



Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) in Asia and the Pacific

What is FFA?

The most food-insecure people often live in fragile and degraded landscapes and areas prone to recurrent natural shocks and other risks.

Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) is one of WFP's initiatives aimed at addressing the most food-insecure people's immediate food needs with cash, voucher or food transfers while also helping improve their long-term food security and resilience.

The concept is simple: people receive cash or food-based transfers to address their immediate food needs, while they build or boost assets, such as constructing a road or rehabilitating degraded land, that will improve their livelihoods by creating healthier natural environments, reducing risks and impact of shocks, increasing food productivity, and strengthening resilience to natural disasters.

FFA Types of Activities

- Development and management of natural resources;
- Restoring agricultural, pastoral, and fisheries potential;
- Community access to markets, social services and infrastructure (schools, granaries, etc.);
- Skills development trainings related to the creation, management and maintenance of assets.

In each community, WFP aims to integrate multiple types of FFA activities with Government strategies and other WFP and partners' interventions (including UN partners such as FAO and IFAD) to reinforce each other's impact.

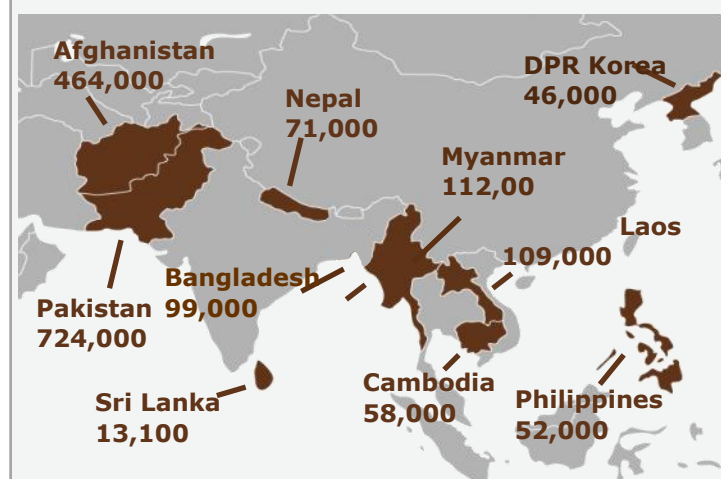
2018 achievements in the region

In 2018, more than **1.7 million** people directly benefited from FFA programmes in **10 countries**.

Key 2018 achievements include:

- **2,100 hectares** of land rehabilitated;
- **1,000 water** ponds, shallow wells, and fish ponds built;
- **4,100 kilometres** of feeder roads constructed or repaired;
- **1,400 hectares** of forest planted;
- **5,200 social or community infrastructure assets** constructed or rebuilt.

2018 FFA beneficiaries in the region



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Pakistan

The Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) are remote stretches of mountainous land in the far west of Pakistan, bordering Afghanistan and the Pakistani Provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan. The region is one of the most food insecure areas of the country with low harvest production, limited livelihood opportunities, and a lack of access to basic services. Decades of poverty, conflict, and underdevelopment have caused a deterioration in human and economic development.

WFP Pakistan continues to support reconstruction efforts in tribal areas that are disaster-prone. In 2018, more than 700,000 individuals received food and cash transfers in provinces including Khyber, Kurram, Orakzai, North Waziristan and South Waziristan, enabling them to undertake livelihood restoration activities. For these FFA programmes, WFP worked with partners including local Village Development Committees (VDCs), NGOs, and UN agencies such as UNDP, FAO and UNICEF. Some accomplishments include: the rehabilitation of nearly 5,000 kilometres of small irrigation channels; the repair of more than 3,000 kilometres of access roads; and more than 700 trainings delivered to local communities on livelihoods restoration.

WFP also continues recovery programmes in flood- and earthquake-affected areas in Chitral District. Through FFA programmes that reached 10,000 households, more than 200 km of feeder roads and 54 irrigation channels were rehabilitated, while 46 livelihood trainings were conducted for 2500 participants, who were mostly women.

Sri Lanka

As an island nation, Sri Lanka is highly vulnerable to climate change. Extreme weather events and recurrent natural disasters, such as droughts, floods, and landslides, adversely impact socio-economic progress. In 2018, Sri Lanka placed as number 4 in the Global Climate Risk Index.

WFP is supporting Sri Lanka through an innovative and sustainable new project (2019 - 2022) called R5ⁿ. Designed to target the most vulnerable rural communities, R5ⁿ aims to enhance resilience against recurrent natural shocks; to reduce and mitigate climate risk through the reconstruction of productive assets; and to ensure recovery and diversification of livelihoods, with a focus on improving nutrition. The project is designed to assist 22,000 vulnerable people.

R5ⁿ builds on the successes of WFP's two-year FFA programme on building resilience and livelihood support funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) with matching funds from the Government of Sri Lanka. This programme, completed in 2018, helped to build nearly 800 wells and rainwater harvesting storage units to improve home gardening, while more than 73 minor irrigation schemes were rehabilitated. Around 1,500 women and young people also attended trainings on entrepreneurial skills and received seed funding to start their own small-businesses. Post-project monitoring found lasting impacts, including:

- The new rainwater household water storage units have enabled households to expand home gardening, increasing overall monthly income by 75 percent (approximately US\$108 per month).
- Nearly 20 percent of participants reported that rehabilitation of the minor reservoirs had enabled them to harvest during both Maha (main) and Yala (secondary) harvest seasons. Previously these communities had benefitted from only one harvest season.
- Arable land increased by nearly 20 percent upon completion of the minor reservoirs.



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