

Hunger News & Hope

...a Seeds of Hope publication

A Closer Look at the World Food Programme

During the planning session for this issue, we began by looking at the stories we had in hand. One was about the Global Hunger Forum held at Baylor University in September, written by Ashley Mix. The plenary speaker there was David Beasley, the executive director at the World Food Programme (WFP). Sara Alexander had been working on a story about a WFP project in Zimbabwe. Dawn Michelle Michals (Chelle to us) wanted to do a follow-up on the dire situation in Yemen. This issue is what ensued from that discussion. We at Seeds have published stories about WFP's work for decades, but we have never looked this closely. We hope you will be as impressed and inspired as we are. –Katie Cook



Above: World Food Programme truck drivers eat breakfast together in North Darfur after driving more than eight hours through difficult roads in an area rife with armed conflict. Two trucks carried 350 metric tons of food to camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs). Photo by Albert González Farran, courtesy of the United Nations.

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art by Erin Kennedy Mayer

'Food Brings Peace; Hunger Brings Conflict':

World Food Programme Leader Speaks at Baylor Hunger Forum

by Ashley Mix

He will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." -Matthew 25:45 (NIV)

On Friday, September 10, 2021, Baylor University held an inaugural Forum on Global Hunger, with David Beasley, executive director of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) as its keynote speaker. The forum scheduled a morning address by Beasley and later an afternoon panel on the importance of public policy in supporting large-scale organizations like WFP to assist the millions of people in the world who are on the brink of starvation.

The Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty (BCHP)¹ hosted the forum to bring people together to explore global solutions to famine, migration and justice. The Collaborative generally acts as a statewide project, and its national Hunger Summits have focused on hunger within the US. However, its leaders understand that ending hunger also involves the greater global community. This is why BCHP organizers hope to continue an annual Global Forum.

David Beasley, former governor of South Carolina and current executive director of WFP, also serves as an advocate for what he calls the "hunger pandemic." For his

and the WFP's efforts in the fight against world hunger, the organization was awarded the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize. As stated in *Hunger News & Hope* a year ago, the WFP was recognized for "its efforts to combat hunger, for its contribution to bettering conditions for peace in conflict-affected

If action is not taken to give these 41 million people the resources they need to not only receive a much-needed meal, but rather the means to support themselves and their communities, it can lead to destabilization of national governments and communities.

areas and for acting as a driving force in efforts to prevent the use of hunger as a weapon of war and conflict."²

In his address, Beasley described the harrowing reality that faces many of the world's nations: "Forty-three nations have 41 million people knocking on famine's door." If action is not taken to give these 41 million people the resources they need to not only receive a much-needed meal, but rather the means to support themselves and their communities, it can lead to destabilization of national governments and communities. With the rise of COVID-19 in the last year and a half, as Beasley added, the number of people facing starvation has jumped to 270 million people, worldwide. That number is expected to increase unless the world responds in the most drastic of forms.

During the afternoon panel, Beasley once again spoke to the promise of WFP and how the people of the world have "no reason we can't stop world hunger." He then answered questions from the audience, with the first being "what can people do?"

Please see "Global Forum" on page 11.

Left: World Food Programme Executive Director David Beasley speaks at Baylor University's Global Hunger Forum in Waco, TX. Photo by Ken Camp, courtesy of the Baptist Standard.



The World Food Programme: *From Emergency Relief to Nutritional Security to Resilience Capacity Building*

by Sara E. Alexander

Created in 1961 at the behest of US President Dwight Eisenhower as an experiment to provide food aid through the UN system, the World Food Programme (WFP) was first established after the 1960 Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) Conference. The organization formally initiated its work in 1963 with a mandate from FAO and the United Nations General Assembly on a three-year experimental basis. In 1965, the program was extended to a continuing basis and its work has been ongoing and expanding ever since.

WFP's work in the early years was centered on providing emergency food relief when a disaster occurred in a country or region. The organization's work has evolved over the last 60 years to include not only emergency assistance, but also relief and rehabilitation, development aid and special operations. Two-thirds of WFP's work takes place in conflict-affected countries where people are three times more likely to be undernourished than those living in countries without conflict.

In emergencies, WFP is still often first on the scene, providing food assistance to the victims of war, civil conflict, drought, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, crop failures and natural disasters. On any given day, WFP has 5,600 trucks, 30 ships and nearly 100 planes on the move, delivering food and other assistance to those in most need.¹ These numbers lie at the roots of WFP's unparalleled reputation as an emergency responder, one that gets the job done quickly at scale in the most difficult environments.

