

WFP STANDBY PARTNERSHIP Annual Report 2024

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

THANKS TO OUR STANDBY PARTNERS

Australian Civilian Corps (ACC)

BLG Logistics

Canada's Civilian Response Corps (CANADEM)

Cisco Crisis Response

Danish Emergency Management Agency (DEMA)

Danish Refugee Council (DRC)

Deutsche Post DHL Group

EMERCOM of Russia

Emergency Services Academy Finland (ESAF)

Ericsson Response

Estonian Rescue Board (ERB)

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office UK (FCDO)

France Cooperation International

Fuel Relief Fund

German Centre for International Peace Operations (ZIF)

German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW)

GlobalMedic

Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Help.NGO

WFP World Food Programme

Iceland Crisis Response Unit (ICRU)

iMMAP Inc.

Irish Aid

NetHope

NORCAP, part of the Norwegian Refugee Council

Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB)

RedR Australia

Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB)

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Swiss Federation for Mine Action (FSD)

Tetra Tech International Development

White Helmets Commission of Argentina (WHC)

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In 2024, the World Food Programme (WFP) continued to strengthen its operational capacity and responsiveness through the Standby Partnership (SBP) Programme, a critical mechanism operating under the umbrella of the Supply Chain and Delivery division that enables rapid deployment of technical expertise and services during emergencies and strategic initiatives. The SBP network, consisting of **31 governmental**, **non-governmental**, **and private sector partners**, provided **139 deployments** across **51 countries**, contributing **US\$22.1 million** in in-kind support, including **eight service modules**.

This year marked significant progress in enhancing deployment efficiency and alignment with WFP's evolving operational needs. The **deployment fill rate increased to 83%**, up from 78% in 2023, reflecting improved coordination with partners and strategic tailoring of requests. Deployments addressed both **urgent needs** and **strategic gaps**, with the majority focused on technical expertise in areas such as **Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)**, **Gender and Protection**, **Supply Chain**, and **Information Management**. Notably, demand for AAP, Gender, and Protection surged from 4% in 2023 to 15% in 2024, underscoring WFP's growing emphasis on people centred approach.

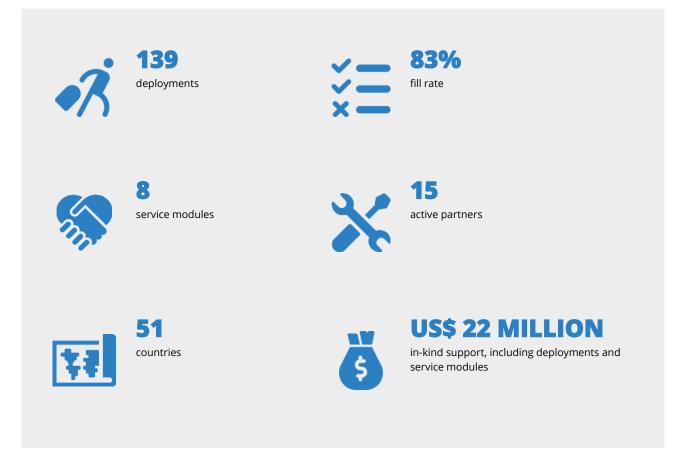
WFP's Standby Partners played a key role in delivering services and technical expertise to some of the world's most complex humanitarian contexts, including Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Haiti. In addition to field deployments, **service modules valued at over US\$ 6.1 million** supported operational effectiveness in Haiti, the Caribbean, the Philippines, Niger, and Somalia, as well as through global training initiatives.

The network also expanded with the signing of a new SBP agreement with **Tetra Tech International Development**, an implementing partner of Australia Assist. This partnership is expected to strengthen WFP's emergency response, disaster risk reduction, cash-based transfers, climate adaptation, and gender equality efforts.

In 2024, efforts to enhance diversity and gender parity in deployments continued. Female participation in SBP deployments rose by 7.6% above the historical average, driven by initiatives like NORCAP's Female Climate Accelerator Programme. WFP also sustained a balanced deployee representation, with 56% from the developed countries and 44% from developing countries.

WFP remains a committed leader within the **Global Standby Partnership Network**, actively participating in working groups, supporting network coordination, and advocating for the expansion and strategic engagement of standby arrangements. These partnerships are integral to WFP's mission of delivering life-saving assistance and achieving Zero Hunger, especially in the face of increasing humanitarian needs and complex emergencies.

WFP SBP 2024 IN NUMBERS



Standby Partners are organizations who maintain a roster of specialized and rapidly deployable employees with various competencies. Partners provide **pro-bono support** in the form of personnel, equipment and/or services ready to deploy within 72 hours for emergencies if required. Their support also extends to the occasions when highly specialized skills are needed and not available within WFP.

To date, WFP has built agreements with a total of **31 partners** (governmental, nongovernmental organizations and private sector organizations). It provides WFP with a vital mechanism to support WFP's operations and inter-agency interventions through a wide range of technical areas.

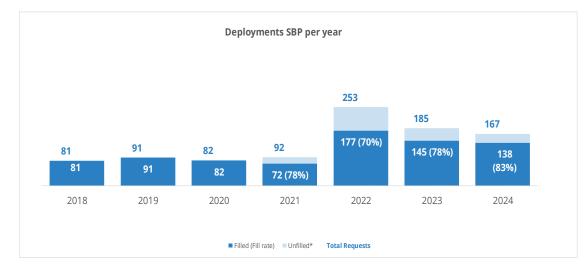
2. SBP DEPLOYMENTS

In 2024, WFP received a total of 139 SBP deployees from 13 partner organizations, maintaining a deployment level similar to 2023 and reflecting a more than 40% increase compared to the average of the previous five years.

