



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP India Country Brief October 2018

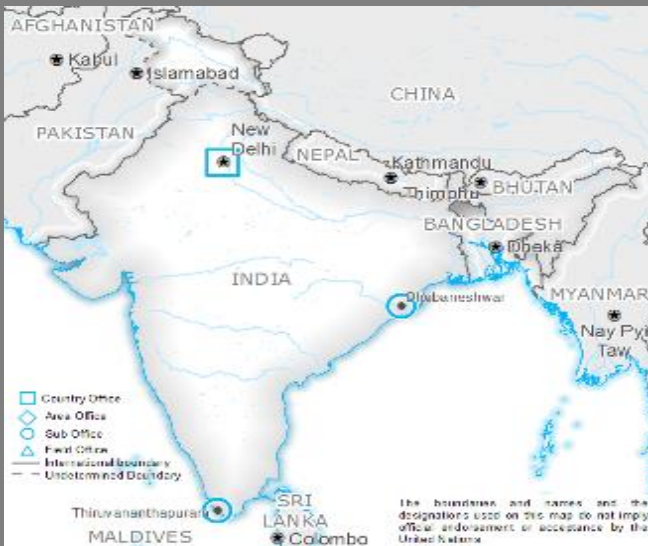


Operational Context

With 17 percent of the world's population and 23 percent of the world's undernourished population, India bears a huge burden of food insecurity (more than 190 million people). Despite recent improvements in the nutritional status of children, the rates are well below acceptable levels. Micronutrient deficiencies are very high and India ranks 100 (out of 119 countries) on the 2017 Global Hunger Index. Recent economic growth, grain production, and existing food safety nets enable WFP to play a catalytic role.

WFP's work providing technical assistance for improved efficiency and nutritional effectiveness of the Government's food-based safety nets is aligned with the priorities of the National Food Security Act (NFSA 2013) and Sustainable Development Goals 2 & 17.

WFP has been present in India since 1963.



Population: **1.32 billion**

2015 Human Development Index: **131 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition **38.7% of children between 6-59 months**

Highlights

World Food Day celebrated under WFP Country Office leadership with an excellent participation from various stakeholders.

Following the severe floods in Kerala, WFP participated in the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) conducted jointly by the UN and the Government of Kerala, the report presented to the state government.

WFP India's operations are fully funded for the next six months; thanks to the strong partnership with the Government of India.

Operational Updates

- The WFP India Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023), approved in principle by the Government, is posted for presentation at WFP's November 2018 Executive Board.
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MoCA, F&PD), WFP is supporting the development of a draft sector scheme on rice fortification through the Public Distribution System. WFP is providing technical support for rice fortification in select districts of Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Delhi and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
- The WFP-supported Central Project Management Unit contributed to the planning awareness and Information Education & Communication (IEC) campaign for the (MoCA, F&PD) for improved uptake of subsidized grains by the beneficiaries. It will help empower beneficiaries, support Fair Price Shop operators in delivering services, and strengthen governance, thereby contributing to food security.
- WFP published report in Data Analytics for 5 states and detailed scope of work for implementing data-analytics based management information system for the Targeted Public Distribution system (TPDS). The publication was disseminated to all participating states in 2-day National Conference organized by MoCA, F&PD in October '18. Data analysis for entire State of Telangana was completed and presented in National conference, based on the results WFP would be further analysing data for additional 12 states.
- At national level, the analysis for a Food Security Atlas of India is progressing well in collaboration with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- In October, 50 Kg Micronutrient Powder (MNP) and 135.025 tons fortified rice was distributed to the children of 6-14 years of age in Dhenkanal district of Odisha.
- MoU of WFP in collaboration with the Government of Odisha for the distribution of fortified rice in PDS in Deogarh district is being finalized.
- WFP initiated preparatory work for a transparency portal in partnerships with Ericsson. A request for proposals for hiring vendors is shared with the state government. Preparations for setting the baseline are currently ongoing.

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- The Food Security Atlas developed as a part of institutionalization within the state government of Odisha is yet to be released pending availability of the key officials.

- In Kerala, the pilot project on fortification of take home rations (THR) to improve micronutrient malnutrition is being scaled up by the Government of Kerala (GoK) under the supportive supervision of WFP. For the state-wide scale up, hiring of vendors is on-going. Training for creating a pool of master-trainers for cascade trainings has been conducted in the first week of October 2018.

- With resumption in the production and distribution of fortified THR in Kerala after the floods, 11.3 tons of fortified THR has been produced in October 2018. The end-line evaluation will resume from December 2018. About 1.4 million IEC flyers printed and under distribution by GoK, WFP is well acknowledged in the flyers with its logo.

- The Government is considering introduction of fortified rice through Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) in Kannur district which is one of the districts under NNM.

- As part of WFP's partnership with the Government of Uttar Pradesh (GoUP), WFP is continuing support to TPDS end-to-end computerization. The grievance redressal system is reviewed and recommendations for improvement provided.

- WFP in collaboration with Department of Basic Education, Government of Uttar Pradesh (GoUP) is implementing a project on mid-day meal fortification in Varanasi district. Baseline evaluation for the project has been completed, and vendors are on-board. WFP will start production and distribution of fortified rice and wheat flour as per the allocation orders received from the Govt. from Nov-18. Necessary quality assurances and protocols are in place.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Field activities are regularly monitored. The end evaluation of the project on fortification of THR in Wayanad in collaboration with Kozhikode Medical College is stalled due to floods. The endline evaluation of Dhenkanal project and baseline for mid-day meals fortification in Varanasi are ongoing.

Challenges

- Capacity development requires stability in government postings to WFP's partnership projects. Frequent transfers among government officials linked to WFP's projects have posed challenges to the project timelines.
- Providing technical assistance to the government warrants long term commitment. With little scope for funding from traditional donors; it is to be sourced from the Indian Government and the private sector.

Donors

Government of India, Yum!, TECK, Sodexo, General Mills, Ericsson

Country Strategic Plan (2015-2018)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Oct18 – Mar19 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
22.21 m	9.78 m	0 m

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Enhanced efficiency of national food safety-nets to deliver targets of SDG2 and National Food Security Act (NFSA)

Focus area: Root Cause

Activities:

- Improvement of TPDS programme through technological solutions and improved service delivery systems.
- Piloting Best Practice Model of the TPDS Food Basket.
- Piloting the use of ePOS (Biometric enabled authentication) for Public Distribution System in urban areas

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: The food baskets of national safety-nets are improved to enhance their nutritional impact

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

- Support to improve the Food Supply Chain of the Integrated Child Development Services
- Study of ICDS Take Home Ration for First 1,000 days Initiative and Advocate for Models for Piloting
- Advocate for Scaling-up Fortification Initiatives and diet diversification to reduce anaemia among children
- Advocating for the linkages between health and nutrition

Strategic Result 3: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 3: Government systems undertake food security analysis and performance monitoring

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

- Partnering with governments to improve systems for food security analysis and monitoring through Food Security Atlases at National and state level
- Strengthening M&E systems for Zero Hunger
- Support to SDG roll-out

Strategic Result 4: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 4: Enhanced contribution of Government of India (GoI) to global food and nutrition security through increased knowledge sharing and south-south cooperation

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

- Contribute to knowledge sharing within and outside India through establishing a Centre of Excellence (CENEX)
- However, this may not be pursued by the government at this point in time.