



The **Global  
FoodBanking**  
Network®



**COVID-19 Impact Report**  
*Food Bank Response to the Global Crisis*

July 2021

# Letter from the President & CEO

*As I look back on the last sixteen months since the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am reminded of how much we have learned as a global community about the role of food banks in the fight against hunger.*

The Global FoodBanking Network (GFN) was founded on the belief that food banks — a hunger relief model born out of the United States — have a valuable role to play in addressing food insecurity across the globe. For the last 14 years, GFN's work to build, support, and strengthen food banks in over 40 countries has affirmed that belief, propelling us to invest further in this grassroots strategy.

Today, as I reflect upon the impact our Network achieved in 2020 in response to COVID-19, I can say without a doubt that food banks have a **fundamentally critical role to play in addressing global hunger**. From day one of the COVID-19 pandemic, food banks stepped in and delivered lifesaving support, serving a record-breaking 40 million people in 2020 despite staggering challenges to their supply chain and distribution models.

We're thrilled to share evidence of the immense impact food banks achieved in 2020 and to recognize the ingenuity, heroism, and unwavering dedication food bank leaders showed in their efforts to meet the urgent needs of their communities.

At GFN, our strategy to invest knowledge, resources, tools, and infrastructure in community-led food banks relies upon the determination of local leaders. By helping them achieve their vision, we believe GFN is sowing the seeds of a more resilient future — one food bank at a time. That's what powering communities for Zero Hunger is all about.

As GFN nears our fifteenth anniversary, I have never felt more confident about the indispensable role of food banks and the impact that can be achieved when we join forces as a global community. Thank you for playing a vital role in these efforts, and for joining us as we continue to advance the work of food banks around the world.

## **Lisa Moon**

President & CEO, GFN



Lisa Moon, President & CEO GFN

Cover Image: São Paulo, Brazil, November 26, 2020: Isabella chooses food to take home with help from a nutritionist, Vanessa Zaidan. The food is provided by Mesa Brasil SESC, a GFN supported food bank. Mesa Brasil SESC receives food donations from several food companies every day and shares it with families supported by the Union of Nuclei Associations of Residents of Heliópolis and Region (UNAS Heliópolis). Heliópolis has more than 100,000 residents in an area that is approximately one million square meters. It is the largest slum in the city. (Photo: The Global FoodBanking Network/Carlos Macedo)



Cape Town, South Africa, October 22, 2020: A cook at Christel House School prepares a meal. With support from FoodForward SA, the kitchen team provides breakfast, snacks and lunch to students every day. The school educates children from struggling communities in the Western Cape. (Photo: The Global FoodBanking Network/Anna Lusty)



# Introduction

## *2020 was a year of accelerated growth and learning for the world's food banks.*

While two billion people experienced food insecurity before the declaration of the pandemic on March 13, 2020, increased rates of poverty, unemployment, and economic collapse are now driving millions more into hunger. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reports that in 2020, as many as 811 million people in the world faced hunger, a 161 million increase over 2019.<sup>1</sup> Food banking organizations have experienced these ripple effects of the pandemic, as rising food insecurity has increased demand for services by 132 percent.<sup>2</sup>

If a global crisis of this magnitude had occurred a decade ago, millions of people would not have had a local food bank to turn to for support. In fact, more than 40 percent of the food banking organizations supported by GFN were launched after 2015. As a result, in 2020, thanks to innovative local leadership and GFN's globally informed technical assistance and infrastructure investments, approximately 40 million people facing hunger received food through a GFN-supported food bank.

Food banks are dynamic organizations and are able to adapt quickly and effectively in crisis situations. Food banks also build resiliency by powering locally led partnership networks to address the immediate, short-, and long-term needs in their community.

In 2020, these partnerships made up a network of over 59,000 institutions that have embraced this responsibility for feeding their communities. Partners include pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, daycares, and afterschool programs, as well as new, “non-traditional” partners during COVID-19, such as municipal and national government agencies, universities, student unions, neighborhood housing, and restaurants.

GFN powers food banks that in turn power these institutions to be pillars of support in their local community. Herein lies the unique value and strength of the Network we refer to as GFN. We are pleased to share the incredible impact achieved during 2020, thanks to support from our committed donors. We're also pleased to share a glimpse of the road ahead — the steps GFN is taking to strengthen the resilience and capacity of local organizations to reach ambitious yet attainable hunger relief goals.

As the COVID-19 pandemic rages on throughout many countries around the world, GFN is committed to making targeted, impact-driven investments and utilizing the knowledge and resources of our Network to support food banks in these regions.

