

# YOU



SUMMER 2024

## AGAINST HUNGER

HOW YOUR SUPPORT IS HELPING US  
TO BUILD A WORLD WITHOUT HUNGER

# CONFLICT & EMERGENCIES

HOW WE ARE TACKLING CONFLICT - THE BIGGEST CAUSE OF HUNGER



# WELCOME FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Armed conflict is the biggest single cause of hunger in the world today. There are major conflicts happening right now in Gaza – Israel, Russia – Ukraine, Sudan, Yemen and many other countries across the world.

When your home is in danger, you need to escape, to find somewhere safe. This means leaving your belongings and job behind. Without a source of income, how do you support yourself?

When you flee your home, arriving somewhere safe is only the beginning. You start again with nothing - no home, no land, no job, and no money.

What if you had children? Did you know that the number of children living in conflict countries needing treatment for life-threatening hunger and malnutrition has risen to 4.5 million in only a few years? The effects of malnutrition are long term and can hinder physical and mental development.

In this issue of You Against Hunger, we spotlight the work we're doing to tackle hunger through our conflict and emergency work. Last year, we responded to 47 emergencies around the world and treated over 750,000 children with malnutrition.

Thanks to your support, we can work in the world's most dangerous places and help those in need. We're providing food and support to children, mothers and families, and we simply couldn't do it without you. We are proud of the progress we have made, but there is still much work to be done. Together, let's continue our goal to end hunger.



JM GRAND

Jean-Michel Grand

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### World Hunger Day Webinar

This year, Action Against Hunger launched a webinar series. In the second webinar, we spoke about 'Tackling Hunger in the Face of Conflict and Emergencies'. Speakers included trustees and staff from Action Against Hunger, political figures and the Chief Executive of the Disasters Emergency Committee. They discussed their experiences of emergency response work and the impact that conflict and emergencies have on malnutrition.



If you are interested in watching this or would like to sign up for the next webinar, please email our events team: [events@actionagainsthunger.org.uk](mailto:events@actionagainsthunger.org.uk)



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### Special Event - Too Many Critics

On 25th June 2024, we held our annual event "Too Many Critics" where the tables were turned. Famous chefs and guests enjoyed food prepared by our esteemed food critics, guided by Darby's Robin Gill. We raised an incredible £145,000 through ticket sales, auctions and raffle prizes.

# WHAT WE DO

A well-nourished, healthy, thriving person is good for their family, their community and their whole economy. Investing in nutrition is one of the most cost-effective drivers for development and prosperity. Every £1 invested in nutrition can generate £13 in returns. Reducing malnutrition in Africa and Asia could increase a country's overall economic productivity by 11 percent, as measured by GDP per capita.

Ending malnutrition is possible. And it's one of the best ways we have to change people's lives for the better. We predict, prevent and treat life-threatening hunger. We tackle it when it happens. And we tackle its root causes. When all else fails and life-threatening hunger and malnutrition take hold, we step in quickly and save lives.

Thirty years ago, the medical community didn't have a cure for malnutrition. So, in 1993, we created it. Our team of scientists developed F100, the first-ever therapeutic formula to treat severely malnourished children. Then scientists adapted this treatment to create a special peanut-based paste called ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) that can bring a malnourished child from a medical crisis to full recovery in just six weeks.



© Gonzalo Hohr / Action Against Hunger

We were the first organisation to test this paste full of healthy fats and protein in communities around the world. And we helped to develop the international standard for treatment protocols.

We are now creating a smartphone app for diagnosing life-threatening hunger with just a photo. The app compares the body shape of a malnourished child with that of a healthy child to decide if they need life-saving treatment. It has the potential to be used by parents, caregivers and community health workers, giving them the power to spot the signs of malnutrition early and refer their child for the right treatment.



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## DID YOU KNOW?



HUNGER AFFECTS AS MANY AS

**783 MILLION**

PEOPLE IN THE WORLD



THE UK GOVERNMENT HAS REDUCED  
NUTRITION-SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL AID BY

**70 PER CENT**



EVERY

**13 SECONDS**

A CHILD DIES FROM HUNGER OR A  
HUNGER-RELATED DISEASE.

# RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES

RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES IS A CENTRAL PART OF ACTION AGAINST HUNGER'S WORK. THIS YEAR, WE HAVE CONTINUED TO ASSIST PEOPLE IN THE MOST HARD-TO-REACH AREAS, GOING WHERE OTHER ORGANISATIONS MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO GO.

## GAZA'S HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

# ADDRESSING URGENT NEEDS IN THE FACE OF ONGOING CONFLICT

More than nine months have passed since the beginning of the conflict, and the people of Gaza are experiencing increasingly dire conditions. Lack of vital supplies, famine, and disease threaten the lives of millions.



*"We've been working in Gaza for 20 years and I've never seen anything like it."*

*80% of children have infectious diseases. 70% have diarrhoea. They don't have enough food. Health services can't function.*

*It's a perfect mix for malnutrition. This is just the beginning"*

- Vincent Stehli, Action Against Hunger Spain, Director of Operations.

We're doing everything we can to help people in need, but the following testimony from a mother in Gaza, whose one-year-old girl had her first steps and first word in a camp, highlights the catastrophic state of survival that they continue to face every day.

*"Life of displacement is very, very difficult. We never imagined reaching this situation. It is beyond human capacity; it's very hard and unbearable". Regarding her daughter, she adds; "I used to envision a very bright future for her before the war... I wanted to provide her with everything she needed. But all of that vanished with the war. She turned one during the war."*

One third of children in northern Gaza are suffering from severe acute malnutrition – the most life-threatening form of hunger. We are currently implementing a supplementary feeding programme targeting children

aged six months to five years and pregnant and lactating women to try and prevent malnutrition.

Although delivering aid has been challenging, thanks to our networks and 20 years of experience in Gaza, we've been able to continue our work.

Since 2023, Action Against Hunger UK has raised over £350,000 for the Gaza Crisis Appeal. Our work has included:

- Distributing over eight million litres of drinking water
- Building 30 toilet blocks and handwashing stations
- Supporting 200,000 women and girls through our water, sanitation, and hygiene services
- Distributing food baskets to over 15,000 people (one food basket supports a family of six for 15 days)
- Providing a cleaning service in shelters for people fleeing their homes.

We want to do more. But we will need your continued help to do so.



A member of the Action Against Hunger Gaza team prepares food bags to be distributed to families

# RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES

AS A MEMBER OF THE DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WHEN A DISASTER HITS, WE ARE READY AND ABLE TO RESPOND.

## SUDAN

### THE WORLD'S LARGEST DISPLACEMENT CRISIS

April 2024 marked one year since the start of the devastating conflict in Sudan. Over 10.7 million people have had to flee from their homes, impacting production and availability of food. Children are particularly vulnerable, with three million displaced and 14 million requiring urgent humanitarian assistance. Some stay in Sudan, but millions are forced into neighbouring countries and become refugees in places like Chad and South Sudan.

Before armed men attacked her village in Sudan, pregnant mother Nyibol lived happily with her husband and two daughters, farming groundnuts. But everything changed in a moment.

It was a targeted attack. The men, wielding knives and stabbing anyone in their way, set light to the villagers' homes. Nyibol and her family ran for their lives. But as Nyibol and her youngest daughter fled, they were separated from her husband and eldest daughter. She had no idea whether they had made it out alive. It was only weeks later that she learned her family had escaped to South Sudan. Relief washed over her.



Nyibol reunites with her husband after being separated following an attack on their village in Sudan

She set out on the gruelling journey to join them. After four days, she arrived at Action Against Hunger's Border Welcome Centre. Nyibol and her daughter were given energy biscuits and screened for malnutrition. Then came the moment they had been dreaming of. After more than a month apart, the family were reunited.

*"I was very excited! Even last night I could not sleep, I was laughing and very happy inside... I could not believe it" – Nyibol tells us.*



© Peter Catton / Action Against Hunger

Action Against Hunger has been working in Sudan and South Sudan since 2018. We've been supporting people with food, water, sanitation and hygiene. And we're one of the only aid organisations providing life-saving health and nutrition services in remote areas of South Sudan.