Furthermore, WFP successfully increased the SBP deployment fill rate from 78% in 2023 to 83% in 2024, demonstrating the continued strengthening of the mechanism. This progress underscores the growing alignment between partner rosters, donor expectations, and WFP's operational needs, as well as the organization's efforts to strategically tailor requests in collaboration with partners.

SBP deployees play a crucial role in enhancing WFP's operational capacity, serving as invaluable assets in filling critical gaps within Country Offices. Beyond addressing immediate staffing needs, they bring diverse expertise and insights from a range of organizations and operational contexts, thereby enriching WFP's approaches and strategies. Their contributions bolster the resilience and effectiveness of WFP's interventions, whether in emergency response, development initiatives, or capacitybuilding efforts. By integrating specialized skills and fresh perspectives, SBP deployees strengthen WFP's ability to navigate complex challenges with agility, innovation, and efficiency, ultimately enhancing the organization's impact on food security and humanitarian response.

139 deployments 83% fill rate 51 countries 5.3 × average deployment months 13 active partners deploying experts US\$ 16 M \$ in-kind support for deployments (out of 22 million US\$

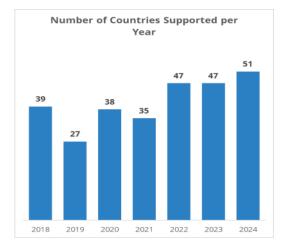


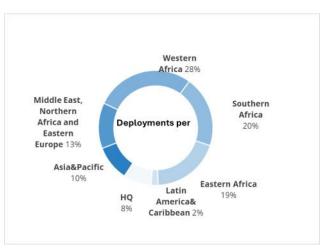
2.1. GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

In 2024, WFP matched its record by supporting 51 country offices within a single year. The highest levels of support were directed toward Western, Southern, and Eastern Africa, accounting for 28 percent, 20 percent, and 19 percent of deployments, respectively. Conversely, the Latin America and Caribbean region received the least support, with only 2 percent of total deployments, while substantial SBP support in Haiti was provided through the service module by the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) reconstructing a base camp in Miragoâne. This involved multiple deployments of technical experts to implement this related service module.

Five biggest SBP receivers	Deployments
Italy	11
Democratic Republic of the Congo	9
Chad	8
Somalia	7
Kenya	6

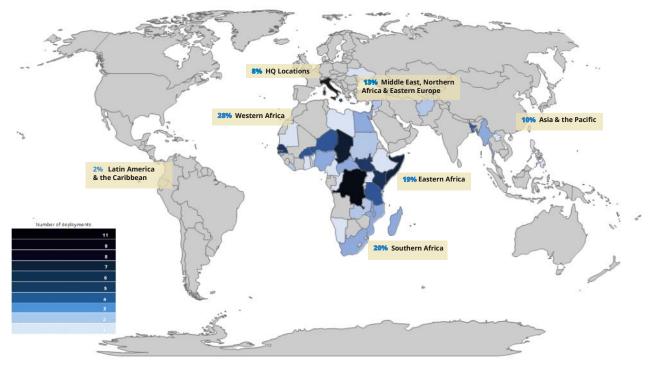
This regional focus reflects both the prevalence of emergencies—such as those in Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the El Niño phenomenon. Apart from the emergencies, the needs for specialized expertise to support development and strategic roles remained. These include initiatives related to energy, climate, food systems, nutrition, and resilience across different regions in Africa and Asia & Pacific. Additionally, a number of SBP roles were based at WFP Headquarters, providing support for strategic projects across multiple countries. The Democratic Republic of the Congo received the highest level of SBP support in 2024.





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WFP SBP DEPLOYMENTS IN 2024



Source: UN Map and data generated from WFP SBP platform



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Empowering Women in Conflict Zones

JUSTYNA MACIEJCZAK

Gender advisor in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) deployed by the the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) for one year

For decades, the eastern provinces of DRC have endured relentless conflict and insecurity, leaving an indelible mark on the lives of its people especially women and girls. The convergence of chronic violence, deep-rooted gender inequality, and severe poverty has created a crisis of staggering proportions, subjecting already vulnerable populations to unthinkable hardship. For many women, daily life is shaped by the constant threat of gender-based violence (GBV) and the pressure to adopt survival strategies that compromise their safety and dignity.

In regions plagued by widespread food insecurity, the traditional roles women hold—nourishing families, managing households—have become ever more difficult. Yet, amid these daunting challenges, stories of resilience emerge, illuminating the strength and determination of women who refuse to be defined by adversity.

From early 2024 to the beginning of 2025, Justyna Maciejczak, a gender advisor deployed by the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), supported WFP gender equality efforts in DRC. Her mission took her to the heart of the crisisinternally displaced persons (IDP) camps around Goma, North Kivu—an area gripped by volatility. These camps, home to more than 2.4 million displaced individuals, are a stark reminder of conflict's human cost. Overcrowded and underserved, with limited access to clean water, sanitation, and basic shelter, the camps leave inhabitants in a state of constant vulnerability. For many women and girls, displacement means not only the loss of home and security but also heightened exposure to violence, including sexual exploitation. In such conditions, survival sex has become a grim reality for many, as they grapple with the twin burdens of poverty and insecurity.

