



World Food Programme

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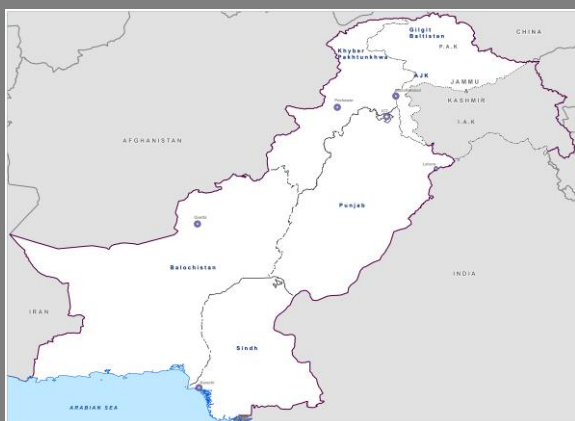
WFP Pakistan Country Brief October 2023



Operational Context

Pakistan faces multiple challenges that impede its progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and national development priorities (Vision 2025). In addition to ongoing political instability, economic uncertainty and security threats, the country is experiencing persistent food insecurity and malnutrition. The 2023 Hunger Hotspots report by WFP and FAO notes Pakistan as a critical "hotspot" for acute food insecurity. The April 2023 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis found that 10.5 million people were experiencing acute food insecurity at crisis and emergency levels. This figure is projected to increase to 11.8 million between November 2023 and January 2024. The IPC Acute Malnutrition analysis revealed that 2.14 million children suffer from acute malnutrition.

WFP's Country Strategic Plan 2023-2027 aligns with Pakistan's national development priorities and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, focusing on Zero Hunger (SDG 2). Alongside the provision of critical relief and nutrition support to vulnerable people, WFP supports government efforts to enhance food and nutrition security, provides policy advice and helps formulate sustainable strategies that reinforce Pakistan's food systems. WFP is also strengthening vulnerable communities' resilience to recurring extreme weather events and climate-driven disasters.



Population (World Population Prospects 2022): **236 million**

Chronic malnutrition: **40% of children aged 6-59 months**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2021-22 Human Development Index: **161 out of 191**

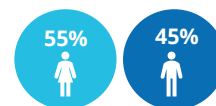
In Numbers

828,110 people assisted

3,681 mt food distributed

US\$3.15 million provided in cash-based transfers

US\$14.7 million funding requirements (Nov-Apr 2024)



Operational Updates

- Despite funding constraints leading to the scale-down of its flood response, WFP provided 2,012 mt of food and nutrition assistance and US\$2.9 million in cash-based transfers (CBT) to half a million flood-affected people. WFP support benefitted 368,191 people in Sindh, 46,215 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and 82,686 in Balochistan provinces.
- To strengthen community resilience and self-reliance in vulnerable areas, WFP continued its flood recovery activities, providing 1.1 million people with 8,615 mt of food and US\$18 million in cash support for affected households in Balochistan, KP, Punjab and Sindh provinces.
- From April to October 2023, more than 150,000 vulnerable people and government officials participated in WFP resilience-building activities, including training, early warning system improvements and disaster risk reduction tools.
- WFP provided nutrition support through the community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) programme to 17,737 pregnant and breastfeeding women and 23,523 children under the age of 5 years in 12 districts of Sindh and Balochistan provinces. WFP also provided support through targeted supplementary feeding programmes (TSFP) to 124,071 children. With its current resources, WFP is prepared to support an additional 46,000 vulnerable people through February 2024.
- WFP's CMAM Surge Programme improved healthcare services for more than 3,299 children under the age of 5 years and 2,190 pregnant and breastfeeding women by strengthening provincial and district health authorities' capacity to manage seasonal malnutrition surges. In Sindh province, WFP trained 343 healthcare and community workers. The CMAM Surge benefitted more than 20,600 women, 26,100 children and 356 healthcare and community workers.
- WFP's blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSFP) in Sindh province has assisted 64,074 people since its inception. In October, it provided support to 5,108 pregnant and breastfeeding women and 12,600 children aged 6-24 months.
- WFP expanded support to Karachi East district (Sindh province) via three newly established facilitation centres (FCs) through the Benazir Nashonuma Programme (BNP), Pakistan's nationwide stunting prevention programme. The BNP now serves 158 districts through 511 FCs, including 34 mobile units.

