



Global Network  
Against Food Crises

Integrated  
actions for  
lasting solutions

# 2021 REPORT ON FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES



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## Level of external financing to food sectors

In 2020, humanitarian assistance to food sectors in 55 countries and territories with food crises was

# \$ 8.1 Billion

a decrease compared to 2019 levels

Allocations in 2020 were the lowest one recorded between 2016 and 2020, despite record levels of acute food insecurity.

In 2019, development assistance to food sectors in 50 countries and territories with food crises was

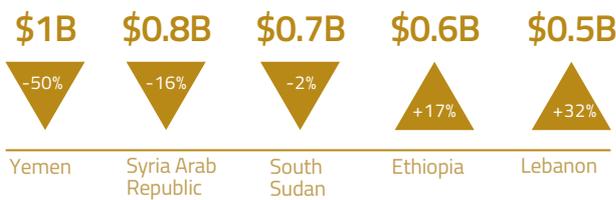
# \$ 6.2 Billion

an increase compared to 2018

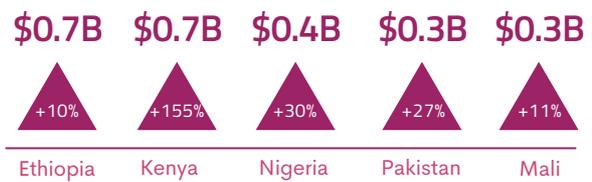
The allocations consistently increased year by year over the period from 2016 to 2019.

## Where it is going - Largest recipients

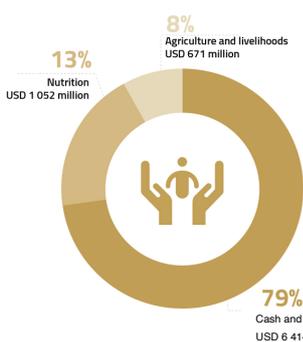
Humanitarian assistance to food sectors in 2020 and % of change from 2019



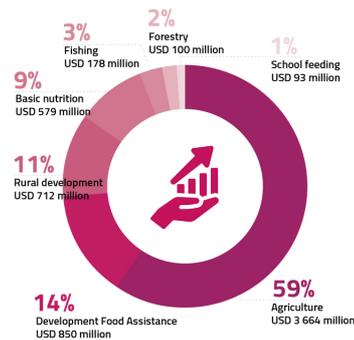
Development assistance to food sectors in 2019 and % of change from 2018



## External financing by food sector

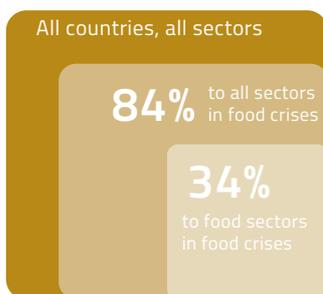


Cash and in-kind food assistance was the most-funded food sector of humanitarian assistance in 2020, followed by assistance to nutrition, and to agriculture and livelihoods.

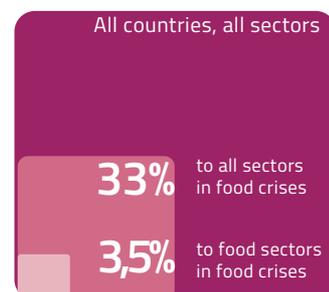


Agriculture was the most-funded food sector of development assistance in 2019, followed by development food assistance, which includes social protection and long-term household food security programmes, rural development and basic nutrition.

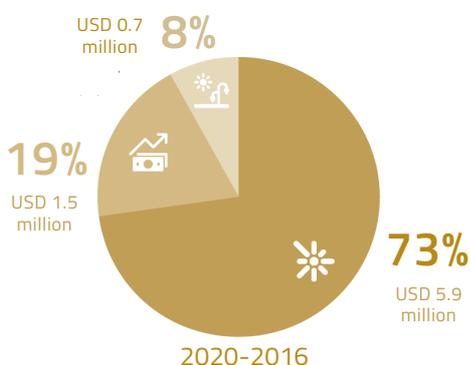
## External financing to food crises on average



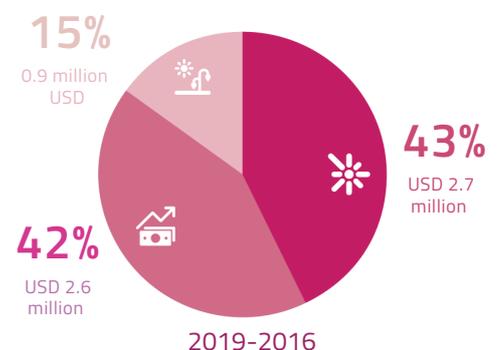
Food sectors in food crises received on average 34 percent of all humanitarian assistance worldwide between 2016 and 2020 and 3.5 percent of all development assistance worldwide between 2016 and 2020.



## External financing by driver of acute food insecurity



Conflict-driven food crises received the largest shares of both types of assistance, followed by economic shocks and weather extremes.



## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

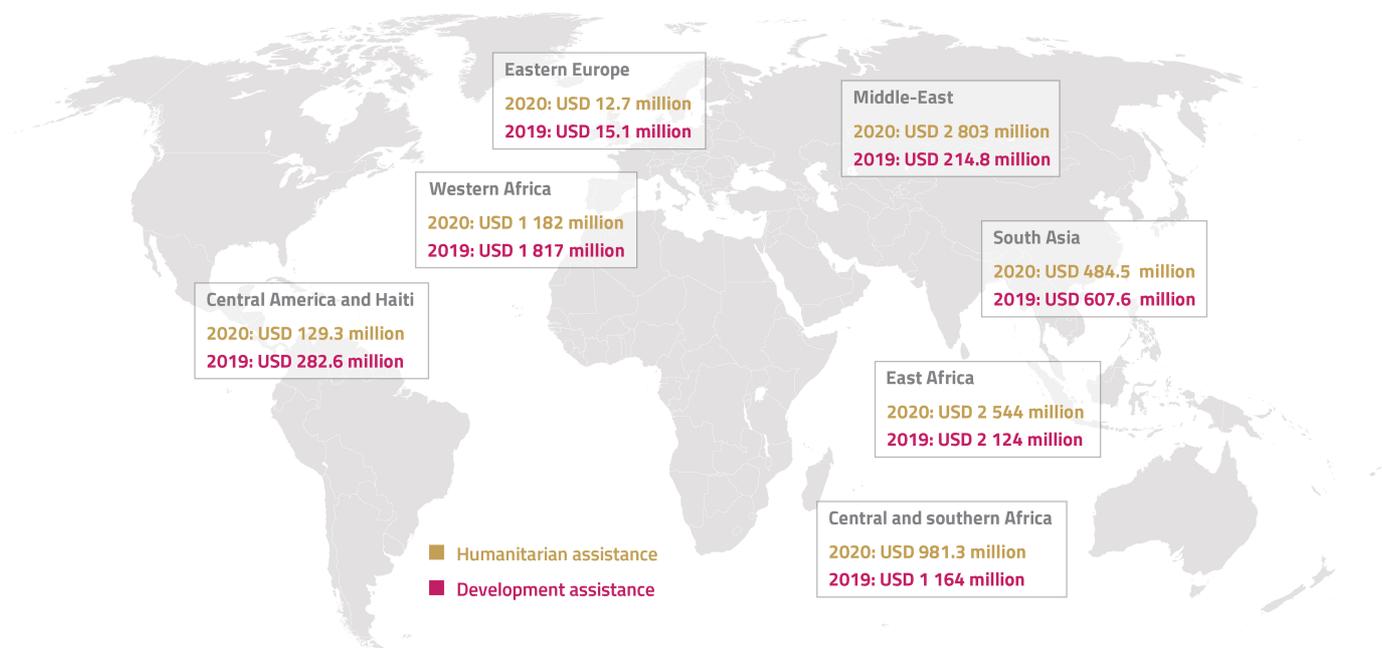
In brief - Geographic distribution of humanitarian and development assistance to food sectors



Middle East and East Africa were the largest recipients of humanitarian assistance to food sectors in 2020.



East Africa and West Africa and the Sahel were the largest recipients of development assistance to food sectors in 2019.



### REQUIRED CITATION

GNAFC. 2021. Financing Flows and Food Crises. Rome.

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## Acknowledgements

This first edition of the Financing Flows and Food Crises report is the outcome of a long process of collaboration and exchange among the partners of the Global Network against Food Crises on the need to complement the information provided by the Global report on Food Crises.

The Technical Support Unit (TSU) of the Global Network prepared the report based on research and analysis from Development Initiatives, coordinating the analytical and drafting process, and facilitating iteration and exchange with all the involved partners.

In particular, we would like to thank the following individuals for their contribution (in alphabetical order): Lavinia Antonaci, Immaculate Atieno, Carina Chicet, Harsh Desai, Stefania Di Giuseppe, Niccoló Feri, Louise Gentzel, Jessica Jordan, Janet Kimani, Duncan Knox, Giacomo Laracca, Hugh Macleman, Bekhzod Makhkamov, Jonathan Marley, Aurélien Mellin, Pierpaolo Piras, Lina Salameh, Rachele Santini, Riccardo Suppo, Cushla Thompson, and Hope Traficanti.

We would like to extend a special thanks to Dominique Burgeon, David Kaatrud, Rein Paulsen, Rebecca Richards, Luca Russo and Maximo Torero Cullen and his team for their precious guidance and feedback.

We would like to thank the European Union for sharing their information needs and providing thoughtful views and feedback, including for providing financial support for the production of the report.

## Acronyms

<b>3RP</b>	Resilience Plan in Response to the Syria Crisis
<b>CARI</b>	Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security
<b>CH</b>	Cadre Harmonisé
<b>COVID-19</b>	Coronavirus Disease 2019
<b>CRS</b>	Creditor Reporting System
<b>CSO</b>	Civil society organizations
<b>DAC</b>	Development Assistance Committee
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
<b>FDI</b>	Foreign Direct Investments
<b>FSIN</b>	Food Security Information Network
<b>FTS</b>	Financial Tracking Service
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GHED</b>	Global Health Expenditure Database ()
<b>GHRP</b>	Global Humanitarian Response Plan
<b>GIEWS</b>	Global Information and Early Warning System
<b>GNAFC</b>	Global Network Against Food Crises
<b>GRFC</b>	Global Report on Food Crises
<b>HNO</b>	Humanitarian Needs Overview
<b>HRP</b>	Humanitarian Response Plan
<b>ICRC</b>	International Committee of the Red Cross
<b>IASC</b>	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
<b>IDP</b>	Internally Displaced People
<b>IFAD</b>	International Fund for Agricultural Development
<b>IFPRI</b>	International Food Policy Research Institute
<b>IFRC</b>	International Federation of the Red Cross
<b>IGAD</b>	Intergovernmental Authority on Development (in Eastern Africa)
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration
<b>IPC</b>	Integrated Phase Classification
<b>KNOMAD</b>	the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development
<b>LDC</b>	Least Developed Country
<b>NGO</b>	Non-governmental Organization
<b>OCHA</b>	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
<b>ODA</b>	Official Development Assistance
<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>PIN</b>	People in Need
<b>RCRC</b>	Red Cross Red Crescent
<b>SALW</b>	Small Arms and Light Weapons
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>SDR</b>	Special Drawing Rights
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UN Habitat</b>	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
<b>UN Women</b>	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
<b>UNCT</b>	United Nations Country Team
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>USD</b>	United States Dollar
<b>WFP mVAM</b>	United Nations World Food Programme mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping
<b>WASH</b>	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
<b>WB</b>	WorldBank
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>ZimVAC</b>	Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee

# Summary of the key findings

Over the past five years, the Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC) has become the reference product to monitor acute food insecurity and provide information on the severity, magnitude and drivers of food insecurity and malnutrition in countries and territories with food crisis contexts. In 2020, the report highlighted **record levels of acute food insecurity**, with 155 million people requiring urgent assistance in 55 countries and territories – an unprecedented level compared with the previous five editions of the GRFC.

Moreover, it reported that 15.8 million children under 5 are wasted and 75.2 million children under 5 are stunted in these 55 countries. At the same time, that these countries receive 92 percent of all humanitarian assistance worldwide and 44 percent of development assistance to food-sectors, which include food security, nutrition and agriculture.

Having a comprehensive picture of these contexts, both in terms of acute food security and financial allocations, is critical to enable decision making on investments, policy and programmes.

This report is intended to complement the information provided in the GRFC and provide decision makers with an analysis of financing flows on food sectors – food security, agriculture and nutrition – in countries with food-crisis situations identified in the GRFC. Its main objectives are to: (i) understand how the international community and national governments are addressing food crises; and (ii) provide evidence-based indications of financial allocations.

The current analysis builds on the technical note “Financing Flows and Food Crises”,

released in April 2021, which established an evidence base on financial allocations to food sectors. This report provides updated data and a refined analytical approach.

The report is based on data extracted from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service (FTS), concerning data on humanitarian assistance to food sectors (food security, agriculture, and nutrition), and on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Creditor Reporting System (CRS) for development assistance to food sectors. Data sources and definitions are provided in the annex.

It contains: a global overview of external financing flows to all 55 countries and territories with food crises;<sup>1</sup> regional perspectives; and an in-depth analysis of countries that comprise the majority of the global population in acute food insecurity. The ten worst food-crisis countries are home to 66 percent of all people experiencing levels of acute food insecurity at Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) or Cadre Harmonisé (CH) Phase 3 and above.

Key findings of the analysis are presented here:

## **1. Countries characterised by food crises receive 84 percent of all humanitarian assistance worldwide – while absorbing 33 percent of global development assistance.**

In terms of external financing to food sectors, these countries account for 92 percent of the global humanitarian assistance to food sectors<sup>2</sup> and 44 percent of global development assistance to food sectors.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> As in the GRFC, the present report focuses on crises where the local capacities to respond are insufficient, prompting a request for the urgent mobilisation of the international community, as well as countries and territories where there is ample evidence that the magnitude and severity of the food crisis exceed local resources and capacities needed to respond effectively. For more information, refer to the country selection section of the appendix.

<sup>2</sup> Five-year average 2016–2020.

<sup>3</sup> Four-year average 2016–2019.

### **2. Despite record levels of acute food insecurity in 2020, humanitarian assistance to food sectors recorded the lowest allocation in the past five years.**

In 2020, humanitarian assistance to food sectors in these countries stood at USD 8.1 billion. This represents the lowest allocation of humanitarian assistance recorded in the past five years, despite the fact that acute food security was the highest on record. This decrease has been driven by country-specific issues. However, the two largest decreases in humanitarian disbursements in 2020 were reported in Yemen (a USD 1 billion decrease – or 50 percent from the previous year's allocation) and the Syrian Arab Republic (USD 147 million – a 16 percent decrease). These decreases occurred while acute food insecurity was very high in both countries.

### **3. Although it remained well below the level of humanitarian allocations, development assistance to food sectors consistently increased over the four years of analysis.**

Development assistance to food sectors in the 50 countries and territories characterised by food crises (excluding refugee crises) increased each year during the period of analysis, reaching USD 6.2 billion in 2019. These data point to a positive trend, particularly considering that most food crises are of a protracted nature. However, while globally there was a continuous increase in development assistance, regions<sup>4</sup> such as Central and Southern Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, and Eurasia showed decreases between 2018 and 2019.

In terms of the balance between humanitarian and development assistance, on average between 2016 and 2019, humanitarian assistance still represented more than 60 percent of all external financing to food sectors. However, while humanitarian

assistance witnessed a decrease from 2017 onwards, development assistance kept on increasing year after year.

Significant differences were observed among countries. In 2020 for example, some of the worst food-crisis countries with the highest levels of acute food insecurity, registered the most significant imbalance in assistance, with financing almost exclusively channeled in the form of humanitarian allocations. For instance, countries and territories like Iraq, Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen received allocations to food sectors almost entirely through humanitarian assistance.

Despite different amounts of assistance registered between different regions, development assistance in Central America and Caribbean countries, including Honduras, Nicaragua, Haiti, El Salvador, and Guatemala, was in some cases nearly four times that of humanitarian assistance. Approximately 80 percent of allocations in this region were for development between 2016 and 2019. However, an increase in humanitarian disbursements was observed between 2019 and 2020, when food-insecurity levels climbed. Haiti was the largest recipient during this time due its record levels of acute food insecurity.

In West Africa, most countries affected by protracted crises received balanced allocations of humanitarian and development assistance – even those affected by protracted crises. However, in East Africa, humanitarian assistance represented two thirds of all funding to food sectors over the five years of analysis. Although development assistance increased slightly in that region, it was often negligible in countries like Somalia, South Sudan and the Sudan, which were affected by protracted crises. These countries received only 20 percent of all development assistance to food sectors in the region.

<sup>4</sup> Regions are defined according to the GRFC regional division. The 55 food-crisis countries/territories are grouped into 5 regions: Central and Southern Africa, incorporating selected Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries and the Central African Republic; East Africa, including the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) countries and Burundi; West Africa and the Sahel, including countries covered by the Cadre Harmonisé (CH) methodology and Libya; Eurasia, focusing on Ukraine (Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts), the Middle East and South Asia; and Central America and Haiti.

### **4. Conflict-driven food crises accounted for the largest share of humanitarian assistance.**

Conflict and insecurity remained the major drivers of acute food insecurity in 2020. This was reflected in humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected countries experiencing food crises, which absorbed 73 percent (USD 5.9 billion) of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors that year. Despite the fact that development assistance was often concentrated in countries with more stable institutional contexts, in 2019, more than 40 percent (USD 2.7 billion) of development assistance to food sectors was allocated to conflict-affected countries and territories. Although this is still a relatively small share of the total, development allocations to countries like the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen slowly increased amid the protracted food-crises in these countries.

### **5. Cash and in-kind food assistance was consistently the most-funded food sector for humanitarian assistance, while allocations to the agriculture and livelihoods sector decreased.**

In 2020, humanitarian assistance to food security<sup>5</sup> – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – comprised 79 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors (USD 6.4 billion). Humanitarian allocations to agriculture and livelihoods represented 8 percent of the total (USD 671 million) – a more than 50 percent decrease since 2016. Countries affected by conflict and insecurity received the lowest share of humanitarian assistance to agriculture and livelihoods among food-crisis countries. On the other hand, agriculture was the most-funded sector for what concern development assistance to food sectors, representing 59 percent of the total in 2019 (USD 3.7 billion).

Regional- and country level-findings confirm this trend. In Central and Southern, East, and West Africa, humanitarian assistance was significantly weighted in favour of food assistance. In 2020, this sector absorbed, on average, more than 70 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors. At the same time, the share of allocations to agriculture and livelihoods dropped in all three regions by more than 50 percent from 2016, stagnating at approximately 10 percent of the total in 2020. These declines in absolute funding for agriculture and livelihoods are of particular concern since most people in acute food insecurity in these regions are in rural areas and reliant on agriculture for survival. Whereas all African regions received greater allocation of development funding than humanitarian assistance to agriculture, the Sudan proved to be an exception – receiving 25 percent of its humanitarian funding for agriculture and livelihoods, and less than 20 percent of its development investments for agriculture in 2019.

### **6. Despite concerning levels of malnutrition in countries with food crises, the nutrition sector received low levels allocations of both humanitarian and development assistance, particularly compared to the other food sectors.**

Within humanitarian sectors, funding to nutrition stood at 13 percent (USD 1.1 billion) in 2020, having increased significantly during all years of analysis except that year. In 2019, development assistance for basic nutrition stagnated near 9 percent of the total (USD 579 million).

<sup>5</sup> In defining the sectoral allocation of humanitarian and development assistance, this report uses the terminology in the OCHA FTS and OECD CRS datasets. For this reason, the report divides humanitarian assistance into assistance for food security, agriculture and livelihoods and nutrition. Although it is acknowledged that all three type of interventions contribute to food security outcomes, in order to align with the agreed terminology (while recognising its limitations), the report uses the term 'humanitarian assistance to food security' to refer to cash and in-kind food assistance, unless otherwise indicated.

# Introduction

## BACKGROUND

The 2021 **Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC)** reported the highest number of acutely food insecure people worldwide on record. This report revealed that in 2020, 155 million people in 55 countries and territories were acutely food insecure and in need of urgent food, livelihood and nutrition assistance as a result of conflict, shocks such as the COVID-19-related economic downturn, and weather extremes. The GRFC revealed that 20 million more people are facing acute food insecurity and in urgent need of assistance globally than in the previous year. The majority of these people live in countries experiencing protracted – and worsening – food crises.<sup>6</sup>

The worsening trend in food security was confirmed by the 2021 State of Food and Nutrition Security in the World report, which stated that between 720 million and 811 million people in the world faced chronic hunger in 2020 – 161 million more than in 2019 – and that nearly 2.37 billion people did not have access to adequate food in 2020 – an increase of 320 million people in just one year.<sup>7</sup>

Structural fragility, conflict, climate change and economic shocks exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic are leading to record-breaking levels of hunger and acute malnutrition. The most vulnerable people continue to bear the greatest burden of global food crises, which are increasingly complex and protracted. Poverty, insecurity, conflict, natural resource degradation, forced displacement and fragile food systems continue to erode vulnerable people's resilience. This vulnerability is further compounded by low and often inefficient

public spending, market failures and deficiencies in food-systems governance.

Integration of humanitarian, development and peace actors and approaches is crucial to tackle the most severe food crises. There is growing recognition of the need to support countries prone to food crises in addressing underlying drivers and risks to make progress on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2: Zero hunger. At the same time, the 2021 **Global Humanitarian Assistance Report** highlighted that in 2020, despite unprecedented need, international **humanitarian assistance has flatlined** – failing to increase for the second consecutive year (after growing by an average 12 percent per year between 2012 and 2018). This was mostly due to chronic underfunding compounded by decreasing amounts disbursed to some of the largest recipients of international humanitarian assistance, and shifting priorities in the context of COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>8</sup> While these numbers provide insights into the global humanitarian response, less is understood about financing flows to food security, agriculture, and nutrition, which are critical to tackling the root causes of food insecurity. As presented in figure 1 below, data on food security, agriculture and nutrition from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service (FTS) show that the countries and territories characterised by food crises absorb a large volume of humanitarian and development financing to food sectors (food security, agriculture and nutrition). Together, these countries received 92 percent of the humanitarian assistance (five-year average 2016–2020) and 44 percent of the development assistance<sup>9</sup> (four-year average 2016–2019) disbursed at the global level to food sectors.

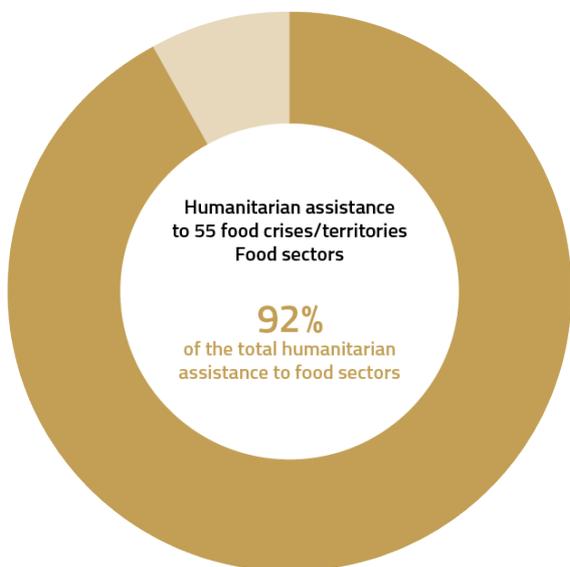
<sup>6</sup> Food Security Information Network (FSIN) and Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC). 2021. GRFC 2021. Rome. [here](#)

<sup>7</sup> FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2021. The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021. Transforming food systems for food security, improved nutrition and affordable healthy diets for all. Rome, FAO. [here](#)

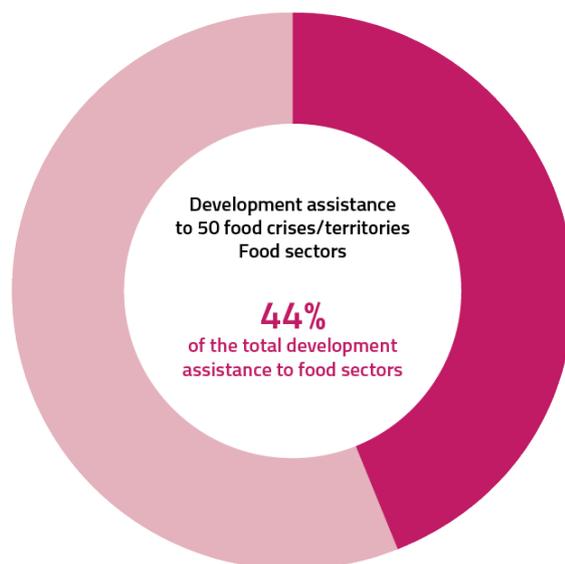
<sup>8</sup> Development Initiatives. 2021. Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2021. [here](#)

<sup>9</sup> Data on development assistance for five countries and territories with refugee crises were not included in the analysis. These countries are: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey (Syrian refugees); Bangladesh (Rohingya refugees). These five countries represent 8 percent of the total development assistance to food sectors over 2016–2019. For more information, please refer to the Methodology and Definitions chapters.

**Figure 01: Share of total humanitarian assistance to 55 food crises disbursed to food sectors (average 2016-2020)**



**Figure 02: Share of total development assistance to 50 food crises disbursed to food sectors (average 2016-2019)**



Figures 01 and 02 above illustrate that a more granular analysis is needed to understand assistance flows – especially the financing flows aimed at addressing food insecurity and malnutrition, and strengthening food systems in food-crisis countries and territories. In March 2021, the **Global Network Against Food Crises** published the technical note “Financing Flows and Food Crises”, which highlighted trends and imbalances in flows to countries experiencing food crises. However, there is a need to look further at these allocations in support of decision making to reduce humanitarian needs related to acute food insecurity, and improve the coordination of humanitarian and development interventions.

This report aims to provide updated and more granular data than the technical note through a refined methodology and a more accurate representation of the sectoral composition of humanitarian and development assistance to food crises (see the annex for more details on the methodology). These findings are therefore not directly comparable to those of the March 2021 technical note.

**Countries characterised by food crises absorb a significant share of external financing to food sectors.**

Of all humanitarian and development assistance to food sectors worldwide, the 55 countries and territories characterised by food crises received 92 percent of the humanitarian assistance (five-year average 2016–2020), and 44 percent of development assistance (four-year average 2016–2019) to food sectors.

## THE FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES REPORT

This report complements the information provided in the GRFC. In addition to a **trend analysis of the volume of external financing** allocated to food sectors globally, regionally and nationally, it analyses data on **humanitarian assistance to food sectors** alongside data on **acute food insecurity** at the country level. These data are taken from the five editions of the GRFC, which present the numbers of people experiencing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity – Phase 3 and above according to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) and Cadre Harmonisé (CH) food insecurity scales. Such analyses are used to assess allocations of assistance to food sectors in relation to levels

of acute food insecurity in food-crisis countries and territories, and to highlight disparities among countries.

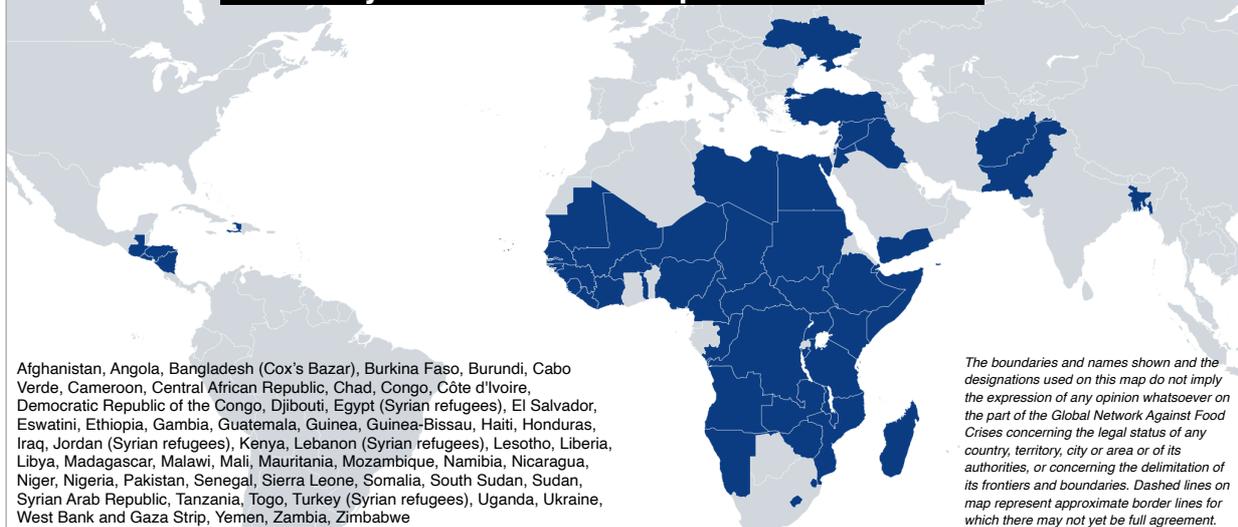
This report supports the **2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda’s** call for “coherence of developmental and humanitarian finance to ensure more timely, comprehensive, appropriate and cost-effective approaches to the management and impact mitigation of natural disasters and complex emergencies”. It also aims to contribute to ongoing efforts to meet the targets of **SDG 2: Zero hunger** by providing timely, transparent and actionable information to ensure that the right type of financing is available for the right actions, at the right time and in the right place. These factors are critical to meeting immediate needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability – ultimately reducing hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.

### STRUCTURE AND COVERAGE OF THE REPORT

The report is structured into three chapters:

- **Chapter 1: Global overview of trends** in humanitarian and development financing to food sectors in the 55 countries and territories with food crises.
- **Chapter 2: Country analysis, by region**, of the 55 countries and territories with food crises.
- **Chapter 3: Country overviews**, including in-depth analyses of financing flows to food sectors in ten countries with the largest food crises.
- **Appendix: Definitions and explanation of methodology.**

#### Geographical coverage: 55 countries and territories with food crises, as defined by the 2021 Global Report on Food Crises



Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh (Cox’s Bazar), Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt (Syrian refugees), El Salvador, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Iraq, Jordan (Syrian refugees), Kenya, Lebanon (Syrian refugees), Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tanzania, Togo, Turkey (Syrian refugees), Uganda, Ukraine, West Bank and Gaza Strip, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

*The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Global Network Against Food Crises concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on map represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.*

Chapter 1.

# Overview of humanitarian and development assistance to food sectors in food crisis contexts

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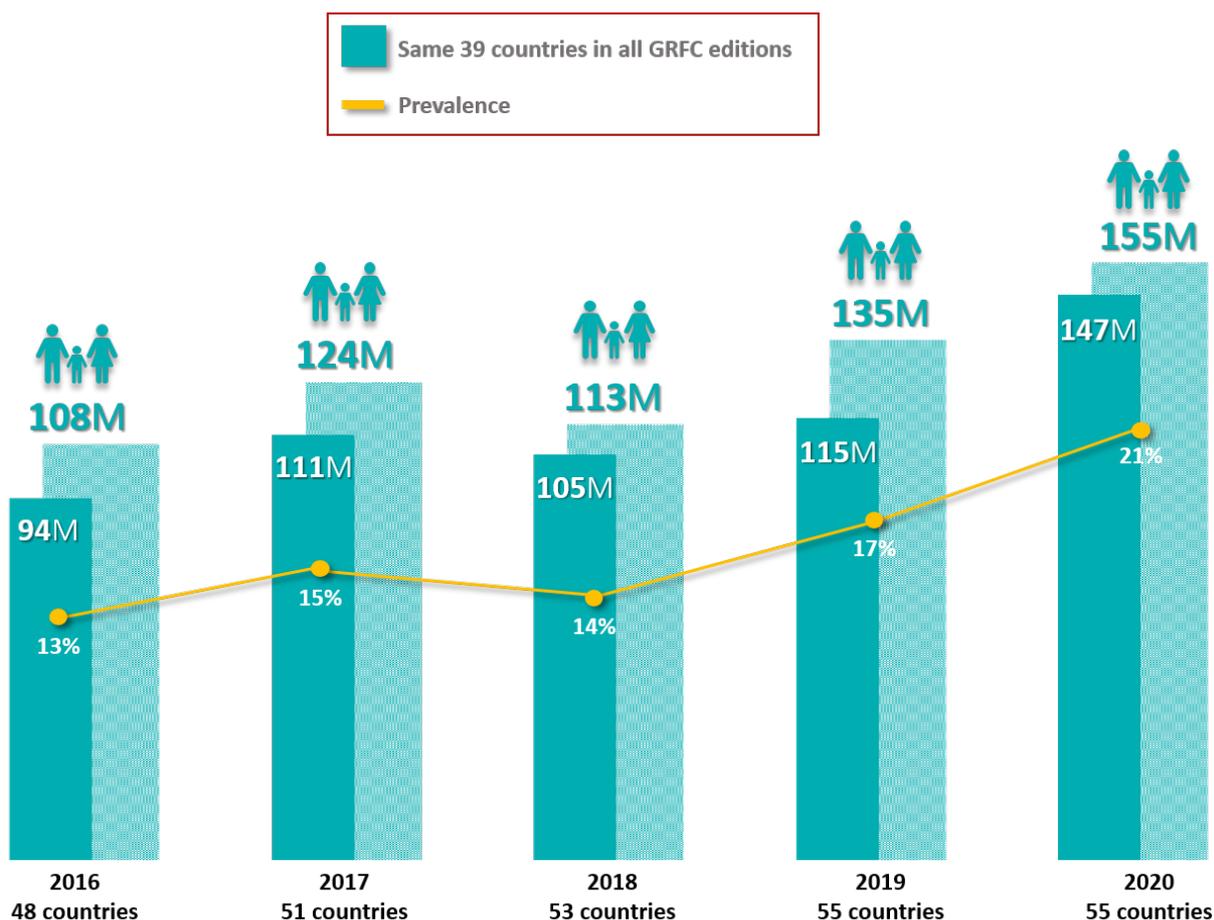
## ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY OVERVIEW

According to the 2021 **Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC)**, in 2020 there were **155 million people facing high levels of acute food insecurity** – Phase 3 or above according to the IPC and CH scales – in 55 countries and territories. This number marked a significant increase **from 108 million in 2016**.

The global increase in acute food insecurity reflects the wider availability of food security

data, including in previously inaccessible areas where data quality was historically poor. However, it also reflects a deepening food security crisis. Considering the same 39 countries and territories that were covered in all editions of the GRFC, the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) reached a five-year high in 2020, increasing to 147 million from 94 million in 2016. The prevalence of Crisis or worse out of the total population analysed also increased from 13 percent in 2016 to 21 percent in 2020.

**Figure 03: Millions of people in IPC/CH Phase 3 or above in the five editions of the GRFC (2016–2021)**



## EXTERNAL FINANCING TO FOOD SECTORS

In 2020, **humanitarian assistance to food sectors** in the 55 countries and territories with food crises stood at USD 8.1 billion. This represents the lowest allocation of humanitarian assistance recorded in the past five years, despite the fact that acute food security was the highest on record. At the same time, latest data available on **development assistance** (for 2019) show that food sectors in the 50 countries and territories with food crises (excluding refugee crisis) received USD 6.2 billion – the largest amount of development assistance received since 2016. Over the past five years, some financing flows have shown significant variation. Humanitarian assistance to food sectors overall peaked at USD 10.8 billion in 2017, then decreased to USD 8.1 billion in 2020 (a 10 percent decrease between 2016 and 2020). While the peak of allocations was reached when the **risk of famine** was identified in northeastern Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen,<sup>10</sup> humanitarian assistance did not match the increase in acute food insecurity. In 2019 and 2020, there was a 14 percent drop in allocations, from USD 9.4 billion to USD 8.1 billion – while the number of people experiencing Crisis or worse levels of food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) increased by 20 million and the threat of famine persisted in several countries.<sup>11</sup>

Although it remained well below humanitarian allocations, **development assistance to food sectors** increased from USD 5.3 billion in 2016 to USD 6.2 billion in 2019 (a 17 percent rise between these two years).

On average, **humanitarian assistance** represented more than 60 percent of all external financing to food sectors. However, recent data suggest that the balance between humanitarian and development assistance is slowly shifting (there was a 6-percentage-point increase in the share of development assistance between 2017 and 2019).

### Key findings

- **Despite record-levels of acute food insecurity in 2020, humanitarian assistance to food sectors was the lowest in the past five years.** In 2020, humanitarian assistance to food sectors in the 55 food-crisis countries and territories stood at USD 8.1 billion.
- **Although it remained well below humanitarian allocations, development assistance to food sectors consistently increased between 2016 and 2019.** Development assistance to food sectors in the 50 countries and territories characterised by food crises (excluding refugee crises) increased year on year during the period of analysis, reaching USD 6.2 billion in 2019.
- **Recent data suggest that the balance between humanitarian and development assistance to food sectors is slowly shifting.** On average, humanitarian assistance represented more than 60 percent of all external financing to food sectors. However, over the four years of analysis, the share of development assistance to food sectors increased from 37 percent in 2016 to 40 percent in 2019.

Given the unique characteristics of refugee contexts, the flows of humanitarian assistance to food sectors in these situations<sup>12</sup> were disaggregated from those of other food-crisis countries and territories. In 2020, nearly USD 1 billion was allocated as humanitarian assistance to food sectors for the Rohingya (Bangladesh) and Syrian (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey)<sup>13</sup> refugee responses. This represented 12 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors in all food-crisis contexts. But such assistance has fluctuated – despite the fact that the number of acutely food-insecure refugees has remained constant over the past three years.<sup>14</sup> **Humanitarian assistance to food sectors for refugee crises increased** from USD 200 million in 2016 to USD 1.9 billion in 2018, before decreasing in 2019 and 2020.

<sup>10</sup> FAO. 2017. Famine response and prevention. July. [here](#)

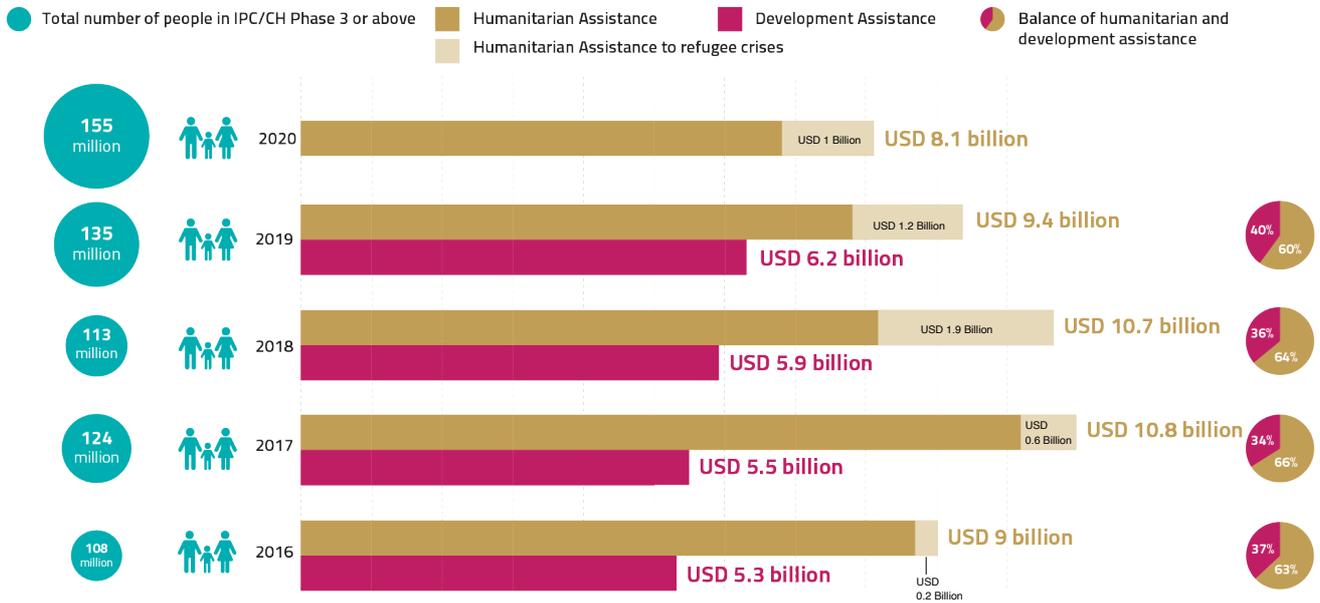
<sup>11</sup> FSIN and GNAFC. 2021. Global report on food crises (GRFC) 2021. Rome. [here](#)

<sup>12</sup> Bangladesh (Cox's Bazar), Egypt (Syrian refugees), Jordan (Syrian refugees), Lebanon (Syrian refugees) and Turkey (Syrian refugees). While Colombia (Venezuelan migrants), Ecuador (Venezuelan migrants) and Peru (Venezuelan migrants) were covered in the 2019 and 2020 GRFC, no comparable data were available for inclusion in 2021 GRFC. These countries are therefore not covered by the analysis.

<sup>13</sup> All these four countries are covered under the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan in Response to the Syria Crisis (3RP). More details [here](#).

<sup>14</sup> Despite some data gaps over the years, the number of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity in refugee crises reached 2 million between 2018 and 2020. This number is based on available data on Bangladesh (Cox's Bazar) and Syrian refugees in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

**Figure 04: Number of people (million) in IPC/CH Phase 3 or above and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), development assistance (2016-2019), and the balance between humanitarian and development allocations (2016-2019) to the 55 food crises and territories**



## PUTTING NUMBERS IN CONTEXTS

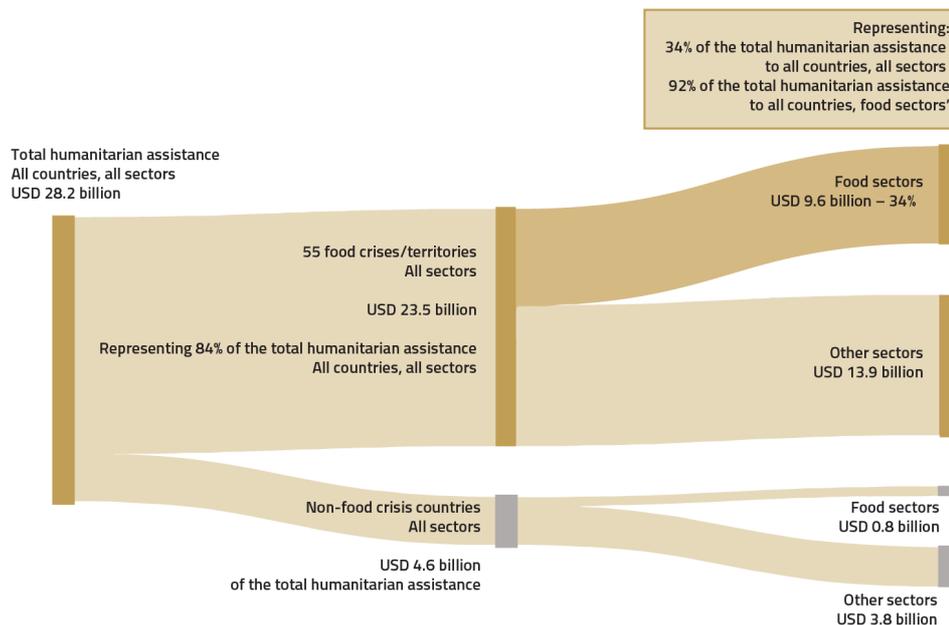
The analysis presented in this report focuses on disbursements to food sectors in countries and territories with food crises. However, in order to provide a comprehensive overview of the financial landscape globally and in food-crisis countries and territories, these numbers need to be compared to overall humanitarian and development disbursements.

Of all **humanitarian assistance worldwide** (approximately USD 140.8 billion disbursed in total between 2016 and 2020 or USD 28.2 billion on average), 84 percent was absorbed by food crisis countries. These 55 countries and territories received USD 23.5 billion in humanitarian assistance to all sectors annually. Of this assistance, USD 9.6 billion was allocated to food sectors, representing 34 percent of all humanitarian assistance to all sectors in all countries, or 92 percent of humanitarian assistance disbursed at the global level to food sectors only.

### Key findings

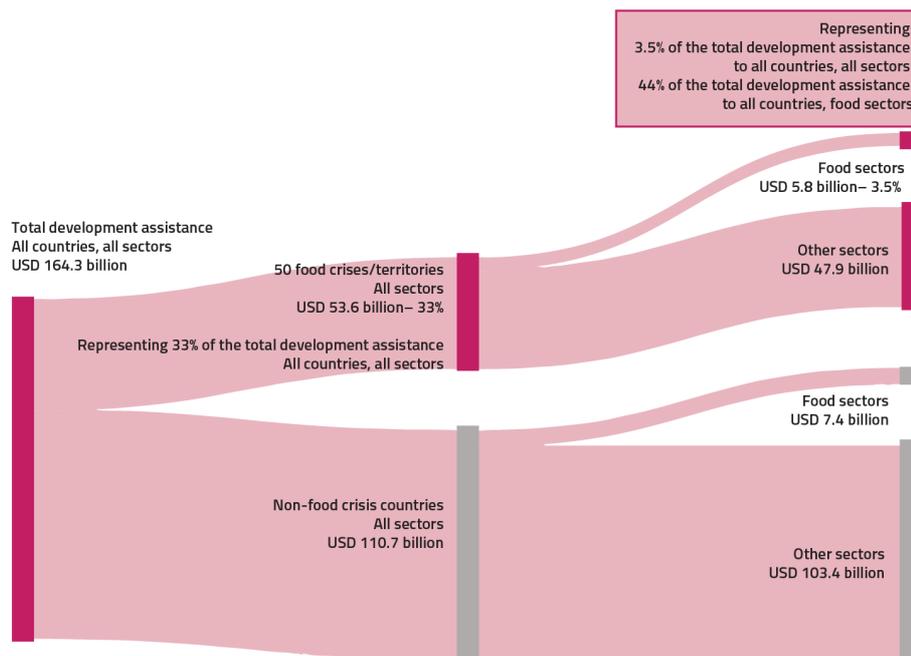
- **Countries characterised by food crises were the main recipients of the humanitarian assistance to all sectors, and in particular assistance to food sectors.** Of all humanitarian assistance to all sectors worldwide, the 55 countries and territories characterised by food crises received 84 percent of the humanitarian assistance to all sectors (five-year average, 2016–2020). At the same time, these countries received 92 percent of all humanitarian assistance disbursed at the global level to food sectors only.
- **Countries characterised by food crises absorbed a significant amount of development assistance to all sectors.** Of all development assistance worldwide, the 50 countries and territories characterised by food crises (excluding refugee crises) received 33 percent (four-year average, 2016–2019) across all sectors. At the same time, these countries received 44 percent of all development assistance disbursed at the global level to food sectors only.

Figure 05: Total humanitarian assistance worldwide, annual averages (2016-2020) in USD billions



Note: The total amount of humanitarian assistance presented here slightly differs from the amount presented in the 2021 Global Humanitarian Assistance Report produced by Development Initiatives. This is due to a methodological difference in the two analyses. The Global Humanitarian Assistance Report includes country-allocable assistance only, therefore removing multi-country and blank destination country entries from the totals, but including private contributions reported to the FTS as coded manually by Development Initiatives. For more information on the two approaches, please see the annex to this report and Chapter 5: Methodology and definitions in the 2021 Global Humanitarian Assistance Report [here](#).

Figure 06: Total development assistance worldwide, annual averages (2016-2019) in USD billions



## IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

The **COVID-19 pandemic** has exacerbated many socio-economic issues, posing a serious threat to economies, livelihoods and well-being in low- and middle-income countries. At the same time, the pandemic has caused unprecedented budget deficits as many countries supported their populations in coping with its impacts. These budget deficits have had spillover effects on humanitarian and development assistance.

Despite projections that total **official development assistance (ODA)**<sup>15</sup> would fall from 2019 levels, in 2020 ODA was estimated to have risen by 3.5 percent in real terms compared to 2019 – reaching the highest level ever recorded.<sup>16</sup> Excluding the costs of assisting refugees in donor countries, which decreased by 9.5 percent compared to 2019, ODA rose by 4.4 percent in real terms.<sup>17</sup> This increase included 16 Development Assistance Committee (DAC) member countries, with some substantially increasing their budgets to support developing countries facing the pandemic.

After 2019, **net ODA**<sup>18</sup> flows from DAC countries increased by 7 percent in real terms. While 2020 saw an increase in ODA (despite projections to the contrary), all other major external resource flows to developing countries, including trade, foreign direct investments and remittances, were negatively affected by the pandemic.

### Key findings

- **The COVID-19 pandemic did not appear to have affected overall allocations of external financing, which appear to have remained stable.** However, a decrease was observed in funding for non-COVID-19-related needs as existing funding was repurposed to deal with pandemic-related issues.
- **Despite the funding mobilised through the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP), humanitarian assistance to food sectors recorded its lowest allocation in 2020.** Of the USD 8.1 billion in humanitarian assistance to food sectors within the 55 food-crisis countries and territories in 2020, 7 percent (USD 552 million) was raised through the COVID-19 GHRP. This confirms that 2020 could have witnessed a further drop in humanitarian assistance, which was partly compensated for by the additional funding to food sectors mobilised through the COVID-19 GHRP.

Although ODA was estimated to have reached a record high of USD 161 billion in 2020, **support to least developed countries (LDCs)** only increased by 1.8 percent<sup>19</sup> while an accelerating shift from grants to loans in these countries raises concerns about a growing debt crisis. Bilateral sovereign loans by DAC members increased by 38.7 percent in real terms (on a grant equivalent basis) compared to 2019.<sup>20</sup> When including equity investments, bilateral aid in the form of loans and equity investments from DAC donors increased by 28 percent in 2020, reaching USD 26.2 billion (up from USD 20.5 billion in 2019).<sup>21</sup> In addition, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported that emergency lending to least developed

<sup>15</sup> Official development assistance (ODA) is defined by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) as government aid that promotes and specifically targets the economic development and welfare of developing countries. The DAC adopted ODA as the “gold standard” of foreign assistance in 1969, and it remains the main source of financing for development assistance. ODA refers to flows to countries and territories on the DAC List of ODA recipients and to multilateral development institutions that are: (i) provided by official agencies, including state and local governments, or their executive agencies; and (ii) Concessional (i.e. grants and soft loans) and administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as the main objective. Unlike the “development assistance” data based on the OECD CRS presented in this analysis, ODA includes both development and humanitarian assistance. More details, [here](#).

<sup>16</sup> OECD. 2021. COVID-19 spending helped to lift foreign aid to an all-time high in 2020, [here](#).

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Loans and credits for military purposes are excluded. Assistance includes grants, soft loans and the provision of technical assistance. Prior to 2018, the ODA flow-basis methodology covered loans expressed on a cash basis, meaning their full face value was included, then repayments were subtracted as they came in. From 2018, the ODA grant-equivalent methodology was used, whereby only the grant portion of the loan, i.e., the amount lent below market rates counts as ODA. This indicator is measured as a percentage of gross national income and USD million constant prices, using 2018 as the base year. More details, [here](#).

<sup>19</sup> ODA in 2020: What Does OECD DAC Preliminary Data Tell Us? Development Initiatives, [here](#).

<sup>20</sup> Development Finance Data – OECD. COVID-19 spending helped to lift foreign aid to an all-time high in 2020, [here](#).

<sup>21</sup> ODA in 2020: What Does OECD DAC Preliminary Data Tell Us? Development Initiatives, [here](#).

countries increased in 2020<sup>22</sup> compared to 2019.<sup>23</sup>

One reason why ODA increased in 2020 is that by the time the pandemic hit, most donors had already approved their ODA budgets for 2020 and were therefore able to maintain their planned ODA commitments. Some donors were also able to consolidate additional funding to support developing countries facing extreme crises, and repurpose funds from existing programmes for pandemic-related assistance. Yet despite repurposing funds from development programmes, most donors reported that they had continued ongoing programming. To mitigate the impacts of the pandemic, development actors directed most of their short-term efforts to health systems, humanitarian assistance and food security.<sup>24</sup>

Some reports also indicate that the pandemic may have adversely affected demand for – and delivery of – climate financing. Under international climate agreements, developed countries jointly agreed to mobilise USD 100 billion per year by 2020 to assist developing countries. This target was on track to be met in 2018, but the unexpected effects of the pandemic derailed progress. Developing countries' investments in climate-related projects decelerated as priorities shifted to combating COVID-19, while donors and multilateral development banks found it difficult to sustain climate financing amid the shift to supporting COVID-19 responses.<sup>25</sup>

The impact of COVID-19 led to a **40 percent increase in humanitarian needs** over the 2019 level.<sup>26</sup> However, the data indicate that **humanitarian assistance** was unable to keep up. According to the 2021 Global Humanitarian Assistance Report, in 2020 international humanitarian assistance to all sectors plateaued at USD 30.9 billion (rising from USD 30.8 billion in 2019),<sup>27</sup> with a decrease in support for non-COVID humanitarian needs. The gap between funding and requirements was 52 percent – the largest ever recorded. International humanitarian assistance from

governments and European Union institutions dropped by 1.2 percent (USD 284 million), and assistance from private donors stagnated at an estimated USD 6.7 billion in 2020. In the same year, United Nations-coordinated appeal requirements covering all sectors grew by 27 percent, reaching a record USD 38.8 billion. For countries experiencing protracted crises, appeal requirements grew by 39 percent from 2019.

The number of appeals also grew from 36 to 55 in 2020, of which 17 were solely related to the COVID-19 response. However, as mentioned, these appeals were only 52 percent funded, resulting in a record funding shortfall of USD 18.8 billion. Specific COVID-19 related appeals fared even worse, with funding at only 40 percent. In addition, countries in **protracted crisis** experienced a drop in humanitarian funding in 2020, receiving 57 percent of international humanitarian assistance that year – down from 66 percent in 2019. Examples of this decrease include a 7 percent drop in **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** and a staggering 46 percent drop recorded in **Yemen** (a USD 1.9 billion decrease in total funding from 2019). Some countries, including the **Syrian Arab Republic** and **South Sudan** saw a modest increase in humanitarian assistance.<sup>28</sup>

Of the USD 8.1 billion of humanitarian assistance to food sectors in the 55 countries and territories with food crises, 7 percent (USD 552 million) was raised through the Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP) for COVID-19. This confirms that 2020 could have witnessed a further drop in humanitarian assistance, which was partly compensated for by the additional funding to food sectors mobilised through the COVID-19 GHRP. For some countries, humanitarian assistance to food sectors through the GHRP represented a critical source of financing in 2020: in Afghanistan, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique and Sierra Leone, the GHRP mobilised 30 percent or more of all humanitarian financing to food sectors.

<sup>22</sup> International Monetary Fund (IMF) emergency lending to LDCs increased by SDR9.3 billion in 2020, compared to SDR0.9 billion per annum previously. More information on the Special Drawing Rights (SDR) can be found [here](#).

<sup>23</sup> "International Development Cooperation: Financing for sustainable Development Report, [here](#).

<sup>24</sup> OECD Development Finance Data. COVID-19 spending helped to lift foreign aid to an all-time high in 2020. [here](#).

<sup>25</sup> International Development Cooperation: Financing for sustainable Development Report, [here](#).

<sup>26</sup> Development Initiatives: tracking the global humanitarian response to COVID-19 report, [here](#).

<sup>27</sup> The total humanitarian assistance presented here differs from the amount presented above. See the note under Fig. 05.

<sup>28</sup> Executive Summary. Development Initiatives, [here](#).

## HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, BY DRIVER OF FOOD CRISIS

The GRFC aimed to identify the most prominent driver of acute food insecurity within each country and territory every year. However, these drivers are often interlinked and mutually reinforcing, making it difficult to identify a single trigger. In 2020, the three primary drivers of acute food insecurity were: (i) conflict and insecurity; (ii) weather extremes; and (iii) economic shocks, including COVID-19-related economic impacts.<sup>29</sup> This section analyses these drivers to investigate how external financing is allocated. However, the analysis should be interpreted in light of the interconnectedness among different drivers and the difficulty distinguishing the influence of individual drivers on food security outcomes.<sup>30</sup>

In 2020, **conflict and insecurity** represented the major drivers of acute food insecurity. This was reflected in allocations of **humanitarian assistance** to conflict-affected countries, which absorbed 73 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors in food-crisis countries and territories during 2020 (USD 5.9 billion). Allocations to conflict-driven food crises increased from USD 5.9 billion in 2016 to USD 8.5 billion in 2018 – before decreasing again in 2019 and 2020 to their 2016 level. In relative terms over the five years from 2016 to 2020, conflict and insecurity absorbed 74 percent of humanitarian assistance on average. In terms of **development assistance**, in 2019, conflict-affected countries received approximately USD 2.7 billion, representing 43 percent of all allocations to food-crisis countries and territories (see below the paragraph on *development assistance in conflict-affected countries*). The amount received by this group of countries increased from USD 2.3 billion in 2016 to USD 2.8 billion in 2018, then slightly decreased to USD 2.7 billion in 2019.

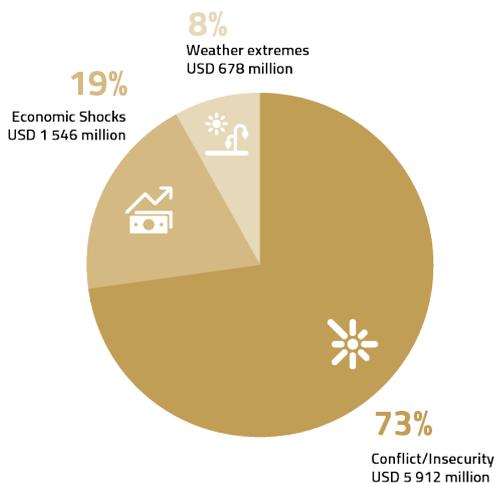
<sup>29</sup> FSIN & GNAFC. 2021. Global Report on Food Crises 2021. May. Rome. [here](#)

<sup>30</sup> Because of rounding, there may be minor discrepancies in totals within some charts and figures, and with the text.

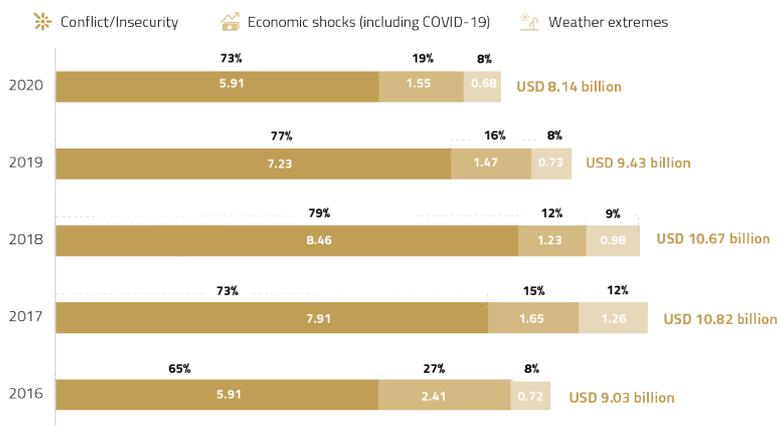
### Key findings

- Food crises primarily driven by conflict and insecurity received the largest shares of both humanitarian and development assistance.** Conflict and insecurity remained the major drivers of acute food insecurity in 2020, which was reflected in allocations of humanitarian assistance. Conflict-affected countries experiencing food crises absorbed 73 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors during 2020 (USD 5.9 billion) and 43 percent of development assistance during 2019 (USD 2.7 billion).
- Food crises primarily driven by economic shocks were the second largest group of recipients for both humanitarian and development assistance to food sectors, followed by food crises driven primarily by weather extremes.** In 2020, countries affected by economic shocks received 19 percent of all humanitarian allocations to food sectors (USD 1.5 billion) and comprised the second largest recipient group of development assistance to food sectors in 2019 (USD 2.6 billion). Countries with weather extremes as main driver of acute food insecurity received USD 678 million in humanitarian assistance for food sectors – 8 percent of the total – and received USD 1 billion development assistance in 2019.

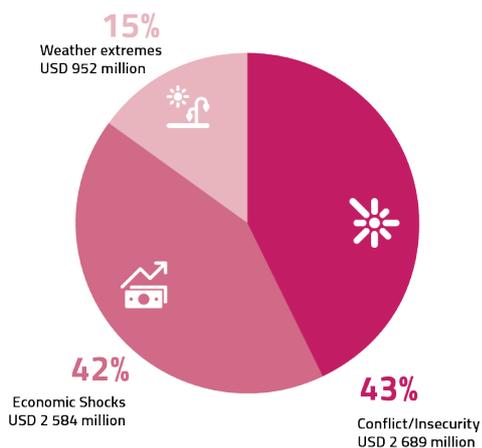
**Figure 07: Humanitarian allocations to food crises, by driver in 2020**



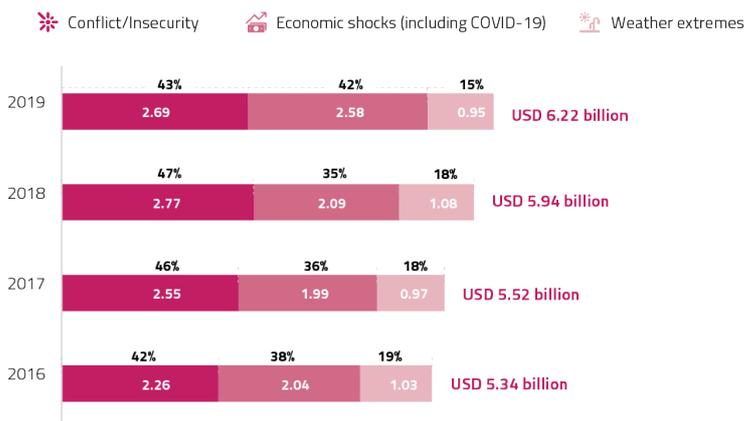
**Figure 08: Humanitarian allocations to food crises, by driver (2016-2020)**



**Figure 09: Development allocations to food crises, by driver in 2019**



**Figure 10: Development allocations to food crises, by driver (2016-2019)**



## DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN CONFLICT-AFFECTED COUNTRIES

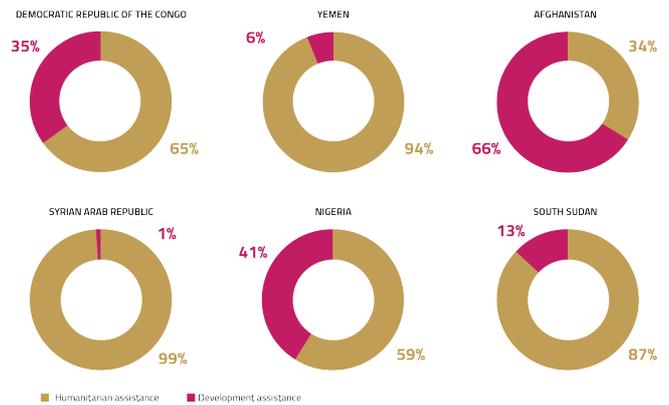
Although unequally allocated, a significant amount of **development assistance** was distributed to conflict-affected food-crisis countries and territories between 2016 and 2019 in order to sustain food and nutrition security. The six largest food crises affected by conflict received USD 1.1 billion each year on average during this period.

The total amount of **development assistance** received by these countries increased by 25 percent over this period, peaking in 2018 due to an increase of allocations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. From 2016 to 2019, development assistance increased in five of the six worst food crises driven by conflict, by: 30 percent in **the Democratic Republic of the Congo**; 84 percent in **Nigeria**; 30 percent in **South Sudan**; 53 percent in **the Syrian Arab Republic**; and 661 percent in **Yemen**. Only **Afghanistan** faced a continuous decrease over this period (of 33 percent).

Despite the increase in development assistance between 2016 and 2019, **the bulk of external financing to food sectors in**

**these countries comprised humanitarian assistance.** Overall, humanitarian assistance increased from USD 4.1 billion in 2016 to USD 5.6 billion in 2017, and then slowly decreased until 2019 (USD 4.7 billion) – although it remained higher than its 2016 level. Between 2016 and 2019, South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Yemen received around 90 percent of their external financing to food sectors as humanitarian assistance; in **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** and **Nigeria**, this total neared 60 percent. However, despite their humanitarian allocations, acute food insecurity in all these countries remained extremely high.

**Figure 11: Balance of humanitarian and development allocation (2016–2019) in the six worst food crises affected by conflict**



**Figure 12: Total allocations of development assistance (2016–2019) in the six worst food-crisis countries and territories affected by conflict**



## EXTERNAL FINANCING BY SECTOR

This section analyses the levels of funding within humanitarian and development assistance by food sector: food security, nutrition and agriculture.

In 2020, humanitarian assistance to **food security** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – comprised 79 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors (USD 6.4 billion). While its volume in absolute terms decreased by 13 percent in 2020 compared to 2019 (or USD 1 billion), food security was consistently the most-funded food sector in all five years of analysis. Humanitarian assistance to **agriculture and livelihoods** represented 8 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors in 2020 (USD 671 million), decreasing by more than 50 percent since 2016. **Countries and territories with food crises** received nearly USD 1.1 billion in 2020 for **nutrition**, or 13 percent of the total humanitarian allocation to food sectors – a decrease of nearly 25 percent compared to 2019, when it almost reached USD 1.4 billion. Despite a yearly decrease, the share of humanitarian assistance to **nutrition** increased from 7 percent of all assistance to food sectors in 2016 to 13 percent in 2020.

**Development assistance to agriculture** amounted to USD 3.7 billion in 2019, or 59 percent of development funding to food crises. **Development food assistance**, which is intended for social protection programmes and long-term household food security, was the second most-funded sector in 2019, receiving 14 percent of assistance to food sectors (USD 850 million). **Rural development** and **basic nutrition** were the other sectors to receive the most funding, with 11 percent (USD 712 million) and 9 percent (USD 579 million), respectively.

Between 2016 and 2019, the disbursements of **development assistance by sector** does not appear to have changed. **Agriculture** was consistently the most-funded sector, followed by **development food assistance**, **rural development** and **basic nutrition**.

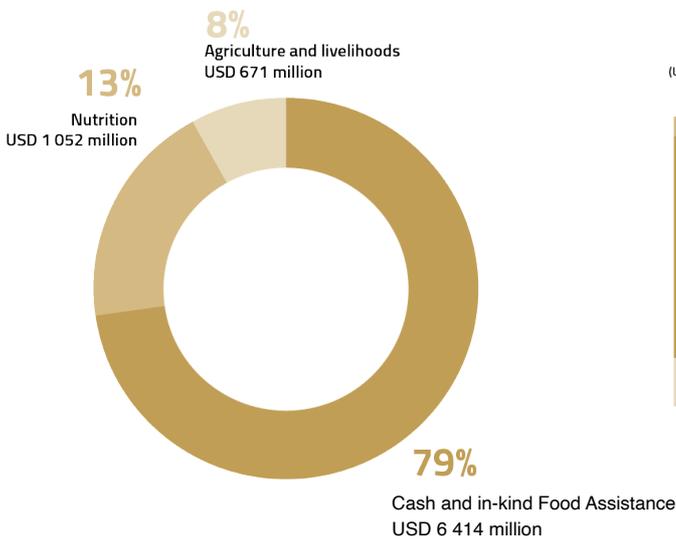
### Key findings

- **Food security - mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance - was consistently the most-funded food sector by humanitarian assistance.** Humanitarian assistance to food security was the highest funded of all three food sectors in all types of crises (conflict and insecurity, economic shocks, and weather extremes). In 2020, it comprised 79 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors (USD 6.4 billion).
- **Humanitarian assistance for agriculture and livelihoods have significantly decreased.** In 2020, these allocations represented 8 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors (USD 671 million) – a more than 50 decrease since 2016. Countries affected by conflict and insecurity received a lower share than countries affected by other drivers of acute food insecurity.
- **Agriculture was consistently the most-funded sector of development assistance to food sectors.** Although less attractive for humanitarian assistance allocations, agriculture represented 59 percent of all development assistance to the 50 food-crisis countries and territories (excluding refugee crises) in 2019.
- **The nutrition sector also received low allocations of both humanitarian and development assistance, particularly when compared to the other food sectors.** Within humanitarian sectors, the level of funding for nutrition was 13 percent (USD 1.1 billion) in 2020, while showing a significant increase during the years of analysis. Development assistance for basic nutrition stagnated at 10 percent of the total (USD 579 million) in 2019.

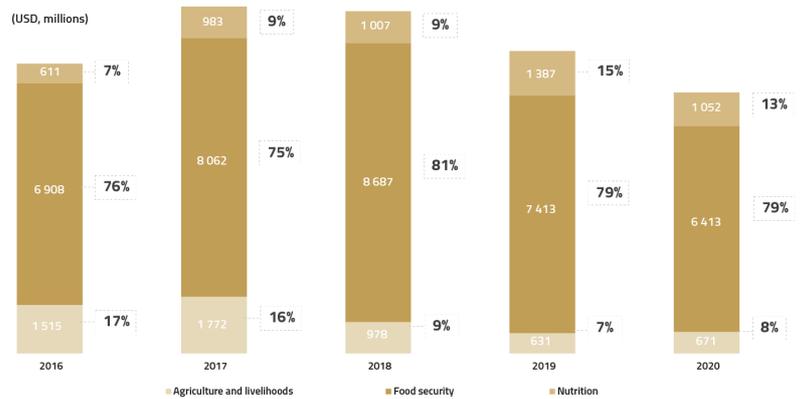
**DEFINITION OF FOOD SECTORS**

- For **humanitarian assistance**, disbursements to **food security** include assistance aimed at improving or safeguarding food security by providing cash or in-kind food assistance. Disbursements to **agriculture and livelihoods** include assistance aimed at improving and safeguarding food security through increased food production. Disbursements to **nutrition** include assistance aimed at improving and safeguarding nutrition and health.
- For **development assistance**, the main sectors included in the analysis of are agriculture, basic nutrition, development food assistance, fishing, forestry, rural development, and school feeding (additional sectors such as food safety and quality, food security policy and administrative management, and household food security programmes were covered even though they received less than 1 percent). Among them, development food assistance supports lasting physical assets or human capital that benefit poor, food-insecure households and their communities. It is intended for social protection programmes and long-term household food security.
- Rural development** initiatives aim to increase smallholders' incomes, and include integrated rural development projects, land management, land use planning and the functional integration of rural and urban areas. See the appendix for more details on definitions.

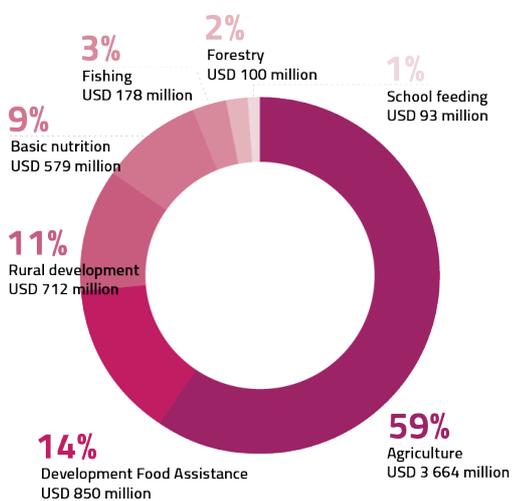
**Figure 13: Total humanitarian assistance allocated to food sectors in 2020**



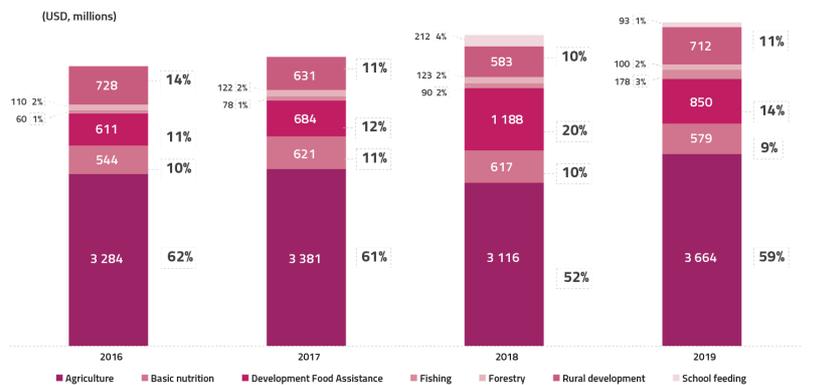
**Figure 14: Total humanitarian assistance allocated to food sectors (2016-2020)**



**Figure 15: Total development assistance allocated to food sectors in 2019**



**Figure 16: Total development assistance allocated to food sectors (2016-2019)**



## HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO FOOD SECTORS AND DRIVERS OF ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

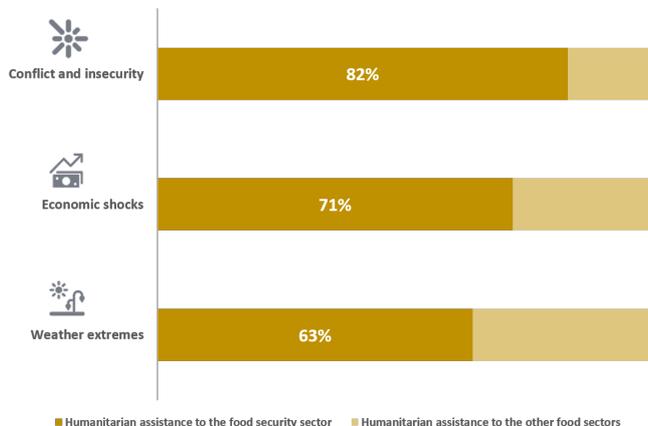
The 2021 GRFC indicates an alarming situation in terms of acute food insecurity, as well as concerning levels of malnutrition, with 15.8 million children under 5 wasted and 75.2 million children under 5 stunted in the 55 food-crisis countries and territories. This section analyses the levels of funding within humanitarian and development assistance by food sector: food security, nutrition and agriculture. Allocations of **humanitarian assistance** to each food sector were analysed along with the drivers of acute food insecurity over the five years of the analysis.

Humanitarian assistance to **food security** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – was the highest funded of all three sectors in all types of crises, comprising: 82 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors in crises characterised by conflict and insecurity; 71 percent in crises characterised by economic shocks; and 63 percent in crises characterised by weather extremes.

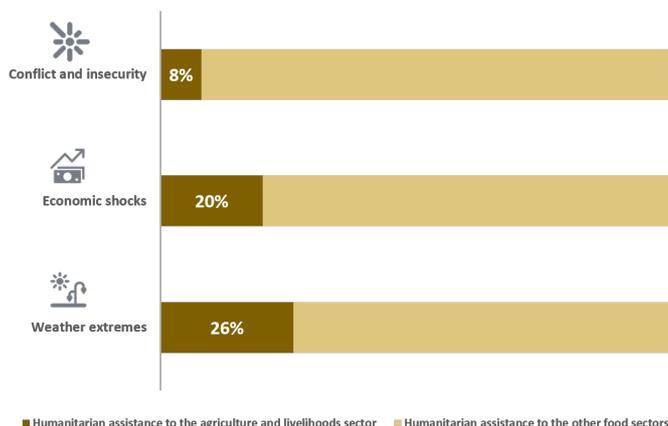
Humanitarian assistance to **agriculture and livelihoods** where primarily allocated to countries affected by weather extremes (26 percent), followed by countries experiencing economic shocks (20 percent) and countries affected by conflict and insecurity (8 percent).

Humanitarian assistance for **nutrition** appears balanced across the three main drivers, with 11 percent of humanitarian assistance allocated to food crises mainly driven by conflict and insecurity, 10 percent to crises driven by economic shocks and 11 percent to crises affected by weather extremes.

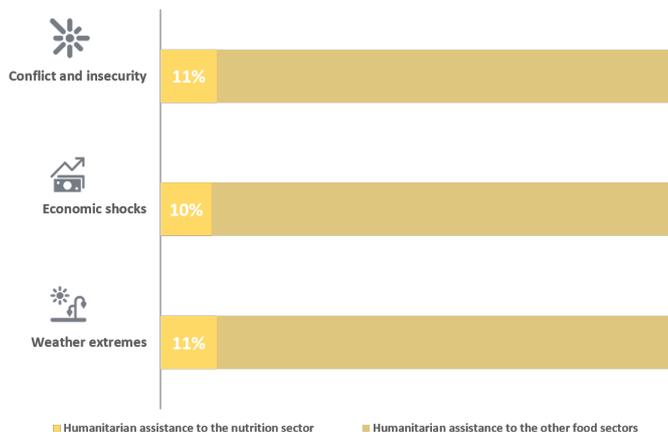
**Figure 17: Share of humanitarian assistance to the food security sector (2016–2020, averages), by driver of acute food insecurity**



**Figure 18: Share of humanitarian assistance to the agriculture and livelihoods sector (2016–2020, averages), by driver of acute food insecurity**



**Figure 19: Share of humanitarian assistance to the nutrition sector (2016–2020, averages), by driver of acute food insecurity**



## EXTERNAL FINANCING AND DELIVERY CHANNELS

Between 2016 and 2020, an average of 83 percent of **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors (USD 39.8 billion) was channeled through the United Nations system – mirroring the trend in humanitarian assistance to all sectors (with 80 percent). The second major delivery channel was non-governmental organizations (NGOs), which delivered 13 percent of assistance (USD 6 billion). Together, United Nations organizations and NGOs channeled approximately 95 percent of the humanitarian assistance allocated to food sectors in food-crisis countries and territories.

Some differences in delivery patterns appear when data are disaggregated by the major drivers of acute food insecurity. In crises where economic shocks were the main driver of acute food insecurity, the involvement of NGOs and national governments was relatively more important in channeling humanitarian assistance to food sectors. In countries affected by conflict and insecurity, and weather extremes, humanitarian assistance to food sectors was predominantly channeled through United Nations organizations.

In 2019, 55 percent of **development assistance** was channeled through **public-sector institutions**. The second major delivery channel for development assistance to food sectors was **NGOs** and civil society organizations (**CSOs**), which delivered 20 percent of assistance in 2019. The third main

channel for development assistance was United Nations and other **multilateral organizations**, which delivered 17 percent of assistance. Together, public sector institutions, NGOs and multilateral and United Nations organizations channeled over 90 percent of all development assistance to food sectors in food-crisis countries and territories.

### Key findings

- United Nations and other multilateral organizations were the major delivery channel of humanitarian assistance to food sectors.** In 2020, more than 80 percent of the total humanitarian assistance to food sectors was channeled through United Nations and other multilateral organizations. This is reflected in countries affected by conflict and insecurity, and weather extremes. In crises where economic shocks were the main driver of acute food insecurity, the involvement of NGOs and public-sector institutions was more important.
- Public-sector institutions were the major delivery channel of development assistance to food sectors.** These institutions constituted the main delivery channel of development assistance to food sectors between 2016 and 2019, channeling 55 percent of all disbursements, followed by NGOs and civil society organizations (CSOs), with 20 percent, and multilateral organizations, with 17 percent.

Figure 20: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2020)

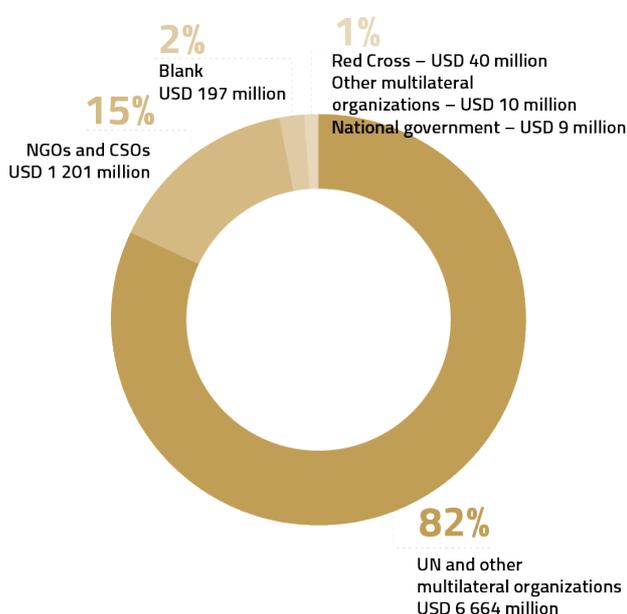
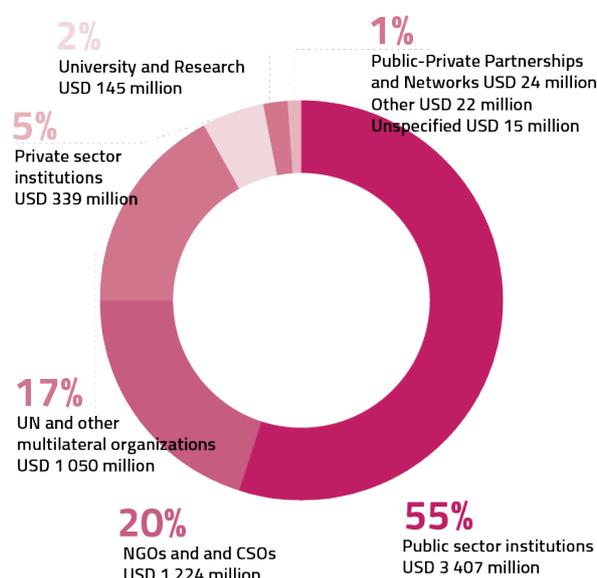


Figure 21: Development assistance delivery channels (2019)



## LARGEST RECIPIENTS OF EXTERNAL FINANCING TO FOOD SECTORS

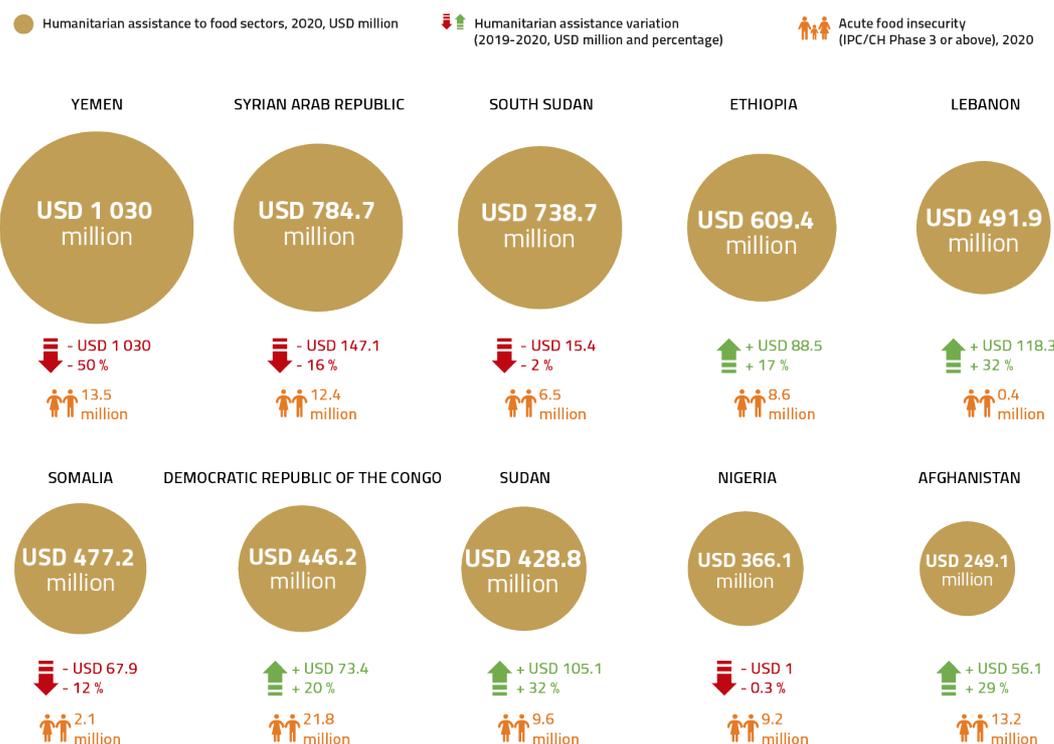
In 2020, the ten largest recipients of humanitarian assistance to food sectors were: **Yemen** (USD 1 billion); the **Syrian Arab Republic** (USD 785 million); **South Sudan** (USD 739 million); **Ethiopia** (USD 609 million); **Lebanon** (USD 492 million); **Somalia** (USD 477 million); **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** (USD 446 million); **the Sudan** (USD 429 million); **Nigeria** (USD 366 million); and **Afghanistan** (USD 249 million). That year, these ten countries were home to 63 percent of all people in acute food insecurity requiring urgent action (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) globally. In 2020, humanitarian assistance to the ten countries represented almost 70 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors in the 55 food-crisis countries and territories. The remaining 30 percent was split among the other 45 food-crisis countries and territories.

As shown in the infographic below, out of these ten countries, five recorded an increase in humanitarian assistance between 2019 and 2020: **Lebanon** (32 percent increase), **the Sudan** (32 percent increase), **Afghanistan** (29 percent increase), **the Democratic Republic**

### Key findings

- **The ten largest recipients of humanitarian assistance to food sectors are home to the majority of the people in Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) worldwide.** In 2020, the ten largest recipient countries of humanitarian assistance received almost 70 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors. These ten countries are home to 63 percent of all people in acute food insecurity requiring urgent action (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) globally.
- **There was a significant decrease in humanitarian assistance in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen.** Among the ten largest recipients of humanitarian assistance, the two major decreases in disbursements in 2020 were reported in Yemen (with a decrease of USD 1 billion – or 50 percent from the previous year’s allocation) and the Syrian Arab Republic (with a USD 147 million – or 16 percent decrease).
- **The ten largest recipients of development assistance to food sectors received almost 60 percent of all development assistance to food sectors.** **Ethiopia** and **Kenya** alone absorbed more than 20 percent of this assistance.

Figure 22: Ten largest recipients of humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2020) and variations between 2019 and 2020



## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

of the **Congo** (20 percent increase) and **Ethiopia** (17 percent increase). Among the ten largest recipients of humanitarian assistance, decreases in humanitarian disbursements were reported in: **Yemen** (with a decrease of USD 1 billion – or 50 percent from the previous year’s allocation); **the Syrian Arab Republic** (USD 147 million – a 16 percent decrease); and **Somalia** (USD 68 million – a 12 percent decrease). Only two countries maintained humanitarian disbursements to food sectors between 2019 and 2020 at similar levels: **Nigeria and South Sudan**.

With regard to **development assistance**,<sup>31</sup> in 2019 (the latest data available), the ten largest recipients were: **Ethiopia** (at USD 689 million), **Kenya** (USD 682 million), **Nigeria** (USD 428 million), **Pakistan** (USD 316 million), **Mali** (USD 292 million), **Afghanistan** (USD 291 million), **the Niger** (USD 229 million), **the Sudan** (USD 219 million), **Uganda** (USD 219 million) and **Burkina Faso** (USD 195 million). In seven of these countries, conflict and insecurity was the main driver of acute food insecurity, while economic shocks were the major driver of the other three.

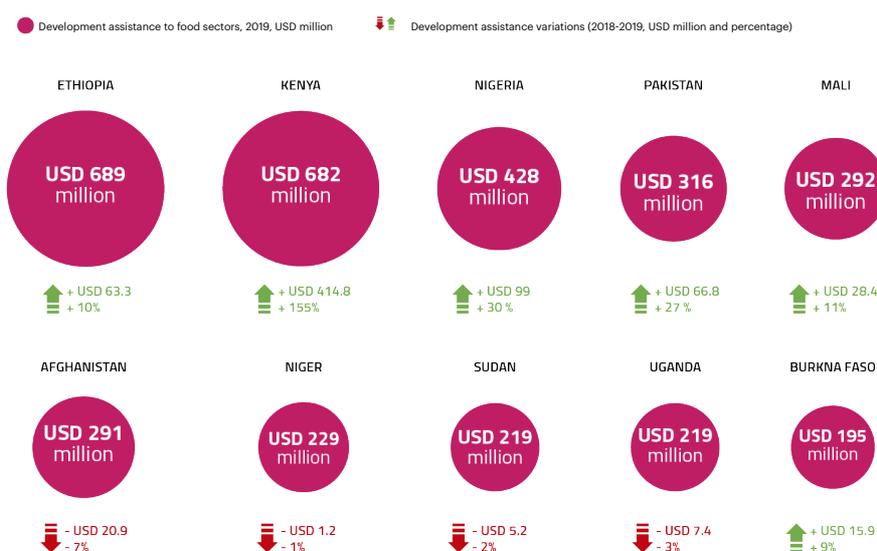
Cumulatively, these ten countries received 57 percent of all development assistance to food-crisis countries and territories in 2019; the remaining 43 percent was split among the other 40 countries and territories. Similarly, the

20 largest recipients of development assistance appear to have received 80 percent of the total in 2019, further highlighting the imbalance across countries in terms of volume disbursed. Of the ten largest recipients of development assistance, six witnessed an increase in the allocation to food sectors between 2018 and 2019. **Kenya** saw the largest increase in its yearly allocation, by 415 million (a 155 percent increase). **Nigeria’s** allocation increased by 99 million (30 percent), **Pakistan’s** by 67 million (27 percent), **Mali’s** by 28 million (11 percent), **Ethiopia’s** by 63 million (10 percent) and **Burkina Faso’s** by 16 million (9 percent).

Outside the ten largest recipients, notable **increases** (of more than 100 percent) in **development assistance to food sectors** were recorded in: **Zimbabwe** (receiving USD 127 million in 2019 – an increase of 105 percent from 2018); **Iraq** (receiving USD 31 million in 2019 – a 126 percent increase from 2018); and **Lesotho** (receiving USD 16 million in 2019 – a 135 percent increase from 2018).

Notable **decreases** (of more than 40 percent) in **development assistance** to food sectors were recorded in: **Libya**, where the development disbursements dropped by USD 1.2 million (99 percent); **South Sudan**, where disbursements dropped by USD 151 million

**Figure 23: Ten largest recipients of development assistance in 2019, and variations between 2018 and 2019**



<sup>31</sup> Data on development assistance for the five countries and territories with refugee crises were not included in the analysis. These countries are: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey (Syrian refugees); and Bangladesh (Rohingya refugees). See the annex for more information about the methodology.

between 2018 and 2019 (a 54 percent decrease); **Ukraine**, where disbursements dropped by 14.7 million (49 percent); the **Syrian Arab Republic**, with a USD 13.2 million decrease (46 percent); **Haiti**, where it dropped by USD 67 million (a 41 percent decrease); and **Guinea-Bissau**, where the disbursement dropped by 7.9 million (40 percent).

Importantly, **the Syrian Arab Republic, Chad, Mozambique, and Togo** faced decreases in development assistance in 2018 and 2019, together with decreases in humanitarian assistance and significant increases in acute food insecurity during 2019 and 2020.

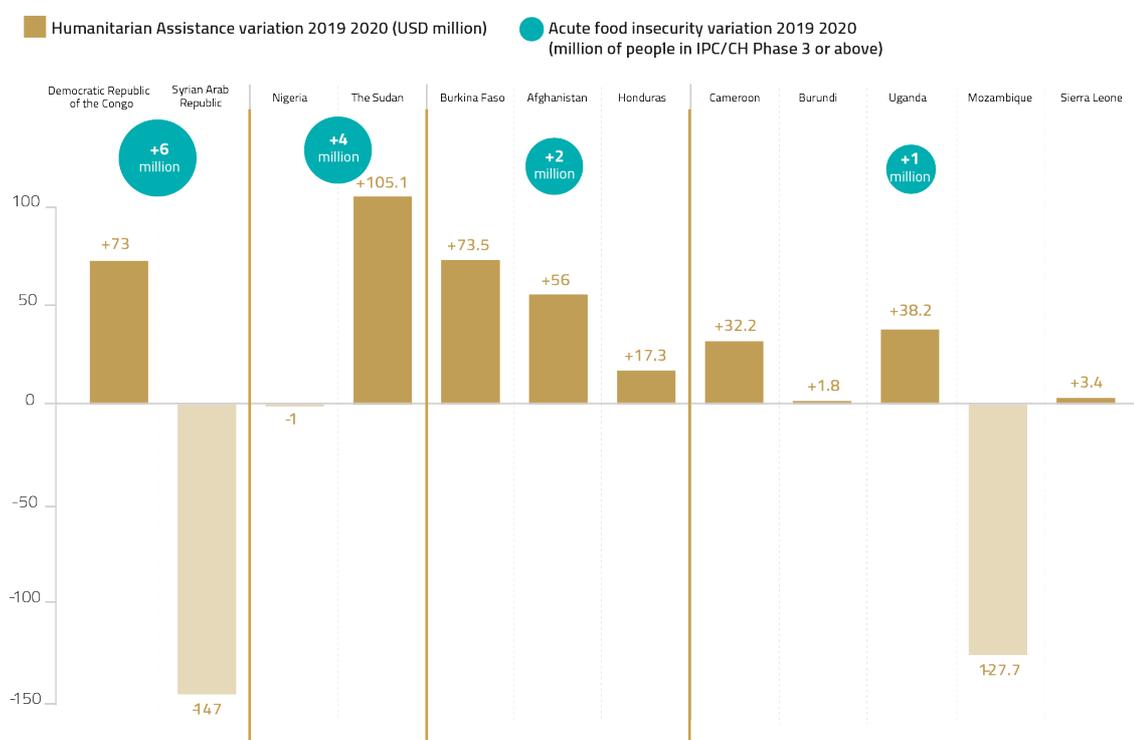
## HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

Between 2019 and 2020, the total humanitarian assistance to food sectors allocated to the 55 food-crisis countries and territories decreased by 14 percent. Conversely, the GRFC documented a large increase in acute food

insecurity in these two years – mostly due to conflict and economic shocks, including the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>32</sup> As indicated in the 2021 GRFC, in 2019 and 2020, the additional 20 million affected people were mainly in 12 food-crisis countries and territories. Although a direct correlation between the number of people in acute food insecurity and allocations of humanitarian assistance was not sought, as the graph below shows, disbursements of humanitarian assistance were uneven compared to the trend in acute food insecurity in these 12 countries, especially in 2019 and 2020.

Between 2019 and 2020, **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** and **the Syrian Arab Republic** both witnessed an increase of 6 million people in acute food insecurity. While humanitarian allocations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo increased by USD 73 million (20 percent from the previous year), the allocation to the Syrian Arab Republic decreased by USD 147 million (a 16 percent drop). In both **Nigeria and the Sudan**, acutely food insecure populations increased by 4 million. Allocations to the Sudan increased by

**Figure 24: Humanitarian assistance variation in the 12 countries and territories with the largest increases in the number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 3 and above) between 2019 and 2020**



<sup>32</sup> FSIN & GNAFC. 2021. Global Report on Food Crises 2021. May. Rome. [here](#)

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

32 percent (USD 105 million) between 2019 and 2020, and allocations to Nigeria remained static.

**Afghanistan, Burkina Faso and Honduras** all witnessed an increase of 2 million people in acute food insecurity. All three countries also saw an increase in humanitarian assistance, with Afghanistan receiving an additional USD 56 million, Burkina Faso USD 74 million, and Honduras USD 17 million. Finally, between 2019 and 2020, the acutely food insecure populations in **Burundi, Cameroon, Mozambique, Sierra Leone and Uganda** increased by 1 million each. Humanitarian assistance to Mozambique decreased by 128 million, while Burundi saw an increase of USD 2 million, Cameroon's allocation increased by 32 million, Sierra Leone's by 3 million and Uganda's by 38 million.<sup>33</sup>

## PEACE FUNDING

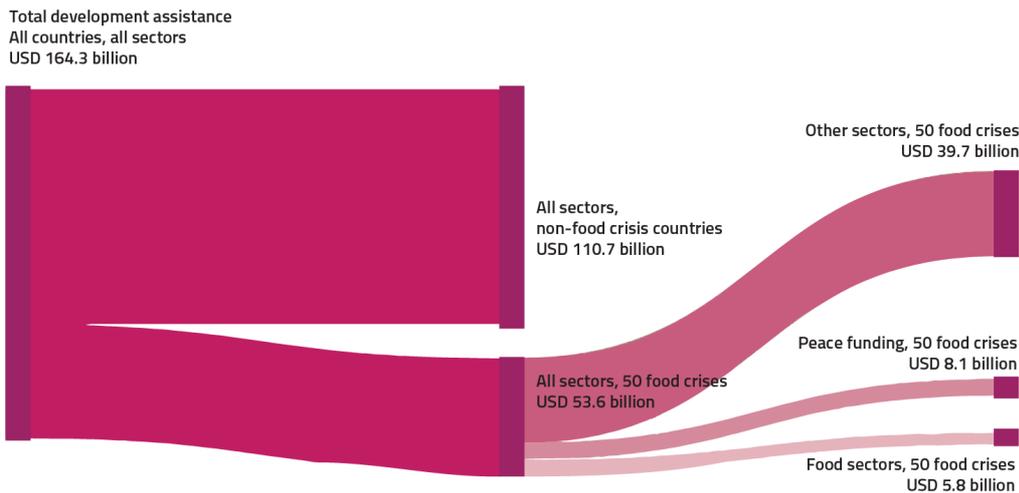
The analysis presented here is an attempt to provide a Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus perspective to the analysis. Funding allocated to build and sustain peace cannot be compared to the single sectors of assistance,

as it directly and indirectly contributes to all development and humanitarian interventions. For this reason, data on funding allocated to peace in food crisis countries and territories is presented separately from the analysis.

To define funding allocated to build and sustain peace in food crisis countries, the categories of peace-building areas and related mapping of OECD DAC CRS purpose codes developed by the United Nations (UN) Peace-building Support Office (PBSO) were used. In particular, PBSO identified **four peace-building priorities** directly focusing on building and sustaining peace: **Political Processes, Safety and Security, Rule of Law and Human Rights, and Core Government Functions.**

On average, between 2016 and 2019, peace funding in food crisis countries totalled USD 8.1 billion, which represents around 15 percent of all funding allocated to food-crisis countries, and 2.3 billion more than the amount allocated to food sectors. In the 50 countries characterised by food crisis, funding to peace increased from USD 7.7 billion in 2016 to USD 8.4 billion in 2019 (a 10 percent rise between the three years). In addition, it appears that peace funding to food crises represents on average 5 percent of the total development

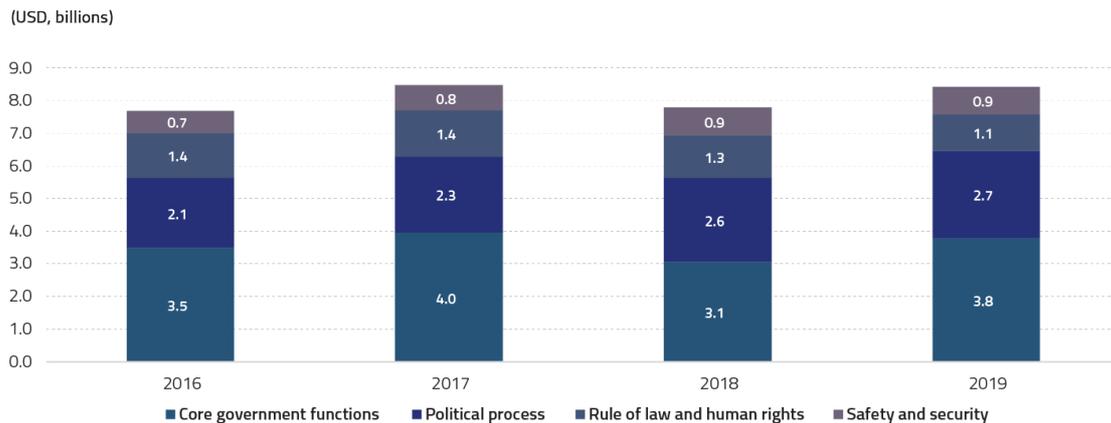
**Figure 25: Flow of development assistance worldwide, annual averages (2016-2019) in USD billions**



Note: the chart does not include aid coded as humanitarian in the CRS. However, one humanitarian purpose code (74020: 4.3 Multi-dimensional risk management) has been included to calculate the amount of funding to build and sustain peace, in line with PBSO methodology.

<sup>33</sup> The increases in acute food insecurity numbers observed in Burundi, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Honduras Mozambique, and Uganda also imply comparability issues (including enlarged analysis coverage in some countries or change in source of acute food insecurity analysis – for more details see GRFC 2021 Chapter 3 and p. 285).

**Figure 26: Total amount of development assistance allocated to build and sustain peace by peace-building priority (2016–2019)**



assistance allocated every year to all countries. Around 70 percent of peace funding goes to countries where conflict and insecurity were identified as the main drivers of acute food insecurity. The remaining 30 percent is equally split between countries affected by economic shocks and weather extremes.

The graph above shows the amount of development assistance allocated to build and sustain peace by peace-building priority. In the 50 countries characterised by food crisis the **“support core government processes”** peace-building priority (which includes “anti-corruption organisations and institutions”, “Decentralisation and support to subnational government”, “Multi-hazard response preparedness”, “Public finance management”, and “Public sector policy and administrative management”) received, on average, 45 percent of the peace funding.

The **“support to political processes”** priority (which includes “Civilian peace-building, conflict prevention and resolution”, “Democratic participation and civil society”, “Elections”, “Legislatures and political parties”, “Media and free flow of information”, “and Women’s rights organisations and movements, and government institutions”) received, on average, around 30 percent of the peace funding. It is interesting to note how “Civilian peace-building, conflict prevention and resolution” alone increased by around 30 percent over the four years of analysis.

Lastly, **“support to rule of law and human rights”** (including “Human rights”, and “Legal and judicial development”) and **“support to safety and security”** (including “Child soldiers prevention and demobilisation”, “Ending violence against women and girls”, “Reintegration and SALW control”, “Removal of land mines and explosive remnants of war”, and “Security system management and reform”) were the peace-building priorities receiving the smallest share of peace funding: on average 15 and 10 percent respectively.

## DOMESTIC EXPENDITURES AND REMITTANCES

While **Official Development Assistance (ODA)** remains an important source of development funding to low- and middle-income countries, other types of funding are growing in significance – and beginning to exceed ODA allocations. This report provides information on two funding sources for food security and nutrition that are growing in importance: (i) **domestic government expenditures**, which are allocated to food sectors in varying amounts depending on the country; and (ii) **remittances**, which represent a growing share of many low- and middle-income countries’ GDP, but are not necessarily used to improve food-security outcomes. The analysis of those two flows below is aimed at assisting decision makers in understanding the financial context within countries and territories with food crises.

**Data on domestic expenditures to food sectors for 2016–2020 were available for 28 countries.**<sup>34</sup> Governments of countries

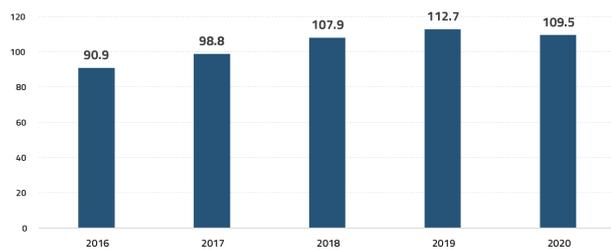
affected by food crises allocated significant amounts to food sectors during this period – in some cases, more than international actors. For example, over these five years, **Kenya** allocated USD 4.9 billion to agriculture, food security and nutrition, while **Nigeria** disbursed USD 3.9 billion (at the federal level only), **Ethiopia** USD 2.2 billion, **Zimbabwe** USD 1.7 billion, **Angola** USD 1.4 billion, **Cameroon** USD 1.2 billion and **Uganda** USD 1 billion.<sup>35</sup> The lowest levels of national public resources dedicated to food sectors during this time were reported in **Sierra Leone** (USD 112.6 million), **Burundi** (USD 80.1 million), **the Central African Republic** (USD 58.8 million), **Somalia** (USD 43 million) and **South Sudan** (USD 9.6 million).<sup>36</sup>

**Data on remittances in 2020** were available for 44 out of 50 countries and territories with food crises (excluding refugee crises). These financial flows represented USD 520 billion during 2016–2020. The ten largest recipients of remittances during this period were **Nigeria** (USD 112.7 billion), **Pakistan** (USD 100.8 billion), **Ukraine** (USD 77 billion), **Guatemala** (USD 47.5 billion), **El Salvador** (USD 27 billion), **Honduras** (USD 24 billion), **Haiti** (USD 14.4 billion), **Palestine** (USD 13.1 billion), **Kenya** (USD 12.8 billion) and **Senegal** (USD 11.5 billion). Remittance levels appear to change in response to economic shocks: a yearly decrease in the total amount of remittances to food-crisis countries and territories was only observed in two years since 2000: 2008 and 2020 (decreasing by 1 percent and 3 percent, respectively). In 2020, the ten countries that faced the largest decreases were Nigeria (with a decrease of USD 6.2 billion), Ukraine (decreasing by USD 1.1 billion), Uganda (a USD 391 million decrease), Haiti (a USD 321 million decrease), Palestine (USD 256 million), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (USD 94 million), Afghanistan (USD 89 million), Mali (USD 73

million), Senegal (USD 60 million), and the Sudan (USD 55 million).

Apart from the two years in which the total slightly decreased, remittances consistently increased by more than 2 percent each year since 2000. Between 2000 and 2020, they increased more than six-fold, and between 2016 and 2020 alone, they increased by 20 percent. Between 2019 and 2020, remittances to food-crisis countries and territories decreased slightly from USD 112.7 billion to USD 109.5 billion. In 2020, **El Salvador, Guatemala, Kenya, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Zambia** and **Zimbabwe** saw increases in remittances from USD 65 million to USD 3.9 billion.<sup>37</sup> In terms of share of GDP, in 2020 remittances represented between 20 percent and 35 percent in **El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Lesotho, Somalia** and **South Sudan**.<sup>38</sup>

**Figure 27: Migrant remittance inflows in 44 food crises excl. refugee crises (USD billion constant 2019 prices)**



Source: World Bank calculation based on IMF Balance of Payments Statistics database and data from central banks, national statistical agencies, and World Bank country desks. See also Migration and Development Brief 28, Appendix A.

**At the global level, excluding China, remittances in 2020** are estimated to have been larger in volume in absolute terms than ODA and Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) together, notably because of the significant decrease in FDI to low- and middle-income countries that year. However, it has to be noted that remittances are a form of short-term liquidity support, while ODA and FDIs are long-term investments. Remittances in low- and middle-income countries appear to have been

<sup>34</sup> Data were not available in 2016 for Burkina Faso, Mali, Madagascar Niger, and the United Republic of Tanzania; in 2017 for Burkina Faso; and in 2019 for Haiti. For Zambia, data were available only in 2017.

<sup>35</sup> In most cases, budget assistance was not taken into account in the analysis. However, it was not possible to exclude it for Angola, Cameroon, Kenya, the Niger, Nigeria, Palestine, Somalia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In the vast majority of cases, the data reported correspond to budget allocations – not actual disbursements.

<sup>36</sup> Although the same methodology was applied across countries to identify the domestic resources to food sectors, it was not always possible to compare data consistently for all of them. Caution must therefore be used in interpreting these data.

<sup>37</sup> Angola, Cabo Verde, Eswatini, the Gambia, Namibia and Sierra Leone also had an increase in 2020, though limited between USD 1 million and USD 8 million.

<sup>38</sup> Source: World Bank staff calculation based on data from the IMF Balance of Payments Statistics database and data releases from central banks, national statistical agencies, and World Bank country desks. See Migration and Development Brief 28, Appendix A for details. All numbers are in constant (2019) United States dollars.

resilient to the COVID-19-related socio-economic shocks owing to: fiscal stimulus packages deployed by governments; a shift in the ways money is transferred abroad (towards more formal digital transfers); and trends in

foreign exchange. However, given the lack of data on informal means of international money transfer, the full impacts of COVID-19 on remittances are still not well understood.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>39</sup> Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD). 2021. Resilience: COVID-19 crisis through a migration lens. Migration and Development Brief. Issue 34. May. [here](#).

## Chapter 2.

# Regional overview

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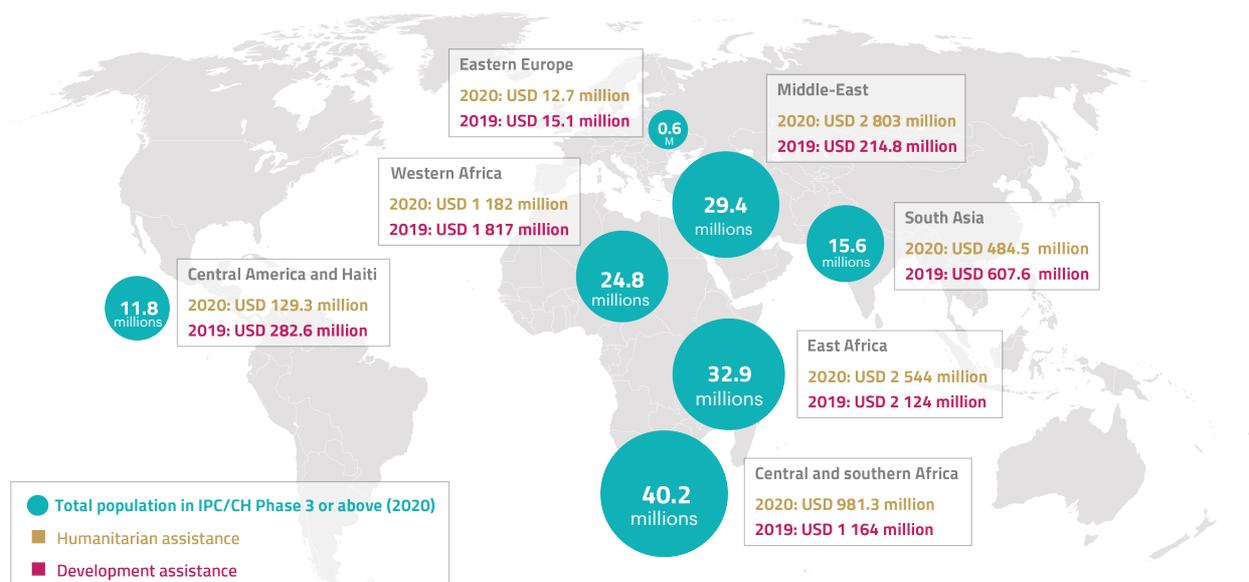
This chapter shows the levels of funding to humanitarian response and development investments in agriculture, food security and nutrition in food-crisis countries and territories, aggregated by region<sup>1</sup>. The analysis looks at humanitarian assistance in relation to acute food insecurity, the balance of development assistance and humanitarian allocations, disparities among countries within specific regions, the most-funded sectors and the main delivery channels.



<sup>1</sup> Regions are defined according to the GRFC regional division. The 55 food-crisis countries/territories are grouped into 5 regions: Central and Southern Africa, incorporating selected Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries and the Central African Republic; East Africa, including the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) countries and Burundi; West Africa and the Sahel, including countries covered by the Cadre Harmonisé (CH) methodology and Libya; Eurasia, focusing on Ukraine (Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts), the Middle East and South Asia; and Central America and Haiti.

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

**Figure 28: Humanitarian assistance and acute food insecurity (millions of people) in 2020, and development assistance in 2019, by region**



## OVERVIEW

In 2020, **Eurasia** accounted for 29 percent of the total number of acutely food insecure people in need of urgent assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above) globally (45.6 million). It was also the largest recipient of humanitarian assistance to food sectors, with USD 3.3 billion allocated to food crises in the region. It is worth noting that this region is home to three of the world's ten worst food crises – Afghanistan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen – which are largely driven by protracted conflict and insecurity. In terms of development assistance, the latest data indicate that Eurasia received USD 838 million in 2019, becoming the fourth largest recipient region of development assistance.<sup>40</sup>

**East Africa** was the second largest recipient of humanitarian assistance in 2020, with USD 2.5 billion allocated. That same year, there were 32.9 million acutely food-insecure people in need of urgent assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above), accounting for more than 20 percent of the total number globally. This region was also the largest recipient of development assistance in 2019, with USD 2.1 billion invested.