**We hope you'll join us.**

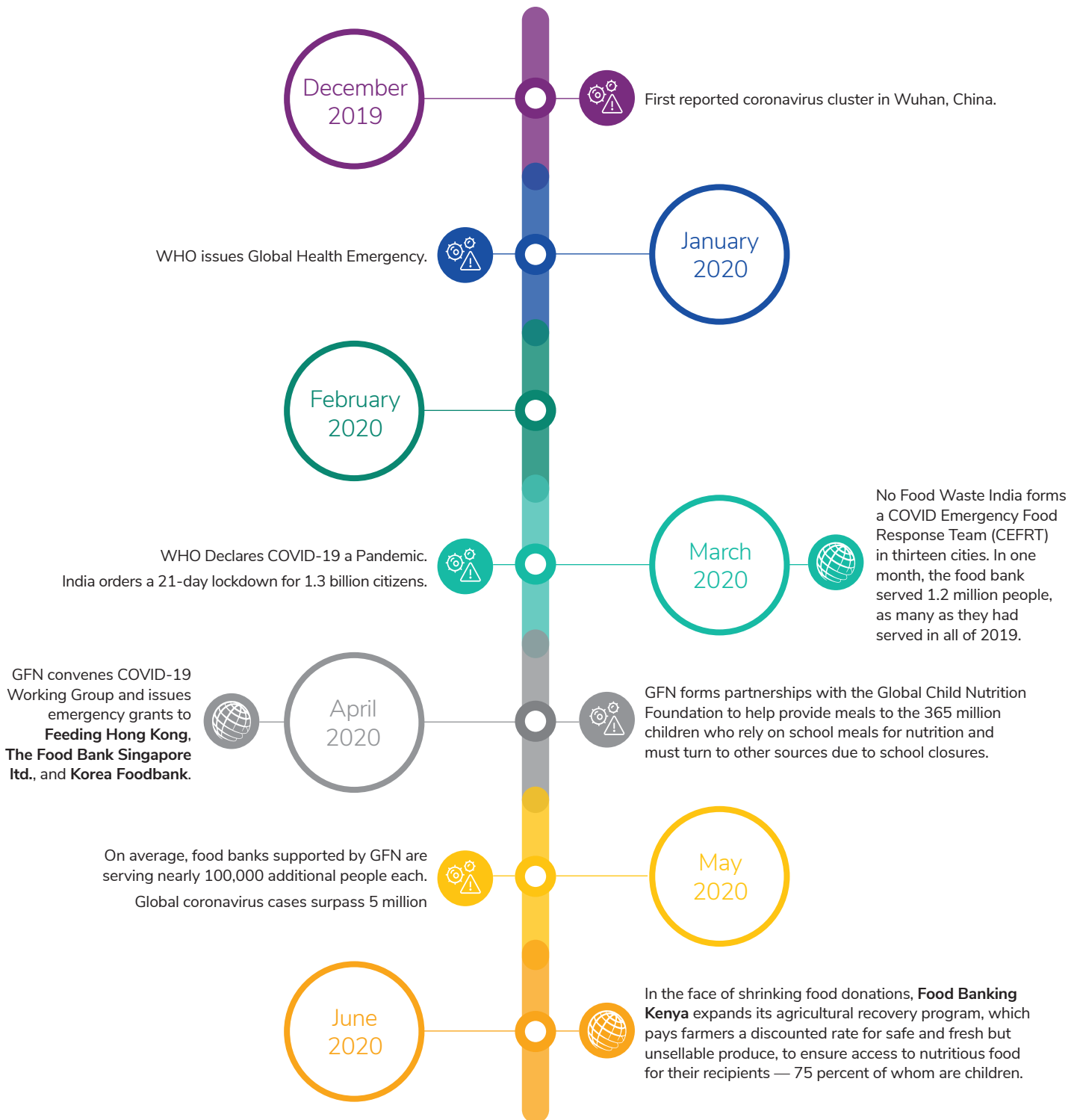
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1. FAO, [The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021](#)