In the face of this humanitarian crisis, WFP has provided a vital lifeline. Through food and cash assistance, the agency ensures that displaced populations—58% of whom are women and girls—receive essential support in a safe and accessible manner. However, WFP's commitment goes far beyond the provision of assistance. Through integrated livelihood programmes ranging from literacy courses to vocational training and small business development—the organization equips women with tools to build sustainable income sources, reducing their reliance on high-risk coping mechanisms and restoring a sense of control over their futures.



Interagency field mission to Eastern DRC camp Lac Vert. MSB/Justyna Maciejczak



DRC. Newly displaced people in Rusayo, North Kivu. Chanceline. WFP/Michael Castofas

"Linking humanitarian assistance to sustainable livelihoods and women's economic empowerment is essential for reducing exposure to GBV," explains Justyna. "These women are not merely survivors of conflict; they embody resilience, strength, and the potential to transform their communities. When given the opportunity and resources to realize their agency, they become powerful drivers of food security and stability."



DRC. Beneficiary of the Resilience project, WFP/Benjamin Anguandia

Collaboration with MSB through the Standby Partnership has significantly strengthened WFP's gender and protection efforts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. By deploying experienced experts like Justyna Maciejczak, MSB enables WFP to enhance the quality and reach of its programmes under the CSP. This partnership not only brings vital technical expertise to the field but also reinforces WFP's capacity to deliver impactful, dignified assistance in one of the world's most complex humanitarian crises.

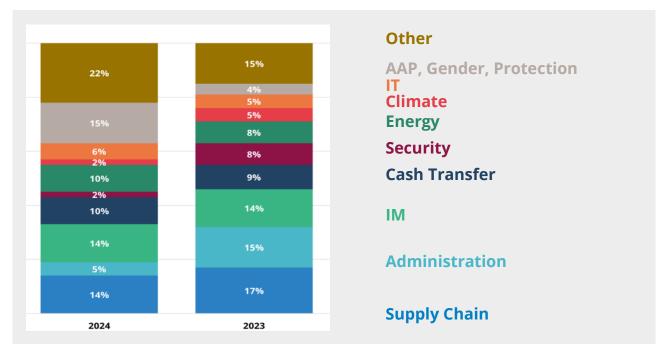
2.2. DEPLOYMENT TRIGGER

One of the primary objectives of the WFP SBP framework is to address urgent operational gaps in field locations. However, in 2024, only 26 percent of deployments were in response to such immediate needs, as the majority of emergency roles were filled through internal surge mechanisms. The largest share of deployments—42 percent—was directed toward addressing expertise gaps across various technical sectors. The remaining 32 percent of deployments supported strategic initiatives, including Emergency Trauma Bag (ETB) trainings, energy and climate-related projects, and the construction of base camps.

Deployment Trigger			
Expertise gap	Strategic project	Urgent request	
42%	32%	26%	

2.3. EXPERTISE

In 2024, the three most frequently deployed profiles were Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), Gender and Protection (21 deployments), Supply Chain (19 deployments), and Information Management and Reporting (19 deployments). When comparing 2023 to 2024, the most significant proportional growth was observed in AAP, Gender and Protection deployments, which increased from 4 percent to 15 percent of the total. In contrast, other areas of expertise experienced only marginal changes in demand. The inclusion of AAP, Gender, and Protection programmes in the WFP Country Strategic Plans (CSP) underscores the organization's commitment to a people-centred approach. This approach emphasizes gender equality and disability inclusion, which require specialized expertise for effective implementation.

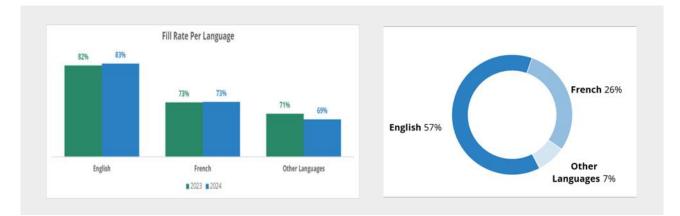


Job Profiles in 2024	Number of deployments	Percentage
AAP, Gender and Protection	21	15%
Information Management and Reporting	19	14%
Supply Chain	19	14%
Cash Transfer	14	10%
Energy	14	10%
Climate Change Adaptation and DRR	9	6%
Administration	2	1%
Engineering	5	4%
Emergency	6	4%
Information Technologies	3	2%
Security	3	2%
Nutrition	2	1%
Programme Management	5	4%
Other	17	12%

2.4. LANGUAGE

Out of the 167 SBP requests received in 2024, 57 percent required English as the sole working language, 26 percent required French, and 7 percent required other languages, including Spanish, Portuguese, and Arabic.

Requests requiring English were filled at a rate of 83 percent, while French-language requests achieved a 73 percent fill rate. Requests for other languages had the lowest fulfillment rate at 69 percent. Although the fill rate for French-language positions remains lower than that of English, it has remained stable over time, and efforts by partners to improve this rate by expanding their rosters have shown positive results. This indicates that the capacity to meet French-language requirements is steadily improving, reflecting progress made by the SBP Network over the years. Conversely, requests involving other languages continue to present challenges, with consistently lower fill rates. This trend suggests that countries requiring languages such as Portuguese or Spanish may rank lower on the priority lists of WFP's partners, considering lower number of emergencies requiring these languages. On other hand, Gaza, Yemen and Sudan operations could benefit from Arabic speaking experts.