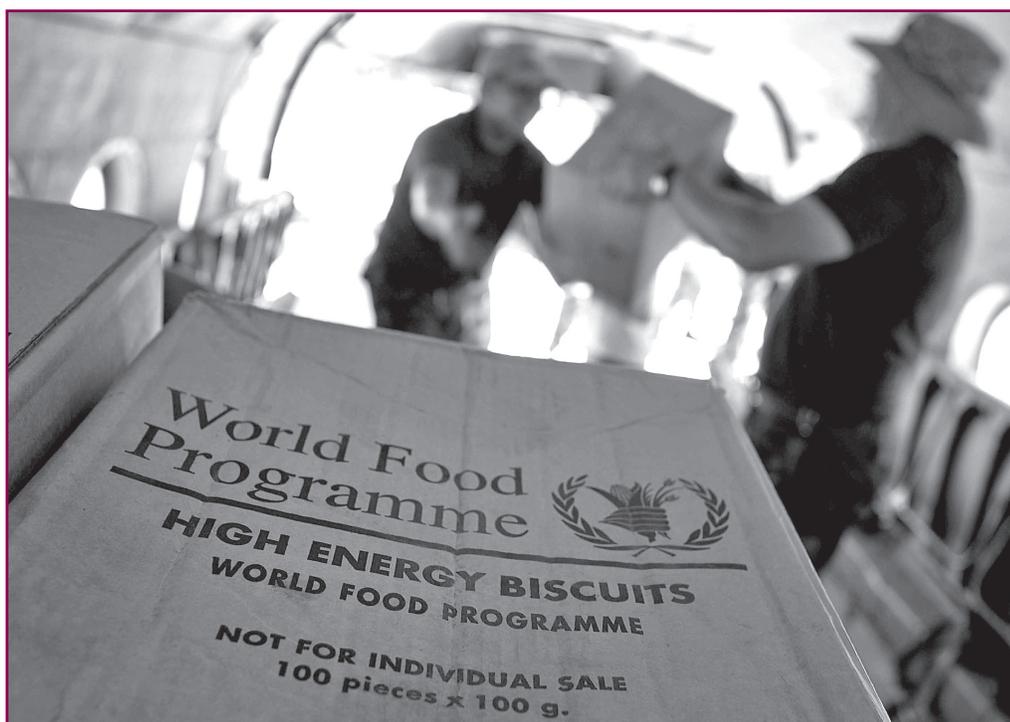
When the emergency subsides, WFP oftentimes works alongside a number of national agencies as well as other international NGOs, to help communi-

ties rebuild shattered lives and livelihoods. The ultimate goal is to strengthen the resilience of people and communities affected by protracted crises by helping to support the application of a longer-term development lens.

When WFP is able to lend support to development programs, these projects typically focus on nutrition, especially for mothers and children, addressing malnutrition from the earliest stages, targeting the first 1,000 days from conception to a child's second birthday, and later through school meals. WFP is the largest humanitarian organization implementing school feeding programs worldwide and has been doing so for over 50 years. In 2020, WFP provided meals to 15 million children, often in the hardest-to-reach areas.²

"For its efforts to combat hunger, for its contribution to bettering conditions for peace in conflict-affected areas and for acting as a driving force in efforts to prevent the use of hunger as a weapon of war and conflict," WFP was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020.³ In 2020, WFP assisted 115.5 million people—the largest number since 2012—in 84 countries.⁴

Please see "World Food Programme" on page 11.



Right: Members of the Argentinean battalion of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) unload food donated by the World Food Programme to flood victims in Haiti.

Photo by Logan Abassi, courtesy of the United Nations.

The Ongoing Tragedy of Yemen

by Dawn Michelle Michals

In 2019, I received an assignment from our editor Katie Cook to write about the war and famine in Yemen. It was my first time researching the country and the plight that the United Nations called the “worst humanitarian crisis in history.”¹

The country and its people have stayed with me ever since. I am frequently reminded of the pictures of children who were among 85,000 who’d died between 2015 and 2019. In editorial meetings, we often discuss the country and its people where we wonder, “What are the numbers now?”

Today, three years later, with continued warfare plus a worldwide pandemic, we wanted to revisit this nation, and specifically the work of the World Food Programme (WFP) there.

Let’s start at the beginning and why this is happening. Yemen’s Civil War began in 2015, but the conflict goes back years before. In 2011, Yemeni forces overthrew long-standing President Ali Abdullah Saleh when he tried to change their constitution to abolish term limits making himself president for life.

With hopes of a peaceful transition, the United Nations Security Council called on China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, the United States, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, the UAE, and the European Union to oversee what would be called the Gulf Cooperation

Council (GCC). Each member of the “Group of Ten” took a role in the restructuring of the country.

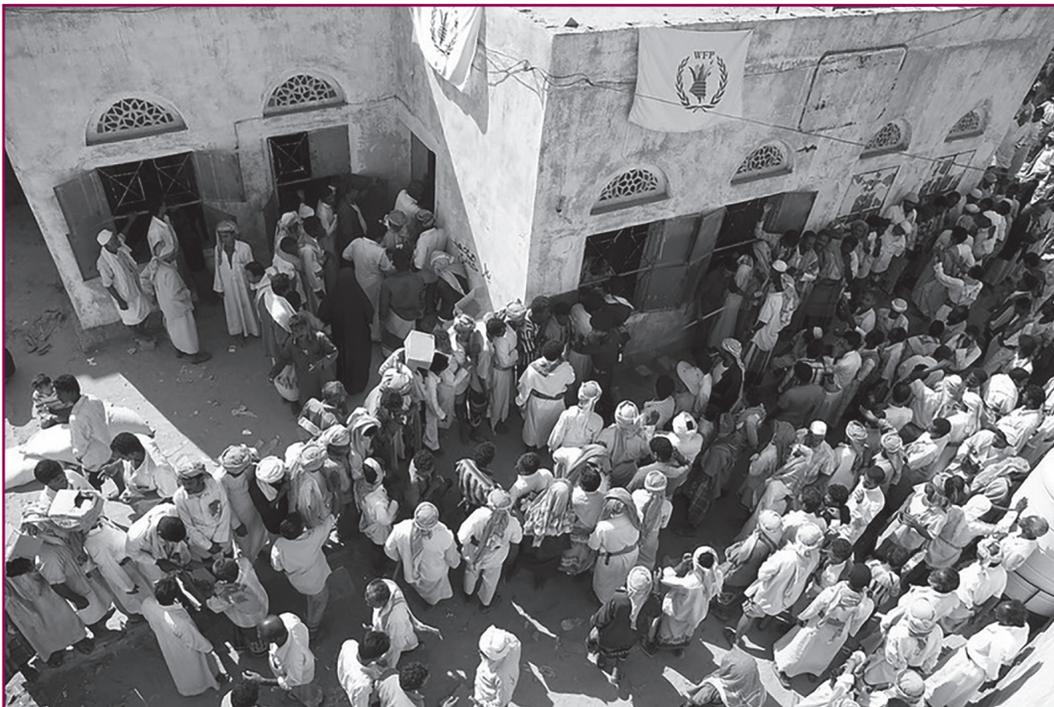
Then, in November 2011, President Saleh agreed to and signed the GCC Initiative, transferring power to his vice president, Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi. This resulted in Saleh having a non-active role until the presidential election—and allowed him to avoid prosecution.

