



World Food Programme

SAVING
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WFP Philippines Country Brief November 2025

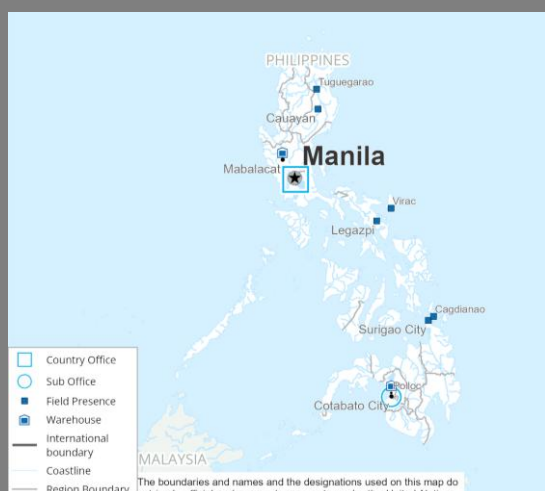


The Government and WFP's anticipatory cash assistance helped families to buy food and protect their livelihoods before super typhoon Uwan struck. © WFP/JM Pascua

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 24 percent. Natural hazards and human-induced conflicts contribute to food and nutrition insecurity. Since 2022, the Philippines has had the highest disaster risk worldwide due to its exposure and vulnerability to natural hazards compounded with low coping capacities (2025 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: 115 million
(Philippine Statistics Authority, 2025)

**2023 Human Development Index
Ranking:** 117th out of 193 countries

Childhood stunting: 24 percent
(National Nutrition Survey, 2023)

Income Level: Lower middle

Highlights

1.13 million people benefitted from WFP's logistics and telecommunications support to the Government's response

Cash transfers made for **over 240,500 typhoon-impacted people** in six provinces before and after landfall

30,000 people reached through resilience strengthening activities in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)

12,270 students received locally-sourced, nutritious, hot meals, indirectly benefitting almost 58,000 people in Luzon and BARMM

Operational Updates

Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

- In November, typhoon Tino (Kalmaegi) and super typhoon Uwan (Fung-wong) successively hit the Philippines, impacting over 16 million people across the country including areas previously hit by multiple storms and earthquakes. WFP supported the Government-led response through:
 - **Anticipatory cash assistance:** Ahead of Uwan's landfall, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and WFP provided cash assistance to more than 210,000 people (42,000 households) across five provinces in northern and central Luzon through the 4Ps: Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, a government social protection programme. The amount provided was PHP 4,000 (US\$68) per family. This was the first large-scale activation of anticipatory action (AA) since the signing into law of the Declaration of State of Imminent Disaster Act (Republic Act No. 12287) on 12 September. Families used the cash to buy food and medicines, reinforce houses, protect livelihoods, and evacuate safely, complementing Government-led pre-emptive measures. In coordination with the Government, WFP conducted post-distribution monitoring to assess how people used the cash assistance, capture their experiences, identify challenges, and understand the benefits of the support.¹
 - **Early response cash assistance:** Following the AA activation and as part of early response efforts, DSWD and WFP are expanding the cash assistance to reach more typhoon-impacted families in five hardest-hit regions. In Catanduanes, cash transfers of PHP 5,300 (US\$90) per household benefitted more than 30,500 people (6,100 families) by addressing urgent food needs and supporting recovery after the super typhoon.
 - **Logistics:** To assist the Government in swiftly reaching 1.1 million typhoon-impacted people across the country, WFP deployed 141 trucks that transported 225,600 government family food packs (FFPs) and various non-food items including hygiene kits, tarpaulins, and shelter repair kits. An FFP consists of recommended food items that can sustain a family of five for three days.

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Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
131.2 m	51.4 m	2.2 m

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, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Japan Association for WFP, Republic of Korea, the Philippines, the Private Sector, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

¹ Post-distribution monitoring was conducted in Aurora, Cagayan, and Isabela provinces from 24-29 November, and in Batanes and Nueva Ecija from 1-4 December. Results are being finalized and will inform future programming.

² So far, over 35,800 people (5,970 families) in Maguindanao del Norte, Maguindanao del Sur, and Sultan Kudarat affected by flash floods and conflict have received the assistance from MSSD. Distributions are ongoing for almost 8,400 families displaced by the Marawi siege in 2017.

³ SECURE (Sustainable Environment, Community Upliftment and Resiliency) is a convergence programme that aims to strengthen the resilience of BARMM communities through climate adaptation, community-based disaster risk reduction, and poverty alleviation.

- **Emergency telecommunications:** In coordination with provincial governments and the Department of Information and Communications Technology, WFP deployed and installed connectivity assets in emergency operations centres and town halls in Catanduanes and Nueva Vizcaya. Restored connectivity enabled faster coordination and communication among government responders as well as the public, benefitting 7,200 people.

- Through its Emergency Assistance Program, the Ministry of Social Services and Development (MSSD) distributed: i) 25 kg of rice, donated by the Republic of Korea through WFP, and ii) hygiene kits supplied by the regional government, to reach over 92,100 people (15,360 families) affected by various emergencies in BARMM.²
- WFP shared its expertise on disaster risk management, food security, and resilience in: i) the first Bangsamoro Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Summit in Davao City and ii) the Civilian-Military Interagency Planning Seminar in Manila. These engagements fostered collaboration among key stakeholders in humanitarian response, identified key challenges, and explored potential joint initiatives to enhance national and regional disaster preparedness.

Social Protection and Integrated Resilience

- WFP supported the Department of Education (DepEd) and the BARMM Government in implementing the home-grown school feeding (HGSF) programme to provide daily, hot, locally-sourced, and nutritious meals for over 12,200 students in Luzon and BARMM, while engaging over 2,800 farmers. To ensure safe and efficient meal preparation, WFP supervised iron-fortified rice blending and assisted DepEd in developing guidelines to establish and operate a central kitchen. In BARMM, WFP engaged with the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education to discuss priorities and plans to expand the HGSF programme.
- Together with the BARMM Government, WFP reached 30,000 people (5,000 households) in BARMM with fortified rice through the SECURE Programme.³ Under this initiative, each household will receive 25 kg of fortified rice monthly for six months, while participating in productive activities such as rehabilitating irrigation canals, establishing communal vegetable gardens, and implementing soil and water conservation measures. These efforts strengthen food security and livelihoods, while promoting sustainable agricultural practices.
- WFP's assessment of three BARMM farmer cooperatives (including HGSF suppliers and women-led organizations) highlighted: i) gaps in smallholder farmers' capacities in crop production, climate-smart practices, and crop planning to meet institutional market demand, and the ii) need for capital and infrastructure investments. Findings will guide BARMM agencies in designing interventions to ensure stable vegetable supply for government feeding programmes and expand farmers' market access.

Partnerships

- WFP and JT's Manukan Grille, a restaurant chain owned by veteran actor Joel Torre, launched "[JT's Meals for the Kids](#)" to support Filipino schoolchildren and food-insecure families. The partnership aims to raise PHP 12 million (US\$220,000) in contributions over two years via WFP's ShareTheMeal platform, complementing ongoing government efforts.