



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

## FAO Position Paper The World Humanitarian Summit





## Introduction

FAO firmly believes that transformational change is required in the way humanitarian crises are approached. Today, 125 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance. Moreover, 93 percent of people living in extreme poverty are in countries that are either fragile or vulnerable to environmental risks. This is not only a humanitarian crisis; it is also a crisis of development. It cannot be solved by humanitarian action alone, but through a comprehensive and coherent approach that combines the joint efforts of the development and humanitarian communities, bound by a commitment to build and sustain the conditions for peace, security and respect for human rights, and guided by clear political leadership.

Humanitarian funding has grown from USD 2 billion annually in 2000 to USD 24.5 billion in 2014. Despite this, the gap between needs and the ability to respond has continued to grow, to the point that only 60 to 65 percent

of humanitarian appeals have been met in the past five years. The fact that five humanitarian System-Wide Level-3 emergency responses were ongoing in 2015 highlights a humanitarian system that is badly over-stretched and under-resourced.

Against this background of rapidly rising numbers of vulnerable and at-risk people affected by human-induced and natural disasters, and a growing resourcing gap, the first-ever World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) will be held in Istanbul on 23–24 May 2016, around a broad agenda of reforming and rejuvenating the global humanitarian system.

The Report of the Secretary-General for WHS includes an “Agenda for Humanity”, based on five Core Responsibilities that place urgent emphasis on the need to address simultaneously the causes and consequences of humanitarian crises, and particularly protracted ones:

### The five Core Responsibilities of the Agenda for Humanity

#### 1 Political leadership to prevent and end conflicts

An end to human suffering requires political solutions, unity of purpose and sustained leadership and investment in peaceful societies

#### 3 Leave no one behind

Honouring our commitment to leave no one behind requires reaching everyone in situations of conflict, disasters, vulnerability and risk

#### 5 Invest in humanity

Accepting and acting upon our shared responsibilities for humanity requires political, institutional and financial investments

#### 2 Uphold the norms that safeguard humanity

Even wars have limits: minimizing human suffering and protecting civilians requires strengthening compliance with international law

#### 4 Change people’s lives – from delivering aid to ending need

Ending need requires reinforcing local systems, anticipating crises and transcending the humanitarian-development divide



The WHS follows and builds upon a number of global processes and system-level reviews<sup>1</sup> that have achieved a remarkable consensus and political will around a new direction for the United Nations (UN) and for humanity.

Urging all to put humanity at the centre of decision-making and calling for collective action across institutional pillars, the Secretary-General's report places the WHS in the context of a series of landmark decisions taken in 2015 that collectively define a new global approach to sustainable development – the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Addis Ababa Agenda for Action, and the Paris Agreement on climate change and their follow-on processes. The WHS also resonates with ongoing processes during 2016 such as the High-Level Political Forum, the High-Level Plenary Meeting on Refugees and Migrants, and the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development. The global community is increasingly confronted with humanitarian crises of worsening magnitude and impact. These are as diverse as Typhoon Haiyan, Ebola, the Syrian civil war (and the resulting massive population displacement), and crises in numerous countries, especially in Africa, resulting from multivariate shocks including conflict, climate change, food chain crises and market failures.






In particular, the WHS will be informed by the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda which puts people at the centre of its ambitions, promising to leave no-one behind and to go the last mile, and which also recognizes the need for peaceful and inclusive societies for development.

The challenge now is to build on this momentum and broad consensus to reform and rebuild a truly global system that prioritizes prevention and preparedness, focuses on building resilience to bridge the humanitarian and development divide, retains the ability to protect life and dignity in crises, promotes genuine partnerships among local, national, regional and international partners, and is flexible and responsive enough to meet the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The WHS offers a unique and critical opportunity to commit to addressing the shortcomings of the current humanitarian system. The Secretary-General urges all stakeholders, including International Organizations, to make commitments around the Agenda for Humanity a reality on the ground, with immediate progress sought over the next three years.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has a long and well-established history of working to eradicate hunger, improve agriculture and promote the sustainable use of natural resources, taking into account the various aspects of people's livelihoods.

The three Global Goals of FAO's Members are: (1) the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, progressively ensuring a world in which all people at all times have sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life; (2) the elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all, with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods; and (3) the sustainable management and utilization of natural resources, including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

### FAO's Strategic Framework 2010-2019 is built around five core strategic objectives:

-  eliminating hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition;
-  making agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable;
-  reducing rural poverty;
-  enabling inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems; and
-  increasing the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises.

**For decades FAO has worked in, and across, both the humanitarian and development spheres** in order to save lives, protect and restore livelihoods, as well as agricultural production, to reduce food insecurity, rural poverty and malnutrition, improve resilience, and invest in capacity at the local, national, regional and global levels to reduce poverty and build sustainable food and agricultural systems.

The number of humanitarian crises has increased massively in recent decades, threatening billions of people whose livelihoods depend on agriculture. FAO plays a unique role in responding to these crises. From day one FAO works to protect and restore the livelihoods of affected farmers, fishers, herders and foresters. For example, the immediate provision of cash-based interventions (or other forms of in-kind assistance) can save livestock at a fraction of their replacement cost. These kinds of approaches protect and restore the self-sufficiency and dignity of vulnerable farming families, reducing negative coping strategies such as selling of productive assets and reducing the number of meals consumed. By integrating relief and development activities, FAO's resilience building efforts save livelihoods while helping communities lay the foundations for their long-term recovery.

FAO's specialized technical expertise, experience, rich knowledge base, and complementarity with other stakeholders in the fields of agriculture and support to food security and nutrition and reducing rural poverty speak directly to the agenda of the WHS and the Secretary-General's (UNSG) vision. Indeed, the restructuring of FAO's strategic objectives since 2012 is very much aligned with the key paradigm shifts proposed in the UNSG's report for the WHS.

Global institutions on food security have also recognized the importance of working across the humanitarian and development divide. The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) endorsed a Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA) in October 2015; the first global consensus on how to mitigate the threat to food security and nutrition during protracted crises. It recognizes that building resilience can boost capacity to absorb shocks and long-term stresses, and that all stakeholders must work together in a more integrated and coherent manner. FAO is advocating for, and pledges its commitment to, the Secretary-General's Agenda for Humanity. FAO is preparing itself, along with its partners, for high-level engagement at the WHS, while also looking ahead to how it can support implementation and monitoring of its outcomes.

