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Bhutan

Annual Country Report 2024

Country Strategic Plan
2024 - 2028

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Overview

In December 2023, Bhutan achieved a significant milestone by graduating from the Least Developed Country category, reflecting remarkable progress in economic resilience and development. This achievement came amid hardships, including the lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and global crises in food, energy, finance, and climate. Bhutan's progress toward its development goals was underscored by its consistent commitment to improving human assets and income and solid partnerships with international organizations.

WFP continued supporting Bhutan's development in 2024, focusing on key areas such as food systems, school nutrition, emergency preparedness and response and resilience building. This was in line with Bhutan's 13th Five-Year Plan, which outlines the country's development objectives across economic, social, security, and governance sectors.

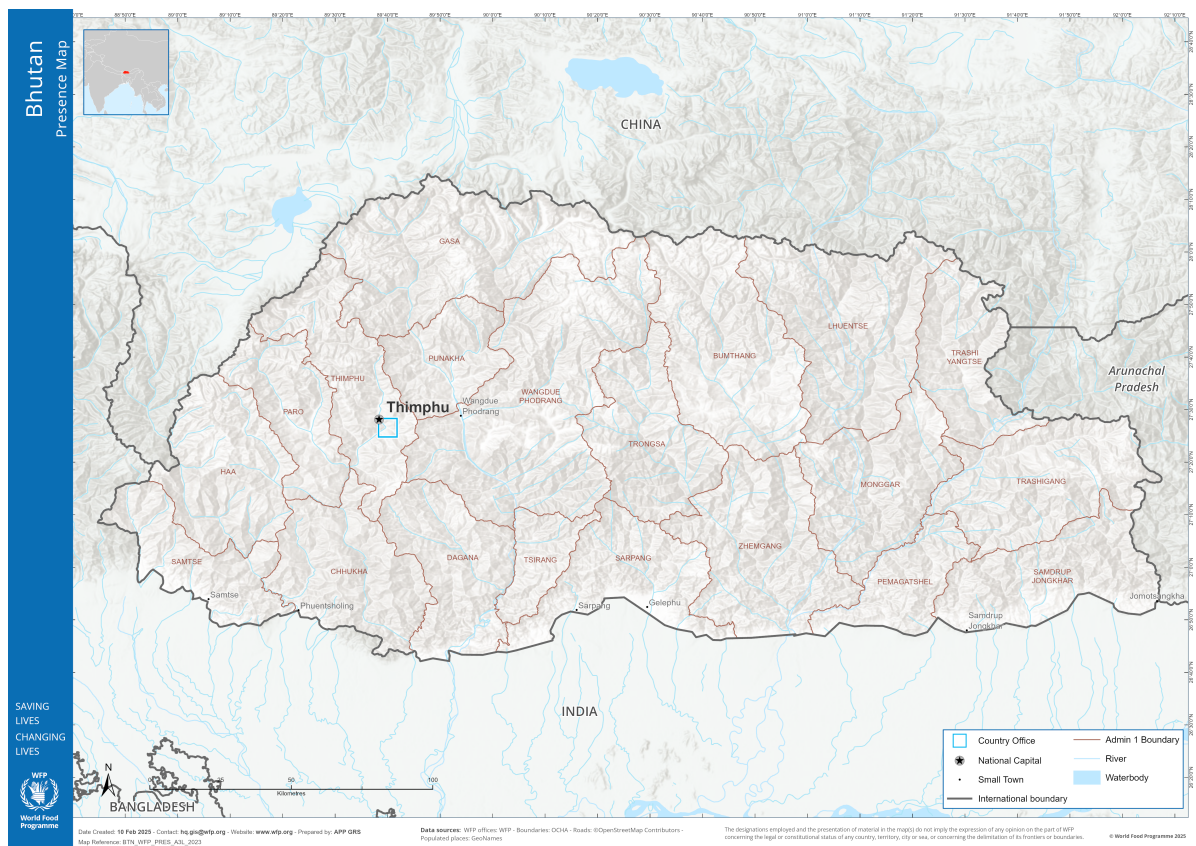
Key accomplishments included significant strides in capacity strengthening and support to multiple stakeholders across Bhutan. Under WFP's strategic outcome 1, over 1,200 national-level stakeholders benefited from capacity strengthening initiatives, while 5,202 beneficiaries received direct technical assistance. WFP also strengthened the capacity of 300 farmers and 195 agriculture value chain actors. To further enhance skills and knowledge, WFP conducted 52 training workshops and collaborated with 20 national institutions to facilitate the transfer of expertise, underscoring its commitment to sustainable development and strengthening local capacities across multiple sectors.

Moreover, WFP made notable investments through stakeholder capacity strengthening and infrastructure development under strategic outcome 2. Over 200 government staff participated in capacity-strengthening initiatives, enhancing their skills and knowledge to support the implementation of the national school feeding and nutrition programme as well as emergency preparedness and response initiatives. Since handing over the school feeding and nutrition programme for full operational ownership by the Government of Bhutan in 2019, WFP has continued to provide technical support and capacity strengthening for the effective implementation of the programme, focusing on addressing micronutrient deficiencies by promoting dietary diversity and enhancing schools access to locally-produced nutritious foods.

WFP invested USD 48,000 in refurbishing school kitchens and providing equipment, improving the quality of school meal programmes, and creating a better environment for children's nutrition and well-being. These efforts highlight WFP's ongoing commitment to supporting both human and physical infrastructure for sustainable development in Bhutan. Nutrition-sensitive programming is mainstreamed across food systems and emergency preparedness activities and WFP has worked to enhance government capacity to integrate nutrition-sensitive principles in programme planning and implementation, to ensure holistic approaches to addressing the triple burden of malnutrition in Bhutan.

WFP supported the Government's emergency preparedness efforts by developing the first-ever Emergency Logistics manuals for use by government agencies. Thirty-five government officers were trained in emergency logistics capacity assessment, enhancing their ability to respond effectively during crises. WFP consulted with key government partners to identify opportunities for utilizing Platform for Real-Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM) to enhance disaster preparedness and climate risk management capacities in Bhutan. These initiatives underscore WFP's commitment to building robust emergency preparedness and response capacities in Bhutan.

Operational context



Bhutan is currently classified as a lower-middle-income country following its graduation from the least developed country status in December 2023. Despite progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target of Zero Hunger, the country faces a complex "triple burden" of malnutrition, encompassing undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and overnutrition. These issues disproportionately affect households across the nation. Agriculture, a critical sector of Bhutan's economy, remains predominantly at a subsistence level and faces challenges such as low productivity, high post-harvest losses, and limited market access. These difficulties are further compounded by the escalating climate impacts and regular seismic instability.

While progress was made in addressing wasting, stunting remains a significant concern, affecting one in five children aged 24-59 months, particularly in impoverished households. The prevalence of overweight and obesity is also rising, with a third of the population affected, 11 percent of whom suffer from obesity. Anaemia continues to be a pressing issue, impacting about a third of women of child-bearing age (35 percent) and adolescent girls (31 percent), and 44 percent of children aged 6-59 months.¹

Agriculture is vital to Bhutan's economy, providing employment to almost 44 percent of the population and contributing about 15 percent to the GDP². However, the sector's subsistence nature limits the country's food and nutrition security owing to its steep terrain, low soil fertility, low mechanization, high post-harvest losses, and labour and finance issues. The agriculture sector's low productivity and income are reflected in the fact that poverty is much more severe in rural agrarian areas than in urban areas. Rural poverty is at 17 percent while urban poverty stands at 4 percent. One in ten (12 percent) of Bhutan's population lives below the poverty line.³

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock introduced new crops to enhance food and nutrition security and promoted climate-resilient farming practices to increase production and productivity. However, there remains a need to expand more climate finance and climate-risk insurance initiatives, including access to technology and innovation, climate services, and anticipatory action programmes. These initiatives are crucial for improving risk management and establishing effective risk transfer mechanisms.

To enhance emergency preparedness and response (EPR), Bhutan requires improved coordination and functional contingency structures, particularly in logistics. This includes improvements in the storage, handling, transportation, and distribution of emergency supplies, ensuring food supply, and maintaining safety standards. Capacity strengthening in national disaster management is also essential, with a focus on better coordination, data systems, and

increased public awareness.

The 13th Five-Year Plan (2024-2029) emphasizes the need to expand economic opportunities for all and advance its progress on SDG 13 (Climate Action). The Royal Government of Bhutan integrated the SDGs into its planning framework, aligning national priorities with global goals to track progress effectively.

