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Thousands of miles from the fighting, the war in Ukraine is impacting local food supplies. CARE has waged an all-out effort to stop deadly food insecurity from taking root.

## GLOBAL HUNGER CRISIS

**As war in Ukraine continues and food supplies run short, deadly waves of hunger rise.**

**Help CARE prevent severe hunger now before millions face starvation.**

### An enduring global hunger crisis

For more than a year, the war between Russia and Ukraine has inflicted untold atrocities on the Ukrainian people. As the conflict continues, repercussions far beyond Europe are taking shape—escalating a global hunger crisis for 668 million people across 89 countries.<sup>1</sup>

When a crisis happens in one part of the world, it can send shock waves across the globe. For decades, Ukraine has been the breadbasket to the Global South. Before the war, Ukrainian and Russian grains provided more than one-third of the wheat imported by 45 African and least-developed countries.<sup>2</sup> When the conflict began, these exports plummeted immediately. Though some shipments have resumed under the UN-brokered Black Sea Grain Initiative, the agreement's long-term future is uncertain and Ukraine's exports under the deal remain low compared to historical averages.<sup>3</sup> In addition, the global rise in fuel and fertilizer costs is hampering the ability of small-scale farmers (roughly half of them women) to produce and store enough food in the coming seasons.<sup>4</sup> The war in Ukraine is tipping already fragile families into deeper states of hunger and malnutrition.

**Harvest season is approaching.** To prevent a worsening of the food and nutrition crisis, WFP and FAO urge

<sup>1</sup> This number is updated daily at: <https://static.hungermapdata.org/insight-reports/latest/global-summary.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/04/1116152?msclkid=a6509192cf9d11ec8a46224fc042ff3a>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/02/us/politics/russia-ukraine-food-crisis.html>

<sup>4</sup> Despite some price declines, commodity prices can take 10 to 12 months to reach local markets according to the World Bank's International Monetary Fund.

countries to balance short-term urgent interventions with longer-term resilience efforts in their response.<sup>5</sup>

**Among the most vulnerable are women and children.**

Despite being responsible for the majority of food sourcing and preparation, women are eating last and least. Without proper nutrition, mothers can die during pregnancy or experience stillbirths. For the children who do survive, malnutrition can cause permanent, widespread damage to their growth and development, particularly during their first five years when their brains are developing most rapidly.

Not investing in healthy women puts future generations—both boys and girls—at risk of unhealthy lives and intergenerational malnutrition. These imbalances hurt entire communities because the cycle is perpetual—people living in poverty are more susceptible to malnutrition, which can lead to increased healthcare costs, reduced productivity and limited ability to earn income. To reverse this outcome, CARE invests in breaking the cycle of malnutrition, and that starts with women and girls.

**With your investment and partnership**, CARE can respond to the millions of families nearing the brink of famine and empower communities to survive the shocks that threaten their access to adequate nutritious food.

## CARE's full-scale strategy for response

Women and children facing hunger and acute malnutrition need more than food aid. Since 1945, CARE has proven time and again that the best safety net, particularly for women and children, combines both emergency response and building resilience long before needs are life-threatening.

That's why **CARE launched a \$250 million comprehensive response to the global hunger crisis**—to avoid the worst consequences for families verging on starvation and help small-scale farmer communities on the cusp of malnutrition ramp up production and tip the balance of nutrition in their favor. We have experienced early successes with, for example, U.S. advocacy, our Farmer Field and Business School model expansion in Mozambique, and our humanitarian response in Afghanistan, but the need is much greater and the full scope of the food crisis is still unfolding as harvest and planting seasons uncover a diminishing food supply.

CARE's two-year response takes a **three-pronged approach**:

- 1) immediate food and nutritional assistance for families most at risk of hunger and acute malnutrition;
- 2) accelerated training and inputs for small-scale farmers—especially women farmers—who are most susceptible to fertilizer and fuel shortages and thus, reduced harvests and deeper malnutrition this year;
- 3) and rallying key stakeholders in the food security and nutrition arena—from engaging private sector partners to advocating with developing country governments, donor country governments like the U.S., and global actors like international donors, to prevent repeat crises.

