



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

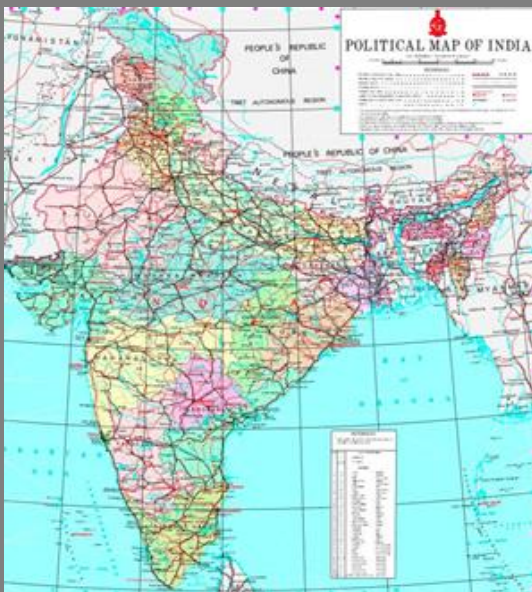
WFP India Country Brief April 2022



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

- WFP in collaboration with the Department of School Education in Rajasthan has signed an agreement to strengthen the effectiveness of the PM-POSHAN Scheme in Rajasthan. As part of the collaboration, the Food Safety in MDM app (FoSafMDM) which was developed by WFP for capacity building of school cooks, was launched on 9 April in Jaipur by Dr. Bulaki Das Kalla, Minister of Education. The event marked the commencement of the programme in 186 schools in Viratnagar block, Jaipur District.

Operational Updates

Ensuring Access to Food

- In partnership with Government of Rajasthan, WFP completed the supply chain optimisation of the transportation of Public Distribution System food grains from warehouses to last mile retails shops. The first round of optimisation results shows that, if implemented, there will be a 42 percent reduction in the distance travelled. As next steps WFP will do next round of optimization using transportation cost covering 27,000 retails shops in the state.
- In partnership with the Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD), WFP developed a Learning Management System (LMS) which was launched on 8 February with six training modules. The LMS is an e-learning, multilingual, interactive and audio-visual training platform which will educate and train staff in the Food and Civil Supplies departments across the country on reforms and new technology in the targeted public distribution. State level officers from 31 of 36 States and Union Territories are now successfully registered on the LMS and training has been completed for all the registered users. These officers will now work as master trainers for other users of the LMS. The DFPD has a target of training 20,000 government officials through this system.

Improved Nutrition

- In Uttar Pradesh, WFP has launched a 3-month campaign for creating awareness on fortified rice in targeted communities. As part of the campaign, innovative behaviour change and communication activities such as cooking demonstrations, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) vans, district level workshops, media sensitization will be conducted across parts of the state. With the campaign, WFP aims to address common myths and misconceptions around fortified rice, increase the utilization and consumption of fortified rice in the state.

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	May- Oct'22 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
20 m	18.23 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.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- WFP supported the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) in undertaking a full-day training on Evaluation Fundamentals for 50 young professionals as part of the Chief Minister's Young Professionals Development Programme (CMYPDP), Government of Madhya Pradesh on 5 April.
- WFP and DMEO participated in a joint learning visit to the Postal Training Centre (PTC) in Gujarat from 28-30 April. The WFP-DMEO team interacted with the PTC officials on using new and innovative solutions for capacity strengthening and creation of online courses on Monitoring and Evaluation.

Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction

- WFP participated in a national workshop on "Innovative Agriculture" organized by the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog on 25th April as a part of Government of India 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebration to commemorate 75 years of progressive India. The deliberations took place around the promotion of natural farming, its role in soil health restoration, and the climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- WFP organized the 1st Technical Advisory Group meeting of stakeholders on 25 April in Bhubaneswar for the project on 'Improving Food Security for Smallholder Farmers in Odisha using Climate Resilient Practices'. The stakeholders were sensitized for their roles and responsibilities, and support was solicited for scoping assessment and identification of participants for capacity building.
- On 26 April, WFP organized state-level consultations with stakeholders in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh to discuss the state priorities on climate adaptation which will feed into WFP's joint proposal with WFP Sri Lanka for the Adaptation Fund.

Gender and Inclusion

- The Department for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Government of India, has agreed to support WFP's situation assessment of persons with disabilities in India under the Disability and Inclusion pilot initiative through sharing of data and other resources.

Donors

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