



World Food Programme

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WFP Pacific Country Brief June – July 2025



WFP Pacific Representative and Country Director, Alpha Bah, presented his credentials to Mr. Uering Iteraera, Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration, Republic of Kiribati © WFP Pacific

Operational Context

The Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) are among the most hazard-prone regions, with eight out of the 20 nations with the highest average disaster losses being in the Pacific. In 2023, the region continued to experience significant natural hazards, including rapid-onset events such as the twin cyclones in Vanuatu. The PICTs are still reeling from the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic-induced lockdown. This situation is exacerbated by the global food crisis. Analysis indicates the PICTs are not on track to reach any Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) by 2030. This is in part driven by growing inequality, including gender inequality and public services that are insufficient to address poverty and improve education and health outcomes, against the backdrop of the climate crisis.

In July 2023, WFP started a new Multi Country Strategic Plan (MCSP) 2023-2027, which is aligned with the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2023-2027) and the 14 country implementation plans representing the main strategic engagement between the United Nations development system and Pacific governments. WFP will focus on strengthening the capacities of regional and national stakeholders for emergency preparedness and response in logistics, emergency telecommunications, disaster risk management and food security, including inclusive and accessible shock-responsive social protection systems that focus on those most at risk of being left behind.



Highlights

- In July, WFP Pacific Representative Alpha Bah presented his credentials to Kiribati's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reaffirming WFP's commitment to the country. During the mission, he met with government, diplomatic, UN, and humanitarian partners to strengthen collaboration on disaster preparedness, climate resilience, and food security.
- WFP and Samoa's Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries co-hosted a national workshop to present findings from Samoa's first Cost and Affordability Analysis of Diets.
- WFP hosted a virtual learning event with the Partnerships for Social Protection (P4SP) to raise awareness of adaptive social protection (ASP) across the Pacific region.

Operational Updates

Supply Chain

- Following Nauru's challenges with its food supply pipeline, WFP conducted an in-country assessment of its food security and supply chain environment to strengthen understanding of in-country supply chain dynamics and identify indicators and thresholds to guide government decision-making on food security. As follow-up, WFP has worked with the government of Nauru to develop a rice supply monitoring tool for presentation to the Nauru Food Security Technical Working Group and pre-positioned a mobile storage unit to bolster national emergency preparedness capacity.
- Under the Australian Government funded Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Programme, WFP updated the Palau Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA). This update focuses on key logistics information relevant to humanitarian emergency preparedness and response, including storage and transport capacity, airports, ports, food and fuel suppliers, among others.

Emergency Telecommunications

- The WFP-led Pacific Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) launched the Pacific Waves Emergency Telecommunications Training Programme across Tonga, Samoa, and the Solomon Islands between 10 June and 11 July 2025. Supported by the Government of France, the training was delivered to a total of 72 national emergency responders across the three countries. The programme aimed to equip responders with essential foundational skills in emergency communications, enabling them to operate reliably in disaster scenarios where conventional communication infrastructure may be compromised.

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Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
53.95 m	11.5 m	3.8 m

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs (SDG Target 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 1: By 2027 governments and regional stakeholders in the Pacific have strengthened systems and capacity to reduce vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance for emergency preparedness and response in logistics, supply chains and emergency telecommunications to governments and regional stakeholders.
- Work with governments and regional stakeholders to strengthen their capacity to understand, anticipate, mitigate and reduce the impact of disasters and long-term climate change on the food and nutrition security of the most vulnerable populations.

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs (SDG Target 17.16)

Strategic Outcome 2: Humanitarian and development partners in the Pacific have access to reliable services during crisis.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide logistics services to nationally- and regionally-led emergency responses.
- Provide emergency telecommunications services to nationally- and regionally-led emergency responses.
- Provide on-demand services to nationally- and regionally-led emergency responses.

Operational Updates

Food Security and Nutrition

- WFP in partnership with Samoa's Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries co-hosted a national validation workshop to present and discuss findings from Samoa's first Cost and Affordability Analysis of Diets. The workshop brought together representatives from government ministries, UN agencies, donors, international and national non-governmental organisations, civil society, and the private sector to discuss how the results can inform policies and programmes aimed at improving diet quality and affordability in response to the country's high burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). This Cost and Affordability Analysis of Diets is a flagship initiative of the Joint SDG Programme "Catalysing the Samoa National Food Systems Transformation Agenda Through Collective Action".
- Following a formal request from the Kiribati Ministry of Education, WFP conducted a mission to Kiribati to support the design of a pilot school meal programme. WFP closely engaged national and local government officials, development partners, school communities, and civil society organizations through consultations and site visits.

Findings from the consultations, along with WFP's technical recommendations, will be shared with the Ministry to inform programme pilot implementation.

- WFP partnered with the Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS) to strengthen digital data collection capacity and promote data use for food security monitoring through a hands-on three days the Kobo Toolbox training. WFP also handed over 15 tablets to assist SBS in data collection, digitization, and streamlining processes.

Adaptive Social Protection and Climate Disaster Risk Management

- WFP co-led a virtual learning event with the DFAT-supported P4SP programme, to raise awareness of ASP across the Pacific region. Hosted by the Pacific Islands Forum as part of the Disaster Risk Finance Technical Working Group, the event aimed to promote regional understanding and collaboration on ASP initiatives.
- Under the multi-purpose cash anticipatory action pilot project in Fiji, WFP continued to provide technical support to the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection to establish a community feedback mechanism (CFM). This included drafting standard operating procedures, designing the database, enhancing coordination of the technical working group.

Partnerships

- WFP Pacific Representative and Country Director Alpha Bah formally presented his credentials to the Kiribati Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration, reaffirming WFP's commitment to deepening its engagement in the country. Leveraging the mission, he held strategic discussions with government counterparts, diplomatic missions, UN agencies, and humanitarian partners to reinforce collaboration across shared priorities. Key areas of focus included disaster preparedness and response, climate resilience, and food security and nutrition.
- WFP Pacific Management Team met with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Embassy of Republic of Korea, and Embassy of France to discuss WFP's initiatives in the Pacific and explore opportunities for collaboration. The meeting focused on strengthening strategic partnerships and reaffirming WFP's role in Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) and Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) across the Pacific.
- WFP Pacific Representative and Country Director Alpha Bah met with Mr. Baron Waqa, Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), to discuss WFP's support to the Pacific and reaffirm the continued partnership on food security and nutrition between PIFS and WFP to support Pacific countries.

Donors

Australia, France, Global Shield Financing Facility, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), other United Nations funds and agencies