



World Food
Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

2024 Year in Review

WFP in Asia and the Pacific

June 2025

Context

FOOD INSECURITY

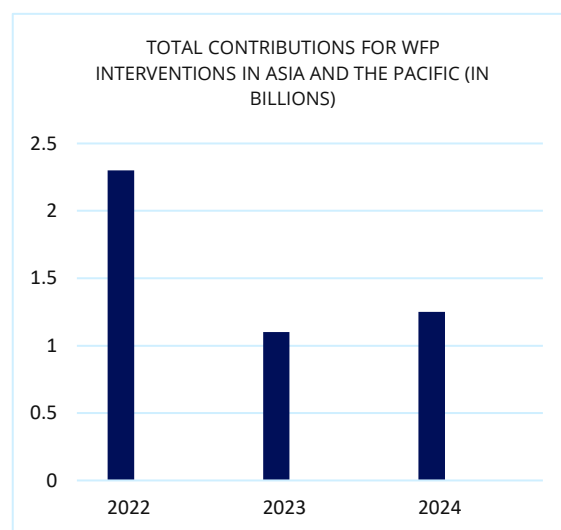
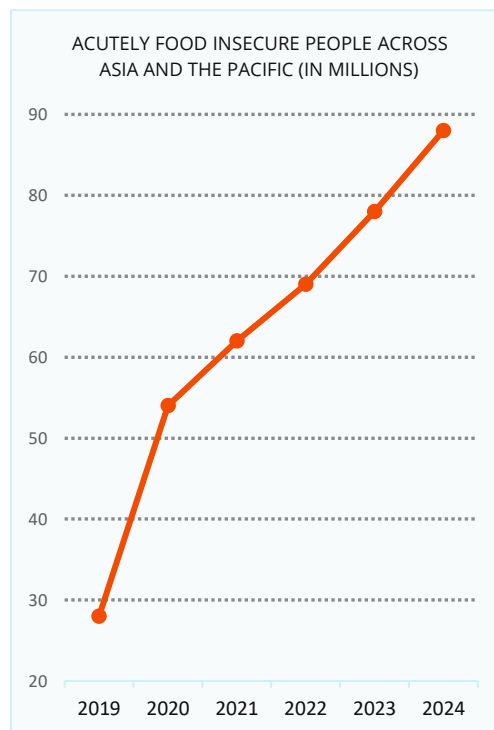
Across the world, humanitarian food needs continued to rise in 2024, with 343 million people suffering from acute food insecurity. Key drivers of food insecurity included political instability, conflict, forced displacement, and extreme weather events such as floods and earthquakes. High food inflation doubled in 26 countries across the globe over the last four years, diminishing purchasing power and thereby leaving millions of people unable to afford food. In Asia and the Pacific, **88 million people faced acute food insecurity in 2024**, a sharp increase from 28 million people in 2019 and needs have risen every year since then.

Many countries battled multiple drivers of food insecurity at once, such as **Bangladesh**, which continued to support the protracted Rohingya refugee crisis response, as over 1 million refugees have crossed the border since the mass exodus in 2017. Meanwhile, in 2024, communities in Bangladesh struggled to meet basic food needs in a context of intense political insecurity, due to high inflation and extreme weather events, including Cyclone Remal, monsoons and flooding – the latter affecting over 20 million people. In the **Philippines**, communities felt the devastating impact of six successive typhoons over a span of 25 days, affecting 15 million people. High-intensity natural hazards are recurring in this southeast Asian nation, which ranked as the most at risk of disasters out of 193 countries, according to the 2024 World Risk Report.

FUNDING SITUATION

Financial support for global humanitarian interventions continued to fall far behind needs on the ground, with only half of the 2024 Global Humanitarian Overview funding requirements received. Donor contributions to WFP marked an increase since 2023; however, total **contributions only represented half the requirements in WFP's needs-based plan**. This shortfall limited access to food assistance for food-insecure communities in need of assistance.

In **Afghanistan**, where 1 in 3 people are acutely food insecure, WFP's food assistance could only cover lean season periods during the winter months and specific hunger hotspots throughout the rest of the year. Consequently, only 12 percent of the needs were addressed in the summer season and 41 percent during the scaled-up winter response. Looking ahead, the global funding crisis will continue to limit food assistance in the midst of rising humanitarian needs, leaving some of the most vulnerable communities behind.

