Food Security and Conflict Integration

Leveraging Food Systems Towards a More Peaceful World

MAY 31
9am ET
TODAY’S Agenda

- Opening Remarks & Introductions
- Feed the Future Toolkit: Conflict Integration
- Livelihoods for Resilience: Lessons Learned from Ethiopia’s Northern Conflict
- What Works for Resilient Food Security in Conflict Settings
- Moderated Panel and Open Q&A
Meet Today’s Speakers

Jessica Anderson  
Senior Conflict Advisor  |  USAID, Center for Resilience

Elisabeth Farmer  
Chief of Party  |  CARE Ethiopia, Livelihoods for Resilience Activity

Olga Petryniak  
Senior Director, Resilience Portfolio  |  Mercy Corps
Jessica Anderson
Senior Conflict Advisor
USAID, Center for Resilience
Feed the Future and Conflict Integration: A Toolkit for Programming

Jessie Anderson
RFS/Center for Resilience

Wednesday, May 31, 2023
How Bad Is the Global Food Crisis Going to Get?

Ukraine War Squeezes Street Snack in Uganda

Somalis Are Going Hungry. Their Government Isn’t Calling It a Famine.

Humanitarian groups say Somalia’s leaders are resisting a formal declaration of famine that could unlock aid and save lives.

How Russia’s War on Ukraine Is Worsening Global Starvation
Table 1. Acute Food Crises and Political Stability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total Persons in Crisis (WFP), 2019</th>
<th>% Population Acutely Food Insecure (USAID), 2021*</th>
<th>Total Population, 2018</th>
<th>% Total</th>
<th>Rank, Fragile States Index, 2019</th>
<th>Ongoing Armed Conflict, 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>≥60%</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>15.9</td>
<td>≥60%</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>20–40%</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>12th</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>28.9</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>32nd</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>20–40%</td>
<td>37.2</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem. Rep. Congo</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>5–20%</td>
<td>84.1</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>20–40%</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>5–20%</td>
<td>109.2</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5–20%</td>
<td>195.9</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
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</table>

What’s in the toolkit?
What is in the Toolkit?

- Key concepts
- Throughout the program cycle...
  - Conflict sensitive theory of change, activity design and implementation and MEL
- Resilience and conflict integration
- Programming examples
- Mission case studies
- Overarching takeaways
Overarching Key Takeaways

- Conduct conflict and violence assessments
- Always begin with conflict sensitivity
- Recognize the complex risk environment and build resilience
- Identify windows of opportunity and peace dividends
- Prioritize adaptive management
- Work with and through local systems and partners
- Ensure Humanitarian, Development, and Peace Assistance Coherence
Farmers and pastoralists delimit corridors and co-create shared rules through local conventions.

Land reform advocacy at national levels addressing pastoralist exclusion.

Shared info and rules around land use strengthen NRM, peace and security.

Reduced conflict begets future interdependence and collaboration.

Meeting NRM goals impossible without addressing conflict.

NRM needs to address local and national dynamics fueling conflict.

National policy favors farmers over pastoralists.

Conflict rising as climate change shifts livestock corridors.
Honduras

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Context**: Droughts in agricultural regions have led to movement towards urban centers, which has elevated potential for violence. These conditions in turn drive out-migration.

- **Conflict sensitivity tools**: Conducted a VCAF and workshop to integrate findings; Mission Order on conflict sensitivity; establishment of Conflict Sensitivity Integration Hub
Honduras

- **Conducted VCAF:** Featured core elements associated with conflict analysis and included recommendations to facilitate dispersion of conflict sensitive programming:
  - Emphasizing importance of flexibility
  - Supporting local partners beyond the standard five-year grant period
  - Underlining need to have champions at staff and leadership level
  - Advocating for inclusion of Indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples as key advisors & hosting professional development opportunities
Honduras

- **Workshop to mainstream VCAF findings:** Mission hosted a VCAF Application Workshop with staff to help launch discussions about how to integrate conflict sensitivity into current programming.

- **Mission Order on conflict sensitivity:** Elevates concept, ensuring Implementing Partners encounter it in procurement and award contracts.

- **Establishment of Conflict Sensitivity Integration Hub:** Two-year project with FHI 360 to integrate into planning and design activities; also offers technical assistance in cases where Implementing Partners have limited experience.
Elisabeth Farmer
Chief of Party
CARE Ethiopia, Livelihoods for Resilience Activity
Livelihoods for Resilience: lessons learned in resilience from Ethiopia’s northern conflict
Livelihoods for Resilience
(2016 - 2023)

- Working with over 97,000 poor rural households across Ethiopia
- Building resilience to shocks through livelihood interventions, women’s empowerment, financial inclusion, nutrition, climate change adaptation, and market systems development
- Working toward graduation from the Government of Ethiopia’s Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP)
Ethiopia’s northern conflict (2020–2022)

