



**In Numbers** 

81 people trained In June 2025





**SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES** 

## **Operational Context**

Armenia is an upper-middle-income, landlocked, net foodimporting country vulnerable to external shocks. The border closure with Türkiye and Azerbaijan since its independence in 1991 has limited economic development. The latest National Statistical Service data indicates that the poverty rate was 23.7 percent in 2023. WFP's sixth Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment, conducted in March 2024, indicated that 20 percent of households experience food insecurity.

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

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 have been receiving a cup of milk with a wholegrain cookie every day they attended school.

WFP is working on integrating refugees (115,000 refugees arrived in Armenia since September 2023) in livelihood development activities. At the request and in close coordination with the Government, WFP assisted them with emergency food and cash to address their urgent food needs.

Population: 3.0762 million

2023 Human Development Index: 0.811 (69 out of 193 countries)

Income Level: Upper middle

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

# **Operational Updates**

funding requirements

With funding from the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), WFP is currently preparing to support refugees in Armavir and Aragatsotn regions through a food card solution. This assistance will be combined with mental health and psychosocial support services and is estimated to reach around 1,000 of the most vulnerable households. To support this effort, WFP trained 30 staff members from the Armenian Association of Social Workers to carry out food security assessments. The trained staff conducted food security assessments to select and screen eligible beneficiaries who are most in need for food assistance, social work, and psychosocial support services (PSS).

USD 2.3 m six months (July - December 2025) net

- In June, the "Capacity Strengthening of Water Users Associations (WUA) of Armenia" project concluded with a closing ceremony that awarded certificates to 125 participants in recognition of their high attendance and performance. In response to identified gaps, particularly the lack of irrigation network mapping and limited training in relevant software, WFP provided additional technical training to 35 staff members from 15 WUAs. This training covered topics of ArcGIS mapping, flow meter calibration, soil moisture monitoring, irrigation planning, and system assessments. A pilot initiative to map irrigation networks in the consolidated communities of Akhuryan, Artik, and Ani in the Shirak region is planned for July 2025.
- Implementation of the project "Socio-Economic Integration of Refugees in Armenia" continued, with WFP accompanying delegations from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Strategic Development Agency on a field visit to two beneficiary sites in Tchambarak, Gegharkunik region. The visit offered an opportunity to observe the project's implementation firsthand, participate in seedling planting, and assist in the installation of drip irrigation systems. The delegation also engaged in discussions with beneficiary farmers, gathering insights into their experiences and overall feedback on the project.

Contact info: Artak Ordyan (artak.ordyan @wfp.org)

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/armenia

Country Director: Nanna Skau

Photo Caption: Field training for Water User Associations staff members ©WFP/Artak Ordyan

## **WFP Country Strategy**



### **Country Strategic Plan (2019-2025)**

Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	
85 m	75 m	
2025 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (July - December 2025)	
13.2 m	2.3 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 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.

- In June, WFP delivered a comprehensive training session at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia for 16 representatives from six ministries. The session covered the key pillars and drivers of food security and included a briefing on WFP Armenia's strategic priorities and ongoing operations.
- The "Milk to School" initiative was paused in June due to school closures for the summer break and is expected to resume in September.

## **Monitoring and Assessments**

- Following the 2024 floods, WFP had previously provided one-time e-Card cash assistance to affected households in Alaverdi town, allocating AMD 11,000 (USD 28) per family member. Outcome monitoring conducted in June, showed significant improvements among surveyed households with acceptable food consumption score rising from 30 percent to 95 percent, and reliance on high coping strategies dropping from 100 percent to 47 percent. Additionally, 42 percent of beneficiaries were able to access food items which they were previously unable to afford. 62 percent of respondents reported that assistance helped them save some money, mainly using it for essential needs. The e-card modality also enhanced digital literacy of beneficiaries by introducing e-wallets as a unified digital tool for accessing multiple purpose assistance.
- WFP conducted a Market Functionality Index (MFI)
  assessment across five markets in Armavir and
  Aragatsotn regions, which is an essential step before
  launching cash-based assistance. The exercise covered
  40 traders, four key informant interviews with
  government officials, and one open-air market. Data
  was consolidated and further analysis is underway to
  inform decision-making.
- WFP assessed the outcomes of the Wholegrain Value Chain project. Covering Berd, Noyemberyan, Dilijan, and Ijevan towns, the assessment engaged a wide range of stakeholders, including mills, bakeries, the Wholegrain Academy, farmers, parents, and local authorities. In total, 21 key informant interviews, four focus group discussions, and eight site visits were conducted. Earlier, surveys with schoolchildren and interviews with school staff were completed in May. The data will inform an in-depth assessment report, providing insights into the project's effectiveness, community-level impact, and potential for scale-up.
- WFP's <u>June Market Price Bulletin</u> highlights that the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 4.3 percent, and the Food Price Inflation was 0.5 percent in May 2025. Report highlights include:

Highest price increase (%):

Vegetables 29%	Fish and seafood 20.2%	Fruit 13.4%
Moderate inflation (%):		
Oils and fats 12.9%	Sugar, jam, honey 6.2%	Bread and cereals 3.3%
The highest CPI (%):		
Shirak 6.4%	Ararat 5.4%	Tavush 4.8%
Food prices peaked in (%):		
Shirak 12%	Lori 8.3%	Ararat 8.1%