

WFP Pakistan

COUNTRY BRIEF
April 2026

473,000 people assisted in March 2026

35% Male **65%** Female

2,467 mt food distributed

USD 850,000 cash transferred

USD 17.2M (April 2026 – Sep 2026) net funding requirements

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- WFP and the Punjab Social Protection Authority signed an agreement to strengthen climate-resilient, adaptive social protection by building evidence for climate-responsive models, enhancing rapid response systems, and integrating disaster-risk financing into social protection policies and programmes.
- Through the Benazir Nashonuma Programme, WFP has supported over 4.4 million women and children nationwide since 2020, including 391,000 reached in March.
- WFP Pakistan has published its 2025 Annual Country Report.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Pakistan, the world's fifth most populous country, holds significant economic and human capital potential. Yet, the country continues to face complex and overlapping humanitarian and development challenges that strain the food and nutrition landscape and constrain human capital development. Persistently high stunting rates (40 percent) and the high number of out-of-school children (25 million) underscore the vulnerabilities that require continued system-level support. These vulnerabilities are compounded by recurring climate shocks. In 2025, severe monsoon flooding impacted over 6.9 million people and the Government warns that 2026 floods may be 25 percent more severe, requiring timely preparedness.
- The latest multistakeholder Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) analysis indicates that 7.5 million people (21 percent of the analysed population) are in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) or above, including around 1.25 million people who are experiencing critical levels of acute food insecurity, IPC Phase 4 (Emergency).
- WFP currently implements its Country Strategic Plan which supports national development priorities. Alongside the provision of critical relief and nutrition support to vulnerable population groups, WFP's systems enhancement and technical assistance complements the Government efforts in enhancing the food and nutrition security of the people of Pakistan.

Photo Caption & Credit: WFP's Automated Weather Station (AWS) provides real-time data to enhance disaster preparedness. WFP/Anam Abbas

Reporting period: March 2026

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Emergency and Recovery Assistance

- WFP continues to support the Government's **emergency response** to the floods with food, cash and nutrition assistance, primarily in Punjab province. To date, WFP has assisted over 400,000 people with 2,863 mt of food and USD 4.4 million in cash assistance.
- WFP is also implementing **recovery** activities in Sindh, focusing on livelihoods restoration and community-based asset creation for 26,000 people over five months.
- WFP initiated emergency **cash assistance** for approximately 23,000 displaced people in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to meet immediate food and basic needs.

Nutrition

- WFP continues to support the Government in implementing the **Benazir Nashonuma Programme** to address chronic malnutrition, particularly stunting. Since 2020, over 4.4 million pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under 2 have been enrolled, receiving health services, specialized nutritious food, awareness sessions, and cash stipends. To date, 1.1 million beneficiaries have completed the 1,000 days cycle. In March, 391,000 women and children received specialized nutritious food.
- Nashonuma operates through **566 facilitation centres** across 157 districts. Leveraging this network, WFP in collaboration with UNICEF, piloted an Early Childhood Development (ECD) component at 83 centres, delivering 1,566 ECD sessions to 16,100 mothers and caregivers and reaching 16,900 children with ECD kits to date.
- Nutrition advocacy efforts were reinforced through the launch of a **Global Task Force** on Social Protection for Nutrition business case and advocacy note, strengthening the evidence base for nutrition-sensitive social protection.
- Under the **Community Management of Acute Malnutrition** programme, cash assistance was provided to 16,500 people in Sindh.

Social Protection

- The **School Meals** programme in Quetta resumed after the school holidays. The programme is co-created and co-financed by WFP and the Government of Balochistan and represents the first-of-its-kind initiative in the province. School closures linked to austerity measures limited operations to one week in March, during which 4,500 students received daily meals across 49 schools.
- Significant groundwork advanced on **Home-Grown School Feeding**, with WFP and partners operationalizing a local, circular food system by linking school meals to smallholder farmers, women-led production centres, fortified local millers, and zero-waste kitchen models.
- Under the Chakki **Wheat Fortification** Project, 165 chakkis across 23 districts produced approximately 1,650 mt of fortified wheat flour. In addition, new micro feeders are planned to be installed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in April.

Resilience and Livelihood Support

- In collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority, Provincial Disaster Management Authorities, and the Sustainable Development Policy Institute, WFP developed the first draft of the **National Anticipatory Action Strategy** 2026–2030, which is expected to be launched in May 2026, supporting the institutionalization of Anticipatory Action.
- Under the Green Climate Fund project in **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**, WFP completed community-level risk assessments for Anticipatory Action Protocols and published two reports on priority actions to strengthen **Early Warning Systems** and climate resilience in Shangla and Buner.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)



Donors:

In alphabetical order: Czech Republic, European Commission (ECHO), Gates Foundation, German Government, Green Climate Fund (GCF), Japan, JAWFP, Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Spain, the United Kingdom (FCDO), and the United States of America (PRM and USDA).

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