## Global Food Crisis: At a Glance

- Global food supplies are expected to drop to a **three-year low** in 2022/2023.
- FAO has identified 24 countries as **hunger hotspots**, including 16 in Africa.
- **Fertilizer affordability is the lowest** since 2007/2008.
- Russian fertilizers aren't the only short supply; China produces 30% of global phosphate supplies and has **shrunk its exports by 50%** to protect its domestic market.
- Lack of affordable fertilizer is lessening food production and **hitting smallholder farmers the hardest**, worsening already high local food prices.
- **Harvest seasons are happening now** in many regions, uncovering the true magnitude of food shortages.

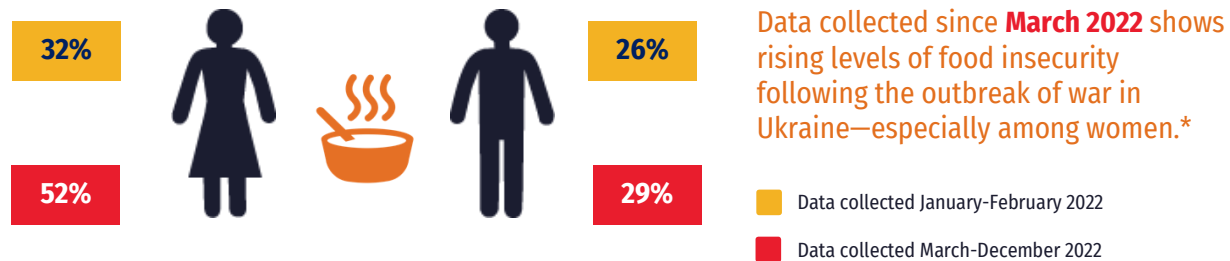
Sources: <https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/joint-statement-by-the-heads-of-fao-imf-world-bank-wfp-and-wto/en>;  
<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/03/ukraine-fertilizer-food-security/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/joint-statement-by-the-heads-of-fao-imf-world-bank-wfp-and-wto/en>

**Our response bridges the full spectrum of food and nutrition insecurity**—from emergency aid and treatment for acute malnutrition to longer-term resilience building that prepares families to withstand future shocks. We also seek to ensure that governments and communities in less-developed nations build strength and policies that help these interventions stick.

To **save lives now and sow resilience for tomorrow**, we must look beyond food aid to address food and nutrition security and empower women to lead the way.

### Recent insights from the field:



\*CARE (2023). HER VOICE: Listening to Women in Action, March 2023. <https://www.care.org/news-and-stories/resources/her-voice-listening-to-women-in-action/>

Given the unfolding nature of the hunger crisis, CARE's immediate humanitarian assistance will prevent women, children and families in countries where acute malnutrition rates are highest from reaching possible famine levels. Simultaneously, we will address fuel and fertilizer shortages and rising costs in as many as 540 communities in countries where farming is becoming cost prohibitive, and families are on the cusp of deeper malnutrition. Countries like **Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe** are experiencing sharpening declines in access to nutritious food and alarming malnutrition levels. And for some of these countries, like Syria and Afghanistan, the food crisis and escalating costs are yet another layer of complexity that stifles families' ability to meet their most basic needs.

To create a safety net for the future and strengthen less-developed nations' ability to mitigate crises of this magnitude, CARE works with the private sector, governments and bilateral donors to access alternate food, fuel and fertilizer supplies, and change the policies and systems that create unstable environments and unfavorable conditions at local, country and international levels. Our comprehensive approach is adapted to the specific needs and contexts of each country or region. These initial focus countries and communities are ones CARE knows well, where our presence allows us to act quickly—with a core focus on women, children and vulnerable groups.

## Beyond food aid

CARE's humanitarian assistance goes far beyond handing out meals. Beginning with a critical needs assessment and [rapid gender analysis](#), we identify those most in need of nutritional support, drivers of malnutrition, and the power dynamics of household food security and nutrition.

In the Horn of Africa, we are seeing challenging situations like drought, political turmoil, violent civil unrest and COVID-19 deteriorate social support systems and thwart access to nutritious food. In the Middle East, sub-optimal feeding practices, high prevalence of disease, inadequate sanitation conditions and hygiene practices, limited access to health and nutrition services are reversing health gains of the past and leading to acute malnutrition and severe acute food insecurity. And in the Central American Dry Corridor and Haiti, drought, migration, COVID-19, poor infant feeding practices and little to no access to sanitation services are escalating malnutrition rates.

