Operational Updates

- **Sindh and Balochistan Drought Response**: The Government of Pakistan declared a drought in eight districts of Sindh and fourteen districts of Balochistan. The Government of Balochistan has also declared a drought and nutrition emergency. In response, WFP provided technical support to drought assessments in both provinces. Planning has begun for conditional and non-conditional cash transfers in four prioritized districts (two in Sindh and two in Balochistan). WFP is in the field to carry out area prioritisation and cash feasibility assessments. Emergency nutrition interventions are also being planned for Sindh and Balochistan.

- **Community-Based Management and Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)**: The CMAM programme is being implemented in 17 districts across Pakistan. The programme is run in collaboration with respective provincial departments of health and nutrition cells. In addition, the CMAM Surge pilot project is being implemented in the Umerkot District, Sindh, under the umbrella of Department of Health, Sindh. With funding from the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the CMAM programme has been initiated in two new districts - Shangla and Kohistan (KPK). Nutrition interventions are also planned for the drought in Sindh and Balochistan.

- **Cash and Food Based Livelihood Recovery programmes** continue in five tribal districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The program is supported by USAID, DFID, Canada and CERF through food and cash-based assistance modalities. In January, 19,500 families received their monthly relief rations (1,924 mt) from humanitarian hubs in Peshawar, Kohat, Mirzai, Bannu and D.I.Khan. In North Waziristan district, 7,834 participants received cash for their participation in food assistance for assets activities. Disbursement is currently ongoing.

- **WFP accompanied a Swiss Development Cooperation mission** to Swat on 30 – 31 January 2019. The mission appreciated WFP’s support to vulnerable population groups through their past projects in Swat. They also indicated the possibility of funding opportunities for partners, including WFP.

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Operational Updates (continued)

- **Chaki Fortification Project**: There is an urgent need in Pakistan to assimilate Chakis (small skal mill grinders) in the broader fortification effort; which is currently limited to industrial mills only. This was highlighted in the Chaki feasibility study disseminated by WFP in collaboration with the National Fortification Alliance. Based on the study's recommendations, WFP is going to initiate a pilot run for fortifying Chakki wheat flour in Islamabad and Rawalpindi. An implementation plan is currently being developed to initiate the project.

- **Stunting Prevention Operational Research**: In alignment with the Government of Pakistan’s priorities and as part of WFP’s stunting prevention programme, operational research is being carried out in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh. The purpose is to identify a cost-effective, short-term solution to prevent stunting. The impact evaluation report for Sindh has been completed and will be shared with stakeholders soon. The baseline study has been completed in Balochistan, and the baseline survey report is in the process of finalization and is expected to be shared with the provincial Government in February 2019. The baseline study in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) has been completed and the final baseline survey report is in the review process.

- **Building Disaster Resilience in Pakistan (BDRP) Phase II**: An agreement has been signed between WFP and FAO for the implementation of phase II of BDRP Programme. The budget of the project is undergoing review and finalization, and activities on ground are expected to ensue subsequently.

- The WFP Supply Optimization through Logistics, Visibility and Evolution (SOLVE) team has started its first pilot project in Lasbella (Balochistan). Assessments are currently underway to identify and design supply chain optimization activities that can be replicated in other locations of the country. The team is expected to receive an approval of the 2019-2020 budget by the donors by the end of February. After that, supply chain optimization activities will be initiated in Balochistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), Sindh and Islamabad. Moreover, WFP SOLVE initiative has been requested to share the objectives of the project in 2019-2020. These objectives will be incorporated in the Country Action Plan 2019-2024 directed by the Supreme Court of Justice and facilitated by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

### Donors

- Australia, China, Canada, ECHO, Emergency preparedness and Response Trust Fund, Ireland, Japan, Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, UK, UN Centralized Emergency Response Fund, One UN Trust Fund, and USA.