Panel 5: The food crisis in the G5 Sahel countries

Views and recommendations: Structural causes and nexus approach

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Food insecurity is expanding in our region
Food insecurity trend in the G5 Sahel: over 40% since 2019
More than 6 million undernourished children
Towards a new roadmap: operationalizing the Humanitarian, Development and Peace (HDP) nexus to address food and nutrition crises in West Africa

In fragile areas, we are witnessing

**PROTRACTED AND INCREASING FORCED DISPLACEMENTS**
- IDPs/Refugees/Returnees
- Multi displacements hampering recovery efforts
- Conditions for sustainable returns not fulfilled
- Increased protection risks (Sexual violence, recruitment of children soldiers, negative coping mechanisms, etc.)
- Lack of land/property rights and access to legal documents

**DISRUPTED ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES**
- The provision of services and safety nets is disrupted or prevented
- Schools are closing
- Health systems are disrupted

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- Climate change.
- Poor performance of the food system: policies framework.
- Economic & budgetary challenges: inflation, debt, budget deficit.
- Regional integration challenges: barriers to trade, trade disruption leading to substantial price increases
- Complex multidimensional socio-political and socio-economic instability leading to insecurity/conflicts and food crises
- Regional contagion, expansion of conflict-affected areas toward coastal countries
- Pandemic: Ebola, COVID-19
- Crisis in Ukraine: food availability, macroeconomic impact, humanitarian & development consequences

**UNDERSTAND THE STRUCTURAL DRIVERS**
**COMPLEXITY & MORE SUFFERING POPULATIONS**
Operationalizing the Nexus in the G5 Sahel countries
The Humanitarian-Peace-Development Concept

• To WFP, the nexus approach implies that humanitarian, development and peace outcomes complement and contribute to each other with a vision to gradually reduce the risks, vulnerabilities and needs among populations we serve through a prevention lens.

• The nexus approach supports transition, though seldom linear, from humanitarian crisis responses towards prevention, resilience and systems strengthening.

• WFP’s overall objectives in operationalizing the Nexus are to:
  1. Continue to address the most acute needs where required;
  2. Whilst doing so, ensure it increases resilience of individuals, communities and systems;
  3. And, pursue social cohesion and peace outcomes while protecting humanitarian space.

• WFP’s more specific objectives will differ based on context and require a geographically differentiated approach.
Programmatic Pillars

**Pillar 1: Scaling-up life-saving assistance and complementary measures**

To **prevent and mitigate the risks** of severe food insecurity and malnutrition and ensure that those furthest behind are able to meet their food and nutritional needs in periods of crisis.

**Pillar 2: Reinforcing integrated community-based resilience**

Recovery and resilience-building interventions including asset creation, sustainable and diversified livelihood opportunities, access to markets, nutrition interventions, access to basic social services, and keeping children in school.

**Pillar 3: Strengthening national systems**

Whenever possible, WFP will seek to align with national policies, **support governments’ investments** in **strengthening national systems** such as social protection systems or support setting-up **safety nets**.

**Pillar 4: Nexus learning and coordination platform**

WFP is striving to further build the **evidence base** on how actors across the humanitarian, development and peace communities together can achieve **joint outcomes**. A **learning and coordination component** will contribute to institutional learning, programmatic development.

What matters is to have & present an **articulated strategy** among these pillars.
Towards a new roadmap: operationalizing the Humanitarian, Development and Peace (HDP) nexus to address food and nutrition crises in West Africa

| 01 | Strengthened leadership, political and financial mobilization |
|    | • Initiate **regional solidarity mechanisms** - Food Security Regional Reserves  |
|    | • Set up appropriate **political and financial instruments**  |
|    | • **Commitment and support of governments, donors and stakeholders**  |

| 02 | Enhanced dialogue on food crisis assessment as part of the Food Crisis Prevention Network (RPCA) |
|    | • **Reaching consensus based on understanding of the crisis** – both short term and structural drivers  |
|    | • Additional focus on **anticipation** of food crises |

| 03 | Strengthened convergence of HDP actors towards collective outcomes |
|    | • **Scale up lifesaving, institutional strengthening and resilience building investments** through **geographical convergence and programmatic complementarity**  |
|    | • Enhanced **collaboration, coordination mechanisms and collective learning** |

| 04 | Adapted Funding |
|    | • **Reduce the gap between resources and needs**  |
|    | • **Multi-year flexible and more localized investments** with adaptive capacity to respond to a changing context |
Regional Geographical Differentiation

- In the Sahel specifically, WFP believes that the greatest potential for the nexus and prevention of further unravelling lies in the ‘buffer’ zones that usually hold large concentrations of displaced populations over protracted periods.

- In these settings efforts towards coherence and complementarity between HDP actors can and must be accelerated.
Merci