EGIDE NTAKIRUTIMANA

Energy advisor deployed by Danish Refugee Council (DRC)

Energy access touches on all aspects of food systems, from food production and transformation to consumption, and can similarly be affected or influenced by security, political, and climatic factors. The interactions between energy access and food systems have therefore become increasingly important to WFP. Indeed, access to energy underpins WFP's progress towards the Sustainable Development Goal 2 of achieving zero hunger by 2030.

To support WFP Mozambique country office in integrating and effectively implementing sustainable energy components in resilience programmes, in July 2023, the Danish Refugee Council deployed Egide Ntakirutimana, Energy Advisor, under SBP mechanism for a one-year mission.

"When I first arrived in Mozambique for the energizing food systems assignment, I was met with a mix of hope and scepticism. In my first mission in the country, I visited Chemba, Maringue and Caia districts. Sofala province, a region rich in potential, blessed with fertile soils and hardworking people, but also plagued by systemic challenges such as limited access to resources, outdated farming techniques, excessive use of dieselpowered pumps and unpredictable weather patterns. The task before me felt enormous, and I often wondered if one person could truly make a difference," said Egide.

In post-shock situations, access to energy is used as a tool to accelerate sustainable development, support vulnerable populations, and fight climate change through supporting smallholder farmers and the agriculture sector. This is possible by implementing inclusive agricultural growth and the sustainable dissemination of energy equipment and services to boost food production, preservation, transformation, as well as alternative income generation opportunities.

WFP's interventions to support smallholder farmers increase resilience and adoption of modern



Egide Ntakirutimana at WFP Mozambique Country Office. WFP/ Ana Mato Hombre

technologies, including irrigation system powered by renewables. On his second familiarization field mission, Egide was surprised when he met João, a lead farmer in Cahora-Bassa district, Tete Province. João's story mirrored those of many others in lead farmers in the region who worked with WFP's for long.



Egide and João de Deus, lead farmer in Cahora-Bassa district of Tete Province. WFP/ Florencio Alves



Egide alongside with WFP staff, cooperating partners, local government officials, and beneficiaries in Caia, Sofala province, Mozambique. WFP/Jaime Vilanculo

João shared how unpredictable rainfall, lack of irrigation technologies and a lack of quality seeds had caused him to lose half his harvest the previous seasons. "We work hard but it feels like the land and weather fight against us." Joao's words stayed with Egide so he began thinking what could be done sustainably to make João and fellow farmers more resilient from extreme weather events.

After one year, the hope to support smallholder farmers to meet their livelihood needs increased with Egide' support in designing low-cost solar powered irrigation system, and training farmers and partners on low-cost water harvesting techniques. The Climate Change Adaptive Food Systems Unit's portfolio grew by one hundred percent going beyond US\$ 60 million for climate change adaptation-related projects. This has allowed WFP to start serving more than 250,000 households struggling to make ends meet, with a comprehensive package including key energy-related components. Egide's contribution is revealing to be essential with evident changes in communities' living conditions as WFP' saving lives and changing lives agenda. This is a story of hard work, collaboration, and hope, a story Egide is honoured to have been part of.

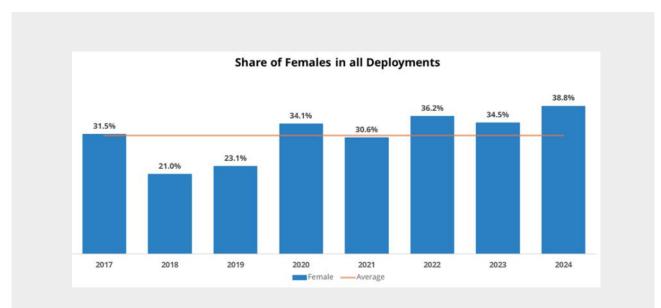
As Egide embarks on his next assignment, he carries with him the invaluable lessons gained from working alongside João and other smallholder farmers. Their resilience, resourcefulness, and unwavering determination have left a lasting impact on him. Deployed through the Standby Partnership by the Danish Refugee Council, Egide's mission exemplifies the power of collaboration in addressing complex challenges within food systems. His experience has reinforced the understanding that while energizing food systems presents significant obstacles, they can be overcome through solutions that farmers can access, operate, afford, and scale. Most importantly, this assignment demonstrated that meaningful, sustainable change is achievable when global partnerships and local communities work together toward a shared goal.

2.5. DIVERSITY OF DEPLOYEES

Gender Parity

While gender parity remains a challenge for both SBP deployments and WFP country offices, 2024 marked a notable improvement, with female deployees representing a 7.6 percent increase above the average of the past eight years. Both WFP and its SBP network are actively engaged in efforts to enhance female participation in humanitarian operations.

A notable example is the NORCAP, a part of the Norwegian Refugee Council NGO, which launched the Female Climate Accelerator Programme in 2022. Since then this mentorship initiative has increased the presence of women experts in the climate sector by equipping women scientists with the technical, field -based, and interpersonal skills necessary to deliver innovative, science-driven climate solutions. In 2024, WFP benefited from the deployment of four SBP deployments through this programme.

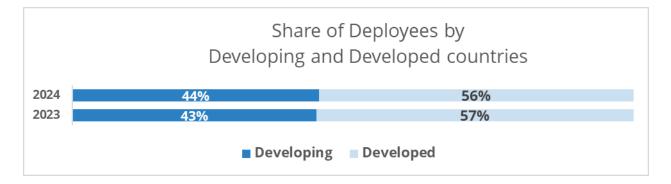




A farmer engaged in a Climate-Smart Agriculture Project of WFP and NORCAP in Tanzania WFP/Imani Nsamila

NATIONAL REPRESENTATION

A diverse pool of nationalities is essential to the effectiveness and inclusivity of WFP operations. In 2024, 56 percent of SBP deployees originated from developed countries, while 44 percent were from developing countries. This distribution mirrors the pattern observed in 2023 and underscores WFP's continued commitment to promoting geographical diversity within its deployment framework.



