



**Global Network
Against Food Crises**
INTEGRATED ACTIONS FOR LASTING SOLUTIONS



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Global Network Against Food Crises



**Leveraging strategic investments in food security and nutrition:
Our country and regional approach**

OUR WORK AT REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVEL

1. Leveraging Global Network membership, analysis, and partnerships

Supporting members of the Global Network Against Food Crises, national governments, local actors, regional organisations, the United Nations and the wider international system at a country level is a core aspect of the Global Network's added value and a key element of its 3×3 approach – linking global, regional, and national actions.

As a unique partnership – that brings together the European Union, FAO, IFAD, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, the United States, the World Bank, and WFP – the Global Network is able to utilise and **leverage the considerable operational, strategic, financial and political capacities of its members** to achieve its aims to improve the effectiveness of food crisis response, prevent food and nutrition crises from occurring, and contribute to the longer-term strengthening of national food systems for sustainable, peaceful societies.

The Global Network's efforts are **anchored in a consensus-based set of core analytical products**, provided as a 'global common good'. Firstly, the [Global Report on Food Crises](#) highlights annual global food insecurity trends. Secondly, the [Hunger Hotspots](#) report provides vital food insecurity projections. Finally, the [Financial Flows and Food Crises](#) report highlights financing trends and enables better policy and decision-making to ensure that the right sort of financing is in place at the right time to save lives and livelihoods, reducing food crises over time.

The Global Network's country engagement approach builds on this shared analysis and understanding of the occurrence, drivers and response to food crises to inform its actions at a country-level. This includes: **facilitating context-specific dialogue and consensus** between its members and the wider group of stakeholders; **strengthening in-country coordination mechanisms**; promoting the use of **joint analysis** in planning processes; addressing **gaps in policy, analysis and capacity**; facilitating **complementary and mutually reinforcing programming**; and advocating for **appropriate financing** across humanitarian, development and peace actions – to prevent food crises and strengthen sustainable and resilient food systems.

The on-going efforts of the Global Network and its partners are more urgent than ever. In the context of

worsening food and nutrition insecurity¹ and the growing frequency, intensity, scale and duration of food crises – in part due to the on-going socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the conflict in Ukraine, worsening climate change impacts, and growing global economic fragility – the Global Network, as an established and longer-term initiative, has a vital role to play in **leveraging its partnerships to strengthen coherence between the various global initiatives** that have been launched to respond to growing food insecurity.

Amongst these are the high-level regional commitments on food and enhanced support to Member States initiated by regional inter-governmental organisations including: CILSS in the Sahel and West Africa and IGAD in East Africa; the [Global Alliance for Food Security](#) (GAFS) and its associated Food Security Dashboard, and Food Security Crisis Preparedness Plans (FSCPPs); the work of the UN Special Envoy on Famine Prevention and Response and the High-Level Task Force on Famine (HLTF); and the commitments made at the 2021 Food Systems Summit, including the multi-stakeholder coalition on [Fighting Food Crises along the HDP Nexus](#), and the 'National Pathways' developed to advance food system strengthening.

The Global Network will work closely with these partners to support the amplification and translation of these efforts and to ensure that they achieve coordinated, concrete, practical and sustainable outcomes at a country level, alongside Global Network efforts.

