



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Philippines Country Brief August 2025

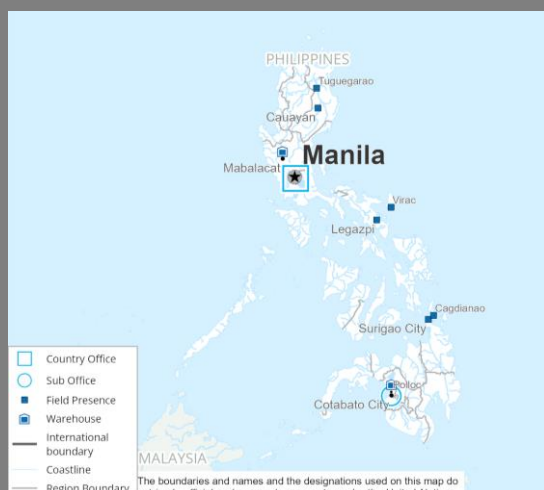


On World Humanitarian Day, Filipino actress KC Concepcion officially returned as WFP Goodwill Ambassador to champion universal school meals. © WFP/Bea Iglesias

## Operational Context

As one of the fastest-growing economies in Southeast Asia, the Philippines has made significant progress in reducing poverty and improving food security, despite the impacts of unprecedented levels of climate shocks, lingering inflation, and sporadic conflict. In 2023, 17.5 million Filipinos were living below the poverty threshold. Malnutrition remains prevalent, with child stunting incidence at 23.6 percent. Natural hazards and human-induced conflicts contribute to food and nutrition insecurity. From 2022 to 2024, the Philippines had the highest disaster risk worldwide due to its exposure and vulnerability to natural hazards compounded with low coping capacities (2024 World Risk Report).

WFP's Country Strategic Plan 2024-2028 continues to support the Government in achieving food and nutrition security. It focuses on i) improving emergency preparedness and response, ii) strengthening resilience against climate change and other shocks, and iii) enhancing the delivery of social protection, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger. WFP uses a conflict-sensitive approach particularly in the Bangsamoro Region.



Population: **114 million**  
(Philippine Statistics Authority, 2025)

Childhood stunting: **23.6 percent**  
(National Nutrition Survey, 2023)

2023 Human Development Index  
Ranking: **117<sup>th</sup> out of 193 countries**

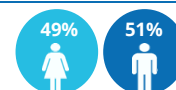
Income Level: **Lower middle**

## In Numbers

**2 flagship legislative processes supported** to improve the food security of up to 14 million school children and tens of millions of people vulnerable to climate shocks.

**277,500 people** impacted by flooding received government family food packs with WFP logistics support.

**7,093 students** provided with locally-sourced, nutritious, hot meals. These activities indirectly benefited over 40,000 people in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).



## Operational Updates

### Advocacy

- At the public hearing on food security conducted by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Food, and Agrarian Reform on 20 August, WFP Representative and Country Director, Regis Chapman, highlighted the importance of universal school meals and home-grown school feeding (HGSF) to strengthen investments in the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and necessary legislative changes required to facilitate these approaches.<sup>1</sup>
- Passed by the Congress in June, the Declaration of State of Imminent Disaster Bill was endorsed for the President's signature and will automatically lapse into law by the week of 15 September. Once enacted, this legislation will i) allow government agencies to mobilize funds for preventive measures before a state of calamity is declared and ii) enable cash transfers ahead of a disaster through anticipatory action to reduce the impacts of a forecasted hazard on communities.
- On World Humanitarian Day, WFP officially welcomed Filipina actress Kristina 'KC' Concepcion as a WFP Goodwill Ambassador—the first from the Philippines and the Asia and the Pacific Region. Formerly WFP Philippines' National Ambassador Against Hunger from 2008 to 2020, KC returns to champion WFP's mission to achieve food and nutrition security, reaffirming her commitment to advocate for universal school meals.

### Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

- In partnership with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), WFP completed the second round of the Training of Trainers for Humanitarian Supply Chain Management (HSCM), as part of WFP's Preparedness and Response Excellence in the Philippines (PREP) multi-year initiative. The training prepared 53 government emergency responders and supply chain practitioners to facilitate the nationwide rollout of the enhanced HSCM course starting in September 2025. Since 2023, 150 practitioners have been trained, strengthening national and local DRM capacities.
- The OCD and WFP co-facilitated the Incident Command System Executive Course for 96 local government officials and responders in Albay Province. The course introduced key principles and functions of the Incident Command System to enhance the leadership and coordination of local government actors during emergencies.
- The Republic of Korea - Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs, through WFP, formally handed over **1,632 mt of rice** to the DSWD. The rice will be included

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## Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>131.2 m</b>	<b>42.8 m</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**Strategic Result 1:** People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs.