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Country Strategic Plan (2023–2027)

Total Requirement (US\$)	Allocated Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
904.49 million*	230 million	14.7 million

*Budget revision in progress

Strategic Result 1: People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs

Strategic Outcome 1: Communities in Pakistan at higher risk of vulnerability to climate change and other shocks are more resilient and have enhanced capacity to improve their livelihoods by 2027.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activity 1: Enhance the Government's emergency preparedness.

Activity 2: Strengthen the resilience and self-reliance of communities at higher risk of vulnerability.

Strategic Result 2: People have better nutrition, health and education outcomes

Strategic Outcome 2: Pakistan's people at higher risk of vulnerability, especially women and children, have greater access to affordable, nutritious diets and basic social services (education, health and nutrition) by 2027.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activity 3: Strengthen Institutional capacity to implement effective nutrition interventions and implementation of the Government's safety net programme.

Activity 4: Strengthen national social protection systems.

Activity 5: Strengthen school meals safety net programmes.

Strategic Result 3: People have improved and sustainable livelihoods

Strategic Outcome 3: Pakistan's food systems are resilient to shocks and support access to healthy and nutritious food by all of Pakistan's communities by 2027.

Focus area: Root Causes

Activity 6: Enhance government and private sector capacity to strengthen the food supply chain system's resilience to shocks, and supply chain and market system for fortified and other nutritious food.

Strategic Result 1: People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs

Strategic Outcome 4: Communities in Pakistan at higher risk of vulnerability to climate change and other shocks have access to adequate food and nutrition before, during and in the aftermath of shocks.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activity 7: Strengthen vulnerable communities' resilience and preparedness.

Strategic Result 5: Humanitarian and development actors are more efficient and effective

Strategic Outcome 5: Humanitarian and development partners and Government of Pakistan have access to reliable common services on demand.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activity 8: Ensure more efficient, effective and coordinated interventions.

- As part of its support to the BNP, WFP continues to enrol girls aged 15-19 in a pilot adolescent nutrition programme, providing them with a PKR 1,000 (approx. US\$3.5) quarterly cash stipend, health education, and iron and folic acid supplements to break the cycle of malnutrition. WFP enrolled more than 5,100 adolescent girls in six pilot districts.
- WFP dispatched 19,425 mt of food to Afghanistan as part of its humanitarian support. This brings the total commodities dispatched to Afghanistan since August 2021 to 526,703 mt, valued at US\$245 million.
- WFP has deployed a tool for real-time tracking of dispatchments in more than half the districts. Plans are underway to expand its use to all districts by the first half of 2024 for improved logistics, response, and resource allocation.

Challenges

- WFP encountered minor delays in transactions due to the technical challenges experienced by Financial Service Providers (FSP). To address this, WFP and FSP established a mechanism to run a pre-verification of the beneficiary data before creating the final cash disbursement in the FSP system.

Monitoring

- Pakistan has been identified as a "hotspot" in the WFP-FAO Hunger Hotspots report. Between November 2023 and January 2024, 11.8 million people are projected to experience acute food insecurity at crisis or higher levels (IPC Phase 3 and above).
- WFP's October Market Monitor revealed that annual food inflation decreased to 33.1 percent. Food inflation will, however, likely persist due to economic and political challenges in the coming months.
- The third round of flood response post-distribution monitoring (PDM) for April to July 2023 found that 19 percent of households have poor consumption scores based on dietary diversity and food frequency. This was higher than the 5 percent noted during the second round of PDM. Notably, 21 percent of households had acceptable consumption, which was higher than the finding from the second round (15 percent).

Donors

Australia, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Bulgaria, Canada, Chellaram Foundation, CERF, Denmark, ECHO, European Commission, France, Germany, Government of Balochistan, Government of Pakistan, IFAD, Japan, Kuwait, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, USAID.