- Started in Tigray in Nov 2020 and cut the region off from the rest of Ethiopia for two years
- Caused massive displacement, gender-based violence, loss of assets and income
- Prevented farmers from harvesting crops
- Disrupted market systems and the usual flows of agricultural inputs into Tigray, threatening to disrupt agricultural production and cause a major food security crisis in the region
- Led to a pausing of L4R implementation
- Conflict expanded into Amhara in July 2021
# How L4R laid the foundation for Biruh Tesfa to be effective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biruh Tesfa (BHA) (2021 - 2023)</th>
<th>Rapid start-up Trust, relationships Effective targeting Continued implementation despite salary/payment gaps</th>
<th>Identification of oxen owners to plough neighbors’ land</th>
<th>Effective use of cash, vouchers, and in-kind inputs by households</th>
<th>Fertilizer vouchers Vegetable seed and tool vouchers Poultry vouchers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L4R (Feed the Future) (2016 - 2023)</td>
<td>280 L4R staff on the ground in Tigray and Amhara</td>
<td>50,000 L4R households organized in 2,800 village economic and social associations (VESAs)</td>
<td>Four years of technical knowledge and business skills</td>
<td>33 agrodealers 22 pullet growers 1 feed processor</td>
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</table>
Village economic and social associations (VESAs) are adaptive and provide critical support in times of crisis:

- Operated as sophisticated, adaptive financial institutions
- Provided a platform for communal support
Resilience factor #2

L4R diversified livelihoods and gave households business experience; Biruh Tesfa protected gains

Engagement of local entrepreneurs/private sector helped enable gains, and protect those gains

“You saved our lives and our animals. These animals will be a springboard for us to rebuild.”
Resilience factor #3

L4R women’s empowerment interventions helped prepare women for the roles they would need to play.
VESAs, livelihood diversification/business experience, and women’s empowerment are all critical to resilience—but must be built over time.

Layering of humanitarian support on longer-term development interventions is highly effective…but requires the stars to align!

Access to finance is critical to diversification—loan rescheduling will be critical to bouncing back.

Vouchers contribute to household and market systems resilience.
Olga Petryniak
Senior Director
Mercy Corps, Resilience Portfolio
LEARNING WHAT WORKS FOR RESILIENT FOOD SECURITY IN CONFLICT SETTINGS

FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIES FOR COMPLEX CRISIS

Evidence for a different approach

Conflict has a profound impact on food and nutrition security, and humanitarian’s ability to advance it around the world. On the 800 million people in the world who are chronically food insecure or malnourished, 60 percent live in countries affected by conflict. To date 2017, four million people in conflict-affected countries are in need of food assistance. The European Union is a 2010 and partner of Small-Scale Topiary and Eritrea and is one of the world’s largest donors. While each of these contexts is different, the consequences of conflict and hunger mean that interventions to address them can be complex. And complex crises pose unique challenges to humanitarian actors seeking to build sustainable food and nutrition security.

Even as aid agencies acknowledge the root causes of conflict or humanitarian response strategies, humanitarian response is more difficult to implement effectively. The recent commercial trade blockade in Yemen and other forms of violence in northeast Nigeria illustrate the point. As conflict becomes protracted, humanitarian efforts to support emergency food and nutrition security — on both global and cash-based transfers — must evolve. Even as these programs can help support improvements in longer-term food security, they can only do so if they address the underlying drivers of food insecurity. Without appropriate measures to stabilize markets and other systems during crises, they are ultimately unavailable on their own.

TOWARDS RESILIENCE: ADVANCING COLLECTIVE IMPACT IN PROTRACTED CRISIS

MAY, 2020
Building Resilient Food Security in Conflict Settings

- Rapid, real-time analysis of risk factors that drive and perpetuate conflict
- Support to local market and social systems to strengthen sources of resilience.
- Short-term violence prevention paired with efforts to transform structural drivers of conflict
  - Conflict sensitivity
  - Dialogue, Mediation and Negotiation Skills
  - Inclusive governance and market systems
Coping and adapting at scale

✓ Over 4,300 MSME’s (producers, processors, traders) supported - over $300,000 in annual revenue

✓ 48,000 individuals continuously participating in group-based savings and lending

✓ 200-400% increases in yields and related trade in cowpea, rice and groundnut.

✓ Shock-responsive cash assistance reported as principal reason for production expansion and business growth

✓ Active participation in groups and strong social capital persisted through shocks.
Strengthening inclusive governance and climate-resilient agricultural systems in conflict settings.

Food Security Program, South Kivu, DRC
Building resilience to conflict and climate change through improved land management: “The Hill” Approach
FSP Results in Applying the Hill Approach

✓ Increase in tenure security through written contracts lasting 2+ years: 2,500 farmers across 18 pilot hills

✓ Strengthened mechanisms for conflict resolution and mitigation among tenants, sharecroppers, and landowners

✓ Increased social capital across tenant farmers, and farmers and landowners

✓ Increased soil productivity and agricultural yields.
Strengthening Institutions and Community Capacities for Peace in Pastoral Areas

RIPA-N, Ethiopia
RIPA-N Conflict Integration

**The challenge**  
Senior decision-makers in conflict hotspots make decisions that exacerbate or fail to mitigate conflict

**System change**  
Improved capacities and skills for conflict-sensitive decision-making for senior government leaders

**Intended outcome**  
Senior leaders in conflict hotspots use processes and make decisions that mitigate conflict risks
Thank You