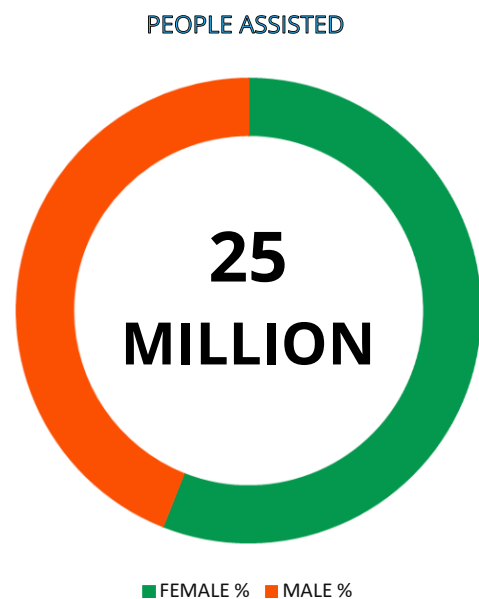


2024 achievements

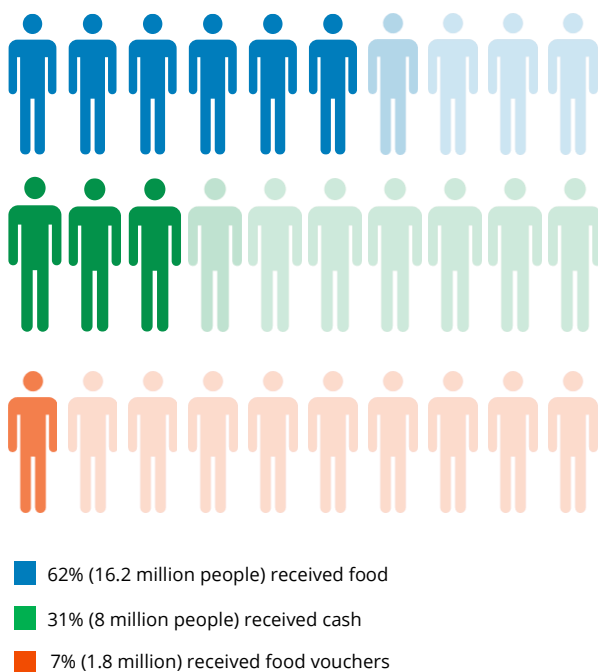
Despite significant challenges, **WFP reached 25 million people** in Asia and the Pacific. WFP continued to strengthen and optimize partnerships, innovations and synergies in its interventions, maximizing the impact of its emergency response and protecting against future humanitarian disasters through anticipatory action and resilience programming.

WFP provided assistance to severely food-insecure communities through in-kind food, cash-based transfers as well as commodity vouchers.

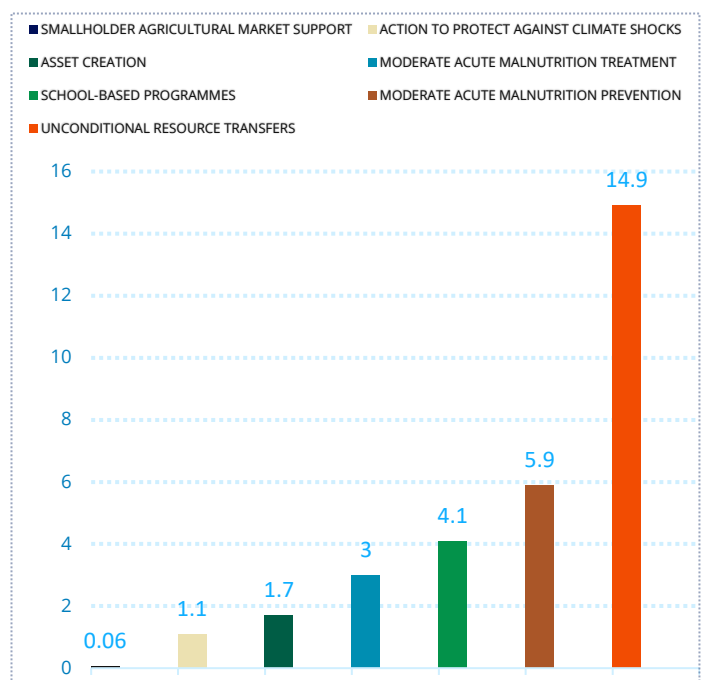
Programmes addressed basic food and nutrition needs among crisis-affected people, communities who faced seasonal food insecurity, schoolchildren and groups most vulnerable to malnutrition, including pregnant and breastfeeding women and children.