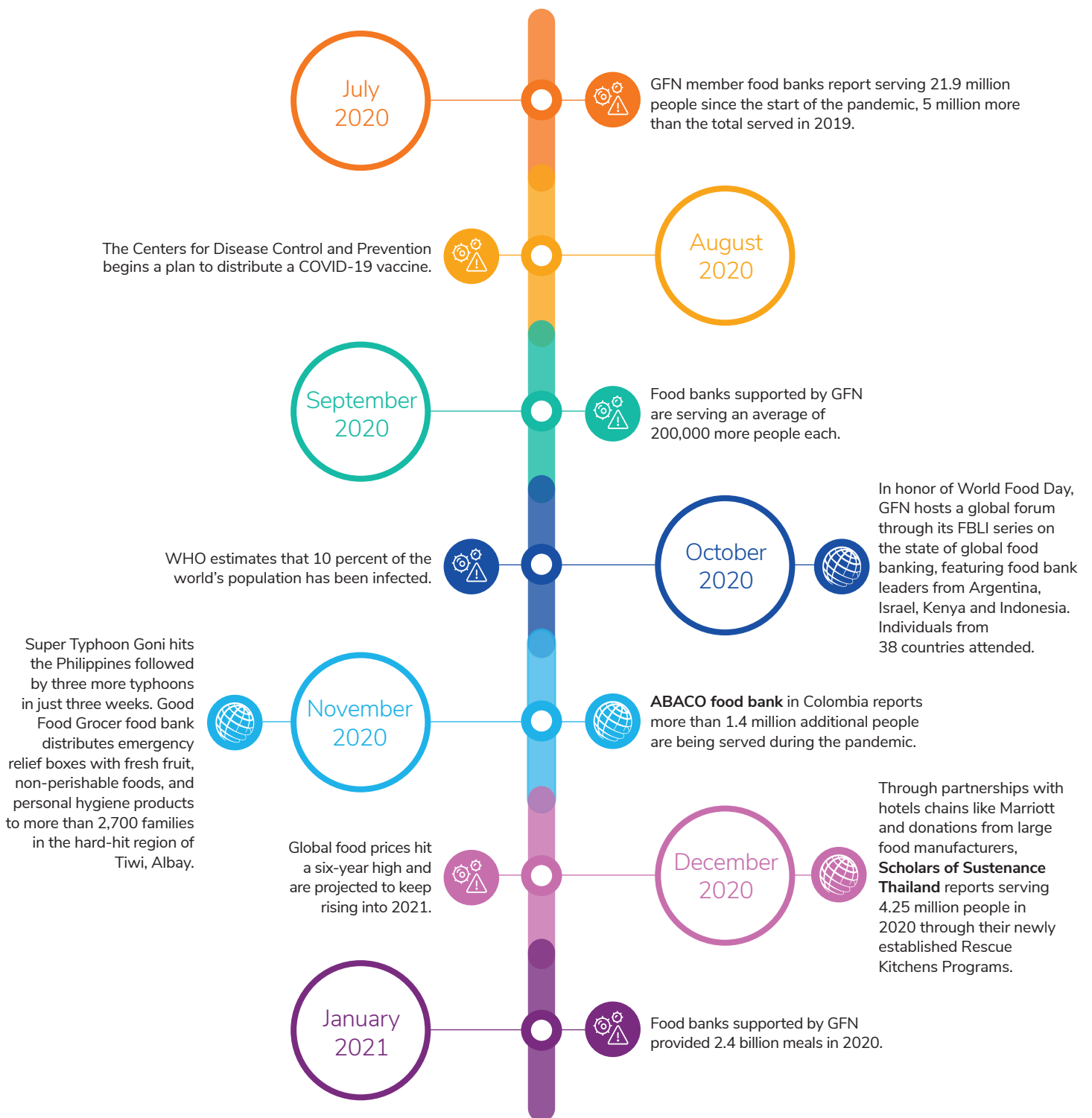
2. GFN, 7 July 2021. [40 Million People Relied on GFN Food Banks for Meals amid COVID-19 Crisis in 2020](#). [Press release]



# Food Banking During COVID-19



# Food Banking During COVID-19





# GFN Impact by the Numbers

Approximately

# 40M

people facing hunger received food through a GFN-supported food banking organization in 2020.

That's a

# 132%

increase over the 16.9M served in 2019.

# 17.6M

children aged 0-17

# 5.8M

adults aged 50+

# 22.6M

women and girls

# 2.4B

meals

Through  
**59,161**

agencies

An estimated

# 277,836

individuals volunteered at GFN-supported food banks, providing more than 10M hours of labor.

That's a

# 45%

increase over 2019.

Food Banks distributed

# 882M

kilos of food & grocery product

# Our Strategy

*GFN deploys a multipronged approach to improve mission delivery and advance the organizational efficacy of food banks as a solution to hunger.*

From an operational level, GFN offers expertise, resources, and connections that dramatically increase effectiveness, assure safety, and catalyze scale. This engagement package includes:

- **Access** to a peer network of food bank leaders in over 40 countries to test new approaches and share best practices;
- Customized **training and expert technical assistance**;
- **Capacity-building grants** to improve efficiency, scale, nutrition, and resilience;
- **Partnerships** with global players to provide food, funds, and local volunteers to support sustainability and growth; and
- **Certification** to assure safety, traceability, and legal and ethical compliance.

