

Official Statement to the 2017 Global Platform for
Disaster Risk Reduction
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Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The World Food Programme's vision is to eradicate hunger in our lifetime, a bold aim that is at the centre of Agenda 2030. This means prioritizing the needs of those most vulnerable, including the 800 million hungry people in the world today.

80 per cent of the world's hungry live in countries that are prone to disasters and face high levels of environmental degradation. Disasters drive hunger and malnutrition through the destruction of land, livestock, crops and essential food supplies. At the same time, hungry people are more vulnerable to disaster risk, and recurrent disasters create a cycle that traps them in chronic hunger and poverty.

As a result of climate change and population pressure, disasters are becoming more frequent and intense, slowly eroding the capacities of vulnerable, food insecure communities to cope with and recover from each event.

The Sendai Framework recognizes the importance of addressing food insecurity and undernutrition to reduce vulnerability and build resilience against risk. The WFP Integrated Road Map, which guides WFP programmes likewise identifies the reduction of disaster risk as a priority.

Working at the humanitarian-development nexus, the World Food Programme is committed to supporting governments to meet the targets of the Sendai Framework. This includes supporting governments' preparation of **disaster risk reduction plans** that integrate food security and nutrition issues by 2020. It also includes supporting them in implementing advanced **food security monitoring systems** to track food security, nutrition, market indicators and hazards to support disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

The World Food Programme is likewise committed to continue supporting vulnerable, food insecure communities. Without protection from disasters, those most vulnerable cannot begin to build their resilience and become food secure. **Safety nets and social protection systems** offer one of the best options to empower the most vulnerable people to build resilience against disasters.

Through innovations such as **forecast-based financing** the World Food Programme partners with governments in support of early preparedness and

community action to strengthen resilience to climate shocks before a disaster, ensuring early response and building the capacity of national governments to respond to large-scale climate shocks.

Given its key capacities in logistics and emergency telecommunications, as well as the increasing disaster risk, the World Food Programme will continue to provide **early warnings** as well as **emergency preparedness, response and recovery services**—always ensuring the reduction of risk throughout its activities.

With our operations based in some of the most **fragile countries and protracted crises and conflicts**, the World Food Programme works to address the specific challenges in reducing disaster risk in these settings to enable effective risk management while supporting food security and social stability objectives. Increasingly, migration of affected, food insecure populations is also a key concern that needs to be addressed through interventions that support greater food security and nutrition.

Partnerships are critical for the World Food Programme to ensure successful disaster risk management. Better interaction and collaboration between governments, communities, regional and international organisations, non-governmental organisations, and the private sector remain crucial. Through partnerships, different functions and services, expertise and capacities can complement each other to achieve long-lasting and sustainable outcomes.

Under our commitment to a world with Zero Hunger, the World Food Programme reiterates its support to achieving the Sendai targets in support of the SDGs.

Helping governments and food insecure communities be better prepared, better able to manage risks and recover from disasters impacts is a key priority for the World Food Programme. **Ambitious, concerted action to reduce and manage risks is integral to achieving the SDGs and a world with Zero Hunger.**