

World Food Programme's Statement

Towards a global compact on refugees: thematic discussions four and five Panel Four: 'How can we make local solutions work for refugees and the communities in which they live?'

14 November 2017

Madam Chairperson, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Opening

WFP follows very closely the ongoing efforts to give shape to the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees. With half of all refugees in the world today caught in protracted situations, a traditional humanitarian assistance approach does no longer seem possible.

Self-reliance initiative

WFP and UNHCR have decided to take a more concerted and strategic approach by launching a 'Joint Strategy for Enhancing Self-Reliance in Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Refugee Situations'. This strategy posits that greater levels of refugee self-reliance in food security and nutrition can be achieved over multi-year timeframes through the strengthening of refugees' livelihoods while ensuring that their basic food and nutrition needs are met. The strategy recognises the complementarity of bridging humanitarian and development contexts to support a new way of working and calls for strengthened partnerships.

Examples

Allow us to offer two examples where we have undertaken this joint strategy.

- ✓ In Uganda, WFP is actively engaged in the Refugee and Host Community Empowerment (known as "ReHoPE") initiative, fully incorporated into the Uganda Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework. Since 2015, WFP has reached nearly 20,000 smallholder farmers (70 percent of whom are refugees/ 30 percent of whom are from the host community) providing them with support in the area of post-harvest handling, storage and access to markets.
- ✓ In Mozambique, WFP, together with UNHCR, FAO and UN-HABITAT, and thanks to the generous funding from the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration ("PRM") of the US Department of State, is leading a refugee livelihoods project in Maratane refugee camp. The project, enabled by a progressive legal and policy framework in Mozambique which allocates plots of land to refugees, supports refugees to engage in agricultural and non-agricultural livelihoods, not least become more financially literate. WFP also contributes towards the government's local planning efforts to further integrate Maratane camp, from an economic and social perspective, into the greater Nampula area.

In closing, allow us to reiterate WFP's commitment towards a shared vision offering refugees' living in protracted situations a life in dignity, with greater self-reliance in food security and nutrition, while aiming towards a longer-term goal of durable solutions.

Thank you.

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