G7 HIROSHIMA PROGRESS REPORT
SUMMARY REPORT

Advancing Resilience in Times of Crises: Food Security and Nutrition, Migration and Refugees
Accountability and transparency are core principles of the G7 that maintain the credibility of G7 leaders’ decisions. At the Heiligendamm Summit in 2007, G8 countries agreed to the idea of building an accountability system. At the L’Aquila Summit in 2009, the leaders decided to establish an accountability mechanism and adopted the terms of reference of the G7 Accountability Working Group (AWG) as well as a preliminary accountability report.

AWG reports contain the results of the assessment on the progress of development and development-related commitments made at G7 Summits and communicate progress to G7 leaders. The AWG monitors and assesses all active commitments every three years. In the interim years, the G7 publishes a report on commitments belonging to specific sectors or themes.

This accountability mechanism enables citizens and civil society of G7 countries and other countries to monitor what the G7 has committed to and achieved in order to hold G7 governments accountable.
G7 leaders committed to enhancing global food security and nutrition, including at Elmau in 2015 and 2022, at Taormina in 2017, and to supporting refugees and migrants at Ise-Shima in 2016. In 2023, in view of Russia’s ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine, these priorities have only increased in importance. We reaffirm our unwavering support for Ukraine for as long as it takes and condemn Russia’s illegal, unjustifiable, and unprovoked war, disregard for the Charter of the United Nations (UN) and indifference to the impacts that its war is having on people worldwide.

As the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 states, efforts toward food security and nutrition are necessary to help all who suffer from hunger and malnutrition access safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round. Transforming agricultural and food systems towards sustainability and resilience is key for achieving the SDGs—including increased sustainable agriculture, food production, and access to critical inputs such as seeds and fertilizer, improved global supply chains, and decreased food loss and waste—especially as the global population continues to grow. Improving nutrition through multisectoral approaches including through increasing access to affordable, safe, and nutritious foods will contribute to tackling all forms of malnutrition, and in particular the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women to prevent long-term issues that may be triggered by stunted physical and cognitive growth.

In 2015, the G7 decided to “lift 500 million people in developing countries out of hunger and malnutrition by 2030” by contributing to the SDGs. To support this commitment, the G7 also decided to collectively support dynamic rural transformations, take multisectoral approaches to improve food and nutrition security, implement responsible investment and sustainable agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa, and safeguard food security and nutrition amidst conflicts and crises.

As the SDG principle of “leaving no one behind” indicates, challenges faced by refugees and migrants cannot be overlooked. Large-scale refugee movements and protracted refugee situations persist around the world due to violence, armed conflicts, environmental degradation, climate change and natural disasters. The international community stands ready to continue to address these challenges.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 committed to increasing global assistance to meet the needs of refugees and other displaced persons as well as the host communities. While working with partner countries to strengthen development cooperation, the G7 continues to provide humanitarian, financial, and development assistance and cooperation tailored to short- and long-term needs.

Despite the G7’s efforts, the food and nutrition crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate crisis, and existing conflicts has been further exacerbated by Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine. Food security, poverty, and nutrition trends are moving in the wrong direction and reversing decades of progress in the fight against hunger. At the 2022 Elmau Summit, the G7 decided to establish the Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS) supported by the World Bank Group to provide a targeted response to the food insecurity and malnutrition crises caused by the war and to protect those in the most vulnerable situations. The G7 also contributed an additional USD 4.5 billion to protect the most vulnerable from hunger and malnutrition, amounting to a joint commitment of over USD 14 billion for global food security in 2022.

The war has led to a sharp increase in the number of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs)—one of the highest since the Second World War—within and from Ukraine, and its neighboring countries. The G7, through its statement on Support for Ukraine, recognized the need to support these people by providing short- and medium-term assistance as well as securing equitable access to a range of support services.

In light of the given circumstances, the G7 Hiroshima Progress Report reviewed progress on commitments related to food security and nutrition as well as migration and refugees, who are particularly affected by the consequences of the global crisis.

G7 members have acted collectively and individually to meet these commitments, with progress measured by a set of indicators as agreed by the G7 Accountability Working Group. Case studies throughout the report capture the efforts made by each member.

Overall, G7 members have made considerable investments in addressing the aforementioned challenges, including those which were announced at the successful Tokyo Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit in 2021. Yet much remains to be done since the war caused global hardships, a rise in global food, energy, fuel, and fertilizer prices; and many people are still being forced to flee from their homes and their lives remain at risk. The G7 stands ready to continue addressing the impact of food insecurity and malnutrition, particularly for people in the most vulnerable circumstances.
CHAPTER 1
Russia’s War of Aggression against Ukraine and G7 Development-Related Commitments

Highlights

► Russia’s unjust and unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine has negatively impacted the effort toward world economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and in dealing with climate impacts. The war exacerbated compounding global crises, through worsening energy, food, and fertilizer supplies and price hikes.

► Food insecurity and malnutrition rates were significantly aggravated, and the number of forcibly displaced populations spiked.

► People in vulnerable situations—such as women, children, and persons with disabilities—were affected the most. They are confronting challenges including the risk of hunger and malnutrition as well as conflict-related gender-based violence.

► The G7 Hiroshima Progress Report highlights the G7’s response to the consequences of the war on global food security and nutrition as well as refugees, with a focus on the “Broad food security and nutrition development approach (Commitment 18),” “Mobilising support for the Global Alliance for Food Security (Commitment 19),” and assisting “Migration and refugees (Commitment 40).”
CHAPTER 2
Global Food Security and Nutrition and Actions of G7 Countries

**Highlights**

- The number of undernourished people sharply increased worldwide due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine deteriorated the food security and nutrition situation even further. Sub-Saharan Africa faces the most severe prevalence of undernourishment in the world.