2.6. UNFILLED REQUESTS

In 2024, WFP achieved a positive outcome in reducing the number of unfilled SBP requests. Of the 167 requests submitted, only 29 remained unfilled, representing a 17 percent unfulfilled rate—an improvement compared to 22 percent in 2023. This progress can be attributed to enhanced collaboration between WFP and its SBP partners, as well as strengthened coordination with WFP Country Offices for the request management.

The unfulfilled requests primarily concerned countries that fall outside the priority areas or funding capacities of SBP partners, or involved profiles and skill sets that were not readily available within the existing talent pool. Large number of request were not filled in in Chad due to French language and remote bases requirements.

Country	Number of Un- met Requests
Chad	11
Burkina Faso	2
Somalia	2
South Sudan	2
Ukraine	2
Afghanistan	1
Algeria	1
Benin	1
Egypt	1
Ethiopia	1
Guinea-Bissau	1
Liberia	1
South Africa	1
Syrian Arab Republic	1
Тодо	1

Job Profile	Number of Un- met Requests	
AAP, Gender and Protection	3	
Climate Change Adaptation and DRR	2	
Cluster	1	
Emergency	3	
Energy	2	
Engineer	1	
Food Safety	1	
GIS	3	
IMO	4	
Nutrition	1	
Other	3	
PSEA	1	
Supply Chain	4	

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SIOBHAN NESTOR

Nutrition expert deployed by Irish Aid

For over 18 months, in 2023-2024, Siobhan Nestor, deployed by Irish Aid, was a key contributor to the Nutrition team at WFP's Regional Bureau in Dakar, bringing her expertise in human nutrition, dietetics, and data visualization to support one of the world's most food-insecure and malnourished regions—the Sahel. With professional experience as an assistant lecturer in Nutrition Science and the delivery of nutrition interventions at universities worldwide, Siobhan transitioned into the humanitarian field through the Irish Aid roster, motivated by a commitment to apply her skills in contexts where the need is greatest.

The Sahel region faces a complex and protracted food security crisis, driven by conflict, climate shocks, political instability, and economic disruptions. These factors have severely impacted livelihoods, agricultural production, and access to food, leaving millions in need of humanitarian assistance. One in four children in the region suffers from malnutrition, and the situation continues to deteriorate due to limited access to nutritious food, poor health services, and inadequate sanitation.

In response, WFP plays a vital role in providing life -saving food assistance and implementing targeted nutrition programmes aimed at preventing and treating malnutrition among vulnerable populations, particularly children under five, pregnant and lactating women, and people living with chronic illness. These interventions are complemented by initiatives to strengthen national systems and build long-term resilience.

In 2023, the World Health Organization launched new global guidelines for the prevention and treatment of malnutrition in children under five, representing a critical step in enhancing the



Siobhan during her deployment in WFP Dakar Regional Bureau, Irish Aid/Siobhan Nestor

effectiveness of nutrition interventions worldwide. Siobhan was instrumental in translating these guidelines into action leading to sustainable results within the Sahel. She led the organization of a dynamic, region-wide workshop attended by more than 100 participants from 12 Francophone countries, aimed at supporting governments and health practitioners in understanding and applying the new protocols.

Working in close collaboration with UN agencies, national ministries, and regional nutrition experts, Siobhan developed interactive sessions, practical activities, and context-specific learning tools to facilitate the adoption of these guidelines into national nutrition programmes, as per WFP Country Strategic Plans implementation in the region. Her work empowered local actors with the knowledge and skills necessary to scale up evidence-based interventions and improve child nutrition outcomes. Reflecting on her experience, Siobhan noted, "The energy, engagement, and commitment from the participants were inspiring. It reinforced my belief that, together, we can make a difference in tackling malnutrition."



Burkina Faso. Receiving and using fortified flour to prevent malnutrition. WFP/Cheick Omar Bandaogo

The Standby Partnership between WFP and the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) has significantly strengthened nutrition efforts across the Sahel by deploying skilled experts who enhance the quality and reach of life-saving interventions. MSB's support ensures that WFP can respond swiftly and effectively to nutrition challenges, promoting inclusive, evidence-based approaches that help prevent and treat malnutrition among the most vulnerable populations.

2.7. SPEED OF DEPLOYMENT

In 2024, WFP recorded an average lead time of 67 days from the submission of a request to Standby Partners to the commencement of duty by the selected expert.

The graph below illustrates the average number of days required for deployment based on different deployment triggers, including urgent requests, strategic projects, and non-urgent requests to fill expertise gaps. This data provides valuable insight into deployment timelines and identifies areas for improvement ongoing efforts to enhance responsiveness and efficiency within the SBP framework.