Hadi was then voted into power on February 27, 2012. (He was the only candidate in the election.) Then in 2015, a Houthi-led coalition stormed the capital city of Sana’a, forcing Hadi to escape to Aden and to declare it the temporary capital. It remains the capital to this day.

The Houthi movement, founded by Hussein Bader Addian al-Houthi, was originally founded as a theological movement focused on a peaceful educational and cultural vision for the country, until former President Saleh sought to end what he felt was a challenge to his rule in 2004 and sent troops to have Hussein al-Houthi arrested. al-Houthi responded to his near arrest by launching an insurgency against the central government and was killed on September 10, 2004. He may have died, but his movement lives on.

Since then, the Houthi regime (also known as Ansar Allah) and the Yemeni government have been at odds. In January 10, 2021, Michael Pompeo, United States Secretary of State, “announced the designation of the Houthis (Ansar Allah) as a foreign terrorist organization and a specially designated global terrorist entity.”

In my report from 2019, 18.4 million Yemenis were deemed “severely food insecure” according to the World Food Programme. Stephen L. Anderson, the country director for WFP in Yemen



Left: Since Yemen’s civil war began, internally displaced people scattered across the vast landscape of northern Yemen. Here a large group gathers to sign up for World Food Programme rations. Photo by Hugh Macleod, courtesy of IRIN News (now The New Humanitarian).

in 2019, said in an interview with *The New York Times*: "... based on analysis and projections, that number [8.4 million] could increase by 50 percent or so. Even if peace were to break out tomorrow, which is very unlikely, we've still got a massive humanitarian crisis on our hands."

Spoiler alert: Peace did not break out "tomorrow."

According to the WFP, as of December 2021, "16.2 million people, more than 50 percent of the population of Yemen, are estimated to be food insecure. Of these, 47,000

United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Sir Mark Lowcock, stated, "the most urgent priority in Yemen right now is to prevent a massive famine. Every decision the world makes right now must take this into account."

people are estimated to live in famine-like conditions (IPC Phase 5)."

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"In Yemen, one child dies every 10 minutes from preventable causes, including malnutrition and vaccine-preventable diseases," according to Henrietta Fore, Executive Director of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF),

In a December 2021 report from WFP, 1.2 million women and 2.3 million children require treatment for acute malnutrition. Reports show that of these children, 400,000 are at risk of dying without care. Because of this, WFP provides nutritional support to 3.3 million pregnant and nursing women and children under age 5. The organization also provides supplemental nutrition to children in the country's schools to better increase health and attendance.

In addition to nutritional assistance, WFP is focused on "helping Yemen build a sustainable future through livelihoods support." In 2021, the organization "aims to reach 1.2 million people with projects to rebuild productive assets like roads, agricultural land, irrigation systems, schools and health facilities as well as training."

Right: A woman in a camp for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in northwest Yemen receives World Food Programme rations. Photo by Annasofie Flamand, courtesy of IRIN News (now The New Humanitarian).

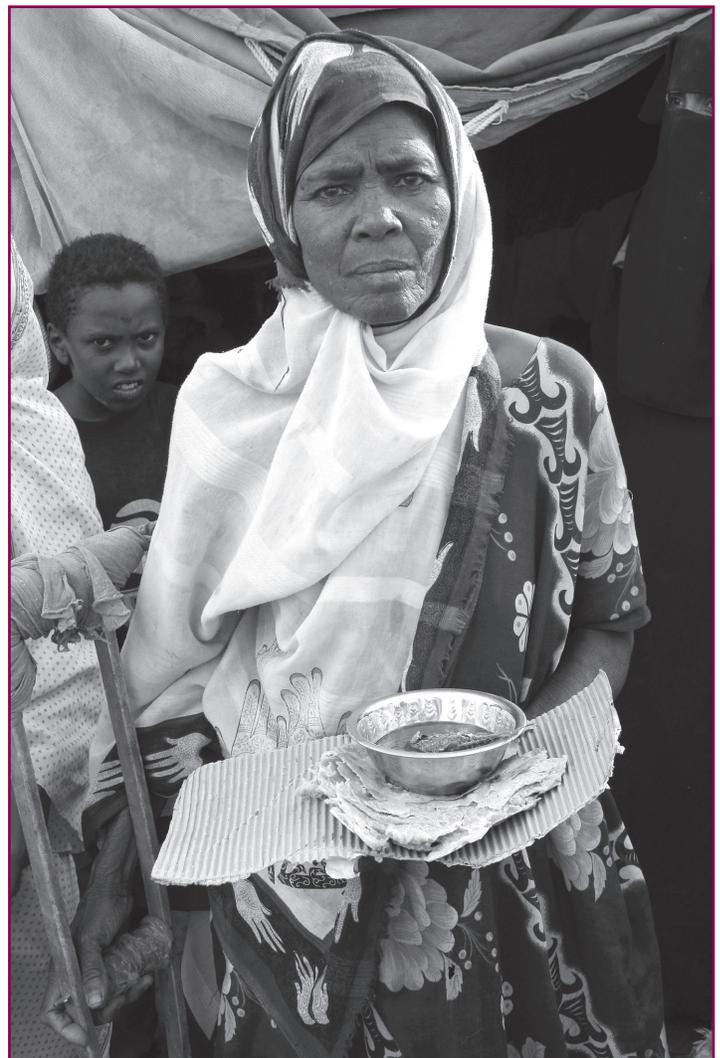
As of today, WFP provides nearly 13 million people with food assistance with in-kind rations of flour, pulses, oil, sugar and salt, while some families receive a voucher or cash to purchase the same quantity of food to stimulate the economy.

