



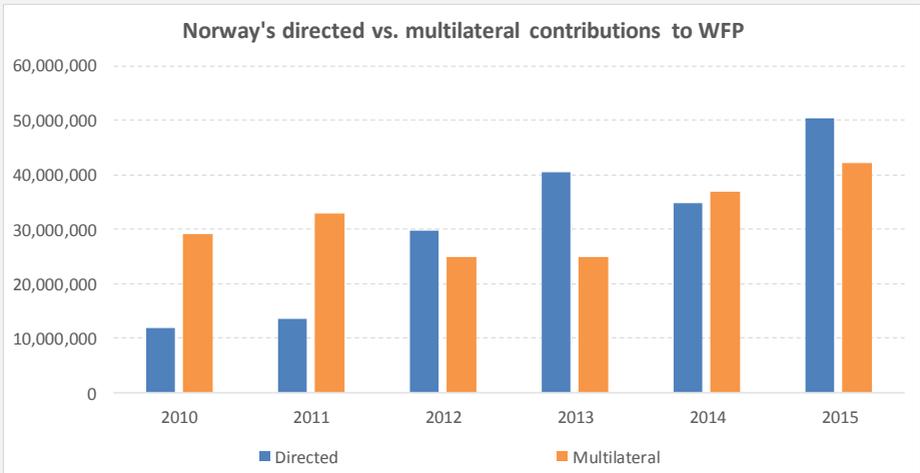
# WFP & Norway Partners against Hunger



**World Food Programme**

# Contents:

Foreword	2
Food for active minds in Malawi	3
Food assistance to drought-affected Ethiopians	3
Enabling Syrian families to stay in their country despite the war	5
Helping Afghanistan's most vulnerable survive a harsh winter	6
NRC: Strong collaboration with WFP	7
Accountability to affected populations	7
Partnering on emergency logistics	8
Advocating for the UN – and Zero Hunger!	8
Waking up to new challenges every day	9
From the Republic of Congo to WFP Headquarters	10



*"WFP is a key humanitarian partner to Norway. Our funding of WFP has increased substantially, particularly the core funding, giving WFP operational flexibility to deliver more value for the money. Our common goal is to provide lifesaving - in-kind or cash-based - food assistance to affected people in the many ongoing humanitarian crises. "* - **Foreign Minister Børge Brende**

## Foreword

At a time of unprecedented humanitarian emergencies, the World Food Programme (WFP) depends more than ever on partners like Norway to help us respond quickly and effectively to the needs of millions of people exposed to conflict and natural disaster. Each year, Norway contributes generously to our operations around the globe through a Strategic Partnership Agreement that gives us flexible, predictable as well as reliable funding. This allows us to respond in a timely manner to the world's major crises. Whether in conflict-affected South Sudan, inside Syria and beyond its borders, in Iraq or in climate-impacted Nepal and Ethiopia, WFP provides food assistance to the most affected people - undernourished mothers, children and families - thanks to Norwegian support.

In 2015, multilateral (core) funding made up nearly half of Norway's contribution, allowing WFP to allocate resources according to operational and organizational priorities, thereby ensuring that vulnerable people received the support they required quickly.

Norway is also a highly-valued contributor to WFP's Immediate Response Account (IRA), enabling WFP to step in with emergency assistance fast - before further funds are mobilized.

WFP often relies on the IRA in a sudden onset crisis - and Norway is consistently among those donors whose funds help us deliver life-saving food.

Besides being among our leading partners, Norway stands alongside WFP in building resilience for communities in conflict and post-conflict countries through innovative gender-sensitive

programming and activities such as school meals and take-home rations, which are especially important in ensuring that girls, in particular, are educated.

Finally, through its Stand-by Partner (NORDCAP) and Junior Expert (JPO) programmes, Norway punches above its weight in supplying highly-qualified personnel who bolster WFP's operations all over the world.

We are both proud and grateful to partner with Norway, whose leadership towards the goal of a world with zero hunger is truly inspiring.

