



WFP India

COUNTRY BRIEF

February 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The WFP-established Take Home Ration (THR) unit in Jaipur was officially handed over to the Government of Rajasthan's Women and Child Development Department on 5 January 2026, in the presence of the deputy Chief minister and the WFP Country Director. The unit is operated by the women-led Self-Help Group Sashakt Nari Swayam Sahayata Samooh.



Photo Caption & Credit: Deputy Chief Minister of Rajasthan Ms. Diya Kumari (centre) and WFP India Country Director Ms. Elisabeth Faure. Photo Credit: WFP/India

WFP India **Country Brief**

Reporting period: November 2025 – January 2026

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Despite strong progress in food production and nutrition improvements over several decades, India continues to face significant food and nutrition insecurity. The country ranks 107 out of 121 on the 2022 Global Hunger Index, with malnutrition indicators remaining above acceptable thresholds: 35 percent of children under five are stunted, 19 percent are underweight, and anaemia affects 57 percent of women of reproductive age and 67 percent of children aged 6–59 months.
- India operates some of the world's largest food-based safety nets, reaching nearly 800 million people every month. WFP has partnered with the Government of India for over 50 years, providing technical assistance and capacity strengthening to enhance efficiency, nutrition quality, digital innovation, and climate resilience across the food system.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Social Protection and Supply Chain

- As part of the second phase of supply chain optimisation, WFP completed and shared recommendations with 13 states to improve procurement linkages between centres and mills, thereby reducing transport costs. The first phase generated USD 26 million in annual savings across 30 states. WFP also launched a pilot to support the Odisha state government in optimising the supply chain of school meals in two districts.

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- WFP has expanded the Annapurta (grain ATM) solution internationally by setting up two units in Nepal. This builds on WFP's experience in India, where the solution is being scaled nationally as demand from state governments continues to grow.
- WFP signed an MoU with the Government of Odisha's Department of Labour and Employee's State Insurance to pilot the Unified Migration Management System, improving migrants' access to social protection.
- WFP and the Government of Meghalaya held a state-level workshop on 20 November 2025 in Shillong to shape a five-year TPDS vision. The State's Food Minister and WFP's Country Director presided. WFP also showcased the Annapurta Grain ATM and SMART Warehouse at the Regional AI Impact Summit on 3 December 2025.
- WFP also launched a millet mainstreaming study across six states and piloted millet supply chain optimisation in Karnataka.

Nutrition and School-Based Assistance

- WFP supported seven states on fortified rice implementation, trained 2602 stakeholders, and 28 Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK) manufacturers. WFP supported empanelment of FRK manufacturers in six states in alignment with the Government guidelines. As part of the handover strategy, WFP established and has been supporting local academic institutions as Technical Support Units (TSUs) on rice fortification. TSU in Maharashtra organised a national poster and essay contest for fortified rice promotion, while the one in Uttar Pradesh hosted a two-day technical workshop on food analysis.
- The Government of Chhattisgarh and WFP organised a State Level Workshop on Rice Fortification in November 2025 under the POSHAN PRATHAM (Nutrition First) campaign. The event brought together over 50 officials, nutrition experts, and stakeholders to discuss the roadmap for the rice fortification in the state.
- In Uttar Pradesh, with WFP's technical support, 35,626 MT of fortified blended foods were produced and distributed to vulnerable groups. WFP trained 3,842 frontline workers and Self-Help Group members on food safety.
- WFP developed a knowledge product "Nutrition Public Distribution System", which offers evidence-based and cost-effective guidance for designing nutritionally adequate and locally acceptable food baskets for TPDS. It analyses the current food

baskets, nutrition gaps, local production, community preferences, and supply chain feasibility.

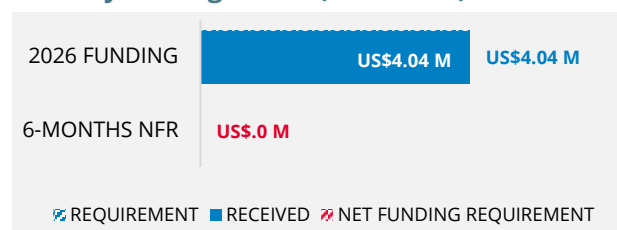
- WFP India and the Haryana Elementary Education Department piloted interventions to strengthen nutrition in school meals across 2,184 schools in 4 districts, benefiting 418,000 children. The pilot established nutrition gardens in 1,916 schools, trained 2,145 teachers and 5,782 cooks, and delivered nutrition education to over 400,000 students through interactive learning tools.

Climate and Resilience

- strengthened state-level coordination through State Project Implementation Committee (SPIC) meetings in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Odisha, and enhanced regional collaboration through the 2nd Regional Project Steering Committee meeting with India and Sri Lanka. It advanced climate information co-development by convening the first Northeast Monsoon Forum for India's southern states. At the community level, Community-Based Participatory Planning (CBPP) workshops are ongoing to identify local adaptation priorities, producing community level Climate Adaptation Plans. Over half of the CBPP participants are women.
- In partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, WFP is consolidating a Compendium of Climate-Resilient Agriculture (CRA) best practices. In January 2026, the second Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting reviewed the outcome of Phase 1 work, which contains about 60 practices on main winter season crops such as wheat, chickpea, and mustard.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)



Donors:

The Government of India, CITI group India, Ericsson India Global Services, Gates Foundation, Norway, Novo Nordisk Foundation, Mastercard Foundation, PayU India, UPS foundation UN Adaptation Fund, UN SDG Fund, and WFP Trust for India.