and tools for assessment and improvement of adaptation planning, measures and actions, and integration with sustainable development;” and “collecting, analysing and disseminating information on past and current practical adaptation actions and measures, including adaptation projects, short- and long-term adaptation strategies, and local and indigenous knowledge,” **corresponding to the adaptation planning and practices work area of the NWP.**

Activities carried out in 2007

In 2007, WFP devoted US\$ 280 million (12% of its expenditures) to implement community-based activities that help reduce social and environmental vulnerabilities of food insecure households and communities to climate change. Over 13 million beneficiaries were reached through cash or food based employment programmes deployed to build flood defences and small-scale irrigation systems, fix dunes to stop the encroachment of the desert onto agricultural land, plant trees to mitigate the impacts of floods and landslides, harvest water and to rehabilitate depleted land. In Mali, for example, WFP activities were instrumental in stopping the desertification of agricultural land.

These activities, often undertaken in partnership with other UN Agencies, contributed to the construction or rehabilitation of 1,579 ponds, 1,571 wells, 14,305 kilometres of irrigation systems, and 1,621 kilometres of dykes. Moreover, 169,884 hectares of land were protected, cultivated or rehabilitated and made available for agricultural production, and 152,851 hectares of land were reforested.

Furthermore, over 60 million trees were produced or planted in 35 countries. These trees add up to the more than 5 billion trees that WFP has contributed to planting throughout its history, becoming the number one forester of the developing world.

Outcomes

- Continued contribution to reducing vulnerabilities to extreme weather events through a nuanced toolbox of responses.
- Improved preparedness for the increased risk of hunger associated with climate change
- Increased resilience and adaptive capacity of households and communities through sustainable natural resource management, asset creation and the building of climate-proof infrastructure.