WFP continues to support Bhutan through its Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2024-2028. Under strategic outcome 1, WFP's food systems interventions supported over 5,200 smallholder farmers, 60 percent of whom are women, through training and capacity strengthening initiatives. Approximately 300 farmer members of organized groups and cooperatives also received enhanced support. Additionally, WFP improved market access for smallholder farmers by training government stakeholders on the digital Farm2Go application, which facilitated the sale of 650 mt of local produce and generated USD 600,000 in revenue.

Under strategic outcome 2, WFP collaborated with the Ministry of Education and Skills Development to address the triple burden of malnutrition. WFP's support strengthened the National School Feeding and Nutrition Programme, improving the quality and nutritional value of school meals by implementing nutritious menus designed with the SMP PLUS. This tool creates school menus by considering food cost, nutrient content while increasing the use of locally-sourced, seasonal ingredients within the Government's fixed student stipend. It is a powerful monitoring tool that keeps track of procured foods, sources, costs and nutrient content over time, providing useful data for decision-making and policy development.

WFP also engaged students, parents, and teachers in research on food consumption patterns, contributing to the development of a national social and behavioural change strategy. WFP partnered with the Government to strengthen the EPR capacities of key agencies, including the Department of Local Governance and Disaster Management, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, and other frontline responders. WFP continued to strengthen the capacity of emergency coordination hubs in Thimphu and front-liners in emergency telecommunications and logistics assessments. These efforts led to the development of emergency logistics operation manuals, including a national manual, and the introduction of the Platform for Real-Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM) dashboard to improve climate risk and impact analysis. These initiatives bolstered Bhutan's capacity to respond to emergencies more effectively.

Looking ahead, continued collaboration and investment in long-term resilience-building and emergency preparedness are essential for ensuring Bhutan can effectively address the interconnected challenges of food security, climate resilience, and emergency preparedness and response.

Risk management

Low donor appetite and Bhutan's ascent to lower-middle income economy status make achieving the ambitious goals of the 13th Five-Year Plan and the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) challenging. Both plans faced challenges related to under-funding. Senior government officials emphasized the expectation that the CSP be fully implemented, which entails the country office mobilizing 100 percent of the resources specified in the plan.

Despite WFP's transition to the provision of technical assistance and capacity strengthening under the current CSP, there continue to be expectations for service delivery support from WFP. This includes procurement of hardware where necessary, to complement the technical assistance provided by WFP. WFP is engaging the government to align expectations and ensure mutual goals are met.

WFP has opportunities to strengthen collaboration with the other Rome-based agencies to enhance funding outcomes. By fostering enhanced communication and joint planning at the senior management level, these challenges can be transformed into opportunities for synergy. The absence of in-country leadership representation for part of 2024 demonstrated the importance of maintaining a strong presence in local discussions with UN and development partners, underscoring the potential for more impactful engagement at the country office level.

Lessons learned

According to government analysis, Bhutan's agri-food sector plays a crucial role in the national economy, employing 43.5 percent of the workforce and contributing 15 percent to the country's GDP in 2023. However, the sector's contribution to GDP has declined over recent years. In response, the government has committed to an ambitious plan for revenue generation from the agri-food sector under the 13th Five-Year Plan (2024-2029). Key priorities include the

commercialization of farming, building resilience among smallholder farmers, focusing on high-value export commodities, and enhancing the business ecosystem, all while ensuring the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity resources. WFP must address the resource gaps and the needs of smallholder farmers and vulnerable groups, designing, planning, and implementing development programmes in close consultation with the government and other UN and development partners.

Programme performance

Strategic outcome 01: Rural populations in Bhutan, particularly women smallholder farmers, young people and persons with disabilities, achieve climate-resilient livelihoods and increased food security and nutrition by 2030



1,202 national-level stakeholders benefitted from capacity strengthening initiatives



5,202 beneficiaries supported by WFP technical assistance programmes.



300 farmers from farmer-based organizations supported by WFP



195 agriculture value chain actors supported by WFP



52 training workshops conducted by WFP



20 national institutions engaged in skills and knowledge transfer via WFP

Under strategic outcome 1, WFP helps strengthen the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises, and other value chain actors, focusing on empowering women and youth within targeted value chains. WFP employed a food systems approach and collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and district programmes to mitigate risks in agricultural production, promote nutrition-sensitive production, and improve post-harvest management and marketing for smallholder farmers.

Activity 1

Under Activity 1, WFP — in partnership with the Adaptation Fund — signed an agreement for USD 4.98 million to implement the "*Innovative Adaptation Financing to Build the Resilience and Adaptive Capacity of Smallholder Farmers in Bhutan*" project. This project aims to enhance the resilience of smallholder farmers to climate risks and improve food security through an innovative, index-based microinsurance scheme. It is integrated with other financial services, such as savings, loans, and green finance, and embedded within a comprehensive resilience-building approach. The project targeted 10,000 women and vulnerable smallholder farmers across four districts (Trashigang, Lhuntse, Tsirang, and Dagana) in 2024. WFP also supported the Department of Agriculture in preparing the inception activities, drafting a letter of agreement and organizing a stakeholder workshop to clarify project activities, roles, and responsibilities. The implementation phase of Activity 1 will begin in 2025 and outputs will be reported the following year.

Activity 2

Under Activity 2, WFP provided technical assistance through the Building Resilient Commercial Small Holder Agriculture (BRECSA) project, operational in four districts - Sarpang, Tsirang, Trongsa, and Zhemgang - which targets over 47,000 smallholder farmers, with 60 percent of beneficiaries being women and 30 percent youth. WFP contributed to the development of a resilient and inclusive agricultural system, reaching and empowering 5,200 smallholder farmers (being at least 60 percent women) and 1,200 national-level stakeholders through targeted initiatives.

WFP is resourced to implement the technical assistance and capacity strengthening activities for the BRECSA project. The funds were primarily directed towards supporting smallholder farmers in adopting climate-resilient production systems and market-driven value chains. WFP also conducted the Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analyzing Resilience (CLEAR+) and developed the district-level agriculture resilience plans (ARP) for the project districts. CLEAR+ examined how climate affected livelihoods, nutrition, and food security, and provided recommendations to build climate resilience in targeted communities. WFP organized 37 block-level community consultations for CLEAR+,

followed by a mass district-level consultation to finalize the ARPs in all four districts.

WFP engaged the Tarayana Foundation - a local civil society organization - in providing technical assistance to vulnerable groups, helping them improve their income and nutrition through practical support and training. WFP funded the deployment of 37 *sanam jabjorpas* (community mobilizers). The *sanam jabjorpas* work with communities to implement the ARPs, promote nutrition-sensitive agriculture, deliver nutrition advocacy, survey the minimum dietary diversity for women, provide climate-smart production training to farmers, and support the marketing of local produce.

Further, WFP facilitated the development of guidelines for the establishment, operationalization, and management of gender- and youth-inclusive agri-food hubs and the formation of multi-stakeholder platforms for dairy, vegetables, poultry, and coffee. To enhance smallholder farmers' access to markets, WFP trained government stakeholders on the digital Farm2Go, WFP's digital solution to support smallholder farmer programme activities that connects aggregators to local buyers and enables smallholder farmers to get a better price for their produce.

WFP exceeded many of the planned output targets for the BRECSA project. WFP delivered capacity strengthening activities to over 1,200 government and private sector stakeholders, surpassing the target of 500. The project was supported through 52 distinct training workshops for government counterparts and smallholder farmers in Trongsa, Zhemgang, Tsirang, and Sarpang districts. Additionally, 192 value chain actors from the project districts were connected with farmer groups through multi-stakeholder platforms.

At the outcome level, WFP's achievements exceeded the planned targets. The targeted smallholder farmers reported a 50 percent increase in the production of nutrition-sensitive crops, surpassing the target of 40 percent. Under the BRECSA project, WFP strengthened nutrition-sensitive agriculture, ensuring that the project focused on promoting nutritionally rich foods, dietary diversity, and food fortification as key strategies to combat malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies. Efforts were directed towards enhancing food availability, affordability, and accessibility, while also promoting food diversity and sustainable production practices. With WFP's support, smallholder farmers earned a total of USD 600,000, exceeding the targeted income of USD 500,000. This also reflected an increase in the sales volume of nutritious crops, with 650 mt sold, surpassing the planned target of 500 mt.

WFP continued to facilitate both formal food system dialogues and informal agricultural group discussions to support the government and stakeholders in achieving national objectives and advancing progress towards the Sustainable Development Goal.

During the implementation of the BRECSA project, WFP continued to forge strong partnerships with various government institutions, including district offices, departments, regional centres, and stakeholders such as farmers, cooperatives, and NGOs, which were crucial for effective service delivery. Inter-agency collaboration among stakeholders facilitated knowledge sharing and community involvement, enhancing the impact of the project.