These compounding situations have a multiplier effect on annual cereal shortages now exacerbated by reduced wheat and grain imports from Ukraine and disrupted trade on Russian fuel and fertilizers. In Afghanistan, for example, WFP estimates that 90% of Afghans are not getting enough to eat.<sup>6</sup> In Somalia, half the population is experiencing hunger, with 1.5 million children at risk of acute malnutrition. **Millions of women and children across the Horn of Africa, Middle East, Central America and Haiti are reaching their breaking points and we must act now so that families can move out of this critical phase into a place of stability and hope.** To do that, we partner with women to empower them with information and resources that will break malnutrition cycles now and for future generations.



While the war in Ukraine is causing food and gas prices to rise around the world, the effects of climate change are also becoming increasingly apparent – especially in countries such as Somalia. The UN reports that the number of people affected by drought more than doubled in 2022 from 3.2 million to 7.8 million. The fields are drying up, the water tanks in the villages are empty and the cattle herders are losing their only source of income. Somalia has experienced four failed rainy seasons. If the spring rains fail again in 2023, as current forecasts predict, the probability of famine is high.

## LISTENING TO WOMEN

CARE listens to women because they are integral to their families' and communities' health, particularly when it comes to food security and nutrition. They also have specific needs including those related to reproductive and maternal health, caregiving, hygiene, and access to education and livelihoods. CARE leverages women's insight and partners with them to identify and reach the most vulnerable groups, households, and individuals: children under 5; pregnant and lactating women; the elderly and/or disabled; orphaned children; women and girls at risk of gender-based violence (GBV); and minority groups. We also work with respective authorities, other humanitarian stakeholders and local partners, especially women-led organizations, to **ensure that more people can be reached faster and in ways specific to their needs.**

## RESPONSE ANALYSIS CONSIDERATION

At the outset of every intervention, CARE conducts detailed a Response Analysis Consideration. This analysis assesses available contextual information and applies strategic thinking to facilitate decision-making on the most appropriate level in each scenario. Factors we consider are:

1. **Timeliness:** Can one intervention be implemented faster than others?
2. **Feasibility/Scale:** Is one intervention more practical and convenient than others given the emergency context? Is the target population easier to reach physically with one intervention compared to others?
3. **Suitability to project objectives:** Does one intervention better meet the program objectives (e.g.,

<sup>6</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/report/afghanistan/afghanistan-food-security-update-september-october-2022>

improve dietary diversity, reduce malnutrition, mitigate family asset depletion) than others?

4. **Value for money/cost-effectiveness and cost-efficiency:** Can significantly more community members be served with one intervention compared to others?
5. **Local market readiness:** Do markets have adequate supplies of food and will increased purchases disrupt the markets?
6. **Community preferences, priorities and capacity:** Do project participants prefer one intervention over another?
7. **Security:** Does the proposed intervention pose a significantly increased security risk to project participants and/or aid workers?

With thorough assessments complete, CARE and our partners provide a suite of interventions to treat life-threatening malnutrition, increase self-reliance, safety nets, and community representation, and establish market linkages through:

- Provision of dry ration foods;
- Cash assistance, including cash for work (CFW), food vouchers and multipurpose cash grants where markets allow;
- Prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition, coupled with social and behavior change communication to support learning and set families up for future health;
- Protection of remaining productive assets by providing seeds and vaccinations for livestock; and
- Integration of a new model of [Village Savings and Loan Associations in Emergencies](#) (VSLAiE) contexts that combines advocacy, support for broad adoption of best practices in cash and voucher assistance, and innovations that strengthen women's ability to respond to crises.

CARE works closely with affected communities to ensure a holistic strategy while reducing negative coping mechanisms and building resilience. Once the nutrition situation is stabilized, CARE teams work with families to regain longer-term strength through agricultural and livelihood support, including supply of fertilizer, seeds and tools, and market- and value chain-based longer-term interventions.

### BREAKING CYCLES OF POVERTY

Shocks—both manmade and natural—are a primary cause of intergenerational cycles of poverty. CARE has adapted our proven Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) model to emergency settings (VSLAiE), providing a stable pathway for women and girls to access crucial services that meet their immediate needs, while also building the assets, networks and skills to help them achieve their long-term goals. Applying this model to people in crisis helps bridge the divide between short-term humanitarian aid and longer-term recovery, a gap that has led to disjointed and ultimately ineffective programs without a sustainable future for people displaced by crises. VSLAiE, like more traditional VSLAs, are simple, highly replicable and scalable. And as with VSLAs, they are the first step in creating a pathway out of crisis and into recovery.