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## FAO priorities for the WHS and related commitments

Although FAO has both a stake and a role to play in the first two Core Responsibilities, FAO's main objectives for the WHS, and its commitments as an Organization to the Agenda for Humanity, largely fall under Core Responsibilities Three, Four and Five, and the related common core commitments. Core Responsibility Three builds on the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda to prioritize the most vulnerable groups, with a significant emphasis on displacement and migration, strong attention to gender concerns and the protection of women and girls, and acknowledging the critical role for risk-informed and shock-responsive social protection systems. Core Responsibility Four moves away from a supply-driven approach to delivering aid towards ending need based on shared outcomes, calling for a renewed approach that prioritizes prevention, preparedness and resilience building. Core Responsibility Five is closely linked to the findings

and recommendations of the UNSG's High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing, and includes commitments related to the "Grand Bargain" proposed by the High Level Panel.

Based on its experience, capacities, strategic orientation and existing corporate targets<sup>2</sup>, this paper sets forth FAO's priorities for the WHS. These commitments are framed around the Secretary-General's report for the WHS, the five Core Responsibilities outlined in his Agenda for Humanity, and the common core commitments proposed against each of seven High-level Roundtables to be held during the WHS<sup>3</sup>.

A number of commitments presented by FAO in this paper are already reflected in FAO's Programme of Work and Budget for 2016–2017, and others will inform the preparation of FAO's next Medium-term Plan for the period 2018–2022.

# Core Responsibility One

## Political leadership to prevent and end conflicts

The fundamental shift called for is to move away from crisis management to crisis prevention, with a focus on addressing the root causes of crises and to ensure early action. A number of high-level reviews have stressed the centrality of conflict prevention, recognizing that preventing crises and sustaining peace are shared, Charter-based responsibilities across the entire UN system. It has been acknowledged that the UN system needs to pull together in a more integrated and coherent manner, united in the service of preventing crises, reducing risk, building resilience, and sustaining peace.

It is increasingly recognized that efforts are required by all parts of the UN system, both directly and indirectly, to promote peace and prevent conflict. Early warning, prevention and conflict resolution require greater prioritization and

investment in our collective work, and there needs to be a greater focus on conflict-sensitive practices.

Conflict and violence interrupt food production and agriculture, deplete food stocks, deepen hunger, disrupt non-formal as well as established social protection systems, and exacerbate malnutrition. While recognizing the primacy of political will and long-term political solutions, FAO will support interventions to reduce the economic drivers of conflict, including poverty and inequality, promote sustainable agricultural development and livelihoods, contribute to economic growth and help build stable, peaceful and inclusive societies. FAO will also contribute knowledge and help strengthen the evidence base on interventions that are known to prevent conflicts and reduce people's vulnerabilities, applying a conflict-sensitive lens to our work.

### FAO's key messages for the WHS

- ▶ Apply a conflict-sensitivity lens and employ 'do no harm' principles and frameworks to resilience programming to help avoid creating or exacerbating existing conflicts.
- ▶ Recognize the need for approaches that support community resilience to conflict, particularly in protracted crisis situations.
- ▶ Understand the root causes of instability and insecurity to better inform conflict-sensitive approaches, to avoid undermining policies and actions for securing lasting peace. Food security and nutrition, and support to agricultural development and livelihoods, have an important role to play in contributing in a meaningful way to peaceful societies, conflict prevention and stability, e.g. through sustainable natural resource management, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and land tenure approaches.
- ▶ Maintain investment and engagement in supporting sustainable agricultural development and livelihoods, contributing to economic growth and helping to underpin stable, peaceful and inclusive societies:

Investments in protecting, saving and rebuilding livelihoods are critical in fragile, conflict-affected and post-conflict settings and contribute to saving lives while creating conditions for longer-term resilience building, including through rehabilitation of agriculture, expansion of social assistance such as cash-based interventions, and empowering the most vulnerable groups such as women and youth.

Investing in agricultural livelihoods is a key step towards ensuring peace and stability. The role of food security in conflict mitigation and prevention through the reduction of vulnerability, the strengthening of social protection interventions, the generation of income and employment, community dialogue and social cohesion cannot be underestimated. There is no peace without food security and no food security without peace.

## WHS common core commitment 1 on preventing and ending conflicts

Commit to act early upon potential conflict situations based on early warning findings and shared conflict analysis, in accordance with international law.

### FAO commitments

- 1 FAO commits to provide food security-related information to contribute to multidisciplinary analysis informing regular updates to the UNSC and peace and political arms of the UN System on situations of concern.
- 2 FAO commits to increasing the number of joint risk and threat monitoring mechanisms and systems supported by the Organization and partners to enhance delivery of early warnings related to agriculture, food security and nutrition, which may mitigate instability and conflict – e.g. on climatic change, food price volatility, food insecurity, and food chain crises – and to making this information publicly available and to shape humanitarian and development responses.

## WHS common core commitment 2 on preventing and ending conflicts

Commit to improve prevention and peaceful resolution capacities at the national, regional and international level improving the ability to work on multiple crises simultaneously.

### FAO commitments

- 3 FAO commits to increase the number of staff aware of, and trained in conflict analysis and conflict prevention related to policies and actions supporting food security and nutrition in governments, regional and international organizations by 2018.
- 4 FAO commits to ensuring that key operational staff working in conflict-affected contexts are trained and competent in conflict-sensitivity best practice.

## WHS common core commitment 4 on preventing and ending conflicts

Commit to address root causes of conflict and work to reduce fragility by investing in the development of inclusive, peaceful societies.

### FAO commitments

- 5 FAO commits to operationalizing the guidance in the CFS-FFA by strengthening conflict-sensitive programming and interventions by the Organization, and contributing to peacebuilding initiatives, as appropriate.
- 6 FAO commits to support the strengthening and use of early warning related to agriculture, food security and nutrition to inform the design of shock-responsive social protection systems.
- 7 FAO commits to enhancing coordination and improved investment programming for risk reduction and crisis management in at least 15 countries by the end of 2017.

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FAO commits to continue working with national and regional bodies in over 40 countries in developing capacities for food security and nutrition information analysis and resilience measurement, e.g. under the joint European Union-FAO country driven Information on Food Security, Nutrition and Resilience for Decision Making programme.

