



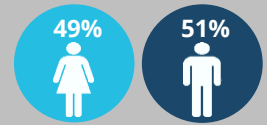
World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Iran Country Brief April 2022

In Numbers



31,078 people assisted
in April 2022

403 MT of food assistance distributed

US\$ 130,328 distributed through cash-based transfers

US\$ 0 six-months net funding requirements
(May – October 2022)

Operational Context

The Islamic Republic of Iran, an upper middle-income country with a population of 83 million, is hosting the world's fourth largest refugee community. The Government of Iran has generously hosted approximately 1 million refugees for the past 30 years. The majority, which mainly came from Afghanistan and Iraq, live in urban areas. Approximately 31,000 of the most vulnerable refugees live in 20 settlements located throughout the country.

WFP Iran works under its Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020) extended until end of 2022 to align it with both the United Nations development assistance framework (2017–2021), which has been extended for one additional year, and the National Development Plan (2016–2022). The New ICSP for 2023-2025 is also under development. WFP assists 31,000 beneficiaries yearly through unconditional food assistance, in addition to the provision of a girls' education cash incentive, and a school feeding initiative consisting of nutritious school snacks.

Moreover, WFP continues to support refugees' livelihoods through activities aiming to provide them with complementary skills in view of a sustainable repatriation to their country of origin once the situation is conducive. WFP has been present in Iran since 1987.



Population: **83 million**

2020 Human Development Index:
70 out of 188

Income Level: **Upper middle**

2020 Global Hunger Index:
39 out of 107 (7.9, Low)

Operational Updates

- In April, WFP successfully reached 31,078 refugees as per the target, of whom 8,714 were women, 8,966 men, 6,395 girls, and 7,003 boys plus 628 Iranian teachers. The assisted people received 403 MT of fortified wheat flour, lentils, vegetable oil, date bars, milk and digestive biscuits. Of the assisted people, 2,799 school-girls receive cash-based transfers.
- Schools inside settlements are continuing their work either online or in person depending on the situation in their respective provinces. School snacks distribution continued during the month of April amongst 8,128 refugee students.
- As part of the efforts to promote education for refugee girls, WFP Iran provides monetary incentives of Iranian Rials (IRR) of 500,000 (~USD 2) to 2,799 refugee girls transferred to each of their bank accounts every month for regular attendance in school. Nazanin is an 11-year-old Afghan student in primary school in Saveh settlement receiving this incentive. She wants to be a doctor when she grows up. "I want to help my fellow citizens, I want other girls to learn and get educated as well." Nazanin lives with her mother and eight brothers in a tiny house in the settlement where they struggle financially since her father passed away years ago. WFP's assistance supports school children's nutrition, increase school retention.
- By providing supplementary rations and maintaining monthly assistance to the refugees through a combination of cash and food, WFP is reducing the economic impact caused by the pandemic, such as surging inflation and rising food prices, on refugees.

Photo caption: WFP staff regularly visit the settlements and its warehouses to ensure the commodities are being stored safely. Photo: WFP / Neda Mobarra (Shahid Naseri settlement, Markazi province)

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Iran Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received (in US\$)
35 m	30 m
2022 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (May 2022- October 2022)
5 m	-

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food insecure refugees in Iran are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs throughout the year.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Activity 1: Provide unconditional food assistance to food insecure refugees
- Activity 2: Provide conditional support to women and girl refugees to incentivize and facilitate educational and livelihood activities

[WFP Iran 2021 Annual Country Report](#)

Monitoring

- Remote monitoring calls are ongoing. Every month, 2.5 percent of refugee households are selected randomly and contacted via phone. During the calls, personal and household information is confirmed, and refugees are asked whether they have received their monthly cash and food entitlements. Furthermore, quality and quantity of assistance received are also verified.
- Joint Assessment Mission report (JAM) is finalized jointly by WFP, its Regional Bureau and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR). According to the report, WFP is recommended to continue the provision of cash and food rations to all refugees inside settlements, while it suggested to increase the cash transfer value considering the inflation rate. Also, it is recommended to consider a cash top-up for families with members with disability to help with the higher needs and essential costs of living associated with their disability.
- WFP will continue to provide food assistance in the form of dry foods and ready-to-eat meals for the new arrivals from Afghanistan.

Partnerships

- The Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrants Affairs (BAFIA) are the main cooperating partners of WFP in Iran. BAFIA is responsible for coordinating all matters related to refugees and international agencies. Bi-annual meetings take place between BAFIA, UNHCR and WFP. Monthly operational coordination meetings are also held to monitor the refugee situation and discuss appropriate response actions.
- WFP has a long-standing partnership with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), given the nature of WFP operations in Iran in refugee settlements. In this context, Joint Assessment Missions (JAM), joint distribution and joint post-distribution monitoring take place regularly.

Donors

Japan, Germany, Republic of Korea, People's Republic of China, United Kingdom, multilateral funds, and private donors.



WFP warehouse in Mohajerin settlement, Semnan province. Photo: WFP / Neda Mobarra