Last month, as part of refugee week, we shared an animated video of the difficulties those fleeing their homes experience. You can watch this video by scanning the QR code or visiting

<http://youtu.be/95pFKxN1oYs>



# OUR ADVOCACY WORK



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Our Advocacy team in the UK has been very busy in recent months, especially with the run up to the election 2024 - they have been speaking with your local MPs to make sure that humanitarian aid is on the agenda.

8 March

On International Women's Day, we joined forces with other leading UK charities to demand an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and Israel.



14 March

Action Against Hunger joined over 100 campaigners from different organisations and 50 MPs for the "Ceasefire Now" Lobby day in Westminster.



21 May

We helped secure a debate in the House of Lords in May 2024 on conflict-induced food insecurity.



9 May

We brought together a cross-party group of parliamentarians to brief them on rising conflict-induced hunger, and how the UK could do more to address and prevent it.



22 May

We presented the findings of the "[Preventing Hunger in Conflict Regional Dialogue Series](#)". These sharings took place between July 2023 and January 2024 in the key hubs of Nairobi, Panama, and Dakar. The fourth online event in June 2024 addressed the Middle East situation.



June - July

We launched the "I'm Voting Against Hunger" campaign during the general election. We asked the public if ending global hunger was a priority for them and if so, then to let their candidates know. Over 850 individuals signed up and wrote to their candidates.

# GET INVOLVED

© Action Against Hunger

This year, supporters participated in challenge and community events to raise funds for Action Against Hunger. Thanks to their efforts, we can continue our vital work. Let's take a moment to celebrate their successes:

## Community supporters



- Andy Lumgair raised £113 for his first stand-up comedy gig in Edinburgh
- Key Stage two Children at Broadhempston Primary School raised £195 through a charity sale
- Dolphin Women's Centre raised £495 through a food sale
- Clifton College Charities Committee raised £1,056 through a chocolate sale and minibus wash
- Helen Upshall raised £775 by completing the Liberty Trail Ultramarathon
- Employees at Spayne Lindsay & Co raised £1,500 by completing a nine triathlon in Ambleside

## 2024 marathon runners

- James Bates raised £2,037
- Michael Sandknop-Haas raised over £2,200
- Katie Grand raised £9,985



Are you looking for a new challenge and a way to help end hunger? If so, we have some amazing events just for you. Scan the QR code and sign up today!

You can also create your own fundraising event. For more information please email: [runandchallenge@actionagainsthunger.org.uk](mailto:runandchallenge@actionagainsthunger.org.uk)

## The lasting difference a gift in your Will can make

*"Being a chef, food has been critical to my career. I was raised by my single mother. We were very poor but no matter how little we had, we ate well and seasonally. Since becoming involved with Action Against Hunger, I have been very impressed by its approach and dedication to tackling world hunger. Because I care passionately about child malnutrition I have chosen to support it through a gift in my Will."*

Ken is one of the world's most respected chefs and has been an ambassador for Action Against Hunger since 2005. If you share Ken's commitment to stopping life-threatening hunger, why not use our FREE Will-writing service and consider leaving a gift? Visit [www.bequeathed.org/aah](http://www.bequeathed.org/aah) today.



# THANK YOU



## DONATE NOW TO SUPPORT COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD

Through funding innovative projects, emergency responses and taking part in challenge events, you're taking action against hunger.

**£25**

could provide 25 hot meals for a refugee escaping conflict

**£50**

could provide blankets for four families to keep warm in the extreme cold

**£100**

could provide essential hygiene kits for ten people for one month

### HOW TO DONATE

Phone: call 020 8853 7577

Online: visit [actionagainsthunger.org.uk/summer-mag](https://actionagainsthunger.org.uk/summer-mag) or scan the QR code

Email: [support@actionagainsthunger.org.uk](mailto:support@actionagainsthunger.org.uk)



Thank you