*Ertharin Cousin, WFP Executive Director*



## Food for active minds in Malawi

Malawi is facing its first maize deficit in 10 years after the 2014/15 growing season, which has reduced the availability of food across the country. Many people are unable to meet their food needs, let alone maintain a diverse diet. Evidence from previous hunger periods shows that food shortages are the main reason for children to drop out of school.

In Malawi, only 27 percent of girls complete primary education, which hampers development and halts progress in breaking the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition, hunger and poverty.

Thanks to funding from the Kingdom of Norway, WFP has teamed up with UNICEF and UNFPA to address girls' schooling in Malawi through a joint Education Programme, launched in 2014 and implemented in 79 primary schools across three districts over three years.

WFP ensures that all students receive daily nutritious meals through "Home Grown School Meals" whereby schools receive funds to purchase food from local farmers' organizations. This approach allows children to enjoy varied meals daily, as well as encouraging them - especially girls - to stay in school. It also contributes to changing household diets, by making people aware of locally-produced food.

WFP also provides girls and orphaned boys in the first years of primary school with take-home rations of maize if they attend class for 80 percent of school days. This is an additional incentive for parents and guardians to keep them in school.

## Food assistance to drought-affected Ethiopians

Since early 2015, a combination of severe drought and strong El Niño effects in Ethiopia have caused harvest failures and widespread livestock deaths. The number of people in need of relief assistance has increased dramatically, from 2.5 million at the beginning of 2015 to 8.2 million in October. Thanks to timely contributions in November 2015 from key donors such as Norway, WFP managed to maintain food distributions for more than 1.5 million people in the Somali region. WFP was also able to scale up nutrition support to more than 700,000 children and nursing mothers in the areas worst affected by the drought.

Rahima Dadafe, 23, and her four children is just one of many Ethiopian families receiving food assistance from the government and special nutritious food from WFP that helps children recover from malnutrition. "When the rain stopped our crops failed and our livestock started dying because there was no grass for them. I had three cows. They all died. Now we are surviving on assistance from the government," Rahima said.



Crucial support from Norway and other donors complement the Ethiopian government's contribution towards relief efforts. In-kind contributions such as cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and SuperCereal, a fortified high-protein blend, provide immediate food assistance to vulnerable people. These rations help stabilize malnutrition rates, which have risen because of the drought. Cash contributions are critical to WFP's extension of life-saving food assistance throughout the year.

*Rahima Dadafe lost her crops and livestock in the drought; she and her children rely on help from the government and WFP.*



*Primary school children enjoy variety in their home-grown lunches (courtesy of local farmers) in a joint WFP/UNICEF/UNFPA Education Project.*

## Enabling Syrian families to stay in their country despite the war



*Liene, 10, lives near one of the most dangerous battlefields in Syria, but she insists her family is safe in their home.*

Entering a sixth year in 2016, the Syria conflict continues to take a heavy toll on the Syrian people, resulting in vast humanitarian needs. Millions have fled the violence in their country and taken refuge in neighbouring Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey; many more have stayed behind, struggling with both danger and hardship.

Liene's family is among those who chose to stay in Syria, despite the daily threat of war. To them, death can come anywhere at any time but they felt that sticking together was a safer option than fleeing into the unknown.

Liene, the oldest child, is 10, and just like any other girl of her age, loves her hometown and above all, her country.

"I would never leave Syria! My country has everything I could ever wish for: my school and friends are here. Why would I ever give that up?"

Multilateral funds from donors such as Norway make it possible for WFP to provide vital food assistance each month to nearly 4 million people inside Syria. This gives families another reason to stay - and not give up on their country. WFP support has three main goals: to deliver food to vulnerable people affected by the conflict, with particular attention to malnourished children, pregnant and nursing women; to provide emergency food assistance; and to implement recovery programmes that focus on relief, school feeding and nutrition.

## Helping Afghanistan's most vulnerable survive a harsh winter

In winter, much of Afghanistan is inaccessible and snow-covered - for months on end. Conditions are especially bleak for large numbers of vulnerable Afghans. In the provinces, WFP pre-positions food supplies in remote areas, while in Kabul, a new way of helping displaced families has started.

