**OHCHR Questionnaire for the Secretary-General's report on the adverse impacts of climate change on the right to food**

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1. Please describe through concrete examples and stories how climate change is affecting the full realization of the right to adequate food in your country.

**The climate crisis is one of the leading causes of the unprecedented rise in global hunger. Some concrete examples of how climate change is affecting food security are provided below:**

In May and June 2022, **Bangladesh** suffered the worst flooding since 1998 with heavy monsoon rains and severe flash floods affecting over 6.9 million people in the northeast. The floods damaged 254,000 hectares of croplands, including much of the rice crop in the region, and have led to extensive losses in income and livelihoods.

The **Horn of Africa** (Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia) faced a fourth failed rainy season in 2022 and forecasts indicate a concrete risk that the October-December rainy season could also fail. Famine is an imminent threat in parts of Somalia where 6.7 million people are expected to face crisis-level food insecurity or worse between October and December, with over 300,000 of them facing catastrophic hunger. These are the driest conditions in the region since 1981 and harvests are 60-70 percent below normal in affected areas. The drought is exacerbating other shocks such as conflict and the socio-economic implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2021-22 South-West Indian Ocean cyclone season drove hunger and eroded development across **Madagascar, Mozambique and Malawi**. In the span of six weeks, Madagascar was battered by five storms and tropical cyclones that have caused considerable damage especially in the Grand Sud-Est which has seen massive destruction in the agricultural sectors, resulting in loss of production as well as sources of income and food for households.

2022 saw widespread heatwaves affect large parts of Europe, Asia and Africa. In April, parts of **Pakistan** reached temperatures of 49 degrees and parts of India reached 47 degrees, the highest since records began 122 years ago. The heat caused school closures, destabilisation of power grids and crop damage. 30% of Pakistan’s land area was affected by extreme heat. A rapid attribution analysis stated this heatwave was about 30 times more likely to happen because of human-caused climate change.

Following the heatwave, devastating floods struck Pakistan, affecting 33 million people and submerging one third of the country underwater. Initial estimates put the total economic losses and damages caused by the floods at US$ 15-20 billion, with up to 12 million more people expected to fall below the poverty line.

Extreme weather in the **Dry Corridor of Central America** is having a devastating impact on people’s livelihoods, straining their ability to secure adequate food for their families. Extended dry spells plus untimely and heavy rains have disrupted food production and led to crop losses and harvests below normal. Guatemala and El Salvador have experienced the largest decreases in rainfall – 44% and 54% respectively since 2009.

Parts of **Afghanistan** were hit by flash floods in July 2022, causing significant damage to crops, infrastructure and livelihoods, and resulting in the loss of life. This follows severe drought throughout 2021, when rainfed wheat-crop production was down by 62 percent compared to 2020. About 70 percent of Afghanistan’s population lives in rural areas, and 85 percent derive income from agriculture. This means that climate shocks such as drought, flooding and landslides have an outsized effect on families and the national economy.

The severity and frequency of floods in **Yemen** during the rainy season (April to August) is increasing. From July 2021 onwards, torrential rains and widespread flooding hit Yemen for a second time, damaging infrastructure and homes. Damage was reported in one-third of Yemen’s districts and across 18 governorates. An estimated over 95,000 people were affected with nearly 73,000 needing urgent assistance including food.

In September 2022, two hurricanes hit the Caribbean islands of **Cuba and the Dominican Republic**. Hurricane Ian damaged or destroyed over 36,000 houses and led to more than 529,000 people needing food assistance in north-east Cuba. In the Dominican Republic, hurricane Fiona affected 800,000 households in eight provinces, 213,000 people had no or limited drinking water and 896,000 people needed food assistance. Flooding due to hurricane Fiona led to the first activation of anticipatory action mechanisms in the Dominican Republic including early warning messaging and forecast-based transfers.

1. Please share a summary of any relevant data that captures how climate change adversely affects the full realization of the right to food, taking into account discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.

N/A: WFP does not have a specific focus on discrimination in its climate action workstream.

1. Please describe any specific measure, including public policies, legislation, practices or strategies that your Government has undertaken, in compliance with applicable international human rights law, to promote an approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as loss and damage, that ensures the full and effective enjoyment of the right to food. Please also note and identify any relevant mechanisms for ensuring accountability for these commitments including their means of implementation.

N/A

1. Please describe any mechanisms and tools that are in place to measure and monitor the impacts of climate change on the full realization of the right to food.

A firm understanding of the links and potential impacts of climate change on food insecurity can inform action taken on the ground to prepare for weather-related disasters and enhance the ability of governments and communities to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.

WFP, in partnership with governments, NGOs and research institutions, works at the global, national and local level to produce analysis that matches information on livelihood systems, nutrition dynamics and other environmental and socio-economic factors with data on climate risk.

