



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP India Country Brief March 2022

World Food Programme And State Govt Launch Report & 6 Policy Briefs On Odisha Millets Mission

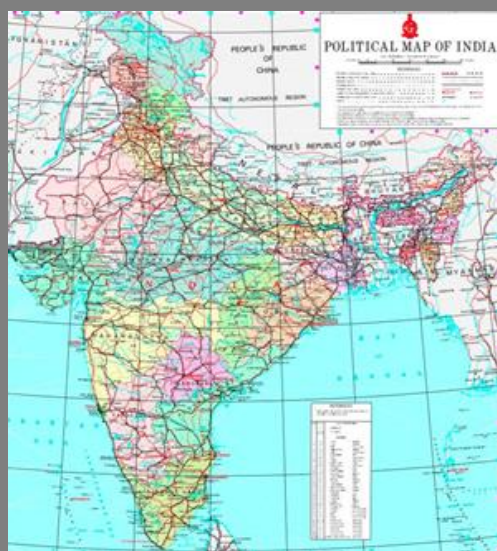
Date : 8th March 2022



Operational Context

While India has made tremendous progress over the last few decades in food grain production and a reduction in malnutrition rates, it continues to bear a huge burden of food and nutrition insecurity, ranking 94th 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 with large number of people, especially women and children, with 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:
35.5% of children 6-59 months of age

2020 Human Development Index Ranking:
131 out of 189

Highlights

- On March 8, WFP and the Government of Odisha held a state-level workshop to discuss and disseminate a report on '*Lessons from Odisha Millet Mission: A Case for Mainstreaming Millets*,' which included stories of impact and a set of six policy briefs. Within the report, recommendations were developed for mainstreaming millets in social safety nets, improved consumption, inclusion of all varieties of millets in the government's Minimum Support Price, strengthening the millet value chain, millet processing and value-added millet products, and organic certification.

Operational Updates

Ensuring Access to Food

- Under the new partnership agreement with the Government of Meghalaya, WFP started its technical support by developing a mobile application for the collection of geo-coordinates for nodes under the state supply chain system and trained government officials. The data collected through the mobile application will be used to optimize the supply chain network by establishing a mobile-based GPS tracking solution in the state. WFP also developed a [price monitoring dashboard](#) for the state which provides various analysis for retail pricing across the 16 districts for 22 essential commodities.
- WFP successfully deployed an automated packaging solution and related training to the women members of the Delang Block Level Federation of Khurda district to provide alternative ways of improving the livelihoods of self-help groups in Odisha. This solution will directly reduce the time required for packaging various supplementary food products by almost 40 percent while providing opportunities to enhance the incomes of 22,800 people.
- Under the social protection convergence and supply chain integration pilot in Ganjam district of Odisha, WFP completed the supply chain optimisation of the intra-district transportation of paddy rice from procurement centres to mills. The first round of optimisation results show a potential reduction in the distance travelled by 29 percent. The next step will be to cover the entire supply chain from procurement centres to last mile retail shops.

Improved Nutrition

- WFP recently finalized a study to understand the implications and suggestions for improving the financial viability and sustainability of take-home ration (THR) production units run by rural women's enterprises in Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. WFP has been providing technical support

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WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Apr-Sep'22Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
20 m	14.97 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.

to the women’s groups and government counterparts to produce nutritious fortified THR for use in the government’s Integrated Child Development Services programmes in these states.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- In its work on building national evaluation capacity, WFP and the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office of NITI Aayog conducted the fourth evaluation capacity strengthening session on Cost-Benefit Analysis and Communicating Evaluation Results for the government officials of the Directorate of Evaluation Organisation, Planning Department of Government of Rajasthan.
- WFP hosted and moderated a panel discussion titled ‘Evidence Needs for Sustainable Food Systems and Resilient Livelihoods’ in the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office, NITI Aayog, National Monitoring Evaluation Learning Conference which was attended by more than 200 participants.

Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction

- WFP is partnering with the Government of Odisha to develop a 'Secure Fishing' app that will provide advisories to fishing communities to prevent overfishing and warn them of potential weather events. The Proof of Concept is ready and was tested with fishing communities this month.

Gender and Inclusion

- The Government of Odisha has given its formal approval to jointly conduct a study on food security and vulnerability of tribal populations in the state and has appointed the Director of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute, Bhubaneswar, as the designated Nodal Officer for the study. WFP recently met with the Director and his team in Bhubaneswar to begin planning.
- WFP's Gender Officer recently conducted trainings on financial literacy and women's empowerment to members of the women's self-help groups in Jaipur district who are running a unit for producing fortified supplementary nutritious products for the government. The training covered gender and protection-related concerns such as the need for team building to ensure cohesive functioning.

Donors

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