



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Pakistan Country Brief July 2022



A WFP staff member performing a qualitative test of fortified whole-wheat flour in one of the small-scale mills participating in WFP's Chakki programme. © 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

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2020 Human Development Index:
154 out of 189

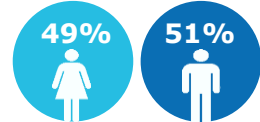
In Numbers

2,396 mt of food distributed

US\$870,684 of cash-based transfers disbursed

US\$18.77 million six months (August 2022 - January 2023) net funding requirements

333,902 people assisted



Highlights

- WFP, in close collaboration with FAO and stakeholders, conducted an Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis for 28 highly vulnerable districts of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Sindh provinces. The results indicate that around 5.96 million people in these districts are estimated to be in IPC Phase 3 (crisis) and 4 (emergency) in July-November 2022. This is estimated to increase to 7.2 million between December 2022 and March 2023. Key drivers of increasing acute food insecurity include: 1) rising prices of essential food and non-food items; 2) climate change; and 3) reduced subsidies and food production due to high costs of agricultural inputs, as well as water scarcity. WFP is currently engaging with the Government's largest social safety net, Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), to integrate IPC analysis with the National Socio-economic Registry to inform prioritization of relief efforts.
- To increase the consumption of fortified wheat flour, WFP has linked several Chakki beneficiaries with Pakistan's leading supermarket, Metro, and the largest online food and grocery delivery platform Food Panda. WFP has also created social media pages and added their locations on Google maps for several Chakkis to support increased outreach.

Operational Updates

- WFP provided 186,217 pregnant and lactating women and children with specialized nutritious foods through its nationwide stunting prevention programme, Benazir Nashonuma. The programme supports people registered under BISP, and WFP aims to reach 1.7 million people over the next three years.
- Women enrolled in BISP also receive supplementary cash transfers. To date, the programme is being carried out through 108 facilitation centres (FCs) in 45 districts, with plans to expand to 500 across 141 districts. WFP is also providing treatment services for moderate acute malnutrition at the FCs and is working alongside UNICEF and WHO to integrate services for severe acute malnutrition.

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Aug 2022 – Jan 2023 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
475.33 m	431.83 m	18.77 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)

- Through its community-based management of acute malnutrition programme in KP and the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) region, WFP has provided 28,693 children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women with specialized nutritious food and aims to reach 57,500 in the coming months.
- WFP is promoting the consumption of fortified wheat flour in Pakistan. This is being achieved by enabling 50 Chakkis or small-scale-mill owners to fortify their wheat flour, given that nearly 70 percent of Pakistan's population purchases its wheat from local Chakkis. Through these, around 215,313 individuals consumed fortified wheat flour in July.
- 11,018 mt of locally procured food were dispatched to Afghanistan to support the ongoing humanitarian crisis, bringing the total amount of locally produced commodities to 166,096 mt since August 2021. In addition, 1,839 mt of international shipments carrying food commodities were cleared at Karachi and either dispatched to Afghanistan or staged at WFP Pakistan warehouses for onward transportation to Afghanistan, bringing the total to 100,464 mt since August 2021.
- WFP is carrying out a multi-donor funded livelihoods support and community stabilization programme to support food-insecure communities in the Balochistan and KP provinces, bordering Afghanistan. The response targets households affected by volatility at the Afghan border, extreme weather conditions, and worsening socioeconomic crisis. WFP supported 241,053 vulnerable people through food or cash assistance as they participated in community rehabilitation activities and trainings.
- WFP conducted an orientation and training for the Government of AJK's Forest Department on the implementation of a joint livelihoods recovery and resilience building activity. The project aims to create resilient communities through the provision of cash-based transfers, capacity building trainings and the creation of structural schemes that would continue to benefit the local community, particularly rural women.
- Heavy rainfall affected southern and northwestern Pakistan, causing floods and flash floods that have resulted in serious casualties and damage, especially in Balochistan Province. WFP is monitoring the flood and extreme weather situation with the National and Provincial Disaster Management authorities, UN agencies and food security partners.

Donors

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