CARE recently established and equipped three Mobile Health and Nutrition teams in Afghanistan, with a focus on infant and young child feeding support, nutritional counseling, screening and services to children and pregnant and nursing women. Of 250 children diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition, 89% recovered after services, and 82% of 230 children with moderate acute malnutrition recovered.

Our comprehensive approach goes beyond food aid to **remove barriers hindering a person's ability to achieve improved nutrition**. CARE seeks to understand the complexities of situations faced by individuals—especially women and girls—and to involve them from the outset of our response and elevate them in our advocacy.

## Building resilience through farmer support

Without urgent humanitarian action, we risk letting millions more women, children and families reach the brink of famine. And without immediate investments in increased agricultural production, improved storage and expanded crop diversification, we could face a critical tipping point between under-nutrition and malnutrition in communities already on the margin.

Embargoes on staple foods and fertilizers due to the war in Ukraine are having devastating consequences for communities. The impact of limited fertilizer availability takes about six months to realize in crop yields—yet, by April 2022, limited food supply and higher production costs in many countries, like those across Southern Africa and Central America's Dry Corridor, had already driven food prices to the highest levels ever recorded.<sup>7</sup> This combination of less food, higher fuel prices and lack of fertilizers will certainly have negative consequences on food security and nutrition in many low-income countries as harvest seasons reveal further shortages. The increase in weather related shocks exacerbates the problem.

Southern African countries and the Central American Dry Corridor are feeling the effects of rising prices and bracing for further shocks as outlooks for harvest seasons look dim. Zimbabwe already has the highest gasoline and diesel prices in the southern Africa region due to government taxes. Further increases could render access to fuel for irrigation and food transport almost impossible for small producers. And in Madagascar, delayed and below-average harvests coupled with international price spikes for fuel, fertilizer and food could prompt continued reliance on humanitarian food assistance and imports of staples.<sup>8</sup> In Central America, food reserves of many poor households in rural areas have run out, while prices of food and other inputs remain high. As the lean season progresses, labor opportunities will decline, and food insecurity is expected to increase.

CARE is applying an accelerated resilience-building response that will ensure sustainability, productivity, equity and self-sufficiency for **as many as 540 communities**. This is a first step to prevent the hunger crisis from turning other regions into emergency situations similar to that in the Horn of Africa. **As resources and funds allow, CARE is considering expansion of this accelerated model** to more communities, particularly in the Dry Corridor of Latin America, Asian countries facing a climate challenges, and other African communities in need.

Through an accelerated version of our successful [Farmers Field and Business Schools](#) (FFBS) model, this two-part response comprises rapid knowledge transfer and adds matching grants to purchase solar technology to help reduce reliance on fuels, increase crop yields and reduce post-harvest losses. These two critical interventions will help communities stabilize production levels, supply local markets and **avoid further impacts of the hunger and food insecurity crisis**.

CARE's FFBS projects currently span 18 countries, support small-scale producers (more than half of whom are women) and have improved household food security, gender equality, increased household income and nutrition, and reduced impact of shocks for more than 500,000 producers to date. We will continue to work with private sector partners and governments to assess critical needs and expand these programs into other regions as needs and resources allow.



<sup>7</sup> <https://www.npr.org/2023/01/07/1147660525/global-food-prices-2022-record-high>

<sup>8</sup> <https://fews.net/southern-africa/madagascar/food-security-outlook/october-2022>

**KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER** CARE's FFBS puts small-scale producers, especially women, at the heart of skills building and decision-making on agricultural techniques. Women are key participants because in most families, they are responsible for production and their family's nutritional status given their role in shopping for and preparing the family's food, and their role as mothers who provide nutritional support nursing their babies.



CARE's accelerated FFBS in Mozambique is not only helping farmers grow climate-smart food, but also helping them grow more nutritious combinations of food including grains and legumes for complete protein.

The FFBS model promotes agroecology practices, a transdisciplinary field that includes the ecological, sociocultural, technological, economic and political dimensions of food systems, from production to consumption. This multidimensional approach allows farmers to sustain yields despite lack of access to fertilizers; reduce the risk of lower food availability; and reduce higher production costs due to the global increase in fuel prices.

