

SAVING
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LIVES



UN WFP INDIA MONTHLY BULLETIN

June 2020 Highlights

Support to the Central Government

Partnership with Indian Institute of Technology – Delhi (IIT Delhi)

On 18 June, WFP and the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi signed a strategic partnership to jointly develop sustainable models and innovative solutions that can be replicated across the country to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Government's food-based safety nets. WFP will use advanced analytics and operational research to develop practical solutions that will support long term strategic planning of procurement, storage and movement of food grains within the supply chain. Read more here: bit.ly/37J9Oqw

Partnership with the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog

In February of this year, WFP signed a partnership agreement with Develop-

ment Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog, to provide technical assistance to strengthen the national monitoring and evaluation capacities. WFP has positioned a monitoring and evaluation expert in DMEO, NITI Aayog to facilitate joint activities and strengthen the partnership.

WFP participated in a panel discussion on 'M&E in Government: Institutionalization, Demand Generation and Points of Entry' being led by DMEO, NITI Aayog, Government of India during gLOCAL, the international evaluation week organized by the JPAL-SA/CLEAR initiative and supported by the World Bank. WFP shared its perspectives and knowledge on partnering with the government, the current state of M&E in governance, gaps and scope for improvement, and institutionalization of M&E etc.



Snapshots from MoU signing between WFP & IIT Delhi

Support to the States

Directorate of Mission Shakti, Odisha

WFP established a partnership with the Mission Shakti to further its commitment towards enhancing livelihoods and income of women's self-help groups (SHGs) and women smallholder farmers. Mission Shakti is the Government of Odisha's directorate of women empowerment, which supports around 700,000 women's SHGs in the state to improve their livelihoods, market linkages and incomes. Under this initiative, WFP will help enhance Mission Shakti's managerial system for support and will undertake capacity strengthening activities in the areas of improved livelihoods, nutrition and women empowerment.

Recently, in partnership with the Mission Shakti, WFP published the 'Assessment of Women Self-Help Groups and Women Smallholder Farmers in Odisha', which can be accessed here: bit.ly/2BBI3Wp. The findings are now being used to define the specific areas of technical assistance and capacity strengthening for nearly 7 million women in the 700,000 women self-help groups in the state, by enabling them to access financial assistance, capacity strengthening and market linkages to enhance their livelihoods and incomes.

Pilot of Mobile Storage Units (MSU) with State Governments of Odisha and Uttarakhand

Limited availability of covered space for storage of food grains across India, has been a key concern for both Indian government and its farmers. To address this challenge, WFP India is exploring possibilities for increasing storage capacities, especially via Mobile Storage Units (MSU) that are used by WFP globally.

As a first step, WFP is working with the Governments of Uttarakhand and Odisha to pilot these mobile storage units. In order to promote 'made in India' and for sustainability of the project, WFP is engaging local manufacturers to produce some of the Mobile Storage Units. Our note on the same can be accessed here: bit.ly/3iEfS8Y