Nevertheless, several challenges were encountered. One of the key issues was the difficulty in engaging women and youth, largely due to their overwhelming household responsibilities and daily duties. This presents challenges for the implementation of activities on the ground which are mostly carried out by the women farmers and their capacity is not significantly strengthened when they do not receive trainings.

Logistical constraints, including inadequate travel allowances, food, and lodging provisions for key stakeholders such as farmer group members and aggregators, also posed challenges. These limitations limited participation in important meetings, training sessions, and workshops, leading to lower engagement and reduced ownership among critical project stakeholders.

WFP supported the Ministry in the development of two national-level policies: the Agri-Food Sector Strategy 2034 and the Agri-Food Hub Guidelines, through the UN Food Systems Hub Coordination Fund and the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP) Fund, respectively. A majority of participants (63 percent) in WFP-supported training sessions reported improvements in knowledge and skills.

Gender and Age Marker

With a Gender and Age Marker score of 4, WFP fully integrated gender and age considerations into the implementation of Activity 2. WFP's efforts in nutrition-sensitive agriculture, multi-stakeholder platforms, gender- and youth-sensitive guidelines for eco-hubs, value chain interventions, and the overarching agricultural resilience plans all prioritized women's empowerment, the reduction of drudgery, and youth leadership. Gender and age commitments were not made for Activity 1 due to the technical assistance nature of the activity targeting government institutions.

WFP GENDER AND AGE MARKER

CSP ACTIVITY	GAM MONITORING CODE
<p>Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacity of farmer-based organizations to manage climate shocks and introduce innovative risk management solutions for climate resilient and nutritious food production</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors that empower women and young people in targeted value chains</p>	<p>4 - Fully integrates gender and age</p>

Strategic outcome 02: The citizens of Bhutan, particularly vulnerable population groups, benefit from enhanced human capital and a food system that is resilient to climate and other crises and shocks by 2030



164 government staff participated in capacity strengthening initiatives



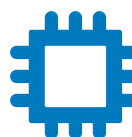
USD 48,000 invested in kitchen refurbishments and equipment for school



First-ever development of 13 Emergency Logistics Manuals for government agencies



35 government officers trained in emergency logistics capacity assessment



21 government officers introduced to PRISM, a dashboard for climate risk and impact analysis.

Strategic outcome 2 focuses on enhancing the government's capacity to implement national food and nutrition programmes and policies. It ensures the provision of nutrition-sensitive, shock-responsive social protection systems to improve food security and nutrition outcomes.

Activity 3

Through Activity 3, WFP provided technical assistance to the Government and stakeholders to strengthen the National School Feeding and Nutrition Programme (NSFNP). This initiative aims to improve linkages between local farmers and schools by facilitating the provision of nutritious, locally-sourced food to children.

In 2024, WFP and the Ministry of Education and Skills Development expanded the rollout of the School Menu Planner PLUS (SMP PLUS) to five additional districts, benefiting nearly 100,000 children. This tool supports the development of healthy, balanced school menus that consider nutritional content and the cost of food while promoting access to locally produced agricultural commodities. The expansion of SMP PLUS directly contributed to the improved quality of school meals, enhancing children's access to nutrient-dense food.

WFP also supported the Government in conducting the Systems Approach to Better Education Results (SABER) exercise, which assessed the capacity of government institutions to deliver and monitor the NSFNP. The results showed significant improvements in government capacity and highlighted areas for improvement. Notably, the analysis pointed out the need to strengthen the nutrition and food safety component of school meals, monitoring and evaluation systems for the NSFNP and work with local processors and other supply chain actors to ensure access to food supplies in hard-to-reach areas, especially during winter. These insights will be used to guide WFP's continued collaboration with the Ministry in addressing these gaps in 2025.

Additionally, WFP concluded a successful collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Skills Development on a four-year KOICA-funded programme aimed at enhancing school nutrition infrastructure, strengthening the school feeding supply chain and promoting healthy eating awareness among children. Under this initiative, 15 new school kitchens and storage facilities were built and 36 school facilities were refurbished.

In terms of capacity strengthening for Activity 3, WFP exceeded its target to train and provide technical assistance to 100 government and public sector staff involved in the NSFNP. By the end of 2024, over 160 staff members from eight districts had participated in training sessions and workshops. Through joint performance monitoring and the implementation of the KOICA-funded project, WFP supported the development of district-aligned school menus that incorporated locally available commodities, pricing, and regional agricultural outputs. This capacity strengthening effort also accounted for high staff turnover within the Government, ensuring that newly recruited personnel received the necessary training to implement the programme effectively. The partnership with the Ministry played a crucial role in

the success of Activity 3 in exceeding the said targets.

WFP's engagement with other government bodies, such as the *Dratshang Lhentshog* (Commission for the Monastic Affairs of Bhutan), demonstrated the inclusive nature of the programme. The Nutrition Assessment of Monastic Institutions in Bhutan study, conducted in partnership with the World Health Organization and UNICEF, provided technical support to the Ministry of Health. The study revealed widespread micronutrient deficiencies among monks and nuns. WFP has taken steps to secure resources for targeted nutrition support, including the provision of fortified rice for monastic institutions.

WFP's efforts in 2024 for Activity 3 contributed to expanding the coverage of national social protection programmes, particularly the NSFNP. By the end of the year, the programme had surpassed its target by nearly 10,000 beneficiaries. The ability of the education system to attract and retain students, with school meals serving as a significant incentive for retention, especially in rural communities, played a key role in this success.

Activity 4

Activity 4 covers technical assistance for social and behaviour change (SBC) for the consumption of safe, healthy and nutrient-dense diets, including promoting food fortification. This activity was not activated in 2024 due to limited funding, as a result, no outcomes and outputs are recorded for 2024.

While social and behaviour change and nutrition-sensitive approaches continue to be mainstreamed across all activities, efforts were primarily directed towards mobilizing resources for implementation in 2025. A package of SBC interventions is expected to be rolled out in schools in 2025; and support provided for strengthening food fortification guidelines, especially extending access to fortified rice to monastic and other non-mainstream institutions.

Activity 5

Activity 5, which aligns with Bhutan's 13th Five-Year Plan (2024-2028), emphasizes proactive emergency preparedness and response (EPR), particularly in the context of multiple hazards, the pandemic, and other emergencies. WFP has supported these priorities by focusing on people-centred initiatives, integrating nutrition into emergency responses, and strengthening Bhutan's capacity to respond to crises.

In 2024, WFP continued its partnerships with key agencies such as the Department of Local Governance and Disaster Management, *De-Suung*, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, and the Disaster Communication Helpline Unit. These collaborations have worked to enhance emergency logistics, food security, and telecommunications, thereby improving Bhutan's preparedness and response mechanisms for emergencies.

Despite resource mobilization challenges under Activity 5, WFP made significant progress by utilizing financial support from the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, through a grant from the Government of Germany (BMZ). This allowed for the completion of several key initiatives, including the establishment of four emergency coordination hubs and the enhancement of emergency telecommunications infrastructure.

Through its efforts, emergency coordination hubs were established in Thimphu, Bhutan's capital. The hubs, which now serve as critical facilities for front-line responders, will also function as warehouses and food distribution points during emergencies. In emergency logistics, WFP collaborated in strengthening the capacity of government partners by supporting the development of the National Logistics Operations Manual for the Government's Logistics Food Desk, as well as 12 additional logistics operation manuals for key stakeholders. These manuals aim to enhance logistics preparedness for humanitarian response. Additionally, disaster front liners, along with logistics preparedness working groups, were trained on how to conduct a logistics capacity assessment to help map out logistics infrastructure and services in the country.

WFP consulted with key government partners to identify opportunities for utilizing Platform for Real-Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM) to enhance disaster preparedness and climate risk management capacities in Bhutan. WFP conducted training on PRISM for 21 technical staff in key government departments to familiarize them with the application for jointly identifying operational demands and developing a strategy for PRISM deployment. The technical capacity of this tool is pivotal in strengthening the country's ability to provide climate and disaster-related information for informing disaster preparedness and climate risk management programmes.

WFP has made significant progress in its emergency preparedness and response initiatives and in solidifying its role as a trusted partner to the Government. These partnerships have not only enhanced WFP's visibility but also paved the way for new opportunities to further deepen in the future and deepen emergency preparedness initiatives across Bhutan.

