



WFP Philippines Country Brief

WFP Assistance

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)* ¹
Enhancing the Resilience of Communities and Government Systems in Regions Affected by Conflict and Disasters			
PRRO 200743 (April 2015 – Mar 2018)	56.9 m	30.3 m (53%)	8.4 m (56%)
National Response Capacity-Building: Applying Lessons Learned from the Haiyan/Yolanda Emergency			
SO 200706 (July 2014 – June 2018)	8.4 m	5.3 m (63%)	-
Immediate Response to People Affected by Armed Conflict in Marawi City			
IR-EMOP 201084 (15 June – 15 Sep 2017)	0.5 m	0.5 m (100%)	-

*October 2017 – March 2018

GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200743

Through the **protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO 200743)**, WFP aims to assist half a million people affected by the protracted conflict in Central Mindanao and typhoon-affected communities in Visayas and Mindanao. WFP targets to reach the most vulnerable, food-insecure populations through food-assistance-for-assets, school meals, and stunting prevention programmes for children under two years of age and pregnant and nursing women.

In support of the Philippine Development Plan 2017–2022, WFP augments capacity of government and community disaster preparedness and risk reduction mechanisms at national and sub-national levels. It also advocates for policy development to optimise the disaster response structures and policy frameworks of the Government of the Philippines.

The **special operation (SO 200706)** aims to enhance the Government’s disaster response capabilities in logistics and supply chain management. Building on key learnings from the large-scale humanitarian response to Typhoon Haiyan in 2013/2014, it mitigates potential

Credit: WFP/Anthony Chase Lim

Main Photo

Caption: WFP provides emergency school meals for nearly 60,000 public elementary and high school students in more than 170 schools in Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur.

Highlights

- As the Government of the Philippines attempts to put an end to the fighting in Marawi in a few weeks, WFP continues to provide food assistance to displaced families and supports return of displaced children to schools through school meals. WFP also provides logistics support in augmenting government relief distribution capacity.
- Funding constraints are affecting livelihood support in Central Mindanao.

operational bottlenecks and challenges identified, and establishes an improved, decentralised network of disaster response facilities in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. These will ensure that the Government and WFP are ready to timely activate emergency response options at-scale and aligned with government relief mechanisms.

The **immediate response emergency operation (IR-EMOP 201084)** is launched in areas affected by the armed conflict in Marawi, the provincial capital of Lanao del Sur in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao. An estimated 90 percent of the Marawi population has been displaced, sheltered in evacuation centres and/or by relatives in nearby areas. Schools in surrounding areas are re-opening and accommodating displaced pupils.

WFP supports enrolment and attendance by providing emergency school meals to support displaced children. It also complements the Government’s response through provision of rice to the most vulnerable households, with targeting amendments based on criteria jointly agreed upon with government counterparts.

¹ Figures for the six month funding requirements are as per the Country Office pipeline.

In Numbers (September 2017)

WFP Philippines reached **38** partner local government units across the country with capacity strengthening activities to increase their ability to respond to shocks.

8,586
People Trained



September 2017

Operational Updates

- WFP continues to support the Government of the Philippines' emergency response to the Marawi crisis through general food distributions and school feeding. By September, WFP has distributed a total of 395 mt of rice to more than 15,000 families in 13 municipalities in Lanao del Sur.
- Through the generous support of the Government of Australia, WFP has supported nearly 60,000 public elementary and high school students through emergency school meals in more than 170 schools in the provinces of Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur where the majority of the displaced population are taking refuge.
- WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Climate Change Service of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in enhancing the technical and physical capacities of its personnel on mainstreaming climate change knowledge and risk management throughout the country. This is in line with WFP's Disaster Preparedness and Response – Climate Change Adaptation (DPR-CCA) project which commenced in 2011 in partnership with USAID/Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance.
- Aiming to strengthen the capacity of the government to plan for and respond to the logistical requirements of an emergency relief operation at the central and regional level, WFP and the Office of Civil Defense signed the Logistics Capacity-Strengthening Work Plan 2017-2018.
- WFP delivered a presentation at the Philippine Chamber of Food Manufacturers, Inc. (PCFMI) Food Industry Summit on how the private sector can contribute to the success of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Challenges

- Lack of funding for PRRO 200743 has seriously hampered WFP's ability to fulfil its operational objectives. Pipeline break continues for food assistance-for-assets activities.
- As martial law is extended and the Marawi conflict continues, WFP supports the Government of the Philippines in responding to the food assistance needs of the affected population. The Government has also welcomed international support to the Marawi rehabilitation effort.
- Funding remains a huge challenge and could result in beneficiary cutbacks, non-distribution of food commodities, low programme implementation, and organization restructure.

Country Background & Strategy



Despite being one of the fastest growing economies in Southeast Asia in recent years, the country's declines in poverty were modest, leaving marginalised groups such as women, children and the elderly vulnerable to hunger and poverty. The rapid economic growth does not necessarily translate to better conditions when combined with other factors such as food security and nutrition. The Philippines has maintained its GDP growth annually but poverty incidence remains high at 21.6 percent by the end of 2015.

According to the 2016 Global Hunger Index, the country has modestly improved its food and nutrition situation from a "serious" hunger score last year to achieve a "moderate" status, ranking it 51st out of 131 countries. Prevalence of undernutrition remains an issue of public concern. Based on the 2015 National Nutrition Survey, wasting and stunting among children in WFP's operational areas in Mindanao remained a problem at 8.2 percent and 45.2 percent respectively, which are higher than the national prevalence and above the acceptable range as defined by the World Health Organization.

WFP projects in the Philippines are in line with the Philippine UN Development Action Framework, and support the attainment of WFP Strategic Objectives, the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the Zero Hunger Challenge.

WFP re-established its presence in the Philippines in 2006 to support the ongoing Mindanao peace process and to help build community resilience to armed conflict, which undermines food security and nutrition.

Population: **103 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **116 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **33.4% of children between 6-59 months**

Donors

USA, Australia, United Kingdom, Republic of Korea, Iceland, Norway, Azerbaijan, Canada, New Zealand, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Japan

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