Farmers learn improved farming practices such as **how to use fertilizers more efficiently**, how to improve soil health, how to produce organic compost using locally available materials and/or how to plant leguminous crops that add nitrogen to the soil. Trainings on **diversification of food production, establishing businesses and reaching local markets, and augmenting household nutrition and income** also form part of the curriculum.

**FFBS is a game changer for improving the status of women** by helping them be successful farmers, businesspeople, leaders and agents of change. It is also extremely cost efficient, **with a \$31 average return on every \$1 invested in women smallholders**.

To date, the program has generated \$158 million worth of benefits in the areas of food and nutrition security, poverty reduction, women's empowerment and resilience to shocks.

## TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

In each community, CARE establishes a co-investment fund to provide matching grants for capital investments in technologies and resources that save money by lowering dependency on chemical inputs; efficiently use natural resources through tools like drip irrigation technology that save water and nutrients; reduce post-harvest food losses through investments in food storage and processing technologies like solar drying; and reduces dependency on gasoline using renewable energy technologies such as solar-powered irrigation systems that do not rely on high-cost fossil fuels. Providing access to this technology can reduce costs exponentially, stabilize crop production with irrigation solutions, and drastically reduce post-harvest food spoilage, which is as high as 30 to 40% in some African countries due to improper use of inputs, lack of proper post-harvest storage, processing or transportation facilities.<sup>9</sup>

As mentioned, CARE's response prioritizes working with women farmers, building on existing programming and our VSLA base—key components of establishing financial and social “safety nets” for families to establish savings and fight hunger. In trusted groups, they will receive the knowledge and technology they need to increase crop production, employ climate-smart practices, develop entrepreneurial skills and setup microenterprises, learn about nutrition and increase their income to create more sustainable, diverse and resilient livelihoods.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.fao.org/in-action/seeking-end-to-loss-and-waste-of-food-along-production-chain/en/>



Technologies from left to right: irrigation, food storage, food processing and renewable energy.

Between 2017 and 2020 CARE's global programming improved the food security, nutrition and resilience to climate change of 9.3 million people in the southern Africa region. This program will build on that experience but pivot to **urgent actions that address the impacts of food and fertilizer deficits on a two-year cycle**, with continued program extension as needed to limit any setbacks on the gains communities have worked hard to achieve. CARE will scale our impact by leveraging funding from other sources, including foundations and government support, to complement community interventions such as existing programming in water-smart and regenerative agriculture, natural resource management, and climate change adaptation. We will build upon rigorous research and evaluation of program results so that communities can better cope with food crises. At the same time, CARE will advocate for governments and partners to implement the model (see next section).

## Sowing the seeds of lasting change

Hunger and food crises are complex and neither humanitarian assistance nor development programs alone can rid the world of the underlying causes of conflict, climate change, pandemics or food shortages. CARE's size and trusted relationships make us uniquely effective in solving these kinds of intricate issues. Promoting a full-scale approach to reduce hunger, we will serve as convener to pull together the private sector, governments and donors in increasing production of alternate food supplies, while changing the policies and systems that create unstable environments and unfavorable conditions in food crisis countries.

Assessing food supply chains to determine where to access cost-effective supplies for a humanitarian response, opportunities for shared value in food production, resources for technical knowledge, and alternative supplies for food and fertilizers ensures that we can address multiple aspects of the global hunger crisis by applying the expertise of appropriate actors. If we are to solve problems like this for good, we must fully leverage the resources we have and advocate for long-term change.

CARE advocates at all levels of government to mobilize the resources needed to respond now, avert an expanded hunger crisis, and prevent future crises. Country governments and many donors have been supporting unsustainable agriculture systems dependent on foreign energy, seeds, and fertilizers, weakening local systems. CARE advocates for a shift towards agriculture practices that strengthen communities' ability to mitigate and respond to shocks and stressors in the future. A key aspect of this is centering the roles women and girls play in growing the food their families eat. For example, CARE advocacy teams are working daily with the U.S. Congress and Administration toward reauthorization of the Farm Bill, the legislation which authorizes U.S. international food programs. Through enhancement of these programs, CARE will be able to invest even more in savings groups, agricultural loans, school feeding programs, education on water management and risk management practices, and other transformative approaches. These programs are proactively preventing future hunger crises.

