



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Philippines Country Brief October 2024

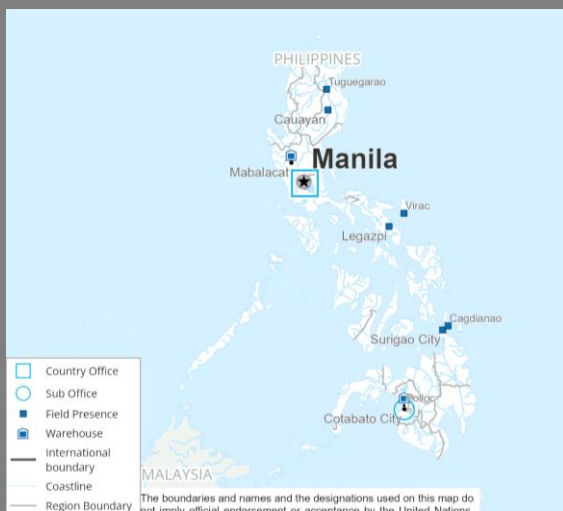


WFP-deployed trucks delivered government family food packs to people affected by Severe Tropical Storm Trami (local name Kristine) in the Bicol Region. © WFP/Earvin Perias

Operational Context

As one of the fastest growing economies in Southeast Asia, the Philippines has made progress in reducing poverty and improving food security. However, challenges remain that put hard-won gains at risk. In the first semester of 2023, approximately 25 million Filipinos are still living below the poverty threshold. Malnutrition remains prevalent, with child stunting incidence at 26.7 percent. Natural hazards and human-induced conflicts contribute to food and nutrition insecurity, which were exacerbated by the lingering impacts of COVID-19 and the global food crisis. From 2022 to 2024, the Philippines had the highest disaster risk worldwide due to its exposure and vulnerability to natural hazards compounded with low coping capacities (2024 World Risk Report).

WFP's Country Strategic Plan 2024-2028 continues to support the Government in achieving food and nutrition security. It focuses on i) improving emergency preparedness and response, ii) strengthening resilience against climate change and other shocks, and iii) enhancing the delivery of social protection, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger. WFP uses a conflict-sensitive approach particularly in the Bangsamoro Region.



Population: **110 million**

2022 Human Development Index
Ranking: **113th out of 193**

Childhood stunting: **27 percent**
(Expanded National Nutrition Survey, 2021)

Income Level: **Lower middle**

In Numbers

US\$4.21 million six-month (November 2024 – April 2025) net funding requirements

299 mt of iron-fortified rice distributed

339,000 people reached with government family food packs (FFPs) through WFP's transport support

1,580 people reached with nutrition messages

27,251 people reached in October



Operational Updates

Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

- [Severe Tropical Storm Trami and Super Typhoon Kong-rey](#) (local names Kristine and Leon, respectively) caused widespread flooding that affected over 8 million people in Luzon and Visayas. These include areas previously hit by two other typhoons, including the Bicol Region and Batanes Province. WFP's support to the government response entails:
 - **Logistics:** Since 24 October, WFP has enabled the Government to reach over 339,000 people by deploying 61 trucks to transport 67,900 government family food packs from Manila to the provinces of Albay, Camarines Norte, and Camarines Sur (Bicol Region). WFP supported the installation of two [mobile storage units](#) (MSU) in Albay and Camarines Sur, and has one MSU prepositioned in Batanes Province for potential deployment. The MSUs are being used to provide secure storage for relief items.
 - **Emergency telecommunications:** WFP supported the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) by providing three VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminals) units to augment connectivity in Camarines Sur. DICT deployed two units of the WFP co-designed [Government Emergency Communications System-Mobile Operations Vehicle for Emergencies](#) to restore connectivity in Batangas and the Bicol Region.
 - **Assessments and cash assistance:** WFP completed a rapid damage assessment and needs analysis in the Bicol Region. Based on the findings, WFP will top-up DSWD's emergency cash assistance to 42,000 households (210,000 people) registered in the 4Ps (*Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program*) social assistance programme in two of the most impacted provinces (Albay and Camarines Sur).

