



Women Self-Help group members at the launch of the Solar for Resilience initiative in Ganjam, Odisha.
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World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

Quarterly Bulletin

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In this Quarterly Bulletin, we're sharing updates on various initiatives between April and June of 2023. These include an agreement with the Government of India to provide wheat assistance for Afghanistan, the Solar for Resilience project launch in Odisha, and an agreement with the Adaptation Fund to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities in India and Sri Lanka. We've also made progress in other areas, such as installing intelligent warehouses, signing an MoU with NutriHub- ICAR-IIMR, and launching an SBCC campaign on fortified rice. We collaborated with the Planning Department and the Directorate of Economics and Statistics and Planning, Government of Rajasthan & DMEO (NITI).

GOVT OF INDIA AND WFP SIGN MOU TO PROVIDE WHEAT ASSISTANCE FOR AFGHANISTAN

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between India and the UN World Food Programme (WFP) to provide humanitarian food assistance to Afghanistan. The aid will consist of 10,000 tonnes of wheat delivered through the Chabahar Port.

This is India's fifth tranche of food assistance committed to Afghanistan. The MoU was signed on July 11th in Mumbai between J P Singh, Joint Secretary, Pak-Afghan-Iran Division, Ministry of External Affairs, and Elisabeth Faure, Representative and Country Director, World Food Programme in India.

Last year, India's contribution of 40,000 MT of wheat helped WFP support 23 million food-insecure people in the country.

"India's support has been a lifeline for Afghan families facing hunger and it is a critical part of WFP's humanitarian response. I want to extend our sincere gratitude to the Indian Government for its continued support to the peo-

ple of Afghanistan," said Ms. Faure.

"The fifth tranche builds upon assistance already delivered to those who need it most by WFP in Afghanistan. India has delivered on its commitment, standing by the historical relations between the people of the two countries and the pressing needs on the ground," said Mr. J P Singh.



WFP India Rep. & CD Elisabeth Faure with Joint Secretary of PAI division, Ministry of External Affairs, J.P. Singh at the signing of the MoU to donate wheat to Afghanistan.

Social Protection and Supply Chain

SMART WAREHOUSE AND SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMISATION

WFP has set up pilot SMART warehouse solutions in six states at seven government warehouses, having a total storage capacity of over 17,000 metric tons. For this, it has collaborated with the Department of Food and Public Distribution and the Food Corporation of India to introduce a technical solution that utilises sensors and a web-based application to monitor and track conditions such as temperature, humidity, airflow, and rodent infestation to address storage loss. The government has acknowledged this initiative's potential and requested that the Food Corporation of India and the Central Warehousing Corporation scale the solution nationwide, especially for warehouses that store government grains for long periods.

WFP has also successfully completed and shared results of the supply chain optimisation of the transportation network for the public distribution system in 13 out of the 31 designated states.

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING WORKSHOP ON OUTPUT OUTCOME MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Officials from the Directorate of Evaluation Organization (DEO) and some officials from the Directorate of Econom-

ics and Statistics, Government of Rajasthan, attended a workshop on the 'Output Outcome Monitoring Framework' hosted by WFP and Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog.

The objective was to improve their understanding of the logical framework, indicator selection, interpretation, and utilisation for evidence-based policymaking and action.

This workshop is part of a larger MoU signed between the Government of Rajasthan and WFP and a Letter of Understanding signed between the Planning Department, the Government of Rajasthan, and WFP in October 2020. WFP has conducted five training programs so far for DEO officials to enhance their knowledge and expertise in monitoring and evaluation.



Officials from the Directorate of Evaluation Organization (DEO) and Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Rajasthan at the workshop on Output Outcome Monitoring Framework conducted by WFP India.

Nutrition and School Feeding

SCALE UP OF APP BASED LEARNING AMONGST COOK CUM HELPERS

WFP has continued to build on the success of its pilot program in Odisha, which aims to increase the capacity of school cooks and helpers. Working in partnership with the Department of School and Mass Education, WFP has trained 100,000 CCHs in the state using the FoSafMDM app.

During the program's initial phase, WFP provided training to 548 master trainers from various blocks. The app was scaled up in June, with WFP training an additional 629 master trainers (school cooks) from all blocks. These trainers will go on to train 100,000 school cooks throughout the state.