PEOPLE REACHED BY TYPE OF TRANSFERS



PEOPLE REACHED BY ACTIVITY (IN THE MILLIONS)



*Graphics on the number of people reached by type of transfer and those benefiting from different activities include overlaps, as some people have benefited from multiple types of assistance.

Supporting and protecting communities facing disasters

In Asia and the Pacific, WFP worked to deliver food assistance to meet needs on the ground. Using innovative approaches to humanitarian interventions, activities optimized key partnerships and synergies across sectors, creating dynamic and rapid responses to disaster preparedness, response and resilience.



One of WFP's biggest emergency operations across the globe is in **Afghanistan**, where WFP reached over 10 million people in crisis in 2024. While funds fell short of needs, WFP utilized resources in innovative ways to reach the most food-insecure people by targeting peak periods and hunger hotspots.

For example, WFP strategically prepositioned 57,500 mt of food commodities across 23 provinces in anticipation of the winter months. This proactive measure enabled WFP to provide crucial support to 1.4 million food-insecure people living in remote areas.

WFP's emergency response was also integrated with malnutrition prevention and supplementation activities. The year 2024 was the first year that WFP distributed specialized nutritious foods to prevent malnutrition in locations using cash-based transfers.



Anticipatory action and preparedness in emergencies is centred on using a proactive, risk-informed approach that anticipates, prepares for, and manages the impacts of hazards before they occur.

In **Bangladesh**, WFP activated its biggest global anticipatory action programme to date, with more than 628,000 people supported with cash assistance ahead of Cyclone Remal in May and the Jamuna Basin floods in July. In addition, 2 million people received information, including early warning messages, in local dialects at the community level.

WFP also strengthened national capacities in the Government of Bangladesh by supporting the development of an operational framework, standard operating procedures and a national risk financing strategy in anticipatory action for floods and cyclones.

In addition, WFP integrated its interventions to support communities through crisis response, recovery and resilience strengthening activities.



For Ratna and her family, severe floods impacted their home and village in Bangladesh's southeastern district of Feni. WFP provided fortified biscuits in response, followed by cash assistance and access to its resilience programme, with the latter involving the communal reconstruction of a 700-meter road – connecting Ratna's village to neighbouring areas.

"Now we are connected" said Ratna, expressing gratitude for the help her family received to rebuild.

WFP made strides in anticipatory action in **Indonesia**, working with partners to enhance tailored plans and local government ownership in establishing a foundation for effective anticipatory action, including securing budget allocations for early action. WFP also forged a partnership with Google to enhance climate risk analyses.



In **Timor-Leste**, the Government could better anticipate crises via WFP and FAO's alert system. In addition, WFP's emergency preparedness provided a 3-month ration to communities affected by the El Niño emergency.

WFP's common services support humanitarian organizations to reach those in need in a timely and effective manner.

In the **Pacific**, WFP supported the **Vanuatu** earthquake response by activating the UN Pacific Humanitarian Air Service, facilitating the transport of humanitarian personnel and essential cargo.

WFP also provided technical support in logistics, emergency telecommunications, and food security to support the response, including providing equipment and mobile storage units.

In **Bhutan**, WFP developed the first-ever manuals in emergency logistics for government agencies, with 35 government officers trained.



With needs rapidly escalating, the humanitarian community's ability to respond to emerging needs is limited, especially in view of dwindling donor support.

National social protection systems offer a solution to this challenge, operating at a scale greater than any humanitarian response and offering more sustainable solutions to food insecurity. WFP can offer technical support to strengthen the national infrastructure of such systems, protecting food-insecure communities from crises in the longer term.

In the **Philippines**, WFP leveraged the strength of its partnership with the national government to layer its emergency response with social protection. As six strong typhoons successively hit parts of the country between October and November 2024, and triggered destructive landslides and raging floodwaters, 5 million Filipinos were displaced, with a total of 15 million people affected.

In response, WFP-deployed trucks transported the Government's family food packs, which reached over 1.6 million people across Bicol, Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Southern Luzon, and Ilocos regions. WFP also leveraged the *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Programme*, a government social protection programme, to ensure timely delivery of two months worth of cash assistance to over 70,000 people. This took place within two weeks of Severe Tropical Storm (STS) Kristine's landfall, thanks to WFP's internal lending mechanism - a lifeline for sudden emergencies.



