



Scaling a supply chain to help fight hunger

CHALLENGE

Every year, the World Food Programme (WFP) distributes approximately 15 billion rations of food and other assistance to those most in need around the globe. On any given day, WFP has 5,000 trucks, 20 ships, and 92 planes on the move.

The complexity and scale of its operations meant that WFP could only conduct supply chain planning asynchronously and at the regional level. This prevented the organization from efficiently balancing requirements, inventory, and costs across regions.

SOLUTION

Common operating picture

WFP developed a common operating picture across regions and teams with hundreds of data transformations describing their supply chain.

Data about food requirements, nutritional value, purchases, budgets, transportation costs and logistics, and commodity inventory updates daily. WFP can now make changes to its supply chain and optimize inventory and food basket decisions globally.

Holistic country view

Country managers see holistic information about their operations – food requirements at the commodity level, operating budgets, expected deliveries, inventory levels, stock that is about to expire, and expected gaps.

Logistics officers make informed supply chain decisions by tracking the downstream effects of those decisions on other operations.

IMPACT

- In just 3 months, WFP had fully operational pipelines for the global supply chain.
- The organization optimizes food baskets on a daily basis for all countries. In the past, food optimization took 3-4 months for each country and coverage was limited to 3-4 countries.
- Deployment in 6 pilot countries yielded an estimated \$30 million in savings. With projected savings of \$100 million at scale, this can provide aid to tens of millions of additional people.