- The G7’s direct ODA for food security and nutrition increased between 2015 and 2020 in order to lift 500 million people in developing countries out of hunger and malnutrition by 2030. It was primarily allocated to agriculture and emergency food assistance, with about half of the funding spent to support Sub-Saharan Africa.

- In 2022, as part of the USD 14 billion commitment to enhance food security and nutrition, and to mitigate the negative effects caused by the war, the G7 provided emergency relief measures as well as development assistance to promote long-term resilience and sustainability of agriculture and food systems.

- The Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS) was launched and a secretariat and a steering group structure were set up representing all relevant stakeholders, including UN agencies, like-minded governments and other organizations. Activities were implemented by GAFS partners including G7 members to coordinate aid measures related to food security and nutrition. The GAFS Dashboard was launched as a key tool for a coherent response to the current and future global food security and nutrition crises.
The G7, with a particular focus on Africa and the Middle East, increased development assistance and funding to these regions by 55% and 18%, respectively, during the above period.

Responding to the crisis caused by Russia’s war, the G7 has provided a range of essential goods and services to support the large number of affected civilians and safeguard their well-being.
The G7 has been responding to the worsening situation in global food security and nutrition and the increasing number of forcibly displaced persons, in line with G7 Commitments 18, 19, and 40.

The G7 will continue collaborating and bolstering their efforts to tackle the dire humanitarian crises and food insecurity triggered by the war.
In terms of migration and refugees (Commitment 40), the G7 continues to provide both emergency humanitarian and development assistance to support refugees and IDPs. In 2021, G7 ODA for humanitarian assistance was USD 19.9 billion, the highest it has been since 2015. In addition to ongoing assistance to people affected by crises in Africa, the Middle East, and neighboring countries of origin and transit, the G7 responded quickly to the need for humanitarian assistance and support for the large number of civilians affected by conflict and forced displacement caused by Russia’s aggression against Ukraine. The support to Ukraine and its neighboring countries continues to be provided through bilateral and multilateral channels addressing immediate needs for food, water, sanitation, cash and voucher assistance, prevention and response to gender-based violence, family reunification, etc. G7 members have also provided economic and social support while providing a blueprint on recovery and rehabilitation assistance.

Russia’s heinous attacks since February 24, 2022, clearly violate international law and have laid bare the cruelty of the ongoing aggression. In the past year, Russian forces have killed thousands of Ukrainians, caused millions to flee, and forcibly deported many thousands of Ukrainians, including children, to Russia. Russia has destroyed hospitals, schools, energy and critical infrastructure, and left historic cities in ruins. In areas liberated from Russian forces, there is evidence of mass graves, sexual violence, torture and other atrocities. Despite the above mentioned progress and investments made by the G7, Russia’s war of aggression has caused global economic hardship and a rise in global food prices, increasing the cost of living, compounding the economic vulnerabilities of developing countries, and exacerbating already dire humanitarian crises and food insecurity around the world. Many are still being forced to flee their homes and remain at risk of their lives. The number of forcibly displaced persons, which reached a record high in 2022, is expected to continue rising in 2023.1

The G7 Hiroshima Progress Report outlines progress made by G7 members in implementing commitments on food security and nutrition, including the support for the Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS), as well as on migration and refugees.

The COVID-19 pandemic, impacts of climate change, and Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine have exacerbated the global state of undernutrition and it is estimated that the war would bring an additional 7.6 to 13.1 million undernourished people in 2022. In such a worsening situation, those who are in the most vulnerable situations—including women, children and youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and other groups facing marginalization or vulnerability—are disproportionately impacted by food insecurity. They struggle to access nutritious food due to rising costs and are at increased risk of hunger and malnutrition. The number of forcibly displaced persons also sharply increased due to Russia’s war of aggression, reaching over 100 million globally in 2022. The humanitarian needs of about 8 million Ukrainian refugees, 5.4 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) remaining in Ukraine, as well as refugees, other displaced persons, and their host communities in Africa, the Middle East and other countries pose a huge challenge to the international community.

Given such influences in addition to the already worsened states of malnutrition, refugees, and IDPs, G7 members have decided to work on mitigating the global impacts. At the Elmau Summit 2022, G7 leaders committed to mobilizing over USD 14 billion for food security and nutrition (Commitment 19). As described in Chapter 2, the total amount of disbursement was 14.9 billion, which is 106% of the total committed. GAFS’s Global Food and Nutrition Security Dashboard was launched in November 2022 and provides up-to-date information about food security and nutrition. Moreover, G7 countries continued their support to lift 500 million people in developing countries out of hunger and malnutrition by 2030 (Commitment 18). G7’s direct ODA for food security and nutrition increased from USD 8.8 billion to USD 10.5 billion between 2015 and 2020, totaling USD 62.6 billion. Nevertheless, the G7 remains seized of the dire food security and nutrition crisis globally and the urgent need to further improve the situation.

Delivery of ECOWAS grain donation of 7,598 tons of cereals (millet, maize and sorghum) and 205 tons of fortified flour to the Nigerien authorities in Dosso, September 2021. This donation program was to help the most vulnerable populations face the difficulties in food and nutrition. 
*Credit: ECOWAS/RRSA*

A Tanzanian smallholder farmer who was able to afford a solar-powered water pump and thus increase the yields as part of the GIZ-coordinated German contribution to the international initiative, “Water and Energy for Food.”
*Credit: GIZ/Fabiana Anabel Woywod*
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