



World Food Programme

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WFP Pacific Country Brief June 2022



Operational Context

The 14 Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) that WFP focuses on, as per the [interim Multi-Country Strategic Plan 2019-2022](#), are home to 10.4 million people across an area of approx. 500,000 square km of land and 27 million sq km of ocean - 6,500 km from east to west and 4,200 km from north to south, which is larger than the size of North America, and scattered over an area equivalent to 15 percent of the globe's surface. Gross Domestic Product in the Pacific is amongst the lowest in the world and, while levels of poverty differ widely between PICTs, hardship and vulnerability are increasing. The region is highly vulnerable to natural disasters, experiencing an average of three major disasters each year. It is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, including sea-level rise, which threatens the existence of some atoll nations, and increasingly frequent and severe climate-related disasters. Evidence shows that pre-existing inequalities mean women and marginalised and vulnerable groups in the Pacific are disproportionately impacted by climate change.

The work of the WFP Pacific Multi-Country Office is focused on supporting national governments and government-led clusters across the region to strengthen their emergency preparedness and response capacity in the face of cyclical disaster risks and now also, COVID-19. WFP Pacific's capacity strengthening work is in the sectors of logistics, emergency telecommunications, and food security. In addition, due to the pandemic, WFP Pacific is operating the Pacific Humanitarian Air Service to ensure the movement of humanitarian and medical cargo across the region. In partnership with eight national governments, WFP Pacific is rolling out the mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) to remotely monitor household food security, nutrition and food market related trends in real time and support evidence-based humanitarian decision-making. mVAM data collection supports gender and disability disaggregated analysis.



Contact info: Faria Chaudhuri (faria.chaudhuri@wfp.org)
Country Director & Representative: Alpha Bah
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/pacific

Highlights

US\$ 1.08 million six months (July-December 2022) net funding requirements

WFP Pacific Multi-Country Office Annual Country Report (ACR) launch: WFP launched its [2021 ACR](#) in a public event held in Suva, Fiji, and attended by local and regional invitees, including representatives from the Government, diplomatic missions, United Nations agencies, NGOs, the private sector, civil society, and media. The event featured introductory addresses by the Country Director and Representative, and the Deputy Country Director. The event also featured a multimedia presentation of WFP's portfolio in the region, and technical presentations by activity managers.

Food Security & Livelihoods

- On 6 June, WFP presented its mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping (mVAM) as an evidence-based tool for informing preparedness and anticipatory action, at the Pacific Resilience Partnership - Disaster Risk Financing technical working group meeting.
- On 23 June, the regional Pacific Food Security Cluster held a monthly meeting which included discussions on the drought in Kiribati and the impact of the war in Ukraine on food prices in the Pacific.
- Monitoring of early recovery activities continued across food security, livelihoods, agriculture, and fisheries implemented by national and regional partners in Tonga.
- In response to the drought in Kiribati, WFP is supporting the Kiribati Ministry of Environment, Land and Agriculture Development with technical capacity strengthening and ICT equipment to assist national efforts to assess the impact of the disaster on the population.
- The Pacific Regional Cash Working Group (PRCWG) held its second quarterly meeting of 2022 which included updates on the Tonga emergency, Kiribati drought, PRCWG strategy and the cash working groups from Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and Papua New Guinea. WFP's vulnerability analysis and mapping (VAM) team conducted a session for PRCWG members on gap analysis and transfer value calculation.
- On 23 June, the Fiji cash working group held its first meeting of 2022. Key discussion items included the finalization of the paper for the joint Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade-WFP-SPACE (Social Protection Approaches to COVID-19: Expert Advice) project, the scale-up of WFP's parametric insurance pilot (in partnership with the United Nations Capital Development Fund and the Fiji Department of Social Welfare), and a joint WFP-University of South Pacific critical markets assessment.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
28.17 m	16.95 m	1.08 m

Strategic Result 1: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs (SDG target 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 1: Vulnerable people in the Pacific island countries and territories receive appropriate, coordinated, timely and uninterrupted assistance to address food security and nutrition challenges following disasters

Strategic Outcome 2: Humanitarian Development partners in the Pacific have access to reliable services during crisis

Activities:

- Through the logistics cluster, provide national disaster management offices and other relevant national and regional institutions and partners with support for improving emergency logistics coordination and supply chain management.
- Through the emergency telecommunications cluster, provide national disaster management offices and other relevant national and regional institutions and partners with support for improving emergency communications infrastructure and coordination mechanisms.
- Through the food security cluster, support national disaster management offices and other relevant national and regional institutions and partners with food security data analysis as well as food security programme response design, coordination and implementation.
- Provide support to national, provincial and regional institutions and other partners for the development of innovative tools and procedures that address climate related disasters and their impact on people.

Logistics

- The Pacific Regional Logistics Cluster coordination team presented a new stockpile mapping platform – STOCKHOLM – to its partners at the monthly meeting on 16 June. The aim was to introduce the new tool to partners and familiarise them with its use, ahead of the imminent shift from the earlier platform, PALM. The Cluster also released its monthly regional logistics situation update called the Cargo and Passenger Entry Point Update (CPEPU).
- The Cluster provided inputs towards a contingency plan to be implemented during emergencies, under compilation by OCHA.
- Planning is underway for a Humanitarian Logistics Management training/workshop to be tentatively held during 8–12 August.

- A tender process is ongoing for a Long-Term Agreement (LTA) with an international freight forwarder and logistics company to support the import and export of emergency relief items being pre-positioned in the Palladium warehouse in Brisbane.
- Work continues with the Fiji National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) on updating the Fiji logistics capacity assessment (LCA) and with Tuvalu authorities and partners on conducting the Tuvalu LCA.
- At the end of June, there were 222 cubic metres of stock remaining in storage at the logistics cluster warehouse in Nadi, on behalf of three agencies – the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO.

Air Service

There were no Pacific Humanitarian Air Service flights in June. WFP shared an expression of interest with partners for organizing flights to Kiribati in response to the ongoing drought in the country.

Emergency Telecommunications

- WFP concluded the technical mission and project hand-over of the VHF/HF communications project to Nauru's National Emergency Services (NES) in June. The system was immediately used for the coordination and communications required for the COVID-19 surge that has affected Nauru.
- The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) received VSAT equipment from its global partner, the Government of Luxembourg, to support emergency connectivity in Tonga as part of the ongoing response and recovery efforts. The ETC standby partner and mission specialist was activated and is preparing for the deployment to Tonga, along with the technology solutions, in July.
- The ETC Coordinator for the Pacific attended an ETC coordination skills enhancement training hosted by the Government of Luxembourg.

Donors: Australia, Japan, private donors, the Republic of Fiji, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), other United Nations funds and agencies, and the United States of America