## **WHS common core commitment 5 on preventing and ending conflicts**

Commit to make successful conflict prevention visible by capturing, consolidating and sharing good practices and lessons learned.

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### **FAO commitment**

FAO commits by mid-2017 to adopt a corporate policy, and related operational guidelines, on FAO's role, in line with its work and mandate, in contributing to conflict prevention, sustainable peace and stability as part of efforts by the wider UN system and community of practice.



# Core Responsibility **Two**

## Uphold the norms that safeguard humanity

This Core Responsibility is above all a political call to Member States to recommit to and uphold the obligations they have already committed to, and to recognize that even wars have limits that must be respected. While recognizing the indivisibility and universality of international human rights and humanitarian law, there needs to be a renewed focus on protection for agriculture and food security and nutrition in violent conflicts.

The 1977 Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions<sup>4</sup>, concerning the protection of objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population, specifically proscribes the targeting and intentional destruction of foodstuffs, agricultural areas for the production of food, crops, livestock, drinking water supplies and irrigation works. It is extremely concerning that it is becoming an all too frequent tactic in violent conflicts for populations to be besieged and deliberately starved, and denied the ability to produce their own food, often with the intent of forcing them to move.

A similarly important concern is ensuring the ability to reach affected populations in order to provide humanitarian food and livelihoods assistance in all situations. The promotion and facilitation of unimpeded access, in line with humanitarian principles, is a challenge faced too many times, and by too many, to be allowed to continue.

Stability, peace and security are built on sound socio-economic foundations and respect for human rights. Through its efforts to protect, support and restore sustainable livelihoods, FAO helps reduce individuals' vulnerabilities, helping to reduce exposure to protection risks, and strengthening opportunities for individuals to obtain safety, security and dignity.

The fundamental human right to adequate food – sufficient, safe and nutritious – is explicitly recognized in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Article 11. This right is realized when everyone has the physical and economic access at all times to adequate food or means for its procurement (General Comment 12, Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights). This human right has special relevance to emergencies not only because it relates to a human necessity but also because it enshrines immediate subsistence-related commitments in addition to long-term progressively realizable duties. The Member States of FAO are committed to the right to food under various international instruments and have adopted guidelines for its practical implementation, including in emergencies.

FAO also recognizes the need for a more systematic approach to include protection measures in the design and delivery of programmes to avoid causing harm and thus undermining the success of agriculture and food security interventions.

## FAO's key messages for the WHS

- ▶ Apply a human rights-based approach, including the right to adequate food, as informed by the UNSG's Human Rights up Front initiative, to help create coherence between relief and development efforts, and to help improve targeting, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability.
- ▶ Natural disasters and conflicts can affect the right of people to have access to quantitatively and nutritionally adequate food without discrimination. Anticipate and address inequalities that affect access to goods and services.
- ▶ Recommit at the highest political level to:
  - observe human rights obligations under international law in order to achieve the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security;
  - provide humanitarian food and nutrition assistance and livelihood support, with unimpeded, safe and rapid access to affected communities in all situations.

## **WHS common core commitment 1**

### **on upholding the norms that safeguard humanity**

Commit to promote and enhance respect for international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and refugee law, where applicable.

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#### **FAO commitment**

FAO recommits to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security. The right to food and the human rights-based approach are part of the corporate commitments of FAO under its 2010–2019 strategic framework, and are substantively interrelated with other cross-cutting issues in the various areas of work of FAO, such as governance, gender and nutrition.

## **WHS common core commitment 3**

### **on upholding the norms that safeguard humanity**

Commit to ensure all populations in need receive rapid and unimpeded humanitarian assistance.

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#### **FAO commitment**

FAO commits to ensuring that all its humanitarian response activities have the aim of making people safer, preserving their dignity and reducing vulnerabilities by building the skills of staff according to their duties in areas such as conflict-sensitivity, protection, negotiations with parties, security and access, internal strategies and policies, and international humanitarian law and human rights law.

# Core Responsibility Three

## Leave no one behind

Core Responsibility Three is rooted in the commitment of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda to reach everyone, including those in situations of chronic poverty, conflict, disaster, vulnerability and risk – the WHS is an opportunity to test that resolve, particularly in the context of recent and ongoing massive population displacements.

There is a broad consensus that forced displacement is both a humanitarian and a development issue. Realizing the humanitarian-development nexus offers a way to achieve solutions by empowering displaced populations, strengthening their resilience, and harnessing their capacities, to support their own development, as well as for host communities.

As noted in the 2015 Global Hunger Index, although those who move are more visible, nearly 9 in 10 of those affected by conflict do not flee their homes. These people are often those furthest behind, being the poorest and most vulnerable, and tend to fare worse than those who do manage to flee. Assisting people who stay behind when it is safe to do so is at the core of FAO's livelihood support activities during conflicts, as illustrated by FAO's current efforts in Syria.

Supporting agriculture-based livelihoods, ensuring effective coverage of social protection systems and fostering employment opportunities for youth can effectively contribute to helping people stay on their land when they feel safe to do so, and to creating conducive conditions for the return of refugees, migrants and displaced people.

The creation of viable on-farm and off-farm employment opportunities, especially for rural youth, is a fundamental area of intervention to build sustainable livelihoods and protect the food security of most vulnerable populations, or

to restore and strengthen affected livelihoods. FAO supports national efforts to engage youth in agriculture, including by building assets, 'portable' skills and capacities of rural youth on adaptive and improved agricultural practices and sustainable socio-economic entrepreneurship. In this way, FAO also contributes to reduce distress migration and displacement, including in protracted crises, which might further deteriorate traditional livelihoods strategies and increase competition for local resources. FAO is also in a good position to scale up efforts to foster self-reliance of refugees and IDPs as well as to protect the livelihoods of host communities, and those who stay on their land. FAO also works to harness the role that remittance flows could play for building better and having resilient livelihoods in crisis-affected areas.

Similarly, FAO has been working towards a strengthened approach to resilience building and poverty reduction – bringing together its Strategic Programme on resilience with the Strategic Programme on reducing rural poverty. This recognizes that, on the one hand, the poor and politically marginalized are disproportionately affected by crises – the 2015 Global Humanitarian Assistance Report highlighted that 93 percent of the people living in extreme poverty were living in politically fragile or environmental vulnerable contexts (or both) in 2013. On the other hand, limited assets and/or non-existent social protection mechanisms can lead households and communities to resort to negative coping mechanisms that can contribute to increasing vulnerability to risks and crises.

