



# WFP India Country Brief November 2021

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



DAYS OF ACTIVISM  
AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



## Highlights

WFP India Country Office had a virtual social media campaign launch for the “16 days of Activism to end Gender-Based Violence” campaign on 25 November. Led by the Gender and Communications units, the campaign included pictures of WFP staff with orange scarves and messages on gender equality and gender-based violence. A series of activities are planned to mark the campaign.

## Operational Context

While India has made tremendous progress over the last few decades in food grain production and reduction in malnutrition rates, it continues to bear a huge burden of food and nutrition insecurity, ranking 94<sup>th</sup> out of 107 countries on the 2020 Global Hunger Index. Despite recent improvements in the nutritional status of children, the prevalence of malnutrition is well above acceptable levels, and large number of people, especially women and children, have micronutrient deficiency disorders. The Government of India has undertaken many reforms to their food-based safety nets to better ensure nutrition and food security.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has been working in partnership with the Government of India for more than 50 years to contribute to its efforts to achieve food and nutrition security. WFP is currently doing this by demonstrating scalable pilots and best practices, providing specialized knowledge and international experience for effective implementation of food safety nets and supporting evidence-based analysis. WFP also is working to strengthen capacity of national NGOs in the areas of food security and nutrition and supports sharing of India's success through South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC).



**Income Level:**  
Lower Middle

**Population:**  
1.32 billion

**Chronic Malnutrition:**  
38% of children 6-59 months of age

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

## Operational Updates

### Ensuring Access to Food

- WFP signed a partnership agreement with the Government of Meghalaya in Shillong on 18 November, where WFP will provide technical support to the State to efficiently automate and optimize the end-to-end supply chain network and Fair Price Shops in the Public Distribution System. WFP will also provide mobile storage units to help the state to reduce post-harvest losses.

### Improved Nutrition

- As part of the national celebration of progressive India the State Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Shri Ashwani Kumar Choubey launched a series of information-education-communication (IEC) and behaviour change communication (BCC) products on the benefits of fortified rice on November 21. The products, including a film on ‘fortification of rice and myth busting’, radio jingles, and social media content, were developed by WFP as part of the IEC/BCC package on fortified rice in close collaboration with the Department of Food & Public Distribution.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

- The Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) of NITI Aayog and WFP jointly conducted the second training session to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation capacity of officials at the Directorate of Evaluation Organization (DEO), Planning Department, Government of Rajasthan on 15 November in Jaipur. The training focused on understanding the output-outcome monitoring framework and OECD-DAC Evaluation criteria.
- WFP supported DMEO, NITI Aayog, in conducting the first conference with Government Administrative and Central Training Institutes (ATIs/CTIs) on 23 November, with the objective of embedding evaluation as part of trainings for government officers. WFP presented the evaluation

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## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Dec'21-May'22 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
20.02 m	13.46 m	0 m

### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food (SDG 2.1)

**Strategic Outcome 1: The most vulnerable people in India are better able to meet their minimum food and nutrition needs all year round.**

**Focus area:** Root Causes

**Activity 1:** Provide policy inputs, advocacy and technical assistance aimed at enhancing the efficiency, targeting, service delivery and supply chain of government programmes for improving access to food.

### Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition (SDG 2.2)

**Strategic Outcome 2: People at high risk of malnutrition in India, especially women, children and adolescent girls, have improved nutrition by 2025.**

**Focus area:** Root Causes

**Activity 2:** Support state and national governments in improving and integrating nutrition policies and programming, including through enhanced quality, advocacy and gender-transformative, systematic approaches.

### Strategic Result 3: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs (SDG 17.9)

**Strategic Outcome 3: National and state institutions have enhanced capacity to deliver on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 and related targets, and collaborate with regional and global partners towards the attainment of SDG 2**

**Focus area:** Root Causes

**Activity 3:** Strengthen institutional capacities at various levels in generating, sharing and using evidence for coordinated planning, roll-out and monitoring of actions for attaining Sustainable Development Goal 2.

**Activity 4:** Facilitate the efforts of the Government of India and other countries to share food security and nutrition knowledge and expertise and provide disaster risk management services for the region.

curriculum and competency framework developed in collaboration with DMEO to more than 35 participants.

- WFP participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Development Partners' Conference hosted by DMEO, NITI Aayog, on 24 November. A total of 18 DMEO development partners, including UNDP and UNICEF, attended the conference. Updates on the ongoing and completed activities under DMEO-WFP partnership were presented during the conference.

### South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC)

- At a validation workshop on 9 November, WFP presented the top line findings of the draft assessment and documentation of good practices and lessons learned report on Odisha Millets Mission. Participants included officials of Odisha Agriculture Department at state and district levels. National level stakeholders included senior officials from the NITI Aayog, Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research–Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI) and Dhan Foundation. The draft report shall be finalized in December.

### Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

- WFP supported the National Institute of Disaster Management (NDMA) to organize a three-day virtual regional conference on "Food Security and Nutrition in Climate Fragilities and Disasters" between 30 November and 2 December. The goal of the conference was to mainstream food security and nutrition in emergency preparedness and response in national and regional strategies.
- The Government announced Dr Fatma Lestari of the Disaster Risk Reduction Center Universitas in Indonesia and Md Mamunur Rashid of RDRS in Bangladesh as winners of the Jury's award for the [Map and Exchange the Good Practices](#) which aimed to foster support for good practices in food security and nutrition in Asia. A compendium of 31 inspiring case stories was launched at the regional conference and success stories presented in multiple technical sessions.

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