



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Pakistan Country Brief May 2022



As a first, WFP introduced transportation via railway from Karachi to Peshawar, carrying 44 containers with 800 MT food as part of the Afghan response. @WFP

Operational Context

Pakistan is making significant investments to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and its national development programme – Vision 2025. However, high levels of malnutrition, frequent natural hazards, a volatile security climate in parts of the country and the impact of COVID-19 are challenges that continue to obstruct socio-economic progress.

WFP Pakistan's Country Strategic Plan seeks to support this progress. Alongside the provision of critically needed relief and nutrition support to vulnerable population groups, WFP assistance aims to complement the Government's efforts in enhancing food and nutrition security of the people of Pakistan. WFP also provides technical support to the Government by conducting research to generate evidence to guide policy makers and assist in the development of relevant national strategies. WFP's work in Pakistan also encompasses community resilience building, disaster risk management and preparedness elements for sustainability and national ownership. WFP has been present in Pakistan since 1968.



Population (2017 census):
207.7 million

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **40% of children between 6-59 months**

2020 Human Development Index:
154 out of 189

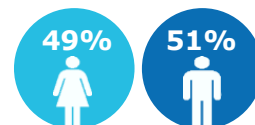
In Numbers

2,566 MT of food distributed in May 2022

US\$ 74,415 cash distributed in May 2022

US\$ 18.3 million six months (Jun 2022 – Nov 2022) net funding requirements

231,654 people assisted in May 2022



Operational Updates

- WFP is implementing the nationwide stunting prevention programme, 'Benazir Nashonuma'. The programme supports people registered with the Government's largest social safety net, 'Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP)', by providing them with specialized nutritious food, health support and additional cash transfers. In May, WFP supported **36,193 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under five**, through **90 facilitation centers** established at Government health centers. WFP aims to reach nearly **1.7 million** of the most vulnerable women and children over the next three years through **575 Facilitation Centers** in **153 districts**. WFP is also working alongside UNICEF to incorporate community-based management of acute malnutrition (wasting) and social behavioral change communication into the programme, to reduce other forms of undernutrition.
- Millions of people in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Balochistan provinces bordering Afghanistan are experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity classified in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4). Protracted conflict, climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic have severely affected agricultural production yields and livelihood opportunities in these areas. In response, WFP is carrying out a livelihood support programme through which vulnerable people receive cash or food support upon participation in community rehabilitation activities and trainings. In May, around **18,830 families** in KP and Balochistan received food and cash assistance, and **32,000 people** were engaged in livelihoods and resilience activities and trainings. The programme was initiated in December 2021 and by the end of 2022, WFP plans to reach more than **329,000 people**.

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Jun – Nov 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
475.33 m	435.02 m	18.3 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Affected populations in Pakistan have timely access to adequate food and nutrition during and in the aftermath of natural disasters and shocks (SDG 2.1).

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Unconditional resource transfers to support access to food
- Asset creation and livelihood support activities

Strategic Outcome 2: The social protection system at the federal and provincial levels provides the populations most in need, especially women, adolescent girls and children, with improved and sustained access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food by 2022.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

- Institutional capacity strengthening activities
- School meal activities

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: The entire population of Pakistan, especially children under 5, adolescent girls and women of reproductive age, has improved nutrition in line with national targets for 2025.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

- Malnutrition prevention activities
- Enhanced social and public-sector capacity to identify, target and assist nutritionally vulnerable populations

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 4: Communities in disaster prone districts have more resilient food systems and development gains are better protected by disaster risk management systems at all levels by 2022.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Climate adaptation and risk management activities.
- Emergency preparedness activities

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs (SDG target 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 5: Federal and provincial systems have strengthened capabilities to provide food security and essential services by 2022.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

- Institutional capacity strengthening activities.

Operational Updates (continued)

- After the Taliban takeover in August 2021, Afghanistan has endured a deepening and increasingly catastrophic humanitarian crisis. To support this dire situation in the neighbouring country, WFP Pakistan has been transporting food commodities from Pakistan into Afghanistan. In May, **3,450 MT** of international shipments carrying food commodities have been cleared at Karachi and dispatched to Afghanistan. Additionally, **12,956 MT** of locally procured food has been dispatched to Afghanistan during the reporting month, bringing the total amount of Pakistani commodities dispatched to **129,056 MT** and international shipments to **77,753 MT**.
- Along with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), WFP is preparing to carry out an IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis, which will focus on 28 vulnerable districts of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh.
- With nearly **70 percent** of Pakistanis purchasing wheat flour from local 'Chakkis' (small-scale mills), WFP is working with the private sector to tackle micronutrient deficiencies by fortifying wheat flour — a staple part of Pakistani diets. WFP is currently equipping 49 Chakki owners with innovative technology, skills, and funding mechanisms to fortify wheat flour across Punjab, KP and Islamabad.

Challenges:

- The Ukraine crisis has led to supply chain disruptions, which have seriously impacted the availability of fortified vegetable oil and necessitating changes in modality, where relevant.
- Rising food prices have also devalued cash disbursements being made under WFP's CBT programmes and increasing the cost of WFP's food basket by 30 percent since January 2022.

Highlight:

- *School Meals Programmes* 'are globally recognized as effective tools for promoting children's education and their nutritional status, resulting in increased enrolment, retention rates and reduced micronutrient deficiencies, short-term hunger, and gender disparities. Therefore, to lay the foundation, WFP in collaboration with the Government, held a two-day consultation in Islamabad, which was attended by senior officials from the provincial and federal government, UN agencies and other relevant organisations.

Donors

Australia, Republic of Korea, Italy, Germany, China, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Canada, ECHO, Emergency Preparedness and Response Trust Fund, Japan, Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, UN Centralized Emergency Response Fund (CERF) Fund and USA.