



# Faces of Hunger & Conflict

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## HOPE AND DESPAIR:

STORIES FROM THE  
FRONTLINES OF HUNGER



## Information about the exhibition:

This is an overview of the photo exhibition Faces of Hunger and Conflict. The exhibition portrays people living at the crossroads of hunger and conflict. Through 20 portrait pictures, a VR-experience, and a video, visitors get an understanding of their situation and their stories. They will also get an insight in the countries where hunger and conflict are present.

A landing page has been created for the exhibition - <https://wfp.org/HungerConflict>

## For questions and inquiries please contact:

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# Faces of Hunger & Conflict

**Where there is conflict, there is hunger. And where there is hunger, there is often conflict.**

After steadily declining for over a decade, global hunger is again on the rise. Conflicts and insecurity are among the root causes.

Today, almost all the world's major food crises – 8 out of 10 – are driven by conflict and insecurity. Of the 690 million people facing hunger, 60 percent live in conflict-affected countries. The youngest among us pay the heaviest price: almost 80 percent of all stunted children are to be found in war-torn nations.

UN Security Council Resolution #2417 (2018) recognizes the link between conflict, violence and hunger; expresses deep concern about the threat of famine facing millions of people in armed conflicts and condemns the use of starvation as a method of warfare.

Whereas hunger alone may not lead to violence, lack of resources and a sense of injustice can be dangerous when overlaid with sectarian or ethnic differences. Grievances over resources may be

further exploited by individuals and groups with an interest in fomenting unrest.

The fact is that food is foundational. Without peace, the global goal of Zero Hunger cannot be achieved by 2030; and while there is hunger, we may never have a peaceful world.

This is why the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has teamed up with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The aim is a deeper understanding of the complex relationships between conflict and hunger and, conversely, of the contributions of food assistance to improving the prospects for peace.

Away from the theoretical models, the people portrayed in this exhibition live at the crossroads of hunger and conflict. This is where they will remain, unless conflicts are ended, and human potential is safeguarded through just and equal access to resources.



**If you don't have food security, you're not going to have any other kind of security.**

David Beasley, Executive Director, UN World Food Programme





## Lebanon

Fatmeh struggles to hold back the tears when she talks about her family's last moments in Idlib, a city she called home until forced to flee. During an attack they hid under a table. They held each other until the shelling subsided and escaped that same day. The rest is a blur. "We had no choice. We had to leave. The next thing I remember is climbing into a car that took us to the border."

Photo: WFP/ Dina El Kassaby



## Syria

Ahmed is shy, but still plays peekaboo with WFP's photographer. At just six years of age, he has lived through one of the world's worst conflicts, witnessing things a child his age should never have to. He is one of the many millions of people in and around Syria – desperately in need of food, shelter, health and education.

Photo: WFP/ Marwa Awad





## Bangladesh

Solima Khatun is a pregnant widow due any time now. She fled her home in Myanmar with her four children after her husband died in the violence there. The food assistance she receives is her family's lifeline – a small ray of light amid mayhem and displacement.

Photo: WFP/Saikat Mojumder



## Bangladesh

More than 700,000 Rohingyas fled Myanmar for shelter in Bangladesh after violence intensified in 2017. Eighty-year-old Junumia is anxiously waiting for his monthly assistance package. The refugees are entirely dependent on food and other humanitarian assistance for survival.

Photo: WFP/Saikat Mojumder



## Bangladesh

Mother-of-one Rohingya refugee Aseya receives cash assistance from WFP. Monetary support – physical cash, mobile and e-money, or debit/credit cards – gives people a degree of choice and autonomy. It also stimulates local markets, with opportunities for the host communities to work and sell their goods.

Photo: WFP/Saikat Mojumder







## South Sudan

Cecilia, 38, with her son Samuel. To prevent acute malnutrition, Cecilia has received a specialized food, Super Cereal Plus, since she was four months pregnant. Since the outbreak of conflict in 2013, South Sudan's food and nutrition situation has worsened to the point where vast numbers are depending on humanitarian assistance for survival.

Photo: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua

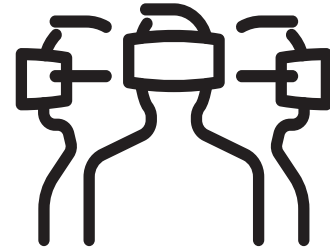


## South Sudan

Food assistance helps build self-reliance and stability in South Sudan. Nyanut Lual Aleu, seen here serving the family dinner, agrees. "Since becoming part of WFP's programmes, I've been able to build a new house and send my seven children to school."