Legend description		
Average Time to Nominate	Days between WFP sending a request to partners and receiving a first nomination	
Average Time to Select	Days between receiving the first nomination and selecting a candidate	
Average Time to Deploy	Amount of days between selecting a candidate and deployment	
Average Days to Deploy	Total average of days between sending a request and deployment	



WFP staff retrieve boxes of food from an UNHAS helicopter in Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria on 12 September 2024. WFP provides lifesaving food assistance to people affected by the floods.. WFP/Ozavogu Abdul

Takeaways

- As expected, urgent requests were fulfilled in the shortest timeframe—31 percent faster than the WFP Standby Partner average. While the time required to select a candidate for urgent requests was shorter than the overall average, it was still 50 percent longer compared to non-urgent expertise gap requests. This is largely due to the fact that expertise gap deployments often involve pre-identified candidates such as engineers or energy advisors—eliminating the need for extensive fit calls or consideration of multiple profiles.
- In 2024, countries issuing urgent requests were typically facing complex emergencies, necessitating visa processes and resulting in extended pre-deployment phases. Strategic Projects recorded the longest duration between candidate selection and deployment, due in part to more intricate planning and preparation requirements.
- While some delays—such as those related to access and visa issuance—are difficult to control, others can be mitigated through improved coordination, proactive planning, and enhanced familiarity with deployment procedures among stakeholders.

Improving Food Security Through Supply Chain

FERDINAND MÖHRING

Logistics expert deployed by BLG Logistics



Ferdinand during logistics assessment mission in Mozambique and Malawi. BLG Logistics/Ferdinand Mohring

Malawi, a landlocked country of 20 million people, has long faced chronic food insecurity, exacerbated by its reliance on climate-sensitive agriculture and external trade corridors. The cumulative effects of recurrent droughts, floods, and extreme weather events—including those linked to El Niño—have left approximately five million Malawians chronically undernourished, with many more vulnerable to periodic food shortages.

As part of its commitment to addressing hunger and malnutrition, WFP has been supporting Malawi through a combination of emergency food assistance, nutrition programmes, and initiatives aimed at enhancing long-term food security and resilience. In neighbouring Mozambique, WFP is similarly engaged in humanitarian operations and plays a vital role in facilitating regional food supply chains, particularly through key logistics corridors that link the port of Nacala to inland destinations such as Malawi.

However, the movement of food and humanitarian goods along these corridors is frequently hindered by logistical challenges, including limited infrastructure capacity, delays at border crossings, and vulnerability to extreme weather events. These constraints have a direct impact on WFP's ability to deliver timely and cost-effective assistance to food-insecure populations in Malawi and the broader region. In response to these challenges, Ferdinand Möhring, a logistics expert from BLG Logistics joined WFP through a strategic partnership in October 2022. His mission was to support WFP's supply chain optimization efforts by improving corridor efficiency and resilience, with a focus on Malawi's food security.

In 2024, Ferdinand, along with his colleague Lennart Koch, undertook a comprehensive assessment of the logistics chain connecting Mozambique's deep-water port of Nacala to Malawi's grain supply network. Their analysis identified Nacala as a critical hub, offering significant advantages due to its port capacity, rail infrastructure, and planned investments in grain silos. By mapping bottlenecks and recommending targeted interventions, their work has laid the foundation for more efficient grain storage and transportation systems that will reduce transit times and improve the reliability of food deliveries into Malawi.

Through its Standby Partnership with the private sector company BLG Logistics, WFP has opportunity to strengthen its supply chain resilience in Southern Africa. The deployment of Ferdinand Möhring, a logistics expert from BLG LOGISTICS, exemplifies the impact of this collaboration. His work to optimize critical logistics corridors between Mozambique and Malawi has enhanced the efficiency and reliability of food deliveries, even in the face of climate-related disruptions. By leveraging private sector expertise, WFP has been able to build more robust supply chains, ensuring timely assistance to vulnerable populations and contributing to improved food security and nutrition outcomes for millions.



Ferdinand during logistics assessment mission in Mozambique and Malawi. BLG Logistics/Ferdinand Mohring

3. SERVICE MODULES



Service modules are specialized operational solutions composed of equipment, services, or technical expertise, provided through bilateral arrangements with Standby Partners or via the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP)—a voluntary collaboration among governmental emergency management agencies engaged in humanitarian assistance. These modules support diverse operational needs, including data access, information systems, construction, service delivery, and training, and are tailored to ensure innovation, environmental sustainability, and operational effectiveness. Where necessary, technical experts deploy alongside equipment to facilitate the efficient setup and execution of services. In 2024, a total of eight service modules were deployed, valued at US\$ 6.1 million. These modules were implemented in the Caribbean, the Philippines, Niger, Haiti, and Somalia, as well as in global and country-level training initiatives across eight locations. Through these deployments, Standby Partners significantly contributed to enhancing WFP's emergency response capacity and operational efficiency in complex humanitarian contexts.



All-terrain vehicles are pictured driving in South Sudan,. WFP/Alessandro Abbonizio

Basecamps Construction with the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB)

Haiti:

For decades, Haiti has faced chronic challenges stemming from widespread poverty, recurrent natural hazards—including earthquakes, storms, and extreme weather events—and armed group violence. In such complex and protracted humanitarian contexts, support from Standby Partners plays a critical role in augmenting WFP's capacity to meet escalating needs and to deliver life-saving food and nutrition assistance to the most vulnerable populations.

As part of this effort, MSB has provided WFP with a comprehensive construction service package in Miragoâne, Haiti's southern region. This includes the renovation of existing office, accommodation, and logistics facilities, as well as the construction of a new guest house to enhance operational capacity and sustain WFP's humanitarian presence in Haiti by accommodating up to 50 humanitarian workers.

Somalia:

In 2024, WFP's operations in Somalia remained focused on addressing critical food insecurity, exacerbated by the combined impacts of protracted conflict, climate shocks, and economic instability. Somalia continued to rank among the countries most severely affected by acute hunger and malnutrition, with flooding and drought, including events linked to the El Niño phenomenon, further disrupting livelihoods and displacing vulnerable populations.

