In Numbers

- **45 percent** of women of reproductive age group are overweight or obese; **33 percent** of pregnant and lactating women are anaemic (Demographic and Health Survey, Sri Lanka, 2016).

WFP: **US$ 1,628** paid as cash-based transfers and **37 participants** (148 beneficiaries) assisted in resilience projects for January.

**US$ 1.86 million** - six months net funding requirement (February - July 2021)

Situation Updates

- Sri Lanka’s COVID-19 infections continued to increase, with a total of 64,157 confirmed cumulative cases by the end of January, and 316 deaths. However, 57,159 people had recovered from the disease. The western province continued to report the highest number of COVID-19 patients.

- The Ministry of Health launched preparations to start the COVID-19 vaccination programme, prioritizing frontline health and support service staff. It was reported that the World Health Organization (WHO) will also provide Sri Lanka with vaccines to cover 20 percent of the population.

Primary schools in the western province remained closed throughout January, although secondary schools (grades 10 to 13) were reopened. In low-risk areas however, both primary and secondary schools were reopened by early January. As reported in the media, some schools detected COVID-19 infections among pupils and staff, however schools continued to operate after isolating infected patients and fully sanitizing affected buildings.

Operational Updates

- WFP continued the monsoon communication campaign comprising of infographics and animated videos on social media in targeted areas at risk of heavy monsoon rains. The campaign was developed to create awareness on monsoon preparedness as part of WFP’s overall efforts in emergency preparedness and response.

- A WFP-supported school caterer of the home-grown school feeding (HGSF) programme, Gurusingehe Nandamalini, was awarded the ‘Social worker of the Year’ at the Women in Management “Top 50 Professional and Career Women Awards” for 2020. Nandamalini’s achievement highlighted the many efforts made by WFP in giving beneficiaries a platform to showcase their role towards enhancing nutrition and building food security.
### WFP Country Strategy

#### Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>46.57 m</td>
<td>29.04 m</td>
<td>1.86 m</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Strategic Result 1: End hunger by protecting access to food

**Strategic Outcome #1:** Crisis-affected people have access to food all year round.

**Focus area:** Crisis Response to ensure humanitarian assistance

**Activities:**
- Provide food assistance to crisis-affected people

#### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome #2:** School-age children in food-insecure areas have access to food all year round.

**Focus area:** Root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition among school-age children

**Activities:**
- Provide nutrition-sensitive food assistance, in partnership with the government, to school-age children.
- Provide technical and policy support for the delivery of nutrition-sensitive school meals programmes to the government.

#### Strategic Result 3: Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome #3:** Children under 5, adolescent girls and women of reproductive age have improved nutrition by 2025

**Focus area:** Immediate and underlying causes of malnutrition.

**Activities:**
- Provide evidence-based advice, advocacy, and technical assistance to the government and implementing partners.
- Provide technical assistance and advocate the scaling up of the fortification of staple food and specialized nutritious foods to the government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.

#### Strategic Result 4: Vulnerable communities and smallholder farmers have strengthened livelihoods and resilience in the face of shocks and stresses all year round.

**Focus area:** Resilience building to enable vulnerable communities to better withstand shocks and stresses and to augment government capacity to implement disaster-management and integrated disaster-risk-reduction strategies.

**Activities:**
- Support nutrition-sensitive and gender-transformative livelihood diversification and income generation through integrated resilience-building activities.
- Provide technical assistance for emergency preparedness and response operations to the government.
- Provide technical assistance to the government and related agencies in the building of improved, unified, shock-responsive safety-net systems.

- The national Technical Advisory Group for the HGSF was strengthened with the addition of a new focal point appointed in the school health and nutrition division at the Ministry of Education. This will allow for an expansion of activities to strengthen the linkages with agriculture in the HGSF.

- WFP and the State Ministry of National Security, Home Affairs and Disaster Management and the disaster management agencies, conducted a joint planning session to agree on key priorities for 2021, allowing for finalization of the joint workplan for the year.

#### Monitoring

- WFP conducted the mid-term review of the Sri Lanka Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022), focusing on implementation processes and institutional arrangements with the Government. The recommendations highlighted more robust internal mechanisms to promote integration across WFP’s different activities in the country, to strengthen their sustainability. Joint planning with government implementing agencies have also been recommended, which will help to better streamline the activities and assess progress, eventually leading to synchronization with government budgets for joint annual work plans.

#### Donors

- Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Government of Japan, UN Peace-building Fund, The Earth Group, Italian Comitato, Government of Australia, Office of the US Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), Government of Denmark, Japan Association for WFP, FEED, DSM N, Johns Hopkins University-USA, Government of Canada, Master Card