



WFP India Country Brief July 2023

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



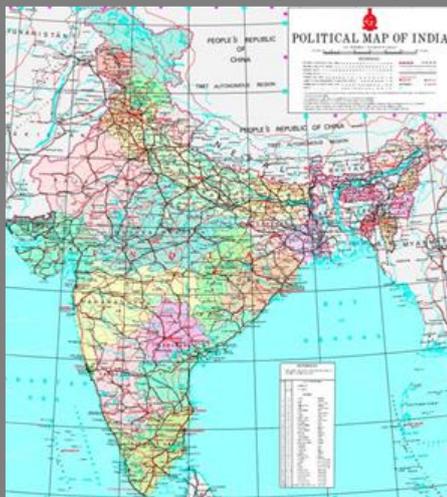
Operational Context

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 107th out of 121 countries on the 2022 Global Hunger Index, with a score of 29.1 (serious level). 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 put 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. 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.



Income Level:
Lower Middle

Population:
1.32 billion

Chronic Malnutrition:
38% of children
6-59 months of
age

2019 Human Development Index Ranking:
129 out of 189

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Highlights

- WFP is supporting the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in enhancing capacities on drought mitigation planning and action in selected 12 most vulnerable states. WFP developed a planning template and guidelines on drought mitigation and was presented to the state governments and other stakeholders. This will facilitate the utilization of approximately US\$146 million funding available under the National Disaster Mitigation Fund by the 12 states.

Operational Updates

Social Protection and Supply Chain

- In partnership with the Department of Food and Public Distribution, WFP completed the supply chain optimization of the transportation network for the public distribution system for 17 of the 31 target states.
- WFP conducted an in-person training on the Introduction to Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks and its Applications in Government Schemes for the staff at the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) and NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) on 11 July.
- WFP supported DMEO and NITI Aayog in drafting two training modules on the Basics of M&E and Data Analysis and Visualization for government officials in the iGOT platform (an online platform for capacity building) under Mission *Karmayogi*.

Nutrition and School Feeding

- A media sensitization workshop was organized in Kerala State on 13 July. The workshop was part of Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) campaign on Fortified Rice. 38 media houses and 14 Government officials took part in the workshop.
- WFP is strengthening the capacity of the stakeholders on rice fortification. In the states of Haryana, Bihar and Odisha, WFP trained 292 rice millers and sensitized 94 senior government officials on the Public Distribution Service. Additionally, 175 officers responsible for food-based social safety net programmes were trained in Bihar; and 425 Fair Price Shop owners and 10 district officers of Food and Civil Supplies department were also sensitized in Uttar Pradesh state.
- With technical support from WFP, 155 decentralized Take-Home-Ration (THR) units are operational in the state of Uttar Pradesh. In Jaipur, 71.6 mt of THR was produced and 50 mt of the THR was distributed to 15,797 beneficiaries. In Odisha, 12 mt of THR was produced and distributed to 16,873 beneficiaries.
- WFP presented the findings and recommendations from the Endline Assessment of the Pilot Scheme on Rice Fortification in Malkangiri, Odisha to the Chief

Country Strategic Plan (2023-27)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Mar-Aug '23 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
27.61 m	20.15 m	0 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to safe and nutritious food (SDG 2.1)

Strategic Outcome 1: By 2030, the Government of India’s food-based social protection systems reach their target beneficiaries more effectively and efficiently.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activity 1: Provide capacity strengthening, technical support and innovative solutions to government and other stakeholders supporting food-based social protection systems.

Strategic Result 2: End all forms of malnutrition (SDG 2.2)

Strategic Outcome 2: By 2030, beneficiaries of the Government of India’s food-based social protection systems have increased consumption of diverse, nutritious, and fortified foods.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activity 2: Provide capacity strengthening and social and behaviour change communication on grain fortification and local production of supplementary foods to government and other stakeholders working in and benefiting from food-based social protection programmes.

Activity 3: Provide capacity strengthening and social and behaviour change communication to government and other stakeholders to promote the increased availability and use of diverse nutritious foods in school-based programmes

Strategic Result 3: Double the productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers (SDG 2.3) and ensure full participation in leadership and decision-making (SDG 5.5)

Strategic Outcome 3: By 2030, women enrolled in the Government of India’s self-help group collectives in targeted states have increased social and financial mobility.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activity 4: Provide capacity strengthening, technical assistance and innovative solutions to women’s self-help groups

Strategic Result 4: Sustainable food production and resilient agricultural practices (SDG 2.4)

Strategic Outcome 4: By 2030, the Government, civil society groups and communities in India have strengthened their adaptive capacity for climate-resilient livelihoods and food systems

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity 5: Provide technical assistance on integrated risk management and climate resilience building to national and state governments and communities.

Secretary, Government of Odisha, the Department of Food and Public Distribution and the donors.

Women Empowerment

- WFP finalized the assessment report on the impact of Women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs) engagement in paddy procurement in Odisha on their empowerment. The report has been submitted to the Government of Odisha. The report found that paddy procurement has been effectively carried out by women’s SHGs, contributing to increased women’s participation in agricultural marketing and empowering women in rural communities.
- WFP finalized and shared the findings of the study on the food security and vulnerability of Tribal Populations in Odisha with the Director and academic team, Scheduled Caste, and Scheduled Tribe Research Institute (SCSTRI), Government of Odisha. The findings will inform WFP’s technical assistance to the Government of Odisha in addressing the food security, nutrition and livelihoods related challenges faced by the tribal populations in the state.

Climate and Resilience

- WFP is supporting the National Disaster Management Authority in enhancing capacities on drought mitigation planning and action in selected 12 most vulnerable states. A workshop on Drought Mitigation Planning was organized by NDMA on 7 July, where a planning template was developed in partnership with National Rainfed Area Authority and an orientation session was organized for the states to prepare for their plans. As part of the core group, WFP is also providing technical support to the state Governments. This will facilitate the utilization of approximately US\$146 million funding available under the National Disaster Mitigation Fund by the 12 states.
- In Odisha, under the joint pilot project between WFP and Odisha Govt. on Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA), 100 farmers have initiated different *kharif* adaptation interventions. The project will focus on adaptation planning at local levels in the coming months.
- A pre-inception meeting of the regional Adaptation Fund project (ADAPT4R) was organized on 17 July, chaired by the Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC). The meeting was attended virtually by the heads of the state departments from three states of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Odisha. WFP is the Multilateral Implementing Entity for this project, which will be launched in November 2023.
- Under the S4R project supported by WFP and the Government of Odisha, six solar units established in two blocks have processed 126 batches of fresh produce.

Donors

The donors to the WFP India operation include: the Government of India, Associated Data Processing, Inc., Cargill, DSM, Ericsson India Global Services, General Mills Foundation, Jubilant Bhartia Foundation, Stop Hunger. Foundation, Secretary General’s Multi-Partner Trust Fund, Sodexo Food Solutions India Private limited, and WFP Trust for India.