

# WFP's surge plan to address wasting in food insecure contexts (January 2023)

**WFP Executive Director David Beasley on why we need to act now!**

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In response to the global food and nutrition crises and the **United Nations Global Action Plan (GAP) on Child Wasting**, the World Food Programme (WFP) will launch its **surge plan to address wasting in food insecure contexts**. The plan aims to scale up the prevention and management of moderate acute malnutrition in food insecure contexts in the 15 countries most affected by the crises.

Over the coming year, WFP aims to reach a record-breaking 22 million children under 5 years old and 10 million pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls. WFP will scale up the management of moderate acute malnutrition to save lives and to avoid further deterioration in children and women's nutritional status. We will further step-up efforts to prevent wasting from occurring through Specialized Nutritious Foods, food, cash and social and behavior change communication, adapting programmes based on needs and context. Our prevention programmes will center around improving access to healthy diets, strengthening social protection systems and building more resilient food systems to prevent malnutrition, focusing on populations in food insecure contexts and targeting those often left behind.

Our combined and complementary efforts with the other UN agencies in support of the UN GAP on child wasting – the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) – working hand in hand with national governments can help address this crisis. This is aligned with the GAP's integrated approach to combine comparative strengths across four systems: health, food, social protection, and water, hygiene and sanitation.