In Numbers

**US$ 8.2 m** six months (April 2020 – September 2020) net funding requirements

WFP has been providing logistics support to the Government in response to the COVID-19 situation in the Philippines.

WFP remains on standby for any additional support that may be requested by its Government partners.

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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 is at 21 percent in 2018 and hunger remained “serious” in 2019. Both natural hazards and man-made conflicts contribute to food insecurity rates in the country.

As a signatory to the Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty Memorandum of Understanding, WFP is committed to supporting the Government with strategic measures for building resilience to food and nutrition insecurity and supporting nutritional rehabilitation of undernourished children and provide skills enhancements leading to higher income opportunities for the rural poor.

WFP also supports the Government’s Inter-Agency Task Force on Zero Hunger in its goal of putting an end to hunger by 2030, in line with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger.

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Operational Updates

- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government has requested for WFP’s support in transporting food for vulnerable populations. In Metro Manila, WFP transported 419 metric tonnes of rice from the National Food Authority (NFA) warehouse to the National Response Operations Centre, where commodities for the family food packs are being assembled. In the province of Cebu, WFP also moved 60 mt of rice from the NFA warehouse in Cebu City to the packing facility in Mandaue City.

- WFP also responded to Cotabato Regional Health Center in Region XII’s need for a temporary hospital by loaning one of its mobile storage units (MSU) and a generator. WFP also loaned an MSU, generator, and 150 pallets to the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, which will be used as a temporary storage facility of medical supplies and non-food items during the pandemic.

- In assistance to the Department of Health, WFP transported specialized nutritious food from the warehouse in Metro Manila to Region XII. This was part of the Government’s response to the vulnerable families affected by the earthquakes in Mindanao in late 2019.

- In March, WFP began its technical assistance to the Department of Social Welfare and Development in creating a profile registry of the families affected by the January eruption of Taal Volcano in Batangas. WFP rolled out SCOPE, its beneficiary information and transfer management platform, to register 75,000 displaced families, which will enable accurate assistance delivery to the population in need. By 12 March, WFP had registered 4,398 families (17,607 individuals). The registration exercises are currently suspended due to the implementation of the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
In Maguindanao, WFP conducted the following capacity strengthening activities with local government units:

- WFP trained 30 barangay (village) nutrition scholars, health workers, and day care workers from the municipality of South Upi on food security indicators. These indicators will be integrated into the municipality’s Community-Based Management Information System.
- WFP conducted an orientation on the home-grown school feeding framework to the local government personnel of Datu Saudi Ampatuan municipality. This is part of the integration of food security and nutrition into the municipality’s Comprehensive Development Plan.

### Challenges

- WFP’s operations in the Philippines are struggling with insufficient funding, which creates delays in planned activities outlined in its Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2018-2023. WFP is actively seeking donor commitments to ensure full programme implementation in pursuit of its strategic results to help the Filipino people.

### Results Matter

WFP’s commitment to Zero Hunger in the Philippines, is reflected in its 2019 Annual Country Report, which showcases the achievements in 2019.

Learn how WFP has assisted the Government in responding to emergencies; reducing malnutrition among vulnerable groups; and strengthening the capacity of the national and local governments through poverty eradication measures and disaster preparedness and response in this full report.

### Donors

Australia, Italy, Germany, New Zealand, the Philippines, United Kingdom, United States of America, and World Bank

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