Evidence suggests that resilience programmes should ideally also incorporate scalable social protection systems that are risk informed and shock-responsive, and thus protect the needs of vulnerable groups during 'normal' times, and which can expand coverage in times of increased stress or crisis.

## FAO's key messages for the WHS

- ▶ Recognize the importance of helping people who decide to remain where they are during conflicts, when they consider it is safe to do so, and not just focus on those who move.
- ▶ Support the establishment of programmes that create decent employment opportunities, especially for young women and men in rural areas, in rural farm and non-farm economic activities, including vocational training on 'portable' skills.
- ▶ Support governments and partners in designing, building and refining social protection programmes so that they are shock responsive and able to reach those affected by crises.
- ▶ Support governments and national actors in ensuring the inclusion of chronic caseloads of affected populations into social protection programmes.

## WHS common core commitment 1 on leaving no one behind

Commit to a new approach to addressing forced displacement that not only meets immediate humanitarian needs but reduces vulnerability and improves the resilience, self-reliance and protection of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Commit to implementing this new approach through coherent international, regional and national efforts that recognize both the humanitarian and development challenges of displacement. Commit to take the necessary political, policy, legal and financial steps required to address these challenges for the specific context.

### FAO commitments

- 12 FAO recognizes that forced displacement is both a humanitarian and development issue, and commits to work with global initiatives such as the Solutions Alliance, and aligns itself with its Vision.
- 13 FAO commits to support agriculture-based livelihoods in conflict situations, helping people who decide to stay on their land to be productive, contributing to food security and resilience outcomes.
- 14 FAO commits to scaling up its work on the role of social protection in fragile contexts, as well as engagement in social protection work, through operational research on Cash+, and livelihoods work in over 15 countries by the end of 2017.
- 15 FAO commits to build and strengthen strategic partnerships with governments, local actors as well as UN partners to enhance their capacity to effectively address prevention and response to crises, including through shock-responsive social protection systems.

## WHS common core commitment 2 on leaving no one behind

Commit to promote and support safe, dignified and durable solutions for IDPs and refugees. Commit to do so in a coherent and measurable manner through international, regional and national programmes and by taking the necessary policy, legal and financial steps required for the specific contexts and in order to work towards a target of 50 percent reduction in internal displacement by 2030.

### FAO commitment

- 16 FAO commits to developing a corporate operational framework to support solutions for displaced persons, including through provision of viable livelihood opportunities in places of origin, in transit and in host countries.

## WHS common core commitment 3 on leaving no one behind

Acknowledge the global public good provided by countries and communities which are hosting large numbers of refugees. Commit to providing communities with large numbers of displaced populations or receiving large numbers of returnees with the necessary financial, political and policy support to address the humanitarian and socio-economic impact. To this end, commit to strengthen multilateral financing instruments. Commit to foster host communities' self-reliance and resilience, as part of the comprehensive and integrated approach outlined in core commitment 1.

\* The Solutions Alliance was launched in April 2014 to advance a partnership-oriented approach to addressing protracted displacement situations and preventing new displacement situations from becoming protracted. It recognizes the need for a broad range of actors to work together to tackle this issue. This includes humanitarian organizations, development actors, donors, academia, the private sector and civil society coming together to support affected states tackle the problem.

## FAO commitments

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FAO commits to a systemic corporate approach for inclusion of gender sensitive and youth inclusive measures in the design and delivery of programmes addressing forced displacement.

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FAO commits to develop new partnerships, including with the private sector, to encourage innovative approaches to support the self-reliance of refugees and IDPs, through portable skills, viable employment opportunities, sustainable socio-economic entrepreneurship, and livelihood diversification.

## WHS common core commitment 4 on leaving no one behind

Commit to promote and support safe, dignified and durable solutions for IDPs and refugees. Commit to do so in a coherent and measurable manner through international, regional and national programmes and by taking the necessary policy, legal and financial steps required for the specific contexts and in order to work towards a target of 50 percent reduction in internal displacement by 2030.

## FAO commitment

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FAO commits to strengthen its ability to identify and address the relevant drivers and triggers of forced displacement, as early as possible, through Early Warning for Early Action mechanisms, and take rapid action to prevent situations from becoming protracted.



# Cross-cutting Core Responsibilities **Two** and **Three**

## **Women and girls – catalyzing action to achieve gender equality**

It is widely acknowledged that reducing gender inequality is an important part of the solution to global hunger. The 2011 FAO report State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) estimated that by providing equal access to productive resources, services and opportunities to men and women producers, agricultural production could be increased by 2.5 to 4 percent, translating into a reduction in the number of undernourished people in the world by 100 to 150 million people. Closing the gender gap in agriculture would increase the income of women – this is a proven strategy for improving health, nutrition and education outcomes for children.

Gender equality is central to FAO's mandate to achieve food security for all by raising levels of nutrition, improving agricultural productivity and natural resource management, and improving the lives of rural populations, across humanitarian and development contexts. To address this, FAO has adopted a Policy on Gender Equality (2013). The importance of gender equality was also acknowledged in the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA 2005–2015) which explicitly affirms the importance of gender mainstreaming in disaster risk reduction, as well as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030) which calls for a "...gender, age, disability and cultural perspective in all policies and practices; and the promotion of women and youth leadership".

Women and men play specific and complementary roles in food security and agriculture, and have the potential to contribute to building resilience in different ways. Women comprise on average 43 percent of the agricultural labour force in developing countries. However, across regions, women have less access than men to productive resources, services and employment opportunities. The gender gap is found for many assets, inputs and services, such as land, livestock, labour, education, information services, and technology, all affecting their capacity to protect their families from crises. These gender inequalities contribute to the fact that rural women and girls in developing countries are often the most affected by disasters.

There are a number of successful initiatives implemented by FAO in different parts of the world that increase the resilience of livelihoods in a gender-equitable way. FAO strives to empower women and girls as agents of resilience with the following strategies:

- Increasing women's access to productive resources and assets, including land and livestock, to safeguard against shocks and crises.

- Enhancing women's access to decision-making at community and household levels through participatory and gender-responsive approaches for collective action (farmer field schools, junior farmer field and life schools, community listeners' clubs).
- Disseminating labour-saving technologies and practices that prevent and mitigate disaster impact, while reducing women's work burden.
- Increasing women's access to information and training on how to prevent and mitigate risk of food insecurity through agricultural extension services.
- Supporting the development of policies and programmes in agriculture that address the specific vulnerabilities of women and men, based on participatory and gender-sensitive processes.

