



WFP Philippines Country Brief December 2019

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



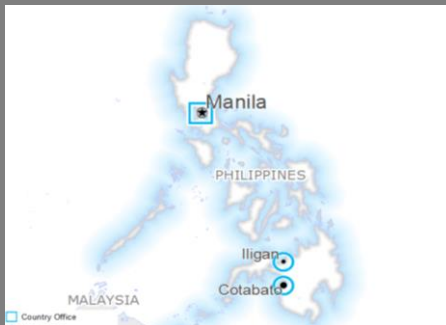
Operational Context

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.

Amidst the transition into the new regional entity Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, armed clashes with militant groups continue to cause displacement to thousands of families fleeing for safety.

Aiming to save lives and change lives, WFP is in line with the UN Philippines Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2019-2023, which prioritizes people, particularly, “the most marginalized, vulnerable, and at risk people and groups benefit from more inclusive and quality services and live in more supportive environments where their nutrition, food security, and health are ensured and protected.”



Population: **108 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **106 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **30.3% of children between 6-59 months (NNS,**

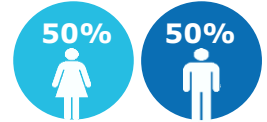
In Numbers

99 mt of food distributed

US\$ 172,235 cash distributed

US\$ 7 m six months (January 2020 – June 2020) net funding requirements

48,162 people assisted in December 2019



Operational Updates

- WFP tested its forecast-based financing approach through an early cash distribution simulation five days before Typhoon Kammuri made landfall in the Province of Sorsogon. WFP supported 1,430 households for early actions to ensure food and household security.
- Through its asset creation activities, WFP provided 805 farmers and fisherfolk with conditional cash-based transfers for their participation in agriculture work in Marawi, benefitting 4,025 family members. The Department of Agrarian Reform and Department of Agriculture supported the agricultural activities to restore economic activity.
- WFP provided conditional cash-based transfers to 16,685 individuals for asset creation activities in crisis-affected areas of Pikit, Maguindanao and Sulu.
- WFP distributed 23.2 mt of rice to 463 participants of the food assistance-for-assets activity in South Upi, Maguindanao, establishing nurseries as part of watershed rehabilitation of South Upi Watershed Forest Reserve.
- Multiple earthquakes hit the provinces of Central Mindanao and Davao Region since October, affecting 160,000 families. WFP provided logistics support to the Department of Health. WFP provided 14 trucks for transport of 169 mt of specialized nutritious food from Manila to Cotabato City and Davao City.
- Following the 6.9 magnitude earthquake in Matanao, Davao del Sur, WFP joined the immediate assessment in earthquake-affected areas led by the Provincial Government of Davao del Sur. This was followed by series of meetings with the Department of Social Welfare and Development XI and the Minister of Social Services and Development to analyse the food situation of affected populations and the Government’s capacity to respond to their needs.

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Jan 2020 – June 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
42.07 m	19 m	7 m

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

Donors

Australia, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, the Philippines, United States of America, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, and World Bank

Download WFP's [ShareTheMeal](#) app and help feed a child with just a tap on your phone: <https://apple.co/1QxNv9G>

- WFP provided technical assistance to the development of a Food Security and Nutrition Roadmap for Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) during its Phase III Workshop.
- WFP conducted an after-action review on iron fortified rice in school feeding in Maguindanao. Participants discussed the actions taken, good practices and challenges, in consideration of ways to scale up of the project.
- WFP supported a focal person from the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education to attend the [Global Child Nutrition Forum](#) in Cambodia and learn from other countries' school feeding programme strategies. WFP has been working with the Ministry in homegrown school feeding using iron-fortified rice in Maguindanao.
- The Automated Livelihood Information Assistant (ALIA), an Innovation Challenge Project of the Philippines was put through a simulation. ALIA can automate and update situation and vulnerability analysis to provide WFP with initial information to prepare for an emergency response to typhoons.

Monitoring

- In a distribution monitoring report of WFP's asset creation activities, results consistently showed that most beneficiaries were satisfied with the overall management of the distribution.
- WFP conducted the sixth in its series of emergency food security assessments of people affected by the Marawi Crisis in the provinces of Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur. These assessments have been conducted since the liberation of Marawi in October 2017 to monitor the food security situation of crisis-affected population. The result will be available in January 2020.
- WFP contributed preparation of the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the Philippines, which is a joint undertaking with the Food and Agriculture Organization, World Health Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, International Fund for Agricultural Development. The report will be finalized in January 2020.

Challenges

- WFP operations have insufficient funding, which creates delays in planned activities outlined in its [Country Strategic Plan \(CSP\) 2018-2023](#). WFP actively seeks donor commitments to ensure full programme implementation.