**In 2020, GFN delivered 21,000 hours of technical assistance, an increase of more than 13,200 hours from 2019, and deployed \$15.7 million in grants.**

In an effort to target resources where they were needed most, GFN expanded its reach in developing and emerging markets by 221 percent.<sup>3</sup>

The Network encompasses a geographically and culturally diverse set of food banks, each operating at different levels of development and facing unique resource constraints. GFN takes each of these factors into account and focuses its work in four pillars:

- **SCALE** where food bank capacity is strong
- **ACCELERATE** growth where more hunger relief is needed
- **REBUILD** after crises and natural disasters, with a focus on vulnerable populations
- **MOBILIZE** through research and knowledge-building about food banking as a path to Zero Hunger

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3. Since 2018, GFN has added 14 new food banks in emerging market and developing economies, including Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, Indonesia, Malaysia, The Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Bolivia, Nicaragua, and Uruguay.



## OUR STRATEGY

# Scale where food bank capacity is strong

On average, food banks in the Network are serving nearly 200,000 more people regularly than prior to COVID-19. Operational and grant support make it possible for established food banks to meet increased demand and effectively expand their reach to new populations. GFN employs its SCALE strategy in Brazil, South Africa, Colombia, Mexico, and India. **Results from 2020:**

Mesa Brasil SESC	FoodForward South Africa	Asociación de Bancos de Alimentos de Colombia	Bancos de Alimentos de México	Zomato Feeding India, No Food Waste, India Food Banking Network
Distributed <b>50.6 million kilos</b> <b>+27%</b> over 2019	Distributed <b>6.8 million kilos</b> <b>+56%</b> over 2019	Distributed <b>63.5 million kilos</b> <b>+88%</b> over 2019	Distributed <b>176.9 million kilos</b> <b>+45%</b> over 2019	Distributed <b>11.2 million kilos</b> <b>+270%</b> over 2019
Served <b>3.4 million people</b> <b>+149%</b> over 2019	Served <b>458,000 people</b> <b>+69%</b> over 2019	Served <b>3.1 million people</b> <b>+391%</b> over 2019	Served <b>2 million people</b> <b>+44%</b> over 2019	Served <b>5 million people</b> <b>+104%</b> over 2019

**COLOMBIA** Food bank leaders employed a number of solutions to not just continue their work during the pandemic but expand their operations in the face of increased demand. When food donations slowed, food banks raised funds and utilized GFN grants to purchase food. Staff members worked longer days and weekends to compensate for the loss of volunteers who were unable to prepare food for distribution because of COVID protocols. When schools and community agencies closed, food banks found alternative ways to ensure families had food to eat — in some cases delivering boxes of food to houses themselves.

National food bank network [Asociación de Bancos de Alimentos de Colombia](#) (ABACO) leaned on established and newly formed alliances to source products, raise money, and solve pandemic-related logistics problems. GFN bolstered these efforts with targeted technical assistance, grant funding and strategic planning support.



Bogota, Colombia, April 23, 2020: A woman and boy hold food and drinks they received from their local food bank. (Photo: Asociación de Banco de Alimentos de Colombia)

“We are delivering food [through] an alliance of many organizations that not only donate food to us, they donate packaging, logistics capacities, they lend us vehicles to transport food, even in planes from some airlines” said Juan Carlos Buitrago, executive director of ABACO.

Thanks to the tireless work of ABACO and the partnerships they established, this national network of 22 food banks served 3.2 million people in 2020 — a 391 percent increase over 2019.

**LATIN AMERICA** According to the FAO, the sharpest increases in moderate or severe food insecurity in 2020 occurred in Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa. In 2020, GFN worked closely with five food banking organizations in Latin America to meet increased demand for services and target vulnerable populations such as children and mothers.

