



WFP Pakistan Country Brief April 2020

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

Pakistan is making significant investments to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and its national development programme – Vision 2025. However, high levels of malnutrition, frequent natural hazards, political instability and a volatile security climate in parts of the country are challenges that continue to obstruct socio-economic progress.

WFP Pakistan's Country Strategic Plan seeks to support this progress. Alongside the provision of critically needed relief and nutrition support to vulnerable population groups, WFP assistance in the country aims to complement the Government's efforts in enhancing food and nutrition security of the people of Pakistan. WFP also provides technical support to the Government by conducting research to generate evidence to guide policy makers and assist in the development of relevant national strategies. WFP's work in Pakistan also encompasses community resilience building, disaster risk management and preparedness elements for sustainability and national ownership.

WFP has been present in Pakistan since 1968.



Population (2017 census):
207.7 million

2019 Human Development Index:
152 out of 189

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **40% of children between 6-59 months**

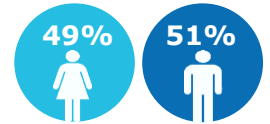
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In Numbers

3.7 mt of food distributed

US\$ 48.0 million six months (May- Oct 2020) net funding requirements representing 78 percent of total.

282,000 people assisted in March 2020



Operational Updates

- WFP is working with Pakistan's National and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (NDMA and PDMA) to ensure national priorities for COVID-19 response are met. In April, WFP provided NDMA and PDMA's with the following urgent support:
 - WFP seconded **two of its technical staff members** (a logistician and nutritionist) to NDMA.
 - WFP installed **five Mobile Storage Units** within the premises of NDMA warehouses along with pallets to enhance stacking and storage capacities.
 - WFP procured and installed **six heavy duty ultra-low medical grade freezers** to store COVID-19 testing kits at NDMA's main warehouse in special airconditioned containers with uninterrupted power supply.
 - WFP provided PDMA's in Balochistan, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with **20 Mobile Storage Units, three prefabricated latrines and one hub-in-box** for storage and isolation purposes.
- WFP supported NDMA, the Ministry of Health, WHO and other UN and humanitarian agencies in developing the COVID-19 Pakistan Preparedness and Response Plan. For the plan, **WFP drafted the logistics and supply chain priority actions/activities required to stop the transmission of COVID-19.** The plan was launched by the Government of Pakistan on 23 April 2020.
- To support the development of the Government's COVID-19 Socio-Economic Impact and Response Plan, **WFP and FAO have been co-leading the food security and nutrition analysis and response in the country.** The food security and nutrition analysis was conducted in May and has become part of the Government's Socio-Economic Impact Assessment. The analysis will assist the Government in formulating immediate, medium and long-term plans to offset the impact of COVID-19 in Pakistan. To support the socio-economic plan, WFP also proposed short and medium-to-long-term (relief, social protection, resilience building, nutrition and education) interventions to ensure food security of the country's most vulnerable. WFP's requirement of funds under this plan is USD 84 million.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	May – Oct 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
447.4 M	170.4 M	48.0 M

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Affected populations in Pakistan have timely access to adequate food and nutrition during and in the aftermath of natural disasters and shocks (SDG 2.1).

Focus area: *Crisis response*

Activities:

- Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food
- Asset creation and livelihood support activities.

Strategic Outcome 2: The social protection system at the federal and provincial levels provides the populations most in need, especially women, adolescent girls and children, with improved and sustained access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food by 2022.

Focus area: *Root Causes*

Activities:

- Institutional capacity strengthening activities
- School meal activities.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: The entire population of Pakistan, especially children under 5, adolescent girls and women of reproductive age, has improved nutrition in line with national targets for 2025.

Focus area: *Root Causes*

Activities:

- Malnutrition prevention activities
- Enhanced social and public-sector capacity to identify, target and assist nutritionally vulnerable populations

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 4: Communities in disaster prone districts have more resilient food systems and development gains are better protected by disaster risk management systems at all levels by 2022.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Climate adaptation and risk management activities.
- Emergency preparedness activities

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs (SDG target 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 5: Federal and provincial systems have strengthened capabilities to provide food security and essential services by 2022.

Focus area: *Root Causes*

Activities:

- Institutional capacity strengthening activities.

Operational Updates (continued)

- **WFP's response to COVID-19 in Pakistan has been included in the [Global Humanitarian Response Plan](#)** which was launched on 7 May. In coordination with relevant sector leads and co-leads, estimated humanitarian needs under the Food Security and Agriculture, Logistics & Supply Chain, Nutrition and Education sectors have been identified. WFP's total requirement under this plan for Pakistan is USD 41 million.
- **WFP has re-appropriated funds from ongoing operations to support the Government's COVID-19 response.** These funds will be used for filling immediate gaps in the Government's response through the provision of cash and in-kind assistance. However, for in-kind assistance, a complete food basket will require the mobilisation of additional resources for which potential donors are being approached.
- WFP is carrying out its recovery **food assistance for assets (FFA) initiative in the provinces of Sindh and Balochistan to support the drought affected population in these areas.** As part of the initiative, WFP assists affected families through cash transfers, conditional on participation in community rehabilitation activities. These activities are aimed at improving long-term food security and resilience. **In April, WFP disbursed USD 1 million in the targeted districts.** To minimize the risk of infection while disbursing cash, COVID-19 specific Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) were developed and adopted at the cash distribution points. Precautionary equipment (i.e. sanitisers, gloves and washing facilities) were also placed at all the distribution points.
- Together with the Education Ministry for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), WFP will be launching an education support programme for adolescent girls in KP's tribal districts (ex FATA). The programme aims to decrease the gender gap at secondary level in the region and increase the transition rates of girls from primary to secondary schools. This is to be achieved by providing **monthly cash stipends of PKR 1,000 to adolescent girls'** attending grade 6-10, conditional upon enrolment and 70% school attendance. **The Secretary endorsed the programme** and stated that the department will explore the prospects of complementing this initiative by providing conditional cash transfers to primary school children.

Donors

Australia, China, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Canada, ECHO, Emergency Preparedness and Response Trust Fund, Ireland, Japan, Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, UK, UN Centralized Emergency Response Fund (CERF), One UN Trust Fund, and USA.