Shiwa has lived in a house made of mud and plastic sheeting for the past three years. The 26-year-old, her husband and five children, are among the many families in one of 50 communes comprising Kabul's Informal Settlements (KIS). These temporary settlements, some of which host up to 6,000 people, are without running water or adequate sanitation. Electricity

comes from a few small solar panels, so families heat their homes by burning whatever they can find.

This winter, WFP is registering families like Shiwa's to receive vital food assistance through cash-based transfers (CBT) using e-vouchers through their mobile phones. Recipients go to nearby participating stores to purchase the food they need. WFP will support more than 4,600 families living in KIS for a period of two months, seeing them through until spring.

"It's very good that we can select our food, which allows us to choose meat, oil, rice and any other food items we need," says Shiwa.



*Shiwa goes shopping; e-vouchers, received via her mobile phone, allow her to buy what the family needs from a local registered store.*

## NRC: Strong collaboration with WFP

The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), one of WFP's most important stand-by partners since 1996, has continuously provided personnel to WFP's operations across the globe as well as to the Global Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Clusters where WFP is the lead agency.

In 2015, NRC deployed 53 personnel to WFP, the highest of all WFP's 22 stand-by partners. Many NRC personnel assisted WFP operations in response to Ebola in West Africa and for the Nepal earthquake. NRC manage the ProCap, GenCap and CashCAP rosters, which deploy high level (P5/D1) experts in Protection, Gender, and Cash-Based-Transfers to UN agencies around the globe.



*NRC staff distribute WFP-developed smart-cards to vocational training participants in Somalia.*

## Accountability to affected populations

To maximize the impact of its food assistance, WFP must engage the people receiving it in the processes and decisions that shape their lives, by ensuring there is continuing, two-way communication and dialogue. This is known as accountability to affected populations (AAP). Norway is a key advocate for guaranteeing that AAP is part of WFP's programming.

The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs recently published a white paper entitled "Opportunities for All: Human Rights in Norway's Foreign Policy and Development Cooperation" emphasizing a human rights-based approach to humanitarian interventions with a focus on non-discrimination and participation.

These principles are central to WFP's protection policy and commitments on AAP.

Based on these shared views, Norway and WFP collaborate closely and continue discussions regarding protection and AAP. WFP is constantly enhancing its programme design, making sure that beneficiaries are informed and consulted, as well as having the mechanisms to share feedback – positive or negative – about WFP interventions. WFP and Norway plan to maintain this dialogue to improve both protection and AAP in addition to involving other partners in the discussions.

## Partnering on emergency logistics

Cooperating with the Norwegian Ship-owners' Association (NSA) on emergency logistics was a perfect match for the World Food Programme (WFP) - representing a long tradition of delivering assistance to areas affected by disasters and conflict.

In 2014, NSA and WFP signed a letter of intent to strengthen WFP's maritime logistics capabilities supporting rapid deployment and emergency response. Logistics is at the core of WFP operations. Each year, WFP distributes approximately 4 million metric tonnes of food, facing the challenge of reaching an average of 80 million people across some of the toughest terrain on the planet.

NSA, an employer organization serving more than 160 companies in the field of Norwegian shipping and offshore contractor activities, represents a merchant fleet of around 1,800 vessels around the globe.



*Partners sign: Elisabeth Rasmussen, WFP Assistant Executive Director, and Sturla Henriksen, CEO Norwegian Ship-owners' Association*

## Advocating for the UN – and Zero Hunger!



**FN-SAMBANDET**  
UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF NORWAY

An essential part of the mandate of WFP's Nordic Office is to raise awareness of and mobilize support for reaching Zero Hunger.

This would be impossible without the support of strong partners, such as the United Nations Association of Norway.

UNA Norway promotes knowledge of the UN in general, as well as the important work carried out by the programmes, funds and specialized agencies.

Together with WFP, UNA Norway helps raise public and political awareness – now with a special focus on the Sustainable Development Agenda.

