



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Pakistan Country Brief July 2020



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, a volatile security climate in parts of the country and the impact of COVID-19 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**

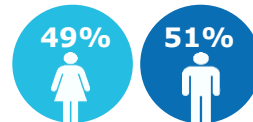
Chronic malnutrition: **40% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

2,098.35 mt of food distributed

US\$ 41.3 million six months (Aug 2020 – Jan 2021) net funding requirements representing 62 percent of total.

250,969 people assisted in June 2020



Operational Updates

- In collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority and the Ministry of Health, **WFP is facilitating the management and integration of data in the national logistics management information system (LMIS) to support the Government’s response to COVID-19.** The LMIS was designed to support the efficient procurement and allocation of personal protective and medical equipment across the country.
- **WFP provided inputs on logistics and warehousing to support the UNICEF-led national logistics assessment** as an activity under the logistics and supply chain working group which WFP co-chairs with the National Disaster Management Authority.
- WFP along with other UN agencies has been actively supporting the Government’s Socio-Economic Impact and Response Plan for COVID-19. **WFP is assisting provincial governments in identifying gaps in their socio-economic frameworks that UN agencies can help fill.**
- **WFP is finalizing preparations to provide emergency relief assistance for a period of three months to over 120,000 people across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan to help them cope with the economic repercussions of COVID-19.** 39,600 people will receive in-kind food assistance while the others will receive cash-based transfers. All beneficiary mobilization, registration and distribution activities will strictly follow WFP’s COVID-19 standard operating procedures to ensure the safety of beneficiaries and WFP staff.
- WFP has been locally producing ready-to-use supplementary foods, to prevent and treat malnutrition in Pakistan for nearly a decade. **In July 2020, WFP secured a tax exemption on importing raw materials to produce this product in-country.** This has helped reduce production cost, thereby allowing WFP to support a larger number of people with the available resources.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Aug 2020 – Jan 2021 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
447.4 M	175.7 M	41.3 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.

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.

- **Together with the elementary and secondary education department of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, WFP has launched its education support programme for adolescent girls in the erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas.** The programme aims to decrease the gender gap at secondary level 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 (US\$6) to adolescent girls attending grades 6-10, conditional upon enrolment and 70 percent school attendance.
- **WFP has commenced implementation of the Ehsaas ‘Nashonuma’ programme to reduce high rates of chronic malnutrition (stunting) across Pakistan.** Nashonuma utilizes the existing primary health care system to implement stunting prevention programmes which include the provision of specialized nutritious foods. The programmes target pregnant and lactating women and children under the age of 2 enrolled in the Government’s national unconditional cash transfer scheme ‘Ehsaas Kafaalat’. Nashonuma provides an innovative model through which the UN can support national safety nets, during COVID-19 and beyond.
- **WFP and the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) successfully concluded the shock-responsive social protection project in Sindh and Balochistan.** Under this project, WFP provided cash top-ups to 49,094 of the most vulnerable drought-affected households registered with BISP. Each recipient cumulatively received a top-up of PKR 12,000 (US\$72) over a period of three months. This was in addition to their usual BISP cash entitlement.
- **WFP conducted a third round of assistance covering 11,979 families in Neelum Valley, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, in July with each family receiving 93 kg of food.** The communities are still recovering from the impact of unusually heavy snowfalls and avalanches earlier in the year, which destroyed homes, food and livestock stored for winter and lean times. Many were left stranded for several months as roads were inaccessible by snow and landslides. WFP was the only agency able to provide an on-the-ground response to the emergency, providing life-saving food assistance to families in four Union Councils. WFP conducted this distribution with assistance from local volunteers.