



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP India Country Brief October 2024



## Highlights

The World Food Programme (WFP) [launched](#) the Adaptation for Resilience (ADAPT4R) project on 21 October, in collaboration with the ministries of environment of the governments of India and Sri Lanka. This five-year project, supported by the Adaptation Fund, aims to enhance food security, and build climate resilience among small farmers in both countries. Following the launch, the first meeting of the Regional Project Steering Committee was also held, where both governments formally approved the project's implementation plan.

## Operational Updates

### Social Protection and Supply Chain

- Two stand-alone '[Annapurti](#)' solutions (automated multi-commodity dispensing machines) recently launched in August and September have proven to be very successful. These solutions ensure beneficiaries have precise, round-the-clock access to essential food entitlements through the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and were installed in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, and Bhavnagar, Gujarat. This month, the units distributed 12 mt of grains in Odisha and 17 mt in Gujarat, tackling challenges such as distribution accuracy and long waiting times. Alongside the 28 fair price shop-based Annapurti units nationwide, these solutions promote authenticated, transparent, and efficient grain access with minimal manual intervention, advancing accountability and accessibility in TPDS.

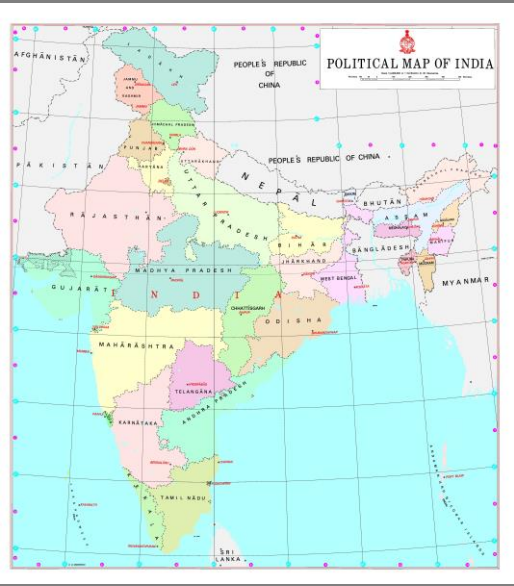
### Nutrition and School Feeding

- WFP's Technical Support Unit for Rice Fortification in Kerala organised a two-day national workshop titled "Innovative Strategies for Global Nutrition Security: Focus on Fortification" on the World Food Day. Agriculture Minister Mr P. Prasad inaugurated the event, which drew more than 150 attendees, including specialists from medical colleagues and research institutes.
- In Assam, through the "*Poshan Pratham*" (Nutrition First) social behaviour change communication (SBCC) campaign on fortified rice, 32 cooking events were organized, engaging more than 2,800 participants, comprising local officials and community members.
- WFP promotes rice fortification through training on quality standards. In October, training sessions were conducted in five states including Chhattisgarh, Haryana Odisha, Bihar, and Maharashtra, targeting 144 rice millers, 248 government functionaries, 2,714 school cooks, 160 medical officials and 830 community health workers.

## 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 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 800 million vulnerable people monthly. 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:**  
1.44 billion

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

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## Country Strategic Plan (2023-27)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Oct-Mar 24 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
31.75 m	29.05 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.

- WFP launched SBCC activities at schools in Jaipur, Rajasthan to raise students' awareness of health, hygiene, and nutrition. Various behaviour change communication and information, education and communication materials, such as flashcards and games were shared with approximately 103,000 children in 2,600 schools.

## Women Empowerment

- A three-day informed consent process for the ADAPT4R project was conducted with the local tribal community in the Nuapada district of Odisha.
- The plan for the training of trainers on gender training for frontline workers in Haryana was finalised with the Department of Women and Child Development. Six training sessions will be conducted across the state's divisions in November and December.

## Climate and Resilience

- The second Climate Adaptation Information Centre was inaugurated under the Enhancing Climate Adaptation of Vulnerable Communities through Nature-based Solutions and Gender Transformative Approaches (ENACT) in Assam, supported by Assam Agriculture University and the state government. Around 100 farmers and stakeholders attended the inauguration, with Ms. Elisabeth Faure, WFP India's Country Director. She further [met with women farmers](#) and reviewed project progress with district and state officials.
- WFP and the Government of Odisha signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) in the presence of Honourable Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, Odisha's deputy chief minister, to enhance climate resilience for women farmers through the "Resilient and Inclusive Initiatives for Sustainability and Empowerment (RIISE)" project. The Odisha University of Agriculture & Technology signed a Letter of Understanding with WFP to implement the project.
- WFP, in collaboration with Odisha's Fisheries and Animal Resources Department and its technical partner, conducted six trainings on [Secure Fishing](#), a mobile application that enables small-scale fishers to increase daily catch, reduce asset loss, and improve safety at sea. Fifty-five master trainers and 66 *sagarmitras* (volunteers designated to assist fishing communities) participated.

## Donors

The Government of India, Associated Data Processing, Inc., Cargill, DSM, Ericsson India Global Services, General Mills Foundation, the Government of Norway, Jubilant Bhartia Foundation, Stop Hunger Foundation, Secretary General's Multi-Partner Trust Fund, Sodexo Food Solutions India Private, and WFP Trust for India.