Department of Women and Child Development (WCD), Government of Uttar Pradesh

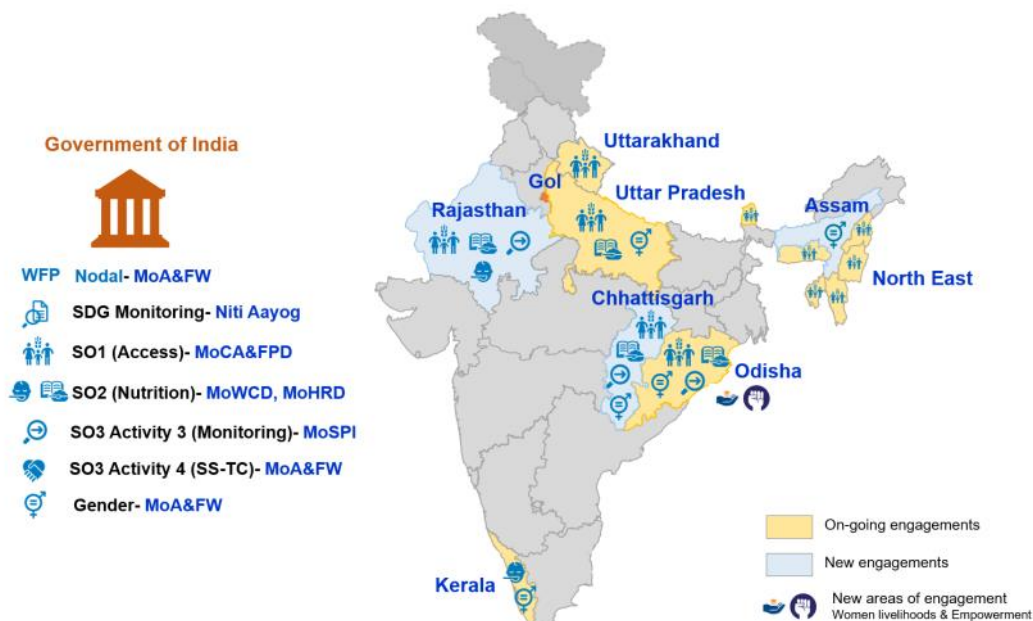
In collaboration with the Department of Women and Child Development, WFP is supporting the development of new recipes for locally produced fortified blended take-home rations which are distributed to more than 16 million young children and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) through the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) safety net across the state. WFP is also discussing plans to set-up decentralized production units for fortified blended foods.

Department of Women and Child Development (WCD), Government of Kerala

In Kerala, the Department of Women and Child Development has committed to continue the WFP-initiated project on rice fortification in Thaliparamba, using their own funds. The scale-up plan will be initiated soon with the support of the National Nutrition Mission in Kerala.

Support to Civil Society Organisations

WFP's partnership with SPHERE-India has been strengthened through a Memorandum of Understanding with the aim of strengthening humanitarian response capacities around food and nutrition security in India.



Mapping WFP's work with Central and State Governments

The immediate actions, focused on the COVID-19 response, will include strengthening capacities of frontline workers on key food and nutrition interventions and using SPHERE-India's network of partners to monitor the situation of economic migrants in real time.



MoU signing between WFP & SPHERE India

Knowledge Sharing

Follow-up Assessment of Food and Livelihood Security, Government of Odisha

As a follow-up to the April 2020 rapid assessment of food and nutrition security in Odisha, a follow up assessment has been requested by the State Government. WFP is working with the Inter-Agency Group to design the follow up which will have a focus on food and livelihood security among the small/marginal farmers, landless, daily wage workers and migrant labourers during the post COVID-19 period. The Inter-Agency Group, including Oxfam India, Catholic Relief Services, World Vision India, Caritas India, HelpAge India along with UNICEF and WFP commissioned a study in Odisha, India. Insights from the April study can be accessed here: bit.ly/2BBI3Wp

COVID-19 Awareness Videos | Malayalam

The animated videos developed by WFP have been widely disseminated through the WFP India social media platforms and also through the social media websites of the Department of Women and Child Development, National Nutrition Mission, in Kerala: bit.ly/31aQmSv

Study: Who eats When, What and How Much?

A Study on understanding intra-household food distribution and consumption patterns within poor households in two locations in Uttar Pradesh, India, was conducted in late 2019, and a series of thematic information Notes have recently been released. The study focused on the gendered norms and practices that govern food distribution and consumption within the household and assess how they influence food consumption by members, particularly women and girls. This information is critical to enhance the inclusivity of food safety nets. The study factsheet and four thematic Information Notes can be accessed here: bit.ly/2MvLOxt

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RESPONSE RECEIVED FOR COVID19 AWARENESS

videos created & disseminated by WFP

Malayalam version	20,000 views (via two different posts on Facebook shared by Women and Child development department and National Nutrition Mission in Kerala)
Hindi Version	1,262 views On WFP India's Hindi version of the videos and playlist
Odiya Version	30,000 Government frontline workers received the Odiya videos (via gov and shared it further in the state)