According to the WFP, "The coordinated response of the humanitarian community has prevented catastrophe in Yemen. But if these interventions stop or are severely hampered, the situation is likely to deteriorate quickly."

I've written a lot of topics for *Hunger News & Hope*, but none of them have stuck with me like the people of Yemen. I pray for them often. And, if you will join me, I hope you will pray for them too.

—Dawn Michelle Michals is a freelance writer and social media specialist living in Waco, TX. She has worked closely for years with the McLennan County Hunger Coalition and the Waco (Texas) Homeless Coalition. She is the Seeds of Hope Social Media editor and an award-winning reporter for *Hunger News & Hope*. Our readers will also have seen her work under the name

Please see "Yemen" on page 11.



No One Should Go Hungry if We Can Come Together:

Meeting the Challenges of Severe Food Insecurity in Western Zimbabwe

by Sara E. Alexander

In 2019, I was fortunate to be asked to lead a team of evaluators to conduct a final evaluation of the Amalima project that was carried out in the western regions of Zimbabwe from 2014 to 2020. The *Amalima* concept refers to a social contract that says “no one should go hungry if we can come together.” The underlying principle involves communities working together to reflect on problems, determine action and create systems to deal with challenges and ensure accountability amongst themselves.

Ultimately, households come together to pool resources (such as labor, money and assets) toward shared objectives identified from within the community. What follows is a description of the Amalima project that involved support from six international and national NGOs—including the World Food Programme (WFP) and its food ration program—to meet three major strategic objectives to improve agricultural production, increase capacity to manage risk and economic resources, and to improve the nutritional security of children under 2 years of age (CU2) and pregnant and lactating women (PLW).

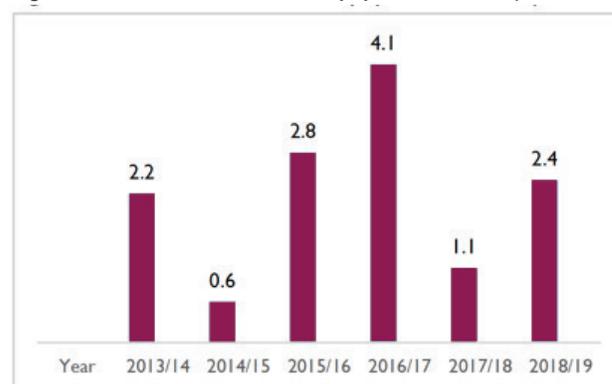
Setting the Stage: When the Amalima project was formulated in 2012-13, the Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAC) estimated that 1.6 million Zimbabweans were food insecure—including 369,175 in Matabeleland North and South (see the map on page 7)—and predicted at that time to be unable to access sufficient food during the next peak hunger period (January–March 2013).¹ Food insecurity (above 20 percent in the 13 combined districts of Matabeleland North and South) was at its highest level in three years.

Moreover, nationwide, fewer than 10 percent of children 6-23 months of age consumed the minimum acceptable diet, as defined by the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare (MoHCW).² These rates were due in part to food insecurity, but also to beliefs and constraints dictating infant feeding practices. The 2012 ZimVAC Report also indicated a 33.8 percent stunting rate in children ages 6-59 months, representing widespread chronic malnutrition that risked worsening if food security conditions and household nutritional practices did not improve.

The Amalima project was originally planned for 2014-2018 and was later extended to 2020. The project targeted

four districts located across Matabeleland North (Tsholotsho) and South (Bulilima, Mangwe, and Gwanda). A number of significant challenges persisted in this region over the duration of the project, some of which inhibited positive results for certain activities designed under each of the strategic objectives.