Protection from sexual and gender-based violence is vital, particularly in protracted crises contexts. FAO is very well-placed to contribute to the protection of individuals from gender-based violence through its efforts to protect, support and restore sustainable livelihoods that enhance opportunities for safety and security, while mitigating vulnerabilities such as gender discrimination in participation, decision-making and access to productive resources, as well as poverty/crisis-induced domestic violence, trafficking, transactional sex and child marriage. Through the Safe Access to Fuel (SAFE) approach, FAO promotes the use of fuel-efficient stoves and practices to reduce the need for fuelwood, and thus the protection risks women and girls confront when collecting firewood, particularly in displacement contexts. FAO has also taken proactive measures to work with communities to address discrimination against women that puts them at risk of gender-based violence – Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools in Uganda bring boys and girls together to learn about effective approaches to livelihood sustainability, including attaining greater gender equality. In this way, men have come to see the value of women's work and more importantly, the value of women.

Women play a key role in building resilient livelihoods, thus protecting their families and communities from shocks through their roles and capacities as farmers, innovators, and guarantors of household food security and nutrition, as well as through social networks. Building resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises is impossible to achieve without fully incorporating women and men's specific needs and priorities.

## FAO's key messages for the WHS

- ▶ Recognize that persistent gender gaps in agriculture hinder the potential of nearly half of the agricultural labour force – and that reducing gender inequality is a key solution for reducing global hunger.
- ▶ Recognize the knowledge and capacities of rural women and girls as change agents and leaders of resilient communities.
- ▶ Support the establishment of programmes that foster positive transformations of gender roles and relations, particularly in post-crisis contexts, when an opportunity presents to transform existing social norms.
- ▶ Support governments and national actors in ensuring the systematic collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data to generate evidence for informed and gender-responsive programming.

### WHS common core commitment 1 on catalyzing action to achieve gender equality

Empower women and girls as change agents and leaders, including by increasing support for local women's groups to participate meaningfully in humanitarian action.

#### FAO commitments

- 20 FAO commits to identifying and supporting transformative approaches in humanitarian situations that encourage meaningful participation by women and girls in local action and decision-making, e.g. through farmer field schools and other community-based participatory approaches.
- 21 FAO commits to build on and strengthen women's knowledge and capacities to meaningfully involve them in the design, monitoring and delivery of targeted projects, programmes and policy support to better meet the needs of women and girls in humanitarian action.
- 22 FAO commits to provide increased numbers of women's groups with capacity development support to facilitate rural women's access to services, knowledge and economic opportunities by 2018.

### WHS common core commitment 3 on catalyzing action to achieve gender equality

Implement a coordinated global approach to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in crisis contexts, including through the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies.

#### FAO commitments

- 23 FAO commits to developing and implementing approaches and strategies for the engagement of men and boys as part of the solution to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in crisis settings by 2018.
- 24 FAO commits to increasing staff training on inclusion of gender sensitive and protection measures in the design and delivery of programmes to contribute to preventing and mitigating gender-based violence.

## WHS common core commitment 4 on catalyzing action to achieve gender equality

Ensure that humanitarian programming is gender responsive.

### FAO commitments

- 25 FAO commits to identifying and analyzing, through the use of sex and age disaggregated data, the different vulnerabilities and challenges women and men of all ages face, and scale up evidence-based gender-responsive programming in order to generate a long-term impact on livelihoods and resilience.
- 26 FAO commits to increase deployment of women facilitators and field staff to improve outreach to women, e.g. through training women as community vaccinators, animal health workers, extension officers, facilitators, and through strategic local partnerships with women's organizations.
- 27 FAO commits to prioritize supporting organizations and activities that advance women's access to nutritious food and their access to and control over land and other productive resources; strengthening rural women's organizations and networks; increasing women's participation and leadership in rural institutions; incorporating knowledge of agriculture into programmes and projects; and ensuring the development of technologies and services that reduce women's work burden.

## WHS common core commitment 5 on catalyzing action to achieve gender equality

Fully comply with humanitarian policies, frameworks and legally binding documents related to gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.

### FAO commitments

- 28 FAO commits to empowering women and their organizations, promoting equal rights and participation for women and men, girls and boys, and addressing gender inequalities, by following the guidance laid out in the CFS-FFA.
- 29 FAO commits to implement the findings and recommendations of the IASC Gender Policy Review.

# Core Responsibility **Four**

## Change people's lives – from delivering aid to ending need

Core Responsibility Four fundamentally calls for a move away from a supply-driven approach to deliver aid towards a comprehensive approach that ends need, and which is articulated around shared outcomes, based on reinforced local systems and strengthened resilience. The 2030 Agenda is a significant opportunity for a new and collaborative approach within the UN system and beyond that transcends the humanitarian and development divide, keeping in mind that humanitarian response is a fundamental element of the broader development agenda.

The 2011 Somalia famine and the 2012 Sahel crisis were critical in focusing humanitarian donors and agencies on approaches that emphasized bolstering the capacity of governments, local communities and humanitarian actors to manage risks, mitigate the impact of shocks and recover from crises, while protecting the capacity of communities and local government to deal with future shocks. There is strong evidence that investments in proactive risk management and preparedness result not only in greater resilience among affected populations but also significant savings in the cost of humanitarian response. Resilience approaches integrate risk reduction, early warning (linked to early action), prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response with recovery, social protection, adaptive services and livelihoods support. Since 2012, FAO has articulated one of its five Strategic Programmes around building resilience to threats and crises – and resilience sensitive thinking permeates across the other four Strategic Programmes.

Experience shows resilience programmes and policies need, first and foremost, to support livelihood diversification and improvement, and must identify and manage known hazards to local livelihood systems. This includes the risk of both sudden-onset hazards like drought and floods, but also longer-term stressors like climate change, globalization and other economic variability, and political change – putting humanitarian crises in longer-term perspective. FAO has taken a lead role in resilience analysis and programming, and now operates such programmes in many countries and regions affected by protracted or recurrent crises, including Somalia, South Sudan, the Sahel, the Near East and South Asia.

