

# Resilience Building to Combat Hunger and Malnutrition



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# WHAT I WILL DISCUSS THIS AFTERNOON

- Why resilience building makes sense
- A definition of resilience and principles for resilience building
- Capacities that need to be strengthened and enabling...
- Resilience building in practice based on RBA experiences
- Concluding remarks

# Main drivers of food insecurity - 2017



## CONFLICT

Number and share of food-insecure people (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above)

Countries	millions	% out of population analysed
YEMEN	17M	60%
NORTH NIGERIA	5.2M	9%
NORTH-EASTERN NIGERIA	8.9M	
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	7.7M	11%
AFGHANISTAN	7.6M	26%
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	6.5M	33%
SOUTH SUDAN	6.1M	50%
SOMALIA	3.3M	27%

In 2017, conflict and insecurity were the main drivers of acute food insecurity in 18 countries and territories, where almost 74 million food-insecure people are in need of urgent action



## CLIMATE SHOCKS

Number and share of food-insecure people (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above)

Countries	millions	% out of population analysed
ETHIOPIA	8.5M	10%
MALAWI	5.1M	27%
ZIMBABWE	4.1M	42%
KENYA	3.4M	25%

In 2017, climate shocks were the main drivers of acute food insecurity in 23 countries and territories, where over 39 million food-insecure people are in need of urgent action

## DISPLACEMENT

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

6.1M IDPs 5.5M Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries

YEMEN

3M IDPs + RETURNEES

IRAQ

2.6M IDPs 3.2M RETURNEES

LAKE CHAD BASIN

2.2M IDPs (of whom 1.7M from Nigeria)

SOMALIA

2.1M IDPs

SOUTH SUDAN

1.9M IDPs

UGANDA

1.4M REFUGEES (of whom 1.1M from South Sudan)

BANGLADESH

0.7M REFUGEES (from Myanmar)



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# IMPLICATIONS AND TAKE-AWAY

- Development is difficult in fragile contexts and those with entrenched vulnerabilities
- Shocks and stressors undermine food security and nutrition as well as efforts to reduce poverty and improve other social/economic indicators
- Humanitarian responses save lives and restore livelihoods, but do not address underlying vulnerabilities
- A resilience building approach can mitigate the adverse effects of shocks and stressors, is cost-effective and could contribute to inclusive development

# RESILIENCE DEFINITION

The UN Office of Disaster Risk Reduction defines resilience as:

*“The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate to and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions”*

- Definition adopted by the Rome-based Agencies
- Viewed as the inherent capacities (abilities) of individuals, groups, communities and institutions to withstand, cope, recover, adapt and transform in the face of shocks.

# RBA RESILIENCE PRINCIPLES

- Local and national ownership and leadership
- Multi-stakeholder approach
- Combining humanitarian relief and development
- Focus on the most vulnerable people
- Mainstreaming risk-sensitive approaches
- Aiming for sustained impact

# CAPACITIES OF TARGET POPULATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO BE STRENGTHENED

- *Absorptive capacity*...to withstand threats and minimize exposure to shocks and stressors through preventative measures and appropriate coping strategies
- *Adaptive capacity*...to make proactive and informed choices about alternative livelihood strategies
- *Transformative capacity*...to transform livelihood choices through an enabling environment for systemic change

# IMPORTANT IMPLICATIONS OF RBA APPROACH

- *Resilience must be supported at multiple levels* and should be grounded in a context-specific understanding of the people, the nature of their livelihoods and the shocks and stressors that threaten them
- *Strategy and programming must promote coherent actions*, be aligned with global policy, foster complementarity, and consider the financial and resource requirements of planned actions



# RESILIENCE BUILDING IN PRACTICE: RBA COLLABORATION

- FAO, IFAD and WFP working together at local, national, regional and global levels to promote resilience building:
  - Supporting governments and partners with resilience building capacity augmentation in Kenya, Niger, Guatemala and other countries
  - Supporting regional-level policy processes through partnerships (i.e. Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Economic Committee of West African States (ECOWAS))

# RESILIENCE BUILDING IN PRACTICE: WFP AND PARTNERS

- **Many WFP operations include elements of resilience building**

- *Food Assistance for Assets (FFA)* activities provide food or cash at times of need while enabling vulnerable households and communities to build or rehabilitate productive livelihood assets that strengthen resilience
- *R4 Rural Resilience Initiative*, a strategic partnership between WFP and Oxfam America, that helps vulnerable rural households enhance food security through micro-insurance, credit and savings (Ethiopia, Senegal, Malawi and Zambia)
- *Food Security Climate Resilience Facility (FoodSECuRE)* – a multi-year fund to build climate resilience; provides predictable, systematic financing at scale to support action in response to climate shocks

- **WFP is also partnering at the regional level**

- NEPAD engagement led to establishment of the *Africa Resilience Coordination Hub (ARCH)*, a platform for sharing experiences in resilience building, productive safety nets and disaster risk management
- Supported the African Union in developing *African Risk Capacity*, provider of cost-effective funding to governments responding to natural disasters and climate change; reduces toll on governments, farmers and pastoralists

# CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Lingering challenges: **resilience measurement tools and methods** and **financing**
- Growing evidence that resilience-building can **mitigate the damaging effects of shocks and stressors**, thus minimizing human suffering
- Resilience building interventions should be **multi-level and systems-based**, multi-sector, multi-stakeholder and context-specific
- The RBAs (FAO, IFAD and WFP) are working together and with governments and partners to promote investment in resilience building interventions that **focus on sources of exposure and vulnerability** as well as **gaps in the institutional context, asset base, and capacities**
- Recognition of the **humanitarian-development-peace and security nexus** is important for resilience building