Figure 1: Zimbabwe food insecure population trends (in millions)



Source: ZimVAC 2018

The chart above shows the oscillation of food insecurity in Zimbabwe over the years of the project, also indicating the severity of the drought periods, which the project aimed to address through a focus on agricultural productivity and food and nutrition security for vulnerable populations in these districts. By 2018 and well into the project, the number of severely food insecure people was expected to increase from about 567,000 (between April and June 2018) to 2.4 million (between July 2018 and March 2019), translating to 28 percent of the rural population.³

Over the course of the project, devaluation of local currency and shortages of US dollars inflated food production costs. Over 70 percent of Zimbabweans lived below the national poverty line. Remittances from the Zimbabwean diaspora constituted a major source of income as US\$2 million, on average, entered the country every day in 2018.⁴

Over the latter part of the project, late onset of rains and long mid-season dry spells led to localized household food production shortfalls. By December 2018, food prices were more than 50 percent higher than 2017 prices. This economic and agricultural situation combined to reinforce chronic malnutrition trends: 234,000 children under five

years (CU5) were acutely malnourished in 2018, with 26.5 percent of children ages 0-59 months living in rural districts stunted.⁵

In 2012-13, during the planning phase for the Amalima project, community focus groups were convinced a sustainable solution to long-term food and nutrition insecurity in their communities would require a multi-faceted approach that addressed a number of specific problems in the four districts if the overarching goal was to be achieved.⁶ The primary issues the various focus groups identified included the following:

- **Limited availability of food**, in particular the staple crop maize, due largely to insufficient access to water resources, specifically to support crop cultivation and livestock herding;
- **Sub-optimal land use** where maize was being cultivated in areas unsuitable for its production, given poor soil quality and erratic rainfall;
- **Ineffective planning and preparation** for severe drought conditions in terms of low maize yields and lack of safety nets to address shocks when they occurred;
- **Inaccessible inputs for crop production**, largely in terms of drought-resistant seed varieties that were beyond the purchasing power of most households;
- **Low and undiversified household incomes** where poorer households' livelihoods were reliant on labor and remittances, with limited employment and income-generating opportunities;
- **Poor infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices.** The Zimbabwe National Nutrition Surveys⁷ reported that in almost all rural districts, less than 10 percent of Zimbabwean infants were exclusively breastfed during the first six months. The WFP supported the food rationing portion of the project in efforts to provide a certain level of food security until completion of relevant project initiatives.
- **Micronutrient deficiencies among pregnant and lactating women (PLW).** At the beginning of the project, 32 percent of pregnant women in Zimbabwe suffered from anemia, reflecting widespread iron deficiencies. In Matabeleland South, this figure reached 45 percent.⁸ The food rations were designed to address these needs as well. Micronutrient deficiencies were compounded by unequal intra-household rationing practices.

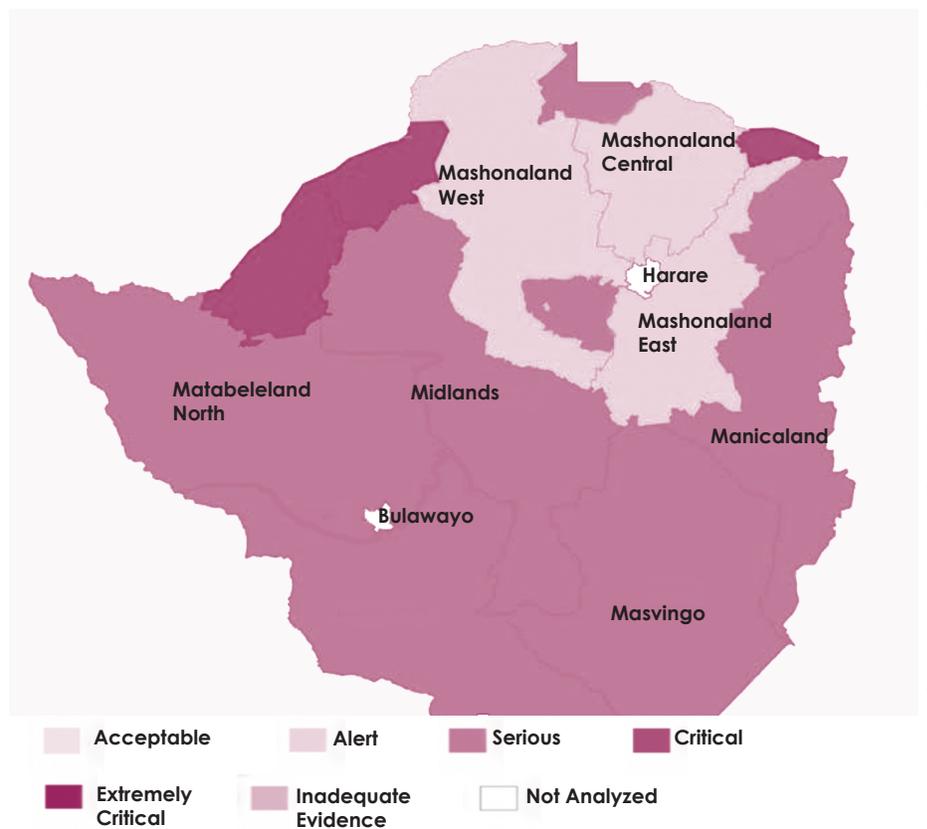
Support granted: In FY2013, the United States Agency of International Development (USAID) Office of Food for Peace (FFP) awarded Cultivating New Frontiers

in Agriculture (CNFA) a five-year (2013-2018) Title II Development Food Assistance Project (DFAP) in Zimbabwe called Amalima to be conducted in Matabeleland North and South, located in the western and southwestern regions of Zimbabwe.