**Food Banking Organizations** Banco de Alimentos Quito (Ecuador), Banco de Alimentos Diakonía (Ecuador), Desarrollo en Movimiento (Guatemala), Asociación Banco de Alimentos de Honduras, Banco de Alimentos de Perú

**Distributed 18 million kilograms**, a 206 percent increase over 2019

**Served 791,421 people**, a 219 percent increase over 2019



Cotopaxi-Pujilí, Ecuador, March 4, 2021: Emperatriz Quishpe (55), Cristian Pilliza (7), Alexander Caiza (5), Dayana Guanotasig (10), Luis Guantasig (4) and Joel Tigasig (11). They enjoy a snack delivered by Banco de Alimentos Quito during an event and visit to the community. They are inhabitants of the Ramospamba de Alpamalag community in Pujilí, Cotopaxi. The community is located in a rural area, has a population of older adults and children who are in poverty and extreme poverty. (Photo: The Global FoodBanking Network/Ana Maria Buitron)

## OUR STRATEGY

# Accelerate growth where more relief is needed

Through a series of regional incubator programs, GFN builds the capacity of visionary leaders who have boldly stepped forward to start new food banks in high-need areas through investments in basic infrastructure, knowledge, and skill building. GFN operates two regional incubator programs serving a total of 12 locally led food banks. **Results from 2020:**



### AFRICA INCUBATOR

**Food Banking Organizations** Food for All Africa (Ghana), Lagos Food Bank Initiative (Nigeria), Food Banking Kenya, It Rains Food Bank of Ethiopia, Food Bank Madagascar, Food Bank Botswana Trust

**Distributed 1.2 million kilograms**, a 1,221 percent increase over 2019

**Served 906,026 people**, a 285 percent increase over 2019

### SOUTHEAST ASIA INCUBATOR

**Food Banking Organizations** Rise Against Hunger Philippines, SOS Thailand, SOS Bali, Foodcycle Indonesia, Kechara Soup Kitchen (Malaysia), Food Bank Vietnam

**Distributed 9.4 million kilos**, a 513 percent increase over 2019

**Served 7.1 million people**, a 937 percent increase over 2019





**KENYA** COVID-19 first appeared in Africa in February 2020, and shortly after, protective public health measures like curfews, quarantines, and school and business closures were put in place across the continent to slow the virus spread. Many of these necessary measures negatively impacted the economy, and demand for emergency food aid doubled as a result. For many, the fear of hunger was greater than the fear of COVID-19.

In response to the pandemic, GFN supported food bank partners in the Africa Incubator early on by providing unrestricted funding to cover the costs of food, personal protective equipment, a refrigerated truck to move fresh produce, and new warehouse and kitchen spaces. In addition to financial assistance, GFN staff provided technical assistance through knowledge sharing, best practices, and planning preparedness as part of an emphasis on accelerating the growth and development of food banking in Africa that began in 2019.

**In 2020, Food Banking Kenya served 174,000 people, a significant increase from 26,000 people served in 2019.**

Food Banking Kenya is a strong example of the ingenuity that recently established African food banks demonstrated in the face of the pandemic. As panic buying and other issues along the supply chain began to rise due to the pandemic, Food Banking Kenya saw food donations disappear and had to rethink their model. The food bank expanded their agricultural recovery program, which pays farmers a discounted rate for safe and fresh but unsellable produce that would otherwise go to waste. Because of this pivot, agricultural recovery now makes up 55 percent of food distributed by the food bank.

Through the expanded agricultural program, Food Banking Kenya put a focus on ensuring school children were accessing fresh produce and other foods. In 2020, the food bank reported that 75 percent of their clients were children, which was done through a school feeding program implemented once schools opened again.

“With the assistance of GFN we have been able to go miles ahead of achieving what we thought we would achieve as a food bank,” said John Gathungu, executive director and co-founder of Food Banking Kenya.

*Kenya, April 27, 2020: Rescuing food from farms helps Food Banking Kenya prevent food waste and feed people in need. (Photo: Food Banking Kenya)*



## OUR STRATEGY

# Rebuild after crises and natural disasters, with a focus on vulnerable populations

Ensuring the uninterrupted delivery of hunger relief services during and after crises and natural disasters is a critical function of food banks as pillars of support in their community. GFN's disaster strategy aims to assist food banks in the coordinated and effective deployment of emergency assistance in response to disasters while helping food banks prepare for potentially rapidly changing community needs and disruptions related to disaster impacts.

Since March 2020, food banks supported by GFN have been focused on responding to urgent needs caused by this crisis while at the same time implementing programs focused on serving vulnerable populations who may be missed by other recovery efforts. Among these vulnerable populations are children, daily wagers, refugees, Indigenous people, and rural populations.

Bekasi, Indonesia, October 18, 2020: Through the Semangat Pagi Indonesia breakfast program, more than 17,000 breakfast kits were distributed to children in need. (Photo: The Global FoodBanking Network/Dody Kusuma)



Children have been disproportionately affected by this global health and economic crisis. Through targeted grant funding, specialized guidance, and technical support, GFN is helping food banks meet the needs of children who are missing meals due to school closures.

