



World Food  
Programme

Programme  
Alimentaire  
Mondial

Programa  
Mundial de  
Alimentos

برنامج  
الأغذية  
العالمي

The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations

**World Food Programme  
Video News Footage  
31 May 2007  
Local Food Procurement  
(see press release below)**

**Language: English  
Length: 03:06**

00:00-00:05

Rome, Italy

30 May 2007

B-Roll procurement meeting (see press release below)

00:06-00:18

SOT WFP Executive Director Josette Sheeran

*“ Today at WFP, up to half of our contribution, or almost half, are cash for local purchase, where we need to provide food to meet the needs of the hungry in food deficit areas.”*

00:19-00:33

Rome, Italy

30 May 2007

B-Roll representatives at procurement meeting

00:34-01:09

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

23 April 2007

WFP Executive Director J. Sheeran visits grain market where local purchases occur

01:10-01:39

SOT WFP Executive Director Josette Sheeran

*“More than a third of the food we give to the hungry in Ethiopia is purchased here locally , and one of the things I was doing was meeting with grain traders and farmers about how we can use that purchase to help poor farmers connect to markets. In Ethiopia and in many countries, there isn't much market infrastructure, and so poor farmers have a hard time understanding pricing, how to connect, or taking part in big tenders for food purchases.”*

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01:40-01:44  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
23 April 2007  
B-roll the grain market

01:45-02:35  
Mbarara, Uganda  
14 May 2007  
Farm near Mbarara, Uganda, worked by a member of the Rwakahunde farming women's group, which part of the Manyaka area cooperative. The cooperative sells corn and beans to WFP direct purchases from farmer groups.

Shows: WFP Officer with worker, working in fields

02:10-02:35  
Mbarara, Uganda  
14 May 2007  
B-roll Coop members sifting the grain inside warehouse

02:36-02:46  
Gulu Northern Uganda  
20 April 2007  
WFP food distribution

02:47-02:55  
Kampala, Uganda Kampala,  
Uganda Youth Development Links  
July 2003  
children eating in classroom

02:56-03:06  
Addis Ababa Ethiopia  
Abebech Gobena Orphanage,  
July 2003  
children eating

END

## **WFP News Release**

**29 May 2007**

### **BUYING FOOD TO BOOST DEVELOPMENT: WFP PROCUREMENT MEETING**



**ROME** – Grain market experts, economists and policy makers from around the world will gather in Rome tomorrow for a meeting hosted by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to explore the best ways to benefit farmers in developing countries through food procurement.

The meeting, the first of its kind, is funded by the Belgian and Swedish Governments. It will bring together key players in the food assistance world to discuss how food procurement can contribute to the development of markets and thus improve livelihoods and help build the economies of poorer countries.

“There is no doubt that the power of local purchase can benefit not only the hungry, but also the farmers producing the food,” said WFP Executive Director Josette Sheeran. “We all know that food security requires both access to food and sustainable production. Procurement can provide a vital link between the two at local, regional or international level.”

Participants in tomorrow’s meeting, who include the three UN food agencies, as well as representatives of non-governmental organisations, donor and recipient countries and the private sector, will explore ways of working together to strengthen markets in developing countries, particularly in the least developed and low-income countries.

“This meeting offers an unparalleled opportunity to explore how we might all best work together to connect local farmers to markets, particularly in the least developed and low income countries, and in so doing bring greater benefits to those at the very beginning of the supply chain, the farmers,” Sheeran said.

Sheeran, who had talks last month during a field trip to Ethiopia with economists, market experts and traders about local food assistance procurement and its potential for making a positive impact on human development, noted that WFP had a “huge market presence” with its cash-based purchases across the developing world.

Last year, 77 percent of WFP’s food purchases were from developing countries – a total of 1.6 million metric tons at a value of more than US\$460 million. This shows an increase from 74 percent in 2005. More dramatically, food purchases from the least developed and low income countries rose from 36 percent in 2005 to 50 percent last year.

WFP policy on procurement is to ensure that food is available to beneficiaries in the most timely and cost efficient manner. At the same time, when conditions are equal, WFP gives preference to procurement from developing countries.

WFP country offices purchase food locally from parts of a country where there is a surplus for distribution in other parts of the country where there are shortages. The agency also purchases food from developing countries with a national surplus for distribution in other countries where there is need, both in the same region and in other parts of the world.

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency: on average, each year, we give food to 90 million poor people to meet their nutritional needs, including 58 million hungry children, in 80 of the world's poorest countries. **WFP – We Feed People.**



**WFP Global Food for Education Campaign** – For just US\$21 a year, you can help WFP give children in poor countries a healthy meal at school – a gift of hope for a brighter future.

WFP now provides RSS feeds to help journalists keep up with the latest press releases, videos and photos as they are published on WFP.org. For more details see: <http://www.wfp.org/english/?n=999>.

*WFP now has a dedicated ISDN line in Italy for quality two-way interviews with WFP officials.*

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