**West Africa and the Sahel** (including Libya and Cameroon) received the third greatest amount of humanitarian assistance in 2020, at

USD 1.2 billion. In this region, 24.8 million people faced high levels of acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 or above) accounting for 16 percent of the total number globally. These countries also received USD 1.8 billion in development assistance in 2019 and the region was the second largest recipient of development assistance to countries and territories with food crises.

**Central and Southern Africa** received the lowest amount of humanitarian assistance of any region in Africa in 2020, at USD 1 billion. However, the number of acutely food-insecure people in need of urgent assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above) was the highest on the continent, at 40.2 million, accounting for 26 percent of the total number globally. In terms of development assistance, Central and Southern Africa was the third largest recipient in Africa and the world, receiving USD 1.2 billion in development assistance to food sectors in 2019.

**Central America and the Caribbean** received USD 129 million in humanitarian assistance in 2020, despite being home to 11.8 million acutely food-insecure people in need of urgent assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above) – or 8 percent of the total number globally. This region received nearly USD 283 million in development assistance to food sectors in 2019.

<sup>40</sup> This excludes countries affected by refugee crises, for which development assistance is not specifically targeted to refugees facing a food crisis (unlike humanitarian assistance). These countries include Bangladesh, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

## EAST AFRICA

(Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda)

The flow of **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors in East African countries decreased from USD 3.7 billion in 2016 to USD 2.5 billion in 2020, despite peaking at USD 3.9 billion in 2017. The significant increase in humanitarian allocations in 2017 reflects a particular humanitarian situation: famine was declared in two counties of South Sudan,<sup>41</sup> and 29.4 million people were experiencing acute food insecurity at IPC Phase 3 or higher due to conflict and *El Niño*-related drought. However, this trend did not follow that of acute food insecurity, which continuously increased from 26.1 million people in IPC Phase 3 or above in 2016 to 32.9 million in 2020.

Despite the general decrease across all countries across East Africa, humanitarian allocations to food sectors were concentrated in the countries with the highest levels of acute food insecurity. In 2020, **Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan** and **the Sudan** accounted for 82 percent of all those facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above), and 90

Figure 29: East Africa region, map of the countries



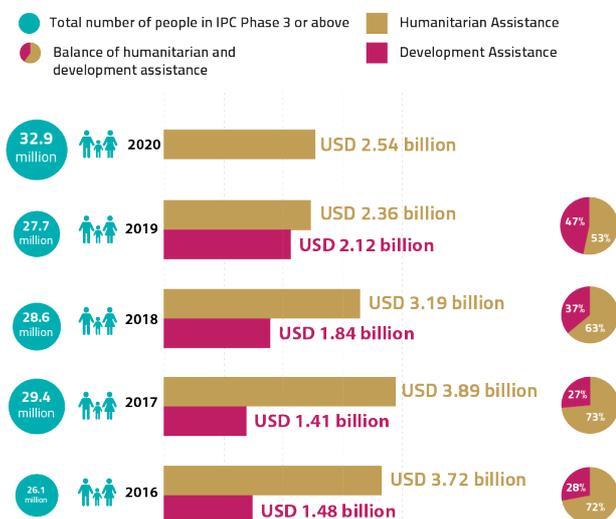
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Global Network Against Food Crises concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on map represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

## Key findings

- In 2020, East Africa had the third largest population in **acute food insecurity** and was the second largest recipient region of **humanitarian assistance**. It was also largest recipient of **development assistance** in 2019.
- **Humanitarian allocations to food sectors decreased between 2016 and 2020 in most countries.** However, humanitarian allocations were concentrated in the countries with the highest levels of acute food insecurity. In 2020, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and the Sudan accounted for 82 percent of the region's acutely food-insecure population, receiving 90 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors.
- **At the same time, development assistance to food sectors in the region increased between 2016 and 2019.** In 2019, Ethiopia and Kenya alone concentrated 65 percent of all development assistance to the region. Development assistance was concentrated in countries with more stable institutional contexts, and was often limited (although increasing) in countries affected by protracted conflict.
- Between 2016 and 2019, humanitarian assistance in the region represented two thirds of all funding to food sectors. The predominance of humanitarian assistance over these four years was particularly evident in **Somalia, South Sudan** and the **Sudan**.
- Although **humanitarian funding for food security** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – decreased by almost 30 percent between 2016 and 2020, it **remained the most-funded sector overall**. The agriculture and livelihoods sector witnessed a decline in allocations from 2017 onwards, dropping by 70 percent between 2016 and 2020 to become the least-funded sector in East Africa.
- On the other hand, in 2019, **agriculture was the most-funded sector in terms of development assistance**, with USD 1.2 billion – more than 250 percent of the total followed by development food assistance, which includes social safety net programmes and long-term programmes to support household food security.

<sup>41</sup> IPC South Sudan Technical Working Group. 2017. IPC alert. Issue no. 6. 20 February. [here](#)

**Figure 30: Number of people (million) in IPC Phase 3 or above and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), development assistance (2016-2019), and the balance between humanitarian and development allocations (2016-2019)**

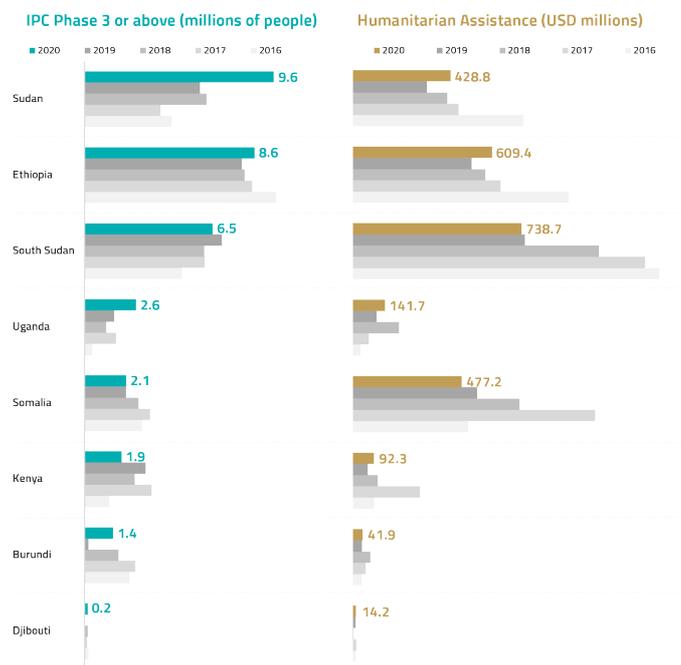


percent of humanitarian assistance to food sectors.

In **the Sudan**, despite an increase in acute food insecurity from 4.4 million in 2016 to 9.6 million in 2020, humanitarian allocations remained relatively low. These allocations decreased from USD 750 million in 2016 to USD 430 million in 2020. While the country comprised 29 percent of humanitarian needs related to food security, agriculture and nutrition in the region, it received 17 percent of the funding.

In **South Sudan**, humanitarian assistance significantly decreased from 2016–2020 although the food-security situation did not improve. The USD 738.7 million allocated in 2020 was nearly half the 2016 allocation, despite the fact that 1.5 million more people were acutely food insecure and in need of urgent assistance. In **Ethiopia**<sup>42</sup> and **Somalia**, the decrease in humanitarian assistance to food sectors over the five years of analysis did not reflect significant improvement in the acute food insecurity situation. In Somalia, humanitarian financing decreased by 55 percent between 2017 and 2020, and in Ethiopia it decreased by 35 percent from its 2016 level.

**Figure 31: Number of people (million) in IPC Phase 3 or above and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), by country**



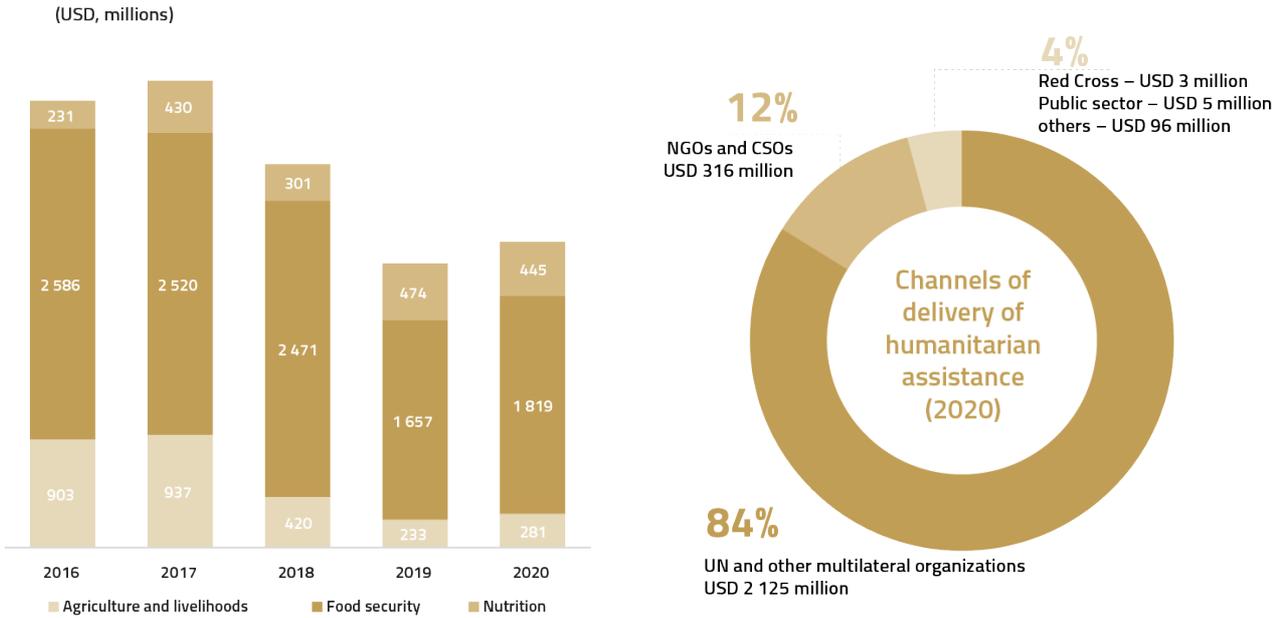
### Looking at humanitarian assistance by food sector, in 2020:

71 percent was allocated to food security (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance); 17 percent to nutrition; and 11 percent to agriculture and livelihoods. The nutrition sector was the only sector to witness an increase between 2016 and 2020, almost doubling during that time. Funding for food security decreased by almost 30 percent between 2016 and 2020, but it remained the most-funded sector overall. The agriculture and livelihoods sector witnessed a decline in allocations from 2017 onwards, dropping by 70 percent between 2016 and 2020 to become the least-funded sector in East Africa. In 2020, **United Nations and other multilateral organizations** were the most significant actors in East Africa in terms of **humanitarian funding**, receiving 84 percent (approximately USD 2.1 billion). **NGOs** and **CSOs** were the second most prominent, receiving 12 percent of humanitarian funding (USD 316 million). The public sector, Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC), and other actors channeled less than 4 percent of the total.

**Development assistance** to food sectors in the region continuously increased between

<sup>42</sup> The 2021 GRFC did not consider the food-security implications of the Tigray crisis, which started near the end of 2020, and for which food security data was limited at the time of analysis.

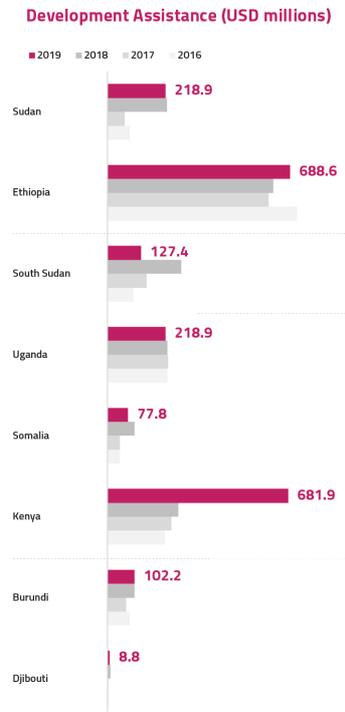
Figure 32: Humanitarian assistance by sector (2016-2020) and channels of delivery (2020)



2016 and 2019, from USD 1.5 billion to USD 2.1 billion, with Kenya and Sudan accounting for 93 percent of growth. However, there were **significant differences in allocations** among countries. In 2019, **Somalia, South Sudan and the Sudan** received only 20 percent of all development assistance to food sectors in the region. Countries characterised by more stable institutional contexts, including **Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda**, saw more stable and sizeable investments in development assistance during 2016–2019 than those affected by protracted conflict.<sup>43</sup> **Ethiopia and Kenya** alone concentrated 65 percent of all development assistance to the region in 2019. In 2019, **agriculture** was the most-funded sector in terms of **development assistance**, with USD 1.2 billion – more than 50 percent of the total. The second most-funded sector in 2019 was **development food assistance** – which includes social safety net programmes and long-term programmes to support household food security – with USD 470 million. Development food assistance witnessed a major increase in 2018, when it increased by 144 percent from the previous year. Funding for basic **nutrition** and **rural development** remained relatively stable from 2016 to 2020, varying between USD 108 million and USD 210 million.

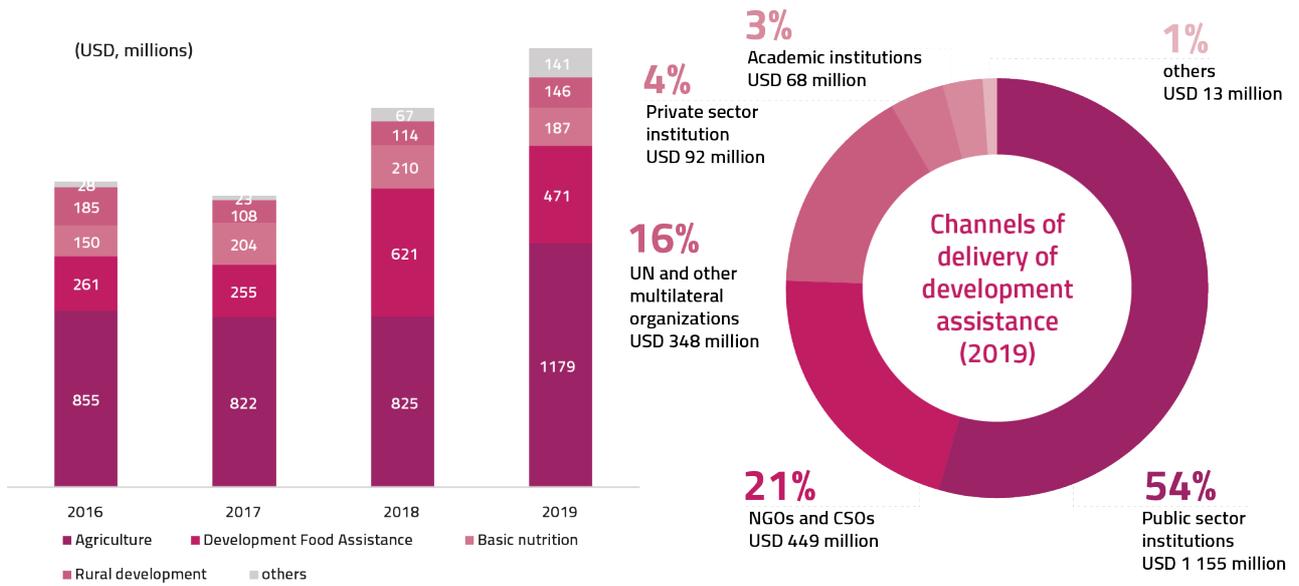
**Development assistance** in East Africa was mainly channeled through **public institutions**, which received 54 percent of assistance in 2019. **United Nations** and other **multilateral organizations** received 16 percent, and **NGOs**

Figure 33: Development assistance (2016-2019), by country



<sup>43</sup> Exception for Kenya in 2019, which saw a 155 percent increase compared to 2018.

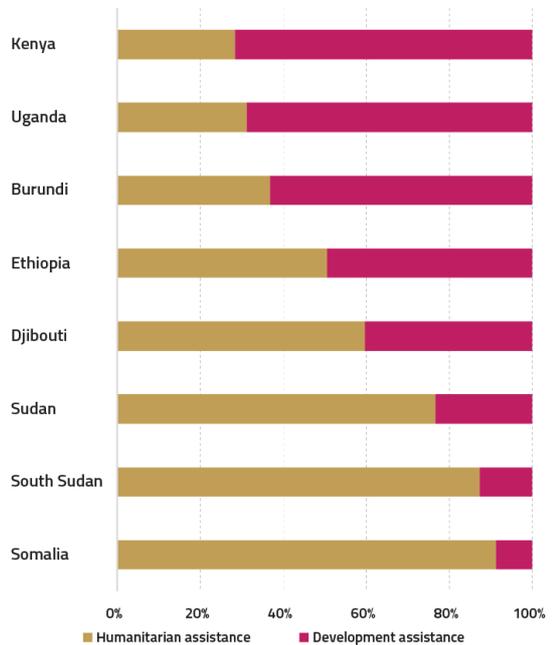
Figure 34: Development assistance by sector (2016-2019) and channels of delivery (2019)



and **CSOs** received 21 percent. The **private sector** and **academia** received 8 percent.

Looking at the **balance between humanitarian and development assistance**, humanitarian assistance represented two thirds of all funding to food sectors between 2016 and 2019. The predominance of humanitarian assistance over these four years was particularly evident in **Somalia** (where it accounted for 91 percent of all funding), **South Sudan** (87 percent) and **the Sudan** (77 percent). Other states in the region were more balanced in terms of funding, although **Kenya** and **Uganda** received 72 percent and 69 percent respectively of allocations to food sectors in the form of development assistance.

Figure 35: Balance (percentage) between humanitarian and development assistance (2016-2019), by country



## WEST AFRICA AND THE SAHEL

incorporating **Cameroon** and **Libya**

**Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo**

In 2020, **Humanitarian assistance** to food sectors in the region reached USD 1.2 billion, reversing a decrease over the two previous years that followed a peak of USD 1.7 billion in 2017. This trend largely followed **acute food insecurity** needs in the region between 2016 and 2019<sup>44</sup> – with a significant increase in 2017, when Nigeria faced catastrophic levels of acute food insecurity, and in 2018 with the pastoralist crisis in the Sahel. In 2020 however, assistance did not match the scale of increasing need. That year, 24.8 million people faced high levels of acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 or above) – almost double the number in 2019 – amid intensified conflict and mass displacement in the Central Sahel, the Lake Chad Basin and Cameroon. The COVID-19

**Figure 36: West Africa region (incorporating Cameroon and Libya), map of the countries**



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Global Network Against Food Crises concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on map represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

<sup>44</sup> Togo and Cabo Verde were not included in this analysis. No data were available for Côte d'Ivoire in 2017.

## Key findings

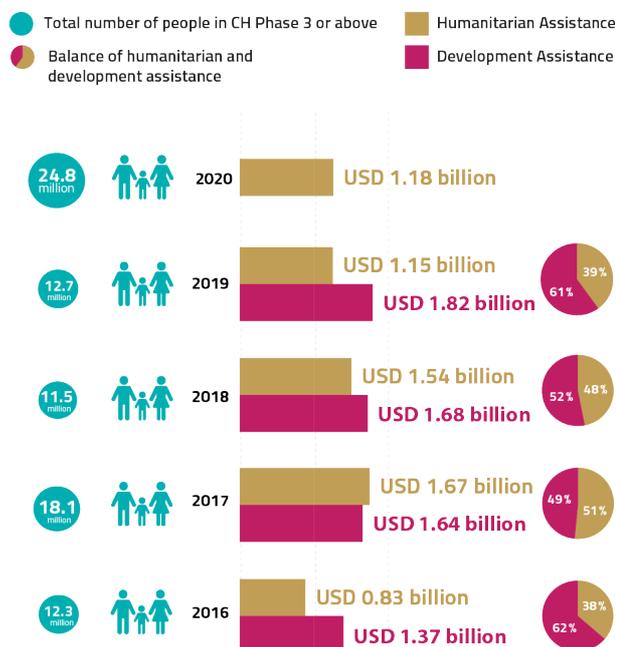
- This region was the **third largest recipient of humanitarian assistance in 2020** and the **second largest recipient region for development assistance in 2019**. However, despite the sharp increase in acute food insecurity in 2020, humanitarian assistance plateaued at similar levels as previous years while development assistance to the region continuously increased between 2016 and 2019.
- The largest recipients of humanitarian assistance were **Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Mali, the Niger and Nigeria**. These countries accounted for almost 80 percent of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 or above) in the region, and received close to 95 percent of humanitarian allocations to food sectors. Regarding development assistance, in 2019, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, the Niger, Nigeria and Senegal received more than 70 percent.
- With few exceptions, **most countries received a balanced allocation of humanitarian and development assistance** – even those affected by protracted crises.
- **In 2020, humanitarian assistance was significantly unbalanced towards the food security sector** (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance), which absorbed 72 percent of the share while agriculture and livelihoods received only 9 percent. In 2019, over 70 percent of development assistance to food sectors was allocated to agriculture.

pandemic and related socio-economic shocks only exacerbated these needs. Yet in 2020 the level of humanitarian assistance remained similar to 2019 – at USD 1.2 billion for the region. Nearly all this assistance was directed towards six conflict-affected countries.

In 2020, the **largest recipients** of humanitarian assistance were **Nigeria** (USD 366 million), **the Niger** (USD 210 million), **Chad** (USD 143 million), **Cameroon** (USD 141 million), **Burkina Faso**, (USD 133 million) and **Mali** (USD 132 million). These countries accounted for nearly 80 percent of those facing high levels of acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 or above) in the

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

**Figure 37: Number of people (million) in CH Phase 3 or above and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), development assistance (2016-2019), and the balance between humanitarian and development allocations (2016-2019)**



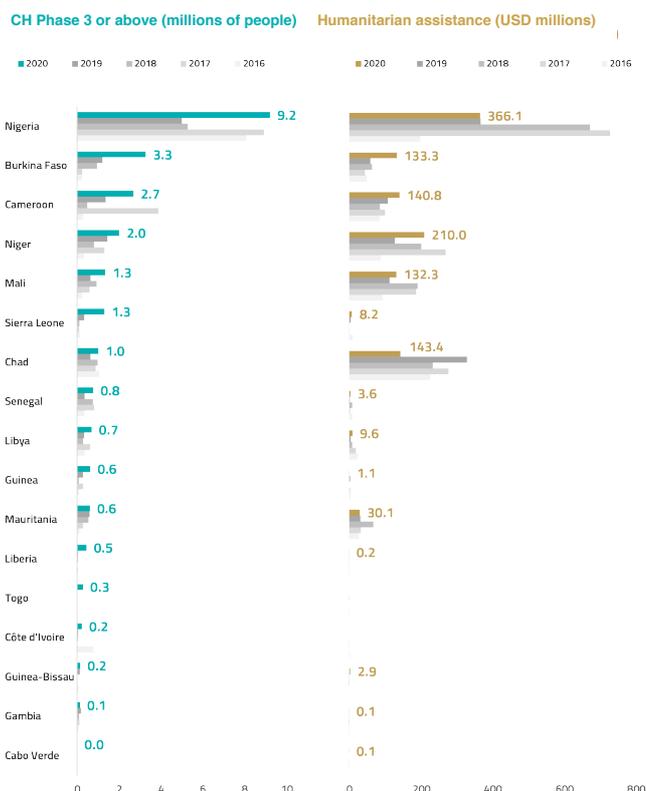
region, and together received almost 95 percent of all humanitarian allocations to food sectors. Between 2019 and 2020, these countries witnessed a significant deterioration in food security.

While humanitarian allocations to **Burkina Faso** and **the Niger** (and to a lesser extent to **Cameroon** and **Mali**) increased, they remained stagnant in **Nigeria** (where the population in acute food insecurity rose from 5 million in 2019 to 9.2 million in 2020), and decreased in **Chad**.

In **Guinea**, **Liberia** and **Sierra Leone**, humanitarian allocations did not increase even though food security deteriorated sharply in 2020 (between 2019 and 2020, the number of people experiencing acute food insecurity at Crisis or worse - CH Phase 3 or above - increased more than twofold in Guinea, nearly fourfold in Sierra Leone and eleven fold in Liberia).

In 2020, 72 percent of humanitarian assistance was allocated to **food security** (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance), 19 percent to **nutrition** and 9 percent to **agriculture and livelihoods**. Despite the slight

**Figure 38: Number of people (million) in CH Phase 3 or above or equivalent, and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), by country**



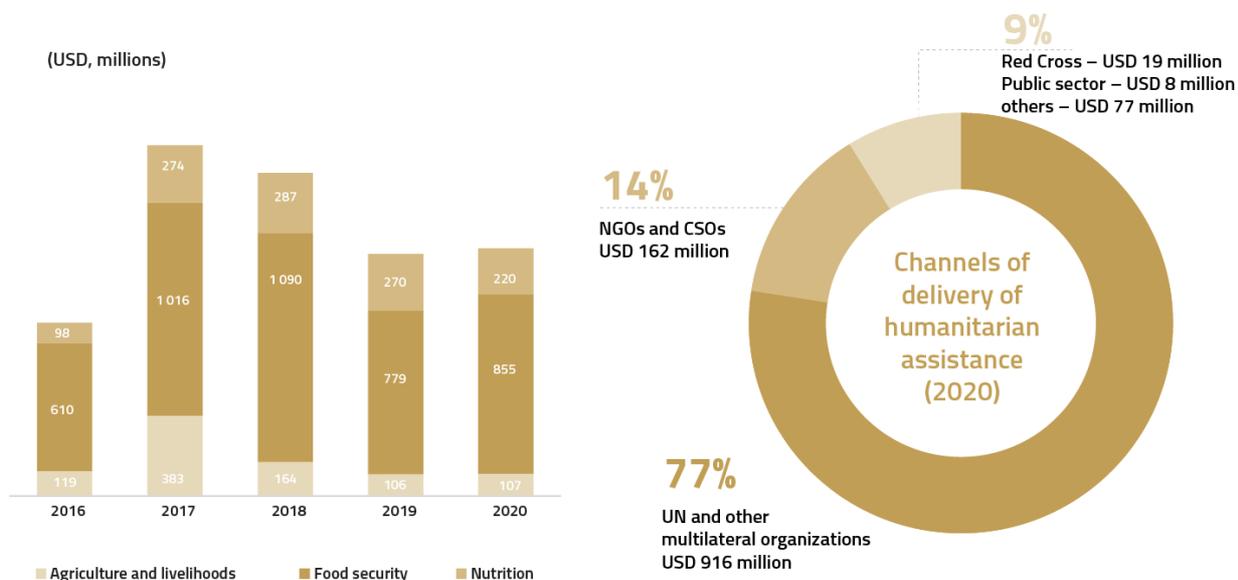
increase in humanitarian assistance between 2019 and 2020, between 2017 and 2020 humanitarian financial flows dropped by 72 percent for agriculture and livelihoods, by 20 percent for nutrition and by 16 percent for food security.

In 2020, **United Nations** and other **multilateral organizations** were the most significant actors in food sectors, receiving 77 percent of all humanitarian assistance (USD 916 million), while **NGOs** and **CSOs** received 14 percent (USD 162 million).

**Development assistance** continuously increased from USD 1.4 billion in 2016 to USD 1.8 billion in 2019. The largest country recipients in 2019 were **Nigeria** (USD 428 million), **Mali** (USD 292 million), **the Niger** (USD 229 million), **Burkina Faso** (USD 195 million), **Senegal** (USD 145 million) and **Cameroon** (USD 106 million). Together, these countries received almost 77 percent of all development assistance to the region.

**Libya**, **Cabo Verde**, **the Gambia**, **Guinea Bissau** and **Togo** received the least development assistance between 2016 and

Figure 39: Humanitarian assistance by sector (2016-2020) and channels of delivery (2020)



2019 (less than USD 100 million each in total over the period).

Over 70 percent of development assistance to food sectors in 2019 was allocated to **agriculture** (USD 1.3 billion). Annual allocations to this sector increased by 47 percent between 2016 and 2019. The second-most funded sector was **rural development**, with 11 percent of the total allocated to food sectors (USD 192 million). It was followed by **development food assistance** (6 percent), which includes social safety-net programmes and long-term support for household food security. **Basic nutrition** comprised 5 percent of the total.

In 2019, **public-sector** institutions were the main delivery channel for development assistance in the region, delivering 72 percent of all assistance allocated. **NGOs and CSOs** were the second most significant channel with 14 percent, followed by **multilateral organizations**, which channeled 8 percent.

**Humanitarian and development allocations to the region** were relatively balanced compared to other regions. Development assistance represented 56 percent of the 2016–2019 total allocation in these 17 countries. However, large country-level disparities existed as countries affected by economic shocks and weather extremes received a larger share of development assistance. **Cabo Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia,**

Figure 40: Development assistance (2016-2019), by country

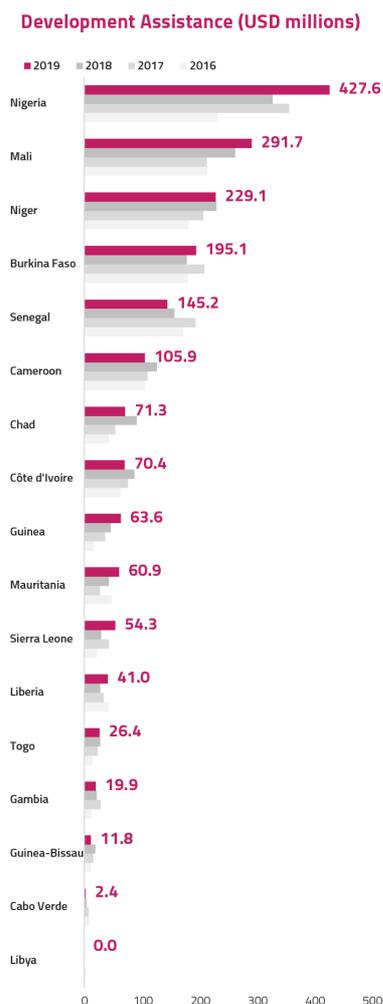
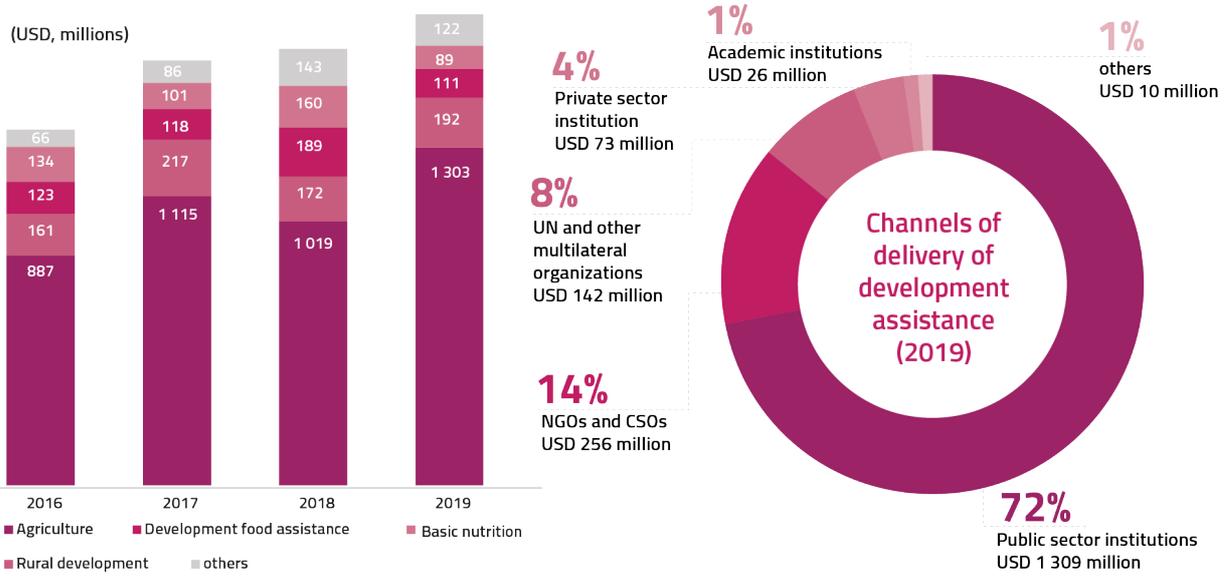
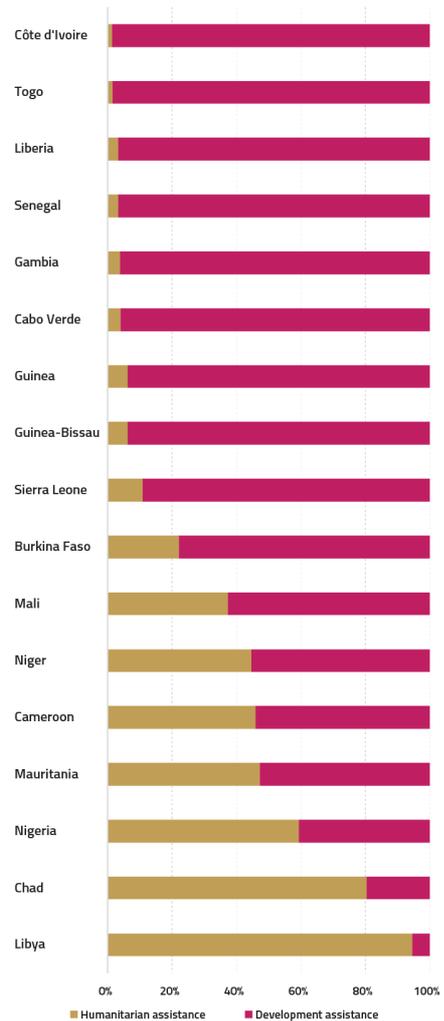


Figure 41: Development assistance by sector (2016-2019) and channels of delivery (2019)



Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo received between 89 percent and 99 percent of their funds as development assistance. In the rest of the region, allocations were more balanced – with development assistance comprising between 41 percent and 63 percent in Nigeria, Mauritania, Cameroon, the Niger and Mali. The countries receiving the most assistance through humanitarian allocations were affected by conflict (95 percent in Libya and 80 percent in Chad). Burkina Faso represented a special case: it was affected mainly by weather extremes in 2018, with the influences of conflict and displacement increasing thereafter until 2020. Humanitarian allocations represented 22 percent of that country’s total from 2016 to 2019, but increased significantly in 2020.

Figure 42: Balance (percentage) between humanitarian and development assistance (2016-2019), by country



## CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

**Angola, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe**

In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors in Central and Southern Africa reached USD 981 million. Over the previous three years, humanitarian allocations had grown steadily, reaching a peak of USD 1.1 billion in 2019, before decreasing 7 percent in 2020. This corresponds to the increase in the total estimated population in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) from 23.3 million in 2016 to 32.3 million in 2019. Unlike humanitarian assistance, acute food insecurity increased continuously, with 40.2 million people in IPC Phase 3 or above in 2020.

**Figure 43: Central and Southern Africa region, map of the countries**



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Global Network Against Food Crises concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on map represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

### Key findings

- This region received the **least humanitarian assistance on the African continent**, even though the number of people in high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in 2020 was the highest. Central and Southern Africa was the third largest recipient development assistance among regions.
- **In 2020, over half the population experiencing acute food insecurity in this region was in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**, which received 45 percent of humanitarian assistance to food sectors that year.
- Considering the balance between humanitarian and development assistance, **the majority of countries in the region received most allocations in the form of development assistance** (except for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic and Zimbabwe, which had growing populations experiencing acute food insecurity).
- **Countries affected by weather extremes** and economic shocks tended to receive a greater share of development assistance than humanitarian assistance, while those affected **by conflict and insecurity** (including the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo) received proportionately more humanitarian assistance.
- While **food security** (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance) **remained the most-funded humanitarian sector in the region**, humanitarian allocations to nutrition have grown in the past years. **Conversely, humanitarian assistance to agriculture and livelihoods was more than halved over the five years of analysis**, comprising less than 10 percent of humanitarian allocations to food sectors.

The largest recipients of humanitarian assistance were **the Democratic Republic of Congo** (USD 446 million), **Zimbabwe** (USD 195 million) and the **Central African Republic** (USD 151 million).<sup>45</sup> Together, these countries received 80 percent of the total allocated to the

<sup>45</sup> The Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zimbabwe were also the most affected by acute food insecurity in the region, while the Central African Republic was particularly affected in terms of prevalence of acute food insecurity within the total population.

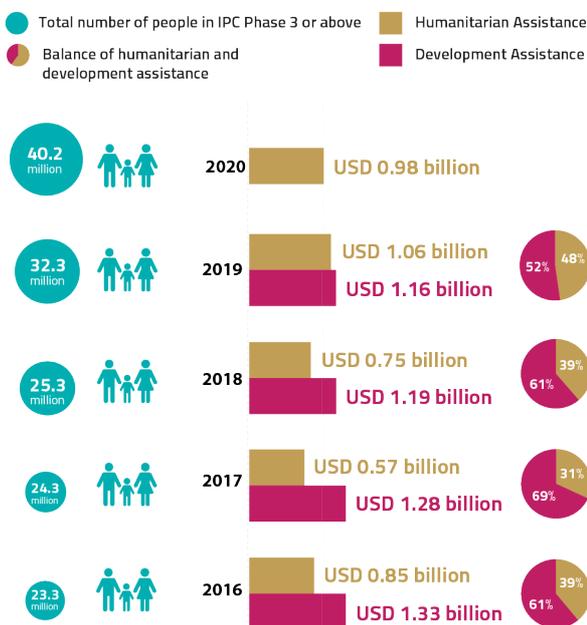
## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

region, and accounted for 70 percent of people in IPC Phase 3 or above.

In over half the countries in the region, **humanitarian allocations decreased in 2020 despite a steep deterioration in food security**. Between 2019 and 2020, the number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above increased by 1 million in **Mozambique**<sup>46</sup> and **Zimbabwe** while humanitarian assistance to food sectors dropped by 64 percent and 15 percent respectively. This reduction corresponds to a reduction in the number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above from 2019 to 2020 in countries such as **Madagascar**<sup>47</sup> and **Malawi**.<sup>48</sup>

In 2020, the **Central African Republic**, the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, **Lesotho** and **Zimbabwe** all experienced the highest numbers of people in IPC Phase 3 or above since the GRFC analyses began in 2016. In **the Central African Republic**, humanitarian assistance increased from USD 74 million in

**Figure 44: Number of people (million) in IPC Phase 3 or above and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), development assistance (2016-2019), and the balance between humanitarian and development allocations (2016-2019)**

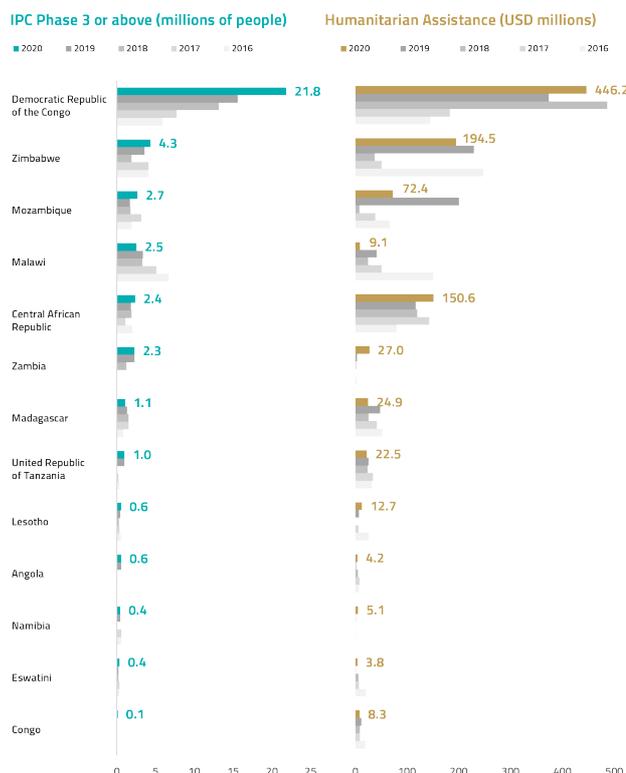


<sup>46</sup> In terms of magnitude, acute food insecurity in Mozambique appeared far worse in October–December 2020 than during the October 2019–February 2020 lean season. However, the 2020 analysis covered 60 percent of the population while the 2019 analysis covered only 18 percent (2021 GRFC).

<sup>47</sup> The Madagascar IPC analyses for the 2019 and 2020 are not directly comparable because of different geographical coverage. However, taking into account seven southern districts included in both analyses, the number of people in October–December 2020 was 790 000 – lower than November 2018–March 2019, when 880 000 people were in IPC Phase 3 or above. While this analysis is limited in time to 2020, acute food insecurity subsequently deteriorated and the risk of famine was identified in Ambovombe-Androy district in southern Madagascar in October 2021. For more details, [here](#).

<sup>48</sup> The Republic of the Congo had no data on acute food insecurity in 2016, 2017, 2018 or 2019; Namibia was not selected for analysis in 2018; and the United Republic of Tanzania had no data available for 2018.

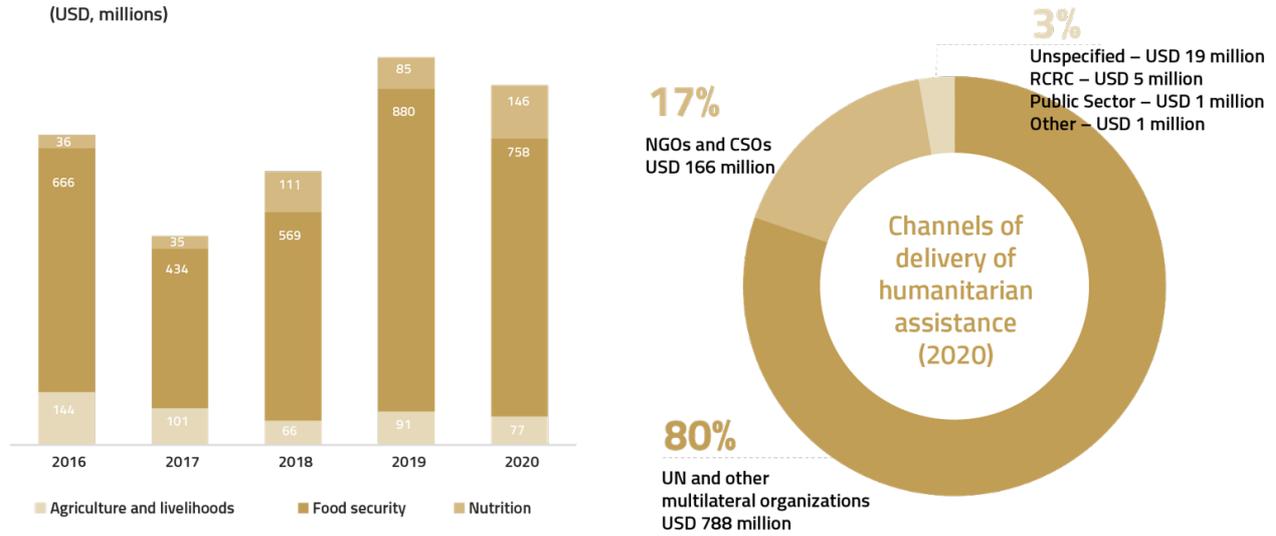
**Figure 45: Number of people (million) in IPC Phase 3 or above and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), by country**



2016 to USD 151 million in 2020. However, humanitarian assistance to food sectors that year in **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** was lower than in 2018 – despite an increasing number experiencing acute food insecurity (the largest food crisis worldwide in terms of the number of people affected).

In 2020, humanitarian assistance to **Lesotho** was 50 percent less than the 2016 level, despite the similar number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above in the same years. In **Zimbabwe**, there was a 7 percent increase in the population facing in IPC Phase 3 or above between 2016 and 2020, yet humanitarian assistance decreased by 21 percent between 2016 and 2020, following year-on-year decreases of approximately 80 percent in 2017, 36 percent in 2018 and 15 percent in 2020.

Figure 46: Humanitarian assistance by sector (2016-2020) and channels of delivery (2020)



By food sector, in 2020 humanitarian assistance to the region was mostly directed to **food security** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance (77 percent), while 15 percent was disbursed for **nutrition** and 8 percent was dedicated to **agriculture and livelihoods**. While funds for nutrition continuously increased between 2017 and 2020, those directed to **agriculture and livelihoods** decreased by 53 percent during those years. Most humanitarian assistance to Central and Southern Africa in 2020 transited through **United Nations and other multilateral organizations** (80 percent), with 17 percent of assistance channeled through **NGOs and CSOs**.

**Development assistance** to Central and Southern Africa decreased from USD1.3 billion in 2016 to USD 1.16 billion in 2019. In 2019, the largest recipients of development assistance to food sectors in the sub-region were **the United Republic of Tanzania** (USD 192 million), **Mozambique** (USD 173 million), **Malawi** (USD 172 million), and **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** (USD 165 million). These countries received 60 percent of all development assistance to the region.

Between 2016 and 2019, **Angola, the Central African Republic, the Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho and Namibia** received the

Figure 47: Development assistance (2016-2019), by country

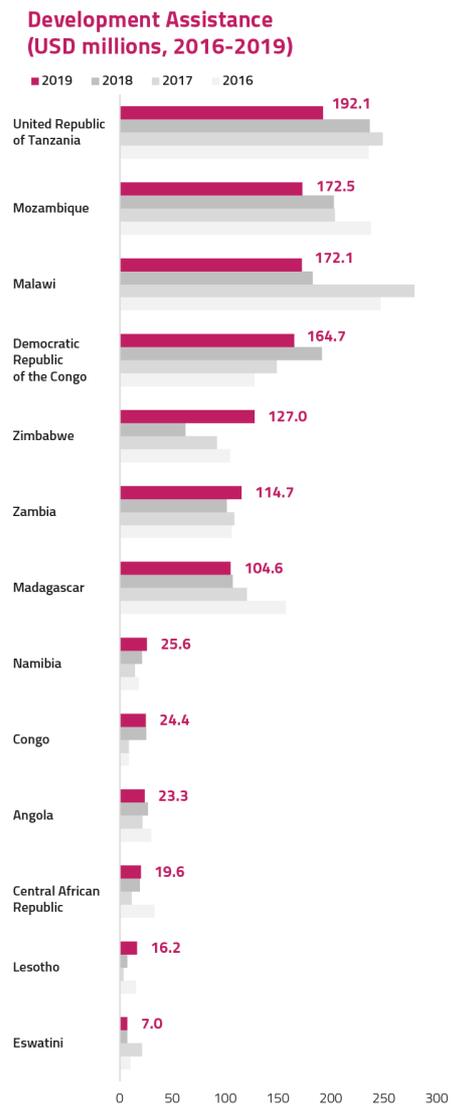
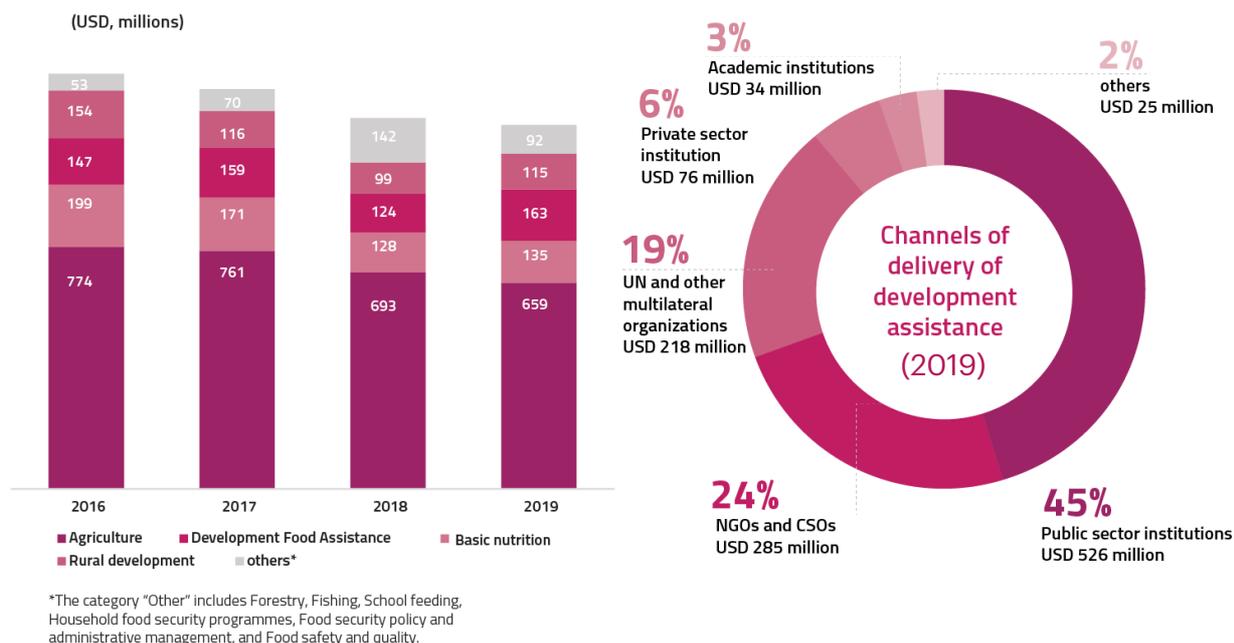
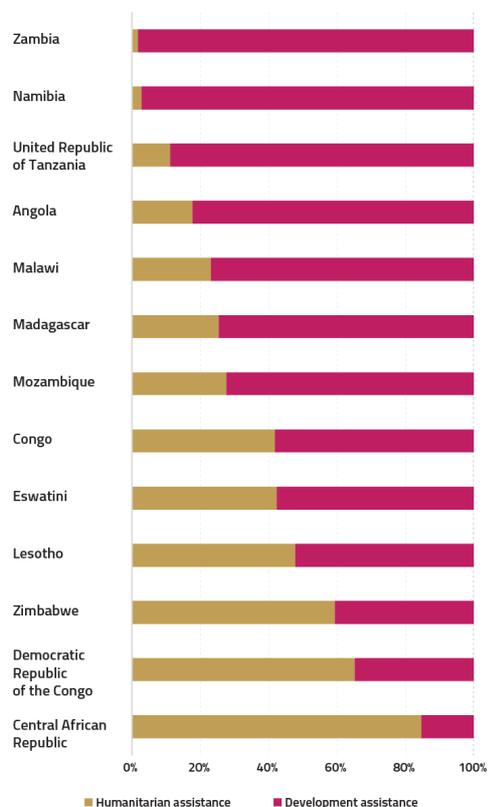


Figure 48: Development assistance by sector (2016-2019) and channels of delivery (2019)



least development assistance, with around or less than USD 101 million each over these four years. In terms of **distribution by food sector**, more than half of development allocations in 2019 were to **agriculture** (57 percent), followed by **development food assistance** (14 percent), **basic nutrition** (12 percent) and **rural development** (10 percent). Over the years of analysis, disbursements decreased: by 15 percent to **agriculture**; by 32 percent to **basic nutrition**; and by 25 percent to rural development. The only exception was **development food assistance**, which increased by 11 percent. The main delivery channels were **national authorities** and **public-sector institutions** – representing 45 percent of the total in 2019. **NGOs and CSOs** received the second largest share (24 percent), followed by **multilateral organizations** (19 percent). Countries affected by weather extremes and economic shocks tended to receive a greater share of **development assistance** than **humanitarian assistance**, while those affected by conflict and insecurity (including the **Central African Republic** and the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**) received proportionately more **humanitarian assistance**. Exceptions were the **Republic of the Congo**, **Eswatini**, **Lesotho** and **Zimbabwe**, for which flows of humanitarian and development assistance were relatively balanced from 2016 to 2020.

Figure 49: Balance (percentage) between humanitarian and development assistance (2016-2019), by country



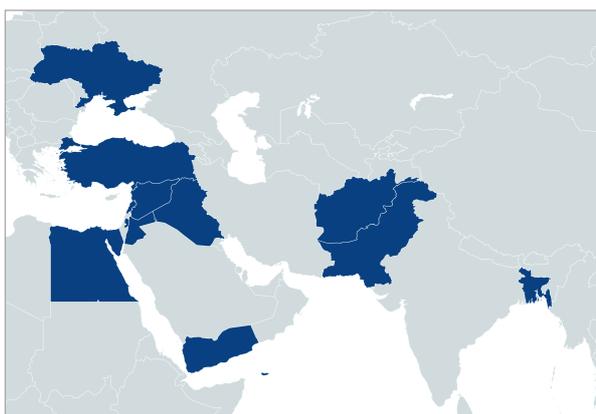
## EURASIA - Eastern Europe, the Middle East and South Asia

**Afghanistan, Bangladesh – Cox’s Bazar, Iraq, Pakistan, Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine, Yemen, and Syrian refugees in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey**

Flows of **humanitarian assistance** to Eurasia reached USD 3.3 billion in 2020 following a downturn starting in 2018, when they totalled USD 5.1 billion. This decrease was mainly driven by reduced allocations to **Yemen** (which decreased by USD 1 billion in 2020), for the refugee response in **Turkey** (with a decrease of USD 389 million in 2020), and to the Syrian Arab Republic (which decreased by USD 147 million that same year). This overall decrease in humanitarian assistance did not correspond to numbers of people experiencing high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above or equivalent), which increased from 30.7 million in 2016 to 45.6 million in 2020.<sup>49</sup>

In 2020, the largest recipients of humanitarian assistance were **Yemen** (USD 1 billion), **the Syrian Arab Republic** (USD 785 million), **Lebanon** (USD 492 million) and **Afghanistan** (USD 249 million). Together these countries

**Figure 50: Eurasia (Eastern Europe, the Middle East and South Asia) region, map of the countries**



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<sup>49</sup> No comparable estimates were available in 2016 for: Egypt (Syrian refugees), Jordan (Syrian refugees), Lebanon (Syrian refugees), Pakistan, Palestine, Turkey (Syrian refugees) and Ukraine. Comparing the data only for Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, for which data were available in all five editions of the GRFC, the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) still increased from 30.7 million to 41 million.

## Key findings

- In 2020, Eurasia was home to the greatest number of people in acute food insecurity and in need of urgent assistance worldwide, and was the largest recipient of humanitarian assistance to food sectors. Conversely, it received one of the smallest allocations of development assistance.
- In almost all countries of the region, humanitarian allocations decreased between 2019 and 2020 despite a lack of improvement in acute food insecurity.
- In 2020, the countries to receive the most humanitarian assistance were **Afghanistan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen**. These countries received almost 80 percent of all humanitarian assistance allocated to the region, and were home to more than 85 percent of the region’s acutely food insecure people in need of urgent assistance (IPC phase 3 or above or equivalent).
- **Development assistance** to food sectors in the region was USD 14.7 billion less than humanitarian assistance. While countries like Afghanistan, **Pakistan** and **Ukraine** received a more balanced mix of assistance, countries like **Iraq, Palestine**, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen received humanitarian assistance almost exclusively.
- In 2020, nearly 90 percent of all humanitarian allocations were directed to food security (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance), with nutrition and agriculture receiving a very limited share (7 percent and 6 percent respectively).

received almost 80 percent of all humanitarian assistance allocated to the region, and were home to more than 85 percent of its acutely food insecure people (IPC phase 3 or above or equivalent) in 2020.

