



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Pakistan Country Brief November 2024

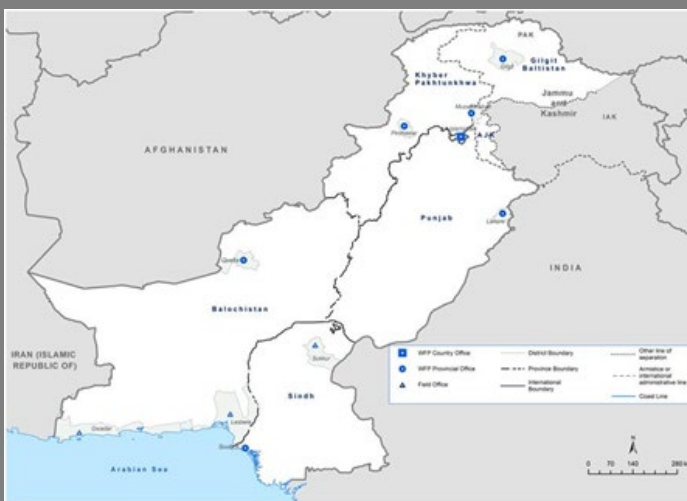


Operational Context

Pakistan continues to face a complex landscape of risks, hindering progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Vision 2025. Economic fragility and recurrent natural disasters 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**

Highlights

312,300 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children received health and nutrition services and supplementary nutritious foods through the Benazir Nashonuma Programme

13,300 primary schoolchildren received cooked meals

23,800 people benefited through resilience building, and livelihood support programmes



Operational Updates

Emergency preparedness, resilience and livelihoods

- WFP, as part of its climate resilience and livelihoods efforts, launched a project in flood-affected districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh, and Balochistan to support vulnerable households through asset creation and livelihood interventions.
- WFP has advanced multi-year activities under its livelihoods and climate resilience work in three districts of Sindh province affected by the 2022 floods, with a focus on building income generating skills and constructing community assets, primarily related to water management.
- WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) collaborated with the Pakistan National Coordination Forum, to organize a training to develop a harmonized approach for integrating anticipatory action into disaster risk management processes.
- Through a three-year Memorandum of Understanding and workplan with the National Disaster Management Authority, WFP will support the Multi-Hazard Vulnerability Risk Assessment, emergency response simulations, and institutional capacity building efforts across Pakistan (focusing on Sindh and Balochistan provinces).
- Through the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework's Living Indus initiative, WFP is advancing efforts on community construction of concrete water reservoirs to improve water resource management in KP and Punjab provinces.

Nutrition, Education and Social Protection

- WFP, in partnership with the Government of Pakistan, implements the Benazir Nashonuma Programme (BNP), the Government's flagship stunting prevention programme. BNP targets pregnant and breastfeeding women from the poorest households. To date, 2.6 million women and children have been enrolled in the programme which provides support to children from conception to 2 years of age. In November 312,300 women and children received 28 million sachets of specialized nutritious foods, health services, and nutrition awareness.

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Country Strategic Plan (2023–2027)



Total Requirement (US\$)	Allocated Contributions (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (US\$)
787.34 million	480.52 million	19.17 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.

- With an aim to reduce the prevalence of micronutrient deficiencies in Pakistan, WFP continues to support the fortification of wheat flour produced in small scale wheat mills. Under this project, WFP has installed microfeeders and provided pre-mix to 147 local millers across the country. In November, they produced 2,000 mt of fortified wheat flour, benefiting up to 651,600 people.
- On 21 November, WFP and the Balochistan Education Department signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the provincial school meals programme, which aims to reach 20,000 children over the age of 2 years. WFP and its partner, Secours Islamique France (SIF), provided school meals to 13,300 primary schoolchildren across 39 government schools in Quetta District, as part of the pilot co-funded by the Government of Balochistan.
- WFP supported a tri-government cross-learning visit for officials from Niger, Burkina Faso, and Mali to learn about the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP). The delegation also visited facilitation centres under the BNP, to learn from the model being employed and replicate it in their own countries.
- WFP, in coordination with FAO Pakistan and the International Fund for Agriculture and Development, organized a series of World Food Day events to highlight the importance of healthy diets. These included a session and awareness walk with Arid University students followed by an event at the National Agricultural Research Centre in collaboration with the Ministry of National Food Security & Research.

Food Systems

- On 7 November, WFP partnered with the Sustainable Development Policy Institute to host a session on transforming food systems to mitigate climate change impacts, where experts discussed strategies to address food insecurity and advocate for policy reforms in line with the 2021 Food Systems Summit.

Assessments and Studies

- WFP co-sponsored the most recent Integrated Food Security Phase Classification workshop, focusing on an in-depth analysis of 68 vulnerable districts across Sindh, Balochistan, and KP provinces. The report will be finalised in December.

Donors

Governments of Pakistan, Canada, France, Norway, United Kingdom, and United States; the European Commission (ECHO), the International Fund for Agriculture Development, and The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Photo: Girls receive healthy, nutritious meals at a government girls primary school through WFP's school meals programme in Quetta, Balochistan.
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