

Global hunger crisis: Risk of famine in the Horn of Africa

February 9, 2023

CENTER FOR DISASTER PHILANTHROPY



Photo: ORAM



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Regine Webster

Vice President
Center for Disaster Philanthropy



@funds4disaster

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HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Submit questions.

Use Q & A box at the bottom of your screen.

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Complete the survey.

The link will open as you exit the webinar.

Look for the fully captioned webinar recording and summary at disasterphilanthropy.org.

Live captioning is available now via Zoom. Click on Closed Caption/Live Transcript to access it.

Photo credit: [Atlanta Wealth Building Initiative](#)

Thank you to our co-sponsors



Land Acknowledgment

“Acknowledgment is a simple, powerful way of showing respect and a step toward correcting the stories and practices that erase Indigenous people’s history and culture and toward inviting and honoring the truth.”

<https://usdac.us/nativeland>

CDP’s Land Acknowledgment is inspired by Dawn Knickerbocker, Native Americans in Philanthropy.

GOALS

At the end of the webinar, funders will:

- Understand how global factors, including conflict, climate shocks, COVID-19 inflation, and supply chain shortages made worse by the war between Ukraine and Russia, have impacted hunger worldwide.
- Learn how the slide into famine is manmade and preventable, making this one of the most urgent crises for funders to respond to in 2023.
- Understand why it is critical that funders act quickly to support emergency, recovery and resilience programming to save lives, prevent unnecessary suffering, and strengthen affected communities' abilities to adapt and cope with further shocks.



Photo: ORAM

Speakers

Thank you to our guests for joining us today.

#CDP4Recovery



Lisa Doughten

Director, Humanitarian Financing
and Resource Mobilization

United Nations Office for the
Coordination of Humanitarian
Affairs



Rein Paulsen

Director, Office of Emergencies
and Resilience

Food and Agriculture
Organization



Winfred Wangari

East Africa Program Manager

ORAM - the Organization for Refuge,
Asylum and Migration

Hunger is on the rise

In 2022, **one million people lived in famine conditions**, at risk of starvation and death

High levels of **hunger for 222 million people**

Drivers of the global hunger crisis:
**Conflict, climate change,
economic collapse**



Photo: Esther Mbabazi / Save the Children

Agriculture is essential, life-saving aid

Over $\frac{2}{3}$ of people
in crisis contexts rely on
agriculture for their livelihoods.

Just 4% of \$ go to agriculture in
food crises.



Our goal

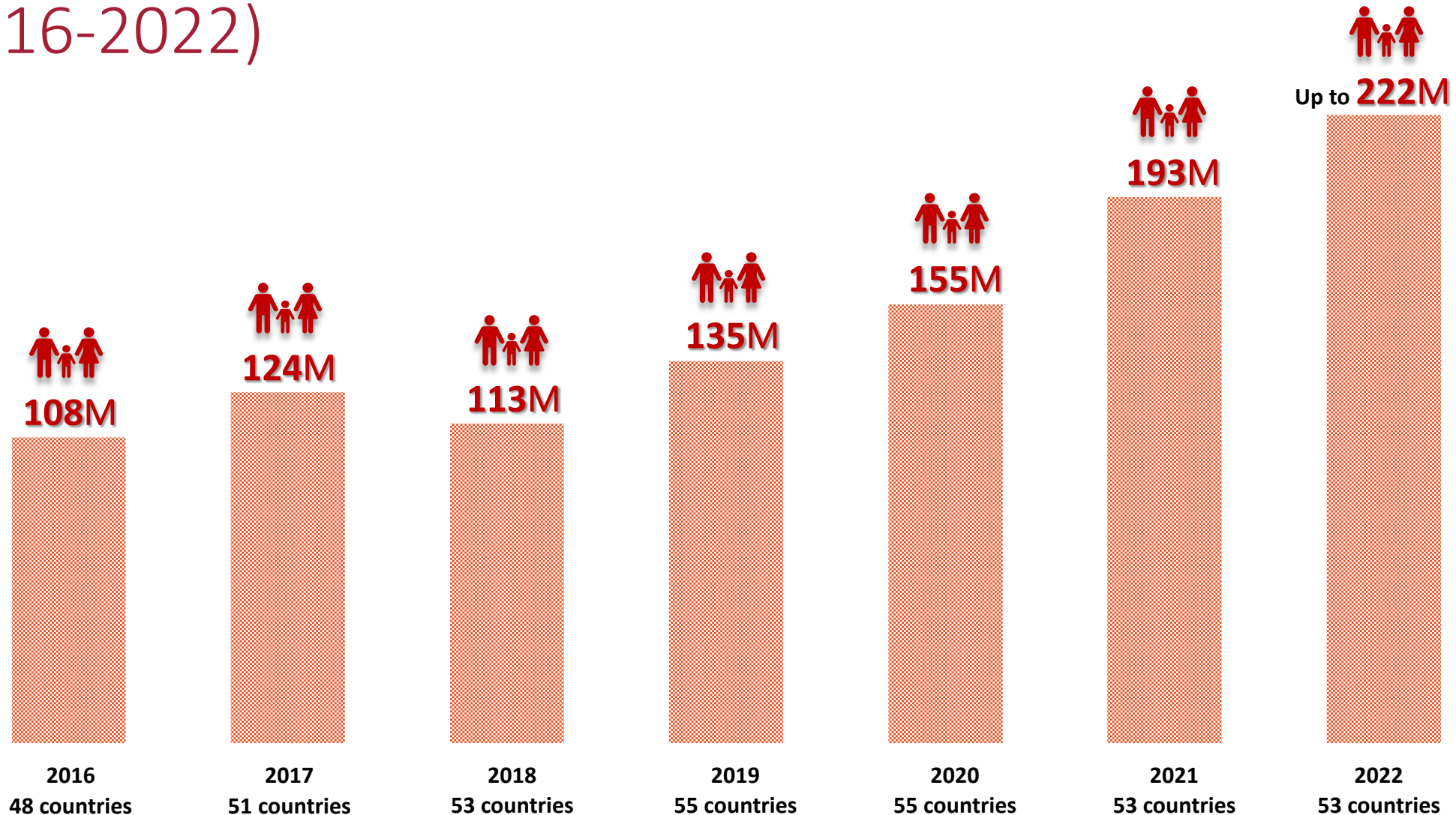
To increase the resilience of people, livelihoods and food systems to threats and crises

