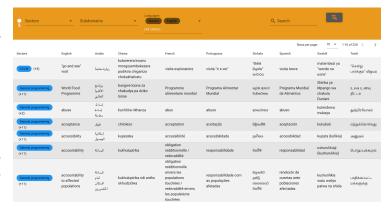**Translators
without Borders**

WFP Community Engagement Glossary

In humanitarian or development response, field workers must communicate important, sometimes life-saving information to those in need. In many cases, the critical link to ensuring affected people understand is the interpreter. However, too often, that link is broken, either because concepts do not translate well into the target language or because the interpreter does not have the tools to understand the concepts clearly.

Designed by TWB as one component of its 2021 language capacity assessment for the World Food Programme, the WFP Community Engagement Glossary **is intended to assist staff and interpreters working with WFP and its cooperating partners around the world.** The glossary aims to improve communication between aid workers and communities by providing clear and accurate translations of key terms in an easy-accessible offline format. Sign language translations are provided in the form of short videos. This note provides details of the glossary and how to use it.

TWB Glossaries provide a number of benefits. They standardize ways of translating and interpreting important concepts and terms, providing consistent, accurate, and easily understood words in local languages. They also help interpreters feel confident in their work and give the field worker assurance of understanding and being understood by community members.

This WFP Community Engagement Glossary covers subject areas relevant to affected communities in a variety of contexts and **includes a total of 216 terms in English, Arabic, Chewa, French, Portuguese, Sinhala, Spanish, Congolese Swahili and Tamil. Sign translations are also available in Malawian Sign Language and Sri Lanka Sign Languages (Sinhala and Tamil variants).** These terms focus on aspects of accountability and protection but also address themes like food security and nutrition of particular relevance to WFP's programs. The glossary was developed in collaboration with technical and sign language specialists and in consultation with WFP's accountability and protection team.

This glossary is dynamic and can be expanded over time to include more terminology, subjects, and languages.

Using the WFP Community Engagement Glossary app

This is a progressive web app. You need a smartphone or computer to use it. If you add the web app to your Home screen, you will also be able to use it offline.

In the menu on the top left, select the sector or domain you are interested in. You can also select a language to show or hide the terms available in that language.

1. If you select **All** sector, **All** domain and **All** language, you can search for the term you want in the language you want. You can also sort the glossary alphabetically by tapping a language name at the top.
2. If using your phone, rotate it into landscape format to view glossary entries that are truncated.
3. Tap a term in the chosen language to open it and access the sector(s) and domain(s) it relates to, the English definition and any additional notes and information.
4. For terms in Chewa, Sinhala and Tamil, you can also click on the orange camera icon and then press "play" on the video player to see the corresponding sign language translations.
5. [A short video here shows how to add the glossary to your Home screen for offline use.](#)