Improved early warning and information systems for early action are a critical component of resilience programming, and resilience analysis is a challenge on which FAO is leading. The ability to programme responsively in protracted crises depends on building in anticipatory approaches that prevent and mitigate shocks. Resilience programmes also incorporate mechanisms such as crisis modifiers (budget lines that can be switched at the field level from livelihoods promotion and

development, to livelihoods protection and mitigation) and “no regrets” programming (flexible early action interventions that have sustainable improvements even if a predicted crisis does not materialize or is successfully prevented).

The world also faces an increasing risk of disease threats emerging or re-emerging at the interface between humans, animals and their environment. These threats are known to spread rapidly around the globe, and if not properly tackled, can turn into major emergencies, seriously affecting human health, food security and social stability, particularly for the world's poorest people. The Ebola virus outbreak led to unprecedented social and economic impacts in West Africa. Other emerging diseases of animal origin (e.g. H5N1 avian influenza) have caused significant impacts on domestic livestock sectors, compromising productivity, affecting farmers' livelihoods, threatening global food security and nutrition, and damaging global efforts to eradicate poverty.

FAO works with the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and other global and regional partners at the forefront of combating these disease threats through various health risk management strategies and policies. While emergency response and adaptive measures supporting responsive health and veterinary systems are vital to address emerging epidemics and pandemics, it is structural solutions addressing the root causes of disease emergence, spill over, spread and persistence that are increasingly recognized as the most important and cost-effective risk mitigation and prevention measures. This approach is more sustainable in building the resilience of countries and communities to the ever-present threat of emerging pandemics, and contributes to breaking the poverty cycle and improving food security and nutrition.

The need for building resilience in the face of climate change, or the risks of natural hazards is relatively uncontested. Over the past decade in developing countries, the agriculture sector absorbed about one-quarter of the total damages and losses caused by climate-related hazards. With climate change, extreme weather events will happen more often and be more intense. However, food security, agriculture, and nutrition do also offer innovative solutions to reduce disaster losses and build resilience of the most vulnerable.

Building resilience in the face of violent conflict, especially situations that involve armed non-state actors, is even more challenging. Contributing to conflict prevention and sustainable peace are important crosscutting considerations in resilience policy and programming. Similarly, managing the complexity of resilience programmes – and the requisite policy framework to support them—is a complex enough

proposition in countries with stable and democratic institutions; in fragile and conflict-affected states, it is significantly more challenging. However, experience has shown that resilience programming has to address all hazards, not just pick and choose a few.

Delivering shared outcomes, building resilience, and bridging the humanitarian-development divide bring into focus the critical question of partnerships – only by working together can we achieve collective outcomes. In protracted crises that require complex combinations of institutional skillsets and capacities, and in which access may be dangerous or impossible for some actors at some times, partnerships are increasingly important – with local and national actors, as much as with development partners and peacebuilding actors. Progress has been made in terms of better coordination among the Rome-based Agencies (FAO, World Food Programme [WFP] and International Fund for Agricultural Development [IFAD], through interagency partnerships (e.g. through CREWS, Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative [CADRI], Anticipate, Absorb, Reshape Initiative [A2R], the SAFE approach, the Social Protection Inter-agency Cooperation Board [SPIAC-B]), and there are strong partnerships at the regional and inter-governmental levels (e.g. with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development [IGAD], the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel [CILSS], the Southern African Development Community [SADC] and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations [ASEAN]). But there is increasing dissatisfaction with the nature of ‘partnership’ in humanitarian action, as it is more frequently dictated by funding arrangements than by genuinely shared objectives and complementary capacities. So far, there is inadequate shared understanding of risk or jointly undertaken analyses of risk, and sub-optimal joint implementation of programmes due to convoluted transaction chains.

The WHS offers an important opportunity to rethink the

nature of partnerships. FAO’s long history of working across this spectrum – with governments, with local and international NGOs, with local and national partners, and directly with local communities – puts it in a unique position to advocate for improved practice in partnerships, and to play a convening role in broader discussions about the future nature of partnerships in crisis situations caused by natural hazards and climate change impacts. Similarly, FAO has a longstanding and continuing presence in countries before, during and after disasters and crisis. A defining characteristic of our work is that we work with national technical officers throughout the cycle of crises – the people who know the local context best.

Underpinning the discussion about partnerships is the notion of localizing humanitarian action. In the past humanitarian action has often been understood as outside agencies arriving to help local communities in the aftermath of a disaster. But all along, it has been clear that the bulk of assistance that people affected by disaster and climate change impacts receive comes first and foremost from their neighbours, their families and kin, the local community and its social networks – collectively known as ‘first responders’ – and long-distance connections with people living outside the community.

Eight donors provide about two-thirds of the formal, global spending on humanitarian action, and 80 percent of that money is funnelled through eight UN agencies, the Red Cross and eight international NGO consortia. Local organizations are often relegated to the role of sub-contractor to international NGOs and UN agencies, with little freedom to suggest their own priorities or roles. One of the major challenges facing humanitarian action is to recognize and work with ‘responders of first resort’. Local and national organizations are calling for different partnerships, direct linkages with donors and a greater role in humanitarian and development action that seek synergies with disaster risk management and climate change adaptation.

## FAO’s key messages for the WHS

- ▶ Recognize that to ensure food security and nutrition in the face of disasters, climate change, and crises, a key role is played by agriculture, forestry and fisheries in the transformative agenda for managing risks and crises differently.
- ▶ Collaborate across humanitarian and development actors in support of building the capacity of local and national coordination and implementation structures for risk reduction, preparedness and crisis management.
- ▶ Coordinate across, and enable, sectors in providing actions for risk reduction, preparedness, as well as for crises management that is as local as possible, and as international as necessary.
- ▶ Invest in resilience analysis, programming and measurements approach to address protracted crises and recurrent disaster risk in the face of climate change.



- ▶ Integrate social protection, risk reduction, and livelihoods support alongside acute humanitarian response, when required.
- ▶ Strengthen the complementary and comparative advantages of local, national, and international actors to contribute to shared outcomes, which are clear, measurable and based on vulnerabilities and risk.
- ▶ Building on FAO's experience as Global Food Security Cluster co-lead agency, ensure that inter-cluster coordination mechanisms focus on resilient livelihoods.

## **WHS common core commitment 1** **on changing people's lives – from delivering aid to ending need**

Commit to a new way of working that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years through the achievement of collective outcomes.