For Marissa Gonzaga, a mother from Camarines Sur, rains and floods from STS Kristine swept away most of her belongings. Thanks to WFP and the Government's relief efforts, Marissa could secure food for her family and restart her business selling eggs after the storm. She said: *"Our family is OK; there's nothing more I could ask for"*.



In **Pakistan**, more than 40 percent of children are chronically malnourished. In 2024, the Government of Pakistan was WFP's sixth largest donor country in the world, thanks to its Benazir Income Support Programme, which provides social protection for the poorest quintile of the population, including malnutrition interventions. Through this government mechanism, WFP implemented its flagship stunting prevention programme (Benazir Nashonuma Programme) in 158 of the 170 districts, supporting 1.2 million pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and children under 2 years old. WFP managed the supply chain of specialized nutritious foods for its malnutrition prevention activities as well as ready-to-use therapeutic foods for partners' interventions.

In **Nepal**, WFP's collaborative partnerships with key ministries advanced investments of over USD 75 million by the government to improve nutrition, local value chains, food sustainability and strengthening of national capacities for effective crisis response. WFP, FAO, and the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub also helped institutionalize food systems pathways through the National Planning Commission, further advancing food governance and policy coherence.



In **Cambodia** and **Tajikistan**, WFP supported their governments' transition to national ownership of their school feeding programmes. This included improving policies, crafting guidelines, and establishing monitoring systems to track progress, assess performance and ensure programme accountability, in addition to connecting schools to local trader networks for home-grown school feeding.

In **India**, WFP strengthened national school feeding by providing technical support for the integration of nutrition interventions and fortified wheat flour in the food basket.



Moreover, in **Lao PDR** and **Sri Lanka**, WFP's home-grown school feeding programme supported smallholder farmers and schools to create sustainable food systems in their communities.

In the **Kyrgyz Republic**, WFP's asset creation activities strengthened the resilience of food-insecure communities, adding value to local economies and supporting communities to protect themselves from future weather-related shocks and disasters. WFP's community development projects in the Kyrgyz Republic supported the construction of 344 infrastructure assets that were created to reduce disaster risks.

Looking ahead

The year 2025 is expected to be one where the gap between unrelenting humanitarian needs and the ability of national and international actors to meet them increases, with millions of people struggling to feed their families amid a backdrop of growing conflicts, more frequent weather-related shocks, and economic turmoil. The decline in development funding further exacerbates these issues, making it clear that business as usual is no longer viable.

A targeted alignment of resources to ensure an integrated approach to the intersectionality of needs and improved evidence generation to support country capacity-strengthening initiatives will be more vital than ever. In Asia and the Pacific, WFP aims to meet the most critical needs by providing responsive food assistance to crisis-affected people. We will continue to advocate for investments in preparedness and preventive measures to safeguard against shocks and reduce future needs.

To maximise the efficiency, flexibility and impact of interventions, WFP is committed to strengthening its innovation, partnerships, integrated programmatic approaches and support to national systems. Amidst challenges, we will continue to sharpen our resolve, intensify our actions, and nourish our synergies with a diversified pool of partners. We will make every effort to avoid disruptions in the delivery of critical food and nutrition assistance. Tackling threat multipliers such as extreme weather events with approaches such as anticipatory action and investments in national social protection systems that enable communities to bounce back from shocks and stressors remain key priorities.

With support from the global community, WFP will strive to reverse extreme hunger and malnutrition and strengthen the resilience of communities against shocks.



*For 2025, **WFP needs US\$2.5 billion** for its interventions in Asia and the Pacific. This includes providing life-saving food and nutrition assistance to people affected by humanitarian emergencies; and protecting food insecure communities from future disasters.*

Donate

Share the [meal](#)



Learn more about how WFP and partners contribute to improving food security and nutrition by reading our annual reports for countries in Asia and the Pacific:

Afghanistan Web PDF	Cambodia Web PDF	Kyrgyz Republic Web PDF	Pacific Islands Web PDF	Sri Lanka Web PDF
Bangladesh Web PDF	India Web PDF	Lao PDR Web PDF	Pakistan Web PDF	Tajikistan Web PDF
Bhutan Web PDF	Indonesia Web PDF	Nepal Web PDF	Philippines Web PDF	Timor-Leste Web PDF

Photo credits

Cover page: WFP/Samantha Reinders

Photo Page 4: WFP/Akram Hossain

Photo Page 5: WFP/Earvin Perias

World Food Programme

55 Wireless Road, Lumpini, Pathumwan
Bangkok, Thailand 10330 T +66 2 655 4115

wfp.org