



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Pakistan Country Brief November 2020

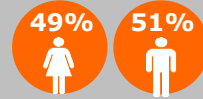


In Numbers

278 mt of food distributed in October 2020

US\$ 30.59 million six months (Dec 2020 – May 2021) 2021) representing 51.84 percent of total.

164,423 people assisted in October 2020



WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

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 Government efforts to address food insecurity and the chronic nutritional deficit, particularly among vulnerable populations in marginalised areas of the country. Together with FAO and other UN partners, WFP provides technical support to the Government through assessment and research that provides evidence to guide policy makers. WFP's work in Pakistan also encompasses community resilience building, disaster risk management, preparedness and response efforts of key national entities and communities.

WFP has been present in Pakistan since 1968.



Population (2017 census): **207.7 million**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2019 Human Development Index: **152 out of 189**

Operational Updates

- Monsoon rains in late August devastated much of southern Sindh. While much of the water has drained away, large areas of stagnant water remain which continue to impede planting and agricultural activity. This is further compounding the effect on livelihood opportunities and exacerbating the challenge for many households to buy food. Following the first phase of in-kind food assistance in September, **WFP initiated the second phase of relief support** on 10 November through multi-purpose cash-based assistance in the province. Distribution for over 117,000 people will continue until the end of January 2021.
- Following a decrease in new COVID-19 cases in Pakistan over the summer, the numbers have risen sharply over recent months. This is a worrying situation for a country where 36.9 percent of the population is food insecure. WFP is providing emergency relief assistance to help these vulnerable groups cope with the repercussions of the pandemic. **In November, WFP provided 5,919 families, as well as 25 transgender people across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Balochistan with unconditional cash stipends. Additionally, WFP provided 1,645 families in Balochistan with in-kind food support.**
- WFP is providing unconditional cash transfers to incentivize the continued attendance of adolescent girls in secondary schools in the tribal districts of KP. Under this programme, WFP provides cash-based transfers to the primary caregivers of the female students. **In November, WFP distributed USD 11,412 amongst 912 caregivers across the districts of Bajaur, North Waziristan and Bannu.**
- To minimize the risk of infection while disbursing cash and food assistance, WFP is strictly adhering to COVID-19 specific standard operating procedures while carrying out all activities.

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Dec 2020 – May 2021 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
474.41 m	193.13 m	30.59 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.

- At the request of the Government, WFP has provided relief assistance to internally displaced people (IDPs) and host communities in KP since 2008. In recent years, many IDP families have returned to their places of origin. Only 15,800 families remain displaced. **WFP recently completed a vulnerability assessment** to identify families that are still vulnerable and require ongoing assistance.
- WFP is also supporting the creation of community assets in the tribal districts of KP to support resettlement and stabilization. As part of the initiative, WFP assists vulnerable groups and displaced families that have returned to their place of origin. WFP provides cash-based transfers, conditional upon participation in community rehabilitation activities and trainings aimed at improving long-term food security and resilience. **In November, WFP disbursed USD 1.37 million amongst 14,677 families in the targeted districts.**
- **WFP continues to support the Government to establish facilitation centres under its nationwide 'EHSAAAS Nashonuma' programme for stunting prevention.** In total, WFP has established 27 facilitation centres in eight districts across all provinces where children and pregnant and lactating women receive specialized nutritious foods and health support. WFP has also been requested to extend the programme in one additional district of each province by the Government.
- Heavy snowfall and avalanches affected many people across Azad, Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), Balochistan and KP last winter. To reduce the risk of such hazards this year, **WFP has initiated winter contingency planning in consultation with the Pakistan Metrological Department, Disaster Management Authorities and other key stakeholders.**
- As part of the '16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence' awareness campaign which started on 25 November, **WFP distributed 110,996 brochures and 529 banners carrying various messages against gender-based violence among partners and communities and initiated social media campaigns to promote gender equality.**

Donors

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