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 101st out of 116 countries on the 2021 Global Hunger Index. Despite recent improvements, the prevalence of malnutrition is well above acceptable levels, and with large numbers of people, especially women and children, with micronutrient deficiency disorders. The Government of India has in place some of the world's largest food-based safety nets, reaching nearly 1 billion vulnerable people every month.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has been working in partnership with the Government of India for more than 50 years. WFP is providing technical assistance and capacity strengthening to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Government of India’s food-based social protection schemes and other programmes that strengthen food security, nutrition and livelihoods and build resilience to shocks.

WFP works by demonstrating innovative solutions with pilots and evaluations that attract government investment in scaling up, documenting and sharing best practices across states and other countries in the region through south-south exchanges.

Operational Updates
Ensuring Access to Food

- WFP recently deployed its GPS-enabled tracking system for monitoring and analysing the movement of food grains between warehouses and Fair Price Shops in two districts (Haridwar and Dehradun) in Uttarakhand. After testing, the system will be rolled out in a phased manner to support tracking the movement of approximately 38,000 mt of grains every month.

- The learning management system, which WFP developed in partnership with the Department of Food and Public Distribution, was launched in February to train and educate government staff on reforms and new technology in the Public Distribution System across India. By July there were 8,000 (of a target of 20,000) registered users who completed more than 23,000 learning modules.

Improved Nutrition

- In Uttar Pradesh, WFP trained and sensitized 355 rice millers and 70 government officials on rice fortification. To date, WFP trained 823 rice millers and 275 government officials in the state. In Haryana, WFP trained 22 senior government officials on quality measures for rice fortification in the state. WFP also organized a public lecture event at Moti Lal Nehru Medical College, Prayagraj to educate the medical fraternity, academia from food technology departments as well as other government department staff working in the food-based safety net schemes.

- WFP developed a training video on rice fortification for Fair Price Shop owners across the country, approved by the Department of Food and Public Distribution and being officially disseminated.

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Highlights
- On 19 July, NITI Aayog and WFP launched the ‘Mapping and Exchange of Good Practices’ initiative for mainstreaming millets in Asia and Africa. Shri Suman K Bery, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog unveiled the web portal Login (niti.gov.in), designed to collect best practices from across the two continents to promote millet as a nutritious, resilient and climate friendly crop. Countries were invited to submit their best practices in three categories: millet value chain development, mainstreaming within food systems, and recipes for millet preparation. Around 40 participants attended the workshop in person while nearly 700 joined virtually.
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Aug 22–Jan 23 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
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<tbody>
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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 finalized a baseline report for the decentralized evaluation of the pilot project on local production of nutritious supplementary foods (take-home rations) in Jaipur District of Rajasthan.
- In partnership with IIT-Delhi and the Planning Department in Rajasthan, WFP finalized the development of the SDG 2 monitoring dashboard which is now being integrated with the State SDG Portal of Rajasthan.
- On 21 July, WFP facilitated a session for senior State and Union Territories officials as a part of a week-long residential training programme on Monitoring Evaluation and Learning, organized by the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO).
- In support of the upcoming evaluation of the National Food Security Act, WFP supported the DMEO in jointly conducting a pre-test of the household schedule for the evaluation in Jhajjar District, Haryana.

Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction

- Under the pilot project on building resilience of smallholder farmers using the Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture and Livelihoods, WFP and partners have completed the training of trainers for Indian Meteorological Department staff and are now developing a module for training agriculture extension workers and farmers.
- WFP and partners have completed the pilot testing of the ‘Secure Fishing’ app and the orientation sessions for marine fishers are ongoing.

Gender and Inclusion

- WFP published a thematic brief and two information notes on key findings from a study on “Gender dynamics of food distribution and consumption in Uttar Pradesh” which focused on the influence of gender norms on the behaviours and practices related to food distribution and consumption within households.
- In July, WFP met with organizations of persons with disabilities to explore potential areas of partnership to enhance disability inclusion. WFP also jointly organized a meeting of disability inclusion focal points across all UN agencies with the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, to share updates on disability inclusion related initiatives.

Donors

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