Gender and Age Marker

WFP's approach to integrating gender and age considerations into its programmes is reflected in Activity 3's Gender and Age Marker (GAM) score of 4. The school feeding programme serves both girls and boys, with 52 percent of

beneficiaries being female and 48 percent male. Newly constructed and refurbished school kitchens and storage facilities also include gender-segregated toilets, ensuring a safer and more dignified environment for students. For Activity 5, with a GAM score of 3, WFP will continue to focus on inclusivity, integrating the needs of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, into all activities to achieve lasting, equitable outcomes. Due to non-implementation, the GaM score is not applicable for Activity 4.

WFP GENDER AND AGE MARKER

CSP ACTIVITY	GAM MONITORING CODE
Provide technical assistance to government and other stakeholders aimed at improving social protection provision, including by linking national school feeding programmes to farmers and suppliers, in order to facilitate the consumption of safe, healthy and nutrient-dense diets	4 - Fully integrates gender and age
Provide technical assistance, including in relation to social behaviour change, in support of government and private sector efforts to promote fortified food products, and ensure that all school feeding programme beneficiaries and the public consume safe, healthy and nutrient-dense diets	N/A
Provide technical assistance and innovative solutions to government institutions for the expansion of people-centred disaster risk reduction programmes that integrate nutrition considerations and foster preparedness for and effective response to shocks and stressors	3 - Fully integrates gender

Cross-cutting results

Gender equality and women's empowerment

Improved gender equality and women's empowerment among WFP-assisted population

Bhutan's ranking in the 2024 Global Gender Gap Index declined to 124th, down from 103rd in 2023, out of 146 countries. From 2023 to 2024, only 4 out of 10 civil servants were women, with the highest proportion found in education and training service (18 percent), followed by medical health service (6 percent) and administration and support service (5 percent).

The Third Labour Force Survey Quarterly Report 2024, published by the National Statistical Bureau, revealed that women remain underrepresented in higher-paying jobs, earning less than their male counterparts. Women constitute only 39 percent of the total workforce of 379,000 employed individuals. Agriculture is the only sector where the number of employed women exceeds that of men, though many women in this sector are classified as family workers without direct earnings.

Achieving gender parity requires increased representation of women at all levels of employment. Persistent societal perceptions continue to confine women to roles as homemakers, wives, and mothers, limiting their access to opportunities and relegating them to household and agricultural activities, where productivity and earnings are relatively low. However, there has been growing recognition of the importance of gender mainstreaming across policies, plans, programmes, and projects in Bhutan. The country's 13th Five-Year Plan aims to enhance the number of vocationally-skilled workers, particularly women, through initiatives like the "Women in STEM" project.

As a member of the inter-agency gender working group chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator, WFP collaborated with other UN entities to support the integration of gender in the SDG processes. This included advocating for the application of a gender perspective in the UNSDCF (2024-2028), strengthening and monitoring the UN country team's (UNCT) accountability to gender equality, promoting a multi-track approach to gender mainstreaming across the UNCT's work, and providing a unified vision for the UNCT's support to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

As part of the BRECSA initiative, WFP, in collaboration with relevant government stakeholders, developed the "Guideline for Gender and Youth Inclusive Hubs," which empowers women and youth within the agricultural sector. BRECSA targeted subsistence, semi-commercial, and commercial farmer households, aiming to reach over 12,000 households (47,100 people) by 2030. Of the total people reached in 2024, 60 percent are women and 30 percent are youth. Meanwhile, persons with physical disabilities constituted 25 percent of the persons with disabilities in the targeted districts and will continuously benefit from the interventions.

Protection and accountability to affected people

Affected people are able to benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that ensures and promotes their safety, dignity and integrity. Affected people are able to hold WFP and partners accountable for meeting their hunger needs in a manner that reflects their views and preferences

In Bhutan, WFP does not have direct food or cash beneficiaries, and its role primarily is providing technical assistance to the Government. Traditional practices such as beneficiary selection, verification, distribution, and post-distribution monitoring are not implemented by WFP in Bhutan.

Despite having no direct implementation beneficiaries, WFP remains committed to integrating protection and accountability to affected people across all aspects of its operations, from planning to implementation. As part of this commitment, WFP introduced a mandatory session on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) in all training and workshops funded by the organization. This initiative also influenced other UN agencies to adopt similar practices. WFP maintains a zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, and abuse (SEA), whether perpetrated against beneficiaries or colleagues.

WFP, in collaboration with other UN agencies in Bhutan, initiated capacity-building efforts for both existing and new civil society organization (CSO) partners as part of the joint UN Partner Portal (UNPP) implementation. As part of the UNPP registration process, CSO partner focal points were trained on PSEA.

Under the Building Resilient Commercial Smallholder Agriculture project, WFP integrated data collection for persons with disabilities, along with other gender- and age-disaggregated data, to ensure inclusivity in baseline survey data gathering among participants. WFP employed direct targeting to ensure social inclusion of women, youth, and vulnerable groups such as women-headed households and persons with disabilities. Sixty percent of BRECSA participants were women, including a minimum of five percent women-headed households and 30 percent youth. WFP engaged 600 differently abled women, men and youth, constituting 25 percent of the population of differently abled persons in the target districts. BRECSA aims to address specific challenges of women through several targeted interventions, including access to small machinery and tools for agricultural and post-harvest processing, financial education, and business literacy.

Along with the UN agencies with a presence in Bhutan, WFP was co-signatory to the Memorandum of Understanding with the PEMA Secretariat to collaboratively address complaints of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), guided by a human-rights approach and a survivor-centred framework. As part of this joint initiative, a dedicated helpline, 1098, was established to receive complaints regarding SEA involving UN personnel and partners. This system notifies both the Secretariat and the UN Resident Coordinator in Bhutan.

The UN organized a consultation with persons with disabilities to understand their experiences better and ensure their rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled. This consultation reaffirmed the UN's commitment to the principle of "leaving no one behind" as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The meeting also emphasized the UN's ongoing support for collective action to overcome challenges faced by persons with disabilities. Furthermore, Bhutan has developed a National Policy for Persons with Disabilities and an Action Plan for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Environmental sustainability

WFP works to enhance the environmental and social sustainability of its operations while limiting the potentially negative impacts on people, communities and the natural environment resulting from WFP programme activities and support operations such as administration, procurement, logistics, information technology and travel

Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

Bhutan is a landlocked mountain ecosystem that depends largely on the hydropower and agriculture sectors. Bhutan is highly prone to a range of hydrometeorological hazards, including glacial lake outburst floods, flash floods, riverine floods, landslides, landslide dam outburst floods, cloudbursts, windstorms, and river erosion¹. The country is highly susceptible to climate shocks and challenged by limited resources and capacity. The impact of environmental degradation and food insecurity are very much interlinked and many of the livelihood activities are climate shock-sensitive. Crop loss due to untimely or erratic rain or windstorms is common, forcing people to depend on welfare schemes.

In rain-fed farming, smallholder farmers are already suffering from irregular monsoon periods, localized water shortages and extended periods of drought. Meanwhile, women, who dominate the agriculture sector, have very poor risk transfer systems such as affordable crop insurance and climate-resilient agricultural technologies and finance, leading them to resort to negative coping strategies.

Bhutan's constitution contains a clause requiring that 60 percent of its land remain covered by forests at all times. The nation's dedication to environmental preservation and its carbon-neutral policies also make WFP's environmental policy more pertinent. In Bhutan, any project implemented by UN agencies is deemed to go through the Government's environment screening process adhering to the country's Environment Assessment Act 2000, Regulation for Strategic Environmental Assessment 2002, and other bylaws. The Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience analysis conducted under the Building Resilient Commercial Smallholder Agriculture project supported the development of a climate-resilient agricultural plan to assist smallholder farmers in adapting to changing weather patterns. Through integrated approaches, such as nutrition education and home garden promotion aimed at smallholder farmers, WFP focused on enhancing nutrition and food security under the project. Given Bhutan's susceptibility to natural hazards, WFP worked to strengthen the capacity of the pertinent agencies to support disaster preparedness and response efforts.

A consultative workshop on the Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework (ESSF) was convened by WFP's Environment and Social Sustainability Unit targeting country office staff, donors, and implementing partners. The workshop highlighted WFP's commitment to promoting sustainable development and addressing the environmental and social impacts of its operations. The framework was guided by principles to promote environmental sustainability, protecting human rights, enhancing social well-being, and stakeholder engagement. The workshop focused on developing policies and strategies to promote environmental and social sustainability, building the capacity of staff to integrate sustainability considerations, and monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the framework. The mission also assessed the capacity of country office staff on the donor's ESS requirements and tools. In the future the CO commits to implementing ESS screening toolkit for every project.