After successful completion of capacity building of school cooks in Viratnagar Block of Jaipur through FoSafMDM App, Rajasthan Government has decided to scale up this intervention in the entire state with technical assistance from WFP. WFP is currently providing necessary support



Elisabeth Faure, Rep & Country Director WFP India at a training conducted for CCHs at Odisha

for creating the pool of approximately 1800 master trainers (selected school cooks) from all the Blocks of the State. Going forward all the cooks will be further trained by these master trainers. Furthermore, the State Education Department has shared all the videos of FoSafMDM through their official social media handle for wider circulation across the State.

VIRTUAL KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE SESSION ON NATIONAL SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

On May 15th, WFP held a virtual knowledge exchange session with WFP Philippines. The session aimed to present the Indian government's national school feeding program, including institutional arrangements, guidelines, norms, and a centralised kitchen model. The session featured WFP India and the Akshaya Patra Foundation presentations and was attended by Philippine government representatives and other stakeholders.

PUBLIC LECTURES, WORKSHOPS & SBCC CAMPAIGN FOR FORTIFIED RICE

In Kerala, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand, WFP conducted sensitisation engagements to promote fortified rice. These efforts involved training and workshops for government officials, rice millers, medical students, and community members.

In May, WFP organised stakeholder sensitisation events for government officials from the Public Distribution System and Integrated Child Development Services in Kerala, Haryana, and Odisha. Concurrently, rice millers, fortified rice kernel manufacturers, and Food Corporation of India officials received training in regional workshops in Chhattisgarh, Odisha, and Haryana.

Uttar Pradesh medical students and faculty members were also sensitised about rice fortification.

In June, WFP continued its engagements, reaching 1,400 staff members in Chhattisgarh, Haryana, and Odisha. In Uttar Pradesh, WFP collaborated with the Food Corporation of India to conduct a regional workshop, training manufacturers of fortified rice kernels and Food Department officials. Additionally, in Uttarakhand, WFP trained master trainers from state government departments.

As part of the Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) Campaign in Kerala, WFP organised folk media shows in five districts to sensitise people about the benefits of fortified rice and address myths and misconceptions. These shows were attended by officials from various departments, Kudumbashree members, frontline workers, panchayat members, and community members. Over 3,000 community members across 35 villages have attended 70 folk shows.

WFP also hosted a state-level stakeholder workshop in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on 27 June, with participants from various departments and organisations such as UNICEF, UNDP, Azeem Premji Foundation, Deloitte, and UN Women.



Officials and community members attending an awareness session as part of WFP's Social Behaviour Change Campaign on fortified rice.

Women Empowerment

ASSESSMENT ON IMPACT OF MISSION SHAKTI SCHEMES ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN'S SELF-HELP GROUPS IN ODISHA

In partnership with the Mission Shakti Department, WFP conducted a study on the extent to which engagement of women's self-help groups (SHGs) in electricity meter reading, paddy procurement, Aahar Kendra management and pisciculture activities on behalf of the Odisha Government affected their level of empowerment.

The findings showed that numerous groups had favourable outcomes, including improved status and recognition within their households and communities, a feeling of pride among family members, and a greater involvement in decision making both at the family and community level.

LAUNCH OF SOLAR FOR RESILIENCE INITIATIVE

WFP, the Government of Odisha, and S4S Technologies have launched a new initiative called Solar 4 Resilience (S4R). The project aims to promote resilience and improve the livelihoods of women and smallholder farmers through solar-based technologies. The launch event, which took place at the Krushi Bhawan in the state capital Bhubaneswar, was attended by state government officials, private sector partners, and community representatives.

The project aims to empower women farmers by providing them alternative livelihoods and improved incomes through capacity building and gender-transformative approaches. The

long-term vision is to expand the initiative to other states and benefit communities vulnerable to climate change.

One of the project's key features is the provision of solar-drying technology to women, which they can use to dry vegetables, millet, fish/seafood, and other perishable food that would otherwise go to waste. The women can purchase the equipment with low-interest loans from banks and receive financial management and quality assurance training.



