



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP India Country Brief May 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

A government delegation from Bhutan visited India to understand more about the work on food fortification, quality control and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India's (FSSAI) 'Eat Right India' campaign. The visit was facilitated by WFP.

Based on WFP's pilot project in the district of Wayanad, the Government of Kerala has announced the state-wide scale-up of fortified supplementary food provided to children under 2 years of age, under the Integrated Child Development Services.

Operational Updates

Protecting Access to Food

- As part of its partnership with the Government of Uttar Pradesh (UP), WFP is continuing its support for End-to-End computerization of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). As of May, WFP provided support for the deployment of 68,800 electronic Point-of-Sale devices in rural areas and 12,000 in urban areas. Work is in progress for GPS installation and a dashboard. 3,200 devices have been deployed so far, as per the target of UP State Government.
- WFP is providing technical assistance to the Government of UP to improve its supply chain operations. As a part of this support, procurement of wheat and equipment for TPDS warehouses in the state was initiated. Orders for procurement of 145 Electronic Weighing Machines (EWM) have been placed and 40 EWM have been installed in the government warehouses. The process for installing Weighing Scales of 5mt in 600 warehouses has started; work orders have been released for 200 machines and 100 machines have been installed.

Improve Nutrition

- WFP has signed an MoU with the Department of Women and Child Development of the Government of Kerala to initiate rice fortification on a pilot basis in Kannur District.
- WFP participated in a regional workshop organized jointly by the Food Fortification Resource Centre, FSSAI and Tata Trusts. The main agenda of the workshop was to identify issues in the concerned states related to food fortification.
- In the state of Odisha, WFP is working with Department of School and Mass Education to scale up rice fortification by exploring different modalities of fortification (such as fortified rice kernels or micronutrient powder).
- WFP was invited by the Department of Food and Public Distribution for discussions on the operationalization of the Central Sector Scheme. The Department has requested WFP to provide technical assistance in the states of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, and Madhya Pradesh.

Main Photo

Credit: Aditya Arya, WFP
Caption: Women preparing Mid-Day Meal in a school in Odisha

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	June-Nov. Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
20 million	4.5 million	197,195

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.

- The report on Food and Nutrition Security Analysis of India, developed by WFP in partnership with the Government of India’s Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), was approved by the ministry. It will be released in June.
- WFP is supporting MoSPI to build a network of experts for the development of methodologies for measuring tier II and tier III indicators for SDG 2 in the context of India. This entails reviewing the global evidence and how to adapt it for India.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- In collaboration with Public Health Foundation of India, WFP has conducted a study of Take-Home Rations distributed across the states and union territories of India. The study has been completed and a report is being finalized. WFP presented its findings during a recent meeting of development partners working on Infant and Young Child Nutrition.
- Extremely severe cyclonic storm ‘FANI’ was the strongest tropical cyclone to strike the state of Odisha on 2 May 2019. A joint UN Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) was conducted. Since Food Security and Nutrition sector was identified for the PDNA, 2 team members from WFP India participated in the assessment and supported documentation for the Health, Food security and Nutrition assessment.

Donors

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

Support SDG implementation