

WEBINAR 3

PLANNING FOR THE GAP WHEN FOOD STORES ARE FORCED TO CLOSE

In the third webinar of our series, we address the impact of a natural disaster on local food systems, which may cause significant disruptions to food supply chains, physical barriers to accessing food and the closure of food stores. In this type of situation, emergency food response and recovery plans need to be aligned with broader emergency management plans, prioritized within these plans, and include leveraging various food assets to ensure all residents have access to food over an extended period. Two island food systems put into sharp focus the vulnerabilities of private sector food markets.

Key takeaways from the webinar will include:

- Understanding the critical vulnerabilities in modern urban food systems
- Recognizing the characteristics of communities that will face the greatest challenge accessing food following a natural disaster
- Innovative strategies for providing emergency food in the aftermath of a natural disaster
- Policy interventions and strategies that can help make food stores and markets more resilient

In the first hour we will hear from speakers and the second hour will be optional for those who wish to stay on for discussion.

SPEAKERS

CHRIS REBSTOCK, Director of Field Operations, The Global FoodBanking Network (TBC)

The Global Food Banking Network is an international nonprofit that works against hunger by uniting and strengthening food banks globally. As the Director of Field Operations, Mr. Rebstock will draw on over 30 years of experience in the field to provide important insights into the critical role of food banks in helping communities recover from natural disasters.

World Food Programme, Haiti speaker (TBC)

This speaker will discuss issues of food supply and access in the context of the frequent natural disasters Haiti experiences, providing an on-the-ground perspective on managing emergency food plans in Haiti.

Puerto Rico speaker (TBC)

This speaker will discuss the innovations to support access to food in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria devastated the country in 2017. They will focus specifically on strategies for supporting private sector food stores and markets (especially cold storage).