### **FAO commitments**

- 30** FAO commits to translate into operational terms the goal of cash-based delivery of assistance as preferred method, where context allows.
- 31** FAO commits to adopt a new model of working, based on a coordinated analysis of vulnerability as well as other tools and processes such as multi-year planning that enable humanitarian-development collaboration to meet humanitarian needs, and reduce people's risk and vulnerability and increase resilience at national levels.

## **WHS common core commitment 1** **on natural disasters and climate change - managing risks and crises differently**

Commit to accelerate the reduction of disaster and climate-related risks through the coherent implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, as well as other relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the Small Island Development States (SIDS) Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.

### **FAO commitments**

- 32** FAO commits to accelerate the reduction of disaster and climate-related risks that impact food and agriculture through enhanced support to 30 countries in the coherent implementation of relevant global frameworks on disaster risk reduction, climate change and sustainable development by mainstreaming disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into agricultural policies that are inclusive, gender-sensitive and people-centred.
- 33** Together with WHO and OIE, FAO commits to combatting emerging pandemic threats of animal origin and high impact animal diseases by adopting more effective health risk management strategies, as part of integrated and multisectoral approaches (e.g. One Health).

## **WHS common core commitment 2**

### **on natural disasters and climate change - managing risks and crises differently**

Commit to reinforce national and local leadership and capacities in managing disaster and climate-related risks through strengthened preparedness and predictable response and recovery arrangements.

#### **FAO commitments**

- 34** FAO commits to strengthen capacities in the agricultural sectors of countries and communities to benefit from social protection and risk transfer pools.
- 35** FAO commits to ensuring that local capacities are reinforced and not replaced, and accordingly that greater roles and responsibilities are entrusted to local organizations and local actors in resilience programming, design, implementation and monitoring.

## **WHS common core commitment 3**

### **on natural disasters and climate change - managing risks and crises differently**

Commit to improve the understanding, anticipation and preparedness for disaster and climate-related risks by investing in data, analysis and early warning, and developing evidence-based decision-making processes that result in early action.

#### **FAO commitments**

- 36** FAO commits to improve the understanding, anticipation and preparedness for climate and food chain related risks, disasters and crises by investing in data, analysis and information and early warning systems like the Information for Nutrition Food Security and Resilience for Decision Making (INFORMED), the Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS), the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), the Emergency Prevention System (EMPRES), and LOCUSTWATCH, and developing evidence-based decision-making processes that result in risk reduction and early action. An innovative Early Warning – Early Action system will be rolled out in 30 disaster-or crisis-prone countries over the next five years.
- 37** FAO commits to institutionalize a mechanism to monitor damages and losses caused by disasters and crises to agriculture, forestry, and fisheries to better inform policy decision-making.
- 38** FAO commits, by the end of 2016, in partnership with the Rome-based UN Agencies and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), to agree on joint steps, within defined timelines, to ensure early collective action related to future El Niño and La Niña events, resource partners, and early investment in preparedness and resilience initiatives.
- 39** FAO commits to improving data and evidence building through resilience and vulnerability mapping, measurement and analysis to better inform policy and investment decisions, and to make this information open and accessible, particularly through multi-partner mechanisms such as the Global Food Security Cluster.

## **WHS common core commitment 4** --- **on natural disasters and climate change - managing risks and crises differently**

Commit to increase investment in building community resilience as a critical first line of response, with the full and effective participation of women.

### **FAO commitments**

**40**

FAO commits to support men and women in over 45 countries with improved application of integrated and/or sector-specific standards, technologies and practices for resilience measurement, vulnerability reduction, risk prevention, and preparedness with a particular focus on countries recurrently exposed to natural hazards and protracted crisis situations, and in line with principles of the CFS-FFA.

**41**

FAO commits to contribute to the achievement of collective outcomes like the A2R Initiative of the UNSG, the Global Preparedness Partnership, the Rome-based UN Agencies' initiative for resilience, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) One Billion Coalition for Resilience to strengthen the resilience of 1 billion people by 2025.

# Core Responsibility **Five**

## Invest in humanity

While humanitarian budgets have grown dramatically in recent years, needs have grown even faster, resulting in a rapidly increasing ‘gap’ between needs and resources. These shortfalls have become a regular occurrence and must be addressed, but concerns about humanitarian finance run much deeper than simply increasing resource flow.

Humanitarian financing has been plagued by limited time frames, limited flexibility and fragmented donor coordination. Additionally, planning and funding links with other communities of actors remain tenuous, and in certain contexts, non-existent. In order to deliver on the previous four Core Responsibilities, Core Responsibility Five speaks to identifying and putting in place the financing related policies and actions that will enable outcomes that transcend the humanitarian-development divide to happen, and is closely aligned with the ‘Grand Bargain’ outlined in the report of the UNSG’s High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing.

First, financing mechanisms have been based on the assumption of short-term, acute ‘emergencies’ meanwhile protracted and recurrent crises have become the norm. A number of donors have begun to recognize this problem, and multi-year funding solutions are becoming more frequent. But the nature of funding in protracted crises in particular has to change more fundamentally.

This relates to the humanitarian-development divide, or the assumption of very separate roles – and therefore funding – for different kinds of intervention. As highlighted above, humanitarian and development actors must collaborate better in protracted crises. Joint needs and vulnerability assessments – rather than single-agency assessments – are critical to securing funding in an objective and impartial manner.

While the details depend on contextual factors and differences in causal factors, working in protracted crises requires protecting livelihoods and enabling affected communities to survive crises, but also to recover afterwards; to maintain current consumption without sacrificing future capacities. Such an integrated approach would require a different way of financing humanitarian caseloads, applying a blend of different tools and approaches and focusing on

sequencing, layering and integrating different sources of financing.

Similarly, the resilience building approach outlined under Core Responsibility Four is aimed at reducing the need for, and the cost of, humanitarian response in a crisis – recognizing that maintaining a robust response capacity is still critical. But this requires flexible and predictable funding arrangements – in terms of time-frames, but also in terms of what programmes get funded, and the delegation of responsibility to the field level. Despite the recognition of the need for greater alignment and integration to support comprehensive resilience approaches, relatively few approaches, tools and mechanisms have been developed to seamlessly finance ‘resilience’ programming, other than multi-year humanitarian funding.