- WFP conducted the **Humanitarian Supply Chain Management (HSCM) training of trainers (ToT)** jointly with the DSWD, Office of Civil Defense, and World Health Organization. The ToT aimed to

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Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
131.19 m	24.57 m	4.21 m

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

Strategic Outcome 1: By 2028, communities exposed to shocks and stressors in the Philippines are better able to meet their food, nutrition and other essential needs with inclusive and equitable emergency preparedness and response capacity at the national and local levels.

Focus area: *Crisis response*

Activities:

- Provide nutrition-sensitive emergency food assistance and restore assets, directly or through the Government's social protection programmes or partners, along with appropriate supply chain and emergency telecommunications services to crisis-affected communities.
- Strengthen and augment the Government's and partners' emergency preparedness capacity along with appropriate supply chains and emergency telecommunications.

Strategic Result 3: People have improved and sustainable livelihoods.

Strategic Outcome 2: By 2028, communities vulnerable to food and nutrition insecurity in the Philippines are more resilient and can better manage risks affecting human capital gains and food systems, inclusively and equitably.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide integrated resilience building activities for targeted communities and support the Government in managing climate, economic, and conflict-related risks and enhancing food value chains.
- Strengthen the government social protection system, including through the provision of integrated food and nutrition assistance to vulnerable communities using conflict-sensitive and inclusive approaches.

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

Strategic Outcome 3: The Government and partners in the Philippines access WFP services that augment their interventions, upon request.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide government and other partners with on-demand services aimed at improving development action, including with regards to food security, nutrition, and supply chains.

Donors

Asian Development Bank, Australia, France, Japan, Japan Association for WFP, OPEC Fund for International Development, the Philippines, the Private Sector, and the United States of America

establish a network of trainers who will disseminate the enhanced HSCM course nationwide. Government logisticians and HSCM practitioners gained in-depth knowledge in training facilitation and module delivery.

Social Protection

- WFP launched the **home-grown school feeding (HGSF) pilot in Cauayan City, Isabela Province (Luzon)**. The pilot aims to reach 2,000 schoolchildren with locally-sourced school meals from 500 smallholder farmers for school year 2024-2025.
- Since July, WFP has reached over **3,250 learners** from nine schools in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) with daily, hot meals through HGSF. So far, 849 farmers from eight smallholder farmer cooperatives have been linked with the pilot schools.
- To celebrate **World Food Day (16 October)**, WFP invited Joel Torre—veteran actor and restaurant owner (JT's Manukan Grille)—to visit Datu sa Biwang Elementary School in Maguindanao Del Norte, one of nine schools participating in the HGSF pilot. Mr. Torre helped prepare a chicken and vegetable dish for 340 students and learned about HGSF and WFP's food assistance for assets (FFA) projects in Maguindanao del Sur.
- WFP, DSWD, and the Philippine Business for Social Progress co-trained 33 data collectors for the ongoing **Walang Gutom (No Hunger) 2027 Digital Readiness Assessment (DRA)**. The training aimed to provide participants with the knowledge and tools to effectively collect data for the DRA. The DRA seeks to gauge the digital readiness of participants and improve the use of digital payment platforms.
- WFP received the **2023-2024 United Nations (UN) Awards** on: i) the pilot implementation of *Walang Gutom* programme under the Innovation category and ii) carpooling services under the Efficiency category, out of the 16 entries from UN agencies.

Integrated Resilience

- WFP reached **24,000 people** in BARMM through FFA activities. Participants were provided with 60 kg of iron-fortified rice as they worked on community assets, including establishing 64.3 ha of vegetable gardens (equivalent to 1,543 basketball courts), planting 49,800 fruit tree and mangrove seedlings, rehabilitating 22 km of irrigation canals and roads, and constructing 8 seedling nurseries.¹
- WFP and health workers disseminated nutrition messaging to 1,500 FFA participants in Lanao del Sur through **NutriGo**, an interactive learning activity that aims to improve dietary behaviours. In Maguindanao del Sur, WFP-trained health workers facilitated **community dialogues** with 80 male community members. The discussions emphasized the shared responsibility between husbands and wives in ensuring proper nutrition for their families.

¹ The numbers pertain to the target number of assets planned by communities. FFA participants started working on completing these assets this month.

* This operational brief is based on the best available information at the time of drafting. Figures may vary if unique beneficiaries are considered.