



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Pakistan Country Brief October 2024



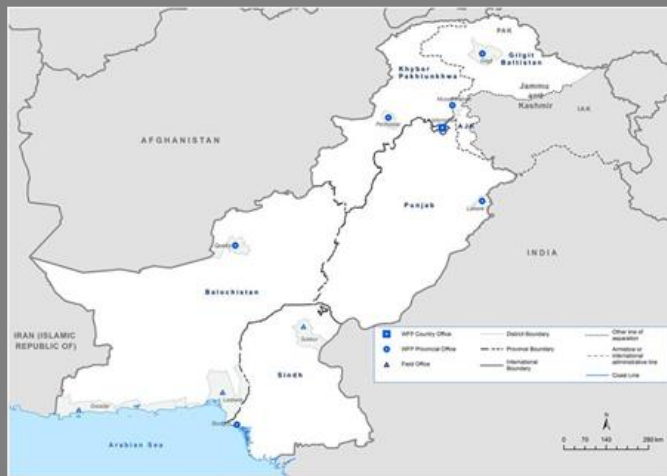
Lady Health Worker Parveen teaching women about health practices, hygiene and nutrition through the CMAM Surge programme in Tharparkar, Sindh. ©WFP/Anam Abbas.

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.**

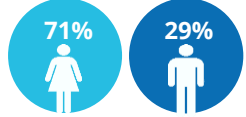
Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

385,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children aged 6-24 months received health and nutrition services and supplementary nutritious foods through the Benazir Nashonuma Programme (BNP)

17,300 moderately malnourished pregnant and breastfeeding women and young children received treatment through various CMAM activities

23,600 people benefited through resilience building, and livelihood support programmes



Operational Updates

Emergency preparedness, resilience and livelihoods

- WFP recently signed the 2024-2025 Annual Work Plan with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) that outlines key collaborations for the year, including partnering with NDMA to strengthen emergency preparedness, response capabilities, risk assessments, early warning systems, and anticipatory actions at various levels.
- The CO is partnering with district authorities to develop anticipatory action protocols in Dadu (Sindh) and DI Khan (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) and has completed the onboarding of cooperating partners and inception workshops.
- Under livelihoods and climate resilience work, WFP has progressed multi-year activities in three flood-affected (2022) districts in Sindh province, with a focus on building skills among women and men, as well as construction of community assets, mostly around water management.
- WFP is also progressing with work under the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework's [Living Indus](#) initiative, with a focus on community construction of concrete water reservoirs and other activities to improve water resource management, with a focus on Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and southern Punjab provinces.

Nutrition & Health, Education and Social Protection

- WFP, in partnership with the Government of Pakistan, implements the Benazir Nashonuma Programme (BNP) to support pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW) and children aged 6-24 months from the poorest households. To date, 2.6 million PBW and children have been enrolled, receiving services. In October, WFP provided 385,000 PBW and children with 34.6 million sachets of specialized nutritious foods, health services, and nutrition awareness.
- Under the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) activities, WFP supported 17,300 moderately malnourished PBW and children in two districts of Balochistan.

Country Strategic Plan (2023–2027)



Total Requirement (US\$)	Allocated Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
787.34 million	305.58 million	17.24 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.

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- Continuing support to small scale wheat mills, a total of 147 local *chakkis* (small-scale millers) across the country have had microfeeders installed and have been provided with pre-mix by WFP. In October, they produced 2,200 mt of wheat flour, which can benefit up to 729,000 consumers.
- As of 31 October, WFP and its partner, Secours Islamique France (SIF), provided school meals to 9,400 primary schoolchildren across 30 government schools in Quetta District as part of a pilot programme, co-funded by the Government of Balochistan. Targeting 13,000 children, the programme uses a central kitchen model.
- On 28 October, the Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province formally launched the Adolescent Girls' Cash Stipend Programme, which targets 33,000 secondary school girls in the merged districts along the Afghanistan border with quarterly cash stipends based on attendance with the objective of keeping them enrolled and attending school.
- WFP participated in two federal-level consultations organized by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination and UNDP as part of the [Global Shield against Climate Risks](#), a global initiative aimed at scaling up support and access to Climate and Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance Instruments (CDRFI) in selected pathfinder countries, including Pakistan. In collaboration with GIZ, WFP advocated for the inclusion of social protection in these consultations and ongoing dialogues, focusing on the importance of ensuring linkages of CDRFI with social protection and other people-centered delivery solutions.

Food Systems

- WFP and the Balochistan Food Department completed a situational analysis and gap report on the provincial public wheat procurement system. The findings will aid ongoing advocacy efforts for policy reform and improved information management to strengthen the wheat value chain in the province.

Challenges

- Heightened political polarization and inflated public service costs continue to create volatility in Pakistan's law-and-order and security situation. Additionally, recurring political demonstrations in Islamabad and security incidents in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan provinces have led to movement and access constraints, which could potentially cause operational delays to WFP's operations.

Assessments and Studies

- On 23 October, WFP partnered with the National Emergency Operations Centre of the NDMA to revise the Integrated Context Analysis. The workshop focused on food insecurity and natural hazards and engaged representatives from various disaster management authorities and organizations.

Donors

Governments of Pakistan, Canada, France, Norway, and United States; the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO); the European Commission (ECHO), the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) and The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.