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All figures in this document are in  $U.S.\ dollars$ 

#### COVER:

In drought-stricken Turkana, Kenya, WFP paid particular attention to the nutritional needs of children under the age of five and pregnant and nursing mothers. These activities are funded by the European Union, EU member countries or ECHO, the EU's humanitarian arm.

WFP/Rose Ogola



# FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ERTHARIN COUSIN

Dear Supporters,

When I stepped into the leadership role at the World Food Programme in April, I was already an advocate and supporter of WFP.

Several months later, I am astonished at the passion, skill and talent that surround me as I write this letter. With these traits, every day WFP's dedicated workforce quietly works to feed the world's hungry poor. I am proud to now lead this team.

In the pages that follow, you will read about the life-saving work performed by WFP in 2011. This work ranged from the drought in the Horn of Africa to the floods in Asia, and the lives we saved in the process. You will read about our most recent innovative programmes, such as a school meals centre of excellence in Brazil and a donor outreach post in South Korea. You will read about how the political headlines in the Middle East shaped our work, and about how new partnerships with the private sector helped fuel that work.

I want to thank former Executive Director Josette Sheeran because her leadership directed the organization's 2011 accomplishments. I inherited a terrific organization, and I look forward to making it even better.

I invite you to celebrate these stories of success with me — and to continue supporting the important work that made them happen. Truly, without your support, we could not carry out this work.



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# 2011 IN REVIEW

Natural catastrophes and political upheaval defined 2011, as parts of East Africa and South Asia buckled under the worst climate disasters in decades and unprecedented anti-government protests in the Arab world deepened poverty and sparked massive human migrations.

Throughout the year, the United Nations World Food Programme reached out to help some of the world's most destitute and fragile communities cope with short-term calamities and the longer-term ravages of poverty. At the same time, we helped a donor nation, Japan, as it recovered from a triple catastrophe — a colossal earthquake, followed by a tsunami and nuclear crisis that carved a path of misery across parts of the island nation.

Overall, WFP's 2011 food assistance reached nearly 100 million people in 75 countries around the world. The vast majority — nearly 83 million — were women and children.

Our work remains unfinished. Today, hunger preys on nearly a billion people, stunting children and national economies. Hunger is the world's greatest solvable problem but it does not require a scientific breakthrough. We have the money, technology and knowledge to do it. WFP made strides last year in six areas that are part of the answer: emergency food relief, nutrition for children under two, school meals, small-scale farming, and training and voucher programmes.

Some of these strategies were put to the test in the Horn of Africa, as one of the worst droughts in decades blistered the region. WFP delivered food relief to millions of desperate people and responded to a rare and complex catastrophe in parts of southern Somalia: full-blown famine.

We are also preparing communities to be more resilient in future weather-related disasters that will likely intensify with changes in global climate conditions. In Ethiopia, farmers in a WFP-assisted land-rehabilitation programme emerged from the 2011 drought relatively unscathed. In Somalia, too, we turned from emergency assistance to longer-term mitigation projects like building reservoirs and roads.

A continent away, WFP again came to the aid of millions of people battered by torrential floods and storms that swept across a string of East Asian nations. In the hardest-hit country, Pakistan, WFP's food assistance reached 3.5 million people still recovering from the flooding of 2010.

And in Egypt, Libya, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen, WFP offered emergency food assistance to hundreds of people caught in political unrest that spilled across borders and, in some cases, into 2012.

Other watersheds marked the year, as WFP opened a pioneering Centre of Excellence Against Hunger in Brazil and offices in the Republic of Korea and South Sudan, the world's newest nation.

WFP also expanded its arsenal of innovative tools to fight malnutrition and hunger, from nutrition training programmes in remote Laotian villages to vouchers for food and cash that reached 4.4 million people worldwide last year.



And we deepened our collaboration with small farmers in Afghanistan and other developing countries through the Purchase for Progress (P4) initiative, which boosts small-scale agricultural production and marketing capacity to buffer the poor against volatile food prices.

The year also saw research strides in our line of Super Cereals and new, locally produced spinoffs of nourishing, Ready-to-Use Supplementary Foods. More than 14 million women and children received nutrition support from WFP – up from 11.2 million in 2010.

None of these achievements came single-handedly. WFP broadened partnerships with national governments and transnational organizations on work ranging from school meals programmes to a drought insurance plan being developed by the African Union. The European Union, our second-largest donor and leading cash contributor in 2011, worked closely with WFP towards reaching the UN Millennium Development Goals.

The private sector remained a prominent partner in 2011, contributing nearly \$94 million to WFP's activities. More than a quarter of these funds supported our emergency operation in the Horn of Africa.

Many of these partnerships focus on the longer term, as we help communities build a better future. In Ethiopia, we are working with the PepsiCo Foundation and the U.S. Agency for International Development to develop a novel chickpea-based meal supplement for melecurished children. Portners are working with

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