**Strategic Outcome 1:** By 2028, communities exposed to shocks and stressors in the Philippines are better able to meet their food, nutrition and other essential needs with inclusive and equitable emergency preparedness and response capacity at the national and local levels.

**Focus area:** *Crisis response*

### Activities:

- Provide nutrition-sensitive emergency food assistance and restore assets, directly or through the Government's social protection programmes or partners, along with appropriate supply chain and emergency telecommunications services to crisis-affected communities.
- Strengthen and augment the Government's and partners' emergency preparedness capacity along with appropriate supply chains and emergency telecommunications.

**Strategic Result 3:** People have improved and sustainable livelihoods.

**Strategic Outcome 2:** By 2028, communities vulnerable to food and nutrition insecurity in the Philippines are more resilient and can better manage risks affecting human capital gains and food systems, inclusively and equitably.

**Focus area:** *Resilience building*

### Activities:

- Provide integrated resilience building activities for targeted communities and support the Government in managing climate, economic, and conflict-related risks and enhancing food value chains.
- Strengthen the government social protection system, including through the provision of integrated food and nutrition assistance to vulnerable communities using conflict-sensitive and inclusive approaches.

**Strategic Result 5:** Humanitarian and development actors are more efficient and effective.

**Strategic Outcome 3:** The Government and partners in the Philippines access WFP services that augment their interventions, upon request.

**Focus area:** *Resilience building*

### Activities:

- Provide government and other partners with on-demand services aimed at improving development action, including with regards to food security, nutrition, and supply chains.

## Donors and Development Partners

Australia, Central Emergency Response Fund, European Union, France, Japan, Japan Association for WFP, Republic of Korea, the Philippines, the Private Sector, Spain, and the United States of America

<sup>1</sup> The hearing discussed the Senate Resolution No. 5 (High Prices of Food and Other Basic Agricultural Commodities) aimed at identifying strategies to protect consumers from excessive price increases of food commodities, ensure food affordability, and strengthen food security.

\* This operational brief is based on the best available information at the time of drafting. Figures may vary if unique beneficiaries are considered.

in the government family food packs (FFPs) at DSWD's warehouse facilities in Pasay (Luzon) and Mandaue (Visayas). During a tour of the National Resource Operations Center (NROC), the delegates learned about the Philippine Government's preparedness and response strategies and ongoing collaboration with humanitarian organizations.

- In support of the Government's response to the impacts of severe tropical storm Crising (international name: Wipha) and the southwest monsoon, WFP supported the Government to reach 277,500 people with FFPs to address their immediate food needs. This was done by deploying 24 trucks to transport 6,660 rice bags from the National Food Authority's warehouses to the NROC for the FFP production.
- The DSWD and WFP conducted joint logistics capacity assessments in Caraga Region, Ilocos Region, and Palawan. As the country navigates through the typhoon season, these efforts support emergency planning by enhancing the understanding of logistics infrastructure and services among government and humanitarian actors.
- WFP continued to support the integration of fortified rice into government FFPs to enhance the nutritional value of rice assistance for crisis-affected populations, including through engagement with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve.

## Social Protection

- The Department of Education (DepEd) and WFP signed a memorandum of agreement to strengthen the national School-Based Feeding Program through i) the adoption of the HGSP modality, ii) capacity strengthening, and iii) policy enhancement. The ceremonial signing emphasized the Government's shared commitment to advancing school meals initiatives in the Philippines.
- WFP supported the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education and select local governments in expanding the HGSP programme in BARMM, reaching 7,093 learners across 19 HGSP schools with daily, nutritious, hot meals sourced from nine local cooperatives (representing 764 farmer members) as the programme continues to scale up to over 10,000 learners in 28 schools. WFP-trained facilitators conducted a food safety and quality and nutrition training for 60 school meals coordinators, school heads, and kitchen staff to ensure safe and nutritious meal preparation.

## Integrated Resilience

- WFP supported the Ministry of Social Services and Development (MSSD) in integrating the HGSP model in its Supplementary Feeding Program to reach 5,000 daycare learners in 12 municipalities of Maguindanao del Norte and del Sur. This entailed assisting MSSD in i) adopting the Negotiated Procurement-Community Participation modality to allow cooperatives to directly deliver food items for government feeding programmes and ii) identifying cooperatives as potential suppliers.
- On 12 August, WFP renewed its partnership agreement with the Mindanao State University (MSU) – Maguindanao to co-facilitate capacity strengthening activities for government partners in BARMM. This includes planning sessions to support the development of climate-resilient livelihood projects for 5,000 people across 10 municipalities in Maguindanao del Norte and del Sur.
- Together with BARMM government partners, WFP supported eight women-led associations in Maguindanao del Norte and del Sur to formulate their organizational goals through a community-level workshop, using the organizational development module.