



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

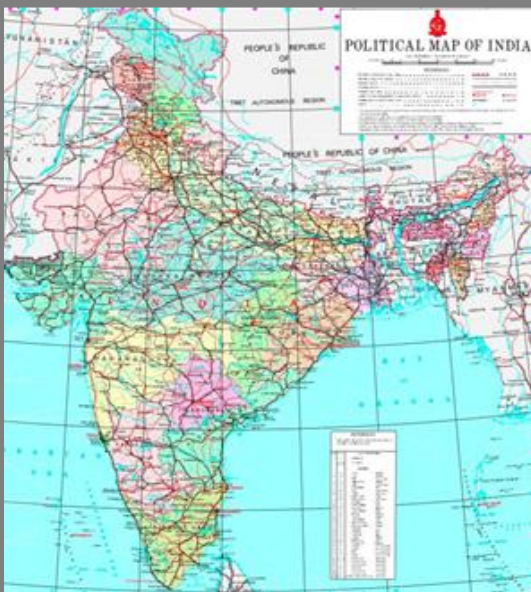
# WFP India Country Brief May 2022



## 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 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 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 Department of Food and Public Distribution and the Food Corporation of India (FCI) launched the pilot of a 'Smart Warehouse' to modernize the government grain warehouse system. The smart warehouse is equipped with a number of wireless sensors to monitor warehouse conditions such as temperature, humidity, airflow and rodents which can be tracked through a web-based application, allowing warehouse operators to take informed decisions to improve storage environment and reduce losses. If successful, the pilot will be rolled out by the government with technical support from WFP.

## Operational Updates

### Ensuring Access to Food

- To support women's self-help groups (WSHG) through the partnership with the Mission Shakti in Odisha, WFP developed and deployed an automated packaging machine in a government-run take home ration (THR) production unit managed by a federation of WSHG in Puri district. The machine supports reduces production time for packaging the product and thus, overall efficiency. WFP conducted a series of trainings for the WSHG members on how to best use the packaging machine.

### Improved Nutrition

- As part of WFP support to the roll-out of rice fortification in six states, WFP is undertaking a state-wide training and capacity development program for millers in Uttar Pradesh and has completed trainings in 10 districts for more than 210 participants.
- To facilitate demand and ensure consumption of fortified rice by the community, WFP is conducting an extensive social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) campaign on fortified in Uttar Pradesh. The campaign includes activities like public lectures on fortified rice, IEC Van – a specially designed vehicle that aims to sensitize communities in remote hamlets through group sessions using audio-visual tools, cooking demonstrations of locally prepared rice-based recipes, state-level government stakeholder meeting and media sensitization workshop. To date, more than 31,000 people were sensitized across 36 villages in the state.
- WFP continues to support scale-up of decentralized THR production through women's self-help groups in Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Rajasthan. In Uttar Pradesh, a total of 84 units have been setup, 13 of which are now functional. More than 1200 MTs of safe, nutritious, age-appropriate supplemental nutrition products have been produced by WFP supported units in the state.

## WFP Country Strategy

### Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Jun-Nov'22 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
20 m	18.52 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

- Through its partnership with the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) of NITI Ayog, WFP has supported the development of the Terms of Reference and sampling design for the Evaluation of the National Food Security Act.
- WFP supported Directorate of Economic and Statistics, Government of Rajasthan with the preparation of draft brochure and terms and conditions together with a presentation on Chief Minister Excellence Awards in Rajasthan, an annual award felicitating civil servants and state government organizations in Rajasthan.

### Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction

- In collaboration with the state government of Odisha, WFP is implementing a pilot project in Ganjam district to enhance climate resilience among small holder farmers by developing strategies based on tailored climate advisories using the PICSA (Participatory Information on Climate Services for Agriculture) tool. A Technical Advisory Group meeting was conducted to finalize the scoping study which will provide the necessary information to develop of the tools for the rest of the work.

### Gender and Inclusion

- WFP India has developed one study brief and two information notes out of the study on Dynamics of Intrahousehold Food Access and Consumption in Uttar Pradesh, as part of the dissemination package. In addition, summaries are being added in Hindi for wider circulation.
- WFP India participated in the Strategic Webinar organized by the Programme Department on the new Gender Policy (2022-27). India was one of six Country Offices and shared its unique work on gender integration in the country capacity strengthening context, that aligns well with the new policy.

### Donors

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