OUR WORK AT REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVEL

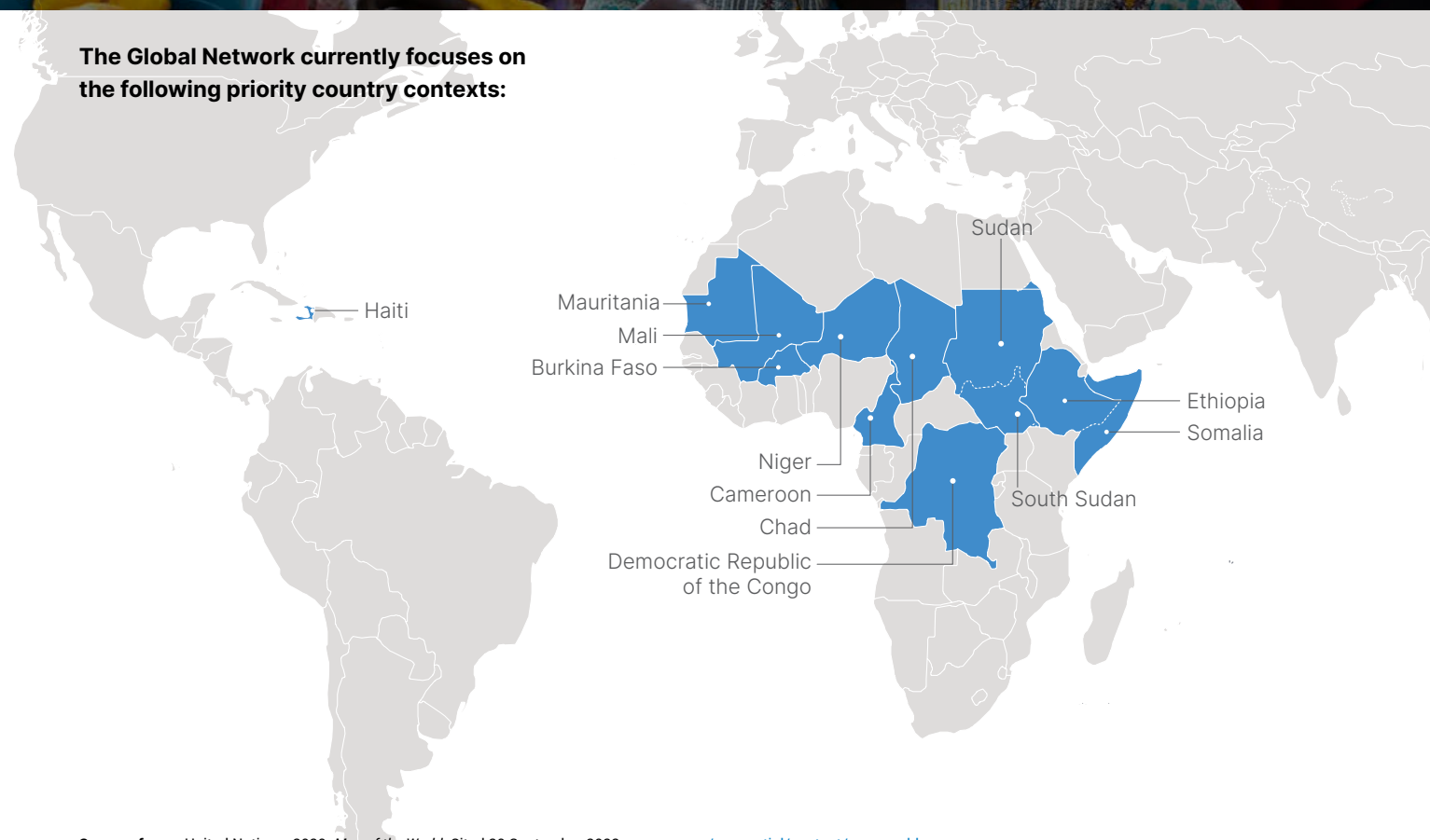
2. The scope and coverage of Global Network country engagement

The Global Network covers all of the **food crisis countries**, as defined by the [Global Report on Food Crises](#). Support for these countries is provided through:

- **global level actions**, including a 'watchtower' function that highlights emerging or worsening food crises in global fora and dialogues, and that promotes coherent and coordinated efforts amongst Global Network members, partners and other stakeholders to address emerging or worsening food crises;
- **at a regional level**, working with and through regional organisations and mechanisms to enable the capacities, analysis, policies and approaches to better prevent and respond to food crises, enhance regional support to Member States, and to facilitate intra-regional and cross-regional learning; and
- **at a country level** to advance dialogue, consensus and coherence amongst Global Network members in-country, to improve multi-stakeholder coordination, promote joint analysis, address policy, capacity and analytical gaps, facilitate joint programming, and advocate for appropriate financing.

The scope of engagement in food crisis contexts, ranging from global, regional, or in-country efforts, is determined by the severity of food crises as indicated by the [Global Report on Food Crises](#), 'entry-points' and opportunities for engagement, and based on the priorities and interests of Global Network partners.

The Global Network currently focuses on the following priority country contexts:



Source of map: United Nations. 2020. *Map of the World*. Cited 20 September 2022. www.un.org/geospatial/content/map-world

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO and WFP concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. Final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

3. Principles of country engagement



Six guiding principles underpin the Global Network's engagement with countries and regions:

1

Responding to demand:

Engagement and support is provided according to the needs and specific requirements of national and regional stakeholders, while placing them at the forefront of coordination and implementation.

