



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Pakistan Country Brief July 2024



A mother measures her child's growth at the Basic Health Facility in Tharparkar, Sindh, under the CMAM Surge programme. Courtesy: WFP/Anam Abbas

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.

The 2023/2024 Human Development Report places Pakistan in the 'low' human development category with a Human Development Index (HDI) value of 0.540 and global ranking of 164 out of 193 countries. Pakistan is also ranked 99th out of 129 countries in the Global Hunger Index.

WFP'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). By providing essential relief and nutrition support, WFP plays a critical role in aiding vulnerable populations. Additionally, WFP supports the Government of Pakistan in enhancing food and nutrition security through policy guidance, technical expertise, and the development of sustainable food systems. The plan also aims to bolster 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**

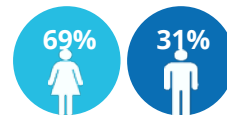
In Numbers

488,657 beneficiaries received food assistance

2,097 mt food and **US\$227,704 cash** disbursed

13,092 moderately malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women and children benefited under CMAM programme

441,200 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children received supplements and services in July under the Benazir Nashonuma Programme



Operational Updates

Emergency preparedness, Resilience & Livelihoods

- The **Green Climate Fund** approved a **US\$9.8 million** climate risk management initiative aimed at strengthening resilience to extreme climate in flood-prone districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province. WFP will implement the project with the Government of Pakistan.
- WFP continued to implement resilience-building asset creation and livelihoods interventions in three districts of Sindh province **benefiting 47,790 people.**
- Aligned with the Government's Living Indus Initiative, a new project was started in Punjab, KP, and Sindh to construct **over 450 water ponds** along with associated activities.
- WFP engaged **50 young women** in Larkana (Sindh) in digital skills training, focused on e-commerce and digital marketing techniques, social media advertising, and product photography. The training aimed to **empower women** to establish online businesses and expand their reach beyond the local market.

Nutrition, Health & Education

- Under the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) activities in four districts of Balochistan and Sindh provinces (Washuk, Kharan, Tharparkar and Kachhi), WFP supported **13,092** moderately malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW) and children aged 6-59 months, bringing the total to **109,100** people supported. Two districts of Sindh (Jamshoro and Qamber Shahdadkot) will be included in the programme in the coming weeks.
- WFP collaborated with the Government of Pakistan to enhance maternal and child nutrition through the Benazir Nashonuma Programme (BNP). This initiative operates through 552 facilitation centers across 157 districts. To date, **2.3 million** PBW and children aged 6-23 months have been enrolled in the programme which targets the first 1000 days of life.

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Country Strategic Plan (2023–2027)



Total Requirement (US\$)	Allocated Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
787.3 m	281.2 m	39.2 m

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.

- The BNP programme enrolled **97,000** malnourished children and pregnant women for treatment of acute malnutrition. Additionally, **over 55,000** participants were registered under the WFP-led pilot programme addressing adolescent girls' nutrition.
- In July, **1,740** mt of wheat flour was fortified under the programme on fortification of wheat flour milled by small-scale mills (chakkis). A total of 132 *chakkis* are engaged in this initiative across Pakistan.
- WFP, along with other UN agencies of the United Nations, provided technical support to the Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives in finalizing the project document for **a multi-sectoral Pakistan Nutrition Initiative Planning Commission Form I (PC1)**, to address acute and chronic malnutrition in 36 high-burden districts across Pakistan.

Food Systems

- WFP, Food and Agriculture Organization, and the International Finance Corporation, developed a working paper on **Pakistan's Wheat Predicament: An Assessment of Pakistan's Wheat Procurement, Storage Capabilities, and Operational Status**. This paper will inform stakeholders on programme and policy actions related to post-harvest management.
- WFP participated in a national dialogue on food systems. WFP, as a panel discussant, emphasized the critical role of **reducing post-harvest losses** through bolstering national capacities and enhancing supply chain infrastructure. The dialogue informed stakeholders on the most impactful actions in Pakistan for food system transformation.

Emergency preparedness and response

- The Pakistan Meteorological Department and the National Disaster Management Authority forecasted above-normal rainfall particularly in the eastern regions of Pakistan, which can trigger flooding. In response, WFP developed a contingency plan to support Government's response and conducted preparedness measures to ensure operational readiness during emergency.
- Civil disturbances in Balochistan province impacted operational continuity, particularly affecting BNP facilitation centres in four districts. Internet disruptions further compounded the impact on operations. WFP is actively collaborating with government authorities to facilitate the swift resumption of operations.

Donors

Governments of Pakistan, Canada, France, Norway, USA; the European Commission and the European Union; the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.