Environmental Management System (EMS)

In accordance with its environmental action plan, WFP Bhutan continues all efforts to ensure its operations are more sustainable since launching the Environmental Management System (EMS) in the second quarter of 2023. The country office is hosted in the UN House, which features a solar photovoltaic system (a renewable energy source that uses solar panels to convert sunlight into electricity) and a rainwater collection system on the grounds as part of the UN House's Greening the Blue effort. To cut down on power use, motion sensors have been put in the water closets.

Nutrition integration

Communities, households and individuals supported by WFP are able to meet their nutritional needs and protect their nutrition status in the face of shocks and long-term stressors, through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification

Nutrition integration is mainstreamed across all CSP activities and incorporated into WFP's current resource mobilization efforts.

To address the root causes of malnutrition in Bhutan, WFP shared information on improving dietary diversity - Bhutan's diet is energy-dense, with minimal consumption of fruits and vegetables. Despite notable improvements in certain areas, malnutrition remains a pressing concern, particularly among vulnerable groups like children, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and persons with disabilities. WFP has engaged with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education and Skills Development in incorporating quinoa (a micronutrient super food) into the school feeding basket to improve diet diversity.

Comprehensive emergency preparedness and response plans were developed, emphasizing ensuring access to optimum nutrition for vulnerable groups in emergencies and crises, as well as creating pathways for distributing food support to populations at risk of natural disasters.

WFP is part of the school feeding and nutrition programme technical committee that supported the Ministry of Education and Skills Development by reviewing the programme, incorporating micronutrient requirements to develop recommendations to the cabinet for school meals stipend review, to ensure dietary diversity.

WFP introduced the Farm2Go digital solution to relevant government officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Building Resilient Commercial Agriculture project staff, including district Enterprise Development and Marketing Officers, to streamline communications digitally between farmers, aggregators, and consumers. With WFP's technical assistance, 301 Ministry of Agriculture staff, district officials, and stakeholders in four districts were trained on nutrition-sensitive agriculture as part of capacity strengthening for the BRECSA project.

Partnerships

In 2024, WFP strengthened its partnerships and collaboration with the Government and development partners, including UN agencies, traditional and private sector donors, as well as donors based outside Bhutan. It aimed to boost the Government's efforts towards enhancing emergency preparedness and response (EPR), food systems, and resilience and improve the health and nutrition outcomes of schoolchildren in the country. WFP focused on enhancing resource mobilization efforts to address existing funding shortfalls, especially for school nutrition and EPR.

WFP engaged with government agencies, UN agencies, and development partners towards the finalization and approval of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) (2024-2028), which was achieved in February. The CSP is aligned with the Government's 13th Five-year Plan and UN Cooperation Framework (2024-2028).

WFP strengthened its strategic partnerships with various government ministries throughout 2024, such as the ministries of education and skills development, agriculture and livestock, health, and home affairs.

The KOICA-funded project supporting the National School Feeding and Nutrition Programme successfully concluded with a project closing ceremony with all government partners (ministries of financial, education and skills development, health, and agriculture and livestock) and the Tarayana Foundation. WFP and the Ministry of Education and Skills Development also jointly engaged with the KOICA donor mission in June.

WFP in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and relevant agencies such as the Food Corporation of Bhutan Limited, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, *De-Suung* (national service volunteers), and the Bhutan Red Cross developed 13 standard operating procedures (SOP) for 12 front-line agencies. The development of the SOPs will enable these agencies to respond efficiently and effectively in an emergency.

Focus on localization

WFP bolstered its existing partnerships with government agencies and district administration offices in Trongsa, Sarpang, Tsirang and Zhemgang districts through capacity strengthening support to smallholder farmers in the districts. Through the Building Resilient Commercial Smallholder Agriculture project, WFP engaged closely with the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program. WFP reinforced its partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock as the national logistics desk, in advocacy for and implementation of the National Logistics Preparedness five-year action plan, which aims to enhance locally-led, system-wide growth in emergency logistics preparedness and response.

In 2024, WFP increased engagements and partnerships with the Ministry of Education and Skills Development and the Ministry of Health to conduct training for SMP PLUS with the districts, increasing the capacities of the cooks and mess in charge in schools in the districts, leading to local level capacity enhancement.

Focus on UN inter-agency collaboration

WFP continued to work with UN agencies in Bhutan, increasing engagements such as contributing to the UN SDG partnerships week, which brought together all UN agencies and government partners, civil society organizations and the public. There were also continued engagements with other UN agencies and development partners for the annual Joint Working Plans under the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2024-2028) for Bhutan. WFP continued to engage actively in UN agency-wide forums to ensure enhanced efficiency, collaborating under the 'One UN' approach aimed at maximizing the UN's added value as a key partner to the Government.

Financial Overview

The Bhutan Country Office Corporate Strategy Plan commenced on 1 March 2024 and applies until 31 December 2028. A total budget of USD 14.6 million was planned, of which USD 8.7 million is for strategic outcome 1 and USD 5.8 million for strategic outcome 2.

WFP's annual needs-based plan for 2024 was USD 4.9 million, with an implementation plan of USD 2.9 million for 2024. The actual expenditure against the implementation plan was 55 percent. WFP secured 100 percent of the planned budget for strategic outcome 1, which comprises climate adaptation and risk management activities and smallholder agricultural market support activities through multi-year funding for technical assistance initiatives. For strategic outcome 2, budget constraints remained challenging, especially for Activity 4: malnutrition prevention activities (which have not received any funding for 2024) and Activity 5: emergency preparedness activities.

Activity 1: climate adaptation and risk management, under strategic outcome 1 was fully resourced with the multi-year funding received from the Adaptation Fund (AF). This enabled WFP to enhance the provision of technical assistance to national and local government institutions to strengthen the capacity of farmer-based organizations to manage climate shocks and introduce innovative risk management solutions for climate resilient and nutritious food production.









Activity 2: smallholder agricultural market support, also under strategic outcome 1, is fully funded for six years by the Global Agriculture Food Security Programme, aimed at strengthening the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors that empower women and young people in targeted value chains.

Overall, WFP utilized about half of the total available resources in 2024, mainly due to a delay in activity implementation and the timing of fund disbursement processes, including agreement finalization in the third quarter of the year.

Annual CSP Financial Overview by Strategic Outcome (Amount in USD)

	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditure
SDG Target 4. Sustainable Food System	2,692,860	1,346,799	7,186,686	383,001
SO01: Rural populations in Bhutan, particularly women smallholder farmers, young people and persons with disabilities, achieve climate-resilient livelihoods and increased food security and nutrition by 2030	2,692,860	1,346,799	7,186,686	383,001
Activity 01: Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacity of farmer-based organizations to manage climate shocks and introduce innovative risk management solutions for climate resilient and nutritious food production.	1,077,625	450,419	4,673,170	4,306
Activity 02: Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors that empower women and young people in targeted value chains.	1,615,234	896,380	2,513,515	378,695
SDG Target 5. Capacity Building	1,278,955	678,706	627,951	273,502
SO02: The citizens of Bhutan, particularly vulnerable population groups, benefit from enhanced human capital and a food system that is resilient to climate and other crises and shocks by 2030	1,278,955	678,706	627,951	273,502

Activity 03: Provide technical assistance to government and other stakeholders aimed at improving social protection provision, including by linking national school feeding programmes to farmers and suppliers, in order to facilitate the consumption of safe, healthy and nutrient-dense diets.	 803,300	 328,783	 437,873	 203,007
Activity 04: Provide technical assistance, including in relation to social behaviour change, in support of government and private sector efforts to promote fortified food products, and ensure that all school feeding programme beneficiaries and the public consume safe, healthy, and nutrient-dense diets.	 141,825	 52,923	 0	 0
Activity 05: Provide technical assistance and innovative solutions to government institutions for the expansion of people-centred disaster risk reduction programmes that integrate nutrition considerations and foster preparedness for and effective response to shocks and stressors.	 333,830	 297,000	 190,078	 70,495
Non-SDG Target	 0	 0	 55,546	 0
Total Direct Operational Costs	 3,971,815	 2,025,505	 7,870,182	 656,503
Direct Support Costs (DSC)	 136,204	 303,049	 652,761	 265,624
Total Direct Costs	 4,108,020	 2,328,554	 8,522,943	 922,127

Indirect Support Costs (ISC)	 267,021	 151,356	 384,676	 384,676
Grand Total	 4,375,041	 2,479,910	 8,907,619	 1,306,803

Data Notes

Operational context

1) WFP's support to Nutrition in Bhutan - <https://reliefweb.int/report/bhutan/wfp-s-support-nutrition-bhutan>

2) 13th Five-Year Plan, Ministry of Agriculture & Livestock

3) Bhutan Poverty Analysis Report 2022 (National Statistics Bureau, Thimphu, Bhutan)

Gender equality and women's empowerment

Indicator Proportion of women and men in decision-making entities who report meaningful participation: This is the first year collecting this indicator, and the first value serves as a baseline; hence there is no follow-up value.

