



WFP Philippines Country Brief

June 2018

Operational Context

A middle-income country, the Philippines is the second fastest growing economy in Asia, but has struggled to transpose these improvements into tangible human development gains. Poverty remains above 20 percent according to the Asian Development Bank. Food and nutrition security in the country declined from "moderate" to "serious" from 2016 to 2017 (Global Hunger Index). The Philippines ranked third out of 171 countries in 2017 World Risk Index and fifth out of 181 countries in the 2017 Global Climate Risk Index.

One year has passed since the ISIS-inspired Maute/Abu Sayyaf Group occupation of Marawi City led to the displacement of more than 77,000 families. Despite the Government's declaration of the liberation of the city in October 2017, 50,000 families are still displaced and require humanitarian assistance; rehabilitation is expected to take several years.

Aiming to save lives and change lives, WFP's presence in the Philippines focuses on assisting the Government in achieving its long-term goals anchored on the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022. It is also in line with the UN Development Assistance Framework, the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the Zero Hunger Challenge.



Population: **103 million**

2016 Human Development Index:
116 out of 188

Income Level: **Lower middle**

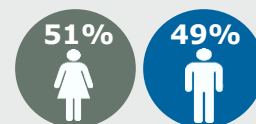
Chronic malnutrition: **33.4% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

663 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 3.5 million net funding requirements
(July – December 2018)

101,170 people
assisted in June 2018



Operational Updates

Marawi Crisis Response

- **General Distributions of Rice:** WFP continues to support the displaced population in Iligan and Marawi cities and nine municipalities in Lanao del Sur through food distributions. In June, WFP reached 82,375 individuals with rice. The food assistance was made possible through the continuous support of the United States Agency for International Development and the Government of Australia.
- **Food Assistance for Assets:** In June, WFP began its livelihood support to 1,580 targeted households engaged in farming activities. In its first of three rounds of distribution, WFP reached 1,580 families, or 7,900 individuals, with rice and vegetable seeds for planting. The activity covered 15 *barangays* (administrative sub-units) in Lanao del sur and was generously supported by the Government of Italy.
- **Gender Mainstreaming in Marawi Rehabilitation:** WFP led a gender mainstreaming assessment and planning workshop in Cagayan de Oro. The activity engaged the participants with how gender mainstreaming and food security and nutrition can be integrated into the rehabilitation plan of Marawi.

WFP Activities in June

- Bolstering its commitment to disaster preparedness, WFP joined other United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the Government for the **INSARAG Asia Pacific Response Exercise** in Clark, Pampanga. The exercise simulated the 7.2 magnitude earthquake scenario for Metro Manila. WFP actively participated as the head of the Logistics Cluster and ETC Cluster as requested by the Government to support with the coordination of various

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Anthony Chase Lim

Caption: Marantao is among the municipalities that received an influx of displaced families when the crisis in Marawi broke out. WFP provides food assistance as the displaced families begin to rebuild their lives.

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international agencies. It also put into review the contingency plan and key immediate needs capacity of the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster, which WFP co-leads with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

- WFP is coordinating with the local government of Maguindanao in implementing a **Home Grown School Feeding** (HGSF) programme that aims to provide hot and nutritious meals for schoolchildren by sourcing out local ingredients from community gardens. Consultation meetings between the Government partners discussed the introduction of HGSF to four municipalities in Maguindanao. A study on the food basket component will begin in August. HGSF is expected to roll out later this year.

with Kalimudan Foundation to undertake monitoring activities for WFP's interventions until September 2018.

Challenges

- The recent hostilities between the Government security forces and the suspected members of Maute Group led to the displacement of over 1,300 families. This further raises the number of people displaced by conflict in Mindanao that needs humanitarian assistance.
- Funding remains a challenge. WFP Philippines will begin implementing its five-year strategic plan in July and continues to reach out for donor commitments to ensure programme implementation.

Twelve Years of Promoting Food Security in the Philippines

In 2006, WFP re-established its presence in the Philippines to assist the Philippine Government in achieving lasting peace in Mindanao by addressing the food and nutrition needs of the most vulnerable communities affected by conflict and disasters.

A decade and two years later, WFP's activities in the Philippines continues to take on the challenges of hunger and malnutrition through food and nutrition activities, as well as livelihood activities that empower the community and encourage self-sufficiency. It is highly committed to achieving Sustainable Development Goal #2: Zero Hunger.



Donors

United States of America, Australia, United Kingdom, Republic of Korea, Norway, Azerbaijan, Canada, New Zealand, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Japan, Italy, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund

GENDER MARKER 2A  PRRO 200743

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WFP Philippines Strategy		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	July - December Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)		
33 m	1.8 m*	3.5 m
Strategic Result 1: Access to food		
Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected people in the Philippines are able to meet their food nutrition needs during and immediately after an emergency <i>Focus area:</i> Marawi City, Lanao del Sur		
5 m	1.2 m	2 m
Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition		
Strategic Outcome 2: Women, boys, and girls in provinces prioritized by the Government have adequate and healthy diets to reduce malnutrition in line with government targets by 2022. <i>Focus area:</i> Central Mindanao		
6 m	0.1 m	0.3m
Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening		
Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable communities in Mindanao have improved food security, in support of government targets by 2022. <i>Focus area:</i> Central Mindanao		
7 m	0.3 m	0.2 m
Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening		
Strategic Outcome 4: National and local government have enhanced capacities to reduce vulnerabilities to shocks by 2022. <i>Focus area:</i> Philippines		
15 m	0 m	1 m

*The total confirmed contributions received does not include the US\$ 0.2 million received that is yet to be allocated to a specific Strategic Outcome.

Monitoring

- To address challenges faced in the deduplication and validation of the master list of displaced populations, the Government and WFP are exploring the possibility of using SCOPE, WFP's cloud-based beneficiary identity and entitlement management system. SCOPE allows WFP to know better the people it serves, and is usable both online and offline.
- WFP extended its ongoing field level agreement