In Numbers

- **US$ 4.2 million** in cash and vouchers distributed
- **US$ 28.86 million** six-month (October 2022 – March 2023) net funding requirements
- **101,064** people assisted

Situation Updates

- The intensifying economic crisis in Sri Lanka continues to be a threat to food security. The situation is likely to worsen without continued assistance during the lean season from October 2022 to February 2023.
- Prices in urban areas of Colombo continue to increase. Food inflation (year-on-year) rose to 94.9 percent in September from 93.7 percent in August, according to the Colombo Consumer Price Index.
- Markets reported concerns around rising and unstable prices, threatening to impact food accessibility, according to WFP's August Market Functionality Index.

Operational Updates

**Emergency Response**

- Since the start of emergency operations in mid-August, WFP has reached a total of 209,344 people with cash assistance. This came as a part of WFP’s scale-up to reach 3.4 million additional people in 2022, through unconditional food assistance (cash or in-kind), school meals and nutrition support.
- To support 1 million children with school meals for a period of three months, WFP procured 1,475 mt of rice and 775 mt of iron-fortified rice and distribution will commence shortly. This will directly support schoolchildren through the Government’s national school meals programme.
- WFP is coordinating with the Government and donors to provide raw materials (maize and soya) to the Government’s Thriposha facility, to ensure continuity of nutrition support.

**Capacity Strengthening**

- WFP facilitated capacity building trainings and awareness programmes on ‘Enhancing knowledge on Geographic Information Systems’, targeting district-level disaster management assistants and representatives of Tri-forces’ training centres in Sri Lanka.
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>117.34 m</td>
<td>88.88 m</td>
<td>28.86 m</td>
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**Strategic Result 1:** End hunger by protecting access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Crisis-affected people have access to food all year round

*Focus area:* Crisis Response to ensure humanitarian assistance

**Activities:**
- Provide food assistance to crisis-affected people

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

**Strategic Outcome 2:** School-age children in food-insecure areas have access to food all year round.

*Focus area:* Root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition among school-age children

**Activities:**
- Provide nutrition-sensitive food assistance, in partnership with the government, to school-age children.
- Provide technical and policy support for the delivery of nutrition-sensitive school meals programmes to the government.

**Strategic Result 3:** Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Vulnerable communities and smallholder farmers have strengthened livelihoods and resilience in the face of shocks and stresses all year round.

*Focus area:* Resilience building to enable vulnerable communities to better withstand shocks and stresses and to augment government capacity to implement disaster-management and integrated disaster-risk-reduction strategies.

**Activities:**
- Support nutrition-sensitive and gender-transformative livelihood diversification and income generation through integrated resilience-building activities.
- Provide technical assistance for emergency preparedness and response operations to the government.
- Provide technical assistance to the government and related agencies in the building of improved, unified, shock-responsive safety-net systems.

**Strategic Result 4:** End hunger by protecting access to food

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Immediate and underlying causes of malnutrition

*Focus area:* School children with inadequate nutrition (in USD)

**Activities:**
- Provide evidence-based advice, advocacy, and technical assistance to the government and implementing partners.
- Provide technical assistance and advocate the scaling up of the fortification of staple food and specialized nutritious foods to the government and other stakeholders, including the private sector.

**Donors**

Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Italy, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Regional Trust Fund allocations, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, UN CERF, the United States of America, and the private sector.

- WFP, in partnership with the National Dengue Control Unit and Disaster Preparedness and Response Division of the Ministry of Health, plans to conduct a series of multi-hazard contingency planning trainings in ten high-risk districts, before the North-East monsoon season.

**Communications/Awareness promotion**

- WFP together with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) commenced preparations towards a campaign to commemorate the World Food Day 2022. An event, themed ‘Leave no one behind’, is scheduled on 14 October which will feature a panel discussion, in which a beneficiary of WFP’s Home Grown School Feeding programme will share the positive and sustainable impacts of WFP’s assistance in improving nutrition levels of both the beneficiary’s family as well as that of the community.

- WFP is supporting the Ministry of Health with the creation and promotion of campaign materials for the 2022 National Nutrition Month in October. This includes partnering with a local chef to produce a series of videos to promote healthy, low-cost meals.

**Monitoring**

- WFP conducted a post-distribution monitoring on its cash assistance in various districts. Some of the findings indicate:
  - 82 percent of households had adequate food consumption, consuming staples and vegetables every day and occasionally meat, fish and dairy products;
  - 7 percent of households had borderline food consumption and 11 percent had inadequate food consumption;
  - When faced with food shortages, households in Colombo used multiple strategies such as reducing adult food consumption, limiting portion sizes and reducing the number of meals eaten in a day to cope.

Cover Photo: Arathath Kareem is a 35-year-old dry fish seller. Customers do not buy meat or fish as they have settled for a less costly vegetable-based meal. This has directly impacted his business. © WFP/ Riyal Riffai