A significant humanitarian focus was placed on Dolow, situated in the Gedo region near the Ethiopian border. Hosting a large population of internally displaced persons (IDPs), Dolow has been at the forefront of WFP's emergency response efforts, owing to its strategic location and high concentration of humanitarian needs.

To enhance operational presence and access to beneficiaries, WFP, in collaboration with MSB, initiated a construction and rehabilitation project in 2024. This project includes the renovation of office spaces and guesthouse accommodation in Dolow, designed to support about 40 humanitarian workers and ensure operational continuity. The initiative also incorporates comprehensive security installations to ensure that safety and environmental standards are fully met, thereby enabling WFP to maintain a sustained and effective humanitarian response in one of Somalia's most challenging environments.

This in-kind contributions has been pivotal in ensuring WFP's ability to respond rapidly and effectively to emergencies, while improving the security, functionality, and sustainability of its field infrastructure.



Construction of a UN compound is in progress in Somalia, showing initial site and expected results, WFP/Rabea Makhlouf

Telecommunications Projects



Ericsson Response in Beryl. WFP/Reven Dela Pena

Caribbean:

In 2024, Ericsson Response played a pivotal role in providing emergency telecommunications support in disaster-affected regions. Following the devastation of Hurricane Beryl in the Caribbean, Ericsson Response, as a global Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) partner, deployed personnel and data connectivity kits to Union Island, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and later to Jamaica, ensuring reliable communications for over 500 users and 60 government personnel until national infrastructure was restored.

Niger:

In Niger, Ericsson Response donated networking equipment to support the establishment of a connectivity centre in Diffa as part of an ETC project in the Sahel region, funded in collaboration with the Government of Luxembourg. This initiative enabled the ETC to provide internet connectivity to affected communities, granting access to life-saving information, digital skills development, and critical communication services. Community members can use internet services at the cybercafé and Wi-Fi hotspot, as well as telephony and charging station services. Since July 2023, the centre has recorded 23,675 visits—41 percent of whom were women—and will continue operations until the end of 2024. By bridging the digital divide, this initiative fosters community resilience and empowers affected populations with essential digital access.

Philippines:

In the Philippines, Ericsson Response donated networking equipment to the WFP country office as part of a preparedness project for the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), the lead agency for the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) in the Philippines for the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

This contribution supported the Government Emergency Communications System – Mobile Operations Vehicle for Emergencies (GECS-MOVE) unit, ensuring the resilience of critical emergency communication channels during disasters. By bolstering national preparedness, this initiative enhances the government's capacity to respond swiftly and effectively, safeguarding communities and enabling seamless coordination among responders.



ETC partners work in Philippines. WFP/David Pickering

Global Trainings

Emergency Trauma Bag Trainings (ETB):

In 2024, MSB supported the delivery of interagency Emergency Trauma Bag (ETB) training, a key component of the First Responder Programme (FRP). The FRP is designed to equip personnel with the skills necessary to provide pre-hospital emergency medical care to critically ill or injured UN staff in high-risk environments. As humanitarian operations expand into increasingly complex and volatile settings, SBPs have recognized the growing need to strengthen health infrastructure and emergency response capabilities. A total of 176 participants from WFP and partner organizations received this life-saving training, enhancing preparedness and resilience across field operations.



ETB training in Chad in 2024. MSB/Martin Sjöholm

Joint Simulation-based Training Gear.UP:

In 2024, the Government of Luxembourg, through its Ministry for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, supported ETC partners by providing three in-kind *Let's Comm* training sessions. This specialized training equips staff with the skills to deploy, maintain, and troubleshoot radio communication systems essential for emergency operations. A total of 32 participants from various organizations benefitted from the training, contributing to strengthened communication capacity in humanitarian responses. This initiative underscores Luxembourg's ongoing commitment to enhancing operational readiness and coordination through the Standby Partnership framework.



Training together, responding together gear.UP 2024. WFP/Julie Kuras

Emergency Telecommunications Trainings:

The German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) supported the delivery of the Joint Simulation-based Training gear.*UP* in Germany. This training was designed to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of logistics responses in humanitarian emergency settings, with a specific focus on capacity building of the partners of the Logistics Cluster and the ETC. A total of 45 staff from WFP and partner organizations participated in the simulation, gaining practical skills and experience to improve coordination and response capacity in complex operational environments.

4. NEW STANDBY PARTNERSHIPS

Tetra Tech International Development

In 2024, WFP's Supply Chain and Delivery Division formalized a new Standby Partnership agreement with **Tetra Tech International Development**, an implementing partner of **Australia Assist**, a programme funded by the **Australian Government**. This strategic partnership is aimed at strengthening WFP's capacity to respond effectively to emergencies by providing critical surge support and technical expertise in a range of thematic areas.

Through this agreement, Tetra Tech will contribute specialized support in information management, emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction, cash-based transfers, climate change adaptation, disability inclusion, gender equality, protection, supply chain, monitoring and evaluation.

The partnership with Tetra Tech significantly improves WFP's operational flexibility and reinforces the organization's ability to scale up emergency response and preparedness efforts globally. As a valued addition to the Standby Partnership Programme, Tetra Tech brings a wealth of experience in international development and humanitarian assistance, contributing to WFP's broader mission of achieving Zero Hunger.

