

WFP Armenia Country Brief April 2025

Operational Context

In Armenia, WFP supports the Government and partners in their efforts to eradicate food insecurity and malnutrition in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to implement the Government of Armenia's development agenda.

Together with the Government, WFP contributes to human capital development, health promotion and sustainable economic growth to benefit the Armenian population. Armenia is an upper-middle-income, landlocked, net food-importing country vulnerable to external shocks. The border closure with Turkey and Azerbaijan since its independence in 1991 has limited economic development.

The latest National Statistical Service data indicates that the poverty rate was 24.8 percent in 2022. WFP's sixth Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment, conducted in March 2024, indicated that 20 percent of households experience food insecurity. Through the adoption of its Country Strategic Plan (2019-2025), WFP's interventions in Armenia support the strengthening of a shock-responsive social protection system; sustainable food systems and value chains; provision of evidence and analysis to support evidence-based policy and decision-making; strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction, preparedness and response capacities; enhancing and fully nationalising the School Feeding programme and, as needed, delivering emergency food assistance and supply chain service provision.

In December 2024, WFP revised its CSP (2019-2025), aimed at scaling up the "Milk to School" initiative. As a result, schoolchildren will receive a cup of milk every day they attend school.

WFP is working on integrating refugees (115,000 refugees arrived in Armenia in September 2023) in livelihood development activities and initiatives. By the request and close coordination with the Government, WFP currently assists more than 1,000 households with emergency food and cash to address the urgent food needs of refugees.

Population: **2.97 million**

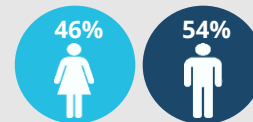
2024 Human Development Index:
0.811 (69 out of 193 countries)

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **9% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

3,034 people assisted
In April 2025



USD 2 m six months (May – October 2025) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- WFP continued to implement the *Socio-economic Integration of refugees in Armenia (SEIRA)* project, for fostering economic growth and sustainable energy access for refugees and host communities in Armenia. In April, **90** farmers were selected: 75 from Gegharkunik province and 15 from Vayots Dzor province with 28 percent being refugees. The cooperating partner, "Work and Motherland NGO", completed the distribution of berry seedlings for backyard garden establishments. Drip irrigation systems and fruit dryers will be distributed to each farmer in the coming months. Three bakeries from Chambarak and Gavar in Gegharkunik and one bakery from Jermuk in Vayots Dzor province have been selected. These bakeries will be supported to enhance local food systems and economic inclusion.
- In April 2025, WFP held follow-up consulting sessions with around **100** farmers and bakery operators in Gegharkunik province. These participants had previously attended financial literacy training under the "*Green Energy for Productive Farming*" initiative. Assessments across five communities in the province highlighted needs for loans, improved irrigation infrastructure, farming equipment, solar energy systems, and technical support.
- As part of the same initiative, **14** participating bakeries from five provinces were assessed to identify capacity needs. Majority of the bakeries reported notable improvements in cost management, food safety practices, and legal compliance. Many are now supplying wholegrain products to local schools. Bakery owners identified necessary equipment for expansion, including electric conveyor lines for flat bread (lavash) production, dough sheeters, and solar panels to reduce operational costs. Most participants expressed interest in further training, funding opportunities, and continuous peer exchange.
- As part of the *Healthy Lifestyle Campaign* WFP conducted Healthy Food trainings in 20 schools, engaging **430** students. Additionally, **200** children participated in co-creation sessions focused on preparing healthy recipes, helping them develop practical skills in nutritious meal planning. The initiative partners with the National Center for Disease Control and Prevention of the Ministry of Health and the Children of Armenia Fund.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2025)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)
85 m	73 m
2025 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (May-October 2025)
13.2 m	2 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Vulnerable populations in Armenia, including schoolchildren, have access to adequate and nutritious food year-round.
Focus area: Root Causes

- Activities:**
- Strengthen and complement the national school feeding programme to facilitate handover to the Government.

Strategic Outcome 4: Vulnerable populations in Armenia have access to basic needs and livelihoods during and in the aftermath of a crisis.
Focus area: Crisis Response

- Activities:**
- Support to Government and partners to identify and provide food assistance to vulnerable populations.

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement SDGs

Strategic Outcome 2: National policies, programmes and systems are strengthened to improve food security and nutrition among targeted groups by 2024.
Focus area: Root Causes

- Activities:**
- Provide technical support to national institutions to generate an evidence base and inform policies, strategies, and systems to address food insecurity and malnutrition in Armenia.
 - Strengthen national food systems in Armenia, supporting actors along the food value chain.
 - Provide support to national institutions to strengthen the national social protection system.

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable populations benefit t from improved capacities of national entities and partners to prevent and respond to emergencies.
Focus area: Crisis response

- Activities:**
- Provide on-demand service provision to the Government and other partners.

Donors

Armenia, Republic of Bulgaria, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, EMERCOM, European Union, France, Russian Federation, South-South Opportunity Fund, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, United Kingdom, UN funds, USAID/BHA.

Co-Funding Partners

ACBA, Tufenkian Foundation, All Armenian Fund, Fonds Armenian de France, local communities, Government of Armenia

- In April, approximately 1,200 schoolchildren received the daily distribution of milk and cookies in nine schools of Lori province and Yerevan city. WFP closely worked with school staff and students to monitor progress and reinforce long-term impact.
- WFP has launched a new project “Strengthening the Capacities of Water User Associations in Armenia”, in cooperation with Armenian Government, the Water Committee and with funding from the Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development (EFSD). The initiative will train over 125 employees from 15 Water User Associations and the Water Committee of Armenia in engineering and technical skills, legal frameworks, human resources, finance, and procurement. The three-month training programme will be conducted jointly with the National Polytechnic University of Armenia foundation. Field visits to water collection points will provide participants with valuable hands-on experience. The Memorandum of Understanding signed between EFSD and WFP launched their new collaboration. This initiative aims to strengthen local water resource management and improve rural service delivery.
- In response to a request from the municipal leadership of Alaverdi town following the 2024 floods, WFP conducted a targeted food security assessment with community social workers. An assessment of 250 flood-affected families identified more than 200 households with 889 members eligible for emergency food assistance through WFP’s E-Wallet pilot initiative. In April 2025, WFP held sessions on E-Wallet food cards rules and restrictions. The financial Service Provider representatives supported beneficiaries with registration and identification (ID) verification processes. The one-time cash assistance was provided based on household size, providing AMD 11,000 (USD 28) per person (up to four members) and AMD 44,000 (USD 113) for larger households, providing timely relief to vulnerable families.

Monitoring and Assessments

- WFP’s April Market Price Bulletin highlights that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 3.3 percent, and the Food Price Inflation (FPI) was 5.4 percent in March 2025.

