



# WFP Philippines Country Brief November 2024

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

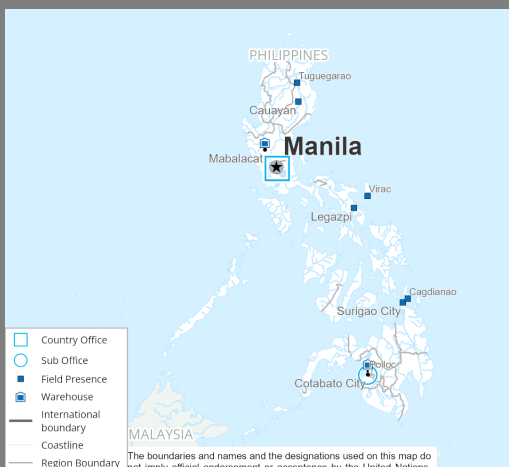


Community members from Calabanga, Camarines Sur participated in a focus group discussion with WFP to share their experiences during Super Typhoon Pepito (international name: Man-yi). © WFP/Earvin Perias

## 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: **113<sup>th</sup> out of 193**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

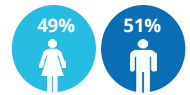
## In Numbers

**US\$10.28 million** six-month (December 2024 – May 2025) net funding requirements

**595.14 mt** of fortified rice distributed

**1.2 million people** reached with government family food packs through WFP's transport support

**102,427 people** directly reached in November 2024



## Operational Updates

### Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

- Within 25 days from 24 October, a record succession of six typhoons hit northern Philippines, three of which were super typhoons. WFP has been augmenting the Government-led typhoon response through:
  - **Assessments:** WFP and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) conducted rapid damage assessments and needs analyses (RDANA) in seven provinces most significantly affected by typhoons. The [latest RDANA](#) showed that access to cash is a priority for the affected population to meet their immediate food needs.
  - **Cash assistance:** The findings informed WFP's cash assistance operations in three regions of Luzon: Bicol, Cagayan Valley, and Central Luzon. So far in Bicol, 14,400 families (72,200 people) with children under 5 registered under the Government's social protection programme (4Ps: *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Programme*) have received cash assistance. Distribution monitoring results showed that most respondents intend to use the money for food, medicines, and essential non-food items (NFIs). Further expansion is planned in the first half of December, resources permitting.
  - **Logistics:** WFP deployed 151 trucks to deliver 238,000 DSWD family food packs (FFPs) and essential NFIs to support 1.2 million people affected by the typhoons. Since 24 October, the Government has reached 1.6 million people by deploying 199 WFP trucks that transported 317,800 FFPs, two [mobile storage units](#) (MSUs), and essential NFIs. WFP also supported the installation of MSUs in Albay, Camarines Sur, and Catanduanes to provide secure and flexible storage for relief resources.
  - **Emergency telecommunications:** WFP assisted the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) in deploying the [Government Emergency Communications System-Mobile Operations Vehicle for Emergencies](#) (GECS-MOVE) to reestablish connectivity for typhoon-hit communities. The GECS-MOVE units, along with WFP-dispatched satellite communications equipment, have provided data connectivity to 6,000 people across eight provinces.

- WFP supported the Government in i) building a prototype **mobile food kitchen** for emergencies and ii) conducting a feasibility study on establishing **disaster resource centres** in strategic locations (provinces of

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## Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
<b>131.19 m</b>	<b>29.34 m</b>	<b>10.28 m</b>

**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 and Development Partners

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

<sup>1</sup> A mobile food kitchen is a vehicle with built-in cooking equipment and kitchen sinks to provide hot meals in evacuation centres during response operations.

<sup>2</sup> Through its AA programme, WFP is ready to provide pre-registered households with early warning information and unconditional cash assistance three days before a severe typhoon (wind speed: 154 km/h or higher).

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

Butuan, Cagayan, and Camarines Sur).<sup>1</sup> The study's findings will inform the structural design of these resource centres to enhance the Government's humanitarian supply chain management capacities.

- Together with the Community and Family Services International and local government units in Southern Leyte, WFP carried out a **simulation exercise on Anticipatory Action (AA)**. The exercise engaged over 200 families in the province to enhance preparedness for potential AA activation before a strong typhoon hits.<sup>2</sup> WFP tested and refined AA standard operating procedures, including coordination and actual distribution of assistance.
- WFP conducted capacity strengthening workshops for over 50 DICT responders in Eastern Visayas, Davao Region, and Northern Mindanao. Participants were trained on **operating and deploying connectivity assets**, including satellite technologies and the assets' integration with the GECS-MOVE set.

## Social Protection

- WFP supported the Department of Education (DepEd) in co-hosting the first **Southeast Asia School Meals Coalition Summit** with the Royal Government of Cambodia. The summit convened 130 delegates from Southeast Asian countries and partner organizations to strengthen collaboration and commitments in providing nutritious school meals in the region. To sustain the momentum, the Philippine Government expressed its intent to host the next summit.
- WFP facilitated an **advocacy visit** of representatives from Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Datu sa Biwang Elementary School, one of nine schools which are part of the home-grown school feeding model in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). The delegates learned about iron-fortified rice and school kitchen equipment used for school meals preparation, as well as the critical roles of parents and of local governments in complementing WFP's resources, including purchasing proteins, fruits, and vegetables.
- WFP conducted capacity strengthening workshops for the operational and strategic implementation of the **Walang Gutom (No Hunger) Program**. DSWD staff were trained on i) developing and implementing a results-based monitoring and evaluation framework and ii) co-developing the operations manual to guide the programme's scale-up implementation.

## Integrated Resilience

- In BARMM, WFP reached **27,000 people** through food assistance for assets activities. Community members received 60 kg of iron-fortified rice as they participated in productive activities including vegetable gardening, tree planting, road and irrigation canal rehabilitation, construction of seedling nurseries and foot bridges, and restoration of fishing docks.
- WFP trained health workers in Lanao del Sur on **interpersonal communication** to strengthen behavioural change communication efforts. Participants learned how to empathetically converse with community members about food and nutrition. Initially planned to train only six rural health units (RHUs), WFP expanded the training to 87 health workers all across 39 RHUs in partnership with the Integrated Provincial Health Office.