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 number 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.

WFP has been working in partnership with the Government of India for more than 50 years. Currently 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.

Highlights

- The WFP India Gender unit, in collaboration with the Knowledge Sharing Task Force, organized an inaugural session of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence (GBV) on 25 November. The session focused on staff sensitization on GBV and knowledge sharing on gender and inclusion related activities in WFP India.

Operational Updates

Ensuring Access to Food

- WFP, in collaboration with the Department of Food and Public Distribution and the Food Corporation of India, launched the second ‘Smart Warehouse’ in Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh to modernize the government grain warehouse system. The Smart Warehouse is equipped with wireless sensors to monitor conditions such as temperature, humidity, airflow and rodents which can be tracked through a web-based application. This allows warehouse operators to make informed decisions to improve storage environment and reduce losses.

- In support of the Government of Meghalaya, WFP completed the design and distribution of information, education and communication materials on the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme, reaching more than 2.1 million government public distribution system beneficiaries across the state. This allows beneficiaries to access their subsidized food grain entitlements from any Fair Price Shop in the country as well as the mechanisms for grievance redressal across the state.

- In continuation of its pilot of Annapurna (automated grain dispensing machine) at Fair Price Shops in India, WFP integrated its first Annapurna machine with the ONORC scheme in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

Improved Nutrition

- In November, WFP extended its technical assistance on rice fortification to the Government of Bihar at their request. WFP also conducted trainings for 1,597 stakeholders on rice fortification, including the private sector (rice millers and their staff) and government officials across the states of Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

- WFP signed a partnership agreement with Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University (SKNAU) in Jaipur District (Rajasthan) as a knowledge partner. WFP will also provide capacity strengthening support in establishing nutri-gardens in the schools of this District.
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Net Funding Requirements until December 2022 (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16.54 m</td>
<td>21.49 m</td>
<td>0 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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 finalised the endline assessment of its pilot project on ICT-based training programme for school cooks and helpers in the Government's mid-day meal programme in Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Dhenkanal (Odisha).
- WFP introduced the "Monitoring Foundations" course to its government partners at national and state levels. The course is a self-paced learning module for capacity strengthening of junior and mid-senior level professionals in monitoring programs.

**Climate and Disaster Risk Reduction**

- The Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Department of Odisha and WFP jointly launched the ‘Secure Fishing' mobile app which was designed to empower marine fishers by providing real-time tailored climate and ocean information services to reduce vulnerabilities and increase incomes.
- As part of the climate resilience building initiatives among small-holder farmers in Odisha, WFP organised a three-day training for extension workers dealing with agriculture, horticulture and livestock in three blocks of Ganjam District to orient them on participatory integrated climate services for agriculture (PICSA) tools. Subsequent trainings for farmers for the ongoing rabi season are ongoing.

**Gender and Inclusion**

- WFP presented on the “influence of gendered social norms on intra-household food access and consumption: evidence from Uttar Pradesh, India” in the Delivering for Nutrition in South Asia Conference 2022.
- The Gender and Communications team travelled to Odisha to document stories and perspectives of persons with disabilities, particularly their challenges in accessing food and nutrition entitlements. The documentation was part of the ongoing disability inclusion assessment in Odisha, being implemented in collaboration with Swabhiman, an organization of persons with disabilities (OPD).

**Donors**

Associated Data Processing; Bank of America Charitable Foundation; Cargill, Inc.; Citrix Systems, Inc.; Ericsson India Global Services; EXL Service; General Mills Foundation; General Mills, Inc.; Glenmark Foundation; Global Development Group NZ; Individual donors to Share the Meal & WFP.org; Jubilant Bhartia Foundation; Nutrition International; Rockefeller Foundation; Sodexo Food Solutions, India Private Ltd.; Stop Hunger Foundation; WFP Trust for India; WFP Innovation Accelerator