2

Prioritizing complementarity:

The Global Network prioritizes working with, and through, national actors, including through existing capacities of members at the country and regional levels.

3

Building on existing mechanisms:

Working through the leadership and management of existing coordination structures at country and regional level, the Global Network ensures there is no duplication of effort – supporting 'gap filling' and strengthening existing mechanisms.

4

Focusing on impact:

By providing tailored, strategic, and demand-driven support to countries and regions through existing mechanisms, impact is enhanced where there is convergence among Global Network members to address food crises.

5

Ensuring inclusivity:

The Global Network aims at inclusivity and full engagement of all relevant local, national, and international partners and civil society members.

6

Facilitating stakeholder buy-in:

Recognizing that collective action is only as effective as the overall contribution of partners, the Global Network makes all efforts to facilitate the buy-in and political commitment of all relevant actors.

THE GLOBAL NETWORK'S SERVICE OFFER

In food crisis contexts where the Global Network focuses its efforts in-country, **this will be based on a defined 'service offer' facilitated by the Global Network Technical Support Unit, drawing on the capacities and support of Global Network members in-country.** While not all elements of the service offer will be appropriate, or required in each context, the main elements of the support to food crisis countries will include:



Supporting dialogue between Global Network members:

We identify opportunities and common priorities in order to build consensus amongst members and facilitate a Global Network 'voice' on preventing food crises and strengthening food systems.



Strengthening the linkages between existing coordination mechanisms:

Governments, bilateral actors, the UN, civil society, and other stakeholders' coordination mechanisms are often siloed between groups and sectors, and across humanitarian, development and peace actions. The Global Network will support with the mapping of coordination in-country and highlight opportunities to strengthen the linkages between such mechanisms for improved coherence and effectiveness when addressing food insecurity, emerging famine, and the fragility of food systems. This includes working to ensure that the GAFS FSCPPs link to, and build upon, existing coordination mechanisms where appropriate.



Addressing policy, analysis, and capacity gaps:

Food crises and fragile food systems often occur in contexts with a weak policy environment; where critical analysis, such as conflict sensitivity analysis, is not systematic; or where there are human capacity gaps to implement or sustain effective actions to address or prevent food crises. The Global Network, in consultation with in-country stakeholders, will facilitate consultations to identify and highlight gaps. Where appropriate – and based on demand – we provide specific expertise, engage research institutions or academia, or directly support national offices to fill these gaps.



Promoting a shared understanding of risks, vulnerabilities and drivers of food crises as a basis for coherent action amongst diverse stakeholders:

Addressing food crises and strengthening food systems involves a wide range of actors, working across a number of sectors, over different timeframes. This can result in different understandings of the key drivers and underlying causes of food crises and different perspectives on who is vulnerable to such crises and where. The Global Network will convene stakeholders to build consensus on the main risks and vulnerabilities affecting food systems and driving food crises and promote the use of shared analysis in existing processes such as country strategies, national development plans, the UN's common country assessment, and the humanitarian needs overview to strengthen alignment and coherence of actions.



Facilitating joined-up programme planning:

Planning frameworks in-country are often siloed between different agencies and stakeholder groups, and between humanitarian and development actions, including national development plans; multilateral/UN humanitarian response plans; the United Nations Strategic Common Development Framework; bilateral and IFI country strategies, among others. This can lead to programme development that is not mutually reinforcing across different agencies, and programmatic gaps and duplication. We will support joined-up planning workshops for diverse stakeholders – including, where appropriate, the development of 'collective outcomes' for food security and food systems strengthening to enhance the complementarity of programming between actors and across humanitarian, development and peace actions. Where possible and appropriate, this will link to and support operationalization of countries' National Pathways for food systems strengthening.



Undertaking the mapping of financial flows in food crises countries to facilitate appropriate resourcing of country level actions:

Addressing and preventing food crises and strengthening food systems is often carried out without an informed understanding of the full range of financial flows available within a country context – including public, private, international and domestic sources of financing. This results in programming being initiated without consideration of the sustainable actions, and a misalignment between financing instruments and programming. It can also lead to an over-reliance on international aid, when more appropriate and sustainable sources of domestic financing may be more suitable.