Specifically, climate analysis seeks to:

* understand the links and potential impacts of climate change on food insecurity;
* identify the communities that are most vulnerable to current and future risks; and
* guide policies and action to prepare for weather-related disasters with a view to reducing climate-related food insecurity.

Globally, WFP’s collaboration with the UK Met Office has resulted in the production of the Food Insecurity and Climate Change Vulnerability Index. Presented in the form of an interactive map, it shows how climate change could affect current and future vulnerability to food insecurity in the least developed countries, under different adaptation and emission scenarios.

At the national level, the tools and methodologies for this work are varied and context-specific. In some countries, WFP produces analyses of climate trends and their impact on food security, providing information for planning and programming purposes. In Kyrgyzstan, this analysis identified households dependent on small-scale agriculture, unskilled wage labour and social allowances as most vulnerable. It also recommended strategies to ensure their resilience, anticipate risks and integrate climate risk management structures into broader social protection plans.

In other cases, the focus is on livelihoods. In Sri Lanka, WFP and the government identified 20 different livelihood zones, analyzed climate variability and disasters, and made projections for the future. Livelihood zones were then ranked according to their experiences of food security, diversity of economic activities and sensitivity of income to climate hazards.

WFP also works with local Met Offices, national authorities and communities to better understand local needs, taking into account different socio-economic, indigenous and gender concerns. Local-level analysis contributes to the design and strengthening of climate services, micro-insurance and integrated risk management projects that address context-specific needs and target those who are most vulnerable to food insecurity and climate risks. Through a variety of tools – including mobile phone text messages and the use of community radios – these services provide farmers with accurate and regular weather updates, allowing them to make informed decisions about their crops.

1. Please identify and share examples of promising practices and challenges in the promotion, protection, and fulfilment of the full realization of the right to food in the context of the adverse effects of climate change.

WFP works especially in fragile environments, to support vulnerable communities to adapt to the harsh reality of the climate crisis. We have developed effective and scalable solutions to help food insecure people to prepare for, respond to, and recover from climate shocks and stresses. WFP saves lives following climate-related disasters by assisting people in the most remote and challenging locations. At the same time, WFP supports communities to:

* Anticipate climate hazards before they turn into disasters by using early warning systems to trigger pre-positioned financing for preventative action
* Restore degraded ecosystems that serve as natural shields against climate impacts
* Protect the most vulnerable with safety nets and insurance against climate extremes
* Energize schools and communities through access to sustainable energy

Some examples of promising practices include:

In Somalia, in 2022, when weather forecasts indicated that drought conditions would continue to deteriorate, WFP worked with the Government to deliver **early warning** messages to 1.2 million people and **anticipatory cash transfers** to 117,000 individuals to ensure that the most affected and remotest of populations had the necessary resources to protect their lives and livelihoods.

In 2021, WFP reached more than 2.5 million people across the Sahel region (Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Chad) with a package of **integrated activities to build resilience to climate shocks and stresses**. Since 2018, WFP and communities have together rehabilitated nearly 109,000 hectares of degraded land across the region. In Chad, WFP establishes tree nurseries which produce around one million tree seedlings a year. These trees help reclaim degraded land, recharge groundwater tables, capture thousands of tons of carbon dioxide and enable the production of nutritious food.

In Malawi, WFP supported a **crop insurance programme** that provides a safety net to vulnerable farming households. In 2021, cash payouts after crop failures provided 65,000 farmers with means to feed their families and avoid negative coping strategies such as selling livestock to pay for food. This was one of the largest microinsurance payouts in Africa, amounting to US$2.45 million.

In Central America, in 2021, WFP supported over 207,000 vulnerable people in El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Honduras to adapt to the impacts of climate change and improve livelihoods through **asset creation and income generation activities**. More than 3,000 hectares of degraded and marginal land have been rehabilitated and reforested, 218,000 tree seedlings produced and 35km of irrigation canals constructed.

In 2021, WFP protected 1.5 million people in Mali, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe and the Gambia from catastrophic drought events with **climate risk insurance**, through its African Risk Capacity Replica Initiative. This protection augmented social protection frameworks while countries were coping with the impacts of COVID-19.

In 2020, WFP promoted **solar water pumping** across Africa. In Niger, this is used to drip-irrigate crops year-round in ten ecological farms and 53 community-based vegetable farms. In Senegal, it supports women’s groups to grow vegetables. In Chad, it lifts underground water for small-scale vegetable gardening and reforestation projects and in Nigeria it is part of communal natural resource management activities that lead to improved household consumption, irrigation and livestock production.

1. Please include examples and promising practices and challenges that highlight international and multilateral cooperation and approaches that promote the full realization of the right to food.

Please refer to the narrative provided for question 5.

7. Please provide any additional information you believe would be useful to support climate action that promotes the full realization of the right to food.