Second, despite a strong defence of humanitarian principles, the funding of humanitarian response is decidedly not impartial. Some crises and some populations are clearly of much greater strategic importance to donors than others, and therefore attract more resources. The introduction of mechanisms such as IPC analysis enable humanitarian actors to objectively compare the severity of crises and allocate resources accordingly. But improved analytical capabilities so far have not challenged the geopolitical priorities of donors, and resources continue to be allocated accordingly.

Third, there is very limited direct international funding of local humanitarian actors. A global coalition of local and national NGOs has been advocating for increased direct funding, and different partnerships between international humanitarian donors and agencies, national government, and national and local civil society organizations.

Beyond formal partnerships, the role of affected communities themselves, their business groups, social networks and diasporas are getting greater recognition, but few concrete proposals have emerged for how to link with, support and build upon the kinds of assistance and protection strategies of affected communities. Understanding and supporting the role of remittances in crisis is critical, as highlighted in evidence from FAO on decreases in remittances to Somalia.

## FAO's key messages for the WHS

- ▶ Work towards an integrated framework for funding in and for protracted crisis that supports a drive towards greater alignment across humanitarian, development, peace and human rights actors, and captures various sources of financing.
- ▶ Undertake multiyear planning and programming to support resilience-building programmes in protracted crises and greater alignment across humanitarian, development, peace and human rights actors.
- ▶ Support a common theory of change across pooled funds and advocate for sustained capitalization of pooled funds.
- ▶ Commit to further support analytical approaches (e.g. the IPC) that support impartial needs assessment and allocation of resources, and pooled funding mechanisms that insulate needs from individual donor priorities.
- ▶ Support the call by local and national organizations from countries outside the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development for greater direct funding in humanitarian action (20 percent by 2020).
- ▶ Invest in effective risk financing instruments to respond to shocks.

## WHS common core commitment 1 on investing in humanity

Commit to increase substantially and diversify global support and to increase share of resources for humanitarian assistance aimed to address the differentiated needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises in fragile situations and complex emergencies, including increasing cash-based programming in situations where relevant.

### FAO commitment

42

FAO commits to translate into operational terms the goal of cash-based delivery of assistance as preferred method, where context allows, and strengthen capacities internally to achieve this.

## WHS common core commitment 2 on investing in humanity

Commit to empower national and local humanitarian action by increasing the share of financing accessible to local and national humanitarian actors and supporting the enhancement of their national delivery systems, capacities and preparedness planning.

### FAO commitment

43

FAO commits to reassessing its corporate mechanisms for partnership and financial engagement with NGOs, by introducing new administrative mechanisms and supporting the Charter for Change.



## WHS common core commitment 3 on investing in humanity

Commit to promote and increase predictable, multi-year, unearmarked, collaborative and flexible humanitarian funding towards greater efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of humanitarian action for affected people.

### FAO commitments

- 44 FAO commits to effectively link financial contributions to ensure multi-year humanitarian planning and programming through its corporate Country Programming Framework to cover the full risk management cycle, with an explicit prioritization of prevention and resilience building, and to incorporate exit strategies linked to more involvement of development and other planning and programming.
- 45 FAO commits to promote flexible and un-earmarked funding mechanisms to better strengthen coherence of interventions and adjust to the evolution of needs.
- 46 FAO is committed to implementing the commitments under the Grand Bargain, particularly on improving transparency through its participation in International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI).

## WHS common core commitment 4 on investing in humanity

Commit to invest in risk management, preparedness and crisis prevention capacity to build the resilience of vulnerable and affected people.

### FAO commitments

- 47 FAO commits to engaging in joint vulnerability and needs assessments that are articulated around a resilience framework and strategic collective outcomes.
- 48 FAO commits to expanding its work, together with its partners in the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement, on forecast-based financing and risk financing with members of the SPIAC-B on developing shock-responsive social protection mechanisms.

## WHS common core commitment 5 on investing in humanity

Commit to broaden and adapt the global instruments and approaches to meet urgent needs, reduce risk and vulnerability and increase resilience, without adverse impact on humanitarian principles and overall action (as also proposed in Round Table 6 on “Changing Lives”).

### FAO commitments

- 49 FAO commits to, together with OCHA, the United Nations Development Programme, the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office and the Multilateral Development Banks, including the World Bank, towards an integrated framework for funding in and for protracted crisis that supports a drive towards greater alignment across humanitarian, development, peace and human rights actors, and captures various sources of financing.
- 50 FAO commits to removing the internal institutional barriers between humanitarian and development finance, both at headquarters and at country level, in order to mobilize the right mix of humanitarian and development finance to end needs.

FAO commits to strengthening the mechanisms for coordination at country level and globally to maximize policy coherence and a common theory of change across pooled funds and advocate for sustained capitalization of pooled funds.

## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> In addition to the Sustainable Development Goals, other pertinent global processes and reports include:

- the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 with a focus on managing and reducing the risk of natural hazards, climate change and pandemic risks through strengthened resilience, incorporating the notion of “building back better”;
- the agreement reached at the UN Framework on Climate Change 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties (COP 21), which was a major turning point in efforts to control anthropogenic climate change;
- the One Health Initiative, in the context of a rapidly changing climate and emerging pandemic threats, which highlights and tracks animal health threats to human health;
- the CFS-FFA, which shares many commonalities, and coherence with, the key themes of the WHS as well as the core responsibilities outlined by the UNSG;
- the reviews on peace operations and peacebuilding architecture, including the High-level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations, the report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture, and the , all of which highlighted the importance of conflict prevention and the challenge of sustaining peace; and
- the UNSG’s Report of the High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing which recommended renewed efforts to focus on prevention to reduce need in the first place; a call for a broader pool of resources; and a “Grand Bargain” whereby donors would guarantee higher levels of funding and greater flexibility in return for joint needs assessment, improved efficiency, greater transparency, and improved cost-consciousness on the part of implementing agencies.

<sup>2</sup> As outlined in CL 153/3 Web Annex 6 <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mo851e.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> A number of commitments outlined in this paper are reflected in FAO’s result based management framework for 2016–17, others will inform preparation of FAO’s next Medium-term Plan.

<sup>4</sup> Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 8 June 1977, article 54 (2).



*“Action to promote food security can help prevent a crisis, mitigate its impacts and promote post-crisis recovery and healing”*

*José Graziano da Silva  
Director-General*

[www.fao.org/resilience](http://www.fao.org/resilience)