Amalima was designed to offer a set of innovative approaches to address the causes of food and nutrition insecurity as outlined above, building on existing communal initiatives and solidarity to strengthen resilience. The project was implemented by CNFA and six implementing partners. With these partners and local community members, Amalima sought to improve agricultural productivity and marketing, reduce disaster risk and strengthen the adaptive capacity of households and communities in Matabeleland North and South. The project had three major Strategic Objectives (SOs):⁹

- **SO 1: Household access to and availability of food improved**, with emphasis on improved crop and livestock production, enhanced soil fertility, adoption of conservation agriculture (CA) practices, establishment of nutritional gardens and increased crop diversity.
- **SO 2: Community resilience to shocks improved**, with emphasis on rehabilitation or construction of basic infrastructure that supports agricultural activities (e.g., dams, dip tanks, nutrition gardens), the strengthening of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) systems, improved leveraging of

Zimbabwe, Acute Food Insecurity, July 2018-March 2019



Source: Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) 2020.

community social capital, and improved access to savings, especially for women.

• *SO 3: Nutrition and health among PLW; and boys and girls under 2 improved*, with emphasis on consumption of diverse and sufficient foods for PLW and CU2; and improved knowledge and skills of child health and nutrition.

How did Amalima Fare?

Our evaluation measured Amalima's outcomes and we presented evidence that:

- The focus on addressing demand for water for livestock and crops ultimately resulted in improved household diet diversity;
- Community resilience was improved through activities such as disaster risk reduction groups and by leveraging social capital for systemic change; and
- Significant improvements were made in maternal and child health and nutrition as a result of interconnected and targeted health, nutrition and agricultural interventions.

Since livestock production is the mainstay of the Amalima districts, Amalima has placed a strong focus on building the knowledge and skills of farmers to strengthen their capacity to improve livestock production techniques.¹⁰ The focus on addressing the largely unmet demand for water for livestock and crops resulted in an increased commitment to livestock herding, especially goats, and lowered risk perceptions associated with establishing new nutrition gardens, which ultimately resulted in improvements in diet diversity.¹¹

Climate-smart cultivation practices are at the core of



the crop production component of Amalima and were proven effective in two of the ecological regions where mean annual rainfall was low and erratic. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the relevance of these agricultural practices became even more prominent in the 2015-16 season, which was severely affected by an El-Niño-induced drought. Farmers in the Tsholotsho District, who grew sorghum, confirmed they were able to harvest the crop more than once: as long as moisture was retained in the ground, the sorghum continued to yield.¹²

In addition, interventions under the headings of nutrition and health have a strong theory of change linked to global empirical evidence on stunting, and to the national policy and strategic nutrition plan, which emphasized that interventions should be targeted at children and their mothers in the first 1,000 days of the child's life, if stunting prevalence is to be reduced.

The nutrition model addresses both the immediate and the underlying causes of malnutrition by improving knowledge and capacities to produce a more diversified basket of food commodities at the farm level. While the WFP providing direct nutrient-rich food handouts to children and their mothers to improve dietary intake is not sustainable in the long run, it provides immediate relief to drought-stricken households.

The percentage of households with moderate or severe hunger decreased from the beginning to the end of the project, from 29.3 percent in 2014 to 20.1 percent in 2019. However, the percentage of households with poor and borderline food consumption scores increased at the final evaluation, indicating a worsening of food security conditions that year. This result is attributed to low purchasing power for many households in the four districts, undiversified household incomes, changing national economic policies, and the recent currency adjustments that occurred during the course of the project.¹³

Amalima increased the availability and consumption of different nutritious foods at the household level, which led to reductions in stunting, wasting, and underweight in children under five. Engagement in the village savings and loan programs increased households' ability to purchase nutritious foods for their families. Nutritional trainings promoted the importance of producing and consuming diverse and nutritious crops and vegetables. In addition, communities learned how to organize and maintain nutrition gardens and prepare nutritious foods using locally available ingredients.¹⁴ (See the photo on the left.)

In summary, by the end of the project in March 2020, the Amalima team's vision for the targeted districts was to sustainably increase food security and reduce malnu-

Left: The Amalima project in Zimbabwe included community nutritional garden projects. This woman displays some of the produce in July 2019. Photo by Sara Alexander.

trition, with a reduction in average food insecurity rates from 36 percent to 18 percent and a reduction in average stunting rates from 34 percent to 19 percent. This vision entails increased and improved production of nutritious foods in good and bad years; increased cereal “imports” from surplus areas and enhanced purchasing power of vulnerable households; and improved nutrition practices, including a quadrupling of exclusive breastfeeding rates and an increase in dietary diversity among PLW and CU2 from two food groups to five.¹⁵

Such significant positive achievements are attributed primarily to the Amalima concept that involved local community members working together in planning and implementing all of the project initiatives, while those with the technical knowledge used the project resources to facilitate capacity building through a range of trainings so that the communities could learn to do food and nutrition work themselves.

—Sara Alexander, a professor in the Department of Anthropology at Baylor University, has served as an advisor with the WFP, CARE, Save the Children and World Vision. She is also a consultant with TANGO International (an NGO that provides technical assistance). As a social anthropologist, she has worked in Central America, West and East Africa, and Appalachia. Her research focuses on developing countries in such matters as livelihood security and vulnerability, food security, ecotourism, natural resource management, the human dimensions of climate change and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. She is also a member of the Seeds Council of Stewards. (See page 3 for her overview of WFP’s work.)