In almost all countries of the region, **humanitarian allocations decreased between 2019 and 2020** despite a lack of improvement in acute food insecurity. For example, the number of people in acute food

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

**Figure 51: Number of people (million) in IPC Phase 3 or above and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), development assistance (2016-2019), and the balance between humanitarian and development allocations (2016-2019)**

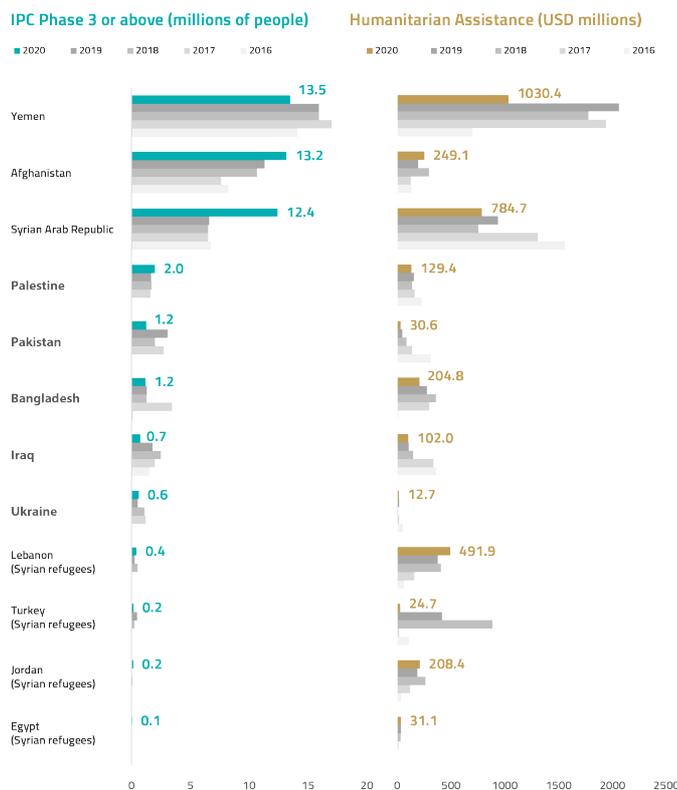


Note: Development assistance to countries affected by refugee crises (in Bangladesh, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey) was not included in the analysis since it measured the total amount received by countries. This analysis did not specifically target refugee populations and host communities facing acute food insecurity as identified in the GRFC. The pie chart on the right only concerns countries in which acute food insecurity was endogenous (Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Yemen).

insecurity and in need of urgent assistance (based on WFP CARI) rose from 6.6 million to 12.4 million in **the Syrian Arab Republic** while humanitarian assistance to food sectors dropped by 15 percent. In **Palestine**, humanitarian assistance shrank by 15 percent while the number of the acutely food insecure people slightly increased. Yemen witnessed a USD 1 billion decrease in humanitarian allocations to food sectors (a 50 percent reduction), even though it remained home to one of world largest food crises, with 13.5 million acutely food insecure people in 2020.<sup>50</sup>

In some countries, trends in humanitarian assistance appeared to follow those of acute food insecurity. In Bangladesh, humanitarian assistance increased from USD 11 million in 2016 to USD 296 million in 2017 as the number of acutely food insecure people spiked with the **influx of refugee from Myanmar to Cox's Bazar**. In **Iraq** and **Ukraine**, the reduction or stabilization in the number of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity between 2019 and 2020 appeared to be connected with a plateauing or reduction in humanitarian assistance.<sup>51</sup> In **Afghanistan** humanitarian assistance grew from USD 128 million in 2016 to USD 249 million in 2020, while the number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above increased from

**Figure 52: Number of people (million) in IPC Phase 3 or above or equivalent and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), by country**



Note: Unlike acute food insecurity figures, humanitarian allocations to Bangladesh, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey not only refer to refugees, but to humanitarian needs nationwide. However, refugees received a significant share of humanitarian assistance allocated to these countries. In Bangladesh, humanitarian funding linked to Rohingya refugees represented 81 percent of the total for 2016-2020. In Lebanon, humanitarian financial flows linked to Syria's civil unrest and refugee crisis represented more than half of all humanitarian assistance in 2016-2020. In Turkey, financial flows linked to the Syrian crisis represented 96 percent of the total. The 2020 acute food insecurity figures for Bangladesh, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Ukraine, Turkey, and the Syrian Arab Republic were based on the World Food Programme (WFP) Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI) methodology or on OCHA Humanitarian Needs Overview food security People in Need (PIN) numbers (see pp. 29-32 of the 2021 GRFC for more details).

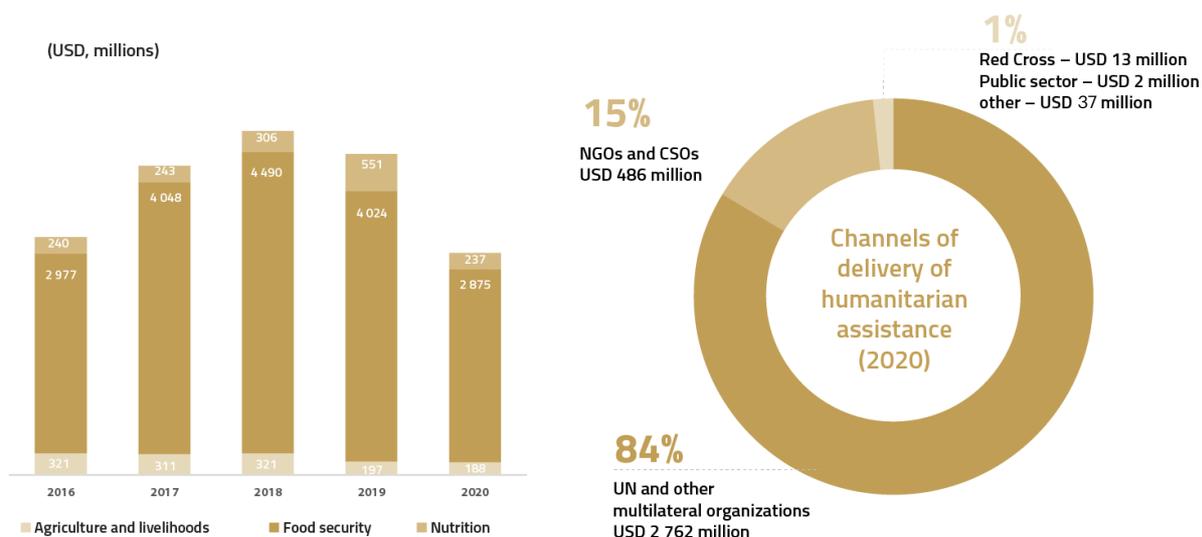
8.5 million in 2016 to 13.2 million in 2020 – 42 percent of the population analysed. Although the increase in acute food insecurity was steady, humanitarian assistance varied significantly during this period.

Looking at the **distribution of humanitarian assistance by food sector**, the greatest share was for **food security** (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance) between 2016 and 2020. In 2020, this sector received 87 percent of all assistance to food sectors. **Nutrition** received 7 percent, and **agriculture and livelihoods** received 6 percent of the humanitarian allocation.

<sup>50</sup> Acute food insecurity figures were not available for: Ukraine in 2016; Lebanon (Syrian refugees) in 2016-2017; Jordan (Syrian refugees) in 2016, 2017 and 2019; Egypt (refugees) in 2016-2019; Turkey (Syrian refugees) in 2016-2017; and Pakistan in 2016.

<sup>51</sup> In Pakistan, areas affected by food crises (as reported in various editions of the GRFC, changed significantly over time so it is not possible to compare the acute food insecurity data directly. In 2017, 2.7 million people experienced IPC Phase 3 or above in the drought-affected districts of Sindh province. In 2018, 2 million faced high levels of acute food insecurity in these areas, while in 2019 3.1 million people faced IPC Phase 3 or above in Balochistan and drought-affected areas of Sindh. In 2020, 1.2 million people faced Crisis or worse acute food insecurity in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region.

Figure 53: Humanitarian assistance by sector (2016-2020) and channels of delivery (2020)

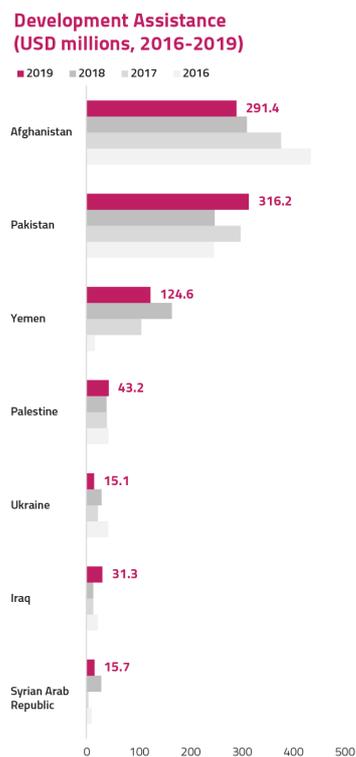


While funding for **food security** (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance) and **nutrition** peaked in 2018 and 2019; by 2020 they were slightly below the 2016 level. Allocations to **agriculture and livelihoods** decreased every year except 2018 (when they equaled the 2016 level). In 2020, nearly all humanitarian assistance to food sectors in the region was channeled through **United Nations and other multilateral organizations, NGOs and CSOs**. Multilateral organizations channeled 84 percent of this assistance, while NGOs and CSOs channeled 15 percent.

**Development assistance** to the region remained mostly stable from 2016 to 2018, at USD 818 million in 2016 to USD 838 million in 2019.

In 2019, the largest recipients of **development assistance** to food sectors were Pakistan (USD 316 million), Afghanistan (USD 291 million), and Yemen (USD 125 million). These three countries accounted for 87 percent of all development assistance to food crises in the region. A continuous decrease (totalling 33 percent or USD 145 million) was noted in **Afghanistan** from 2016 to 2019, while a 661 percent increase (USD 108 million) was reported in **Yemen** in 2018. **Iraq** and the **Syrian Arab Republic** received the least development assistance between 2016 and 2019 – with an average of USD 20 million and USD 15 million per year in development assistance. **Palestine** and **Ukraine** received only slightly more, with USD 41 million and USD 27 million, on average, respectively.

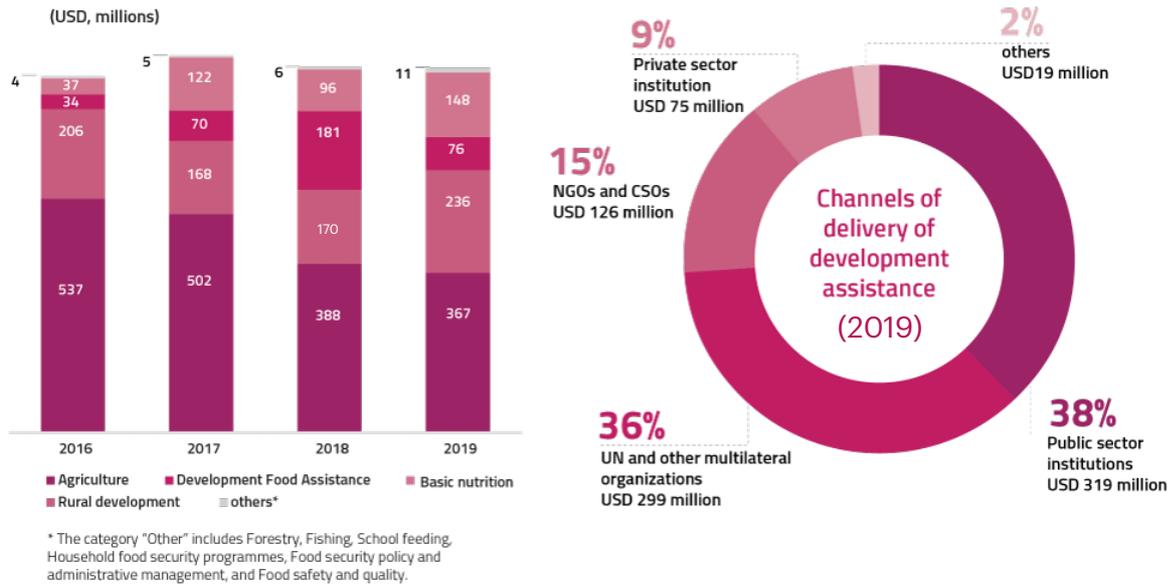
Figure 54: Development assistance (2016-2019), by country



**Agriculture** represented 44 percent of all development assistance to food sectors in the region 2019. However, allocations continuously decreased from USD 538 million in 2016 to USD 367 million in 2019. **Rural development** comprised 28 percent while 18 percent was dedicated to **basic nutrition**. That year, development assistance for **basic nutrition**

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

Figure 55: Development assistance by sector (2016-2019) and channels of delivery (2019)

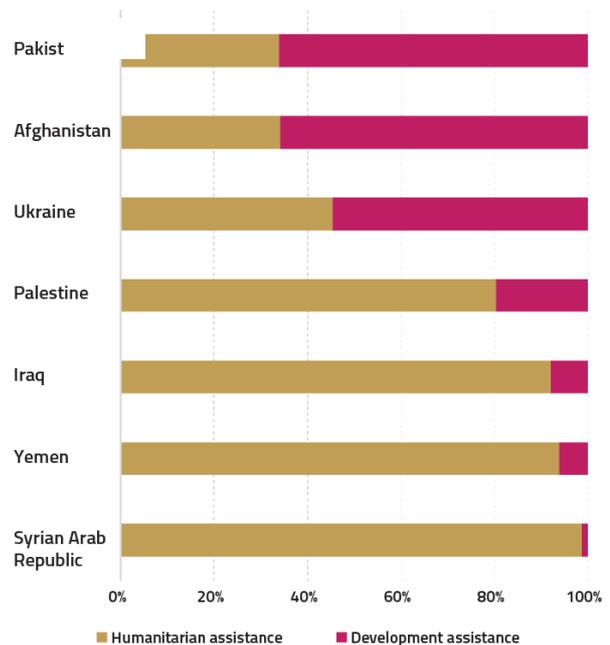


increased by 304 percent compared to 2016 while **development food assistance** saw a 126 percent increase (including for social safety net programmes and long-term food security programmes).

**State institutions** channeled 38 percent of all development assistance in 2019. **United Nations and other multilateral organizations** channeled 36 percent in 2019. **NGOs and CSOs** delivered 15 percent of all development assistance that year. Most of the remaining development assistance (9 percent) was channeled by the private sector.

Without taking into consideration **countries affected by refugee crises**, the **balance between humanitarian and development allocations** in the region was largely tipped towards **humanitarian assistance**, which received 81 percent of assistance provided by the international community in 2016–2019. Development assistance to food sectors in the region was USD 14.7 billion less than humanitarian assistance.<sup>52</sup> While countries like **Afghanistan, Pakistan** and **Ukraine** received slightly more disbursements for development interventions while substantially more humanitarian assistance was channeled to **Palestine** (80 percent), **Iraq** (92 percent), **Yemen** (95 percent) and the **Syrian Arab Republic** (99 percent).

Figure 56: Balance (percentage) between humanitarian and development assistance (2016-2019), by country



<sup>52</sup> If only countries where the food crisis is not linked to a refugee crisis are considered (Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Yemen), USD 10.7 billion more in humanitarian assistance was received in 2016–2019 than development assistance.

## CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua

In 2020, **humanitarian assistance to food sectors** in Central America and the Caribbean reached USD 129 million. This is the highest level received by the region since 2016, marking an increase of 60 percent from 2019. Similarly, the region experienced a dramatic deterioration in food security between 2016 and 2020 peaking at 11.8 million people acutely food insecure in need of urgent assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above) compared

**Figure 57: Central America and the Caribbean region, map of the countries**



*The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Global Network Against Food Crises concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on map represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.*

to 3.2 million in 2016.

**Haiti** was the largest recipient of humanitarian assistance to food sectors, receiving USD 67.5 million. However, in light of its significant needs (it was among the ten worst food-crisis countries worldwide in 2020), Haiti has consistently been underfunded. Despite a 26 percent increase of humanitarian funding from 2019 to 2020, the number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above reached a record 4 million people in 2020 (40 percent of the population analysed). This number was 173 percent

## Key findings

- The region received the **least humanitarian assistance to food sectors and the lowest allocation of development assistance** among all regions, despite having significant acute food insecurity.
- **In 2020, a deterioration in food security was accompanied by a significant increase in humanitarian assistance to food sectors** (60 percent higher than 2019). However, the level of assistance received remains very low relative to food-security needs in the region.
- Between 2016 and 2019, **development assistance in the region was almost four times the level of humanitarian assistance**. During the same period, approximately 80 percent of allocations made to food sectors were in the form of development assistance.
- **In 2020, the food security sector** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – **absorbed almost all humanitarian assistance**, totalling 83 percent, with the agriculture sector ranking second and nutrition receiving an almost insignificant share of three percent. While agriculture was relatively underfunded within humanitarian assistance (14 percent), it received the highest share of development investments, accounting for 55 percent of the total in 2019.

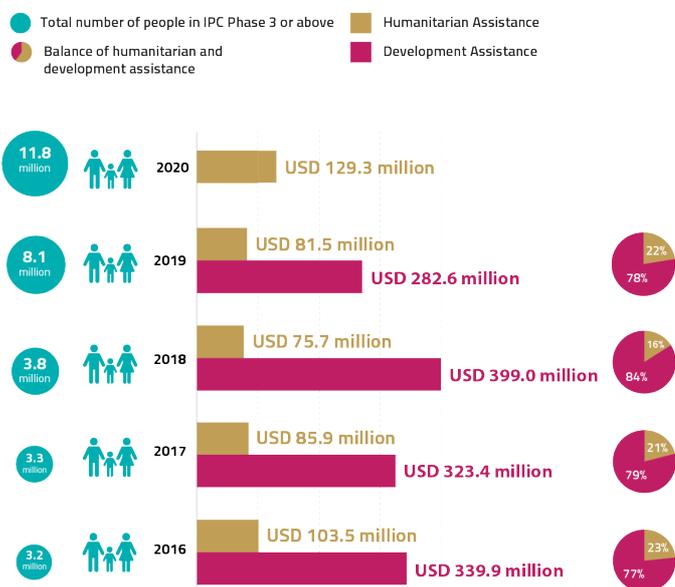
higher than the 2016 total<sup>53</sup> and the highest in the region as the country experienced a combination of drought, economic shocks and insecurity.

Between 2016 and 2020, **El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua** received on average USD 9 million in humanitarian assistance to food sectors each and every year. Although **humanitarian disbursements increased** in these four Central American countries from USD 24 million in 2016 to USD 62 million in 2020, this comprised only a partial response to the significant increase in acute food insecurity (from 1.7 million people in IPC Phase 3 or above in 2016 to 7.7 million in 2020). In 2020, these four countries were affected by the impact of hurricanes Eta and Iota, as well as by

<sup>53</sup> Comparability challenges included the different methodologies used to assess acute food insecurity in different years.

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

**Figure 58: Number of people (million) in IPC Phase 3 or above and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), development assistance (2016-2019), and the balance between humanitarian and development allocations (2016-2019)**



economic shocks including the impacts of COVID-19.<sup>54</sup>

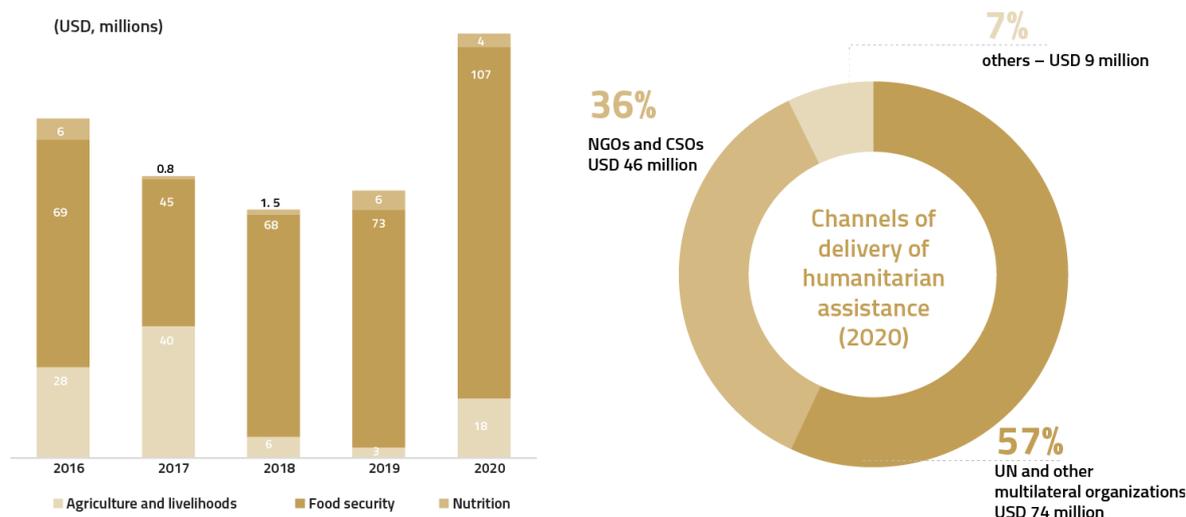
From 2019 to 2020, there was a **notable increase in the number of people in Crisis or worse** (IPC Phase 3 or above) in Nicaragua (from 80 000 to 400 000) and Honduras (from

**Figure 59: Number of people (million) in IPC Phase 3 or above and humanitarian assistance (2016-2020), by country**



964 000 to 3 million).<sup>55</sup> In 2020, all countries in the region faced their highest levels of acute food insecurity since GRFC reporting began in 2016.

**Figure 60: Humanitarian assistance by sector (2016-2020) and channels of delivery (2020)**



<sup>54</sup> No acute food insecurity data were available for El Salvador in 2016.

<sup>55</sup> Coverage for the 2019 analysis only included 13 departments, as opposed to all 18 departments in the 2020 analysis. In the 12 comparable departments of Honduras covered by both the 2019 and 2020 analyses, the number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above doubled from roughly 700 000 to 1.4 million (2021 Global Report on Food Crises).

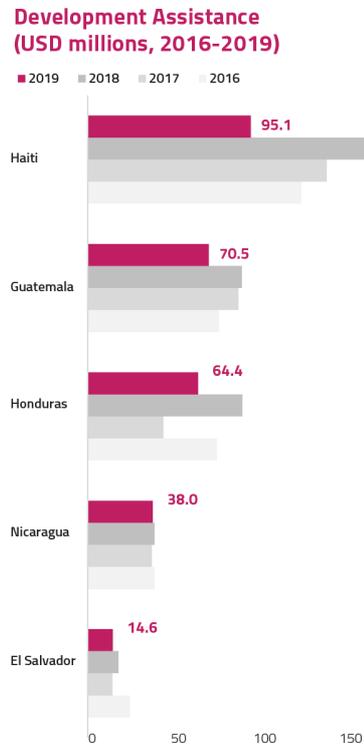
## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

Looking at **humanitarian assistance to food sectors by sector**, in 2020, 83 percent was allocated to **food security** (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance), 14 percent to **agriculture and livelihoods**, and 3 percent to **nutrition**. While assistance for food security steadily increased beginning in 2017, agriculture and livelihoods witnessed a decline between 2017 and 2020 of more than 50 percent, with the lowest levels reached in 2018 and 2019. In terms of delivery channels, **United Nations** and other **multilateral organizations** channeled 57 percent of this assistance while **NGOs** and **CSOs** received 36 percent.

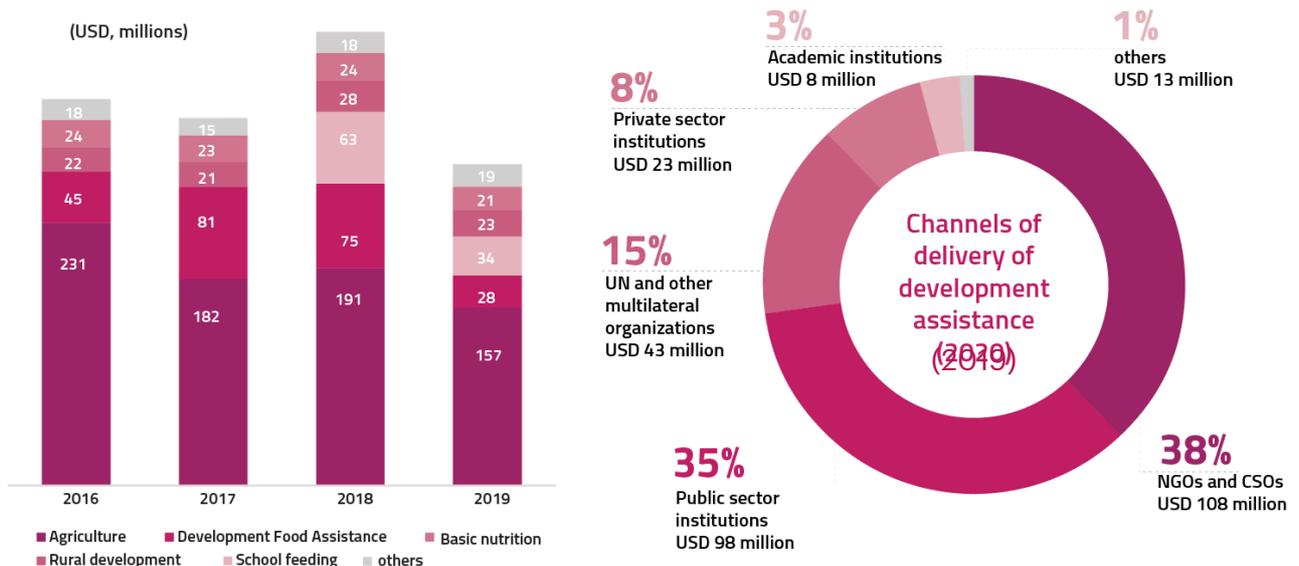
**Development assistance** to food sectors decreased from 2016 to 2019 at USD 283 million, despite a peak in 2018 (at around USD 399 million). The largest recipients of development assistance to food sectors in the region were **Haiti** (USD 95 million), **Guatemala** (USD 70 million) and **Honduras** (USD 64 million), which together absorbed 81 percent of development assistance to the region. Haiti alone received 34 percent of the total. However, all five countries recorded a drop in development assistance in 2019 for 2018. This marked a 29 percent decrease for the region overall and reached 41 percent in Haiti. Development allocations to the region for 2016–2019 were the lowest in 2019. During those years, El Salvador and Haiti recorded

decreases of 40 percent and 24 percent respectively.

**Figure 61: Development assistance (2016-2019), by country**



**Figure 62: Development assistance by sector (2016-2019) and channels of delivery (2019)**

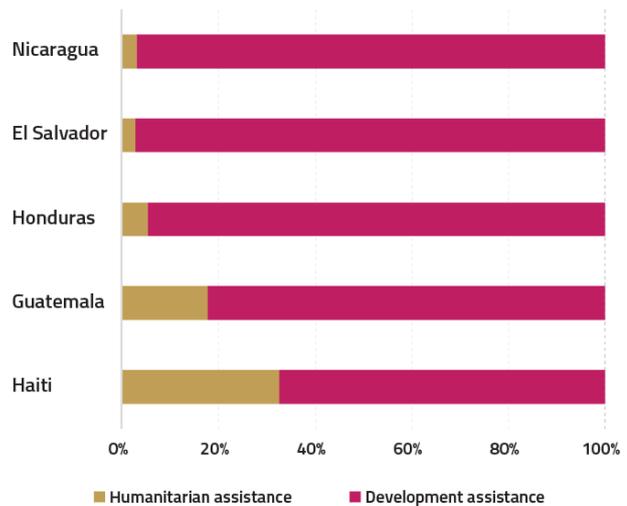


**Agriculture and school feeding** were the two highest-funded sectors in 2019 – accounting for 55 percent and 12 percent of total allocations, respectively. But all sectors witnessed a drop in funding between 2018 and 2019. **School feeding** was the only sector to see an increase between 2016 and 2019, becoming the third largest recipient sector from 2018 onwards. This is partly because no specific data on this sector were available prior to 2018. Despite small decreases in 2018 and 2019, allocations to **rural development** and **basic nutrition** remained stable over these four years.

**NGOs** and **CSOs** were the largest stakeholders in 2019 (delivering 38 percent of assistance). **Public institutions** and **multilateral organizations** were the second- and third -largest delivery channels of development assistance respectively, channeling 35 percent and 15 percent of funding in 2019.

Looking at the **balance between humanitarian and development allocations**, the USD 1.3 billion in development assistance received between 2016 and 2019 was almost four times the humanitarian assistance received during the same period. Approximately 80 percent of all humanitarian and development disbursement to food sectors in Central America between 2016 and 2019 were in the form of development assistance. Haiti is the only country in the region that received a notable share of humanitarian assistance (33 percent).

**Figure 63: Balance (percentage) between humanitarian and development assistance (2016-2019), by country**



## Chapter 3.

# Country overview of humanitarian and development assistance to food sectors in the ten worst food crises in 2020

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This chapter shows the levels of funding to humanitarian response, development investments and domestic public expenditures (when available) for agriculture, food security and nutrition in the ten major food crises identified in 2020. The country analyses look at humanitarian assistance in relation to acute food insecurity, the balance of development and humanitarian allocations, the most-funded sectors and the main delivery channels.



## OVERVIEW

The **ten worst food crises** identified in 2020<sup>56</sup> took place in **Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, South Sudan, Nigeria, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen** and **Zimbabwe**, accounting for 66 percent of the total population facing high levels of acute food insecurity in the 55 food-crisis countries and territories. That year, these ten food crises received **60 percent of all humanitarian assistance** allocated to food sectors in the 55 countries and territories with food crises (USD 4.9 billion).

However, there were significant disparities in disbursement of humanitarian assistance among them. The figure below examines humanitarian assistance to food sectors in 2020 per person in acute food insecurity and in need of urgent assistance (as per the 2021 GRFC). It must be acknowledged that the *per capita* analysis does not take into consideration the different operational costs that might increase or decrease humanitarian disbursements depending on many factors (including type of assistance provided, logistic needs and access constraints). In 2020, in **Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the**

**Congo** and **Haiti**, the **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors per person in Crisis or worse situations (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) was on average USD 19. That same year in **Nigeria, Sudan** and **Zimbabwe**, each person in acute food insecurity and in need of urgent assistance received on average USD 43. In **Ethiopia, the Syrian Arab Republic** and **Yemen**, each person in acute food insecurity in urgent need received on average USD 70. In **South Sudan** humanitarian assistance to food sectors per person in acute food insecurity and in need totalled USD 114.

In the majority of these countries, **humanitarian assistance** per person experiencing high acute food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) decreased between 2019 and 2020. In **Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen** and **Zimbabwe**, humanitarian assistance per capita dropped between 30 percent and 55 percent. In **the Democratic Republic of the Congo** and **the Sudan**, this reduction was only between 15 percent and 20 percent. **Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Haiti**, and **South Sudan** all witnessed a 5–10 percent increase in their humanitarian allocation per person in acute food insecurity and in need of urgent assistance.

**Figure 64: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) and humanitarian assistance to food sectors per person in IPC/CH Phase 3 or above (2020), in the ten worst food crises**



\* As reported in the Global Report on Food Crises 2021

<sup>56</sup> According to the Global Report on Food Crises 2021. Available [here](#)

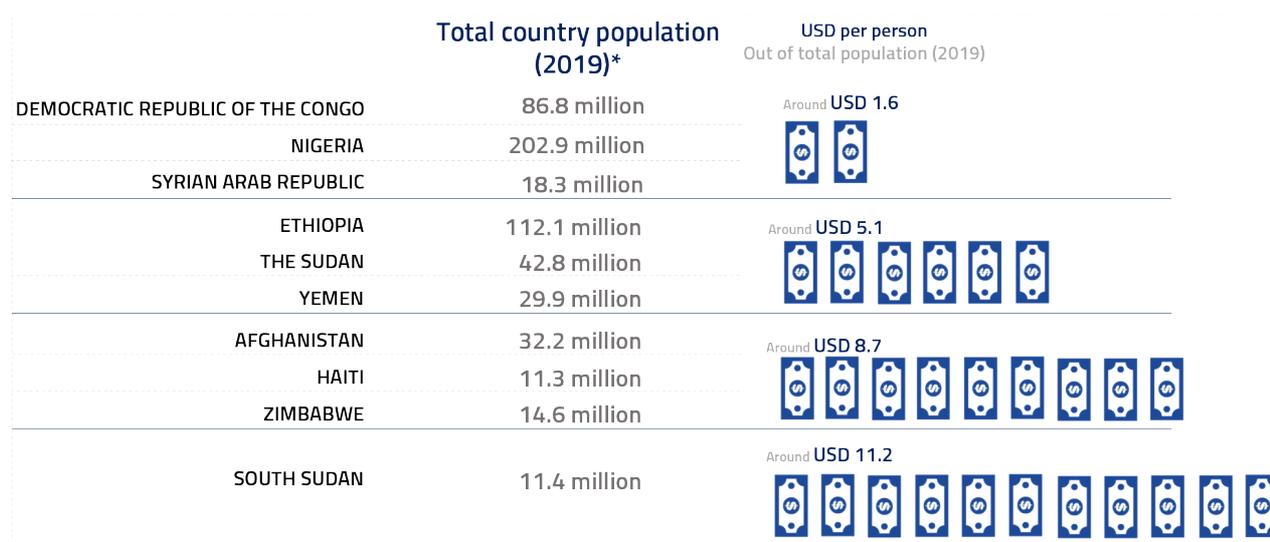
## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

A similar analysis of **development assistance** to food sectors was conducted, looking at these countries' total populations (see figure below). In **the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria** and **the Syrian Arab Republic**, the per capita allocation of development assistance to food sectors in 2019 (taking into account the entire population size) was on average USD 1.6. In **Ethiopia, the Sudan**, and **Yemen**, it was on average USD 5.1, while in **Afghanistan, Haiti**, and **Zimbabwe**, it was on average USD 8.7. In **South Sudan**, development assistance per capita was USD 11.2. The only countries that witnessed an increase in development

assistance per capita between 2018 and 2019 were **Ethiopia, Nigeria** and **Zimbabwe**.

Among the ten largest food crises, humanitarian assistance per capita for people in Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) was estimated to be up to seven times greater from one country to another. In terms of development assistance, these disparities were more than twelvefold.

**Figure 65: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) and development assistance to food sectors per person out of the population (2019), in the ten worst food crises**



\* As reported in the Global Report on Food Crises 2020

# AFGHANISTAN

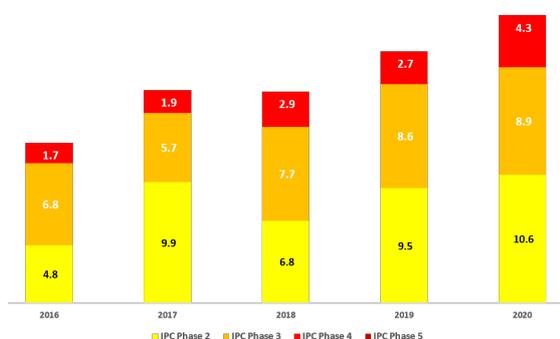
<b>Acute food insecurity IPC 3+</b> 	<b>Humanitarian assistance</b> 	<b>Development assistance</b> 	<b>Domestic public resources</b> 
 <b>2020 – 13.2 million people</b> 2019 – 11.3 million people	 <b>2020 – USD 249.1 million</b> 2019 – USD 193 million	 <b>2019 – USD 291.4 million</b> 2018 – USD 312.4 million	 <b>2020 – USD 207.4 million</b> 2019 – USD 119.2 million

## FINANCING FLOWS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

In 2020, **humanitarian assistance allocated to the food sectors** totalled USD 249 million – a 29 percent increase (USD 56 million) from the previous year. At the same time, **acute food insecurity** increased from 11.3 million people experiencing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) in 2019 to 13.2 million in 2020. This was mostly due to the combination of conflict-related displacement, an economic crisis aggravated by COVID-19 and weather extremes.

Between 2016 and 2018, humanitarian assistance to food sectors more than doubled, from USD 128 million to USD 294 million. This rise was consistent with the increase of people in acute food insecurity and in need of urgent assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above), from 8.5 million in 2016 to 10.6 million in 2018. However, further increases in the number of people in

**Figure 66: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**



Note: In 2016, the province of Nimroz was not analysed. The 2017, 2019 and 2020 numbers covered both urban and rural populations, and are therefore not directly comparable with those from 2018 since IPC analysed only the rural population that year. However, the IPC numbers confidently support a significant yearly deterioration in food security in 2018 linked to drought.

### Key Findings

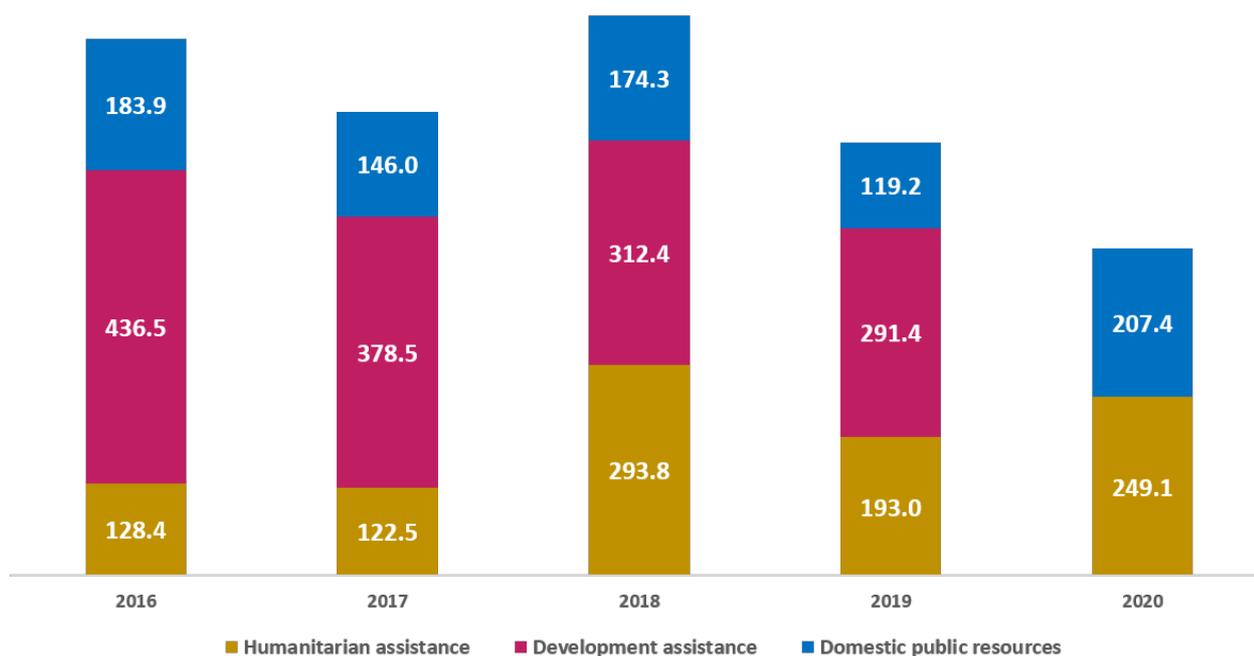
- Between 2016 and 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors almost doubled, reaching 249.1 million in 2020. This increase was consistent with a rise in the number of people in acute food insecurity and in need of urgent food assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above).
- Between 2016 and 2019, **development assistance** decreased continuously. By 2019, it had shrunk by one third from its 2016 level, reaching 291.4 million.
- Domestic expenditures** to food sectors in 2020 were the highest recorded since 2016 and 1.7 times the amount allocated in 2019.
- The **food security sector** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – received the major share of humanitarian assistance allocated in 2020, while **agriculture** received the largest amount of development assistance to food sectors in 2019 (accounting for 56 percent of the total disbursement, or USD 162 million). **Rural development** was the most funded sector from domestic public expenditures in 2020 – receiving 40 percent of all public expenditures to food sectors.
- United Nations and other **multilateral organizations** represented the largest delivery channel for both humanitarian and development assistance, accounting for 74 percent of humanitarian and 48 percent of development assistance delivered in 2020 and 2019, respectively.

IPC Phase 3 or above – to 11.3 million in 2019, and 13.2 million in 2020 (the highest number recorded in the five years of analysis) – were not followed by corresponding increases in humanitarian assistance which remained stable between 2018 and 2020.

### Development assistance to food sectors

stood at USD 291 million in 2019, marking a 7 percent decrease from the previous year (USD 21 million). During 2016–2019, development assistance decreased by around one third from the 2016 level, when allocations totalled USD 436 million. **Domestic expenditures to food sectors** totalled USD 207.4 million in 2020 –

Figure 67: Trends in humanitarian assistance and domestic public resources (2016–2020) and development assistance (2016–2019), USD million



the highest amount since 2016. This was 1.7 times the amount allocated in 2019, which saw the lowest allocation of domestic expenditure to food sectors, at USD 119 million.

## SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

**Food security (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance)** represented the largest share of the **humanitarian assistance** in 2020, accounting for 65 percent (USD 161 million) of the total allocation that year.

**Agriculture** was the second main sector, absorbing 21 percent (or USD 53 million), while **nutrition** accounted for the remaining 14 percent (USD 36 million). Except for a drop in 2019, food security increased after 2016, reaching its peak in 2018 at USD 201 million.

Between 2016 and 2020, 60 percent (USD 596 million) of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors was directed to **food security** and 21 percent (USD 209 million) to **nutrition**. Funding for **agriculture** was the lowest among the

sectors between 2016 and 2020, comprising 18 percent (USD 182 million) of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors.

**Agriculture** received the most **development assistance** of all food sectors in 2019, accounting for 56 percent (USD 162 million), followed by **rural development** (25 percent or USD 72 million) and **basic nutrition** (15 percent or USD 44 million). The remainder was channeled to **development food assistance** (3 percent or USD 8 million) and **forestry** (1 percent or USD 3 million).<sup>57</sup>

**Agriculture** recorded yearly decreases between 2016 and 2019, reaching a record low in 2019, which was almost half the amount received in 2016. **Rural development** also dropped in 2019 from previous levels.

Development assistance for **basic nutrition** increased threefold from 2016 to 2019, from USD 16 million to USD 44 million.

Looking at **domestic public expenditures**, **rural development** was the most funded sector in 2020, comprising 40 percent of all assistance to food sectors – slightly more than agriculture (38 percent). Nevertheless,

<sup>57</sup> Small allocations were also recorded for household food security programmes (USD 1.2 million) and food security policy and administrative management (USD 600 000).

Figure 68: Humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million

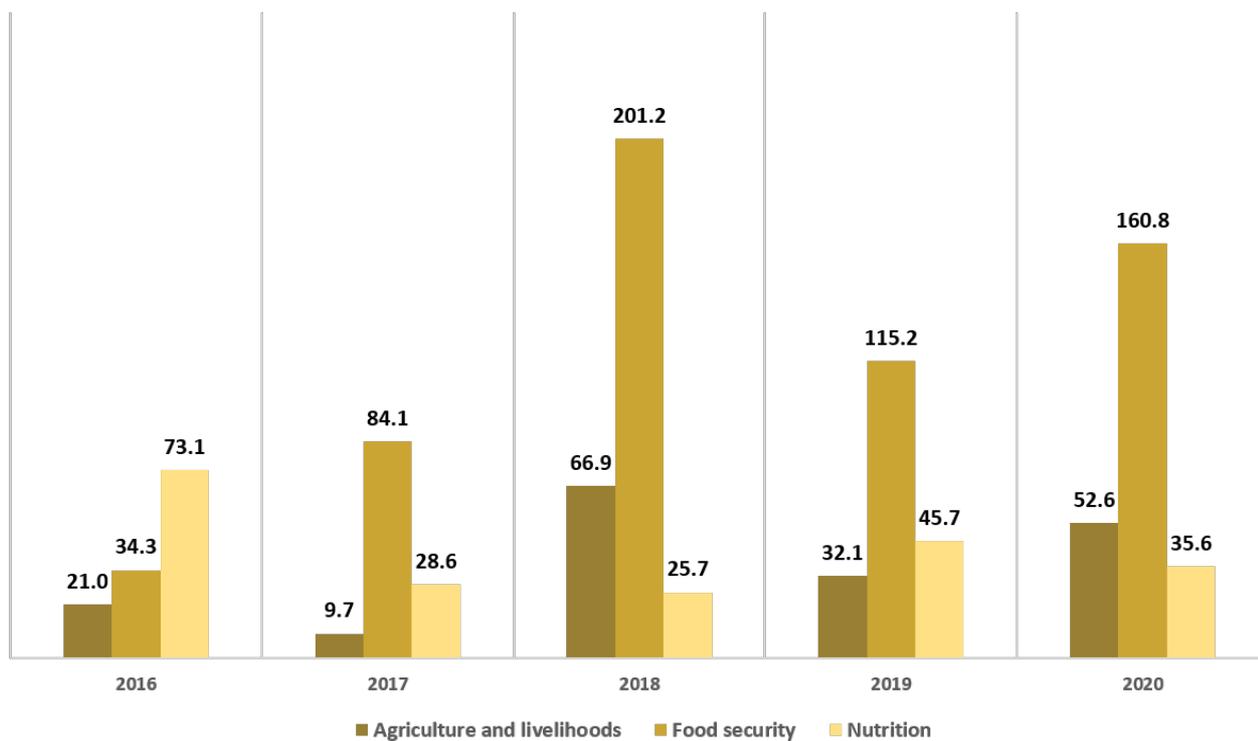


Figure 69: Development assistance to food sectors (2016–2019), USD million

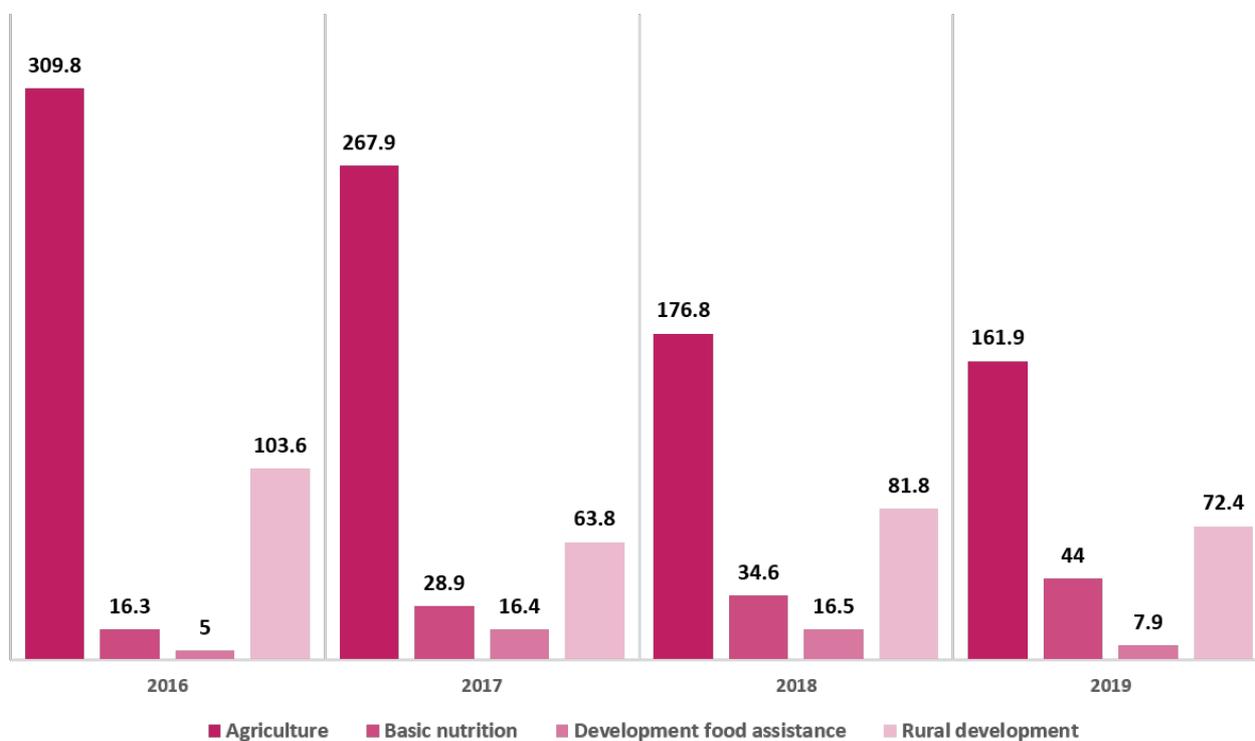
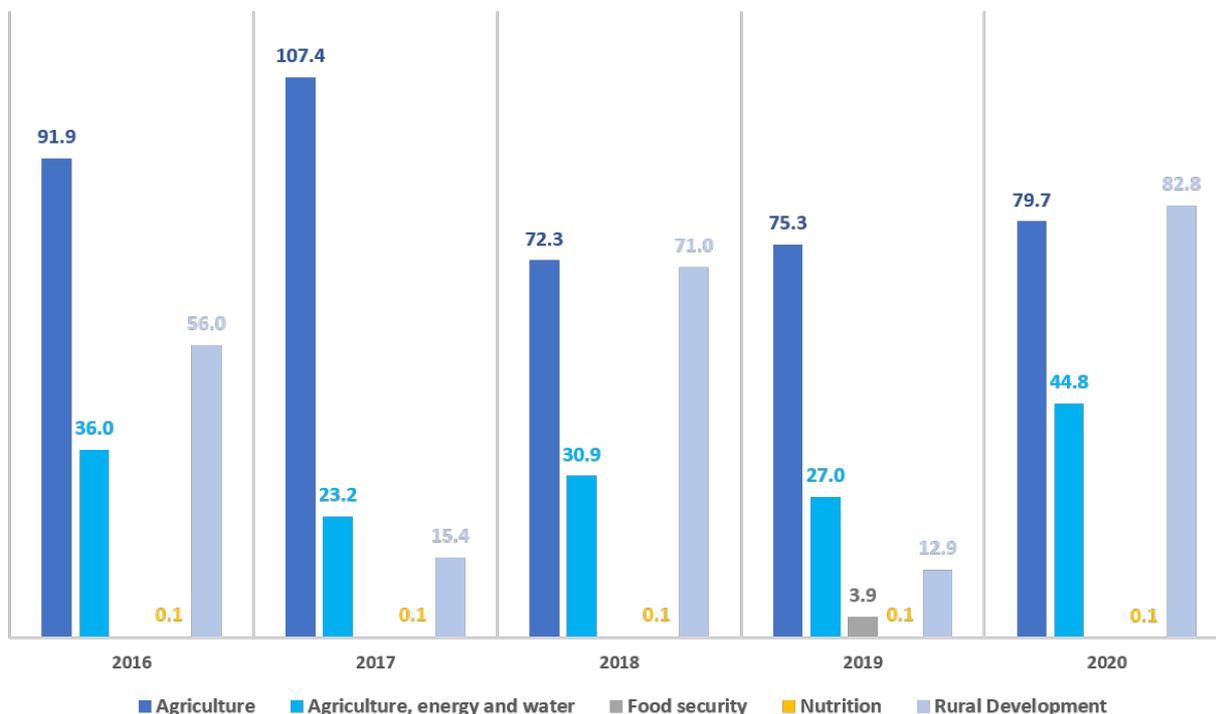


Figure 70: Domestic public resource allocations to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million



**agriculture** was the highest funded during 2016–2020, receiving on average 51 percent of allocations. Allocations to this sector decreased from 50 percent in 2016 to 38 percent in 2020.

Over the same period, **rural development** received on average 29 percent of domestic expenditure to food sectors, rising from 30 percent in 2016 to 40 percent in 2020. The **agriculture, energy and water** sector received an average of 19 percent over this period. **Food security** and **nutrition** were the least-funded food sectors, receiving less than 1 percent each.

## DELIVERY CHANNELS

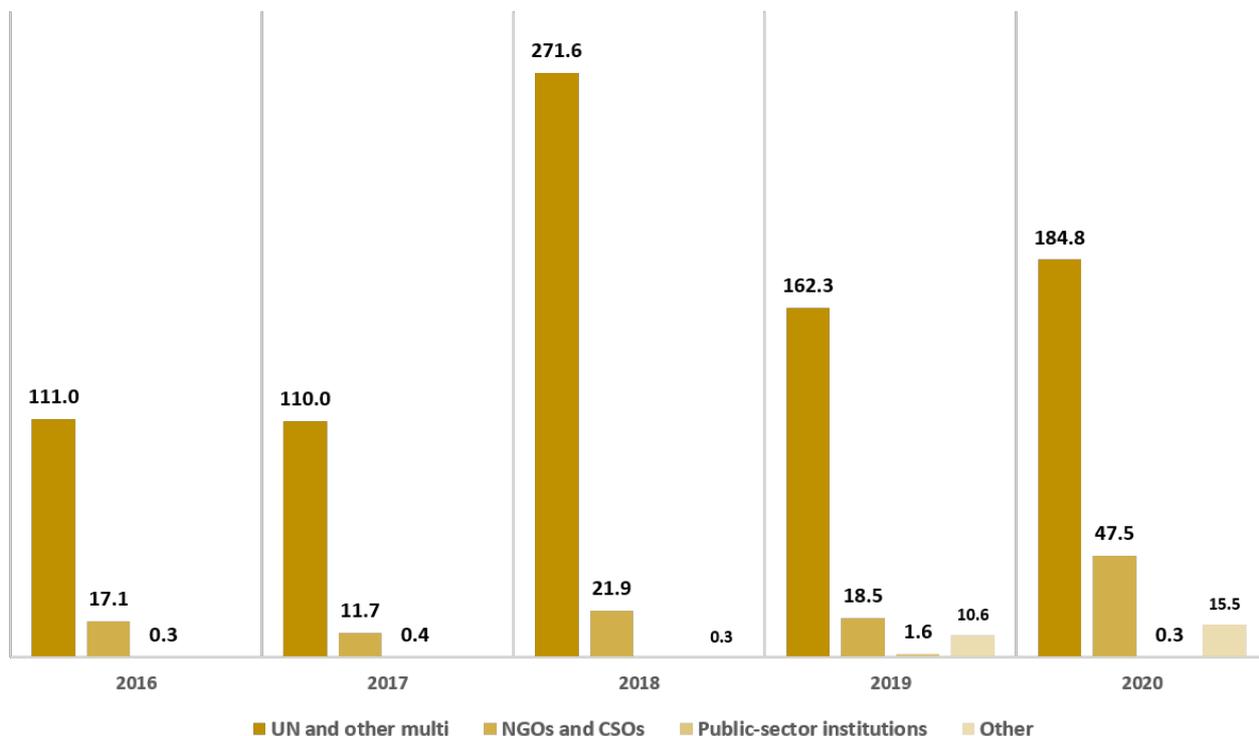
**United Nations and other multilateral organizations** were the largest delivery channel for **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors in 2020, accounting for around 74 percent of the total. **NGOs** and **CSOs** were the second largest delivery channel, accounting for 19 percent of all humanitarian assistance flowing to food sectors that year. These numbers followed the five-year trend, with the

United Nations channeling 85 percent between 2016 and 2020, and NGOs and CSOs delivering 12 percent on average over those years.

**United Nations and other multilateral organizations** were the main **delivery channels of development assistance** to food sectors, receiving 48 percent (USD 140 million) of all funding allocated in 2019. The rest was channeled through **government** and **public-sector institutions** (17 percent or USD 50 million), **private-sector institutions** (16 percent or USD 48 million) and **NGOs and CSOs** (16 percent or USD 46 million).

