



World Food Programme

WFP Pakistan Country Brief

May 2024

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Building climate resilience through constructing flood protection walls under WFP's disaster preparedness & resilience initiatives in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. ©WFP/Saiyna Bashir

In Numbers

499,500 people assisted



2,500 mt food distributed

US\$ 333,900 cash distributed

387,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children assisted under the Benazir Nashonuma Programme

Operational Updates

Outcome 1 – Disaster Preparedness & Resilience

- WFP provided US\$310,400 in cash assistance to help build the resilience of 44,100 beneficiaries in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Sindh provinces through asset creation and livelihood support activities.
- WFP, in collaboration with Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the GIZ, convened the first meeting of the Sub-Working Group on Adaptive Social Protection within the Cash Transfer Coordination Group on 22 May. Government officials and development partners discussed adaptive social protection and disaster risk financing for vulnerable populations during emergencies, emphasizing the need for coordinated efforts across social protection, climate change, and disaster risk management sectors.

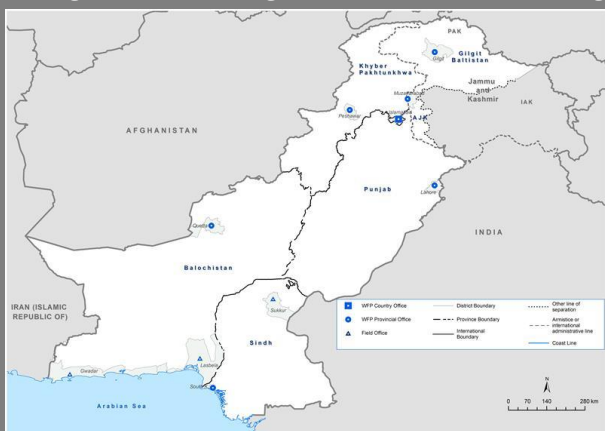
Outcome 2 – Nutrition & Education

- WFP supported 53,900 moderately malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW) and children under the **Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)** programme in Balochistan, KP, and Sindh provinces.
- WFP is implementing an **Integrated Supplementary Feeding Programme** for children and PBW in Sindh, providing cash assistance to households with malnourished children and PBW. In May, WFP provided US\$23,500 worth of cash-based transfers to 3,500 CMAM participants.
- In partnership with Pakistan's BISP, WFP is implementing the Benazir Nashonuma Programme (BNP), a nationwide initiative to prevent stunting. In May, WFP provided 30 million sachets of specialized nutritious food to 387,000 PBW and children aged 6-23 months, iron-folic acid tablets to 11,000 adolescent girls along with nutrition counseling and access to health services through 544 facilitation centres in 158 districts across the country. Under BNP, more than 150,000 malnourished PBW and children were enrolled for acute malnutrition treatment, bringing the total number of women and children enrolled in the programme to 2.1 million.

Operational Context

Pakistan continues to face a complex landscape of risks, hindering progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Vision 2025. Economic fragility, political polarization, recurrent natural disasters, and high inflation rates deepen vulnerabilities and increase poverty levels, undermining resilience. Ranked 102nd out of 129 nations on the Global Hunger Index, Pakistan experiences 'serious' hunger levels (Hunger Hotspots report). The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) highlights persistent food insecurity and malnutrition, with the latest IPC analysis estimating that 8.6 million people across Pakistan are facing high levels of acute food insecurity from March to June 2024. This includes 1.6 million in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency).

World Food Programme's Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027) aligns with Pakistan's development objectives and the 2030 Agenda, with a targeted focus on Zero Hunger (SDG 2). Through critical relief efforts and nutrition support, WFP plays a crucial role in supporting vulnerable populations. WFP also supports the Government of Pakistan to strengthen food and nutrition security, offering policy guidance, technical expertise, and sustainable strategies to fortify food systems and strengthen resilience against climate-related challenges.



Population (2024): **244 million**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2023-24 Human Development Index: **164 out of 193**

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Outcome 3 – Food Systems

- On 7 May, WFP participated in the 'Food Systems Workshop on Indicators and Metric Gaps in the Measurement of Food System Transformation', organized by the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) and The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN). The workshop brought together public and private sector stakeholders to discuss crucial indicators and data outlets for tracking Pakistan's food system advancements, readily accessible on Pakistan's country profile on the food systems dashboard.

Food Security Analysis

- The latest [IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis \(March 2024\)](#) estimates that in parts of Balochistan, Sindh, and KP, 8.6 million people (24 percent of the analysed population) are facing high levels of acute food insecurity from March to June 2024. This includes 1.6 million in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 7 million in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). Among the 47 rural districts analysed, 20 have 30-45 percent of their populations in IPC Phase 3 or higher. Although there's a projected slight improvement from July to November 2024, 7.9 million people (22 percent of the analysed population) are expected to still face high levels of acute food insecurity.
- Headline inflation dropped to 11.8 percent on year-on-year bases. The inflation rate eased for the fifth consecutive month indicating a reduction in consumer price pressures. Moreover, food inflation decreased to -0.17 percent in May largely due to a significant decline in the prices of wheat, wheat flour and chicken over the past month.

Challenges

- Since 4 May, the Chaman border has been closed for cargo movements due to ongoing protests at the Kojak Top and the main gate of the frontier corps in Balochistan. This disruption has impacted the commodity transport from Quetta to Afghanistan, affecting cross-border trade.
- The Pakistan Meteorological Department forecasts normal to above-normal monsoon rainfall nationwide. Central to northern Punjab and southern Sindh are expected to have the highest deviations, while Balochistan will see slightly above normal levels. Increased rainfall in upper KP and GB in June may lead to riverine flooding in the Chenab, Ravi, and Sutlej rivers. Heightened rainfall in July and August could result in flash floods, particularly impacting Punjab and Sindh, with areas like Peshawar and DI Khan at risk. WFP will conduct Emergency Response Training sessions and Simulation Exercises (SIMEXs) for provincial and district disaster management authorities in June 2024.

Donors

The governments of Pakistan, Norway, USA, and Japan; the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the European Commission.

Country Strategic Plan (2023–2027)

Total Requirement (US\$)	Allocated Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
787.34 million	273.68 million	23.03 million

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.