CARE's policy guidance for decision makers is backed by successful on-the-ground practices—a formidable combination for lasting change.

## Addressing emergency food needs

Make sure resources match the challenge. We know the global need for food this year and next is close to \$20 billion. Private philanthropy will never reach that scale, but private donors can use their funds to leverage billions of dollars in resources from donor governments like the U.S. and other G7 nations. Advocacy is also critical to making sure that emergency food assistance helps everyone in families equally and does not skip over women and girls.

**Make food aid more flexible now.** Right now, there are legal requirements that mean food aid commodities like wheat, corn, sorghum and rice from American farmers can only be shipped around the world by certain companies and by certain ships. In addition, current U.S. food aid must include, by law, a high percentage of products grown in America. These requirements add millions of dollars to the cost of food aid and add months to the time it takes for food to reach hungry people. CARE is advocating right now for an emergency waiver so that food produced in Southern Africa can help Africans and food grown in Latin America can be distributed using U.S. funds. If we are successful in this emergency advocacy, food aid will reach millions more people and get there faster to prevent millions of deaths. This hunger crisis needs food to move as fast and as cheaply as possible. Right now, the focus should not be on benefiting a small set of American farmers and shipping companies through U.S. food aid programs; it should be on the fastest, cheapest and best ways to save lives.

**Recent advocacy success:** Through CARE's advocacy and alongside our partners, the U.S. alone contributed an additional \$11.2 billion towards hunger crisis relief efforts in 2022. While not all of this funding went to CARE, it does include both humanitarian and development assistance, without restrictions on geography. But the WFP estimates it will cost \$40B per year to rid the world of hunger by 2030, so there is much more to be done

**Practical measures to avoid or minimize conflict-induced hunger.** Armed conflict is the single biggest challenge to achieving zero hunger, with 139 million people in 24 conflict-affected countries experiencing acute hunger. IHL—or the Law of Armed Conflict—sets out measures to minimize the impact of armed conflict on civilians. The link between conflict and hunger has been gaining more attention and there have been key developments including the UN Security Council unanimously adopting a resolution to call on parties to armed conflict to comply with their obligations regarding protecting civilians and taking constant care to spare objects necessary for food production and distribution. Despite these developments, conflict-induced hunger has increased in a number of countries such as Afghanistan, and Yemen in the last two years alone. This suggests that there is a gap between rhetoric and practice and that more needs to be done to address the harmful conduct of parties to conflicts, guided by a strong evidence base and thoughtful engagement by humanitarian actors.

In partnership with InterAction, CARE is leading an initiative to prevent or minimize conflict-induced hunger. We are leading a group of academics and non-governmental organizations to develop a guidance document that clearly articulates what armed actors can do to prevent food insecurity during conflict, thereby filling a gap in international humanitarian law. Drafting this document and lobbying for successful uptake from states, non-state actors and humanitarian organizations around the world, we can help stop one of the primary drivers of hunger.

**Make the IPC gender sensitive.** The use of IPC is a landmark in the fight against food insecurity. Widely accepted by the international community, IPC describes the severity of food emergencies, however it is largely gender blind. IPC focuses on household/groups of households as unit of analysis and not on the individual members of the household. It lacks data on distribution of food within the household, and often the share of households headed by women is low. As a result, in-depth guidance for gender-sensitive analysis is lacking and very little practical expertise regarding feasibility and methodologies for conducting gender-sensitive analysis exist.

We are equipping decision makers with evidence and information on how gender inequality affects food insecurity, impacting women and girls differently and disproportionately. We aim to demonstrate to the international community that current food security and nutrition analysis methodologies leave out women and are not the most efficient use of precious global resources. We will do this by conducting pilot projects to make the IPC more gender sensitive and communicating the results with external stakeholders. The results will transform the way governments and other humanitarian actors understand a food insecurity crisis- or potential crisis and take actions that are gender-sensitive.

**Recent advocacy progress:** CARE blended our Rapid Gender Analysis (RGA) toolkit and the IPC Technical manual to deploy the first gender-sensitive IPC assessment in Somalia.

- CARE's recommendations for gender-responsive humanitarian food responses were fully integrated into the latest OCHA policy [brief](#) on food insecurity in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel.