Environmental sustainability

[1] ICIMOD (2019) Summary of Hindu-Kush Himalaya Assessment Report.

Nutrition integration

Nutrition-sensitive score: 2024 is the first year of the Country Strategic Plan in Bhutan. Hence, the monitoring value was set as a baseline and no follow-up values were entered at this stage. Subsequent data collected in the following year will then be recorded as follow-up values.

Annex

«No data» function in cross-cutting indicators

A new "No data" function has been introduced in the logframe module for reporting on cross-cutting indicators. This function ensures that no data fields in the ACR data tables remain empty without explanation. The "No data" function can be applied to cross-cutting indicators only at baseline, target, or follow-up levels. This function can be used for reporting an indicator at one level (baseline, target, or follow-up) or at two levels (baseline and follow-up). Country offices must choose either "Not collected" or "Not applicable" option.

A. **Not applicable**: used when data is not collected for **methodological note requirements**.

B. **Not collected**: used when data is not collected for **context-related reasons**.

Figures and Indicators

Strategic Outcome and Output Results

Strategic Outcome 01: Rural populations in Bhutan, particularly women smallholder farmers, young people and persons with disabilities, achieve climate-resilient livelihoods and increased food security and nutrition by 2030				Resilience Building	
Other Output					
Activity 02: Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors that empower women and young people in targeted value chains.					
Corporate Output 3.3: Smallholder farmers and value chain actors have increased capacity to produce and aggregate marketable surpluses, reduce post-harvest losses, access markets and leverage linkages to schools					
CSP Output 02: 2.1 Small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors receive skills, assets and other government support that enables them to add value to local products and gain sustainable access to smallholder agriculture markets (Tier 2)					
Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
C.16: Number of national institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities at national and subnational levels	C.16.g.3: Number of governmental institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities	Smallholder Agricultural Market Support Activities (CCS)	Number	15	20
C.4: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities contributing to Zero Hunger	C.4.g.2: Number of government and public sector staff participating in training and other technical assistance initiatives	Smallholder Agricultural Market Support Activities (CCS)	Number	500	1,202
C.5: Number of capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities to contribute to Zero Hunger and other SDGs	C.5.g.6: Number of training sessions/workshops organized	Smallholder Agricultural Market Support Activities (CCS)	Number	20	52
F.2: Total membership of supported smallholder farmer aggregation systems	F.2.1: Total membership of supported smallholder farmer aggregation systems (Male)	Smallholder agricultural market support Activities	Number	100	100
F.2: Total membership of supported smallholder farmer aggregation systems	F.2.2: Total membership of supported smallholder farmer aggregation systems (Female)	Smallholder agricultural market support Activities	Number	150	200
F.3: Number of smallholder farmer aggregation systems supported	F.3.4: Number of farmer groups supported	Smallholder agricultural market support Activities	Number	10	10
F.7: Number of other value chain actors supported	F.7.6: Number of processors supported/engaged	Smallholder agricultural market support Activities	Number	150	195
O.3: Number of people indirectly benefitting (Tier 2) from an asset, knowledge and capacity, commodities and services delivered through WFP programs or services provision	O.3.1: Number of people indirectly benefitting (Tier 2) from an asset, knowledge and capacity, commodities and services delivered through WFP programs or services provision	Smallholder Agricultural Market Support Activities (CCS)	Number	5,000	5,200

Outcome Results

Activity 01: Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacity of farmer-based organizations to manage climate shocks and introduce innovative risk management solutions for climate resilient and nutritious food production.

Outcome Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2024 Target	2024 Follow-up	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: SHF - Location: Bhutan - Modality: Capacity Strengthening - Subactivity: Climate adapted assets and agricultural practices (CCS)							
Proportion of people participating in training, coaching, or mentoring reporting improvement in knowledge/skills contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs	Female	0	≥80	≥60	63		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	0	≥80	≥60	63		WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	0	≥80	≥60	63		WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: SHF - Location: Bhutan - Modality: Capacity Strengthening - Subactivity: Climate and weather risk information services (CCS)							
Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs that have benefitted from WFP capacity strengthening support	Overall	0	≥2	≥1	2		WFP programme monitoring

Activity 02: Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors that empower women and young people in targeted value chains.

Outcome Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2024 Target	2024 Follow-up	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Farmers - Location: Bhutan - Modality: Capacity Strengthening - Subactivity: Smallholder Agricultural Market Support Activities (CCS)							
Percentage of targeted smallholder farmers reporting increased production of nutritious crops	Overall	0	≥80	≥40	50		WFP programme monitoring
Value of smallholder sales through WFP-supported aggregation systems (USD): Overall	Overall	200,000	≥2,000,000	≥500,000	600,000		WFP survey
Volume of smallholder sales through WFP-supported aggregation systems (MT): Overall	Overall	200	≥1,000	≥500	650		WFP programme monitoring

Strategic Outcome 02: The citizens of Bhutan, particularly vulnerable population groups, benefit from enhanced human capital and a food system that is resilient to climate and other crises and shocks by 2030					Resilience Building	
Other Output						
Activity 03: Provide technical assistance to government and other stakeholders aimed at improving social protection provision, including by linking national school feeding programmes to farmers and suppliers, in order to facilitate the consumption of safe, healthy and nutrient-dense diets.						
Corporate Output 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes, contributing to the achievement of zero hunger and other SDGs						
CSP Output 03: 3.1 Beneficiaries of national school feeding programmes have sustainable access to nutrient-dense foods and safe, healthy, and diversified meals all year-round (Tier 3)						
Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual	
C.16: Number of national institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities at national and subnational levels	C.16.g.3: Number of governmental institutions engaged in WFP capacity strengthening activities	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	2	3	
C.21: Social protection system building blocks supported	C.21.2: Social protection system building blocks supported-Governance, capacity and coordination	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Completed/ Not completed	Completed	Completed	
C.4: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities contributing to Zero Hunger	C.4.g.2: Number of government and public sector staff participating in training and other technical assistance initiatives	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	100	164	
C.5: Number of capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities to contribute to Zero Hunger and other SDGs	C.5.g.6: Number of training sessions/workshops organized	School Based Programmes (CCS)	Number	8	8	
C.8: Value of assets and infrastructure handed over to national stakeholders as part of WFP capacity strengthening support	C.8.1: Value of assets and infrastructure handed over to national stakeholders as part of WFP capacity strengthening support	School Based Programmes (CCS)	US\$	10,000	42,282	
Activity 05: Provide technical assistance and innovative solutions to government institutions for the expansion of people-centred disaster risk reduction programmes that integrate nutrition considerations and foster preparedness for and effective response to shocks and stressors.						
Corporate Output 4.2: Components of national emergency preparedness and response, social protection and food systems are strengthened						
CSP Output 05: 5.1 Populations facing shocks and stressors benefit from enhanced government services including the integration of nutrition-sensitive and shock-responsive social protection mechanisms in national and sub-national disaster risk management policies, programmes and systems (Tier 3)						
Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual	
C.21: Social protection system building blocks supported	C.21.2: Social protection system building blocks supported-Governance, capacity and coordination	Emergency Preparedness Activities (CCS)	Completed/ Not completed	Completed	Completed	
C.4: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities contributing to Zero Hunger	C.4.g.2: Number of government and public sector staff participating in training and other technical assistance initiatives	Emergency Preparedness Activities (CCS)	Number	100	163	

C.5: Number of capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national stakeholder capacities to contribute to Zero Hunger and other SDGs	C.5.g.6: Number of training sessions/workshops organized	Emergency Preparedness Activities (CCS)	Number	3	3
C.6: Number of tools or products developed or revised to enhance national systems contributing to zero hunger and other SDGs as part of WFP capacity strengthening	C.6.g.1: Number of tools or products developed	Emergency Preparedness Activities (CCS)	Number	2	3
C.8: Value of assets and infrastructure handed over to national stakeholders as part of WFP capacity strengthening support	C.8.1: Value of assets and infrastructure handed over to national stakeholders as part of WFP capacity strengthening support	Emergency Preparedness Activities (CCS)	US\$	50,000	255,700

Outcome Results

Activity 03: Provide technical assistance to government and other stakeholders aimed at improving social protection provision, including by linking national school feeding programmes to farmers and suppliers, in order to facilitate the consumption of safe, healthy and nutrient-dense diets.

