

# CHANTILLY MODEL UNITED NATIONS PRESENTS

# WFP



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*CHMUN XXI*

*General Assembly*

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**Committee Background:**

The World Food Programme, or WFP, is the United Nations organization responsible for distributing and coordinating food aid worldwide, making it a leading agency globally. Specifically, the program focuses on achieving food security by 2030, providing emergency aid and benevolent aid, and supporting individuals in low-income countries. Annually, 80 million people benefit from the WFP in over 80 countries. With over 138 million people suffering from hunger worldwide, with an estimated 750,000 deaths, the WFP plays a significant role in world hunger. The World Food Programme is known as an “autonomous joint subsidiary program of the UN and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).” Along with the assistance of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The three agencies work in unison to propose solutions to global exigencies, collectively setting goals and targets.



## **Topic A: Addressing Food Insecurity in Conflict Zones**

### **Introduction:**

According to the World Food Programme, conflict is the main driver of hunger in a vast majority of the world's food crises; countries like Syria and Yemen have pushed over 117 million people into acute food insecurity as of 2023. Civil wars and political unrest destroy agricultural infrastructure, displacing farmers and blocking humanitarian access. Conflicts, as such, leave millions of children and families without a reliable source of food. In Yemen alone, civil war has displaced 4.5 million people from their homes, making it the primary cause of famine. Moreover, prolonged instability weakens local economies and erodes lives while simultaneously increasing dependency on international aid, making the World Food Programme a pivotal component in long-term recovery efforts.

### **Current Events:**

Recent global events show the devastating reality of conflict driving food insecurity. In Gaza, 470,000 people in the strip are facing catastrophic hunger, accounting for only a portion of the entire population experiencing acute food insecurity. Additionally, due to malnutrition, an alarming 71,000 children and 17,000 mothers need urgent treatment. In January of 2025, agencies estimated that over 50,000 children would be in need of immediate treatment. Similarly, Yemen continues to struggle through civil war, leaving over 17 million hungry individuals, where over 1 million children face malnutrition. With over 25 million people experiencing extreme hunger and 12.3 million internally displaced, Yemen's situation ranks among the world's worst humanitarian disasters. Meanwhile, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), 28 million people face food insecurity due to conflict—a record for the country and up by 2.5 million in 3 months. Almost 4 million people in the country are experiencing critical levels of hunger, according to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification. Due to conflict, the DRC is home to one of the largest displacement crises in the world, with 7.8 million people forced from their homes.

### **Relevant UN Action:**

The WFP's efforts to create a healthier future were formally recognized in October 2022 when the agency was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts and contributions. This prestigious honor

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acknowledged the World Food Programme's critical role in crisis-afflicted regions, where the agency was able to mitigate the vicious cycle between conflict and hunger. In Yemen, the WFP, launching one of the largest humanitarian operations seen in history, is providing aid for nearly 13 million people amid civil war and widespread famine. Likewise, in South Sudan, the program used air drops and river convoys to feed communities cut off by violence and flooding. Its feeding initiatives and support for smallholder farmers have also helped stabilize vulnerable populations. However, many continue to be afflicted by conflicts as such, and further preventative measures must be taken by the WFP in order to mitigate hunger throughout conflict-affected areas.

### **Questions to Consider:**

1. How can the WFP balance emergency aid with long-term food security?
2. What challenges limit aid delivery in active conflict zones?
3. Should the WFP focus more on prevention or response?
4. How can partnerships strengthen efforts in unstable regions?
5. How can the WFP optimize aid dependency during ongoing crises?

### **Helpful Links:**

1. <https://www.wfp.org/news/risk-famine-across-all-gaza-new-report-says>
2. <https://www.wfp.org/conflict-and-hunger>
3. <https://www.wfpusa.org/hunger/issues/conflict/>



## **Topic B: Responding to Climate Change's Impact on Crop Yields in South Asia**

### **Introduction:**

South Asia, home to billions, is one of the world's most climate-vulnerable regions. Despite agriculture being the backbone of its economy and the livelihood for its farmers, much of it is dependent on monsoon rains and stable temperatures. However, as a result of climate change, erratic monsoons, heatwaves, droughts, and floods severely impact crop yield. Primarily, staple crops like rice, wheat, and corn are particularly at risk, threatening a plethora of individuals. Addressing a challenge such as this requires coordinated aid that combines technology and international collaboration.

### **Current Events:**

Recent events have provided quintessential examples of climate change's devastating impact on South Asia's agriculture. In mid-April 2025, a severe heatwave struck both India and Pakistan, forcing temperatures to dangerous levels whilst intensifying challenges faced by millions. Simultaneously, Pakistan saw temperatures soar up to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. This unusual early increase in temperature disproportionately impacted vulnerable sectors of the population. Meanwhile, in Bihar, India, weather uncertainties caused by climate change and recurring floods have caused an immense impact on crop yields. Eighty percent of India's Makhana, or Fox Nut, a staple grain, is produced in Bihar. However, long spells of hot and dry weather have started to pose serious challenges for traditional and Chaur farmers, along with civilians who depend on its cultivation. Even more alarming, in Nepal, erratic climate-driven monsoons and prolonged droughts have significantly reduced maize and millet yields in the country's vulnerable regions. Climate is a significant factor of crop growth, and its fluctuation poses immense threat to populations .

### **Relevant UN Action:**

The United Nations has been at the forefront of responding to the challenges climate change poses to agriculture in South Asia through a combination of policies, financial interventions, and on-the-ground programs. The WFP has a multi-pronged strategy in addressing crop cultivation by



utilizing forecast-triggered aid, resilient asset development, and real-time monitoring rules. However, little intervention has been made in terms of addressing climate change as a whole.

### **Questions to Consider:**

1. How can the WFP integrate climate adaptation into its work?
2. What role should technology play in protecting crop yields?
3. Should the WFP advocate for stronger climate policies?
4. How can global collaboration be leveraged to improve agricultural resilience?
5. Should short-term aid or long-term solutions take priority?

### **Helpful Links:**

1. <https://www.wfp.org/climate-action>
2. <https://www.wfp.org/publications/changing-lives-climate>
3. <https://www.wfpusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Climate-Change-Food-Security-and-Humanitarian-Emergencies.pdf>



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