**In 2020, food banks supported by GFN scaled their services to reach 17.6 million children under the age of 17, a 183 percent increase from 2019.** Despite over 346 million children losing access to school-based meals, GFN's Child Hunger programming, and partnership with the Global Child Nutrition Foundation, made it possible for food banks to pivot their operations to ensure children are still receiving the food they need to grow and thrive during the global pandemic.

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**Close to \$1 million**  
invested in child hunger  
programs in 2020

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**17.6 million children**  
received support through  
a GFN-supported food bank

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**25 food banks in the Network**  
operate or support a school-based  
breakfast or lunch program

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## OUR STRATEGY

# Mobilize through research and knowledge building about food banking as a path to Zero Hunger

To advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals and serve as a resource to national policymakers, GFN leverages its global scope and access to the world's foremost hunger relief experts to produce new research and knowledge-building tools. GFN also engages in global forums, such as the UN Food Systems Summit, to elevate the role of food banks and the voices of food bankers as essential actors in a sustainable, well-functioning, equitable global food system, and to ensure that food banking is considered among the game-changing solutions to hunger relief, food insecurity, and food loss and waste.

The Global Food Donation Policy Atlas<sup>4</sup> is one example of the highly valuable resources produced by GFN. Created in collaboration with the Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic (FLPC), the Atlas provides a first-of-its-kind look at the current state of food donation laws and policies in participating countries along with country-specific policy recommendations for strengthening food recovery efforts. The project includes a quick-view tool which visually compares the food donation policy landscape across countries, and a library of country-by-country executive summaries, legal guides, and policy recommendations.



Zero Hunger (SDG 2) is foundational and catalyzes improvements across all SDGs, notably Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3), Quality Education (SDG 4), Gender Equality (SDG 5), and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16). Food banks are a “green” hunger intervention, as they support sustainability and protect the environment by mitigating greenhouse gas emissions while providing food assistance and building civil society. In this way, food banking can play a vital role in

creating a more environmentally sustainable, just, and equitable society.

In 2020, GFN released *Advancing the Sustainable Development Goals: Roadmap to 2030*, an updated study from its 2019 report [Waste Not Want Not: Food Banks as a Green Solution to Hunger](#), which documents the progress toward the SDGs of Zero Hunger (SDG 2) and Reduced Food Waste (SDG Target 12.3).

4. <https://atlas.foodbanking.org/>



# Food Banks as a Path to Zero Hunger

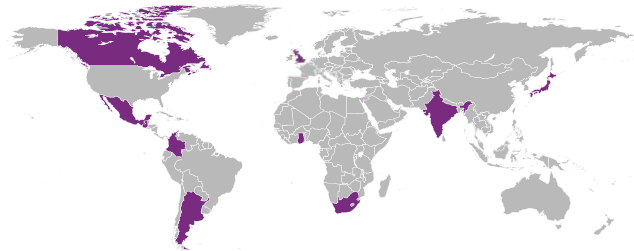
*Prior to COVID-19, food banking as a strategy for addressing hunger was steadily expanding across across developing and emerging markets around the globe thanks to the work of GFN.*

As community-led institutions that rely upon local resources and capacity to address hunger and build resiliency, the growth of food banks in the last 15 years signifies more than an increase in food aid. Food banks serve as a bridge between government, private, and nonprofit sectors and offer solutions that reflect and build upon the unique dynamics of local cultures, infrastructure constraints, and economic and geographic factors. GFN's impact in 44 countries represents over 59,000 organizations working to distribute food sourced from their local food bank to members of their community.

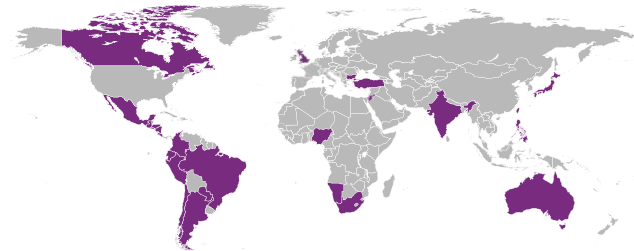
Every new food bank that is added to the Network adds a piece to the hunger puzzle, bringing us one step closer to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