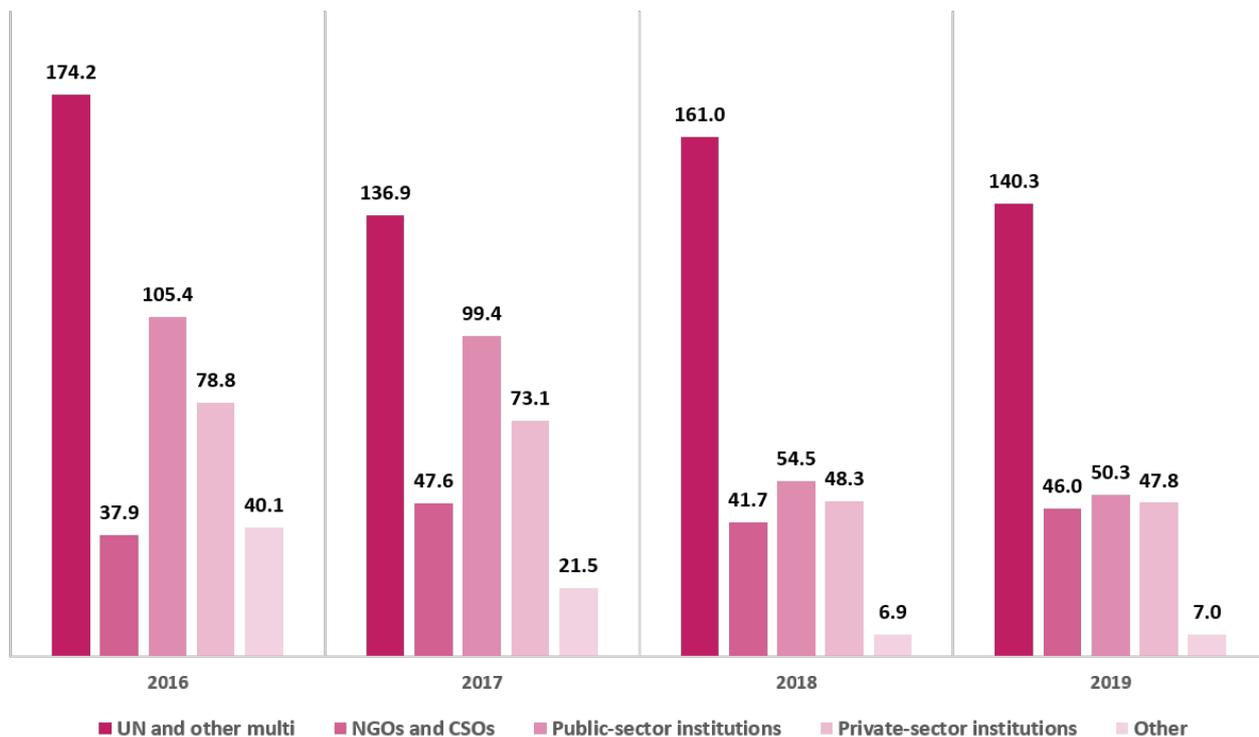
The delivery channels for development assistance did not change substantially between 2016 and 2019, with **United Nations** and **multilateral organizations** channeling 43 percent (USD 612 million). **Government** and **public-sector institutions** channeled 22 percent (USD 310 million) while **private-sector institutions** delivered 17 percent (USD 248 million) and **NGOs and CSOs** channeled 12 percent (USD 173 million).

Figure 71: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2016–2020), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financing flows to RCRC (USD 960 000 in 2020) and those for which no information was reported.

Figure 72: Development assistance delivery channels (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financing flows to: (i) universities, colleges or other teaching institution, research institutes and think tanks (USD 30.8 million in 2016–2019 or 2 percent of the total); (ii) public-private partnerships and networks (USD 11.7 million in 2016–2019 or 0.8 percent of the total); and (iii) delivery channels for which no information was available.

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

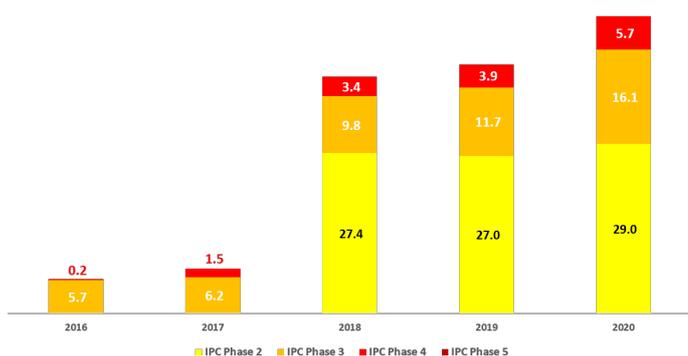
<b>Acute food insecurity IPC 3+</b> 	<b>Humanitarian assistance</b> 	<b>Development assistance</b> 	<b>Domestic public resources</b> 
<b>2020 – 21.8 million people</b> <b>2019 – 15.6 million people</b>	<b>2020 – USD 446.2 million</b> <b>2019 – USD 372.8 million</b>	<b>2019 – USD 164.7 million</b> <b>2018 – USD 191.1 million</b>	<b>2020 – USD 129.5 million</b> <b>2019 – USD 218.4 million</b>

### FINANCING FLOWS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** disbursements increased by USD 73 million from their 2019 level, reaching USD 446 million. This was three times the amount disbursed in 2016. However this increase did not correspond to the **huge increase in acutely food insecure people** in need of food, livelihood and nutrition assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above) – from 15.6 million in 2019 to a staggering 21.8 million in 2020 (the highest of any country worldwide).<sup>58</sup>

In 2019, **development assistance** dropped by USD 26 million from its 2018 level, reaching USD 165 million. However, it still represented

**Figure 73: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**



Data for Phase 2 were not available for 2016 and 2017.

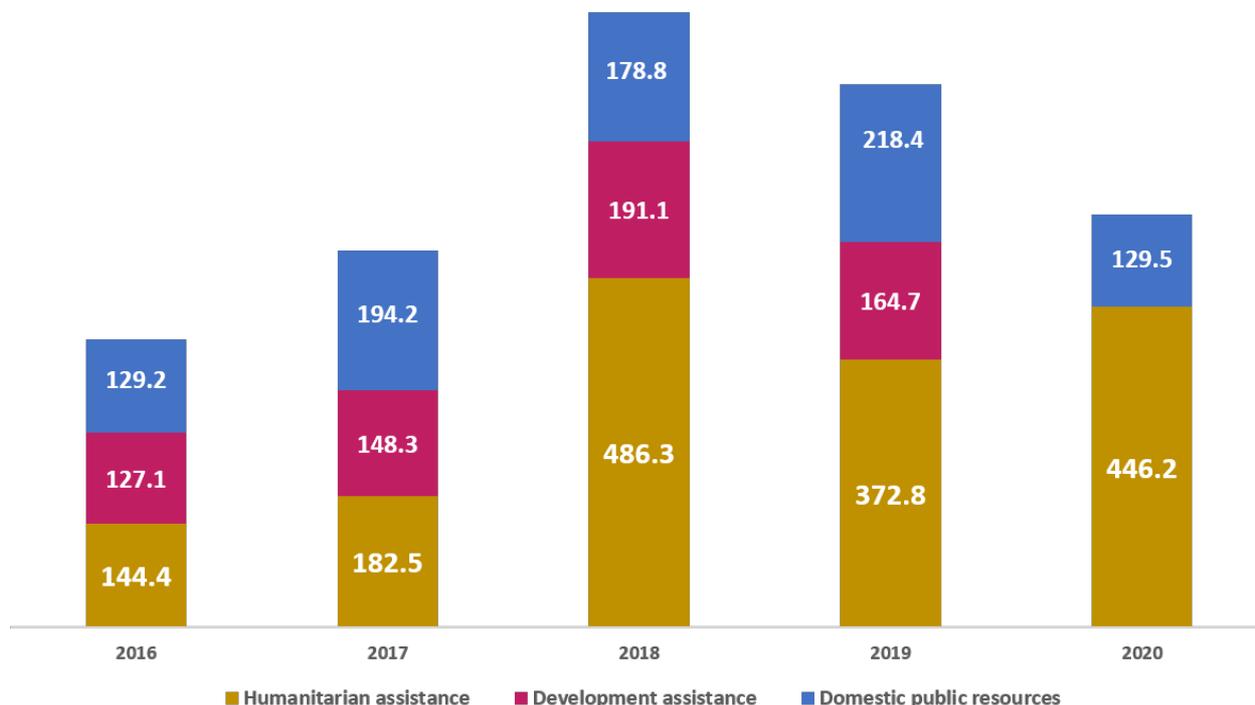
### Key Findings

- In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors totalled USD 446.2 million – almost threefold the amount disbursed in 2016. However, humanitarian assistance in 2020 still fell far short of the needs of people experiencing Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) levels of acute food insecurity.
- Development assistance** to food sectors changed relatively little between 2016 and 2019. The USD 164.7 million received in 2019 marked a decrease from the previous year.
- Domestic expenditures** allocated to food sectors in 2020 totalled USD 129.5 million – the lowest amount recorded since 2016 and 40 percent less than in 2019.
- Over the five years from 2016 through 2020, 77 percent of humanitarian assistance to food sectors was directed towards the **food security sector** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance, while **agriculture** received the largest share of development assistance from 2016 to 2019, with 43 percent of development funding on average.
- Multilateral organizations** and United Nations agencies comprised the largest delivery channel for humanitarian assistance to food sectors in 2020, channeling 70 percent of humanitarian funding. **Public-sector institutions** represented the largest delivery channel for development assistance in 2019, accounting for approximately 46 percent of allocations that year.

an increase of USD 38 million compared its lowest level in 2016. **Domestic expenditures** to food sectors amounted to USD 129.5 million in 2020 – the lowest amount recorded since 2016 and almost half the peak reached in 2019.

<sup>58</sup> There are significant comparability issues across acute food insecurity figures over the years. For example, the 2020 figures cannot be directly compared to the 2019 peak analysis due to an 11 percent increase in the population analysed from 60 million in 2019 to 67 million in 2020, and expansion of geographical coverage. In addition, the 2020 peak analysis covered nine additional urban centres and 29 new territories to account for rising acute food insecurity in urban areas affected by COVID-19-related containment measures. However, the increase can also be attributed to the worsening of the food crisis and growing need for food assistance during the 2020 lean season. Between the 2019 and 2020 peaks, the prevalence of acute food insecurity increased from 26 percent to 33 percent.

Figure 74: Trends in humanitarian assistance and domestic public resources (2016–2020) and development assistance (2016–2019), USD million



## SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

In 2020, all three main food sectors received increased disbursements of **humanitarian assistance**, including: a USD 42 million increase for **nutrition**; a USD 16 million increase for **food security (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance)**; and a USD 15 million increase for **agriculture**. Between 2016 and 2020, 77 percent of humanitarian assistance to food sectors was directed to **food security** and 16 percent to **nutrition**. In fact, **nutrition** saw the highest growth in relative terms, from 0.4 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors in 2016 to 21 percent in 2020. **Agriculture** received the least funding between 2016 and 2020, comprising just 7 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors. Between 2018 and 2019, two of the five main sectors of **development assistance** received increased disbursements (a USD 14 million increase for agriculture and a 1 million increase for basic nutrition). The three others – food assistance, forestry and rural development – faced decreases in these two

years of USD 23 million, USD 14 million and USD 6 million, respectively.

**Agriculture** was the largest recipient of development assistance to food sectors from 2016 to 2019, receiving 43 percent of this funding on average. **Development food assistance** was the second highest-funded sector, receiving 26 percent of development assistance to food sectors between 2016 and 2019. **Rural development** received 13 percent of development funding – dropping throughout this period from 24 percent in 2016. Forestry and basic nutrition encompassed 9 percent and 8 percent respectively.

Disbursements to agriculture and development food assistance increased between 2016 and 2019 by USD 35 million and USD 25 million respectively, while those to nutrition increased by USD 3 million.

While **domestic resource allocations** to **agriculture** and **nutrition** remained stable or decreased slightly between 2019 and 2020, allocations for rural development decreased by 60 percent (USD 78 million). **Rural development** remained the most-funded sector over the period, receiving 58 percent of

Figure 75: Humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million

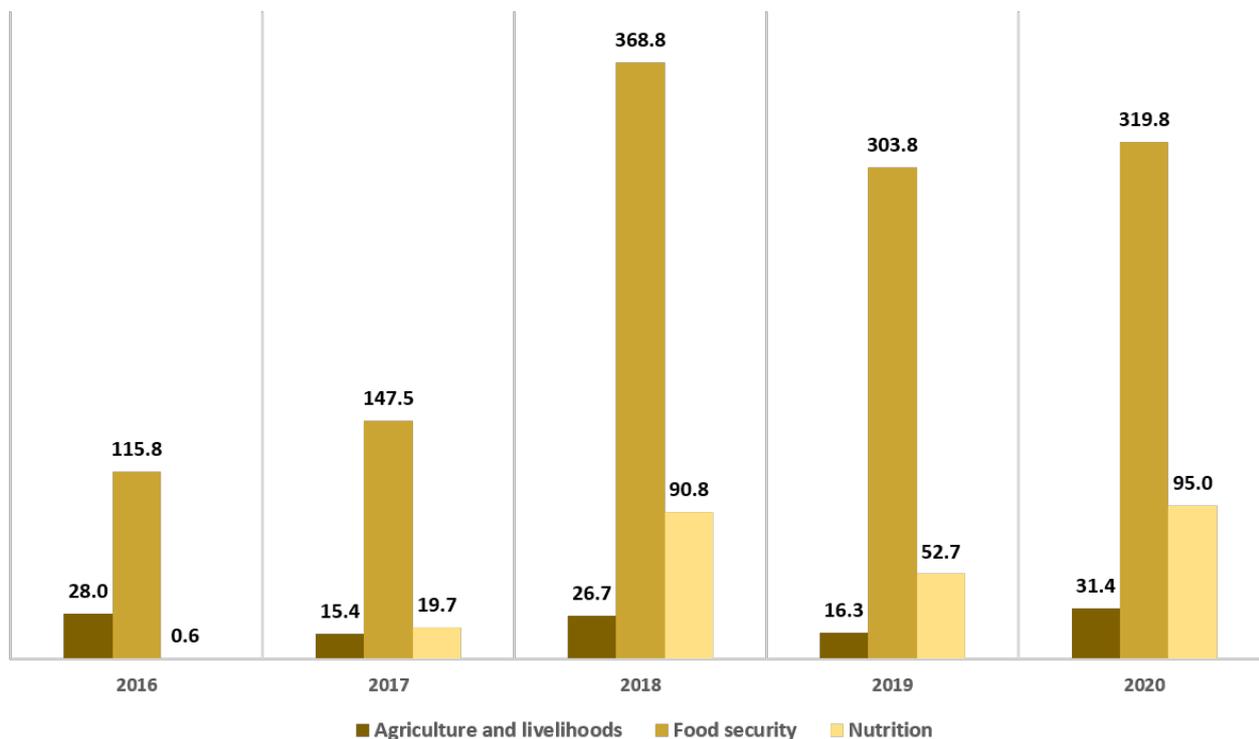
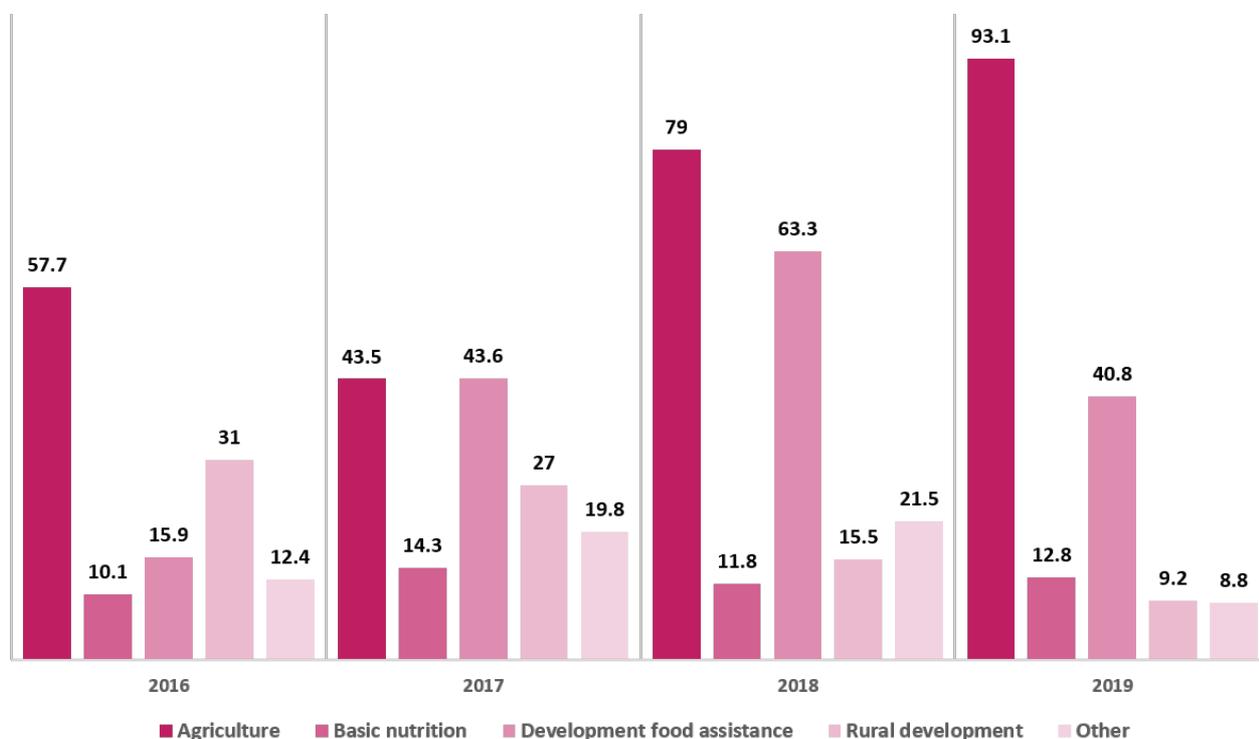


Figure 76: Development assistance to food sectors (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to: fishing (USD 1.4 million in 2016, USD 300,000 in 2017, USD 1.1 million in 2018 and USD 1.3 million in 2019); forestry (USD 11 million in 2016, USD 19.5 million in 2017, USD 20.1 million in 2018 and USD 6.6 million in 2019); household food security (USD 300,000 in 2018 and USD 800,000 in 2019); and food security (USD 200,000 in 2019).

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

domestic resource allocations, on average. Between 2016 and 2020, **agriculture** received 38 percent of domestic expenditure to food sectors (USD 323 million). Over the same period, **nutrition** was the least funded, receiving just 4 percent of domestic expenditures on food sectors.

## DELIVERY CHANNELS

### Humanitarian assistance to United Nations and other multilateral organizations

increased between 2019 and 2020 by USD 72 million; disbursements to other actors remained stable. Multilateral organizations and United Nations agencies represented the largest delivery channels of humanitarian assistance to food sectors during these five years, delivering 72 percent of assistance on average. **NGOs and CSOs** comprised the second largest delivery channel, accounting for 25 percent on average of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors during this period.

In terms of **development assistance** to food sectors, financial flows through **public institutions** and **multilateral organizations** decreased between 2018 and 2019 –by USD 7 million and USD 52 million, respectively – while they increased to NGOs and CSOs by USD 34 million, and the private sector by USD 1 million. Public-sector institutions remained the main delivery channel, receiving 45 percent of funding over 2016–2019. NGOs and CSOs received on average 29 percent of all development assistance to food sectors over this period. United Nations and other multilateral organizations channelled 18 percent of the development assistance, and the private sector accounted for 2 percent of the total over the four years.

Figure 77: Domestic public resource allocations to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million

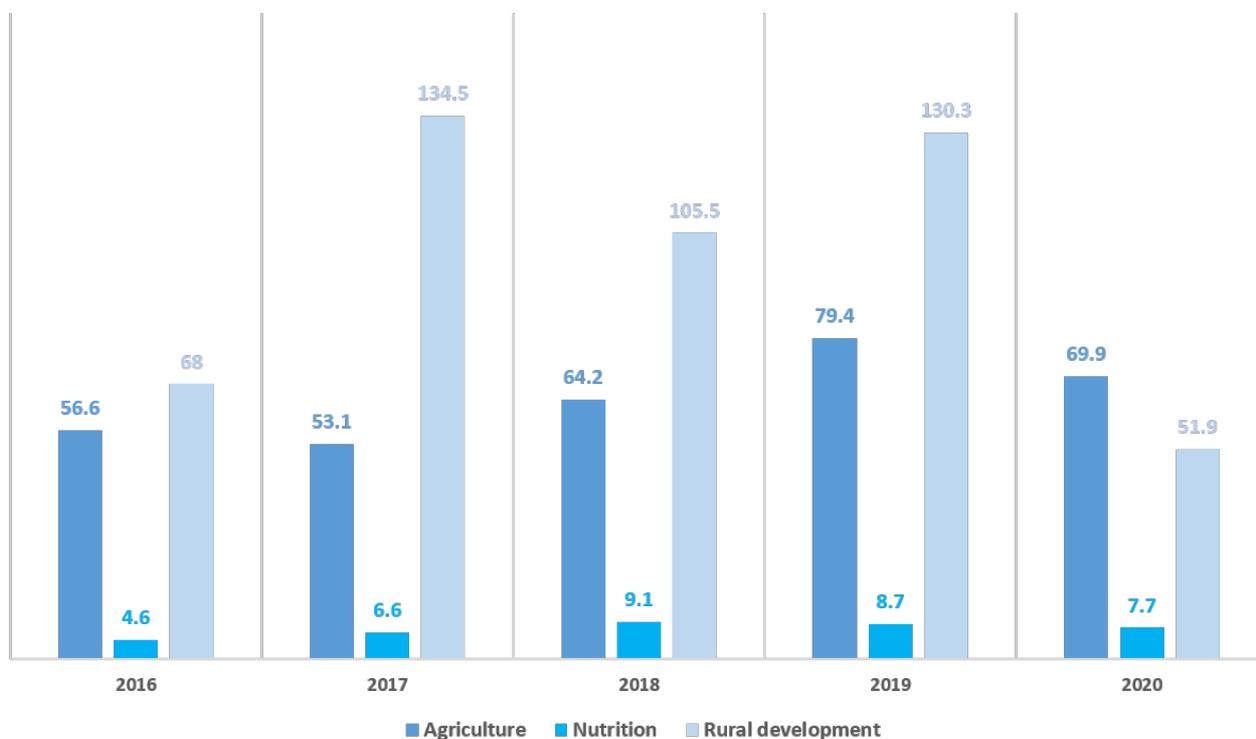
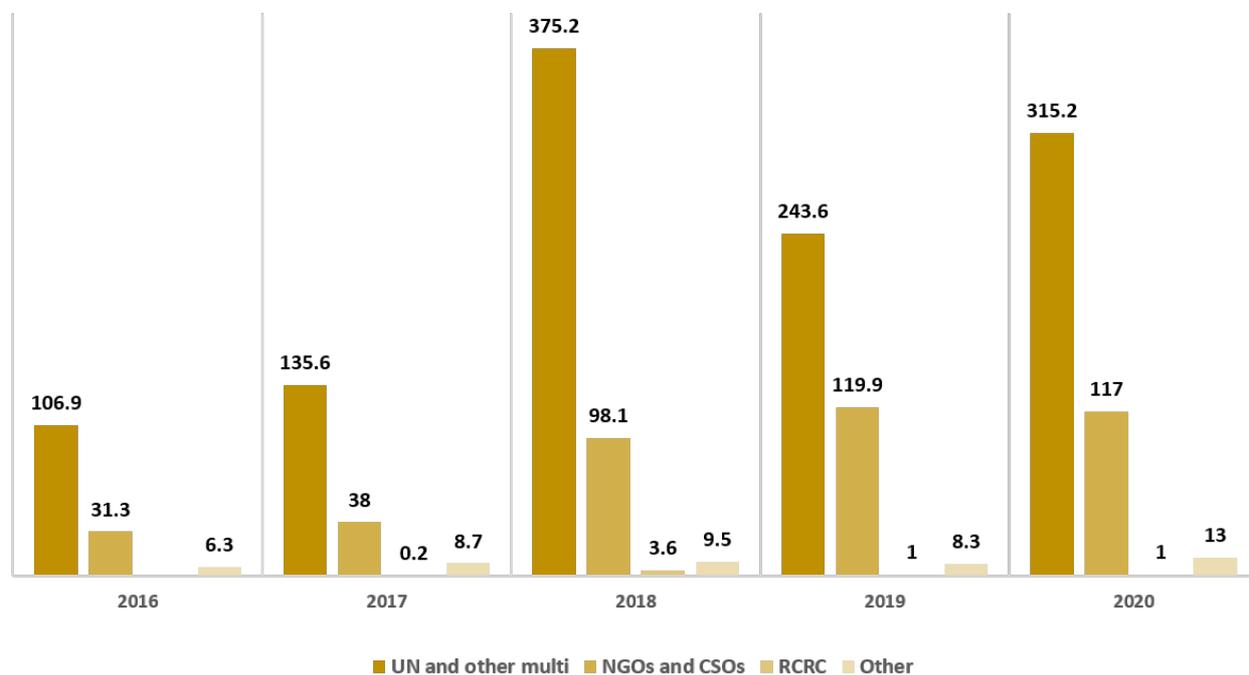
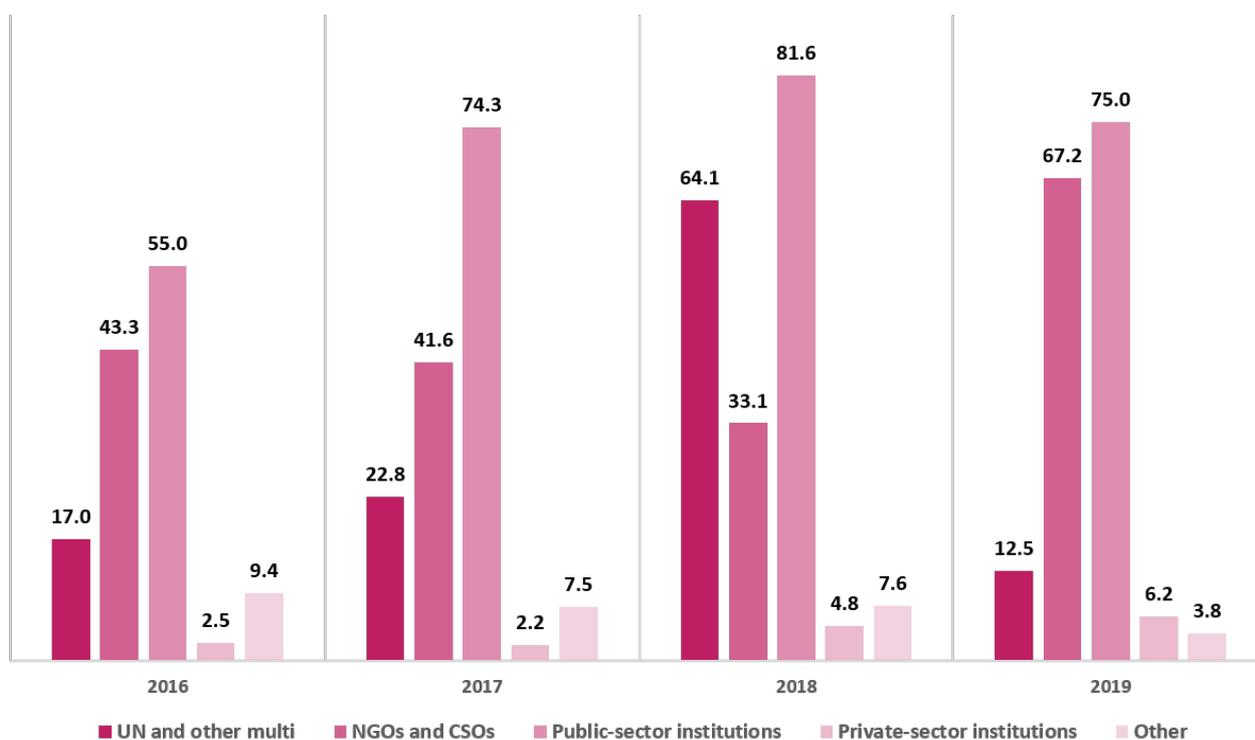


Figure 78: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2016–2020), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows for which no information was reported.

Figure 79: Development assistance delivery channels (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to universities, colleges and other teaching institutions, research institutes and think tanks, which comprised: USD 4.3 million in 2016; USD 2.3 million in 2017; USD 3 million in 2018; and USD 3.8 million in 2019. It also includes financial flows for which no information was reported.

# ETHIOPIA

<b>Acute food insecurity IPC 3+</b> 	<b>Humanitarian assistance</b> 	<b>Development assistance</b> 	<b>Domestic public resources</b> 
<b>2020 – 8.6 million people</b> 2019 – 8 million people	<b>2020 – USD 609.4 million</b> 2019 – USD 520.9 million	<b>2019 – USD 688.6 million</b> 2018 – USD 625.3 million	<b>2020 – USD 680.6 million</b> 2019 – USD 709.1 million

## FINANCING FLOWS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

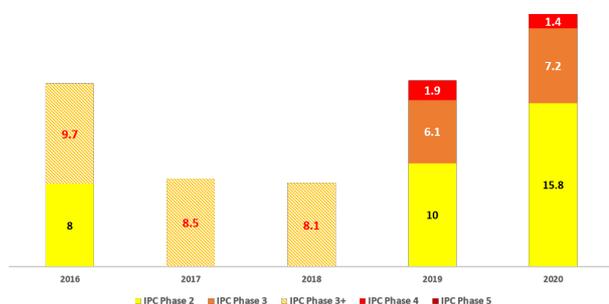
In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors reached USD 609 million – a 17 percent increase from the previous year. However, between 2016 and 2020 humanitarian assistance to food sectors decreased overall by 36 percent from USD 946 million to a low of USD 521 million in 2019.

Humanitarian assistance to food sectors in Ethiopia followed trends in **acute food insecurity**. The acutely food insecure population in need of urgent assistance remained above 8 million after 2016, when a severe drought affected the country and caused a spike in need. From October to December 2020, more than 8.6 million people faced Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) levels of acute food insecurity. This represented an increase from 2019 (despite

### Key Findings

- In 2020, more than 8.6 million people faced Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) levels of **acute food insecurity** – an increase from 2019 despite different areas and populations analysed in these two years. **Humanitarian assistance** to food sectors reached USD 609.4 million in 2020, following an increase in acute food insecurity.
- Between 2016 and 2019, **development assistance** remained largely stable. In 2019, it totalled USD 688.6 million – a 10 percent increase from the previous year.
- Domestic public expenditures** increased by nearly 127 percent from 2016 to 2020. The USD 680.6 million budgeted for 2020 was less than the amount budgeted for the previous year.
- The **food security sector** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – received the major share of humanitarian assistance in 2020, while **agriculture** received the greatest share of development assistance of all food sectors in 2019, accounting for 55 percent of the total disbursement. Domestic public expenditures provided 65 percent of funding for food sectors to **water resources and energy** during 2020.
- United Nations and other **multilateral organizations** represented the most important delivery channel for humanitarian assistance while development assistance was mainly channelled through public institutions.

**Figure 80: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**



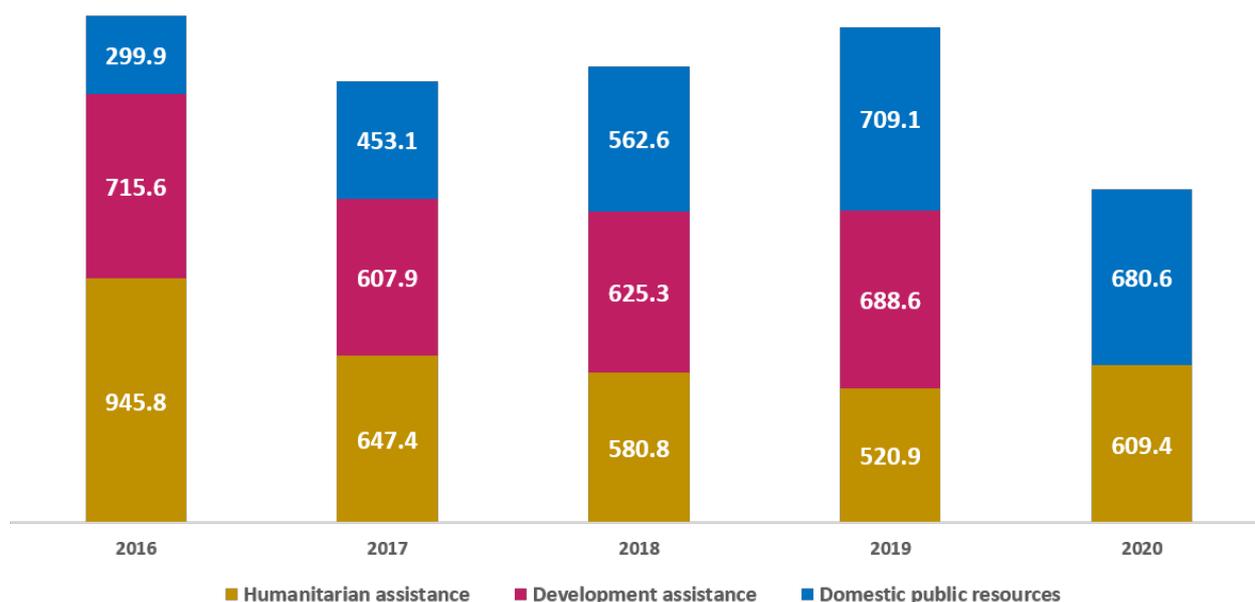
Note: Disaggregated data by IPC Phase are not available for 2016, 2017 and 2018.

significant differences in areas and populations analysed).<sup>59</sup>

In 2019, **development assistance** totalled USD 688.6 million – a 10 percent increase from 2018. However, the level of development financing remained relatively stable in Ethiopia from 2016 (a 4 percent decrease from USD 715.6 million). Compared with other countries and major food crises,

<sup>59</sup> The 2020 country analysis for Ethiopia was expanded to include Meher-dependent areas. Therefore, increased geographical coverage resulted in higher numbers of people experiencing Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) during the last quarter. The inclusion of these areas during the harvest period meant that the prevalence of food insecurity fell from 28 percent in February–June to 21 percent in July–September, and 16 percent in October–December 2020 (IPC, December 2020). For more details, see the 2021 GRFC [here](#). The 2016, 2017 and 2018 figures were based on OCHA’s Humanitarian Needs Overview and humanitarian requirement documents.

Figure 81: Trends in humanitarian assistance and domestic public resources (2016–2020) and development assistance (2016–2019), USD million



disbursements of humanitarian and development assistance over 2016–2019 were relatively balanced, slightly favouring humanitarian assistance. **Domestic public expenditures** increased by 127 percent between 2016 and 2020, albeit with a 4 percent decrease between 2019 and 2020.<sup>60</sup>

## SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

In 2020, 77 percent of humanitarian assistance to food sectors was focused on food security (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance), while 16 percent was directed to nutrition and 7 percent to agriculture and livelihoods – an increase in all sectors compared to 2019.

Between 2016 and 2020, **humanitarian assistance to food security** comprised 68 percent of all funding, while **agriculture and livelihoods** received 20 percent and **nutrition** 12 percent. Humanitarian assistance to **agriculture and livelihoods** decreased by 87 percent during this period (from USD 314.2 million to USD 41.8 million), while funding for **nutrition** increased threefold from USD 30.5 million to USD 98 million.

Nearly half (49 percent) of **development assistance** in 2019 was dedicated to **agriculture**, while 26 percent funded **development food assistance**, 12 percent financed **rural development** and 9 percent went to **basic nutrition**. The amounts disbursed in 2019 to agriculture and nutrition represented a decrease (3 percent and 26 percent, respectively) from 2018. The allocation for development food assistance increased by 31 percent and that for rural development increased by 126 percent.

Over the four years of analysis, agriculture accounted for 55 percent of all development assistance, development food assistance for 23 percent, basic nutrition 10 percent and rural development 9 percent. Disbursements to agriculture decreased by 18 percent from USD 411 million to USD 337 million between 2016 and 2020, and disbursements to rural development dropped by 11 percent. Funding for nutrition and development food assistance increased by 6 percent and 20 percent, respectively.

In 2020, 65 percent of **domestic expenditures** to food sectors were allocated to **water resources and energy**, and 26 percent were channeled to **agricultural and rural development**. Both sectors faced a 3 percent decrease compared to 2019 in the context of a

<sup>60</sup> These figures exclude budget assistance. All figures are budget allocations only and not actual expenditures. Data presented here follow the Gregorian calendar.

Figure 82: Humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million

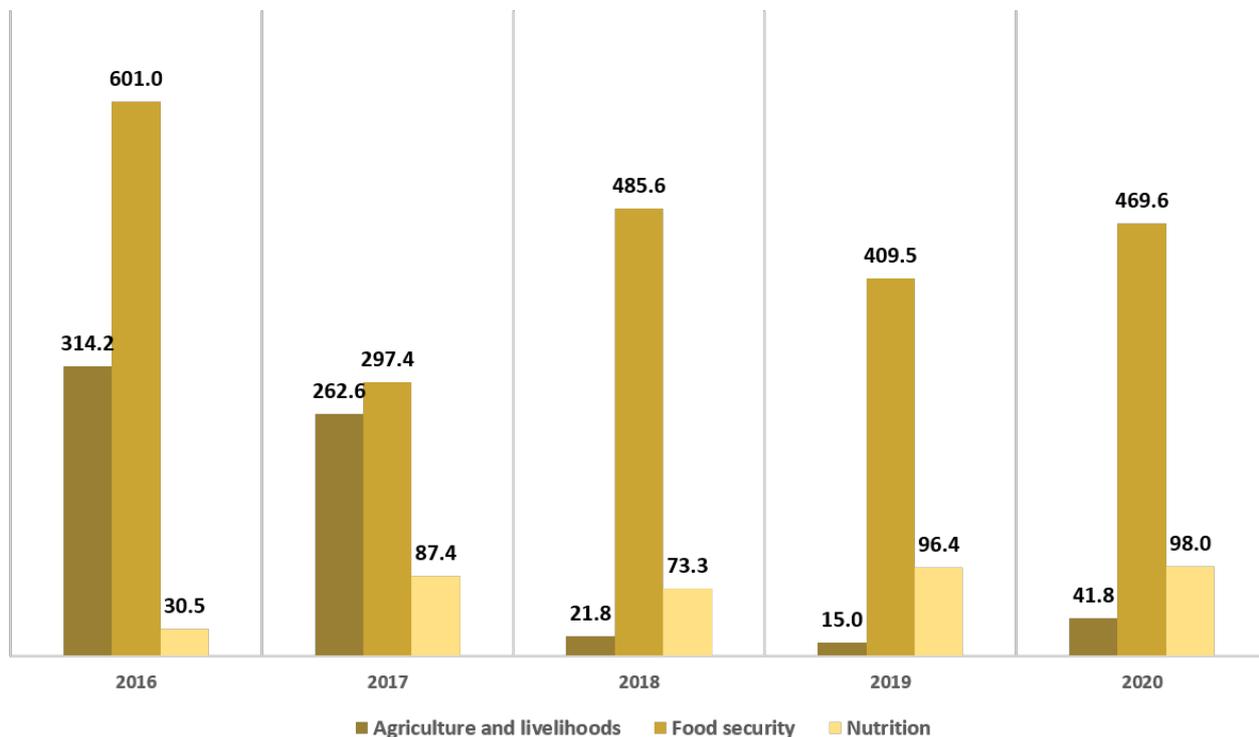
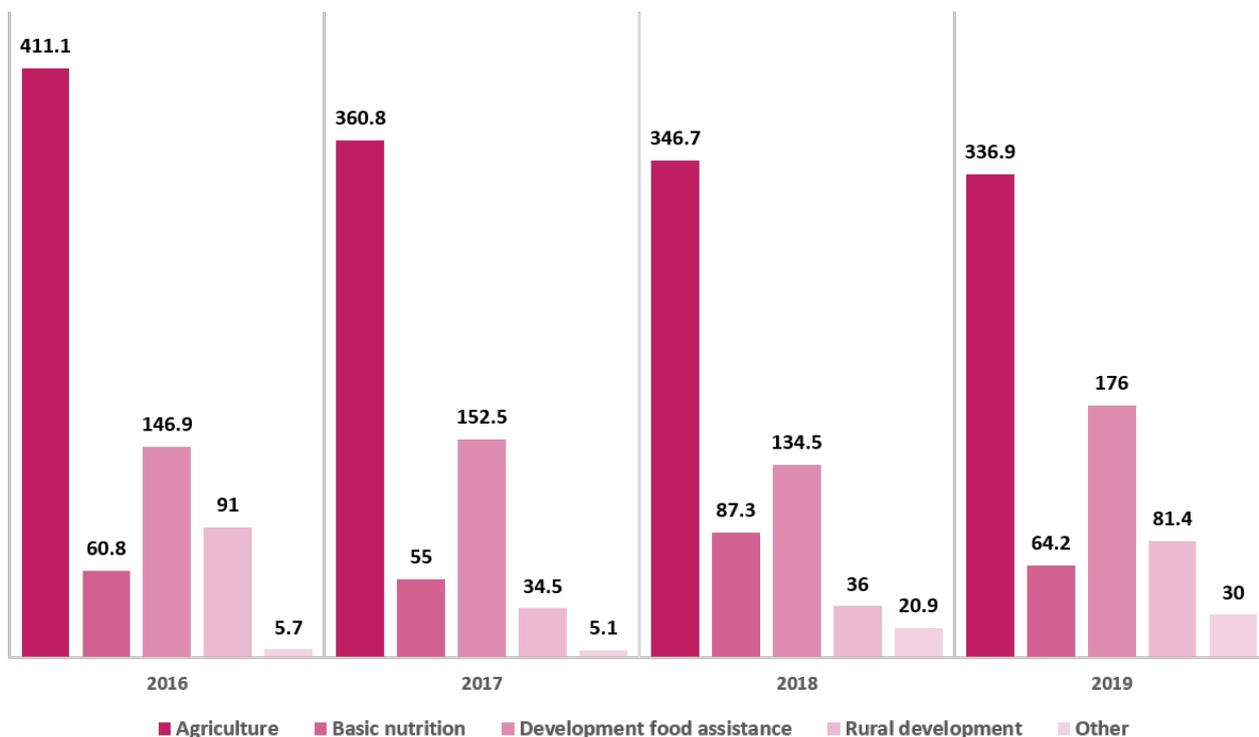


Figure 83: Development assistance to food sectors (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to fishing (USD 100 000 in 2016 and 2017, USD 5.2 million in 2018, USD 6.5 million in 2019); forestry (USD 5.6 million in 2016, USD 5 million in 2017, USD 12.2 million in 2018 and USD 5.4 million in 2019), household food security (USD 2.7 million in 2018, USD 17.5 million in 2019); school feeding (USD 800 000 in 2018 and USD 300 000 million in 2019); and food security (USD 300 000 in 2019).

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

4 percent decrease in domestic resources overall. Domestic public expenditures on water resources and energy represented 60 percent of all public expenditures between 2016 and 2020, with allocations to the sector more than doubling in line with a general increase in domestic expenditures. During this period, public allocations to the agriculture and rural development sector also nearly doubled, comprising 30 percent of all public expenditures.

## DELIVERY CHANNELS

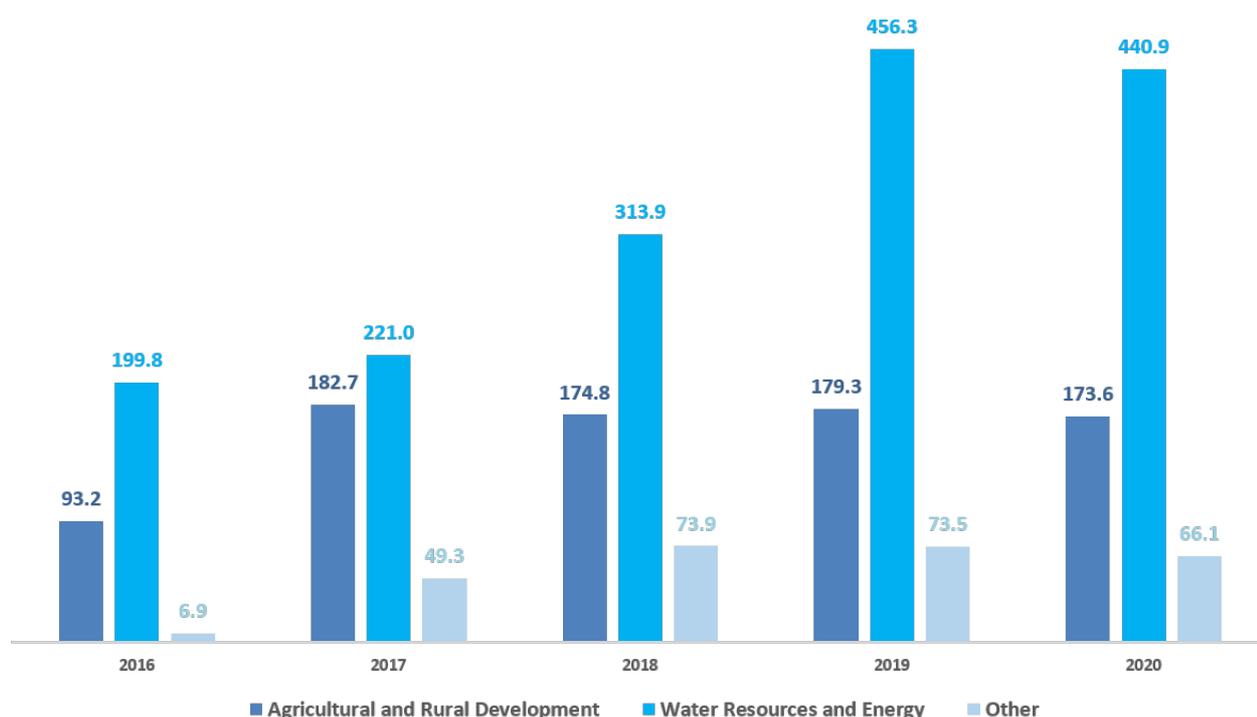
In 2020, **United Nations and other multilateral organizations** comprised the main delivery channel for **humanitarian assistance** – channeling approximately 3 times the amount delivered by **NGOs and CSOs**. That year, the amount of humanitarian assistance channeled through NGOs and CSOs increased by 27 percent and 15 percent respectively from 2019, while assistance channeled through public institutions decreased by 99 percent.

**United Nations and other multilateral organizations** were also the largest delivery channels for humanitarian assistance to food

sectors for the entire 2016–2020 period, channeling 63 percent of all humanitarian funding. However, these funds decreased from USD 589.1 million to USD 448.6 million between 2016 and 2020. Funds channeled by NGOs and CSOs also decreased from USD 347.4 million to USD 158.4 million, representing 34 percent of all humanitarian assistance on average. Public institutions channeled 3 percent of humanitarian assistance over these five years.

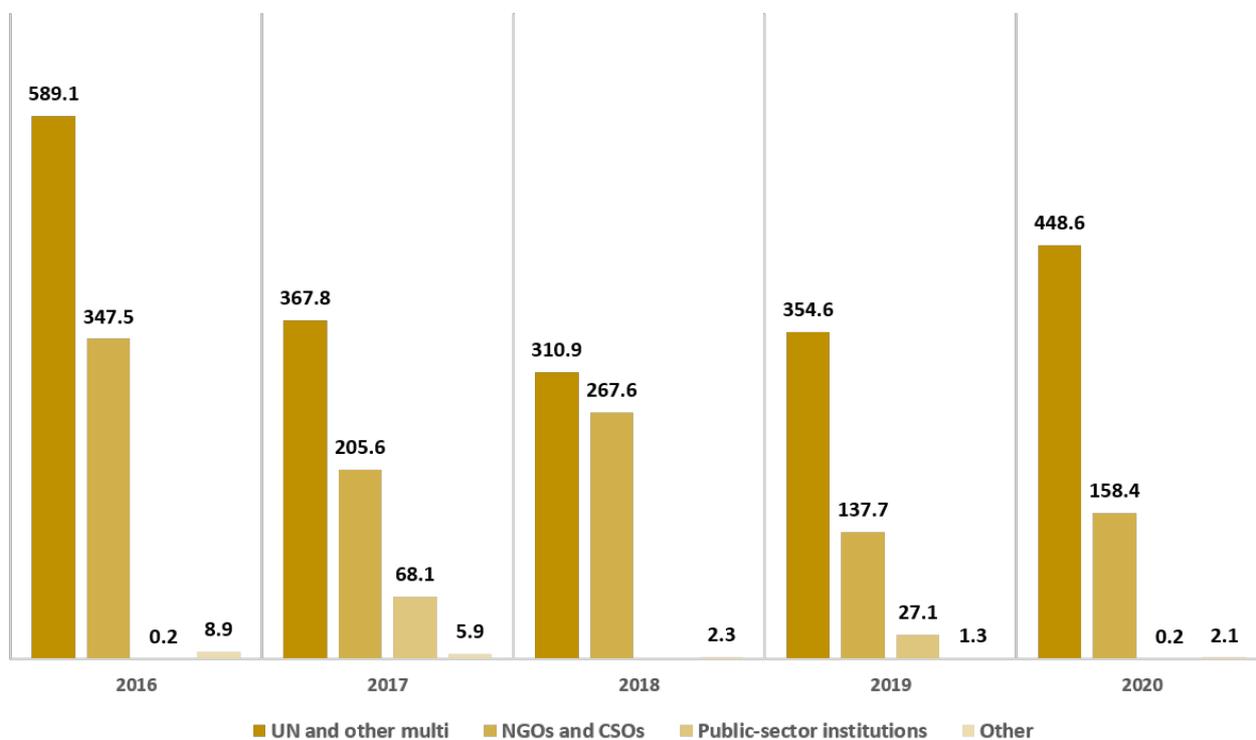
**Public-sector institutions** represented the largest delivery channel for **development assistance** to food sectors –delivering 47 percent between 2016 and 2019. However, this assistance decreased from USD 344.7 million to USD 324.3 million. **NGOs and CSOs** accounted for 26 percent of development assistance, channelling a continuously increasing amount over this period (from USD 158 million to USD 214 million). While **United Nations and other multilateral organizations** delivered 18 percent of development assistance, this funding decreased from USD 161 million in 2016 to USD 77 million in 2019.

**Figure 84: Domestic public resource allocations to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million**



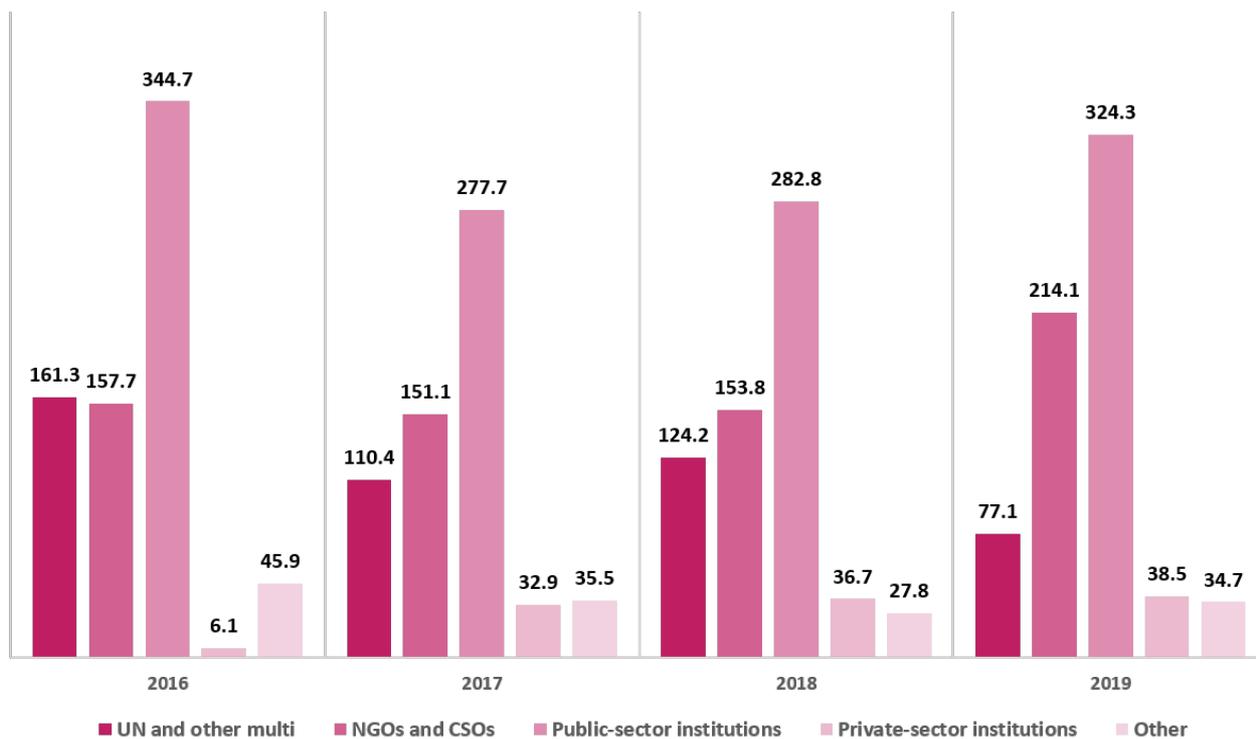
Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to: 'Administration' and general' (1 percent for 2016–2020); 'Prevention and rehabilitation' (3 percent for 2016–2020); 'Urban development and construction' (5 percent for 2016–2020); 'Trade and industry' (0.5 percent for 2016–2020); and 'Health' (0.04 percent for 2016–2020).

Figure 85: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2016–2020), USD million



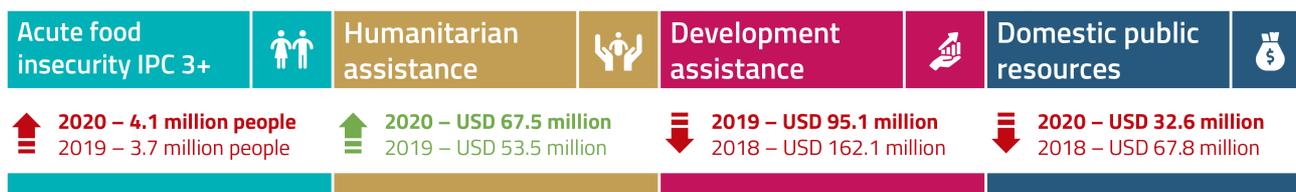
Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to RCRC (USD 1.1 million in 2016, USD 400,000 in 2017 and USD 300,000 million in 2018) as well as those for which no information was reported.

Figure 86: Development assistance delivery channels (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to: universities, colleges and other teaching institutions, research institutes and think-tanks (USD 22.6 million in 2016, USD 31.7 million in 2017, USD 24.2 million in 2018 and USD 29.5 million in 2019), public-private partnerships and networks (USD 200,000 in 2017, USD 400,000 in 2018 and USD 200,000 in 2019); and financial flows for which no information was reported.

# HAITI



## FINANCING FLOWS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

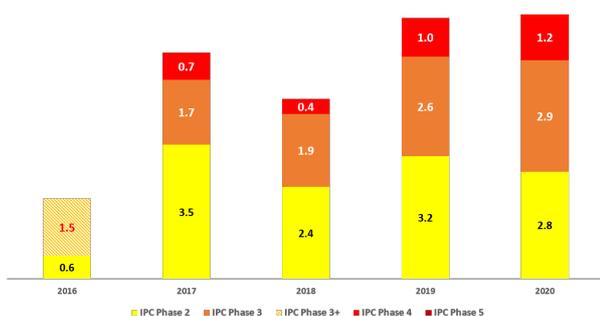
In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors in Haiti stood at USD 67.5 million – a 26 percent (USD 14 million) increase from 2019. During the same period, **acute food insecurity** increased from 3.7 million people in IPC Phase 3 or above in 2019 to 4.1 million in 2020. Yet between 2016 and 2020, humanitarian assistance to the food sectors recorded a 15 percent decrease (USD 12 million), while the number of people in Crisis or worse increased by 173 percent (from 1.5 million in 2016 to 4.1 million in 2020). This stark increase was driven by a combination of drought, economic shocks and civil unrest.