Women self help group members at the lunch of the Solar for Resilience initiative at Ganjam, Odisha

WFP SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH ADAPTATION FUND TO STRENGTHEN RESILIENCE OF VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN SRI LANKA AND INDIA AGAINST IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

An agreement has been signed between WFP and Adaptation Fund to strengthen the adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities in Sri Lanka's dry zone and India's eastern coastal states against climate change.

The project aims to improve food security by providing reliable and timely last-mile climate services, developing a system to co-produce and disseminate tailored agromet and hydromet advisories, and enhancing the adaptive capacity of income-poor farming households facing high climate risks. This will be achieved through the development and implementation of local adaptation plans informed by climate advisories, resulting in improved practices, and diversified, climate-resilient livelihoods. The project focuses on smallholder farmers in the inland, dry areas of the project localities. Women and vulnerable groups will be prioritised.

WFP India also participated in the pre-inception meeting for the Regional Adaptation Fund project between India and Sri Lanka from 5-9 June at the WFP Sri Lanka Country Office.

COLLABORATION WITH NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

The National Disaster Management Authority and the National Rainfed Area Authority have collaborated with WFP India to create a model that allows 12 drought-prone states to request funding from the National Disaster Mitigation Fund. WFP was an integral part of the team responsible for establishing this model.

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

Adaptation Fund, Citrix Systems, Inc., Ericsson India Global Services, Government of Odisha; General Mills Foundation, Global Development Group NZ, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India; Government of Uttar Pradesh, PATH, Rockefeller Foundation, UPS, WFP Trust for India, the WFP Innovation Accelerator, and individual donors to WFP's ShareTheMeal app and WFP.org

TRAINING OF TRAINERS & FARMERS ON PARTICIPATORY INTEGRATED CLIMATE SERVICES IN AGRICULTURE

WFP organised a block-level training in Ganjam, Odisha for 71 extension workers from various departments. The training focused on the Participatory Integrated Climate Services in Agriculture approach (PICSA) and village-level planning. Additionally, a village-level refresher training was conducted for over 330 farmers and 90 self-help group members, highlighting the PICSA approach and village-level kharif planning for the July-October season.



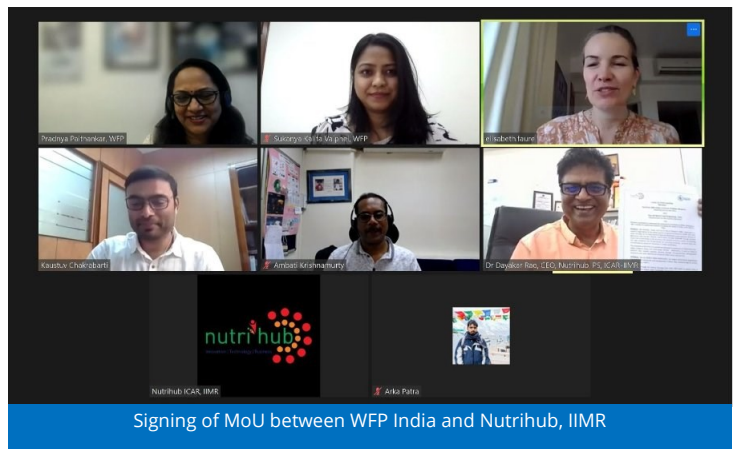
WFP India Country Director, Elisabeth Faure at the training of trainers on Participatory Integrated Climate Services in Agriculture (PICSA) approach held at Ganjam, Odisha

Trainers from WFP, the University of Reading, and the Indian Meteorological Department conducted a district-level refresher Training of Trainers workshop to enhance the capacities of trainers from the Department of Agriculture, Horticulture, Livestock, and Fisheries under the PICSA approach. Furthermore, a flip book depicting the 12 steps of PICSA and the procedure for training farmers on the same was developed and released in English and Odia. Extension workers are now using the flip book as Information Education Communication material during the training of farmers.

WFP SIGNS MoU WITH NUTRIHUB, INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MILLET RESEARCH

A Letter of Undertaking has been signed between Nutrihub, Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad and WFP India on 14th June 2023.

Under the MoU, WFP in collaboration with Nutrihub, Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR) will work on the formative assessment to understand the reticence in consumption of Millets and develop a Social and Behavior Change Communication strategy to promote the uptake of millets in five states of India.



Outreach
Media/Events/Engagements



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