Outcome Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2024 Target	2024 Follow-up	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: Government official working for School Feeding - Location: Bhutan - Modality: Capacity Strengthening - Subactivity: School Based Programmes (CCS)							
Proportion of people participating in training, coaching, or mentoring reporting improvement in knowledge/skills contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs	Female	0	≥80	≥55	65		WFP programme monitoring
	Male	0	≥80	≥55	65		WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	0	≥80	≥55	65		WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: School Feeding Recipients - Location: Bhutan - Modality: Capacity Strengthening - Subactivity: School Based Programmes (CCS)							
Resources mobilized (USD value) for national school Health and Nutrition/including School Feeding programmes with WFP capacity strengthening support and/or advocacy	Overall	0	≥5,000,000	≥5,000,000	5,301,822.7		Secondary data
SABER school feeding index	Overall	3	≥3	≥3	3		WFP programme monitoring

Activity 05: Provide technical assistance and innovative solutions to government institutions for the expansion of people-centred disaster risk reduction programmes that integrate nutrition considerations and foster preparedness for and effective response to shocks and stressors.

Outcome Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2024 Target	2024 Follow-up	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: EPR - Location: Bhutan - Modality: - Subactivity: Emergency Preparedness Activities (CCS)							
Number of coordination meetings contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs led by national convening entity as a result of WFP capacity strengthening support	Overall	0	≥8	≥5	5		WFP programme monitoring
Number of enhanced business processes contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs implemented at scale by national stakeholders following WFP capacity strengthening support	Overall	0	≥2	≥2	2		WFP programme monitoring

Target Group: General - Location: Bhutan - Modality: Capacity Strengthening - Subactivity: Emergency Preparedness Activities (CCS)						
Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to Zero Hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP capacity strengthening support	Overall	0	≥2	≥1	1	WFP programme monitoring
Number of people covered (WFP indirect beneficiaries) by national social protection systems or programmes to which WFP provided support	Female	0		≥40,000	46,563	Secondary data
	Male	0		≥40,000	43,290	Secondary data
	Overall	0	≥777,224	≥80,000	89,853	Secondary data

Cross-cutting Indicators

Gender equality and women's empowerment indicators

Gender equality and women's empowerment indicators							
Cross-cutting indicators at Activity level							
Activity 02: Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors that empower women and young people in targeted value chains.							
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2024 Target	2024 Follow-up	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: SHF - Location: Bhutan - Modality: Capacity Strengthening - Subactivity: Smallholder Agricultural Market Support Activities (CCS)							
Proportion of women and men in decision-making entities who report meaningful participation	Female	63	≥50	≥50			WFP survey
	Male	63	≥50	≥50			WFP survey
	Overall	63	≥50	≥50	Not applicable		WFP survey

Protection indicators

Protection indicators							
Cross-cutting indicators at CSP level							
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2024 Target	2024 Follow-up	2023 Follow-up	Source
Country office meets or exceeds UNDIS entity accountability framework standards concerning accessibility (QCPR)	Overall	Approaching	Meeting	Approaching	Approaching		WFP survey

Accountability to affected people indicators

Accountability indicators							
Cross-cutting indicators at CSP level							
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2024 Target	2024 Follow-up	2023 Follow-up	Source
Country office meets or exceeds United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) standards on consulting organizations of persons with disabilities (QCPR)	Overall	Approaching	Meeting	Approaching	Approaching		WFP survey

Environmental sustainability indicators

Environmental sustainability indicators							
Cross-cutting indicators at Activity level							
Activity 01: Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacity of farmer-based organizations to manage climate shocks and introduce innovative risk management solutions for climate resilient and nutritious food production.							
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2024 Target	2024 Follow-up	2023 Follow-up	Source
Target Group: SHF - Location: Bhutan - Modality: Capacity Strengthening - Subactivity: Climate and weather risk information services (CCS)							
Proportion of field-level agreements (FLAs)/memorandums of understanding (MOUs)/construction contracts (CCs) for CSP activities screened for environmental and social risks	Overall	0	=100	=0	Not collected		WFP programme monitoring

Nutrition integration indicators

Nutrition integration indicators							
Cross-cutting indicators at CSP level							
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2024 Target	2024 Follow-up	2023 Follow-up	Source
Nutrition-sensitive score	Overall	5	≥7	≥5	Not applicable		WFP programme monitoring

Cover page photo © WFP/Rein Skullerud

WFP enhances emergency preparedness and response with technical support, tackling risks from hazards intensified by climate change.

World Food Programme

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Financial Section

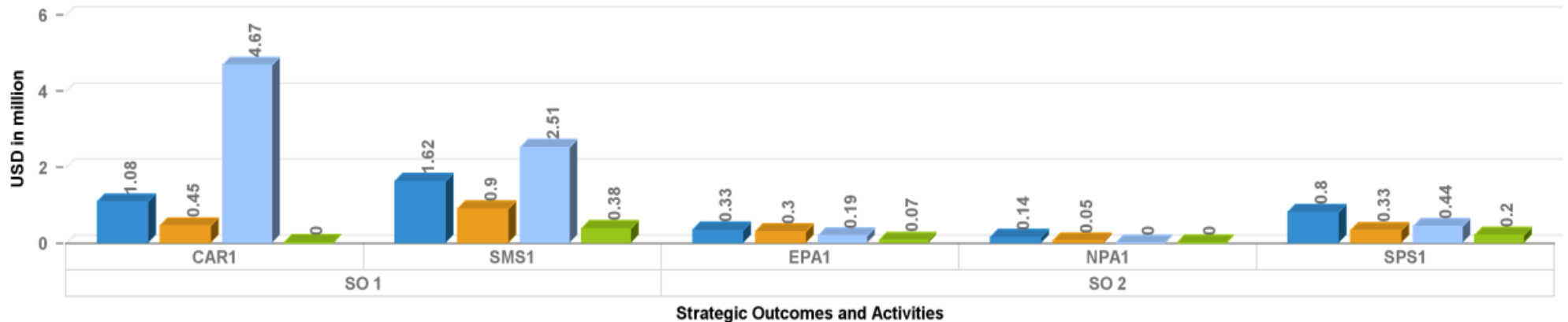
Financial information is taken from WFP's financial records which have been submitted to WFP's auditors.

Annual Country Report

Bhutan Country Portfolio Budget 2024 (2024-2028)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2024 (Amount in USD)

Annual CPB Overview



■ Needs Based Plan ■ Implementation Plan ■ Available Resources ■ Expenditures

Code		Strategic Outcome
SO 1		Rural populations in Bhutan, particularly women smallholder farmers, young people and persons with disabilities, achieve climate-resilient livelihoods and increased food security and nutrition by 2030
SO 2		The citizens of Bhutan, particularly vulnerable population groups, benefit from enhanced human capital and a food system that is resilient to climate and other crises and shocks by 2030
Code	Activity Code	Country Activity Long Description
SO 1	CAR1	Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacity of farmer-based organizations to manage climate shocks and introduce innovative risk management solutions for climate resilient and nutritious food production.
SO 1	SMS1	Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors that empower women and young people in targeted value chains.
SO 2	EPA1	Provide technical assistance and innovative solutions to government institutions for the expansion of people-centred disaster risk reduction programmes that integrate nutrition considerations and foster preparedness for and effective response to shocks and stressors.
SO 2	NPA1	Provide technical assistance, including in relation to social behaviour change, in support of government and private sector efforts to promote fortified food products, and ensure that all school feeding programme beneficiaries and the public consume safe, healthy, and nutrient-dense diets.
SO 2	SPS1	Provide technical assistance to government and other stakeholders aimed at improving social protection provision, including by linking national school feeding programmes to farmers and suppliers, in order to facilitate the consumption of safe, healthy and nutrient-dense diets.