**Development assistance** to food sectors accounted for USD 95.1 million in 2019, comprising the largest share of external financing to food sectors in the country in that year. However this marked a 24 percent decrease from 2016, when the level of development assistance stood at USD 124.6 million. The highest allocation of **domestic expenditures** to food sectors received in the past five years was in 2017, when they accounted for one quarter of that year’s allocation (USD 68 million). After that, these

### Key Findings

- In 2020, more than 8.6 million people faced Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) levels of **acute food insecurity** – an increase from 2019 despite different areas and populations analysed in these two years. **Humanitarian assistance** to food sectors reached USD 609.4 million in 2020, following an increase in acute food insecurity.
- In 2020, humanitarian assistance to food sectors recorded a 25 percent increase from the previous year, reaching USD 67.5 million. The number of people in Crisis or worse increased by 173 percent from 2016 to 2020, reaching 4.1 million.
- Despite representing the largest share of external financing to food sectors between 2016 and 2019, **development assistance** dropped by 40 percent between 2018 and 2019 to USD 95.1 million.
- In 2020, **domestic public expenditures** to food sectors totalled USD 40.3 million – a 24 percent increase from the previous year.
- The **food security sector** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – received 87 percent of all humanitarian assistance in 2020, while **agriculture** received the greatest amount of development assistance in 2019, accounting for 63 percent of the total disbursement. Virtually all domestic expenditures to food sectors were directed towards agriculture and rural development.
- United Nations and other **multilateral organizations** represented the largest delivery channel for humanitarian assistance, comprising 62 percent of the total. Development assistance was mainly channelled through NGOs, CSOs and public-sector institutions.

**Figure 87: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**



Note: there is a lack of comparability between the years of analyses, including the different methodologies to assess acute food insecurity (i.e. WFP CARI in 2016, and IPC from 2017 to 2020).

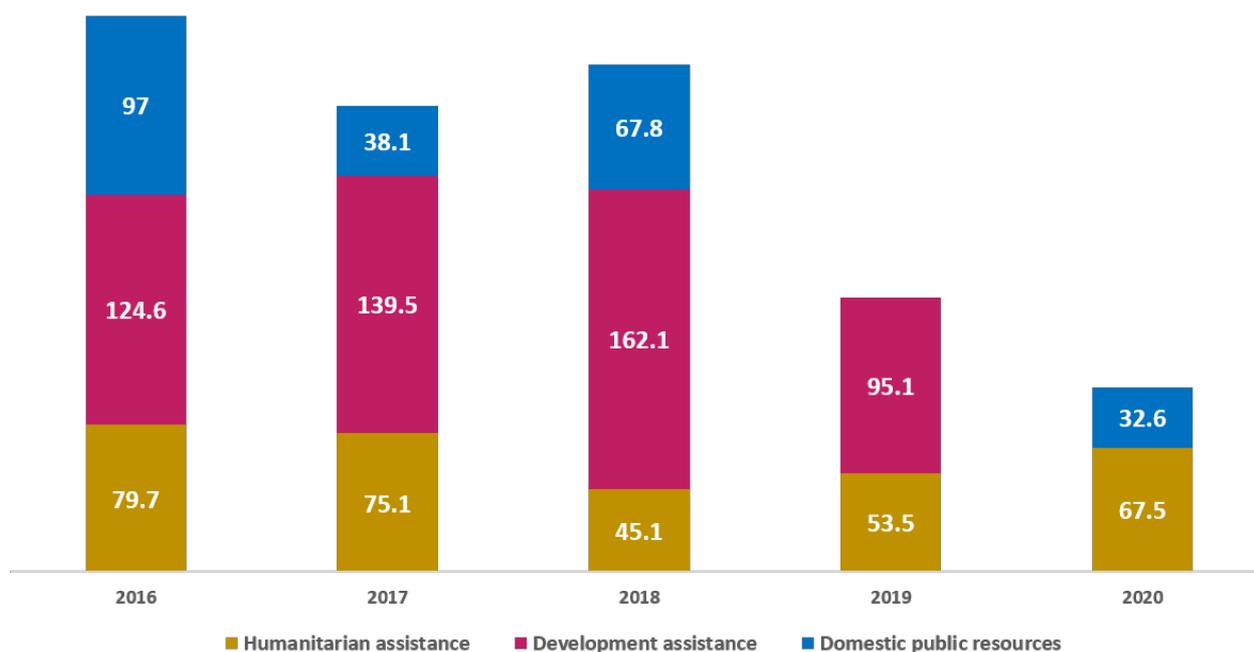
expenditures dropped consistently through 2020.

## SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

Approximately 87 percent of **humanitarian assistance** to Haiti was directed to **food security (mainly in the form of cash and in-**

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

Figure 88: Trends in humanitarian assistance and domestic public resources (2016–2020) and development assistance (2016–2019), USD million



Note: In 2018, no disaggregated data were available on investment expenditures by domestic and external financing source. An estimate based on the application of the share of funding source to total investment expenditure across all other years, applied to the total investment expenditure in 2018 and 2019, would result in an estimated USD 66.1 million.

**kind food assistance**) in 2020, with 9 percent directed to **agriculture** and 4 percent to **nutrition**. Despite a 145 percent increase between 2016 and 2017 (from USD 16.4 million to USD 40.2 million), funding to agriculture shrank consistently, accounting for 85 percent less in 2020 than in 2017.

Close to 63 percent of **development assistance** was directed to **agriculture** in 2019, while 11 percent was directed to **development food assistance** and 10 percent to **basic nutrition**. The remaining 16 percent was mostly distributed between rural development and school feeding (small amounts were also recorded for forestry, fishing and household food security programmes).

Nearly all **domestic public expenditures** to food sectors were directed to agriculture and rural development, with less than 0.1 percent going to nutrition.

## DELIVERY CHANNELS

**United Nations and other multilateral organizations**, and **NGOs** were the main delivery channels for humanitarian assistance in Haiti, receiving 68 percent and 19 percent of humanitarian assistance to food sectors in

2020, respectively. However, the proportion channeled through United Nations and multilateral organizations decreased from 84 percent of the total in 2016 to 68 percent in 2020 (and was as low as 38 percent share in 2017).

NGOs and CSOs (with USD 31.4 million), and **public-sector institutions** (USD 31.7 million) were the main conduits for **development assistance** to food sectors in 2019, both channeling approximately 33 percent. United Nations and other multilateral organizations (USD 12.8 million), and the private sector (USD 12.3 million) ranked third and fourth that year, both accounting for 13 percent respectively.

Between 2016 and 2019, the main delivery channels for development assistance did not change considerably. On average, public-sector institutions received 37 percent of all development assistance to food sectors, while NGOs and CSOs received 33 percent. United Nations and multilateral organizations, and the private sector channeled 10 percent and 15 percent, respectively.

Figure 89: Humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million

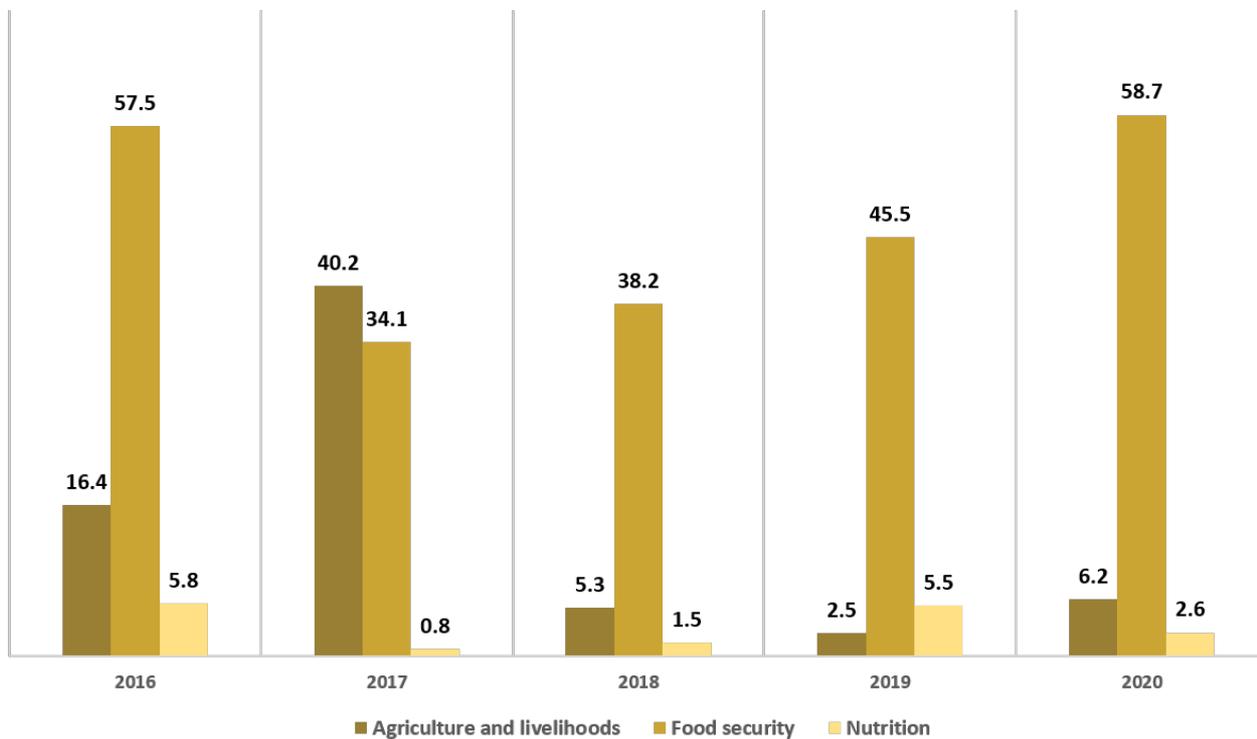
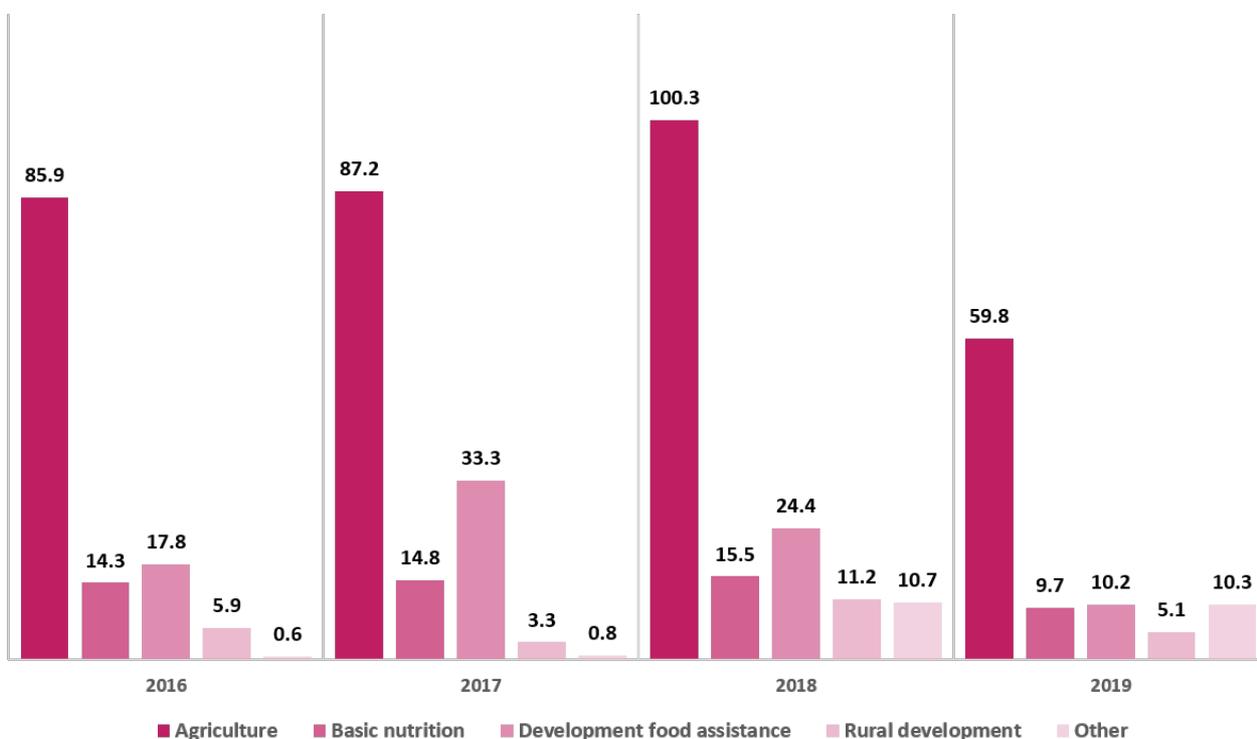
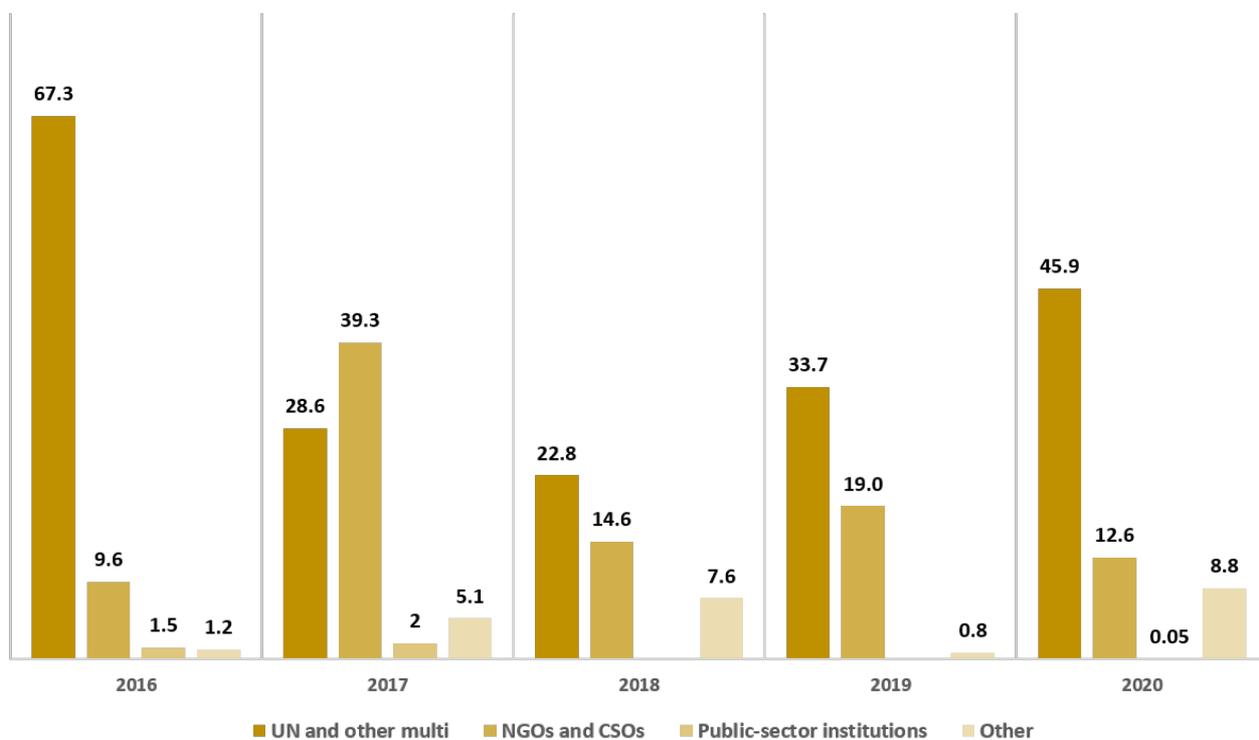


Figure 90: Development assistance to food sectors (2016–2019), USD million



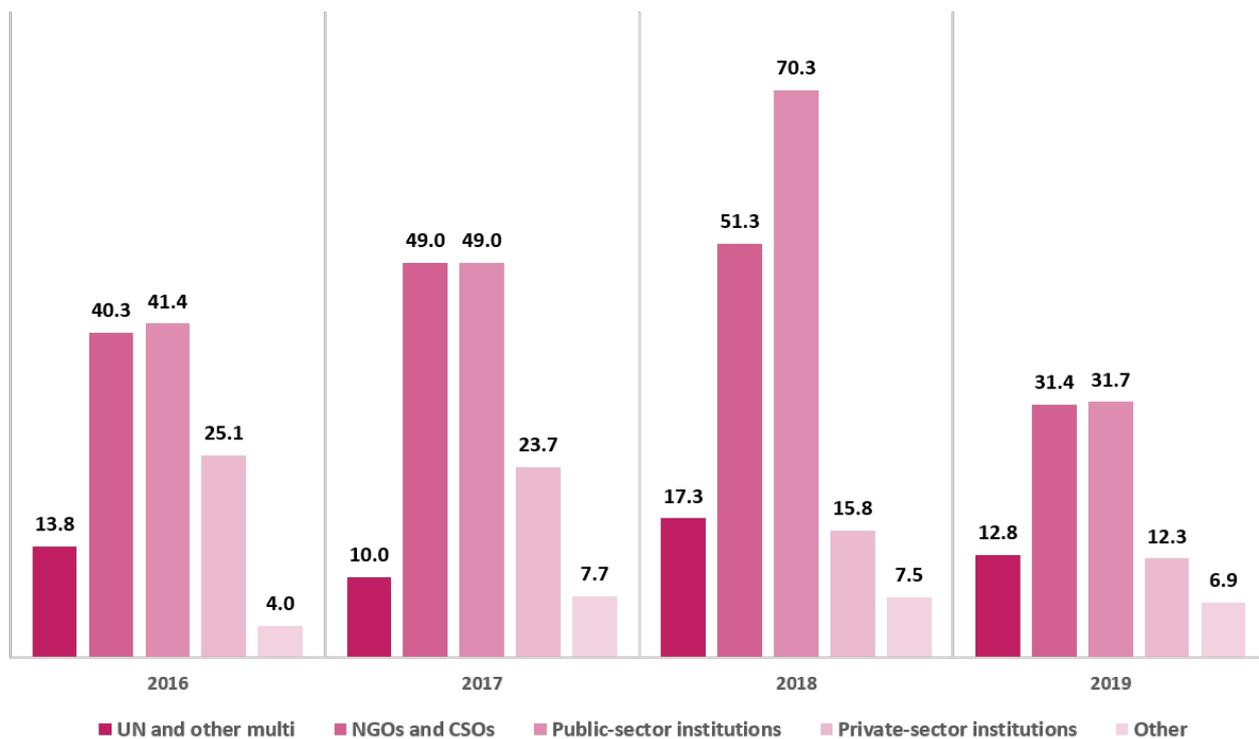
Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to: fishing (USD 400 000 in 2016 and USD 500 000 in 2017); forestry (USD 200 000 in 2016, USD 300 000 in 2017 and USD 100 000 in 2018 and 2019); household food security (USD 1.8 million in 2018); and school feeding (USD 8.8 million in 2018 and USD 10.2 million in 2019).

Figure 91: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2016–2020), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to RCRC (USD 30 000 in 2017) as well as those for which no information was reported.

Figure 92: Development assistance delivery channels (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to: universities, colleges and other teaching institutions; research institutes and think-tanks (USD 1.5 million in 2016, USD 6.6 million in 2017, USD 4.6 million in 2018 and USD 5.1 million in 2019); and recipients for which no information was reported.

# NIGERIA

<b>Acute food insecurity CH 3+</b> 	<b>Humanitarian assistance</b> 	<b>Development assistance</b> 	<b>Domestic public resources</b> 
<b>2020 – 9.2 million people</b> 2019 – 5 million people	<b>2020 – USD 366.1 million</b> 2019 – USD 367.1 million	<b>2019 – USD 427.6 million</b> 2018 – USD 328.6 million	<b>2020 – USD 1 087.6 million</b> 2019 – USD 688.8 million

## FINANCING FLOWS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

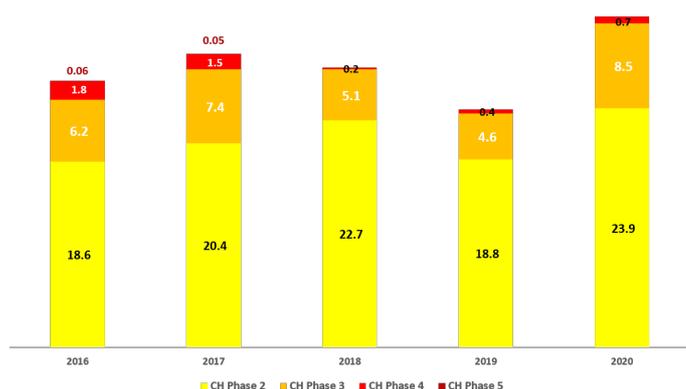
In 2016–2020, financial flows to food sectors in the country only partially followed trends in acute food insecurity. The population in Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above) fluctuated significantly during this period, while remaining high. In 2016 and 2017, 50 000 people faced Catastrophic levels of acute food insecurity (CH Phase 5), and the risk of famine was only averted through massive humanitarian assistance.<sup>61</sup>

After improving in 2018 in 2019, acute food insecurity reached its highest level in 2020: that year, northern Nigeria was the sixth largest food crisis identified, with more than 9.2 million people facing Crisis or worse (CH Phase 3 or above). However, Nigeria was the ninth largest recipient of **humanitarian assistance to food sectors** among food crisis countries in 2020, with USD 366.1 million. Between 2016 and

### Key Findings

- Between 2016 and 2020, the population experiencing **Crisis or worse** (CH Phase 3 or above) **food insecurity** fluctuated significantly, but remained high. In 2020, it reached the highest level recorded since 2016. However, **humanitarian assistance** only partially followed this trend, reaching the highest level of disbursement in 2018 before decreasing until 2020, when it reached USD 366.1 million.
- Between 2016 and 2019, **development assistance** to food sectors experienced a notable increase. By 2019, it had risen by 30 percent from its 2018 level, reaching USD 427.6 million.
- **Federal domestic public expenditures** consistently increased after 2016, reaching the highest level recorded in 2020, with almost USD 1.1 billion budgeted to food sectors.
- The **food security sector** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – received 72 percent of all humanitarian assistance allocated in 2020. Agriculture received the greatest amount of development assistance (83 percent in 2019) and domestic public expenditures (83 percent between 2016 and 2020).
- United Nations and other **multilateral organizations** represented the most important delivery channel for humanitarian assistance. Development funding was mainly channelled through public-sector institutions (87 percent in 2019).

**Figure 93: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**



2017, humanitarian assistance to food sectors increased by 266 percent, from USD 199.1 million to USD 728.9 million. It then decreased until 2020 at approximately half the level reached in 2017.

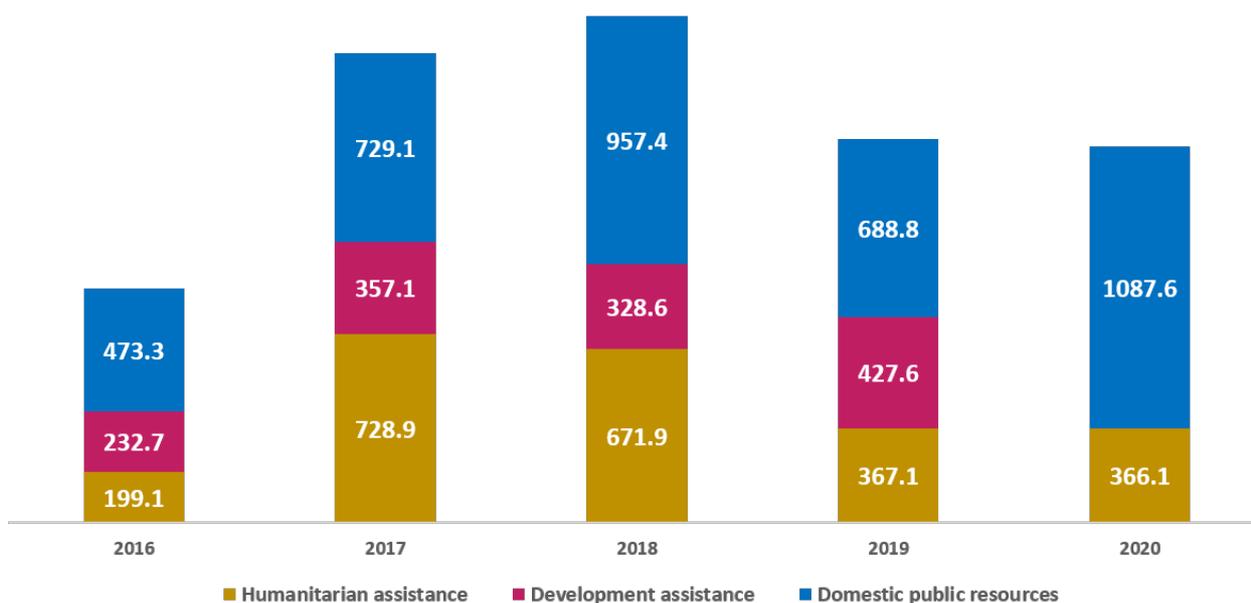
**Development assistance** fluctuated, with an overall increase from USD 232.7 million in 2016 to USD 427.6 million in 2019, with notable yearly increases of 53 percent in 2017 and 30 percent in 2019.

Note: Acute food insecurity data were available for 16 states and the Federal Capital Territory in 2016-2019; instead the 2020 acute food insecurity data covered 15 states and the Federal Capital Territory since Zamfara was not analysed.

<sup>61</sup> European Union Science Hub. 2018. Global Report on Food Crises finds that in 2017 major famines were partly averted but food security remains critical. 18 March. [here](#)

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

Figure 94: Trends in humanitarian assistance and domestic public resources (2016–2020) and development assistance (2016–2019), USD million



Note: No data were available for development assistance in 2020. For domestic resources: (i) Figures reflect the federal government budget only, excluding state-level resources; (ii) the budget does not specify levels of budget support (donor funding that goes directly to the national treasury for allocation to sector budgets towards national priorities); (iii) figures may include both budget support and public resources; and (iv) national government figures comprise approved budget lines and not actual expenditures.

## SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

The variations seen in disbursements are particularly notable in terms of their sectoral distribution. In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to **food security** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – represented 72 percent of the total, while **agriculture and livelihoods** and **nutrition** each comprised 14 percent. Funding to food security increased by 237 percent in 2016 and 2017, then decreased until 2019 before slightly increasing again in 2020 to 45 percent of the amount spent in 2017).

Funding for **agriculture and livelihoods** increased by 321 percent in the same period, from USD 12.6 million to USD 53 million. Funding for **nutrition** also increased significantly, peaking at USD 132.5 million in 2018 (almost ten times the amount disbursed in 2016) before decreasing again to USD 51 million in 2020. Between 2016 and 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to **food security** represented 75 percent of all humanitarian funding while **agriculture** and **nutrition** accounted for 7 percent and 18 percent, respectively.

With regard to **development assistance**, **agriculture** was the most-funded food sector, receiving 83 percent of all funding disbursed in 2019. **Rural development** received 14 percent while **basic nutrition** accounted for 3 percent. Development assistance to food sectors fluctuated between 2016 and 2019 without following a clear trend.

Between 2016 and 2019, the **agriculture** sector absorbed 67 percent of all development assistance while **rural development** received 15 percent. **Basic nutrition** represented 14 percent of all development funding and development food assistance received just 3 percent.

In terms of **domestic resources**, **agriculture** was the main recipient of allocations among the food sectors – with 56 percent of the total allocated in 2020 and 83 percent on average between 2016 and 2020. Virtually all of the remaining allocations in 2016–2020 went to **food security**.

## DELIVERY CHANNELS

In 2020, **United Nations and multilateral organizations** channeled 63 percent of all **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors - a significant decrease compared to previous

Figure 95: Humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million

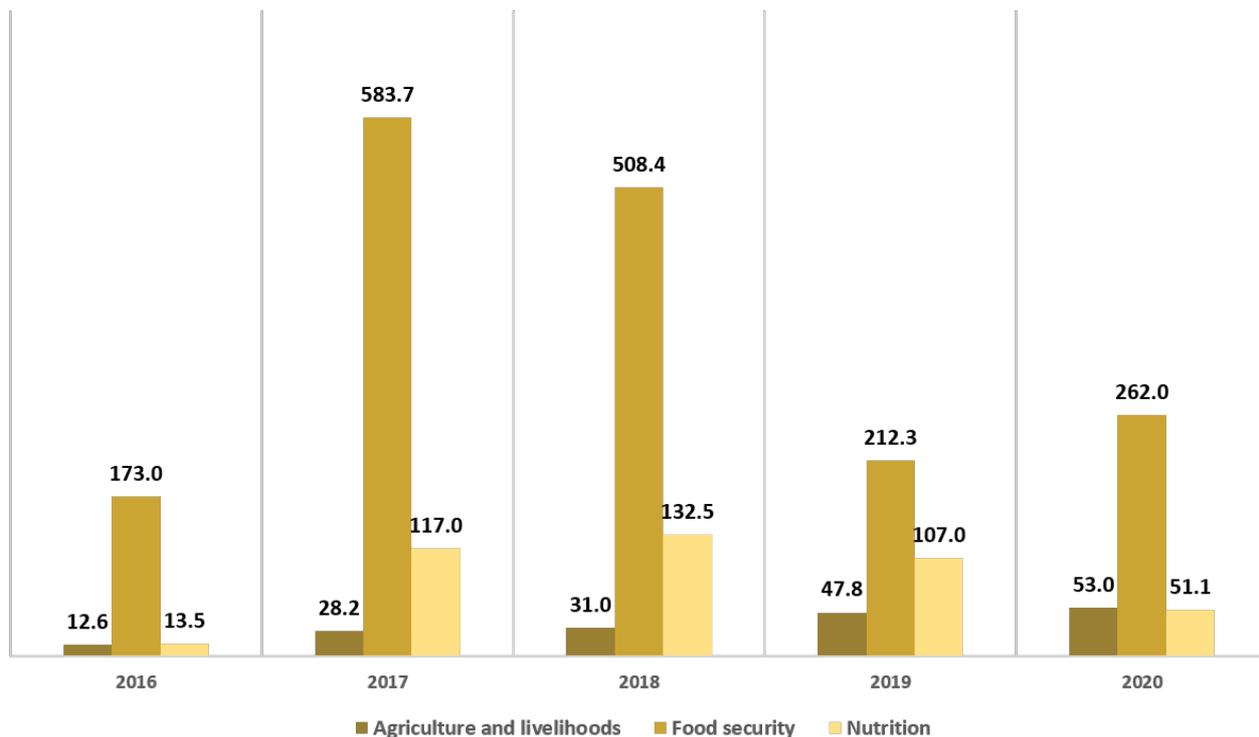


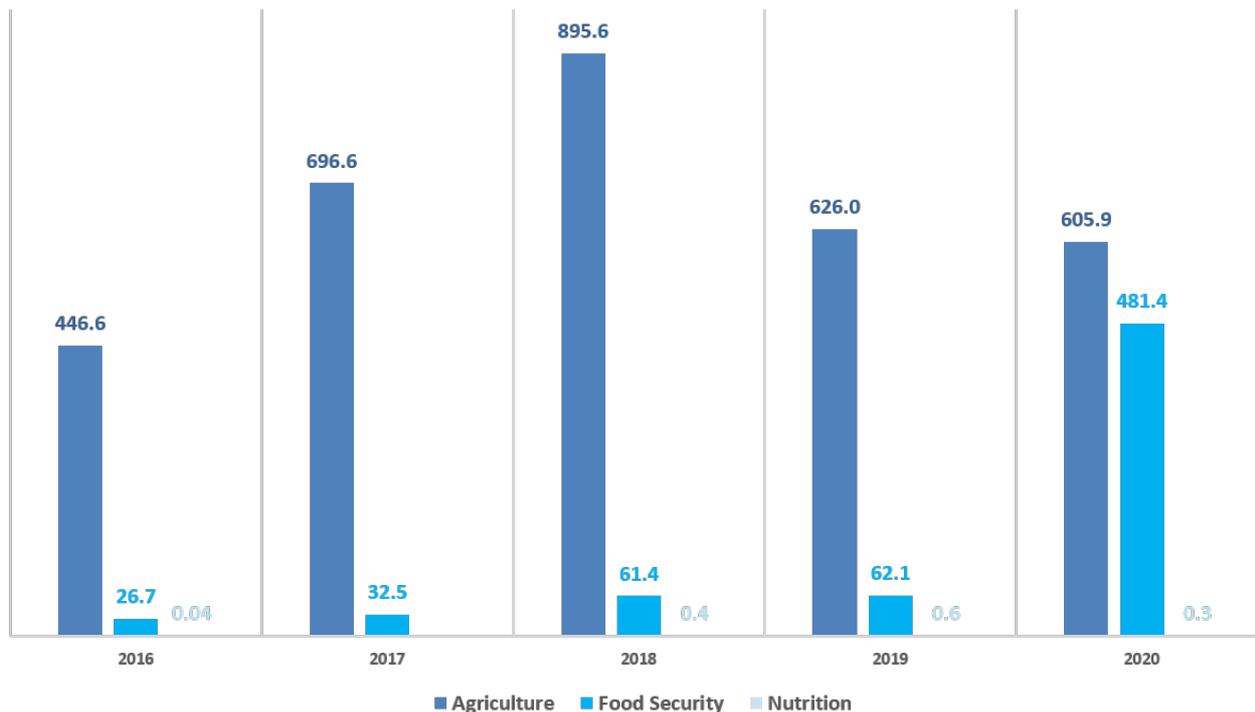
Figure 96: Development assistance to food sectors (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes fishing, forestry, and school feeding.

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

Figure 97: Domestic public resource allocations to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million



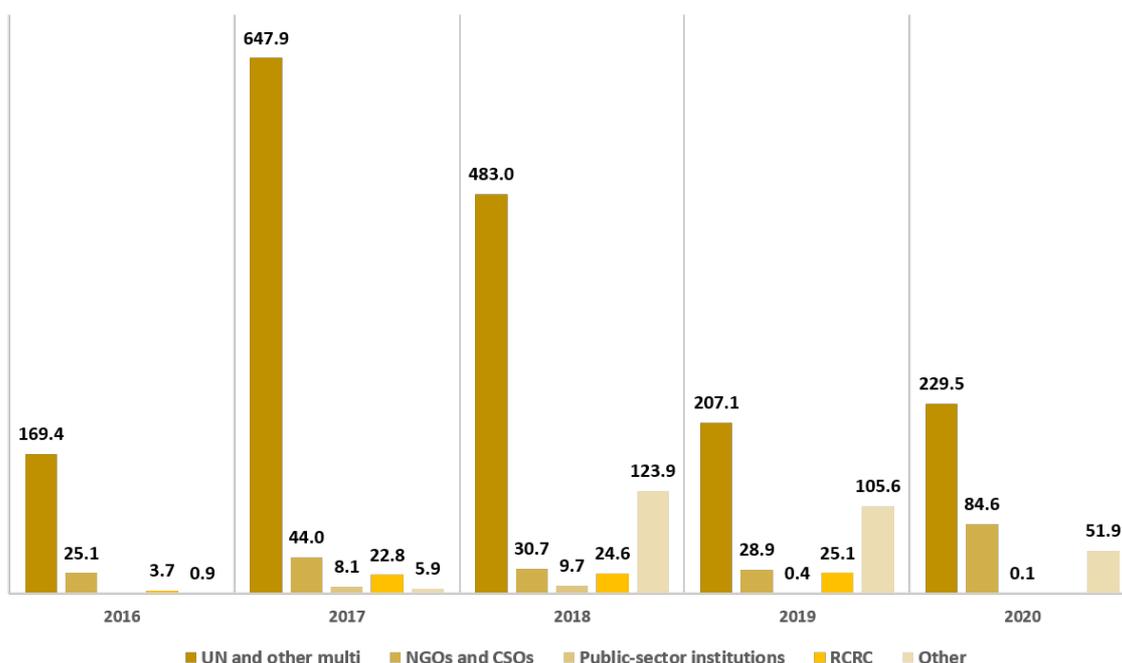
Note: Figures refer to federal government expenditures only, and do not specify levels of budget support. Figures can include both budget support and public resources. National government figures are approved budget lines rather than actual expenditures. A number of budget lines for nutrition fall within the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and are coded as 'agriculture sector'. The significant increase in expenditures for food security in 2020 was driven by the additional budget line 'meal subsidy to government schools' reported by the Ministry Of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management And Social Development. The majority of meal subsidy budget lines were reported by the Federal Ministry of Education prior to 2020.

years. **NGOs and CSOs** delivered 23 percent that year. Humanitarian funding channeled through the United Nations and other multilateral organizations increased by 282 percent in 2017, decreasing thereafter until

2019 and increasing slightly in 2020 to 35 percent above their 2016 levels (USD 229.5 million).

Similarly, financial flows channeled through NGOs and CSOs increased by 75 percent in

Figure 98: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2016–2020), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows for which no information was reported.

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

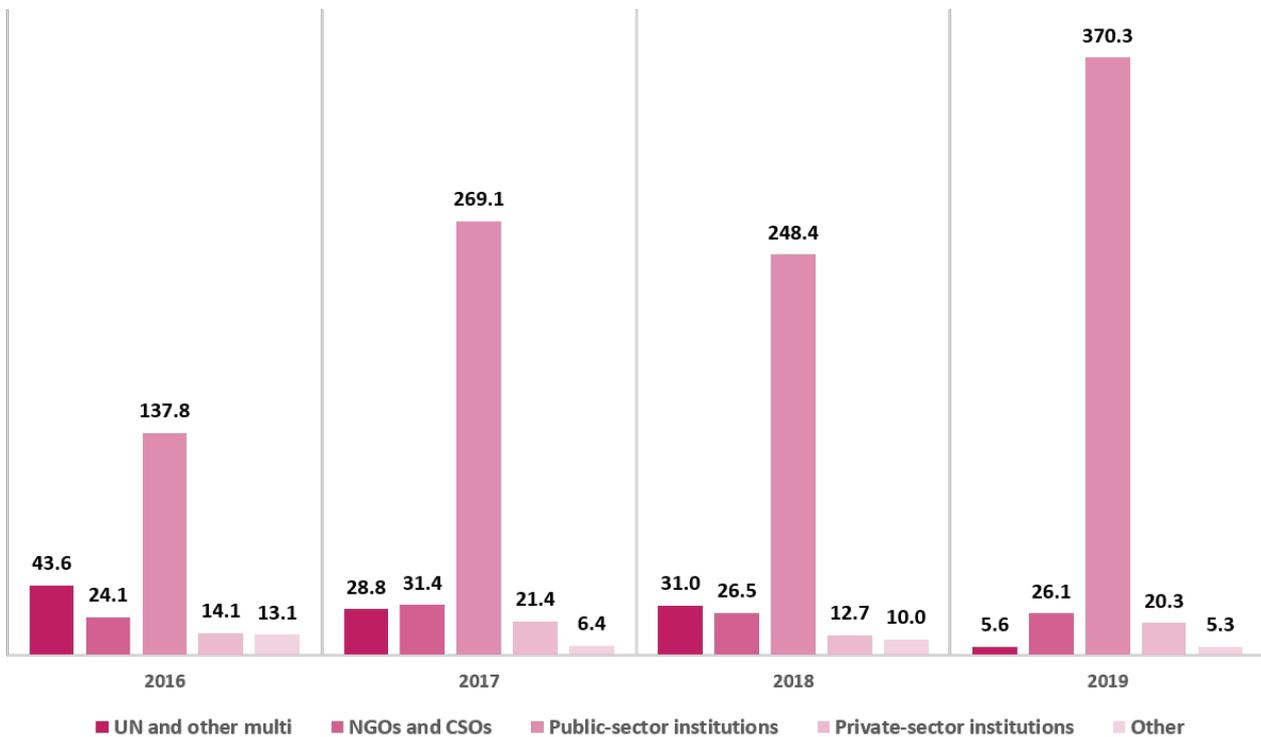
2017, slightly decreasing until 2019 and increasing again in 2020. That year, flows to NGOs and CSOs peaked at 237 percent above their 2016 levels (USD 84.6 million). Between 2016 and 2020, United Nations and other multilateral organizations remained the largest delivery channel for humanitarian assistance to food sectors, representing 74 percent of all such funding. NGOs and CSOs were the second largest channel, with 9 percent of the total. RCRC ranked third with 3 percent – although it did not report any financial flows in 2020.

In 2019, **public-sector institutions** represented the largest delivery channel of **development assistance** to food sectors, with 87 percent of the total. **NGOs and CSOs**, and the **private sector** delivered 6 percent and 5 percent

percent respectively. Disbursements made through **United Nations and other multilateral organizations** decreased by 87 percent between 2016 and 2019.

Financial flows made through the public sector, NGOs and CSOs, and the private sector all increased in 2017 and 2019, and decreased in 2018. Between 2016 and 2019, public-sector institutions delivered 76 percent of all development assistance to food sectors, while NGOs and CSOs, and United Nations and multilateral organizations accounted for 8 percent each. The private sector represented 5 percent.

Figure 99: Development assistance delivery channels (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes public-private partnerships and networks, universities, colleges and other teaching institutions, research institutes and think tanks, and unspecified financial flows.

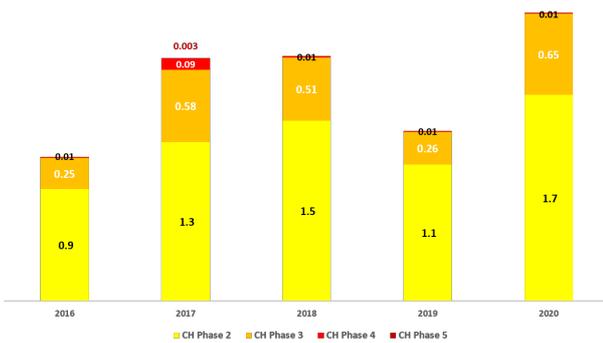
## ZOOM-IN NIGERIA: DOMESTIC EXPENDITURES IN ADAMAWA, BORNO, AND YOBE STATES

### ADAMAWA STATE

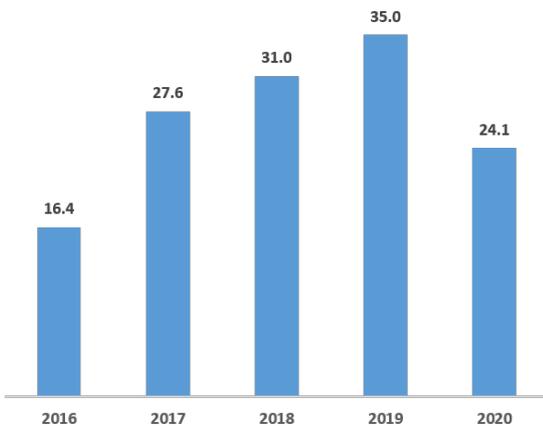
The population facing acute food insecurity (CH Phase 3 and above) fluctuated in the Adamawa state between 2016 and 2020, reaching 12–15 percent of the population analysed in 2017, 2018 and 2020.

**Domestic expenditures** gradually increased between 2016 and 2019 from USD 16.4 million to 35 million, with a decrease of 31 percent between 2019 and 2020. Agriculture comprised 97 percent of domestic expenditures between 2016 and 2020.

**Figure 100: Number of people in acute food insecurity (CH Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**

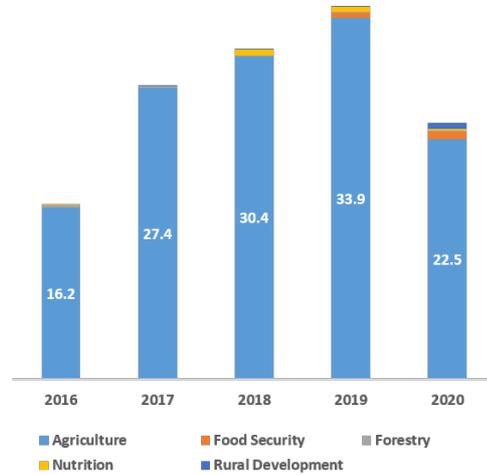


**Figure 101: Domestic Expenditures in Adamawa State, Nigeria 2016 - 2020 (USD millions)**



Note: Data show 'approved' budget figures, with final budget figures only for 2017. Budget figures do not allow for the accurate removal of data that are not relevant to this analysis (e.g. budget support).

**Figure 102: Domestic Expenditure by sector, Adamawa state, Nigeria 2016 - 2020 (USD millions)**

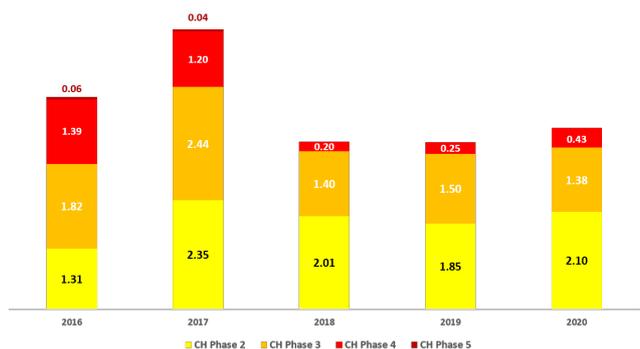


### BORNO STATE

Between 2016 and 2020, there was a gradual improvement in acute food insecurity, with the share of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity (CH phase 3 and above) decreasing from 59 percent in 2016 to 30 percent in 2018 and 27 percent in 2020.

**Domestic expenditures** to food sectors in Borno decreased by 46 percent between 2016 and 2020, from USD 46.5 million to USD 25.2 million, despite a peak of USD 48 million in 2018 and a slight increase in 2020. Domestic public expenditures on **agriculture** represented 92 percent of the total domestic expenditures on average between 2016 and 2020, while 5 percent of these expenditures were allocated to **food security** and 2 percent

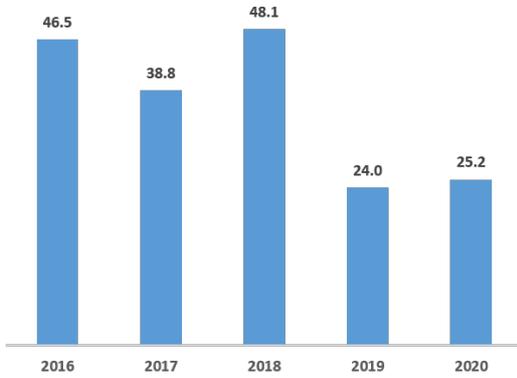
**Figure 103: Number of people in acute food insecurity (CH Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**



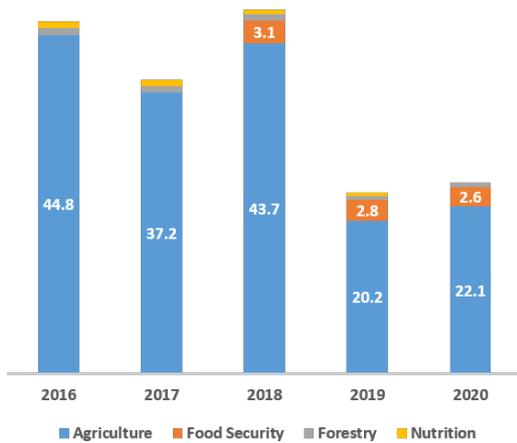
## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

to **nutrition**. There was a general decrease in expenditures on the agriculture sector.

**Figure 104: Domestic Expenditures in Borno State, Nigeria 2016 - 2020 (USD millions)**



**Figure 105: Domestic Expenditures by sector, in Borno State, Nigeria 2016 - 2020 (USD millions)**



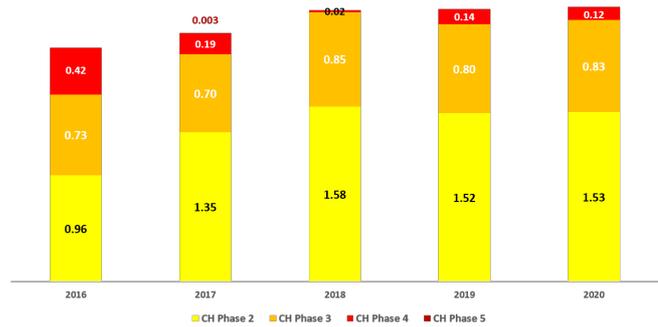
Note: Data show 'approved' budget figures for 2016–2019 recurrent expenditures, and 'budget' or 'budget/virement' for 2016-2019 capital expenditures. The most recent available capital expenditure data were cross-referenced with data from the previous year to ensure consistency with the 'approved' budget. Due to the unavailability of a 2020 budget document, 2020 data comprise the 'revised budget' from 2021. Budget figures do not allow for the accurate removal of data that are not relevant to this analysis (e.g. budget support).

## YOBE STATE

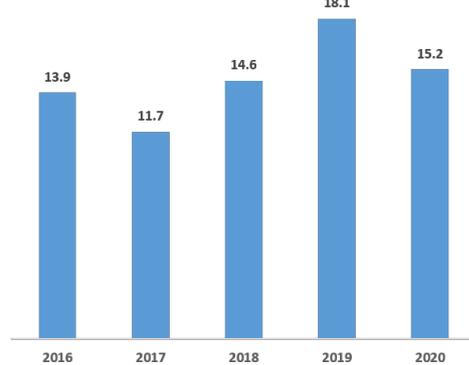
The population facing high levels of acute food insecurity (CH phase 3 or above) in Yobe state decreased from 35 percent in 2016 to 21 percent in 2018 and 2020.

**Domestic expenditures** increased by 10 percent between 2016 and 2020, despite reaching a low of USD 11.7 million in 2017 and a record high in 2019 of USD 18.1 million. The agriculture sector represented 96 percent of all domestic expenditures between 2016 and 2020, while forestry comprised the remaining 4 percent.

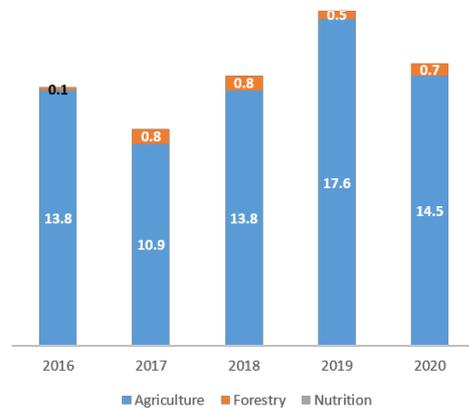
**Figure 106: Number of people in acute food insecurity (CH Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**



**Figure 107: Domestic Expenditures in Yobe State, Nigeria 2016 - 2020 (USD millions)**

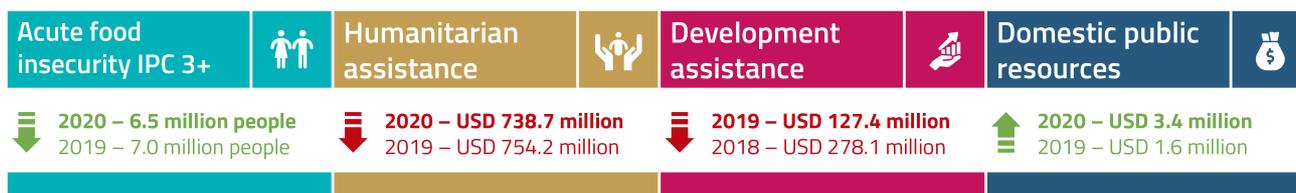


**Figure 108: Domestic Expenditures in Yobe State, Nigeria 2016 - 2020 (USD millions)**



Note: Data show the approved budget figures. These figures do not specify whether any budget support was provided.

# SOUTH SUDAN

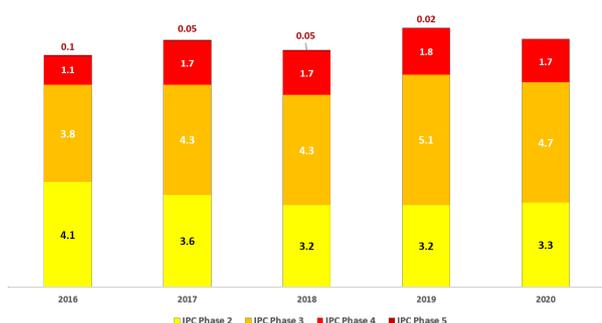


## FINANCING FLOWS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** totalled USD 739 million, slightly below the 2019 level. In the same year, 55 percent of the population was acutely food insecure and in need of urgent assistance (IPC Phase 3 or above) (despite a slight decrease from 7 million to 6.5 million between 2019 and 2020). In the five years since 2016, humanitarian assistance significantly decreased although the food security situation did not improve. The USD 738.7 million allocated in 2020 was nearly half the 2016 allocation, despite the fact that 1.5 million more people were acutely food insecure and in need of urgent action (IPC Phase 3 or above) in 2019 than in 2016.<sup>62</sup>

According to the latest available data on **development assistance**, South Sudan received USD 127 million in 2019.

**Figure 109: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**



Note: While the peak of food insecurity in 2020 occurred from May to July 2020, with nearly 6.5 million people (55 percent of the population) faced Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above), the number of people in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) increased from zero to 92 000 in October–November 2020 further to 105 000 by December – see GRFC 2021 Chapter 3 and p. 224.

<sup>62</sup> A Famine (IPC Phase 5) was declared between February and April 2017 in Leer and Mayendit counties in Unity state – with 100 000 people were facing Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). Massive life- and livelihood-saving assistance was able to contain the escalation of this famine. However, the number of people in Catastrophe increased again in 2020 – from zero in May–July 2020 to 92 000 in October–November, and to 105 000 in six counties by December (IPC and external reviews, December 2020). The IPC Famine Review Committee determined that four *payams* in Pibor county faced ‘Famine Likely’ (IPC Phase 5) in October–December 2020.

<sup>63</sup> Figures are budget allocations and not actual disbursements. State- and county-level expenditures are not included in the estimates.

### Key Findings

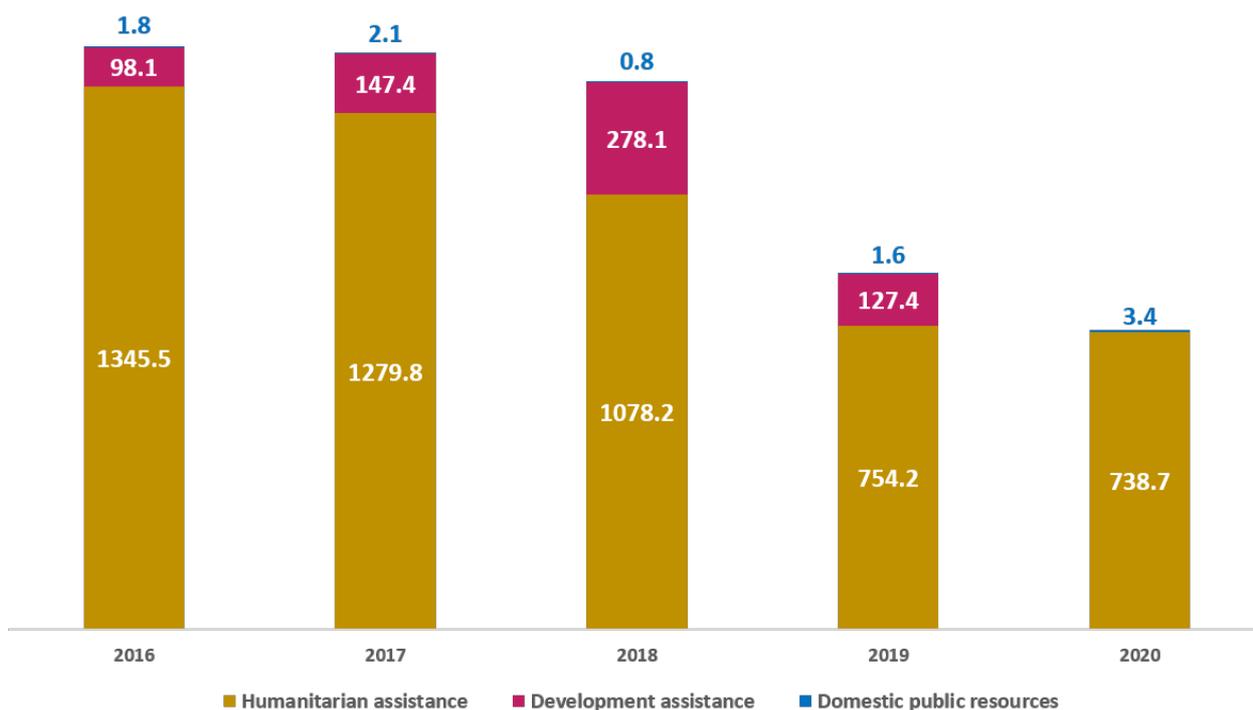
- **Humanitarian assistance** decreased significantly from 2016 through 2020, although the food security situation did not improve. Humanitarian assistance to food sectors in 2020 totalled USD 738.7 million – a decrease to nearly half the 2016 total.
- **Development assistance** to food sectors was halved between 2018 and 2019, reaching USD 127.4 million. This followed a consistent increase between 2016 and 2018.
- **Domestic expenditures** comprised a very small share of the financing to food sectors in the country, but increased in 2020.
- The **food security sector** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – received a significant share of the humanitarian assistance between 2016 and 2020. The largest sectoral recipient of development assistance from 2016 to 2019 was **development food assistance**. This includes funding for social protection and long-term food-security programmes.
- United Nations and other **multilateral organizations** represented the most important delivery channel for humanitarian assistance between 2016 and 2020, delivering 88 percent of humanitarian funding. The same trend was observed for development assistance: United Nations and multilateral organizations received 62 percent of funding to food sectors between 2016 and 2019.