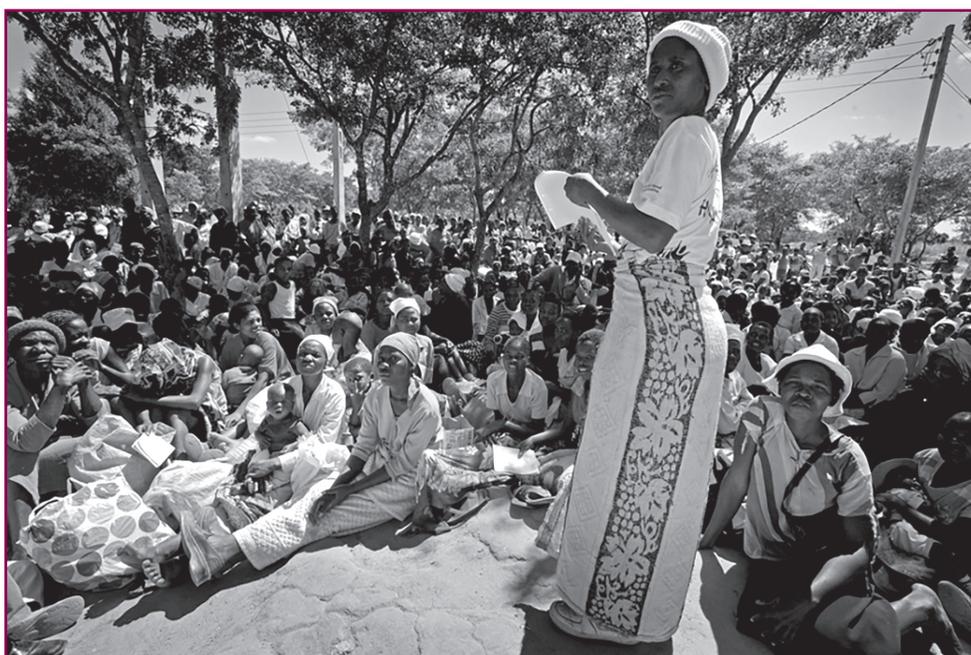
Endnotes

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2. Ibid.
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Right: Ration Day, August 2019. The World Food Programme provides immediate relief to drought-stricken households in Western Zimbabwe. Photo by Sara Alexander.

Harare: Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Programme.

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The World Needs More People Like David Beasley

by Katie Cook

David Beasley, executive director of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), is a force of nature. Although he is a fierce proponent of interfaith partnerships, he is unabashedly Christian, citing Matthew 25:41-43¹ as the ultimate betrayal of our faith.

He is the head and very vocal mouthpiece of the largest relief and development organization in the world.

As Republican governor of South Carolina (1995-1999), he requested the state legislature to remove the Confederate battle flag from the capitol building, saying that his conviction was a result of prayer. As a result of this action, he lost the next election—and any hopes of holding office on a national level.

But the flag was removed from the statehouse in 2000 (just after Beasley left office) and totally removed from the grounds in 2015. Beasley told the *Charleston Post and Courier* then that he did not regret his stance. In 2003, he received the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award from US Senator Ted Kennedy for his tenacity.

After leaving office, Beasley taught at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. In 2005, he helped to found the Center for Global Strategies, Ltd, which works on global development initiatives. He went from there to direct the WFP.

Then, in 2017, when the new Trump administration was poised to eliminate US funds to the WFP, and Beasley had been director of the WFP for just a few months, he convinced the powers that be, not only not to eliminate it, but to triple it. I can't think of anybody else who could have done that.

Perhaps it's because he doesn't mince words. In November 2021, he called for the world's billionaires (calling some of them by name) to step up and give the money needed to help millions of people "on the brink of starvation." He also blasted the media for spending too much time on gossip and not enough on the food needs of the world.²

When the WFP received the Nobel Peace Prize in December 2020, his response was this: "I

feel pride today, but also a sense of shame I cannot seem to shake. There is failure in this victory. We are having our media moment while hunger still rages." Then he added, "This Nobel Peace Prize is more than a thank you; it is a call to action."³

When you meet him and hear him speak, you can see, and almost feel, his fire-in-his-bones commitment to feeding every hungry person in the world, and he doesn't mind stepping on your toes to get you to respond. "What if it was your daughter starving to death?" he tells audiences, reporters and anyone else who will listen. "What if it was your family starving to death? Wake up, smell the coffee, and help."

And people do respond, partly because he asks so fearlessly and partly because we know he is right. But it is also because we know he is in the trenches himself, up to his neck, and it is easier to follow someone who is leading from the front.

The world needs more people like this.

—Katie Cook is the *Seeds of Hope* editor. Sources: *Center for Global Strategies*, *Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *John F. Kennedy Library*, *Charleston, SC Post and Courier*, *SCNow* (Morning News, Florence, SC), *CBS News*, *Democracy Now*, *Baylor University Global Hunger Forum*.

Endnotes

1. Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me."
2. Matthew Christian, "David Beasley: World's Billionaires Need to Step up to Help World Food Program," *SCNow*.
3. "Food Is the Pathway to Peace: World Food Programme Wins Nobel Peace Prize & Warns of Hunger Pandemic," *Democracy Now*.