## GFN EXPANSION SINCE 2007

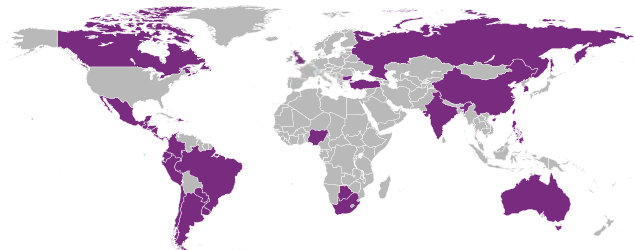
**2007**  
**11 countries**



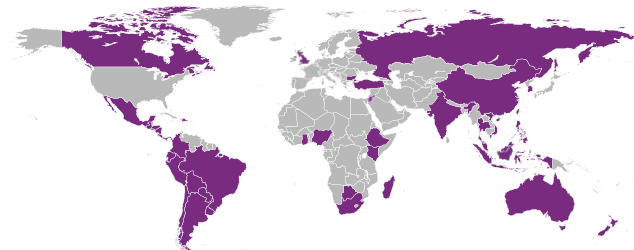
**2012**  
**28 countries**



**2017**  
**33 countries**



**2021**  
**44 countries**



# Food Banks Demonstrated Their Strength During COVID-19

*COVID-19 presented a full spectrum of new challenges for new and well-established food banks alike. Nevertheless, these community-led organizations demonstrated their ability to withstand a global crisis and emerge stronger than ever.*

**New roadblocks overcome:** School closures, lockdowns, border closings, and changes in consumer behaviors during the pandemic demonstrated that food banks are agile organizations, capable of innovating quickly and effectively. For example, by April 2020, 65 percent of all food banks that operated or supported feeding programs for school-age children (including, school lunches, afterschool snacks, backpack programs) had already pivoted to alternative models in response to mass school closures.

**Increased demand met:** Many of the people served by food banks in 2020 accessed services for the first time. These were the “newly poor;” for example, people who lost jobs through the pandemic or students who typically relied on university food services. Food bank services offered a stopgap between sudden loss of access to food and access to government assistance — assuming it was available. On average, Network food

banks in 2020 served more than 200,000 additional people each month.

**Crisis Response:** “Emergency hunger relief” does not always conjure images of food banks, but that is precisely the role that food banks have played worldwide since the start of the pandemic. Food banks’ pre-existing transport, inventory, and logistics infrastructure were deployed rapidly to assist isolated or quarantined communities and overwhelmed health systems. Many food banks embraced mass distribution through congregate feeding sites and meal kit distribution as they sought to reach the largest numbers of people possible. In September 2020, 88 percent of food banks supported by GFN reported making emergency food boxes, meal kits, emergency rations, or similar direct-to-recipient food packages, and 89 percent reported purchasing food to meet local needs.

*Amman, Jordan, July 18, 2019: A man from Tkiyet Um Ali holds a food parcel to share with local children as part of the Sustainable Food Aid Program. The organization is working toward its vision of a Jordan without hunger. (Photo: Tkiyet Um Ali)*







Coimbatore, India, August 7, 2020: A woman stands near No Food Waste India's truck full of groceries for people facing hunger. (Photo: No Food Waste India)

**INDIA** With over 30.3 million\* reported cases of COVID-19 and an economy that has contracted by more than 20 percent, India has been deeply affected by the pandemic. In 2019, No Food Waste served over one million people with untouched surplus food secured from hotels, weddings, and restaurants — food that otherwise would have gone into a landfill. But when COVID-19 hit, and the government of India enforced a nationwide lockdown, surplus food sources vanished overnight and No Food Waste needed a new strategy to reach those most deeply affected.

With the support of GFN and other local community partners, No Food Waste was quickly able to source various raw materials from leading corporate donors to prepare enough meals for half a million laborers and daily wage earners. The food bank also assembled Family Ration Kits comprised of 21 different dry

ration items, including rice, wheat, salt, sugar, dhal, etc., to support a family of four with enough food for four weeks. In its first month of the pandemic, No Food Waste distributed kits to more than 48,500 families across eight different cities.

Since the start of the pandemic, No Food Waste has served 4.5 million meals to those in need.

“When we work with GFN, we gain more than contributions and support. The opportunities to access technical assistance and meet food banking partners from across the globe and learn from their experiences has better equipped us to meet new challenges head on, with innovative solutions that we know will work.” Padmanaban Gopalan, founder of No Food Waste

\* As of June 29, 2021



# The Power of the Network

GFN continues to deliver customized best-practice solutions and access to global resources to areas of greatest need in response to COVID-19. In 2020:



When governments enforced lockdowns and public health restrictions, **GFN provided food banks with access to global guidelines** for the safe handling and distribution of food.



