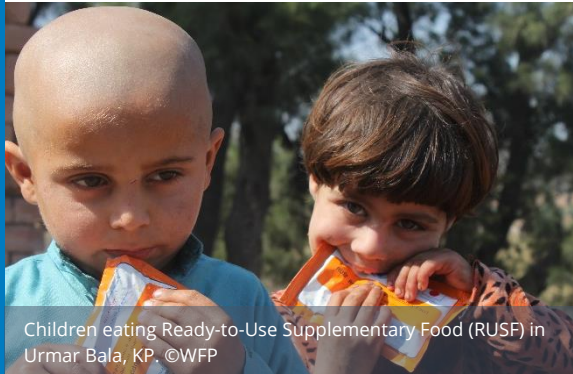




World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Pakistan Country Brief August 2021



Children eating Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) in Urmar Bala, KP. ©WFP

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 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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

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

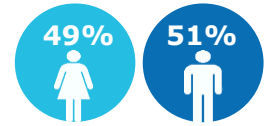
In Numbers

1,328 mt of food distributed in August 2021

US\$ 297,393 cash distributed in August 2021

US\$ 37.1 m six months (Sep 2021 – Feb 2022) net funding requirements

218,343 people assisted in July 2021



Operational Updates

- A humanitarian crisis is unfolding in Afghanistan following the recent Taliban takeover in August. The unimpeded provision of assistance to beneficiaries inside Afghanistan relies on support from Pakistan to enable transit of humanitarian workers and cargo by road and air. To that end, **WFP is facilitating humanitarian action from Pakistan by establishing an airbridge from Islamabad into Afghanistan with the support of the Government of Pakistan, strengthening the logistics capacity to support the transit of humanitarian goods and commodities through the Port of Karachi into Afghanistan, and providing administrative support for WFP staff transiting through Pakistan.** WFP food convoys into Afghanistan are now operational in the Pakistan-Afghanistan border areas of both Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Balochistan. WFP has also made a contingency planning for the potential influx of 300,000 Afghan refugees into Pakistan but needs US\$ 16.2 million in anticipated funding for operationalizing the plan.
- WFP in partnership with the Government continues its efforts to reduce stunting through the innovative nationwide Ehsaas Nashonuma programme. By the end of August, 50 facilitation centres (FCs) were functional across 15 districts in Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Balochistan, Gilgit-Baltistan, KP, Sindh, Punjab, and Islamabad. **Through these FCs, WFP has provided specialized nutritious food and health support to 27,176 pregnant and lactating women and 34,228 children under two years of age.**
- WFP continues the implementation of the Stunting Prevention and Rehabilitation Integrated Nutrition Gain programme in KP (KP SPRING). **In August, WFP provided 14,713 pregnant and lactating women and children under 2 with specialized nutritious foods and behavioural change communication under this programme.**

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/pakistan

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Sep 2021 – Feb 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
475.3 m	197.9 m	37.1 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.

- Since 2008, WFP has been supporting internally displaced people (IDPs) residing in camps and out of camps in the newly merged districts (erstwhile FATA) of KP. WFP reached an agreement in January 2021 with the Provincial Government for support to continue through Government channels. In view of the importance of a smooth transition, it was agreed that WFP will continue to support with available resources with a focus on those residing in camps for a period of eight months. In August 2021, after completing the last round of in-kind food distribution to support IDPs residing in KP's Bakka Khel camp, WFP successfully handed over ownership to the Government. **From 2008-2021, WFP has supported a total of 5.4 million IDPs through the provision of 1.7 million mt of food in KP.**
- WFP continues its recovery food assistance for assets (FFA) programme to support IDP returnee families in KP, drought affected families in Balochistan, and families affected by multiple shocks in Sindh. Through the programme, WFP assists vulnerable groups through cash transfers which are conditional upon participation in community rehabilitation activities and trainings designed for improving long-term food security and resilience. **In August, 13,598 people were reached in KP under the FFA initiative. Programme implementation activities were carried out in Balochistan and Sindh, with distribution expected to start in the month of September.**
- Following the request from the provincial disaster management authority in KP, an ad hoc relief intervention was initiated in KP's Upper Dir, Lower Kohistan, and Khyber districts. Under the intervention, flood affected households in Kohistan and malnourished, low-income families in Dir and Khyber receive two cycles of unconditional food assistance. **In August, the second distribution cycle was completed in Dir and Khyber districts, through which 28,613 people were provided with in-kind food. Distribution in Kohistan will be concluded by the first week of September 2021.**

Donors

Australia, Republic of Korea, 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.