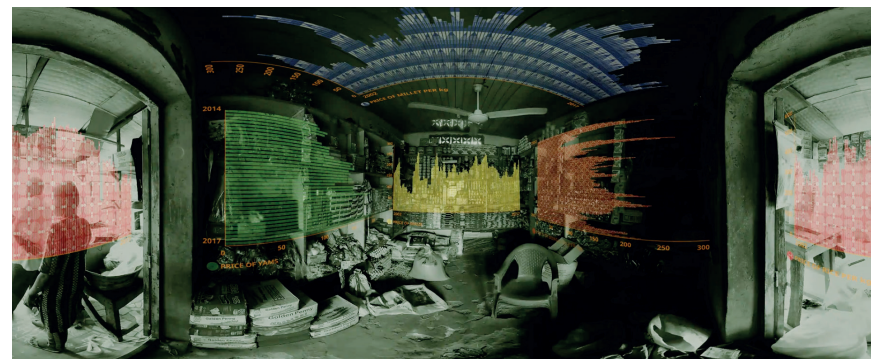
Photo: WFP/Gabriela Vivacqua





**Through Virtual Reality, put yourself in the shoes of humanitarian workers in northeast Nigeria.**

**Watch them use a range of digital solutions to gather and analyse food security data, improving decision-making in aid operations.**



(From Big Picture, produced by OCHA's Center for Humanitarian Data and EyeSteelFilm in January 2018)





## Nigeria

Collecting firewood for cooking is a dangerous task for Nigerian women and girls. Leaving the camp exposes them to insurgent attacks, rape, and in some cases abduction. By distributing safe stoves, WFP cuts the amount of fuel needed to cook and reduces the risk factor for women and girls.

Photo: WFP/Rein Skullerud



## Nigeria

Zainab, a mother of five, has lived in Pulka camp for internally displaced people for 19 months. Her family fled when insurgents attacked their village. Northeastern Nigeria has seen senseless killing, the destruction of towns and large-scale forced displacement – leaving millions exposed to hunger.

Photo: WFP/Rein Skullerud



## Nigeria

“We had a good life. We grew our own food, selling some of our crops and trading fish too. When the fighting broke out, we left everything. I have no idea what will happen to us.” Dependent on aid, Idi Umaru and his fellow farmers are holding out for the day they can be self-reliant again.

Photo: WFP/Inger Marie Vennize







## Mali

Maimouna with son Bourama in their home in the village of Semba, Koulikoro. Conflict in recent years has wrecked the north of Mali, deepening hunger and reversing development gains. Access for humanitarian organisations is constantly threatened.

Photo: WFP/Sam Phelps





## **WFP and SIPRI - Prospects for Peace**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0p4uRTfXEw&feature=youtu.be>



## Yemen

Five years old but weighing only 11 kilos, Ishaq is chronically malnourished. From this nutrition centre in Aden, WFP is providing specialized supplements to treat and prevent malnourishment among women and children. The right nutrition at the right time changes lives and builds future generations in the midst of conflict.

Photo: WFP/Reem Nada



## Yemen

These are Wardah Fadel's feet. The picture was taken when she was four months old and suffering from undernutrition. She only weighed 2.1 kg, less than a third of the average for girls her age. Millions of Yemenis are on the brink of starvation, the lives and potential of a generation lost to hunger.

Photo: WFP/Marco Frattini



## Yemen

Anima Quaaem and her son Shafiq Naeem are internally displaced. They arrived in Sana'a a year ago. Shafiq's father, who works in a restaurant, only earns US\$1.50 a day – far from enough to provide for the family. Shafiq is suffering from malnutrition and is being treated with a nutritious peanut paste.

Photo: WFP/Marco Frattini







## Democratic Republic of the Congo

“Before this training I didn’t know how to use a pen. The money I make now means my children are no longer hungry.” Thanks to a resilience building programme, Françoise has her own market stall to sell onions from.

Photo: WFP/ Marco Frattini



## Democratic Republic of the Congo

Bakatuseka Tshimanga stands at the site of her brother-in-law’s house, which was razed when violence erupted in the region of Kasai. More than 13 million people are severely hungry in DRC. Five million children suffer from acute malnutrition – an entire generation at risk of being lost to stunting.

Photo: WFP/Griff Tapper





## Iraq

In Khazer camp, east of Mosul, Ruqiya bakes flat bread using wheat flour provided by WFP. Her family had to leave their home when the offensive to retake West Mosul began in February 2017. A staple in Iraq as in many other countries, bread offers a sense of home to those who no longer have one.

Photo: WFP/Inger Marie Vennize







## Somalia

Kadija Hassan has brought her son Moumin to a health centre in Mogadishu to be treated for severe malnutrition. Nearly a million children under the age of five are malnourished in Somalia. They risk lifelong consequences – on top of the immediate risk of disease and death.

Photo: WFP/Will Baxter



## Somalia

30-year-old Sacdiya Mohamed Noor is a mother of seven. She lives with her children in a camp for internally displaced people. Prolonged conflict, flooding and drought have forced many out of their homes. A third of the population in Somalia, 4.2 million people, will need humanitarian assistance in 2019.

Photo: WFP/Georgina Goodwin





## Sudan

Nasreen attends Marta School in Kosti, Sudan. WFP's school meals programme enables children displaced by conflict to attend and concentrate in class. School meals build bodies and minds – and ensure that future generations can meet their full potential.

Photo: WFP/Ala Kheir





# ZERO HUNGER

[wfp.org/HungerConflict](https://wfp.org/HungerConflict)

Hunger and conflict are interconnected.

Without peace we will never achieve Zero Hunger.

Conversely, a world without hunger could strengthen the prospects for peace. We must urgently reach a collective understanding: unless we end the wars, we stand no chance of ending hunger.

Help us amplify the voices of Cecilia, Fatmeh, Ishaq and all the other people portrayed in this exhibition by using your platforms to advocate and to take action for **#ZeroHunger**.