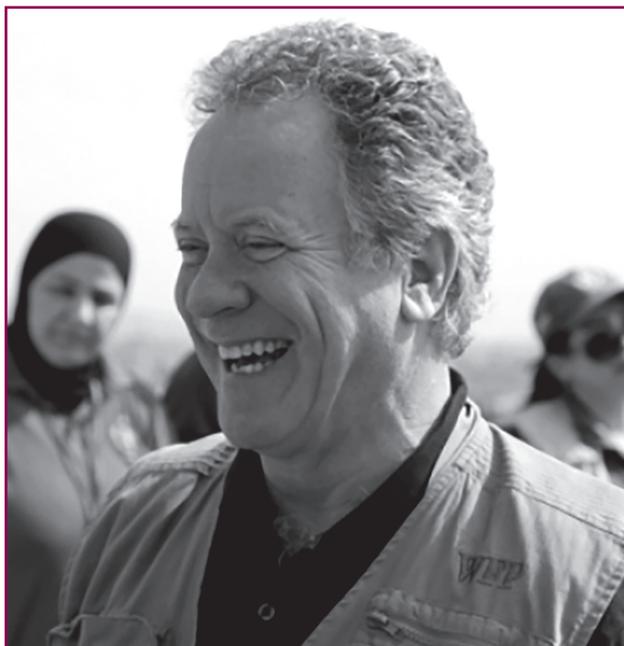


Photo courtesy of the World Food Programme

Global Forum, continued from page 2

He stated: “You can go to www.wfp.org and donate; but I also want your engagement. [You can] reach out a hand to people you normally wouldn’t.” Beasley expressed the huge impact faith has on the mission of the WFP and why reaching out to people in need is the reason behind the work of the organization. “We are all made in the image of God,” Beasley stated, “we all have a right to an end to hunger.”

At the end of the panel, Beasley left the forum with a last statement: “I want to put the World Food Programme out of business.” The WFP’s mission is to eradicate world hunger and to give people the resources to support themselves, so the desperate need for the WFP is no longer there. Ending world hunger is not a fight against many, it’s a fight for the least of these.

— Ashley Mix, a native of southern Louisiana, is a Professional Writing student at Baylor University. She just completed an internship as a Seeds of Hope editorial assistant.

Author’s note: All quotes are sourced from David Beasley’s plenary address during the Forum on Global Hunger and the Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty YouTube channel.

Endnotes

1. HNH readers will recognize the BHP by its former name, Texas Hunger Initiative.
2. See “World Food Programme Receives 2020 Nobel Peace Prize,” *Hunger News & Hope*, Vol 20 No 3, Fall 2020, page 14. ■

World Food Programme, continued from page 3

Today, WFP’s programs are aimed at helping the nearly 11 percent of the world’s population who do not have enough to eat.⁵ The organization works to achieve the second of the UN’s 17 Sustainable Development Goals, Zero Hunger, which pledges to end hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture worldwide, by 2030.

— Sara Alexander, a professor in the Department of Anthropology at Baylor University, has served as an advisor with the WFP, CARE, Save the Children and World Vision. She is also a consultant with TANGO International (an NGO that provides technical assistance). As a social anthropologist, she has worked in Central America, West and East Africa, and Appalachia. Her research focuses on developing countries in such matters as livelihood security and vulnerability, food security, ecotourism, natural resource management, the human dimensions of climate

change and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. She is also a member of the Seeds Council of Stewards. (See page 6 for her article about WFP’s work in Zimbabwe.)

Endnotes

1. World Food Programme, 2015. “About WFP,” (www.wfp.org/about).
2. WFP. 2020. *Inventory of United Nations Activities to End Violence Against Women* (<https://evaw-un-inventory.unwomen.org>).
3. Havnevik, Kjell. 2021. The World Food Programme and the Nobel Peace Prize 2020. *Forum for Development Studies*, 22 July 2021, pgs. 371-386 (<https://doi.org>).
4. WFP, 2020. “Overview,” (www.wfp.org/overview).
5. Food and Agriculture Organisation, 2020. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021: The world is at a critical juncture* (www.fao.org/state-of-food-security-nutrition). ■

Yemen, continued from page 5

Chelle Samaniego. Please visit www.dawnmichellemichals.com for more information.

Sources: Original article (see Endnote 1), United Nations, UNICEF, World Food Programme, GlobalSecurity.org.

Endnotes

1. This article, “Who Is Starving Yemen?” can be found on the Seeds website (www.seedspublishers.org/where-are-people-hungry#Yemen). It also appeared in *Baptist Peacemaker*, the magazine/journal of BPFNA ~ Bautistas por la Paz, Vol 39 No 2, April-June 2019.
2. “IPC” refers to the globally recognized Integrated Food Security Phase Classification. Phase 1 is “generally food secure” and Phase 5 is famine, which the IPC defines as “the absolute inaccessibility of food to an entire population or sub-group of a population, potentially causing death in the short term.” The IPC was created in 2004 by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation’s Food Security Analysis Unit for use in Somalia. It has since become a cooperative project among a number of global relief and development organizations. ■



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Statement of Purpose

Seeds of Hope is a private, independent group of believers responding to a common burden for the poor and hungry people in God's world, and acting on the strong belief that biblical mandates to feed the poor were not intended to be optional. The group seeks out people of faith who feel called to care for poor and vulnerable people; and to affirm, enable and empower a variety of responses to the problems of poverty.

Quotes, Poems & Pithy Sayings

Wouldn't it
be wonderful
if our great-
grandchildren
really did
have to
go to
museums
to see
what
abject
poverty
was like?
—Argye Hillis



art by Sharon R. Rollins

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Seeds also produces *Sacred Seasons*, a series of worship materials for Advent, Lent and an annual Hunger Emphasis—with an attitude “toward justice, peace and food security for all of God’s children.” These include litanies, sermons, children’s and youth activities, bulletin art and drama.

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