JOINT PROGRAMME EXCELLENCE AND TARGETING HUB

LIVELIHOODS AND SELF-RELIANCE PROGRAMMING IN REFUGEE AND DISPLACEMENT SETTINGS

UNHCR AND WFP CORPORATE APPROACHES

PART 4: ADDITIONAL WFP AND UNHCR PROGRAMMING AND APPROACHES

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND BASIC SERVICES DELIVERY

Social Protection can help people address poverty, social exclusion, inequality and food insecurity, and protect the most vulnerable from shocks and stresses throughout their lives. Social protection systems typically include social assistance schemes - predictable and reliable transfers of cash, food or other goods, as well as subsidies and service fee waivers for vulnerable groups.

WFP offers its support to governments to design and deliver large-scale responses focusing on safety nets for food security and nutrition. This enables WFP to contribute to mitigating the worst food security and nutrition impacts of crises and minimize the erosion of gains that countries have made. The organization offers three models:

1. Technical adviser
2. Service provider, and
3. Complementary actor.

WFP Social Protection and Safety Nets

UNHCR works to ensure that more systematic efforts are undertaken to scale up social protection systems to cover the needs of refugees and host communities. The organization works with donors, bilateral and international agencies, the private sector, local civil society and academic institutions under the leadership of host governments to scale up predictable, inclusive and sustainable social protection measures to equitably meet the needs of host and refugee communities, where appropriate. These efforts contribute to the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees.

UNHCR Social Protection and the Global Compact on Refugees

CASH-BASED TRANSFERS / INTERVENTIONS

Most refugees live in environments where they have access to markets and services. Providing refugees with cash assistance enables them to fulfil their needs in a dignified manner, contributes to the local economy, and may have positive spillover effects on financial inclusion where local financial services are leveraged.

Where markets and the financial sector are functioning, cash transfers are an effective way to promote food security and nutrition outcomes, among others. Cash transfers empower people with choice to address their essential needs and can contribute to peaceful coexistence. By enabling people to purchase food and other items locally, cash helps to strengthen local markets, and encourages smallholders to be more productive. It can also build national capacities, especially when integrated into broader food security and livelihoods programming, with outcomes on market, financial sector and retailer strengthening; financial inclusion; and gender-equality.

Both UNHCR and WFP are signatories to the UN Common Cash Statement, which aims to better assist affected populations in a principled and dignified manner with an intention to improve complementarities, synergies and accountabilities among UN agencies and other organizations. The Common Cash Statement is organized around three pillars:

1. Collaborative procurement of financial services;
2. Data interoperability and systems development/ adjustment; and
3. Harmonized programming for cash assistance.

CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT AND ENERGY SOLUTIONS

The impacts of climate change are far reaching, with limited natural resources, such as water, likely to become even scarcer in many parts of the world. Crops and livestock struggle to survive in climate change 'hotspots' where conditions become too hot and dry, or too cold and wet, threatening livelihoods and exacerbating food insecurity.

People are trying to adapt to the changing environmen, but many are being forcibly displaced from their homes by the effects of climate change and disasters or are relocating to survive. New displacement patterns, and competition over depleted natural resources can spark conflict between communities or compound pre-existing vulnerabilities. Additionally, for millions of people across Africa, Asia and Latin America, climate change means more frequent and intense floods, droughts and storms, accounting each year for up to 90 percent of all climate-related disasters. These can quickly spiral into full-blown food and nutrition crises.

WFP provides analysis highlighting the links between food security and climate risks, as well as the present and future impact of climate change on food security and nutrition. This helps identify which communities are most at risk and informs national policy and planning, including the development of food assistance programmes that build resilience and reduce hunger.

The Food Insecurity and Climate Change Vulnerability map, developed by WFP and the UK Met Office, highlights the importance of urgent action to scale up climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts for the most food insecure people. It encourages the integration of a variety of technologies, services and tools to better equip communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change. This can include diversifying livelihoods; protecting assets, incomes and crops with insurance and access to financial services; improving access to markets; and rehabilitating land. It also means working with

governments to ensure these initiatives can be incorporated into national systems, including early warning, social protection, and financial/insurance mechanisms.

UNHCR's work on climate change and disaster displacement covers four main areas:

1. Legal advice, guidance, and the development of norms to support the enhanced protection of the rights of people displaced in the context of disasters and climate change.
2. Promoting policy coherence to ensure that issues of disaster displacement are effectively mainstreamed across relevant areas.
3. Research to fill gaps that underpin this operational and policy work.
4. Field-based activities to address internal and cross-border disaster displacement; reduce the environmental impact of refugee settlements and ensure sustainable responses to displacement; risk reduction and other activities that contribute to efforts to avert, minimize and address displacement.

WFP Climate Action - UNHCR Climate Change and Disaster Displacement

INNOVATION

Innovation is critical to ensuring both UNHCR and WFP deliver efficiently and in a forward-looking manner on their mandates. Specific initiatives include:

WFP - H2GROW brings locally adaptable and affordable hydroponic solutions to vulnerable communities around the world. Hydroponics is a soilless cultivation technique that enables plant growth in arid or peri-urban areas. It uses up to 90 percent less water and 75 percent less space, while producing crops at growth rates 100 percent faster than traditional agriculture.

H2Grow adapts its hydroponic systems to the local context making it affordable and accessible. By developing low-tech systems from local materials, growing fresh vegetables or animal feed in deserts, refugee camps or urban informal settlements, H2Grow supports food-insecure families to increase their access to fresh food and raise their income.

WFP - EMPACT provides digital skills through a tailored vocational training programme, and partners with leading tech firms to connect trainees with online work opportunities. Participants in the programme can learn information technology skills, from navigating the web and annotating images, to training in office software, creative skills in image editing and visual production, and hard coding skills like HTML and Python.

UNHCR - DIGITAL INCLUSION PROGRAMME AND CONNECTIVITY FOR REFUGEES works towards:

- Inclusion of displaced persons and host communities in national strategies for digital inclusion.
- Availability of services and affordable access to meaningful internet connectivity.
- Provision of a legal pathways for refugees and displaced persons to access connectivity.
- Communities engage safely in digital ecosystems and access their chosen and preferred services.

Digital Inclusion is a vital tool for self-reliance and positive change only when internet access is available to all, affordable, legal and inclusive of displaced and host communities alike. The programme has a keen focus on breaking down digital divides, such as those based on age, gender or disability, and seeks to further equitable access in close partnership with private sector and refugee-led organizations. It seeks to promote access to the digital economy for communities, linking closely with digital livelihood opportunities.