



World Food Programme

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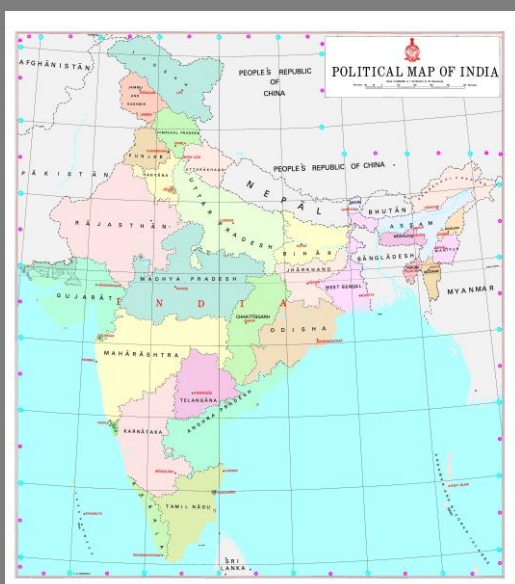
# WFP India Country Brief November 2023



## 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 107 out of 121 countries on the 2022 Global Hunger Index. Despite improvements, the prevalence of malnutrition is above acceptable levels, with 35 percent and 19 percent of children below 5 years of age being too short for their age and having low weight for their age respectively. The prevalence of anaemia is alarmingly high, especially among women of reproductive age (57 percent) and children 6-59 months (67 percent).

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. WFP has been working in partnership with the Government for more than 50 years. WFP is providing technical assistance and capacity strengthening to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Government food-based social protection schemes and other programmes that strengthen food security, nutrition, and livelihoods. WFP also empowers vulnerable communities to effectively tackle climate-induced challenges to food security and nutrition.



**Income Level:**  
Lower Middle

**Population:**  
1.32 billion

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

**2022 Human Development Index Ranking:**  
132 out of 191

## Highlights

On 16 November, the Government of Norway and WFP signed a 1.5 year project agreement. The project aims to enhance the adaptive capacity of smallholder farmers, particularly women, in the north-eastern state of Assam. Its main goal is to tackle the adverse effects of climate change on agriculture. The signing ceremony was attended by the Minister of International Development, Government of Norway, the Ambassador of Norway, and the Joint Secretary (NRM/RFS), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India. More information is available [here](#).

## Operational Updates

### Social Protection and Supply Chain

- Annapurta - a standalone grain-dispensing solution was unveiled in Odisha state. The solution will provide around-the-clock access to food grain entitlement for the Targeted Public Distribution System beneficiaries, supplementing the existing mechanism through the Fair Price Shops. In Uttarakhand, WFP has installed thirteen Annapurta solutions as part of the state-wide scale-up.
- WFP has installed a Flospan, a prefabricated storage structure, in the region of Jammu and Kashmir. This is the fourth Flospan installed in India under the partnership with the Government to modernise their grain storage systems to increase the storage capacity and reduce losses.
- WFP completed a supply chain optimisation analysis of the transportation network for the targeted public distribution system (TPDS) in 30 states.
- WFP facilitated the participation of government officials from the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office of NITI Aayog (an apex public policy think-tank of the Government of India) in the Evaluation Learning Programme held at WFP Headquarters.

### Nutrition and School Feeding

- A session was held for 200 members of Bihar Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (JEEVIKA) to promote awareness about the consumption of fortified rice, as part of social behaviour change communication.
- The Department of Community Sciences, College of Agriculture in Kerala and WFP have agreed to collaborate through a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a Technical Support Unit to ensure the effective implementation of the rice fortification programme.
- WFP is collaborating with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh (UP) in scaling up the decentralised take-home-ration (THR) production units. Of the targeted 204 THR units, 203 have become operational. Provision of improved THR products is also ongoing in the states of Rajasthan and Odisha. Further, 375 frontline functionaries of Integrated Child Development Services

in UP and Odisha have undergone capacity-building sessions.

## Women Empowerment

- To mark the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, WFP organized a kick-off event by screening a film showcasing the daily gender-based violence that women and girls face and how it impacts them socially and psychologically.

## Climate and Resilience

- To support the effort by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to explore Disaster Insurance Policies and Practices for Adaptation to Climate Change, two experts from WFP headquarters visited India. Following this mission, partnership with NDMA around disaster risk financing and climate risk insurance is being explored.
- WFP facilitated a South-South Triangular Cooperation mission from Ghana. A team of 13 Ghanaian experts led by the Deputy Minister of Communication and Digitalisation interacted with various stakeholders both at the national and State levels and learned about India's sophisticated early warning systems for emergency preparedness and response, including the associated infrastructure and solutions.
- As part of the International Convention organised by the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Government of Odisha, WFP co-hosted a session on best practices and learning from different countries. The convention was organised to celebrate the International Year of Millets 2023 and attended by representatives from the Government of India and representatives from Asian and African nations.
- At the 6th World Congress on Disaster Management held in Uttarakhand, WFP and National Institute of Disaster Management facilitated a technical session on food security and nutrition in emergency preparedness and response. During the session, a new training manual on the same subject was unveiled. The manual was jointly created by the two organizations and will be integrated into the multi-stakeholder training plans.

## Donors

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

## Country Strategic Plan (2023-27)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Oct-Mar 24 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
31.7 m	21.5 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.