# Waking up to new challenges every day



## **Interview with John Myraunet (left), Deputy Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator**

### **How did you end up working for WFP?**

I started working with WFP in the Logistics Division as a Junior Professional Officer (JPO), funded by the Norwegian Government. I joined at an interesting time when WFP Logistics was formulating a new 'business plan' on how to improve our logistics services both to WFP and external partners. After an initial period in Rome, I moved on to Ethiopia, Pakistan, Liberia, Somalia and South Sudan before coming back to Rome again in 2013 in my current role.

### **What has been the biggest challenge working for WFP?**

Working for WFP is waking up to new challenges every day, that's also one of the reasons why I like the job so much. Constantly moving across countries, facing tough situations and extreme working hours is both challenging and rewarding. We always have to learn and to adapt to different cultural contexts in new countries, and to an ever changing humanitarian sector, with new security

environments and intervention modalities. The job never gets boring.

### **As a Norwegian, what values do you bring to WFP?**

Egalitarianism is strong in Norway, be it gender equality or in general the belief in giving everybody an equal chance early on in life to succeed, or bounce back from a bad shock. That is at the basis of our strong welfare system. We have a democratic model based on broad consultation with a range of actors, seeking consensus in the decision-making process to meet the needs of diverse groups.

### **Have these values helped you in your career at WFP?**

Egalitarianism and support to a welfare system are values that for me WFP translates in giving people a chance to succeed and the means to get out of a difficult situation. That starts from the beginning of life with nutrition interventions for babies, through school meal projects for girls and boys, to special interventions for pregnant and nursing women, to support to vulnerable groups hit by a shock. Coming from a small country, I also value that only by joint action with others can we solve the really big issues. So in the Logistics Cluster we aim at leveraging all our partnerships, that is why it is important for us to get involvement from all actors including small national and international NGOs like NRC, private sector, UN agencies and governments.



"I'm working in a highly operational environment alongside colleagues with extensive field experience."

*Jonas Bergmann, Norwegian JPO, Logistics Officer (Engineer and Project Manager), United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) Brindisi, Italy.*

# From the Republic of Congo to WFP Headquarters

## By Oda Langslet Henriksen, Norwegian Junior Professional Officer (JPO)

I started my JPO career with WFP in 2013, leaving Norway for my first destination, Brazzaville, capital of the Republic of Congo, where I worked for two years. The biggest challenge in a middle-income country like Congo is to raise awareness and resources for WFP to assist the poorest of the poor, living in rural and remote areas where there is a high level of food insecurity. Many people simply cannot afford to buy the food which is available.

For more than two years the crisis in neighbouring Central African Republic has forced increasing numbers of people to flee into Congo. Assisting these refugees with timely food assistance was our priority. Meeting and talking with refugees showed me how WFP, alongside its all-important partners, is making a difference in people's lives. Working "in the field" demands flexibility and always being alert. You learn to deal with tight deadlines and solve complex problems rapidly. It was a changing experience and I matured enormously, both professionally and personally. For my third and final JPO year, I was ready to take up new tasks, and moved to WFP HQ in Rome, where I joined the Communications Division to work on Donor Visibility.



*JPO Oda Henriksen speaks out - in a Korean TV interview at WFP HQ in Rome.*

Having understood how essential raising awareness and resources are to delivering WFP's mandate, I quickly appreciated the importance of donor visibility and a good, consistent relationship with our donors - or rather partners - enabling WFP to carry out its life-saving assistance around the clock, and around the world.

I believe donor visibility should be a priority for all WFP staff and that we should continue to give the people we serve the opportunity to be aware of our partners who make our work possible.

The JPO programme has given me the opportunity to live and work in exceptional places while helping the world's most vulnerable escape poverty and hunger. Thanks to - and on behalf of Norway - I am proud to be actively working towards a world with Zero Hunger.



"With the upheaval in the Middle East, I get to engage in many issues, but I'm specializing in cash-based assistance - which is growing rapidly."

*Thor Iversen, Norwegian JPO, Programme Officer (C&V), Cairo Regional Bureau.*

WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience.

Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in around 80 countries, which would not be possible without the crucial financial support and flexible resources provided by key donors such as Norway.



**Tusen Takk!**



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