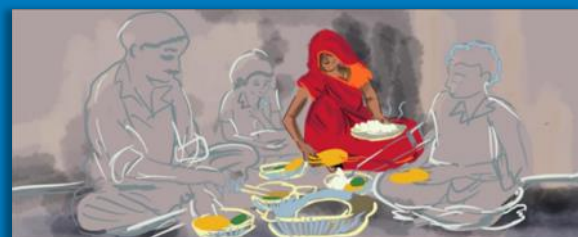
JAN AAPURTI APP

Food grain procurement app connecting retailers, ration shops and beneficiaries developed for State Govt. of Uttarakhand launched in May. Access it here: bit.ly/2ZWgLS5

No. of downloads	20,000
No. of Retailers listed	100

SNAPSHOT OF 1 OF THE 4 INFORMATION NOTES

we prepared to unpack the study titled 'Who eats When, What and How Much?' findings



Information Note 4
Understanding Intra-household Food Distribution and Consumption in Two Locations in Uttar Pradesh: Summary of Conclusions and Recommendations

Background

India's food safety nets reach millions of vulnerable households each month to improve access to food. However, the decisions on how food is shared within the household determines individual food and nutrition security. These are decisions are mostly dictated by prevailing social norms, which are often biased against women and girls.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in India supports the Government in improving the coverage, operational efficiency and quality of food-based safety nets. In late 2019, WFP conducted a study in two districts of Uttar Pradesh to understand the norms and practices that govern food distribution and consumption within the household and assess how they influence food consumption by members, particularly women and girls.

Uttar Pradesh

SURVEY DETAILS
Partners: WFP and Society for Advancement of Resourceless by Training and Handholding (SAMARTH)
Month of data collection: December 2019
Locations surveyed: Fatehpur (Rural); Lucknow (Urban poor)
Quantitative: Household survey of 400 households (250 Rural; 150 Urban)
Qualitative: Focus group discussions (8); In-depth interviews with community women (20); In-depth interviews with community health workers (10); Key informant interviews (6)

Nutrition In The Context Of The COVID-19 Pandemic In India

Here are 6 steps the government must take to ensure that the nutrition needs of vulnerable women and children are not compromised by the pandemic and its fallout.

Dr Yasmin Ali Haque, Mr. Shihov Parajuli, Ms. Poyden, Mr. Tomiko Shichi | Jun 10, 2020



Snapshot of articles shared in collaboration with various organisations on food & nutrition topics

Knowledge products developed by WFP in partnership with other organisations:

WFP developed several policy, advocacy and knowledge products in June, including:

A joint WFP-IFPRI blog post was published which focused on the current status of the school meals programme in the time of COVID-19, and the various implementation adaptations which were launched across the country. The blog also discussed potential impacts of these adaptations on nutrition and food security. bit.ly/3dpx2Eq

In an article published in Outlook Poshan, the Heads of Agencies from WFP, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) jointly shared insights on six key areas of focus for the Government of India to take in order to ensure that the nutrition needs of vulnerable women and children are not compromised by COVID-19. bit.ly/3dTm3Dp

WFP, IFPRI and Tata Trusts jointly published an article on "Integrating complementary food supplements at scale into national nutrition programmes: Insights from India", which discusses the gaps in the current supplementary nutrition programme implemented by the ICDS scheme, and suggests key recommendations for its improvement. bit.ly/2NYSc11

Cover illustration by: WFP/SanjnaSudan

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has been working in partnership with the Government of India for more than 50 years to contribute to its efforts to achieve food and nutrition security. WFP is currently doing this by demonstrating scalable pilots and best practices, providing specialized knowledge and international experience for effective implementation of food safety nets and supporting evidence-based analysis.

Globally, WFP works in more than 83 countries, reaching 86.7 million people. As the world's largest humanitarian organization, WFP is taking the global lead on the COVID-19 logistics and supply chain including air transport. WFP is also the global co-lead on the food security cluster and actively involved in the global nutrition response. While continuing their work in improving access to food, better nutrition, building evidence and facilitating the sharing of learning across countries, WFP India's work in the COVID crisis is outlined in this bulletin.



United Nations World Food Programme, India Country Office,
2 Poorvi Marg, New Delhi 110057, India
Phone: +91 11 4655 4000 | E-mail: WFP.NewDelhi@wfp.org
Website: www.wfp.org/countries/india | Twitter: [@UNWFP_India](https://twitter.com/UNWFP_India)