Annual Country Report

Bhutan Country Portfolio Budget 2024 (2024-2028)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2024 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditures
2.4	Rural populations in Bhutan, particularly women smallholder farmers, young people and persons with disabilities, achieve climate-resilient livelihoods and increased food security and nutrition by 2030	Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacity of farmer-based organizations to manage climate shocks and introduce innovative risk management solutions for climate resilient and nutritious food production.	1,077,625	450,419	4,673,170	4,306
		Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors that empower women and young people in targeted value chains.	1,615,234	896,380	2,513,515	378,695
2.4)	Subtotal SDG Target 2.4 Sustainable Food System (SDG Target 2.4)		2,692,860	1,346,799	7,186,686	383,001

Annual Country Report

Bhutan Country Portfolio Budget 2024 (2024-2028)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2024 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditures
17.9	The citizens of Bhutan, particularly vulnerable population groups, benefit from enhanced human capital and a food system that is resilient to climate and other crises and shocks by 2030	Provide technical assistance and innovative solutions to government institutions for the expansion of people-centred disaster risk reduction programmes that integrate nutrition considerations and foster preparedness for and effective response to shocks and stressors.	333,830	297,000	190,078	70,495
		Provide technical assistance, including in relation to social behaviour change, in support of government and private sector efforts to promote fortified food products, and ensure that all school feeding programme beneficiaries and the public consume safe, healthy, and nutrient-dense diets.	141,825	52,923	0	0
		Provide technical assistance to government and other stakeholders aimed at improving social protection provision, including by linking national school feeding programmes to farmers and suppliers, in order to facilitate the consumption of safe, healthy and nutrient-dense diets.	803,300	328,783	437,873	203,007
Subtotal SDG Target 17.9 Capacity Building (SDG Target 17.9)			1,278,955	678,706	627,951	273,502
	Non SO Specific	Non Activity Specific	0	0	55,546	0
Subtotal SDG Target			0	0	55,546	0
Total Direct Operational Cost			3,971,815	2,025,505	7,870,182	656,503
Direct Support Cost (DSC)			136,204	303,049	652,761	265,624

This computer generated report is certified by the Chief of Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch (CFORC)

Annual Country Report

Bhutan Country Portfolio Budget 2024 (2024-2028)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2024 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditures
			4,108,020	2,328,554	8,522,943	922,127
			267,021	151,356	384,676	384,676
			4,375,041	2,479,910	8,907,619	1,306,803


CHIEF, CFORC
Michael Hemling
Chief

Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch

Columns Definition

Needs Based Plan

Latest annual approved version of operational needs as of December of the reporting year. WFP's needs-based plans constitute an appeal for resources to implement operations which are designed based on needs assessments undertaken in collaboration with government counterparts and partners

Implementation Plan

Implementation Plan as of January of the reporting period which represents original operational prioritized needs taking into account funding forecasts of available resources and operational challenges

Available Resources

Unspent Balance of Resources carried forward, Allocated contribution in the current year, Advances and Other resources in the current year. It excludes contributions that are stipulated by donor for use in future years

Expenditures

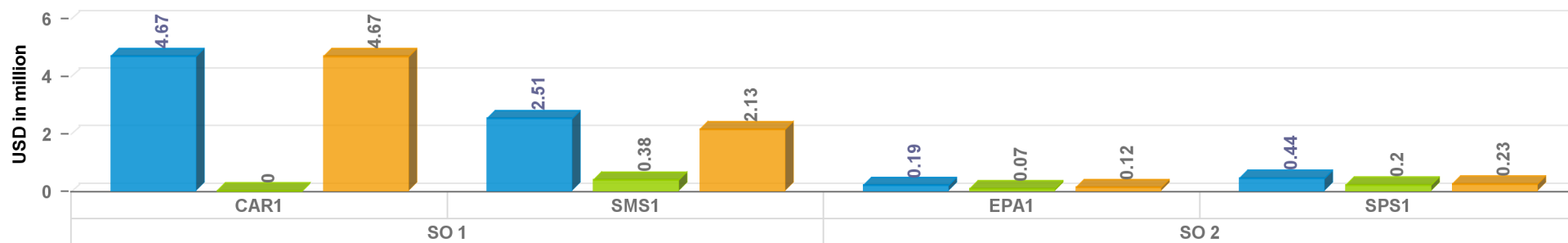
Monetary value of goods and services received and recorded within the reporting year

Annual Country Report

Bhutan Country Portfolio Budget 2024 (2024-2028)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2024 (Amount in USD)

Cumulative CPB Overview



Strategic Outcomes and Activities

■ Allocated Resources
 ■ Expenditures
 ■ Balance of Resources

Code	Strategic Outcome	
SO 1	Rural populations in Bhutan, particularly women smallholder farmers, young people and persons with disabilities, achieve climate-resilient livelihoods and increased food security and nutrition by 2030	
SO 2	The citizens of Bhutan, particularly vulnerable population groups, benefit from enhanced human capital and a food system that is resilient to climate and other crises and shocks by 2030	
Code	Activity Code	Country Activity - Long Description
SO 1	CAR1	Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacity of farmer-based organizations to manage climate shocks and introduce innovative risk management solutions for climate resilient and nutritious food production.
SO 1	SMS1	Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors that empower women and young people in targeted value chains.
SO 2	EPA1	Provide technical assistance and innovative solutions to government institutions for the expansion of people-centred disaster risk reduction programmes that integrate nutrition considerations and foster preparedness for and effective response to shocks and stressors.
SO 2	SPS1	Provide technical assistance to government and other stakeholders aimed at improving social protection provision, including by linking national school feeding programmes to farmers and suppliers, in order to facilitate the consumption of safe, healthy and nutrient-dense diets.

Annual Country Report

Bhutan Country Portfolio Budget 2024 (2024-2028)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2024 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
2.4	Rural populations in Bhutan, particularly women smallholder farmers, young people and persons with disabilities, achieve climate-resilient livelihoods and increased food security and nutrition by 2030	Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacities of producer groups, small-scale agro-enterprises and other value chain actors that empower women and young people in targeted value chains.	1,615,234	2,513,515	0	2,513,515	378,695	2,134,820
		Provide technical assistance to national and local government institutions with the aim of strengthening the capacity of farmer-based organizations to manage climate shocks and introduce innovative risk management solutions for climate resilient and nutritious food production.	1,077,625	4,673,170	0	4,673,170	4,306	4,668,865
Subtotal SDG Target 2.4 Sustainable Food System (SDG Target 2.4)			2,692,860	7,186,686	0	7,186,686	383,001	6,803,685

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Annual Country Report

Bhutan Country Portfolio Budget 2024 (2024-2028)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2024 (Amount in USD)

SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
17.9	The citizens of Bhutan, particularly vulnerable population groups, benefit from enhanced human capital and a food system that is resilient to climate and other crises and shocks by 2030	Provide technical assistance and innovative solutions to government institutions for the expansion of people-centred disaster risk reduction programmes that integrate nutrition considerations and foster preparedness for and effective response to shocks and stressors.	333,830	190,078	0	190,078	70,495	119,583
		Provide technical assistance, including in relation to social behaviour change, in support of government and private sector efforts to promote fortified food products, and ensure that all school feeding programme beneficiaries and the public consume safe, healthy, and nutrient-dense diets.	141,825	0	0	0	0	0
		Provide technical assistance to government and other stakeholders aimed at improving social protection provision, including by linking national school feeding programmes to farmers and suppliers, in order to facilitate the consumption of safe, healthy and nutrient-dense diets.	803,300	437,873	0	437,873	203,007	234,866
Subtotal SDG Target 17.9 Capacity Building (SDG Target 17.9)			1,278,955	627,951	0	627,951	273,502	354,449

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SDG Target	Strategic Outcome	Country Activity Description	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
	Non SO Specific	Non Activity Specific	0	55,546	0	55,546	0	55,546
Subtotal SDG Target			0	55,546	0	55,546	0	55,546
Total Direct Operational Cost			3,971,815	7,870,182	0	7,870,182	656,503	7,213,680
Direct Support Cost (DSC)			136,204	652,761	0	652,761	265,624	387,137
Total Direct Costs			4,108,020	8,522,943	0	8,522,943	922,127	7,600,816
Indirect Support Cost (ISC)			267,021	384,676		384,676	384,676	0
Grand Total			4,375,041	8,907,619	0	8,907,619	1,306,803	7,600,816

This donor financial report is interim


CHIEF, CFORC
 Michael Hemming
 Chief

Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch

Columns Definition

Needs Based Plan

Latest approved version of operational needs. WFP's needs-based plans constitute an appeal for resources to implement operations which are designed based on needs assessments undertaken in collaboration with government counterparts and partners

Allocated Contributions

Allocated contributions include confirmed contributions with exchange rate variations, multilateral contributions, miscellaneous income, resource transferred, cost recovery and other financial adjustments (e.g. refinancing). It excludes internal advance and allocation and contributions that are stipulated by donor for use in future years.

Advance and allocation

Internal advanced/allocated resources but not repaid. This includes different types of internal advance (Internal Project Lending or Macro-advance Financing) and allocation (Immediate Response Account)

Allocated Resources

Sum of Allocated Contributions, Advance and Allocation

Expenditures

Cumulative monetary value of goods and services received and recorded within the reporting period

Balance of Resources

Allocated Resources minus Expenditures