When supply chains were disrupted and increased demand depleted food banks' resources, **GFN kept the doors open with emergency grants** to ensure that food and infrastructure could be purchased.



When schools closed and children already at risk of hunger lost their primary source of daily nutrition, **GFN provided guidelines and best practice solutions** for adapting school feeding programs to address child hunger.



When food bank volunteers — a primary source of capacity in many countries — were suddenly forced to stay home due to government enforced lockdowns, **GFN helped food banks hire staff** to ensure they had the workforce to run their programs.

**Herein lies the power and the promise of the Network we call GFN.**

Food Sourcing channels to acquire food suddenly shifted for food banks because of the global health crisis. Shelter-in-place restrictions stifled restaurant and hospitality operations, and with it, a source of cooked food donations. Meanwhile, food service distributors and farmers were left with overwhelming volumes of perishable food that could be donated, but only as fast as food banks could store and distribute it. Increased demand at the consumer level left grocery stores barren, with little product left to be donated to food banks. At the same time, increased rates of unemployment put additional pressure on the system, with millions of people finding themselves food insecure and in need of the critical services provided by food banks.

Despite these obstacles, food banks found ways to acquire food to meet community needs. Thanks to the efforts of their local leaders and partner organizations, GFN member food banks distributed over 882 million kilograms of food and grocery products in 2020, the highest amount distributed by the Network to date.

Food banks like Scholars of Sustenance Thailand acquired large donations from food manufacturers and established Food Rescue Kitchens to quickly cook and distribute prepared meals as warehouse storage was limited. They



Bangkok, Thailand, September 1, 2020: Scholars of Sustenance Bangkok staff and volunteers cook food utilizing recovered foods to feed communities. (Photo: Scholars of Sustenance Bangkok)

partnered with hotels with commercial kitchens and the fridge capacity to establish satellite locations and feed more people. By the end of 2020, Scholars of Sustenance Thailand had served over 4.25 million people and distributed over 1 million kilograms of food.

“Food banks have always been really good problem solvers,” said Karen Hanner, GFN’s director of Product Sourcing and Strategic Partnerships. “They understand that they need to meet the needs of the people they’re serving. It’s been a year that’s strained the system, but it’s really demonstrated the resilience, creativity, commitment, and potential of the Network.”

# The Future of Food Banking

*For the more than two billion people facing food insecurity around the world, food banks will continue to be a critical component of their solution to hunger well beyond COVID-19.*

GFN's growth strategy focuses on serving those most vulnerable to hunger, including hard to reach populations such as informal workers, rural and geographically isolated communities, Indigenous peoples, and women and girls.

Hunger in every country — and every community — is fueled by a unique set of conditions and circumstances. Leveraging valuable assets from each of our core strategies, GFN will continue to drive the development of new food banks in areas of greatest need and support innovative place-based strategies that offer the best chance for success for members of our Network.

**GFN serves as a catalyst and a lynchpin to accelerate the impact of hunger relief efforts across the globe. By 2030, our goal is to reach 50 million people through Network-supported food banks.**

Below: Sérgio Donófrío, owner of Calusne Farms harvests lettuce, chives, rosemary so it can be donated to Mesa Brasil SESC, a GFN supported food bank, to fight hunger. A food bank staff member helps him carry a crate of donated produce. (Photo: The Global FoodBanking Network / Carlos Macedo)

## GFN helps food banks respond to unique geographic conditions

At GFN, we believe that for solutions to hunger to be sustainable, they need to be country- and community-specific. Food banking offers that flexibility, and places at its center visionary leaders committed to solving these challenges. **For example:**

**In India**, that strategy includes mobile technology to directly link donations of excess food with distribution partners.

**In Brazil's Amazonas state**, that strategy includes delivering food by boat to remote island communities.

**In South Africa**, that strategy includes the use of mobile pantries to deliver food to disparate townships.

**In Colombia**, that strategy includes increasing support to beneficiary organizations along the border with Venezuela to help them expand their reach with displaced communities.







Above: Quito, Ecuador, March 1, 2021: Esther Salazar (44), Carmen Molina (36), and Marcos Velasquez (43) work to classify donated food at Banco de Alimentos Quito. (Photo: The Global FoodBanking Network/Ana María Buitron)

# Thank You

*Donors of every sort – philanthropic, volunteer, and in-kind – are vital to achieving Zero Hunger across the globe.*

Thank you for supporting GFN through this period of immense growth. We look forward to your continued partnership as we accelerate hunger relief and resilience building efforts around the world, one community at a time.



The **Global**  
**FoodBanking**  
Network®

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