## Addressing food crises

**Change donor investments to create resilient local food sources.** The U.S. and U.N. agencies provide the lion's share of resources for agricultural development around the world. But unfortunately, these investments have too often promoted dependence on foreign energy sources, seeds and fertilizers, and paid little attention to creating local food sources that are diverse, nutritionally sound, climate-proof and based on local inputs. And virtually no resources reach women farmers who grow the nutritious foods that most families eat. If this does not change, we risk future food shortages, and billions in donor investments could move us in the wrong direction. There is a moment now to influence the global community to address the real root causes of food crises.

**Help country governments move to resilient agriculture.** While donors can support resilient agriculture, country governments must also invest their own resources soundly to create the right environment for long-term food and nutrition security. Many country governments do not invest adequate resources in women farmers, climate-proof farming practices, renewable energy sources, local inputs of seeds and fertilizers, rural infrastructure or other agriculture supports. However, CARE country offices are often seen as trusted partners to country governments and have influence. We will leverage these relationships to help countries steer their

COUNTRY	% POPULATION IPC LEVEL ≥ 3% (CRISIS)
Afghanistan	45%
Ethiopia*	37%
Guatemala	19%
Haiti	48%
Honduras	28%
Kenya	32%
Madagascar	36%
Malawi	20%
Mozambique	10%
Somalia	38%
South Sudan	51%
Sudan	16%
Syria*	55%
Tanzania	9%
Yemen	53%
Zambia	14%
Zimbabwe	35%

Considered the “gold standard” among the international community, IPC is a classification system that helps governments and humanitarian actors quickly understand the severity of food emergencies. Levels are: (1) Minimal, (2) Stressed, (3) Crisis, (4) Emergency, (5) Famine.

Chart above shows the 17 countries this campaign is focusing on.

\*WFP # (Syria and Ethiopia do not currently participate in IPC)

own recovery towards national food and nutrition security. This is where the real long-term solution to food crises lies.

## Hunger waits for no one

Crisis can strike anywhere, anytime. The past few years have brought levels of uncertainty that some people have not experienced in their lifetime. From COVID-19 to climate shocks and conflict, we are reminded that hardship knows no boundaries—economic, social or otherwise. Now, an ongoing war in Ukraine is demonstrating how interconnected the world is, with reverberations reaching the farthest corners of the earth. **The global hunger crisis will not wait until the world is ready to respond—it is happening now. CARE needs your help** so that millions of women, children and families can access nutritious food, with women leading the way to better support their families' nutrition, set future generations up for successful growth and development, and build communities that weather future shock waves.

## Budget

CARE's response approaches the global hunger crisis using a wide lens but starting where we can affect real change now. A crisis of this magnitude requires coordination among multiple humanitarian and development partners, large-scale funding from private and government sources, and a commitment to making sure people in less-developed countries gain the strength they need to withstand future shocks. Over two years, at least 15 million people—women, children, families—across 17 countries will experience greater levels of nutrition and food security, including access to nutritious food.

Our humanitarian assistance will reach at least 7 million people, many of whom are women and children, with lifesaving nutrition support and treatment. The FFBS acceleration program will ensure that as many as 540 communities can salvage or improve their next harvests with better, more cost-effective farming and food storage practices. CARE will work hard at local, national and international levels to leverage billions of dollars from donor governments like the U.S. and other G7 members to advance real change so we can prevent future food crises of this magnitude.

To bring this comprehensive response to fruition and reduce hunger and acute malnutrition, CARE seeks \$250 million to support the following for two years:<sup>10</sup>

1. **Humanitarian assistance and recovery:** dry ration foods; cash assistance, with CFW; food vouchers; multipurpose cash grants where markets allow; prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition, coupled with social and behavior change communication to support learning and set families up for future health, and emergency livelihoods support via VSLAiE linked to cash assistance programming.
2. **Resilience building through farmer support:** FFBS training on efficient use of fertilizers, climate-smart and agroecological practices, diversification of food production, access to loans and entrepreneurship skills, support in establishing businesses and reaching local markets, matching grants for technology, and augmenting household nutrition and income.
3. **Advocacy:** policymaker education, research, publications, media outreach, public education, citizen engagement, grants to local women's organizations, travel, and translation services.

<sup>10</sup> To effectively manage the current response and continue to be able to deploy resources for other emergencies, CARE will reserve 19% of donations to the Global Hunger Crisis response to cover technical support, administration, and emergency preparedness expenses, including the rapid deployment of staff to emergencies such as this one.