With the inclusion of Tetra Tech, WFP now maintains **31 active Standby Partnership agreements** with governmental, non-governmental, and private sector entities. These partnerships provide essential mechanisms for augmenting WFP's technical capacities and supporting inter-agency collaboration across a wide spectrum of operational needs.



Italy, Rome, WFP Headquarters, Wednesday, 11 September 2024. Signature of the Standby Partnership agreement between WFP and Tetra Tech International Development. WFP/Vilakhone Sipaseuth



5. STANDBY PARTNERSHIP Network

The SBP Network began in 2013 in order to work with partners to ensure high quality personnel are consistently available for support to humanitarian action through organizational engagement and collective preparedness. The network comprises 16 participating UN Agencies and 40 Standby Partners that hold at least one bilateral SBP agreement, and that regularly contribute to the SBP Network initiatives.



Responders survey the impact of El Nino-induced drought in Manica province, Mozambique. WFP/Ana Mato Hombre

WFP is proud to play an active role in advancing the activities of the Standby Partnership Network, particularly throughout 2024. During this period, WFP has been an engaged member of both the Duty of Care Working Group and the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Working Group, and is prepared to assume a co-chairing role in 2025. WFP also contributed to the remote Joint Monitoring Exercise on the Standby Partnership in Sudan, demonstrating its ongoing commitment to collaborative assessment and learning efforts. In support of the Standby Partnership Network Secretariat, WFP provides both financial contributions and in-kind support to help ensure the effective functioning of the Secretariat. Furthermore, WFP continues to actively advocate for the Standby Partnership Network among its existing and prospective partners, recognizing the critical role that standby arrangements play in enabling timely and effective emergency response operations.

For more information: <u>www.standbypartnership.org</u> LinkedIn: <u>www.linkedin.com/company/standby-partnership-network/</u>

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6. SUPPORT PER PARTNER IN 2024

Partner	Number of	In-kind contribution in 2024		
	deployments within 2024	Deployments	Service modules	Total
		USD	USD	USD
Swedish Civil Contingen- cies Agency (MSB)	39	2,258,683.61	5,363,531.00	7,622,214.61
NRC / NORCAP	21	3,322,897.00	-	3,322,897.00
Swiss Agency for Develop- ment and Cooperation (SDC)	18	3,166,479.23	-	3,166,479.23
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)*	26	3,138,710.35	-	3,138,710.35
German Centre for Inter- national Peace Operations (ZIF)	9	1,139,876.07	-	1,139,876.07
RedR Australia	6	973,689.82	-	973,689.82
Irish Aid	7	961,038.08	-	961,038.08
CANADEM	3	389,660.34	-	389,660.34
Expertise France/ French MFA	3	350,502.54	-	350,502.54
IMMAP Inc.	4	297,422.20	-	297,422.20
German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW)	-	-	276,820.10	276,820.10
Ericsson Response	-	-	239,040.00	239,040.00
Grand Duchy of Luxem- bourg	-	-	232,339.17	232,339.17
BLG Logistics	3	34,176.97	-	34,176.97
Grand Total	139	16,033,136.22	6,111,730.27	22,144,866.49

*includes deployments funded by the WFP-Denmark Danish Trust Fund



School feeding with Nacala Logistics in Nampula province, Mozambique. WFP/Ana Mato Hombre

"Standby Partnership has over the years proved to be an essential mechanism to strengthen WFP's emergency response and supplement most needed expertise. Thanks to our partners for supporting us in 2024 with 139 experts, deployed worldwide to most critical emergencies and protracted crisis, and for facilitating crucial services in support to the most vulnerable. "

Philippe Martou, WFP Ukraine Deputy Country Director.

PHOTO CREDITS

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Page 10 (bottom): DRC Resilience project beneficiary story, WFP/Benjamin Anguandia

Page 13 (top): Egide Ntakirutimana at WFP Mozambique Country Office. WFP/Ana Mato Hombre Page 13 (bottom): Egide and João de Deus, lead farmer in Cahora-Bassa district of Tete Province. WFP/ Florencio Alves

Page 14: Egide alongside with WFP staff, cooperating partners, local government officials, and beneficiaries in Caia, Sofala province, Mozambique. WFP/Jaime Vilanculo

Page 15: Tanzania. Climate-Smart Agriculture Project WFP/Imani Nsamila

Page 17: Siobhan during her deployment in WFP Dakar Regional Bureau, Irish Aid/Siobhan Nestor Page 18: Burkina Faso. Receiving and using fortified flour to prevent malnutrition. WFP/Cheick Omar Bandaogo

Page 20: WFP staff retrieve boxes of food aid from the UNHAS helicopter in Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria. The World Food Programme provides lifesaving food assistance to the people, who have been affected by the floods.WFP/Ozavogu Abdul

Pages 21-22: Ferdinand during logistics assessment mission in Mozambique and Malawi. BLG Logistics/Ferdinand Mohring

Page 23: SHERP vehicles are pictured driving in in South Sudan, WFP/Alessandro Abbonizio Page 24: Construction in UN Office compound is in progress in Somalia , WFP/Rabea Makhlouf Page 25: (top) Ericsson Response in Beryl. WFP/Reven Dela Penna; 25 (bottom): ETC partners work in Philippines. WFP/David Pickering

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Programme

Acknowledgements

This publication was developed by the Standby Partnership, Operational Partnership Unit, Supply Chain and Delivery Division, World Food Programme.

Data in this report are drawn from statistics as at 1 February 2025.

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April 2025 | WFP Standby Partnership Annual Report 2024