



# WFP Philippines Country Brief October 2018

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## 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. Hunger in the country declined to “serious” in 2017.

In October 2017, the Government declared Marawi City liberated from the ISIS-inspired Maute/Abu Sayyaf Group. Over 10,000 families are still displaced and more than 60,000 returned families require humanitarian assistance. Rehabilitation is expected to take several years.

Super Typhoon Mangkhut struck the Philippines in September. The disaster affected more than 3 million individuals and caused damages to crops, livestock and infrastructure estimated at more than US\$600 million.

Aiming to save lives and change lives, WFP aims to assist the Government in achieving its long-term goals in the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022, in line with the UN Development Assistance Framework, the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, and 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**

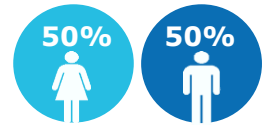
## In Numbers

**695 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$222,820** cash distributed

**US\$2.49 m** six months (November 2018-April 2019) net funding requirements

**198,019 people assisted**  
in October 2018



## Operational Updates

- In October, WFP rolled out its cash-based transfer intervention to families affected by Super Typhoon Mangkhut (locally known as Ompong) in the provinces of Benguet and Cagayan. In Benguet, WFP reached 3,329 families (16,645 individuals) in Itogon. Meanwhile, beneficiary registration is ongoing in Cagayan to be followed by the distribution of cash vouchers. WFP is in partnership with Western Union in the distribution of cash assistance.
- Across its four humanitarian activities in Marawi, WFP reached 114,077 individuals:
  - 49,603 school girls and boys were provided with school meals.
  - through WFP’s nutrition activities, 1,461 pregnant and lactating women, and 7,313 children age 6-59 months were provided with specialized nutritious foods.
  - 36,100 individuals benefitted from the asset-creation activities that enabled livelihood restoration.
  - 3,920 families (19,600 individuals) were provided with rice through general distributions
- In Maguindanao, WFP’s presence continues to assist families and individuals through its stunting prevention programme, on-site school feeding, and food assistance for assets activities:
  - Around 7,185 pregnant and lactating women and 9,999 children age 6-59 months received specialized nutritious food
  - 44,593 schoolchildren received hot and nutritious meals so they can focus on their studying
  - 5,520 individuals were engaged in livelihood activities and were provided with cash or food
- In partnership with the Department of Information and Communications Technology, WFP and the Global Emergency Telecommunications Cluster facilitated a Disaster Preparedness and Response Workshop in Mandaluyong. Participating agencies discussed capacity strengthening activities for institutional awareness during disasters. Recognizing the impact of disasters to food security and nutrition, WFP is an advocate of disaster

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## Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Nov 2018- Apr 2019 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>40.7 m</b>	<b>7.10 m</b>	<b>2.49 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome #1:** Crisis-affected people in the Philippines are able to meet their food and nutrition needs during and immediately after an emergency.

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activities:**

- Provide unconditional food and nutrition assistance through the governments' safety net or partners to crisis-affected communities following natural disasters or human-induced shocks and disruptions

### 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.

**Focus area:** Root Cause

**Activities:**

- Provide direct and technical assistance to boys, girls, women and care providers as well as technical assistance to government, build evidence and advocate to ensure nutrition specific and sensitive multiple sectorial responses lead to adequate and healthy diets during the critical times of development.

### Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening

**Strategic Outcome #3:** Vulnerable communities in Mindanao have improved food security, in support of government targets by 2022.

**Focus area:** Resilience

**Activities:**

- Support the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and local governments to address the Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) needs of all segments of the population (activity category: 9, modality: CS/food/cash) to further consolidate and enhance existing peace and development plans

### Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening

**Strategic Outcome #4:** National and Local Government have enhanced capabilities to reduce vulnerabilities to shocks by 2022.

**Focus area:** Resilience

**Activities:**

- Support national and local capacities for disaster risk reduction and management as well as climate change adaptation
- Strengthen and augment government and partners' emergency preparedness and response capacity to include supply chain and ICT

## Monitoring

- WFP conducted a post-distribution monitoring of households assisted through its asset creation activities in Marawi City. The results showed that 76 percent of households have acceptable food consumption scores and the use of coping strategies have decreased, representing

an improvement in their economic situation compared to the results of the assessment in August 2018.

- WFP regularly monitored its food and cash distributions. Results showed that adequate measures were done to ensure the safety of beneficiaries during distributions. WFP conducted an orientation prior to distributions to explain why beneficiaries were selected, what assistance they will receive for how long, and the feedback mechanism they can use to reach WFP.

## Challenges

- One of the persistent challenges in WFP's operations is insufficient funding. WFP remains committed to its objectives and reaches out to donor commitments to ensure full programme implementation in pursuit of the strategic results outlined in the Country Strategic Plan 2018-2023.

## A Lookback on Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda)

Five years ago, one of the strongest typhoons in recorded history struck the Philippines. Typhoon Haiyan tested the resilience of the Filipino people and the mettle of the Government's emergency response system.

WFP worked with the Government in responding to this large-scale crisis, was able to identify operational bottlenecks, and used these to improve the preparation and response mechanism during natural disasters.

[Take a look back](#) at how WFP worked with donors, partners, and the Government in order to reach 2.95 Filipinos with vital food and cash assistance and telecommunications and logistics support.



## Donors

Australia, Japan, Italy, New Zealand, United States of America, and the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund

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