



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP India Country Brief April 2019



Operational Context

While making tremendous progress over the last few decades in food grain production and reduction in malnutrition rates, India continues to bear a huge burden of food and nutrition insecurity, ranking 103th out of 119 countries on the 2018 Global Hunger Index. Despite recent improvements in the nutritional status of children, malnutrition rates are well below acceptable levels, with large number of people, especially women and children, suffering from micronutrient deficiencies. The Indian Government has undertaken many reforms in the existing social safety nets to better deliver on nutrition and food security to accelerate progress towards achievement of targets under SDG 2.

WFP is working in India as a catalyst by providing technical assistance for improved efficiency and nutritional effectiveness of the Government's food-based safety nets, in alignment with the priorities of the National Food Security Act (NFSA 2013) as well as SDGs 2 and 17.

WFP has been present in India since 1963.



Population: **1.32 billion**

2018 Human Development Index
130 out of 189

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **38% of children 6-59 months of age.**

Highlights

WFP is supporting the Department of Food and Public Distribution to develop operational guidelines for the Central Sector Scheme on rice fortification in 15 states of the country. Eight states that have provided consent to the scheme will be supported by WFP through technical inputs.

A Memorandum of Understanding on mainstreaming rice fortification in the district of Kannur has been signed between WFP and the Government of Kerala.

Operational Updates

Protecting Access to Food

- As part of its partnership with the Government of Uttar Pradesh, WFP is continuing its support for End-to-End computerization of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). As of April 2019, nearly 65,655 (95 percent of the plan) electronic Point-of-Sale devices have been deployed in rural areas and 12,000 (100 percent) in urban areas. Work is in progress for GPS installation and dashboard. 1400 devices have been deployed.
- Thanks to the digitization of the TPDS value chain, real-time data on the food distribution system is now available. Based on WFP's analysis of such data, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution approved a national policy on the Integrated Management for Public Distribution System (IMPDS) for implementation of a data analytics-based system across the country. To support states in implementation of this policy, WFP is undertaking data analysis for nine states, and has completed analysis for six states as of April 2019.

Improve Nutrition

- Department of Food and Drug Administration, Government of Gujarat organized '*Gujarat Food Fortification Summit*' in Ahmedabad on 12th April 2019. WFP participated and shared experiences on implementing large scale food fortification programmes.
- In collaboration with PHFI, WFP has conducted a study on Take-Home Rations (THR), distributed across the states and Union Territories of India. The study has been completed and report is now being finalized.
- In the state of Kerala, some units in Wayanad and Malappuram districts have started producing fortified THR. All the districts of the state are equipped with blender. The members of the Nutrimix unit have been trained on fortification through cascade trainings.
- 940.6 tons of fortified rice and 415.3 tons of fortified wheat flour has been produced and distributed among the school children across all eight blocks of Varanasi districts in Uttar Pradesh.
- 586 districts and block level officials (through 13 workshops) and 2818 school teachers in Uttar Pradesh were trained by WFP, on reduction of anaemia prevalence through strategies such as dietary diversification and food fortification.

Main
Photo

Credit: AdiyaArya, WFP India
Caption : Woman receiving subsidised ration at a Targeted Public Distribution centre in Odisha

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	May-Oct Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
20 million	4.2 million	0.043 million

Strategic Result 1:

Everyone has access to food (SDG Target 2.1)

Strategic Outcome 1: The most vulnerable people in India are better able to meet their minimum food and nutrition needs all year round.

Focus area: Root Cause

Activity 1: Provide policy inputs, advocacy and technical assistance aimed at enhancing the efficiency, targeting, service delivery and supply chain of government programmes for improving access to food.

Strategic Result 2:

No one suffers from malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2)

Strategic Outcome 2: People at high risk of malnutrition in India, especially women, children and adolescent girls, have improved nutrition by 2025.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activity 2: Support state and national governments in improving and integrating nutrition policies and programming, including through enhanced quality, advocacy and gender-transformative, systematic approaches.

Strategic Result 3:

Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs (SDG Target 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 3: National and state institutions have enhanced capacity to deliver on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 and related targets, and collaborate with regional and global partners towards the attainment of SDG 2

Focus area: Root Causes

Activity 3: Strengthen institutional capacities at various levels in generating, sharing and using evidence for coordinated planning, roll-out and monitoring of actions for attaining Sustainable Development Goal 2.

Activity 4: Facilitate the efforts of the Government of India and other countries to share food security and nutrition knowledge and expertise and provide disaster risk management services for the region.

Support SDG implementation

- The report on Food & Nutrition Security (FNS) Analysis of India developed by WFP in partnership with Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has been approved by the Secretary, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation. The same is planned to be released in the month of June 2019.
- WFP is supporting MoSPI to build a network of experts for development of methodologies for tier I and tier II indicators for SDG 2.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- The evaluation of Dhenkanal project is in final stages of reporting. A validation workshop was organized with the state government of Odisha where the findings were presented for initial feedback.
- The end-evaluation of support to TPDS reforms in Odisha was concluded. The report will be ready for dissemination by May 2019.

Challenges

- Capacity strengthening requires a long-term commitment as indicated in WFP's recently approved Country Strategic Plan. The main sources of funding are the Government and the private sector. The funding base needs to be expanded to allow for more work in communication and coordination.

Donors

Donors to WFP India in 2019 include: Government of India, Sodexo, General Mills Foundation, MasterCard and Ericsson