In fragile contexts, FAO:

- helps people to anticipate and prepare for crises
- responds fast to crises
- seeks to reduce risks and address vulnerabilities



Populations in high acute food insecurity (2016-2022)



Preventing famines

- Anticipatory Action – for every \$ spent, families have seen returns of up to \$7
- Scaled up **multi-sector** response – food security, WASH, nutrition, etc.
- Building resilience to multiple, cascading shocks (conflict, climate, food chain crises) and addressing root causes of food crises



We can prevent famine!

We have averted famine in the past

We need **urgent funding to save lives** and **systemic change to build long-term resilience**.

We also need:

- Political will
- Investment in disaster preparedness
- Climate financing



Photo: Luis Tato / FAO

The most vulnerable are hardest hit

Communities on the **frontline of climate change** are most at risk (40% increase of disasters in 15 years)

Women and girls eat **last and the least**.

Food insecurity exacerbates **gender-based violence**.

It is essential to **include a gender perspective** in humanitarian response



Photo: Giles Clarke / OCHA

Afghanistan – 80% of people experiencing acute hunger are in rural areas



What is the current situation on the ground in terms of drought, famine, and food costs?

- Failed rains in *Turkana* County, Kenya, have propelled an increase in food insecurity among refugees in Kakuma refugee camp.
- Increased prices for basic commodities and food items is reducing refugees access to food. According to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, national food inflation in August 2022 was 15 percent higher than in 2021.
- Reduction in food rations; World Food Program (WFP) reduced food rations in Kakuma Refugee Camp from 60 percent to 50 percent in 2021, leading to an increase in negative coping mechanisms such as skipping meals, selling off assets at less the value, unauthorized movement to urban areas.
- The drought is disrupting livelihoods and deepening vulnerabilities. There is increased tension between refugees and host community due to competition for the scarce resources; water, food and job opportunities.

Why are there increased challenges for LGBTQIA+ refugees in the camps?

- Systemic discrimination of LGBTQIA++ refugees deepening vulnerabilities and food insecurity and protection risks; They lack decent work resulting to unauthorized movement to the urban areas (Nairobi).
- The humanitarian approach to vulnerability analysis is often not inclusive and sensitive to LGBTQIA+ refugees; Most LGBTQIA+ refugees in Kakuma are in their youth, with a household size one not therefore not viewed as vulnerable.
- LGBTQIA+ refugees risk physical and verbal abuse at food distribution and voucher redemption points. Selection of food, cash and voucher vendors often not conducted with an inclusivity lens.
- Limited capacity, in terms of assets and skills to withstand a combination of disruptive economic and climatic factors

What programming is ORAM providing to this population?

- **More inclusive vulnerability analysis** that considers individual needs and risks, shaping each person's individual experience.
- **Addressing the drivers of vulnerability through:**
 - Emergency cash assistance to increase access to food is considerate on increased food prices with flexibility in mode of delivery.
 - Support the establishment of kitchen gardens for food production and sale of surplus.
 - Supporting diversification of livelihoods to increase income streams; informed by a market assessment.
 - Financial assistance for business establishment and restoration.
- **Enhancing resilience and sustainability:**
 - Trainer of Trainer approach to skills training on financial management, business skills and smart kitchen gardening, to enhance sustainability.
 - Collaborating with LGBTQIA+ Refugee-Led-Organizations (RLOs) to address emerging needs.
 - Strengthening the capacity of LGBTQIA+ RLOs.
 - Building linkages and partnerships with Kenyan LGBT NGOs to strengthen relations with the host community



Photo credit: ORAM

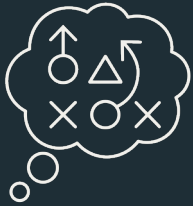
NEXT STEPS AND ACTIONS

Famine is preventable.

When it comes to food, the anticipated reaction is in its production.

A two-track approach is required to respond to the urgency of the moment and invest in longer-term solutions.

Expert Resources



Disaster Philanthropy Playbook



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NEXT WEBINAR

A layered disaster: Supporting long-term recovery in Turkey and Syria

**Thursday, February 16
12 p.m. ET/ 11 a.m. CT**

disasterphilanthropy.org/events

Photo credit: Republic of Türkiye Ministry of National Defence via [Twitter](#)

Thank You

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