In Numbers

- **138.9 mt** of food distributed
- **US$ 165,630** of cash distributed
- **US$ 0.07 million** six-month net funding requirements (September 2022 – February 2023)
- **12,838 people assisted** in August 2022

Operational Updates

**School Feeding**

- Following WFP’s technical support to the Ministry of Education and Sports since 2020, the Prime Minister’s Decree on School Meals was signed and came into effect as of 15 August. Henceforth, cash-based transfers required for the National School Meals Programme will be incorporated into the Government’s regular budget lines.

- Under the National School Meals Programme, WFP delivered and handed over 420.8 MT of rice, 89.1 MT of lentils, 51.1 MT of cooking oil and 129.0 MT of canned fish to 1,423 schools. The schools will start using the food in the new school term starting September.

- WFP completed the delivery of 483.6 MT of rice, 0.7 MT of cooking oil, 62.1 MT of lentils and 48.4 MT of canned fish to 707 schools, where WFP directly implements school feeding programmes.

**Capacity strengthening on Nutrition**

- WFP, in partnership with the Integrated Vocational Training College, delivered a food processing training to 144 community members in Oudomxay Province, mainly women of reproductive age. The training aimed to share knowledge and skills on food processing, preservation and safety, as well as food availability and the promotion of healthy snack consumption.

- As part of a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Government of France, WFP hosted a series of nutrition workshops in 64 villages in two districts in Phongsaly Province. 250 community members were sensitized on the causes of malnutrition, seasonal planning for enhanced food production, and climate change mitigation measures.

- WFP and the Agriculture Integrated Vocational Training College in Xiengkhouang Province jointly facilitated an agriculture training to 88 participants. The training aimed at promoting the production of nutritious and diversified food in the communities.

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WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in US$)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in US$)</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85.93 m</td>
<td>41.27 m</td>
<td>0.07 m</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Strategic Result 1:** Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Schoolchildren in vulnerable areas have improved food security, nutrition and learning results through a sustainable national school meals programme by 2026  
**Focus area:** Root causes

**Activities:**
- Provide direct support and technical assistance to the Government to strengthen and complement the national school meals programme and to facilitate a sustainable handover of the programme to the Government

**Strategic Result 2:** No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Vulnerable people at risk of any form of malnutrition, in particular women and girls of reproductive age, children under 5 and school-age children, have improved nutrition outcomes in line with national targets by 2026  
**Focus area:** Root causes

**Activities:**
- Provide universally accessible nutrition support services for targeted populations and nutrition-related technical assistance, advocacy and evidence-based advice to the Government and other stakeholders, including in the private sector

**Strategic Result 4:** Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable people in disaster-affected or at-risk areas have enhanced food and nutrition security all year round and increased capacity to mitigate and manage risks associated with climate and other shocks by 2026  
**Focus area:** Resilience building

**Activities:**
- Provide assistance and technical support to targeted communities and government entities to build communities’ resilience to climate and other shocks through strengthened capacity in disaster and climate risk management and social protection

**Strategic Result 1:** Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Crisis-affected populations in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic are able to meet their food, nutrition and other essential needs during and after disasters  
**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activities:**
- Provide nutrition-sensitive cash-based transfers or food assistance to help meet the essential needs of crisis-affected people

- WFP trained 50 government staff in four districts in Houaphan Province. The purpose of the training was to enhance the Government’s capacity to support and encourage the implementation of activities leading to improved nutrition.

- WFP conducted a Technical Vocational Education and Training workshop on 4-5 August for 78 participants to strengthen the collaboration between the National School Meals Programme and the vocational education schools and colleges in Lao PDR. As a result of this partnership, the vocational schools will provide practical assistance in agriculture, school meal cooking, food processing and preservation, and nutrition-related education to selected schools and communities.

Experiences from the field

“I am Chantho, WFP’s Programme Associate based in Lao PDR’s southern province of Salavan. I have been working for WFP since 2009 and what I always feel grateful for is the people I work with. Once, our vehicle got stuck in the mud on the way to distribute food to flood victims near the Lao-Vietnamese border. It took us hours to get out of the mud, but no one complained or got angry. We were finally able to get out of the mud. It was the time we helped each other and showed our team spirit.”

We asked Chantho, who has worked with WFP Laos since 2009, what he typically carries in his bag while he is working in the field. He opened his bag and said, smiling: “I always bring my laptop, charger, spare facemasks, a USB stick, some stationery items, my vehicle keys and nail clippers. One of my most important items is the portable WiFi hotspot – I usually have many online meetings with the country office or the field office teams even when I am in the field and through this device, I can easily get an internet connection.”

Donors

USA, Japan, France, Russia, Korea, Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme, Private Donors

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