Development assistance increased overall during the four years of analysis by 30 percent. However, the notable increase recorded in 2018 (of 89 percent from the previous year) was followed by a 46 percent decrease in 2019.

**Domestic expenditures** to food sectors represented a small share of financing to food sectors in the country from 2016 through 2020.<sup>63</sup> The total budgeted to food sectors in

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

Figure 110: Trends in humanitarian assistance and domestic public resources (2016–2020) and development assistance (2016–2019), USD million



2020 was USD 3.4 million – the highest recorded since 2016.

## SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

Looking at allocations by **food sector** in 2019 and 2020, **humanitarian assistance to food security** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – remained stable while the allocation for **nutrition** decreased by 10 percent and funding for **agriculture and livelihoods** increased by 9 percent. In 2020, the amount allocated to food security was nearly double that dedicated to nutrition and agriculture combined – with allocations to food security comprising 66 percent of the total for that year, agriculture and livelihoods representing 11 percent and nutrition comprising 23 percent.

Between 2016 and 2020, 79 percent of humanitarian assistance to food sectors was directed to food security and 14 percent to nutrition. Funding for agriculture received the least funding between 2016 and 2020, with 7 percent.

In terms of **development assistance**, **agriculture** was the largest recipient in 2019 – receiving half of the total allocation that year, or

USD 64 million. This marked a USD 23 million increase from the previous year. **Development food assistance** and **basic nutrition** each received 22 percent of the total (USD 28 million). This represented an 85 percent decrease in funding for development food assistance, and a 39 percent decrease for basic nutrition compared to the previous year.

Between 2016 and 2019, development food assistance received the largest share of development assistance to food sectors – 46 percent of the total allocated over those four years. However, disbursements declined overall during these years. Allocations to the agriculture sector increased in this period – despite a slight decrease in 2018 – whereas nutrition faced a continuous decrease after reaching a peak in 2017. These two sectors comprised 28 percent and 23 percent of the total for the four years, respectively.

## DELIVERY CHANNELS

The major delivery channels of **humanitarian assistance** in South Sudan have changed very little in recent years. **United Nations and other multilateral organizations** represented the largest delivery channel to food sectors in 2020, transiting 90 percent of the total funding,

Figure 111: Humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million

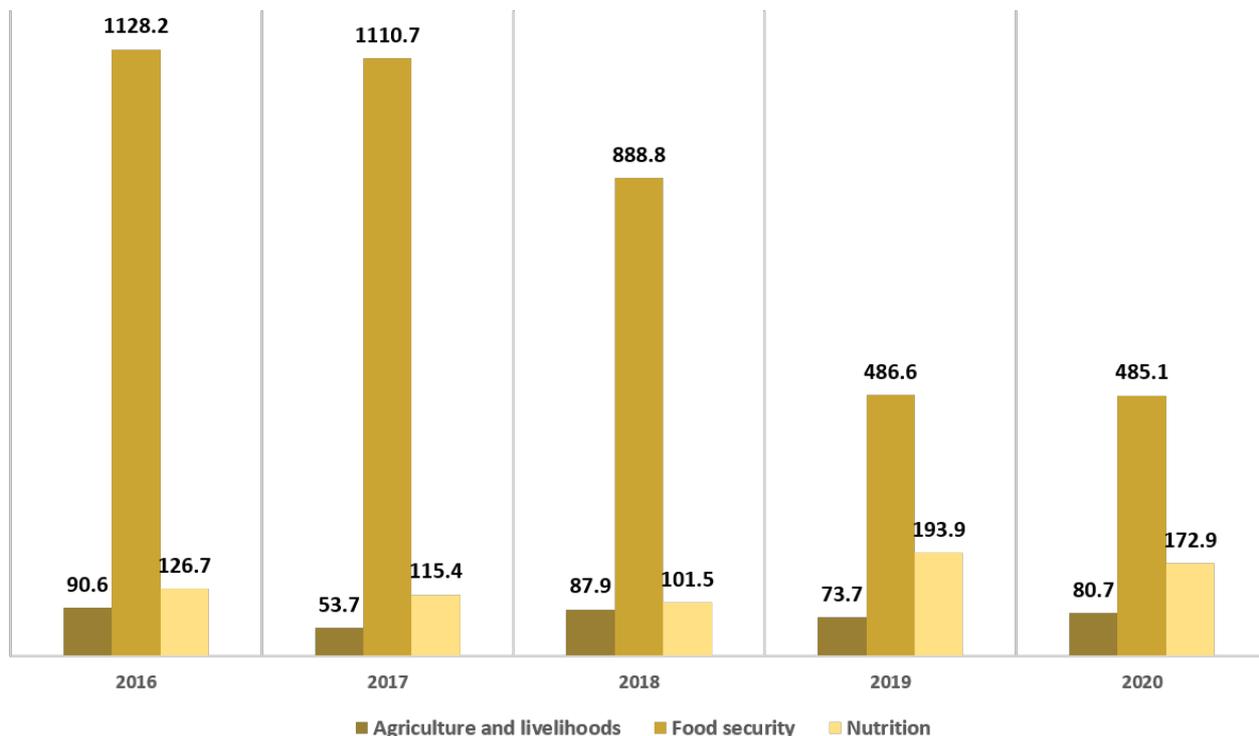
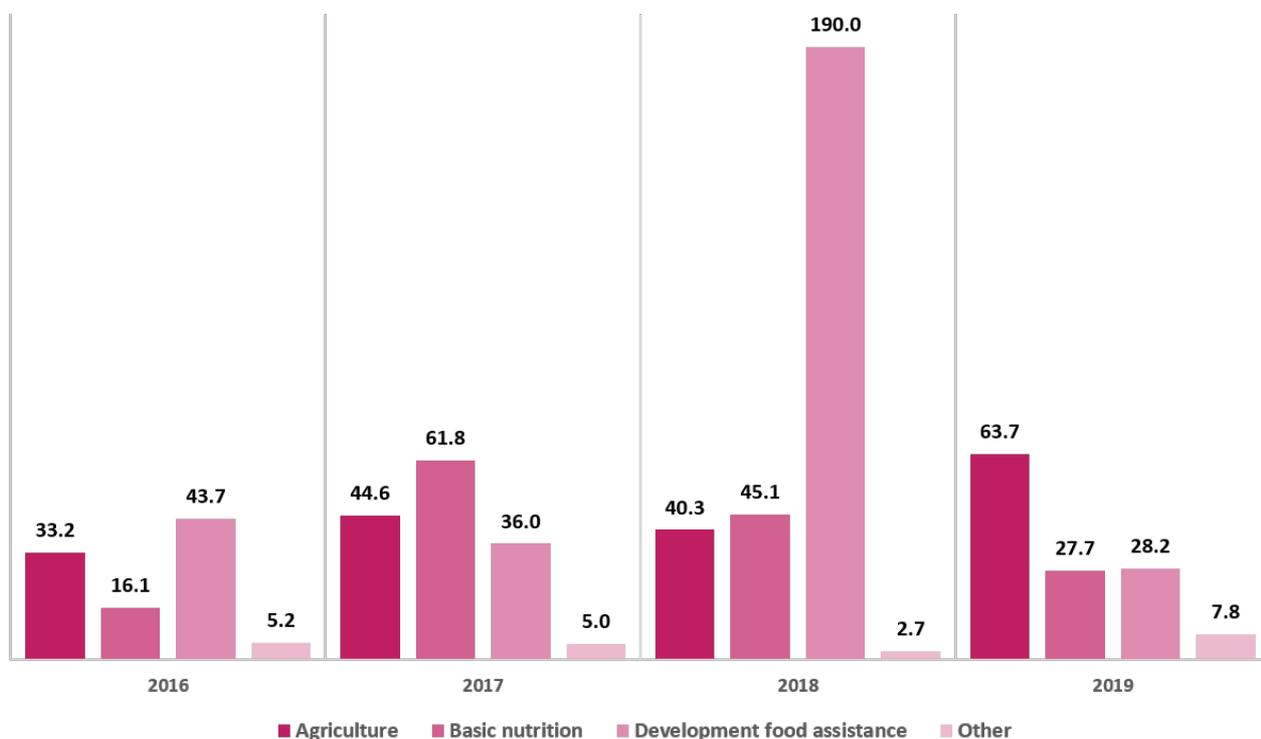


Figure 112: Development assistance to food sectors (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to: rural development (USD 2.4 million in 2016, USD 2.6 million in 2017, USD 2.6 million in 2018, and USD 6.1 million in 2019); fishing (USD 2.7 million in 2016, USD 2.4 million in 2017, USD 100 000 in 2018 and USD 1.2 million in 2019); forestry (USD 200 000 million in 2016); and household food security programmes (USD 400 000 in 2019).

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

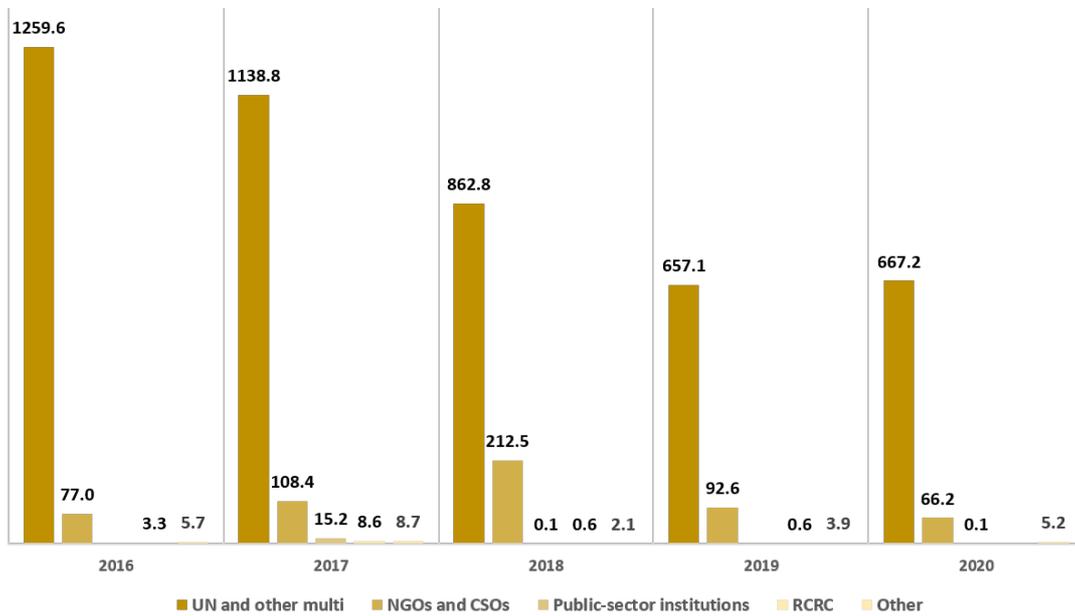
while **NGOs and CSOs** channeled 9 percent.

Between 2016 and 2020, United Nations and other multilateral organizations accounted for 88 percent of this total on average. NGOs and CSOs were the second largest channel, delivering on average 11 percent of humanitarian assistance to food sectors in this period.

In 2019, 57 percent of **development assistance** to food sectors was channeled through **United Nations and other multilateral organizations**, 26 percent to **NGOs and**

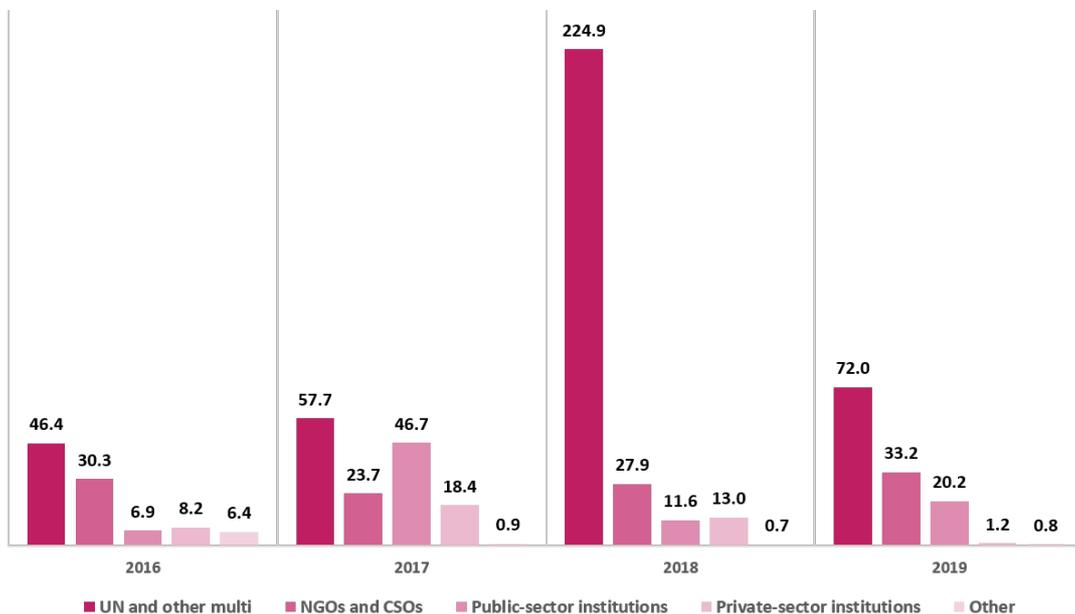
**CSOs**, and 16 percent to **public-sector institutions**. Over the four years of analysis, the main delivery channels for development allocations also remained relatively stable. United Nations and other multilateral organizations received 62 percent of all development assistance to food sectors, while NGOs and CSOs received 18 percent, on average. Government and public-sector institutions channelled 13 percent of development assistance during this time. The private sector channeled 6 percent of the total.

**Figure 113: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2016–2020), USD million**



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows for which no information was reported.

**Figure 114: Development assistance delivery channels (2016–2019), USD million**



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to universities, colleges and other teaching institutions, research institutes and think tanks (USD 200 000 million in 2017, USD 600 000 in 2018 and USD 800 000 million in 2019), and those for which no information was available.

# THE SUDAN



## FINANCING FLOWS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

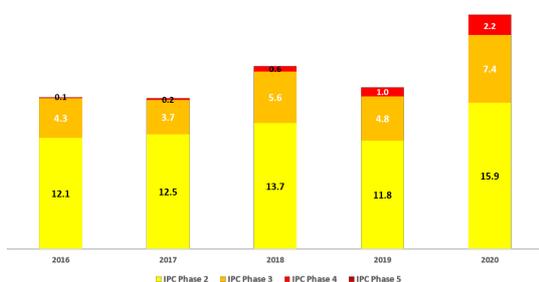
In 2020, **humanitarian assistance allocations to food sectors** in the Sudan stood at USD 429 million, increasing by over 30 percent (or USD 105 million) from the 2019 level of USD 324 million. At the same time, the number of people experiencing high levels of **acute food insecurity** remained significant, driven by prolonged displacement, economic decline and food price hikes exacerbated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The peak of acute food insecurity in 2020 indicates a significant increase of the people in Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above): 9.6 million people were estimated to be in need of urgent assistance, up from 5.85 million between June and August 2019. This marks a continuous increase since 2016, when 4.4 million people were in IPC Phase 3 or above, with slight decreases in 2017 and 2019. However, over the five years of analysis,

### Key Findings

- In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors accounted for USD 428.8 million – an increase from the previous year but nearly half the amount allocated in 2016. This funding starkly failed to meet the needs of people experiencing Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) levels of acute food insecurity, which more than doubled from 2016 to 2020.
- Development assistance** to food sectors totalled USD 219 million in 2019 – a slight decrease from 2018. However, this total marked more than double the assistance provided between 2016 and 2019.
- Food security** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – was the most-funded sector by humanitarian assistance, receiving over 70 percent of the total disbursed in 2020. Development food assistance absorbed 76 percent of all development assistance in 2019.
- United Nations and other **multilateral organizations** comprised the largest delivery channel for humanitarian assistance to food sectors in 2020, delivering 85 percent all humanitarian funding. Public-sector institutions were the largest delivery channel for development assistance in 2019, accounting for 81 percent of the total allocated that year.

**Figure 115: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**



Note: The 2016 analysis is not directly comparable with the 2017-2020 peak figures since it only covered 89 percent of the country's total population. In 2019, West Darfur was not covered in the IPC analysis.

humanitarian assistance to food sectors

decreased by 42.5 percent overall from USD 747 million in 2016 to USD 429 million in 2020.

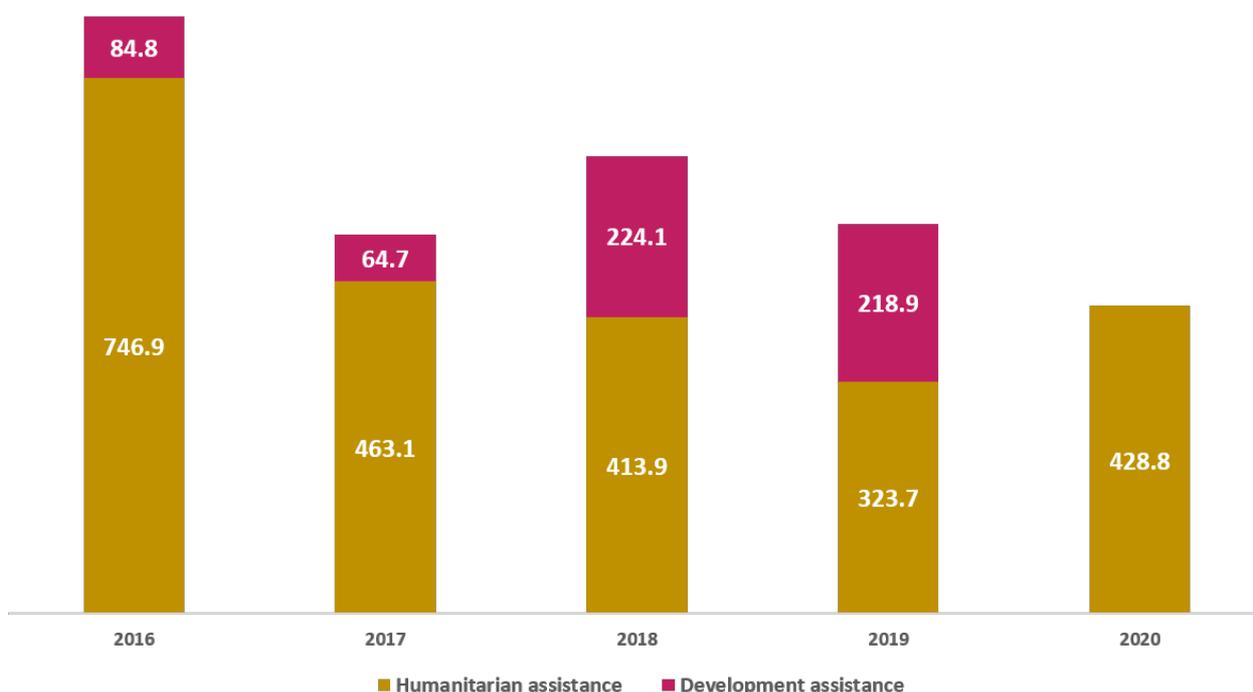
**Development assistance to food sectors** accounted for USD 219 million in 2019, decreasing 2 percent (USD 5 million) from 2018. However, development assistance to food sectors more than doubled between 2016 and 2019, from USD 85 million to USD 219 million in 2019.

## SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

Analysing funding to each sector, **food security** - mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance - received over 70

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

Figure 116: Trends in humanitarian assistance and domestic public resources (2016–2020) and development assistance (2016–2019), USD million



percent (USD 303 million) of all **humanitarian assistance** in 2020, while **nutrition** received 23 percent (or USD 97 million) and **agriculture and livelihoods** absorbed the remaining 7 percent (USD 29 million). The trends between 2016 and 2020 indicated a 33 percent (USD 147 million) decrease in funding for food security despite increases in 2018 and 2020. Humanitarian assistance to agriculture and livelihoods shrank by more than 88 percent (or USD 224 million) from USD 253 million to USD 29 million, despite an increase in 2019. At the same time, funding for nutrition more than doubled, from USD 44.7 million in 2016 to USD 96.7 million in 2020.

Humanitarian assistance for food security represented 68 percent of all humanitarian funding between 2016 and 2020 while agriculture and nutrition accounted for 21 percent and 11 percent respectively.

**Development food assistance** was the main recipient of **development funding** in 2019, with over 75 percent (USD 166 million) of all development assistance allocations that year. **Agriculture** absorbed 18 percent (USD 39 million) while **basic nutrition** accounted for 3 percent (USD 7 million). The remaining 4 percent was distributed between rural development (1.4 percent or USD 3 million),

fishing (0.8 percent or USD 1.8 million) and food security policy and administrative management (0.8 percent or USD 1.7 million).

Despite an 11 percent (USD 20 million) decrease between 2018 and 2019, funding for development food assistance increased by over 900 percent (USD 150 million) since 2016, when the allocation totalled USD 16 million (or 19 percent of all development assistance). All other sectors witnessed a decrease between 2016 and 2019: basic nutrition allocations dropped 50 percent from USD 14 million to USD 7 million while funding for agriculture decreased by nearly 5 percent from USD 41 million to USD 39 million. Development assistance for agriculture hit a low of USD 18 million in 2017, and financing for rural development dropped by almost 75 percent during this period from USD 12 million to USD 3 million. The development food assistance and agriculture sectors received 65 percent and 21 percent respectively of all development assistance allocated between 2016 to 2019, while nutrition and rural development received only 8 percent and 5 percent respectively.

Figure 117: Humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million

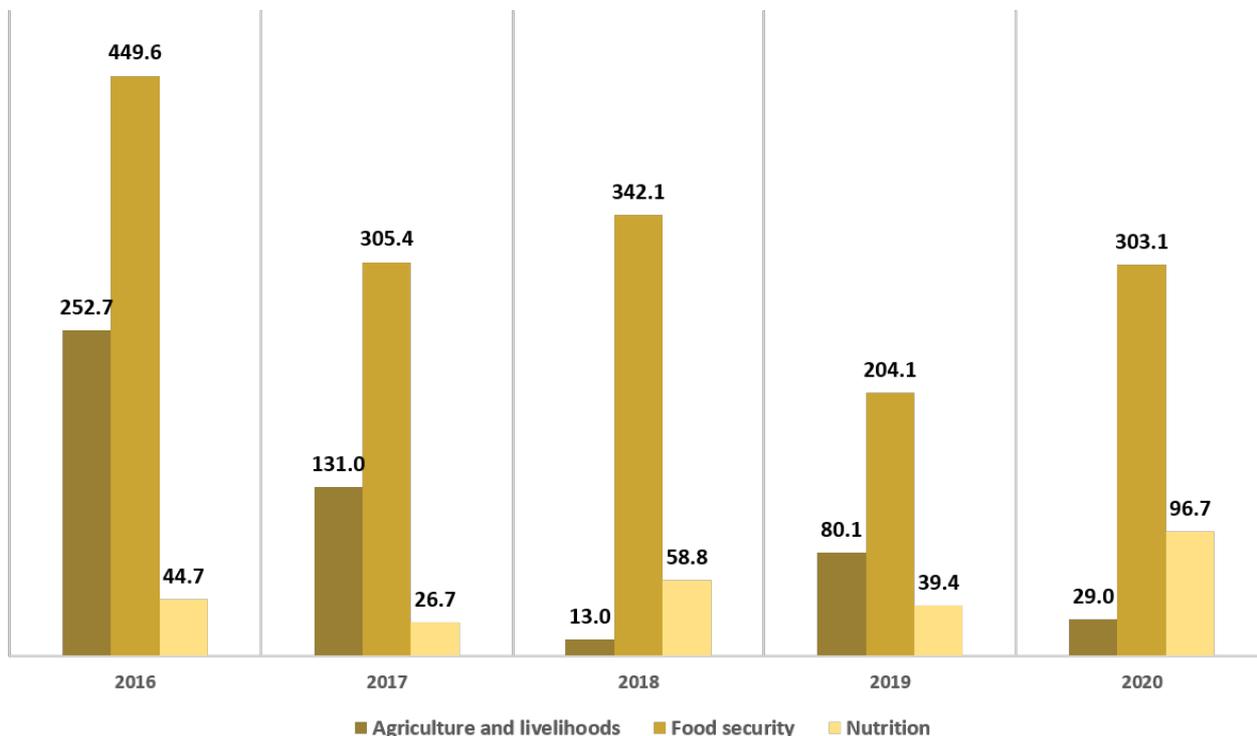
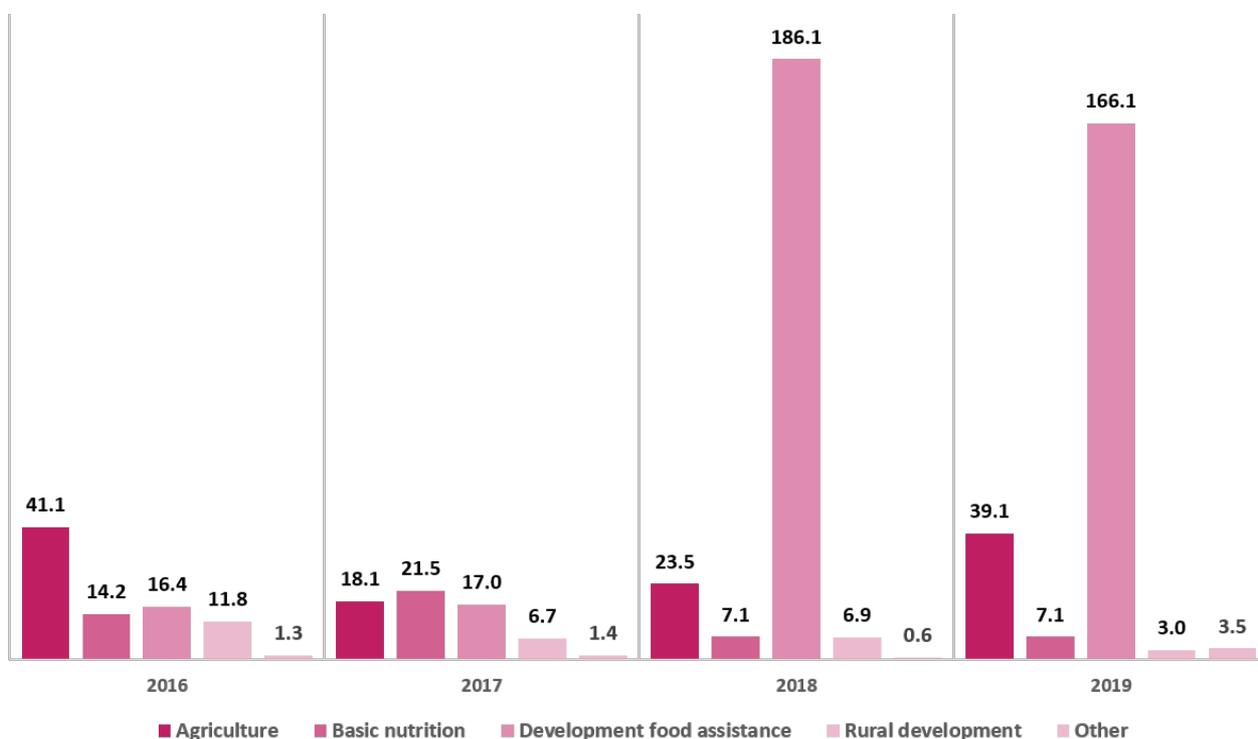


Figure 118: Development assistance to food sectors (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes disbursements to fishing, food safety and quality, food security policy and administrative management, and forestry. The fishing and food security sectors were only allocated small amounts of development assistance between 2016 and 2019, accounting for 0.8 percent and 0.3 percent of the total, respectively. However, both sectors witnessed a slight increase in absolute terms: funding for fishing rose from USD 1.3 million in 2016 to 1.8 million in 2019, while food security financing rose from USD 100 000 in 2018 to USD 1.7 million in 2019. Forestry funding totalled USD 142 000 over the four years for analysis.

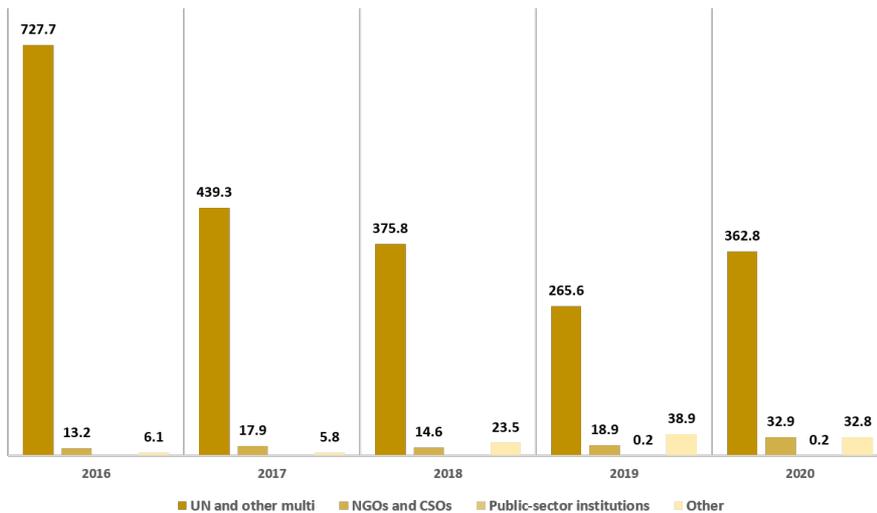
## DELIVERY CHANNELS

**United Nations** and other **multilateral organizations** channeled 85 percent (USD 363 million) of all humanitarian assistance in 2020, followed by **NGOs and CSOs** with 8 percent (USD 33 million). Between 2016 and 2020, United Nations and other multilateral organizations remained the largest delivery channel for this assistance, receiving 91 percent of the all humanitarian funding to food sectors. However funds channeled by these organizations significantly decreased from USD 727.7 million in 2016 to USD 362.8 million in 2020.

**Public-sector institutions** represented the largest delivery channel for development assistance in 2019, accounting for approximately 81 percent (USD 177 million) of development allocations that year. They were followed by **United Nations** and other

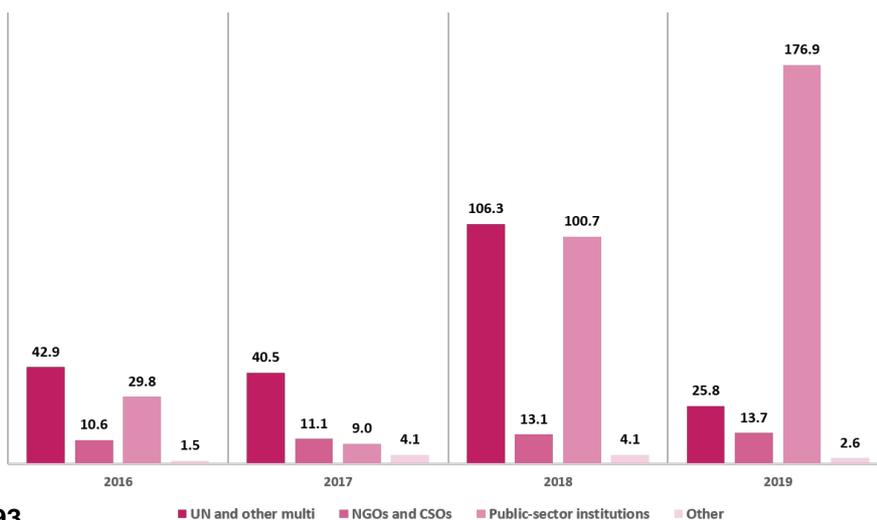
**multilateral organizations**, which delivered 12 percent (USD 26 million), and **NGOs and CSOs** at 6 percent (USD 14 million). The share of allocations channeled through public-sector institutions significantly increased following 2016, when it represented 35 percent of all development assistance in the country (USD 30 million of the USD 85 million total). During this period, funding to United Nations and other multilateral organizations shrank by nearly 40 percent (USD 17 million), despite an increase from USD 43 million in 2016 to USD 106 million in 2018. Development assistance allocations channeled through NGOs and CSOs remained stable over the four years of analysis, ranging from USD 11 million in 2016 and 14 million in 2019. Together, public-sector institutions and United Nations and other multilateral organizations channeled nearly 90 percent of all development assistance to food sectors between 2016 and 2019.

Figure 119: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2016–2020), USD million



Note: The remaining 7 percent is divided among: 'blank' (USD 32.8 million); RCRC (USD 236 000); and public-sector institutions (USD 215 000).

Figure 120: Development assistance delivery channels (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to the private sector, universities, colleges and other teaching institutions, research institutes, think tanks and institutions for which no information was available.

# SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC



## FINANCING FLOWS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors accounted for USD 785 million – a 16 percent decrease from 2019. Between 2016 and 2020, humanitarian assistance to food sectors fell by nearly 50 percent from USD 1.5 billion in 2016.

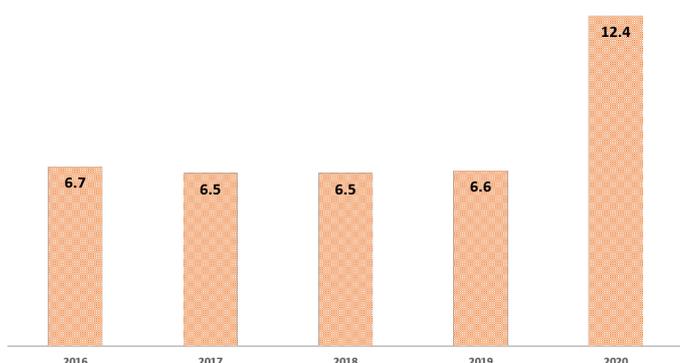
According to the 2021 GRFC, the Syrian Arab Republic remains among the ten worst food-crisis countries. Severe humanitarian needs persisted in 2020, and households’ food needs were on the rise. Almost 12.4 million people – over 60 percent of the population — were classified as acutely food insecure and in need of urgent assistance – close to double the previous year.<sup>64</sup>

Allocations of **development assistance** remained limited between 2016 and 2019. Financial flows only increased from USD 10.3 million in 2016 to USD 15.7 million in 2019, and remained at particularly low compared to other

### Key Findings

- In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors accounted for USD 428.8 million – an increase from the previous year but nearly half the amount allocated in 2016. This funding starkly failed to meet the needs of people experiencing Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) levels of acute food insecurity, which more than doubled from 2016 to 2020.
- **Development assistance** to food sectors totalled USD 219 million in 2019 – a slight decrease from 2018. However, this total marked more than double the assistance provided between 2016 and 2019.
- **Food security** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – was the most-funded sector by humanitarian assistance, receiving over 70 percent of the total disbursed in 2020. Development food assistance absorbed 76 percent of all development assistance in 2019.
- United Nations and other **multilateral organizations** comprised the largest delivery channel for humanitarian assistance to food sectors in 2020, delivering 85 percent all humanitarian funding. Public-sector institutions were the largest delivery channel for development assistance in 2019, accounting for 81 percent of the total allocated that year.

**Figure 121: Number of acutely food insecure people in need of urgent assistance, 2016-2020**



Note: based on the WFP CARI methodology.

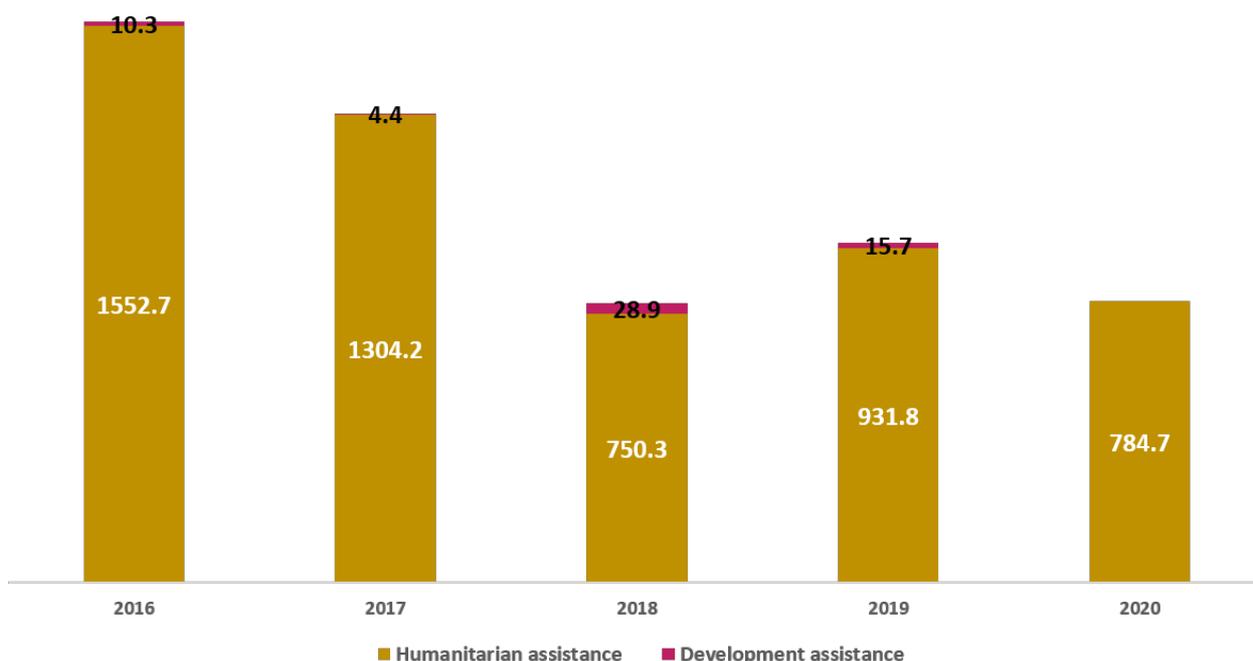
food-crisis countries (on average, food-crisis countries received 124.5 million in development assistance to food sectors in 2019).

## SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

The **food security sector** (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance) was the largest recipient of humanitarian assistance, comprising 88 percent of all assistance delivered in 2020. **Nutrition and agriculture and livelihoods** represented 8 percent and 4 percent respectively of assistance in 2020.

<sup>64</sup> Based on the WFP CARI methodology. FSIN & GNAFC. 2021. Global Report on Food Crises 2021. Rome. May. [here](#)

Figure 122: Trends in humanitarian assistance and domestic public resources (2016–2020) and development assistance (2016–2019), USD million



Both showed a downward trend from 2019 – with a 60 percent decrease for agriculture and livelihoods, and a 32 percent decrease for nutrition.

The sectoral allocation of humanitarian assistance did not change during the five years of analysis. Between 2016 and 2020, food security accounted for 88 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors, while agriculture and livelihoods, and nutrition received only 6 percent each.

In 2019, 74 percent of the 15.7 million disbursed as development assistance supported **agriculture** – a similar amount to the previous year. **Basic nutrition** was the second largest recipient, with 13 percent of the 2019 total – a significant increase compared to the 2018 allocation of 3 percent or less than USD 1 million.

Between 2016 and 2019, **agriculture** was the largest recipient of development assistance among food sectors, accounting for nearly 45 percent of the total. **Development food assistance**, which supports social safety nets and long-term food security programmes, ranked second, with 34 percent of the total. Rural development accounted for 13 percent of all disbursements, after decreasing from USD 6.8 million in 2018 to USD 269 000 in 2019.

Basic nutrition, showed a consistent increase from 2016 to 2019, but still represented only 5 percent of the total disbursement over these four years.

## DELIVERY CHANNELS

**United Nations** and other **multilateral organizations** channeled 85 percent (USD 363 million) of all humanitarian assistance in 2020, followed by **NGOs** and **CSOs** with 8 percent (USD 33 million). Between 2016 and 2020, United Nations and other multilateral organizations remained the largest delivery channel for this assistance, receiving 91 percent of the all humanitarian funding to food sectors. However funds channeled by these organizations significantly decreased from USD 727.7 million in 2016 to USD 362.8 million in 2020.

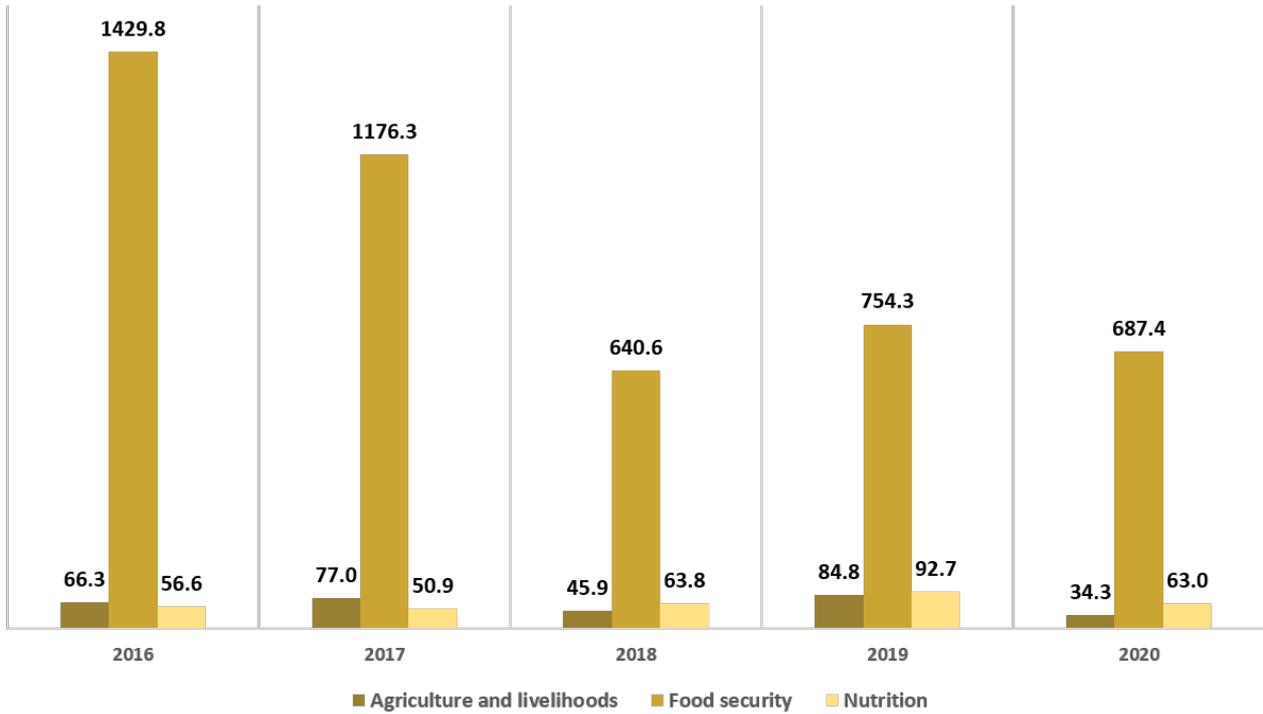
In 2019, 82 percent of **development assistance** was channeled through **United Nations and other multilateral organizations** – a significant increase from 25 percent the previous year. Development assistance channeled through **NGOs and CSOs** decreased from 29 percent in 2018 to 10 percent in 2019. Disbursements through **public- sector institutions** were also

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

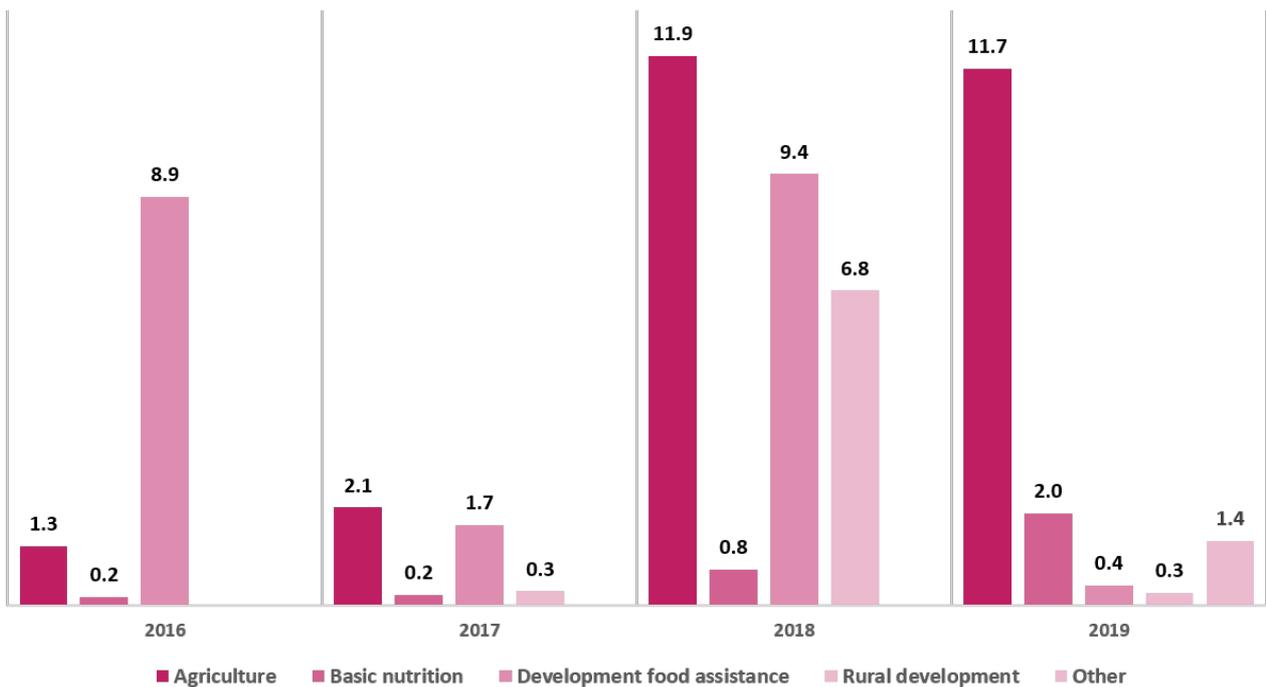
significantly cut from 47 percent in 2018 to 8 percent in 2019. During these four years, 44 percent of all development assistance to food sectors on average was channeled through United Nations and other multilateral organizations, while funding delivered through public-sector institutions comprised 28 percent

of total. NGOs and CSOs delivered an average of 27 percent.

**Figure 123: Humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million**



**Figure 124: Development assistance to food sectors (2016–2019), USD million**



Note: 'Other' includes disbursements to Food security and administrative management (USD 0.27 million in 2019) and Household food security programmes (USD 1.12 million in 2019).

Figure 125: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2016–2020), USD million

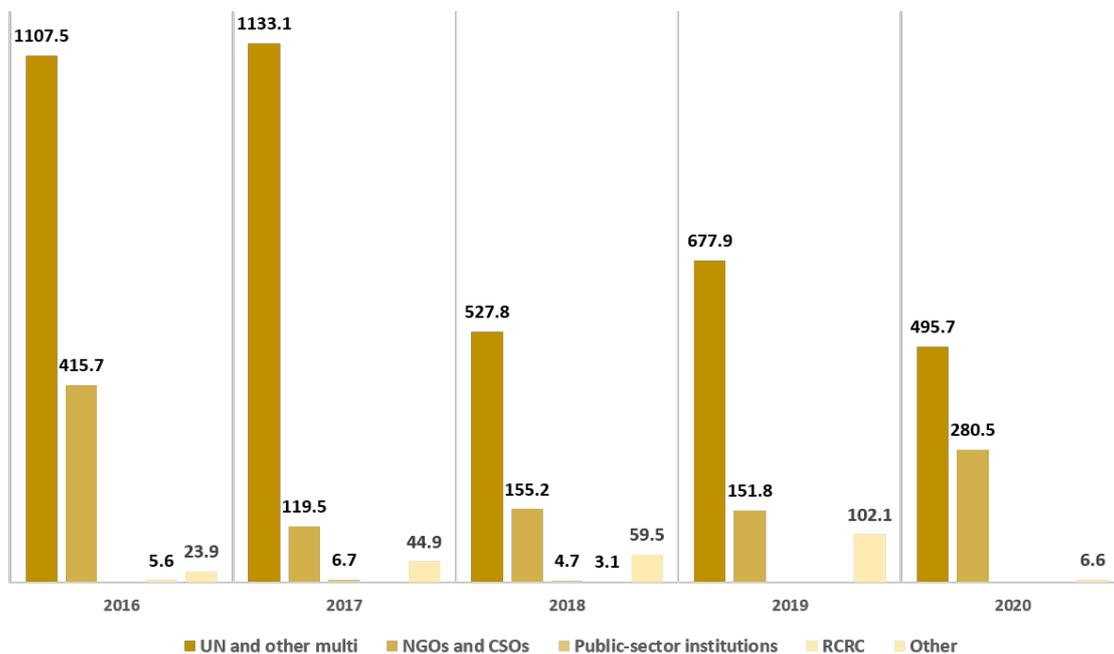
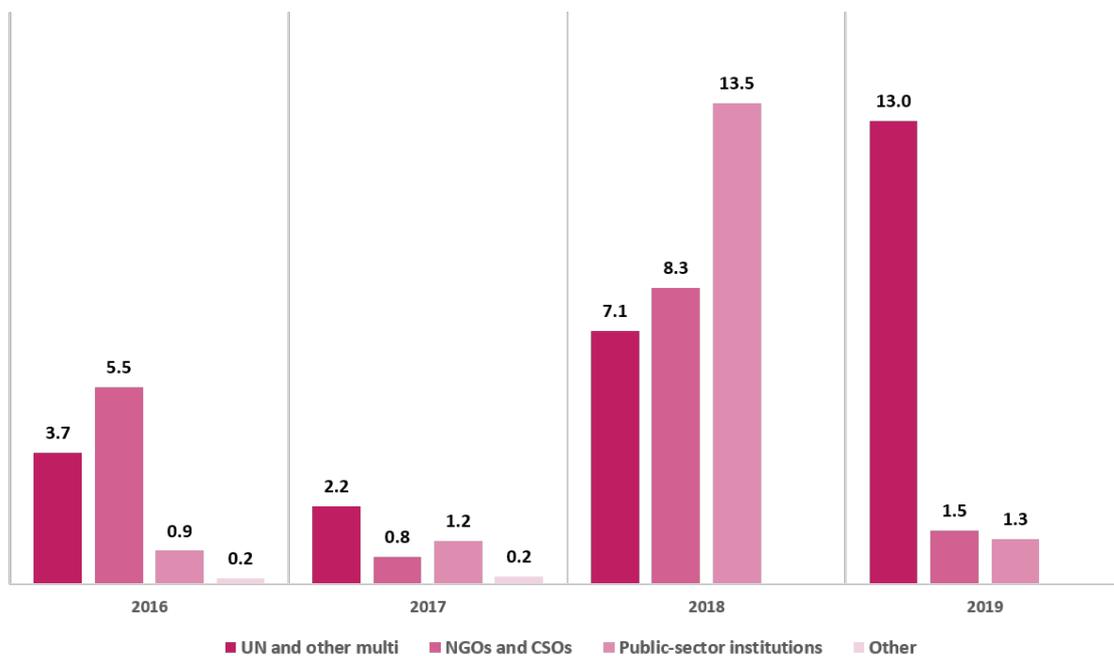


Figure 126: Development assistance delivery channels (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes disbursements to Private-sector institutions (USD 0.02 million in 2017 and USD 0.02 million in 2018) and unspecified financial flows.

# YEMEN



## FINANCING FLOWS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

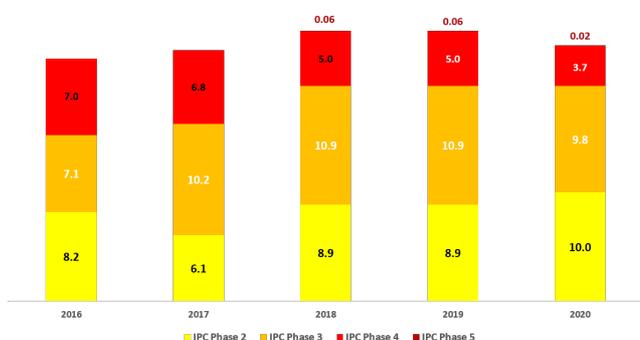
In 2020 Yemen was the **largest recipient of humanitarian assistance** to food sectors among the 55 food-crisis countries and territories, with USD 1.03 billion. However, this was a nearly 50 percent decrease compared to 2019 from USD 2.06 billion. Between 2016 and 2020, humanitarian assistance increased overall from USD 696.8 million in 2016. Yet the increase was not proportional to the huge increase in people experiencing high acute food insecurity during this period – from 2016 to 2017 in particular.

Over these five years, between 45 percent and 60 percent of Yemen’s population was affected by consistently high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above). High levels of acute food insecurity persisted into October–December 2020, when 13.5 million people faced IPC Phase 3 or above. Without large-scale humanitarian food assistance, the number of people in IPC Phase 3 or above would have likely been higher. According to the 2021 GRFC, an IPC-compatible analysis

### Key Findings

- In 2020, Yemen was the largest recipient of **humanitarian assistance** among the 55 food-crisis countries and territories. However humanitarian assistance to food sectors was halved between 2019 and 2020 from USD 2 billion to USD 1.03 billion.
- While the number of people experiencing **high levels of acute food insecurity** decreased slightly between 2016 and 2020, this decrease in humanitarian assistance was not proportional to the number of people experiencing acute food insecurity.
- **Development assistance** to food sectors increased more than sevenfold from USD 16.4 million in 2016 to USD 124.6 million in 2019. However, it was still a small amount relative to other external financing for food sectors.
- **Food security** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – received the most humanitarian assistance of any sector, absorbing 88 percent of all funds disbursed in 2020. **Basic nutrition** received the most development assistance in 2019, receiving 35 percent of all development funding allocated that year.
- United Nations and other **multilateral organizations** represented the largest delivery channel to food sectors for both humanitarian (in 2020) and development assistance (in 2019). These organizations channeled 92 percent of all humanitarian funding and 67 percent of all development assistance in these years.

