



World Food Programme

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LIVES

# WFP Philippines Country Brief October 2021



Australia, WFP and FAO met smallholder farmers in Cagayan who received support through a joint response after Typhoon Ulysses

## Operational Context

A middle-income country, the Philippines is the second fastest growing economy in Asia but has struggled to transpose these improvements into tangible human development gains. Poverty is at 19.8 percent in 2020 and the country ranks 4<sup>th</sup> among countries most affected by climate risks in a 20-year period. Now exacerbated by the impact of COVID-19, natural hazards and man-made conflicts contribute to food insecurity.

WFP supports the Government of the Philippines in its emergency response to natural hazards and armed conflicts, while gradually shifting to prioritise capacity strengthening measures through technical support and augmentation of logistics capacity as the Government responds to the needs of the population affected by COVID-19.

As a signatory to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty, WFP is committed to supporting the Government with strategic measures for building resilience to food and nutrition insecurity, supporting nutritional rehabilitation of undernourished children, and improved access to income-generating activities for rural poor in Mindanao. Specifically, WFP works on a humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach in the Bangsamoro Region during its transition period.

WFP also supports the Government's Inter-Agency Task Force on Zero Hunger in its goal of putting an end to hunger by 2030, in line with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger.



Population: **110 million**

Childhood stunting: **28.8%**  
(National Nutrition Survey, 2019)

2020 Human Development Index  
Ranking: **107 out of 189**

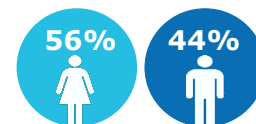
Income Level: **Lower middle**

## In Numbers

**11,500** people assisted in October 2021

**US\$ 91,000** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 800,000** six-month net funding requirements



## Operational Updates

### Emergency Response

- WFP transported **53,000 family food packs** and relief items to support families affected by Tropical Storm Maring (international name Kompas). More than 1 million people were affected by Maring and 32 people died according to the Government. This logistics support was provided at the request of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to complement the government's response. It was made possible through the continuous support of USAID.

### Disaster Preparedness & Climate Change Adaptation

- WFP continued the registration of beneficiaries for the UN joint **Anticipatory Action** pilot which aims to support vulnerable populations prior to a disaster. As of 31 October, 22,900 households have been registered in SCOPE (WFP's beneficiary and transfer management platform) in Albay, Sorsogon and Catanduanes. WFP plans to register a total of 25,000 households who will receive cash assistance in case of an imminent extreme weather event, so they can take anticipatory actions to protect their food security and livelihoods. This joint UN agency project is funded by UN CERF and implemented by OCHA, FAO, IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP.
- WFP participated in the [Asia Pacific Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action](#) held online on 19-21 October. WFP presented its approach to institutionalize Anticipatory Action projects and to mainstream Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA).
- WFP held a 5-day **emergency logistics training** in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) in partnership with the Office of Civil Defense and DSWD. The event was attended by 25 staff from the Ministry of Social Services and Development. Along with classroom training, the participants constructed a mobile storage unit and visited a WFP warehouse to observe good storage practices.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
48.5 m	32.6 m	0.8 m

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Crisis-affected people in the Philippines are able to meet their food and nutrition needs during and immediately after an emergency.

**Focus area:** Crisis response

#### Activities:

- Provide unconditional food and nutrition assistance through the governments' safety net or partners to crisis-affected communities following natural disasters or human-induced shocks and disruptions

### Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Women, boys, and girls in provinces prioritized by the Government have adequate and healthy diets to reduce malnutrition in line with government targets by 2022.

**Focus area:** Root Cause

#### Activities:

- Provide direct and technical assistance to boys, girls, women and care providers as well as technical assistance to government, build evidence and advocate to ensure nutrition specific and sensitive multiple sectorial responses lead to adequate and healthy diets during the critical times of development.

### Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable communities in Mindanao have improved food security, in support of government targets by 2022.

**Focus area:** Resilience

#### Activities:

- Support the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and local governments to address the Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) needs of all segments of the population (activity category: 9, modality: CS/food/cash) to further consolidate and enhance existing peace and development plans

### Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening

**Strategic Outcome 4:** National and Local Government have enhanced capabilities to reduce vulnerabilities to shocks by 2022.

**Focus area:** Resilience

#### Activities:

- Support national and local capacities for disaster risk reduction and management as well as climate change adaptation
- Strengthen and augment government and partners' emergency preparedness and response capacity to include supply chain and ICT

## Livelihoods and Resilience

- WFP distributed cash assistance (USD 91,000) to 2,200 households participating in **Food Assistance for Assets (FFA)** activities in Maguindanao and Lanao del Sur. As part of the project, participants rehabilitated 7 km of farm to market roads and planted 34 hectares of vegetables. Participants included decommissioned combatants, indigenous people and conflict-affected communities. In BARMM, WFP implements FFA projects under the inter-ministerial 'convergence' model in close collaboration with the Government.
- Ahead of the launch of new FFA projects in Basilan province, WFP conducted **training for local authorities** on beneficiary registration using SCOPE and monitoring surveys. Participants included 35 staff from the Basilan Provincial Government and the Local Government Units of Al-Barka, Tipo-Tipo and Sumisip.

## Policy Support

- In BARMM, WFP participated in a three-day workshop organized by the Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority to refine the draft **Bangsamoro Food Security and Nutrition Plan (BFSNP) 2021-2025**. The BFSNP aims to achieve a self-reliant, food-secured, and resilient region with prosperous farmers and fisherfolks, where consumers have a continuous flow of food and producers have continuous productivity, unhampered movement of agricultural commodities, accessibility, and price stability.

## Nutrition

- In preparation for the **Nutrition For Growth (N4G) Summit** which will take place in Japan on 7-8 December 2021, WFP supported the National Nutrition Council to conduct a consultative meeting with partners. Partners provided specific commitments to support the Government to address food insecurity and malnutrition.

## Partnerships

- The **Government of Japan** announced a donation of rice worth USD 3.2 million to WFP. The donation will support farming and fishing households in BARMM, including decommissioned combatants and indigenous people. The donation was formalised at a ceremony at which the Exchange of Notes were signed by Koshikawa Kazuhiko, Ambassador of Japan and Brenda Barton, WFP Representative and Country Director. The event was witnessed by Secretary Carlito G. Galvez Jr., Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process; Acting Secretary Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro, Department of Foreign Affairs; and Deputy Minister Ammal Solaiman, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform – BARMM.

## Donors

Australia, Bank of America, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Germany, Italy, Japan, Japan Association for the World Food Programme, New Zealand, the Philippines, private sector, United States of America, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, and World Bank.