**Figure 127: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**

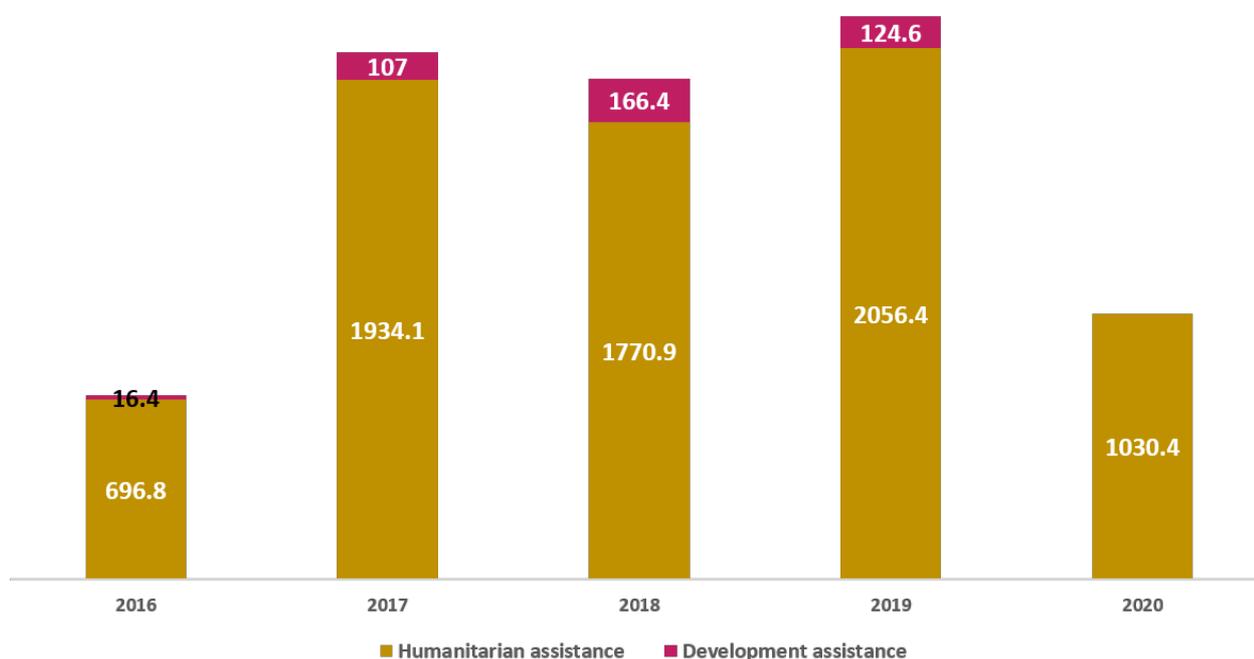


estimated that in the worst-case scenario, there was a risk of Famine (IPC Phase 5) in 2020 and beyond.<sup>65</sup>

**Development assistance** reached USD 124.6 million in 2019 – a 42 million decrease from the previous year. From 2016 to 2019, annual allocations increased by USD 108 million (from an initial low of USD 16.4 million).

<sup>65</sup> FSIN & GNAFC. 2021. Global Report on Food Crises 2021. May. Rome. [here](#)

Figure 128: Trends in humanitarian assistance and domestic public resources (2016–2020) and development assistance (2016–2019), USD million



## SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

The **food security** (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance) sector was the largest recipient of **humanitarian assistance** among the food sectors in 2020 –receiving 88 percent of allocations to address the food crisis that year. Allocations to this sector nevertheless contracted by 47 percent between 2019 and 2020. **Nutrition** received 11 percent of the total allocated to food sectors in 2020. **Agriculture and livelihoods** received just 1 percent of allocations to food sectors that year – a 60 percent decrease from 2019.

Between 2016 and 2020, the food security sector received more than 85 percent of all humanitarian assistance on average. Although allocations for nutrition decreased by USD 207 million between 2019 and 2020, the amount allocated to this sector doubled overall from 2016 to 2020. The nutrition sector accounted for approximately 11 percent of the all humanitarian assistance in 2016–2020 while agriculture and livelihoods comprised 4 percent.

Analysing trends in **development assistance** in Yemen, basic **nutrition** received the most funding among food sectors in 2019, with 35 percent of the total allocated to food sectors (and 28 percent on average between 2016 and 2019). Allocations to this sector varied from less than 1 million in 2016 to USD 44 million in 2019 – a 150 percent increase from the previous year. **Development food assistance** was the second largest recipient in 2019 with 28 percent of the total. While this marked a 72 percent decrease from 2018, development food assistance was the most-financed food sector from 2016 to 2019, receiving 44 percent of the average allocation to food sectors in this period.

**Rural development** received the third largest share of development assistance in 2019 – accounting for 24 percent of the annual disbursements. This was nearly triple the 2018 amount (from USD 13.3 million to USD 29.6 million). Rural development received 20 percent of development assistance allocated over the four years of analysis. The **agriculture** sector received 11 percent of development assistance in 2019 – a 75 percent increase from 2018. This represented 7 percent of development assistance disbursed from 2016 to 2019.

Figure 129: Humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million

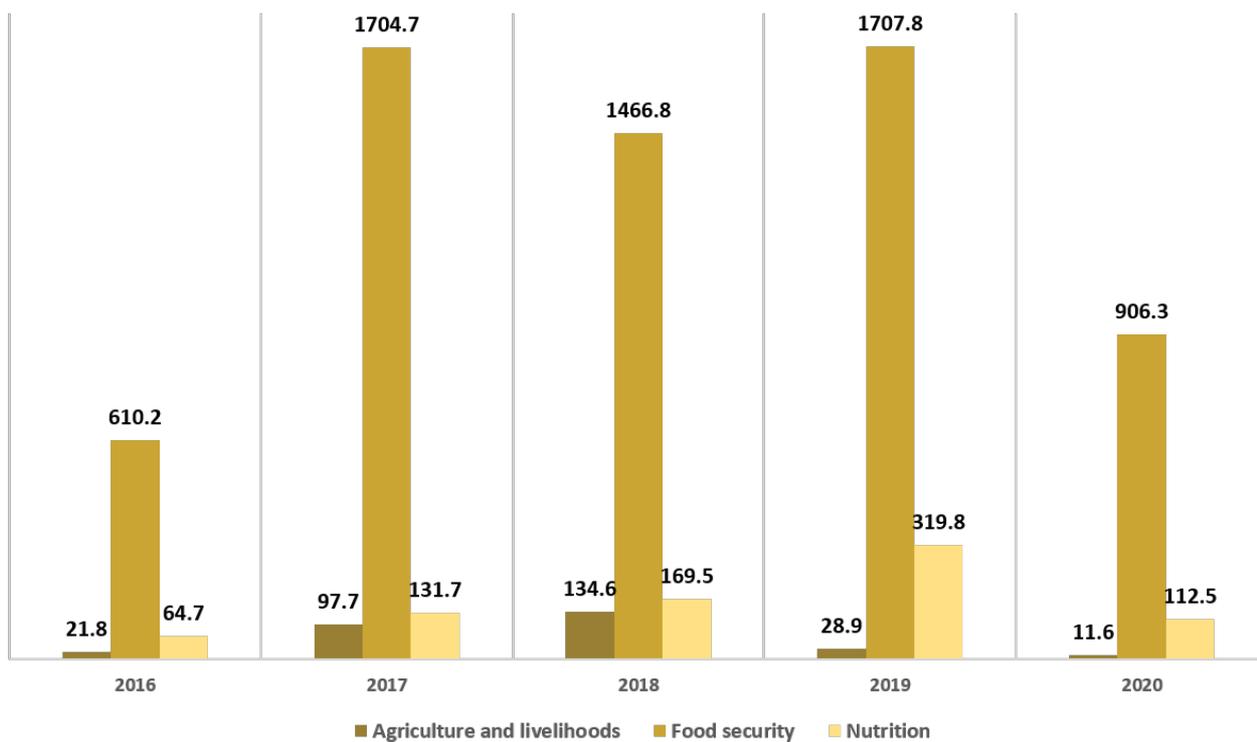
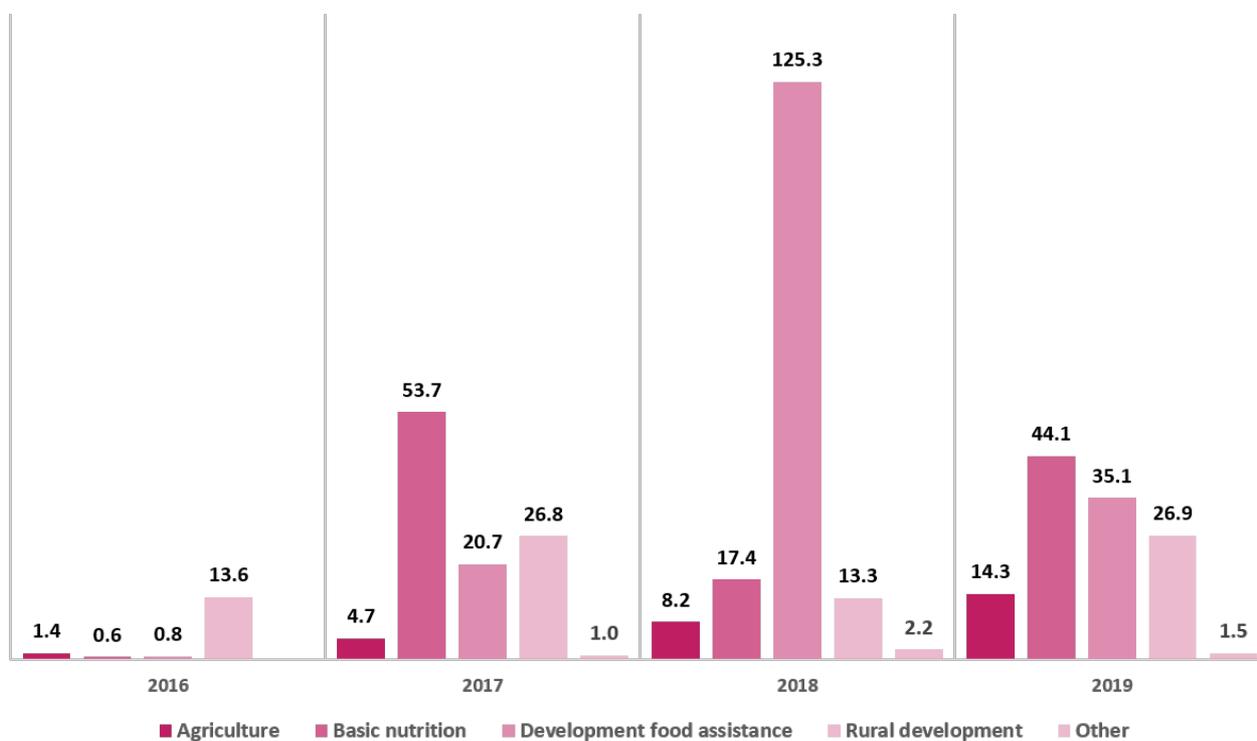


Figure 130: Development assistance to food sectors (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to: fishing (USD 1 million in 2017, USD 1.2 million in 2018 and USD 600 000 in 2019); food security (USD 970 000 million in 2018, and USD 950 000 in 2019); and flows for which no information was reported.

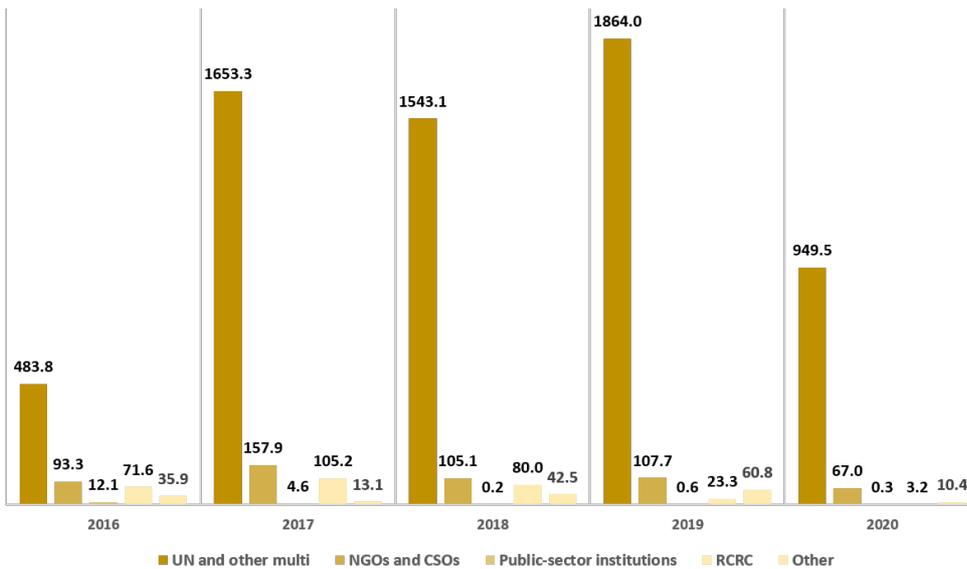
## DELIVERY CHANNELS

**United Nations and other multilateral organizations** were the largest delivery channel for **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors in 2020, channeling 92 percent of funding that year. However, this marked a 49 percent decrease from 2019. On average, United Nations and multilateral organizations accounted for 87 percent of all humanitarian assistance delivered between 2016 and 2020. **NGOs** were the second-largest delivery channel, accounting for 7 percent of the total in 2020, as well as over the entire period of analysis. The assistance channeled through NGOs decreased by 38 percent between 2019 and 2020. **RCRC** was the third largest humanitarian recipient in 2016–2020, channeling 4 percent of the total on average

over the five years, and just 0.3 percent of allocations in 2020.

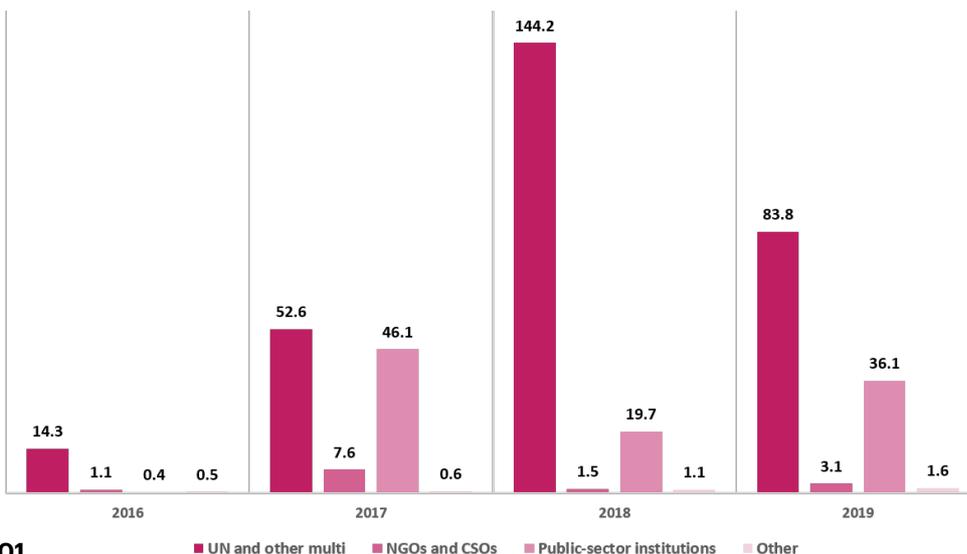
In 2019, 67 percent of **development assistance** to food sectors was disbursed through **United Nations** and other **multilateral organizations** – a 42 percent decrease from 2018. On average, these actors channeled 71 percent of development assistance to the country in 2016–2019. Development assistance delivered through the **public sector** represented 29 percent of the total in 2019, after increasing by 83 percent from 2018. Public-sector institutions channeled 25 percent of the total over 2016–2019. Together, **NGOs and CSOs**, and the **private sector** comprised 4 percent of the 2019 total – similar to the average allocation over 2016–2019.

Figure 131: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2016–2020), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows for which information was available.

Figure 132: Development assistance delivery channels (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes financial flows to public-private partnerships and networks (USD 700 000 in 2016) and those for which no information was available.

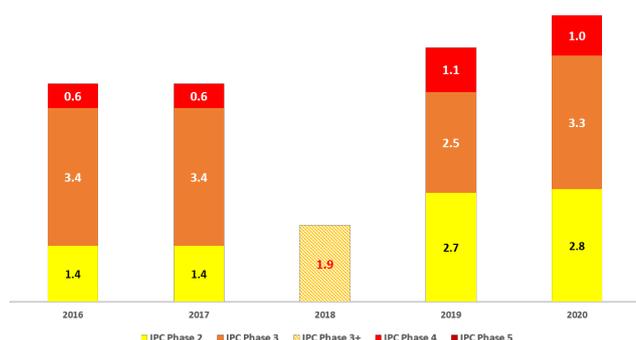
# ZIMBABWE

<b>Acute food insecurity IPC 3+</b> 	<b>Humanitarian assistance</b> 	<b>Development assistance</b> 	<b>Domestic public resources</b> 
<b>2020 – 4.3 million people</b> 2019 – 3.6 million people	<b>2020 – USD 194.5 million</b> 2019 – USD 228.8 million	<b>2019 – USD 127 million</b> 2018 – USD 61.9 million	<b>2020 – USD – 159.4 million</b> 2019 – USD – 508.4 million

## FINANCING FLOWS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors in Zimbabwe totalled USD 194 million, decreasing by 15 percent (USD 34 million) from its 2019 level. In parallel, **acute food insecurity** continued to deteriorate: 4.3 million people faced Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) in 2020 as a result of economic shocks (further exacerbated by COVID-19 in 2020) and weather extremes. This rise in food insecurity was particularly severe during last three months of 2019, when Zimbabwe experienced its worst food crisis in a decade and the number acutely food-insecure people rose by 20 percent. Overall, humanitarian assistance to food sectors decreased by 21 percent (USD 53 million) between 2016 and 2020, bottoming out in 2017 and 2018 at USD 51 million and USD 37 million, respectively.

**Figure 133: Number of people in acute food insecurity (IPC/CH Phase 2 or above), 2016-2020**



Note: The lack of disaggregated data by IPC Phase in 2018 is a result of the different sources used that year for analysis of acute food insecurity: the ZimVAC assessment in 2018 and IPC data in the other years. Data on the number of people in IPC Phase 2 are therefore not available for that year.

### Key Findings

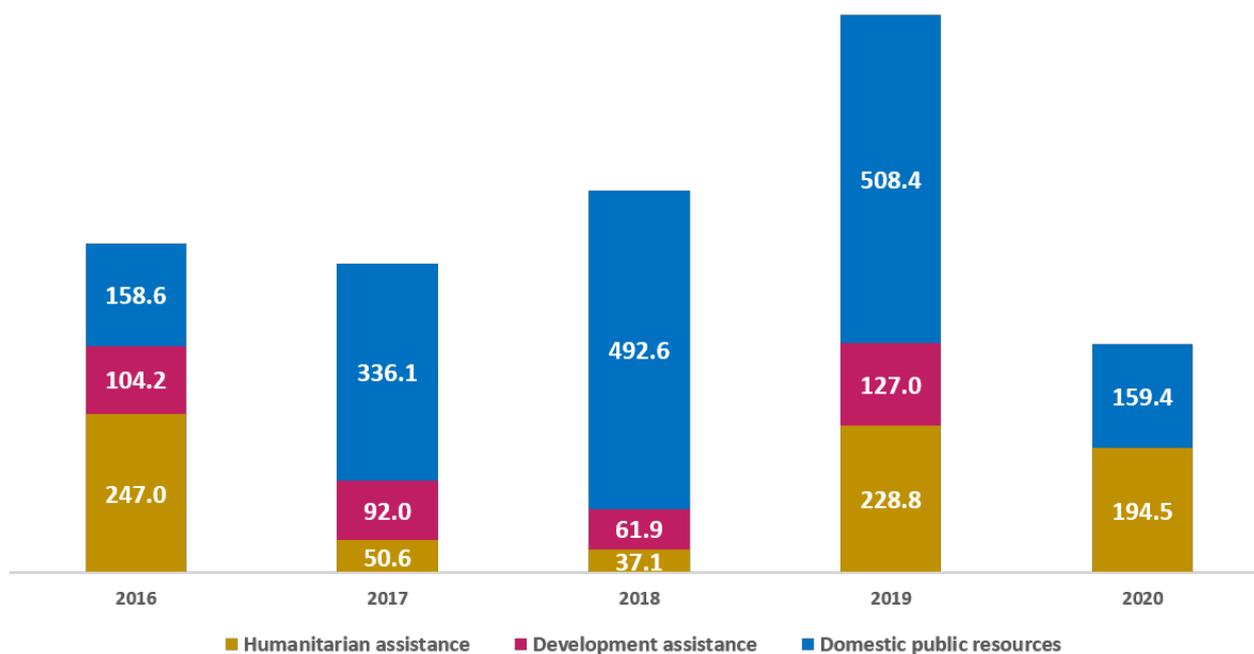
- In 2020, **humanitarian assistance** to food sectors decreased slightly from its 2019 level to USD 194.5 million. This allocation did not correspond to the rising number of people experiencing Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 or above) levels of **acute food insecurity**.
- Annual allocations of **development assistance** to food sectors decreased from 2016 to 2018, before doubling in 2019 to reach USD 127 million.
- Domestic public expenditures** dropped significantly in 2020 from their 2019 level to USD 159.4 million.
- The **food security sector** – mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance – was the largest recipient of humanitarian assistance among food sectors from 2016 to 2019, receiving 87 percent of funding on average. **Agriculture** was the largest recipient of development assistance, receiving 42 percent of allocations on average.
- United Nations and other **multilateral organizations** represented the largest delivery channel for both humanitarian assistance (in 2020) and development assistance (in 2019) to food sectors. These organizations accounted for 95 percent of humanitarian funding and 52 percent of development assistance in those years.

In 2019, **development assistance** to food sectors increased by 105 percent from USD 62 million in 2018 to USD 127 million in 2019. From 2016 to 2019, annual allocations of development assistance to food sectors continuously decreased before increasing 22 percent (USD 23 million) in 2019 from the 2016 level.

**Domestic allocations**<sup>66</sup> dropped significantly from USD 508.4 million in 2019 to USD 159 million in 2020, nearly returning to their 2016 level.

<sup>66</sup> Budget support was not noted in the budget and it was therefore not possible to remove it from estimates of domestic expenditures. However, since the Government receives relatively low levels of assistance through its public sector, including budget support, this did not significantly affect the results. Over the data-collection period, the name of the ministry responsible for agriculture changed from Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development to the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement. General budget lines in the latter ministry have been included along with those related to land and rural resettlement (indicating a focus on agriculture). Exchange rates applicable for budget data in 2019 and 2020 were derived from IMF World Economic Outlook data.

Figure 134: Trends in humanitarian assistance and domestic public resources (2016–2020) and development assistance (2016–2019), USD million



## SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

The **food security** (mainly in the form of cash and in-kind food assistance) sector was the largest recipient of **humanitarian assistance** among food sectors in 2020 –receiving 88 percent (USD 171 million) of the total allocation that year. Despite a steep decrease in 2017 and 2018, the level of funding to this sector increased in 2019, returning to its 2016 level. However, in 2020 funding decreased again by 20 percent (USD 41 million).

**Agriculture and livelihoods** accounted for 9 percent (USD 17 million) all humanitarian allocations disbursed in 2020, while the **nutrition** sector received just 3 percent (USD 7 million). Between 2016 and 2020, the food security sector was by far the most funded, with 87 percent of the total humanitarian assistance allocation on average. Agriculture and livelihoods absorbed 11 percent of this total, and nutrition accounted for 2 percent.

Examining domestic public resource allocations by food sector, 97 percent was directed to agriculture, lands and rural resettlement and 3 percent to rural

Looking at **development assistance** by food sector, the main recipient in 2019 was **development food assistance**, which received more than 50 percent all development funding that year. After a decline from 2016 to 2018, funding to the sector increased over 600 percent from USD 9 million to USD 64 million between 2018 and 2019.

**Agriculture** was the second largest recipient of development assistance, receiving 37 percent (USD 46 million) of the total allocated in 2019. After an initial decrease from 2016 to 2018, funding to agriculture increased by 28 percent in 2019. **Basic nutrition** accounted for 7 percent (USD 9 million) of the 2019 allocation and rural development 5 percent (USD 7 million).<sup>67</sup>

Over the five years of analysis, agriculture and development food assistance received the most funding on average, accounting for 42 percent and 39 percent of development assistance, respectively. Basic nutrition averaged 11 percent during this period and rural development nearly 7 percent of disbursements to food sectors. development. Food security and nutrition combined accounted for only USD 1.6 million between 2016 and 2020.

<sup>67</sup> Only USD 327 000 was recorded for forestry, USD 150 000 for food security policy and administrative management, USD 81 000 for food safety and quality and USD 42 000 for school feeding in 2019.

Figure 135: Humanitarian assistance to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million

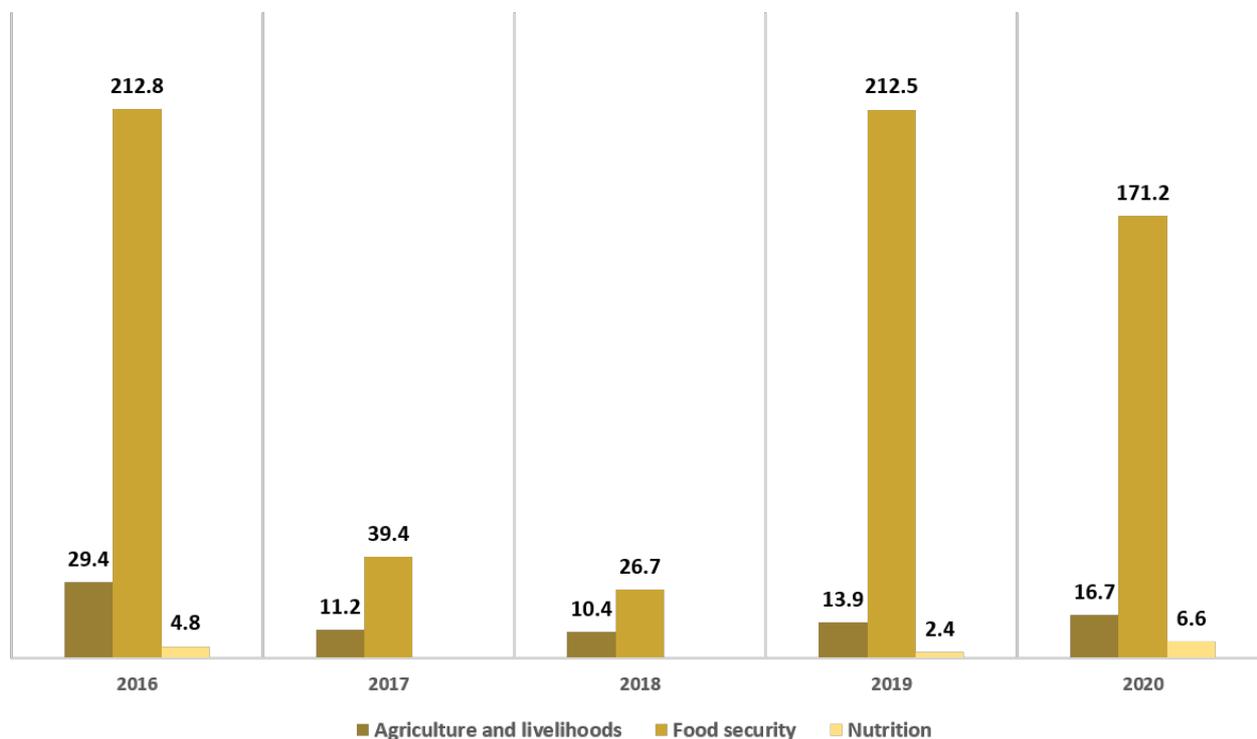
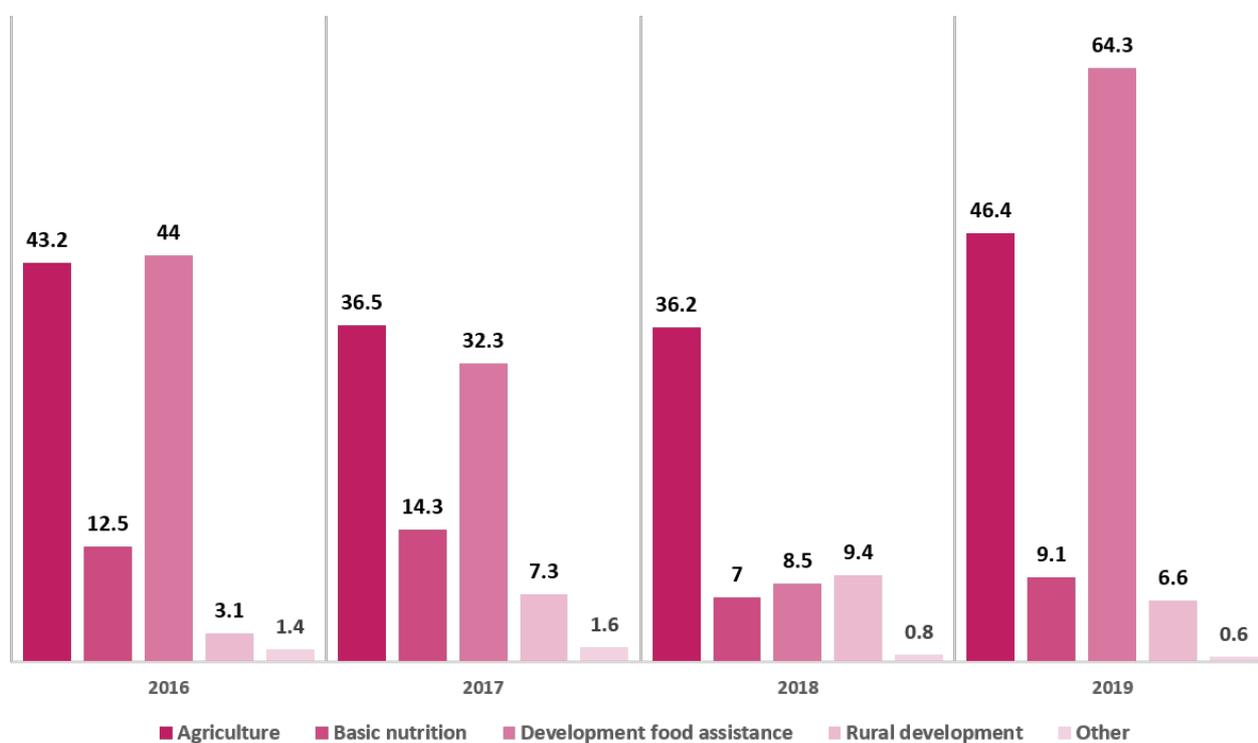
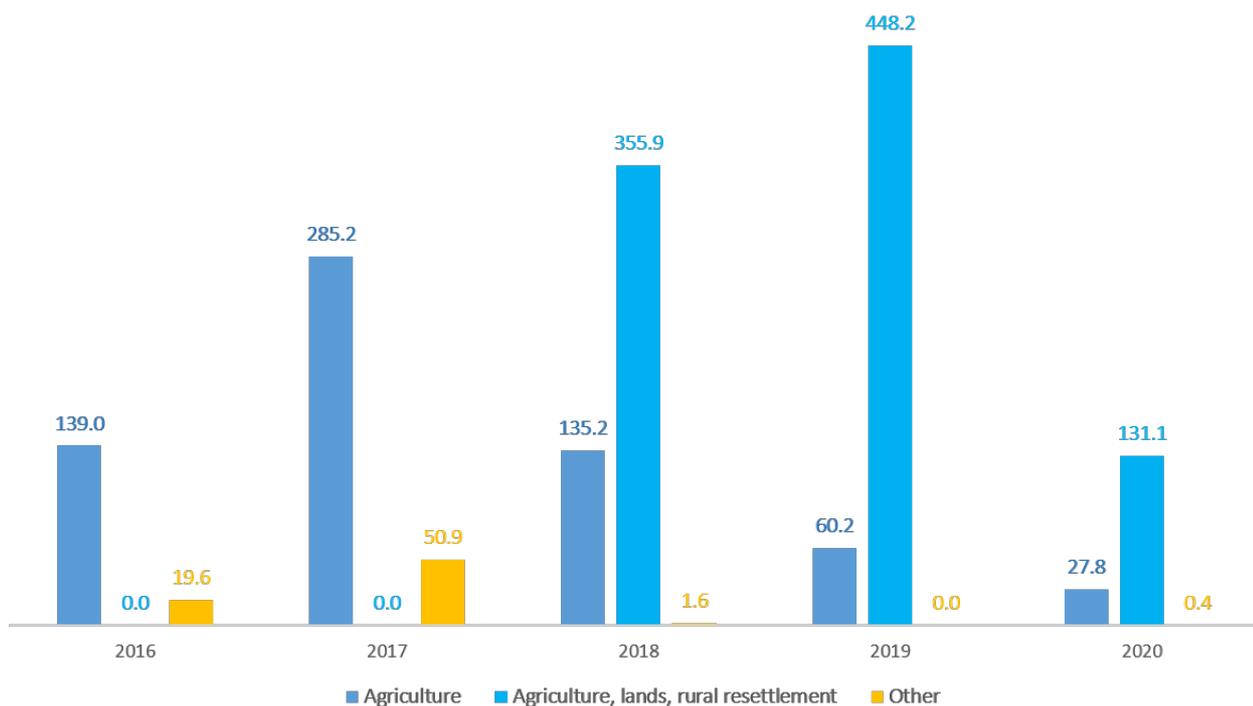


Figure 136: Development assistance to food sectors (2016–2019), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes fishing, food safety and quality, food security policy and administrative management, forestry, household food security programmes and school feeding.

Figure 137: Domestic public resource allocations to food sectors (2016–2020), USD million



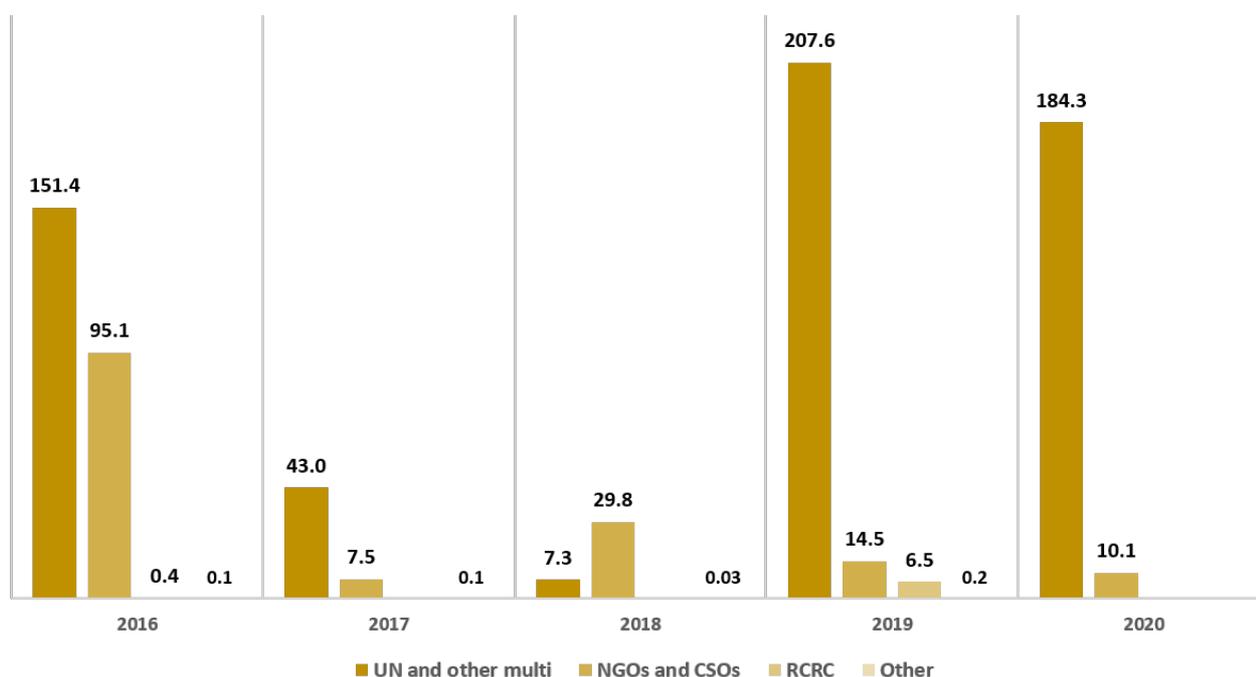
Note: 'Other' includes food security and nutrition, forestry, lands and rural resettlement, and rural development.

## DELIVERY CHANNELS

**United Nations and other multilateral organizations** represented the largest delivery channel for **humanitarian assistance to food sectors** in 2020, receiving 95 percent (USD 184 million) of the total disbursement that year. **NGOs and CSOs** absorbed the remaining 5

percent (USD 10 million). Between 2016 and 2020, nearly 78 percent of all humanitarian assistance to food sectors was channeled through United Nations and other multilateral organizations, while NGOs and CSOs were the second-largest recipient, accounting for 21 percent. Other delivery channels, including the

Figure 138: Humanitarian assistance delivery channels (2016–2020), USD million



Note: 'Other' includes public-sector institutions in 2019 and financial flows for which no information was available in 2016–2018.

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

public sector and RCRC, accounted for less than 1 percent of the total disbursement.

**United Nations and other multilateral organizations** absorbed 52 percent of **development assistance to food sectors** allocated in 2019. These allocations increased threefold between 2018 and 2019 from USD 20 million to USD 66 million.

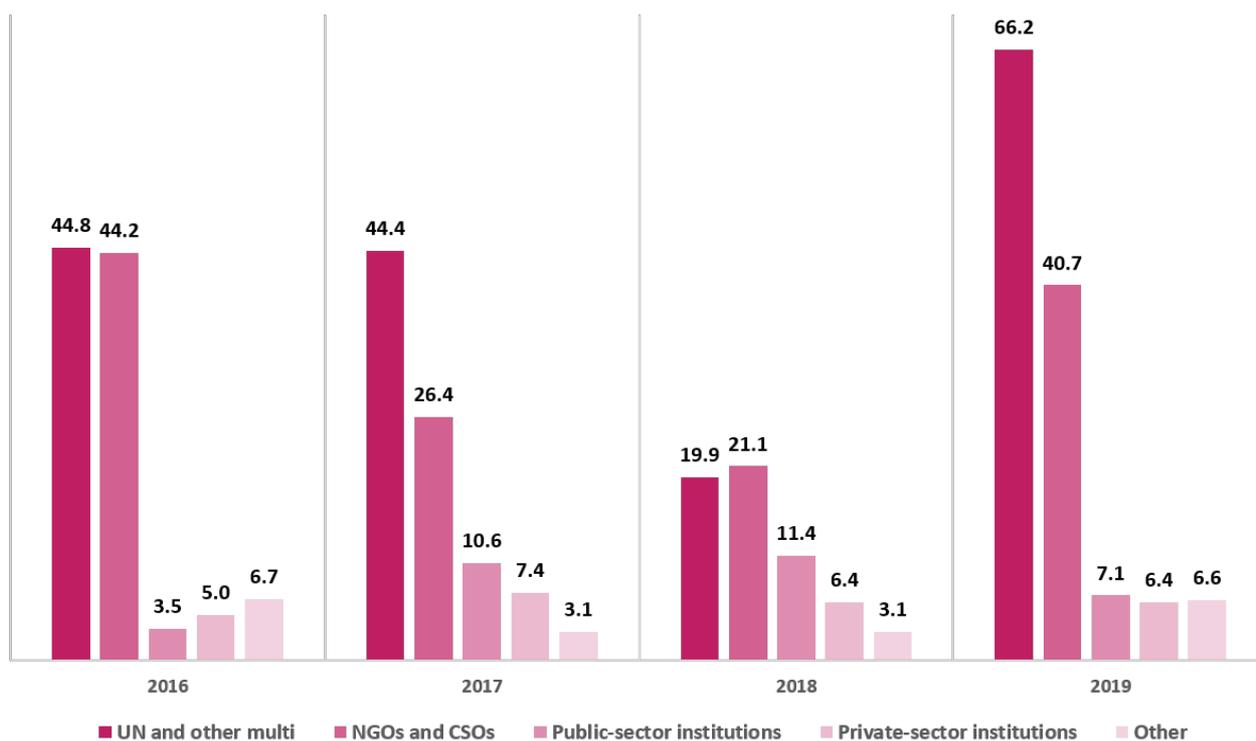
**NGOs and CSOs** were the second-largest delivery channel in 2019, accounting for 32 percent (USD 41 million) of all funding that year. These actors witnessed a 92 percent (USD 20 million) increase from the 2018 level.

**Public-** and **private-sector institutions** accounted for 6 percent (USD 7 million) and 5 percent (or USD 6 million) of development

assistance to food sectors in 2019, respectively.

Over the four years of analysis, the distribution of allocations did not change significantly. United Nations and multilateral organizations channeled 46 percent of development assistance to food sectors on average, followed by NGOs and CSOs, which delivered 34 percent of development-related disbursements to food sectors.

**Figure 139: Development assistance delivery channels (2016-2019), USD million**



Note: 'Other' includes universities, colleges and other teaching institutions, research institutes and think-tanks, and delivery channels for which no information was available.

Appendix.

# Definitions and data

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## ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY AND FOOD CRISIS SITUATIONS

**Acute food insecurity** is any manifestation of food insecurity at a specific point in time that is severe enough to threaten lives, livelihoods or both – regardless of the causes, context or duration. These acute states are highly susceptible to change and can manifest in a population within a short period of time due to shocks or sudden changes that impact food availability, access, utilisation or stability. Transitory food insecurity is a short-term or temporary inability to meet food requirements related to sporadic crises, indicating a capacity to recover.

In this report, acute food insecurity data refer to the **highest numbers of acutely food-insecure people in each year**, as published in the five editions of the Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC) covering 2016–2020 (for example, see p. 29–32 of the GRFC 2021 for more details on the highest numbers of acutely food-insecure people in 2019 and 2020).<sup>68</sup> In particular, the analysis focuses on the number of people in Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above). Populations in Crisis (IPC/CH Phase 3), Emergency (IPC/CH Phase 4) and Catastrophe (IPC/CH Phase 5) are in need of urgent food, nutrition and livelihood assistance (see the IPC Technical Manual 3.1, pp. 37–40 for details).<sup>69</sup>

A **food crisis** occurs when acute food insecurity and malnutrition rates rise sharply at the local or national level, creating the need for emergency food assistance. This definition distinguishes a food crisis from chronic food insecurity, although food crises are more likely among populations already suffering from prolonged food insecurity and malnutrition. A food crisis is usually set off by a shock or combination of shocks that affect one or more of the pillars of food security: food availability, food access, food utilisation and food stability.

The **drivers of food crises** are often interlinked and mutually reinforcing, making it difficult to pinpoint the specific trigger or driver of each crisis. This analysis refers to the same drivers that were identified in the 2021 GRFC by estimating which were the most relevant in

each country or territory out of the following categories:

- **Conflict/insecurity:** This includes inter-state and intra-state conflicts, internal violence, banditry and criminality, civil unrest and political crises, which can lead to population displacements.
- **Weather extremes:** These include droughts, floods, dry spells, storms, cyclones, hurricanes, typhoons, and the untimely start of rainy seasons.
- **Economic shocks:** Economic shocks can affect the food insecurity of individuals or households in many ways. Macroeconomic shocks (including those stemming from COVID-19 containment measures), currency depreciation, high inflation, increasing production costs and food prices, and worsening terms of trade all tend to coincide with increases in acute food insecurity.

**The ten largest food crises** in 2020 were in the countries and territories with the largest number of people experiencing Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) or equivalent levels of acute food insecurity as per the 2021 GRFC: Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, Nigeria, South Sudan, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

## COUNTRY SELECTION – GLOBAL REPORT ON FOOD CRISES

**This report is aligned on the geographical coverage of the 2021 GRFC.** It therefore includes data on financial allocations for 55 countries and territories based on GRFC country selection criteria, and for which comparable data were available and validated. The selection process for the GRFC 2021 identified 79 qualifying countries and territories for potential inclusion. These included: (i) 48 countries and territories that requested external

<sup>68</sup> FSIN & GNAFC. 2021. Global Report on Food Crises 2021. Rome. [here](#)

<sup>69</sup> IPC Global Partners. 2021. Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Technical Manual Version 3.1. Evidence and Standards for Better Food Security and Nutrition Decisions. Rome. [here](#)

assistance for food or faced shocks (as assessed by the FAO Global Information and Early Warning System [GIEWS] on Food and Agriculture in 2020) at least once in the past three years, or at least three years in the past ten years; and (ii) 31 low- or middle-income countries and territories that did not meet FAO GIEWS criteria, but requested external assistance as a result of hosting refugee populations who were assisted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and WFP, had over 1 million or at least 20 percent of their populations forcibly displaced, or had populations affected by conflict and insecurity, weather extremes or economic shocks.

Countries were excluded if: they were high-income countries; they did not ask for FAO or WFP assistance, or if the shocks had little impact on food security. Twenty four of the 79 countries and territories identified had data gaps or insufficient evidence to produce estimates of people in Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) or equivalent. Following a review of the evidence, the GRFC Technical Working Group validated acute food insecurity estimates for 55 of the remaining countries and territories, of which 34 were identified as major food crises. These rigorous selection criteria have been employed over the five years of the GRFC's existence (see the 2021 GRFC for additional information on country selection).<sup>70</sup> Data on development assistance were only presented for 50 countries and territories – excluding the five refugee crises covered in the 2021 GRFC. Data on national public expenditures were presented for 28 countries and territories, depending on data availability.

## EXTERNAL FINANCING

The analysis benefited from a collaboration with Development Initiatives,<sup>71</sup> which extracted and analysed data on external financing from two difference sources, then made the data available to the Technical Support Unit of the Global Network Against Food Crises.

In the report, the term “external financing” refers to both data extracted from the

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Creditor Reporting System (CRS) on development assistance (excluding data reported as humanitarian assistance), and data from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service (FTS) on humanitarian assistance to food sectors.

Although this analysis covers humanitarian and development assistance data, and provides some information on domestic resources and remittances, it does not take into account other resources such as foreign direct investments and private-sector financing.<sup>72</sup>

**Humanitarian assistance** is intended to save lives, alleviate suffering and maintain human dignity during and after man-made crises and natural disasters, as well as to prevent and strengthen preparedness such situations This assistance should be governed by the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence.

Unless otherwise specified, the humanitarian assistance totals presented in the report refer only to assistance for food sectors: food security, agriculture, and nutrition. These totals comprise the sum of commitments and paid contributions for humanitarian action spent outside donor countries as reported to the OCHA FTS – including those from non-official resource partners (e.g. private donors). They exclude domestic responses by national governments. FTS data were cross-checked against development assistance from the OECD CRS to avoid duplication, and presented in United States dollars (2019 constant prices).

Amounts include commitments and paid contributions towards the 55 food-crisis countries and territories included in the 2021 GRFC and labelled as food security, agriculture or nutrition. Data labelled as belonging to one of the above food sectors plus ‘early recovery’ or ‘COVID-19’ were also included in the analysis. Finally, data on financing for which the recipient organisation was FAO or WFP that were not labelled under one of the above sectors (and not related to ‘logistics’, ‘emergency telecommunication’, or

<sup>70</sup> FSIN & GNAFC. 2021. Global Report on Food Crises 2021. May. Rome. [here](#)

<sup>71</sup> See <https://devinit.org/> for more information.

<sup>72</sup> OCHA FTS data include international private-sector assistance (comprising 1 percent of all humanitarian assistance).

'coordination and support services') were added to the final estimates.

The amounts of humanitarian assistance to food security, agriculture, and nutrition (the food sectors) were disaggregated according to the objectives of the interventions.

Disbursements for food security include assistance aimed at safeguarding or improving food security by providing food assistance in-kind or in the form of cash transfers.

Disbursements for agriculture and livelihoods include assistance aimed at safeguarding or improving food security through increased food production. Disbursements to nutrition include assistance aimed at safeguarding or improving beneficiaries' nutritional and health status.

The FTS fields 'destination global cluster name' and 'destination cluster name' were used to categorise data within the three food sectors. To provide a more accurate representation of these sectors, a keyword search was undertaken to review data coded as 'food security' and disaggregated by the provision of food security, and agriculture and livelihoods.

One limitation of this approach is the difficulty in capturing multi-sector assistance in areas reported in the FTS that are not directly relevant to food sectors (e.g., education, health and water sanitation and hygiene). Assistance to food security, agriculture, or nutrition reported in multiple areas that was aimed at providing multi-sector support was therefore not included in the analysis. Moreover, the disaggregation of humanitarian assistance among the food security, agriculture, and nutrition sectors is not always optimal: many entries lack information on specific sectors or provide limited information in the 'description' field. The keyword methodology presented above was used to improve accuracy and mitigate this problem. Although newly developed, this methodology and the corresponding findings were tested and validated, and considered robust enough to be used in this analysis.

The analysis of the links between humanitarian assistance to food security, agriculture and nutrition, and the food security figures indicated in the GRFC remained purposely descriptive.

Finally, the report presents a per capita analysis of humanitarian assistance for each acutely food insecure person in need of urgent assistance. It must be noted that the analysis does not take into account the different operational costs that may increase or decrease humanitarian disbursement totals depending on the type of assistance provided, logistics needs, access constraints and other variables.

**Development assistance** is referred to as "flows to countries and territories on the DAC list of official development assistance recipients [...] provided by official agencies and administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective; and [that] are concessional in character".

Amounts of development assistance presented in the report refer only to assistance in the food security, agriculture, and nutrition sectors). These totals correspond to the sum of disbursements spent outside donor countries as reported in the OECD DAC CRS), excluding flows reported as humanitarian assistance. Estimates of development assistance include flows categorised as 'grants', 'loans', and 'equity investments'.<sup>73</sup> CRS data were cross-checked against humanitarian assistance from the OCHA's FTS to avoid duplication. Monetary amounts are presented in United States dollars (constant 2019 prices).

These amounts include disbursements towards the 50 countries included in the 2021 GRFC (development assistance to countries characterised by refugee food crises was not included) coded within to the food sectors: food security, agriculture, and nutrition. This includes: (311) agriculture; (31110) agricultural policy and administrative management; (31120) agricultural development; (31130) agricultural land resources; (31140) agricultural water resources; (31150) agricultural inputs; (31161) food crop production; (31162) industrial crops/export crops; (31163) livestock; (31164) agrarian reform; (31165) agricultural alternative development; (31166) agricultural extension; (31181) agricultural education/training; (31182) agricultural research; (31191) agricultural services; (31192) plant and post-harvest protection and pest control; (31193) agricultural financial services;

<sup>73</sup> To be counted as official development assistance, an equity investment must be made by an official agency in an enterprise within a country on the OECD DAC list of eligible states, and must not be made to acquire a lasting interest in the enterprise.

(31194) agricultural cooperatives; (31195) livestock/veterinary services; (312) forestry; (31210) forestry policy and administrative management; (31220) forestry development; (31261) fuelwood/charcoal; (31281) forestry education/training; (31282) forestry research; (31291) forestry services; (313) fishing; (31310) fishing policy and administrative management; (31320) fishery development; (31381) fishery education/training; (31382) fishery research; (31391) fishery services; (52010) development food assistance; (12240) basic nutrition; (11250) school feeding; (43040) rural development; (32161) agro-industries; (43071) food security policy and administrative management; (43072) household food security programmes; and (43073) food safety and quality.

The data-cleaning process highlighted that many entries coded under development food assistance (52010) were potentially misreported as having a clear humanitarian objective and focus (e.g. activities related to procurement and food distribution). In order to avoid duplication and overlap with FTS humanitarian assistance flows, a keyword search was conducted within these entries to disaggregate humanitarian-oriented disbursements and those oriented towards medium- and long-term development. Entries that were found to be purely humanitarian in nature were excluded from the development assistance dataset.

Limitations of the approach included the availability of official development assistance data in the OECD CRS (disaggregated by country and sector) only up to 2019. It was therefore not possible to compare development and humanitarian assistance in 2020. In addition, the development assistance reported on may not have specifically targeted areas facing a food crisis. For this reason, development assistance to countries with refugee crises was not included in the analysis, and development assistance data were not analysed alongside acute food insecurity data.<sup>74</sup> Finally, for some projects coded geographically as regional or global, it was not possible to determine if official development assistance directed to these projects ultimately benefited any of the analysed countries. These

flows were therefore excluded from the analysis.

The ratio of development assistance per capita used the total country population (2019) as a denominator in this analysis.

## HARMONISING AND TRIANGULATING HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT DATASETS

It must be noted that the sector coding in the OECD CRS is not the same that used in the OCHA FTS. Therefore, the types of food security assistance captured by the different sources could be different. Caution should therefore be used when aggregating data from the different datasets.

Moreover, since stakeholders do not always coordinate their reporting to the OCHA FTS and OECD CRS, it is possible that double-counting and misreporting occurred. For example, an activity reported to the FTS could appear in the CRS under a non-humanitarian code; this could lead to double counting of assistance. In addition, the rules of reporting to different bodies differ: the OECD DAC governs reporting to the CRS while the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) governs reporting to the FTS. The authors checked sample data from a number of countries to confirm that this type of misreporting was not prevalent in the data.

## OTHER DATA

**Data on national public expenditures to food sectors** were extracted directly from government financial documentation. For domestic nutrition expenditures, data were also based on health-account reporting to the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Health Expenditure Database (GHED).<sup>75</sup> Domestic expenditure data were available for 28 countries and territories<sup>76</sup> as of October 2021,

<sup>74</sup> These include Rohingya refugee crisis in Bangladesh and Syrian refugees in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

<sup>75</sup> This was only in cases where: (i) no data was available on the budget for nutrition; and (ii) no WHO GHED data were available for a country.

<sup>76</sup> Afghanistan, Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, the Niger, Nigeria (at the federal level, and at the state level for Adamawa, Borno and Yobe states), Palestine, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## FINANCING FLOWS AND FOOD CRISES

including for seven of the ten worst food-crises identified in 2020.

Data within budgetary documentation are reported in national currency units in nominal prices. Therefore, the data were converted into the same currency for analysis as humanitarian assistance and official development assistance flows.

Collecting and presenting data on domestic expenditures presented several challenges: first, data on domestic expenditures were available for only 28 of the 55 countries and territories with food crises. Second, data made available by national authorities are not fully comparable in terms of sectoral distribution – data have been classified based on the naming of available budget lines. There can be significant variance by country in what each budget line includes and the level of disaggregation within the budget. For example, the coverage in a ministry with a key focus on agriculture may not allow for the classification of expenditures focused on food security, due to aggregation at the ministry level only. Whenever possible, budget support was not taken into account in the analysis.<sup>77</sup> However, it was not possible to exclude it in the case of Angola, Cameroon, Kenya, the Niger, Nigeria, Palestine, Somalia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, leading to potential double counting of official development assistance.

It must be noted that in most cases, the data correspond to budget allocations and not actual disbursements. In some countries, sub-national government contributions are likely to be significant, but budgetary information is not publicly available. Wherever possible, attempts were made to capture these data in order to illustrate the actual response to food crises (e.g. for Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states in Nigeria).

For countries with a fiscal year covering two calendar years, the reported year corresponds to the calendar year covered by the larger period (e.g. the 2016/2017 fiscal year running from April to March is referred to as 2016).

**Data related to remittances** are extracted from the World Bank remittance data (remittance inflows), the IMF balance of

payments statistics database, central banks, national statistical agencies and World Bank country desks.<sup>78</sup>

Remittance data refer to gross amounts of remittances, including transaction costs that are not transferred to the recipient country (estimates of transaction costs range from 5–20 percent). As for the other data in this report, remittance data were converted into United States dollars (constant 2019 prices).

**Data related to peace funding**<sup>79</sup> were extracted from the OECD CRS; however, these data are intended for reference and not meant to identify linkages with food security, nutrition and sustainability of food systems.

<sup>77</sup> Budget support is donor funding that goes directly to the national treasury for allocation to sector budgets towards national priorities.

<sup>78</sup> More information [here](#). For more details, see also KNOMAD. 2017. *Migration and development brief*. Issue 28. October. [here](#)

<sup>79</sup> Following the methodology elaborated in Al Maleh, Shah and Brinkman. 2021. Peace-building, ODA, and the SDGs: The UN Peace-building funding dashboard. *Journal of Peace-building and Development*.



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