



# WFP Philippines Country Brief

## WFP Assistance

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
<b>Enhancing the Resilience of Communities and Government Systems in Regions Affected by Conflict and Disasters</b>			
PRRO 200743 (April 2015 – Mar 2018)	74 m	29 m (39%)	8.4 m (56%)
<b>National Response Capacity-Building: Applying Lessons Learned from the Haiyan/Yolanda Emergency</b>			
SO 200706 (July 2014 – June 2018)	8.4 m	5.3 m (63%)	-
<b>Immediate Response to People Affected by Armed Conflict in Marawi City</b>			
IR-EMOP 201084 (15 June – 15 Sep 2017)	0.5 m	0.5 m (100%)	-

\*July 2017 – December 2017

GENDER MARKER **2A** PRRO 200743

Through the **protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO 200743)**, WFP assists half a million people affected by the protracted conflict in Central Mindanao and typhoon-affected communities in Visayas and Mindanao. WFP aims 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 the 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 operations (SO 200706)** aims to enhance the Government’s disaster response capabilities in logistics and supply chain management. Building on key learnings from large-scale humanitarian response to Typhoon Haiyan in

Credit: WFP/Rohaina H.amer  
Caption: As part of its Marawi Emergency Response, WFP provides school meals to support the return of displaced children in Angelico J. Medina Memorial School, Iligan City.

Main Photo

## Highlights

- As martial law in Mindanao is extended and Marawi fighting continues, WFP provides 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 and establishing emergency operation centres.
- Funding constraints are affecting livelihood support in Central Mindanao.

2013/2014, it mitigates potential operational bottlenecks and challenges identified, and works to establish an improved, decentralised network of disaster response facilities in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. These will ensure that the Government and WFP are ready to activate emergency response options at-scale and aligned with government relief mechanisms, in a timely manner.

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 the displaced children. It also complements the Government’s response through the provision of rice to the most vulnerable households, with targeting amendments based on criteria jointly agreed upon with government counterparts.

## In Numbers (July 2017)

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

**7,268**  
People Trained



July 2017

## Operational Updates

- In response to government requests for support to the emergency response in Marawi under both the PRRO and IR-EMOP, WFP distributed 108 mt of rice to 4,300 displaced families in four municipalities this month. WFP also provided 47.4 mt of rice and kitchen utensils for emergency school meals. At this time, 37,500 students are targeted in 129 schools, allowing WFP to reach nearly 90 percent of tracked displaced students.
- WFP is co-leading both the Food and Non-Food Items, and the Logistics Clusters with the Government. WFP is providing technical assistance and a mobile storage unit (MSU), a pre-fabricated office and a generator to support the set-up of an Emergency Operation Centre in Malabang, Lanao del Sur. An assessment will be conducted to decide on a request to set up another MSU in Saguian. WFP is also providing transport assistance and support services to enhance government relief efforts.
- WFP Philippines expressed continued support to “War against Malnutrition” programme, launched by the Province of Maguindanao on July 7. WFP is providing technical assistance to the provincial government in formulating its food security and nutrition strategic plan, implementation of nutrition programmes, and development of information and advocacy materials.
- WFP resumed its stunting prevention programme, which aims to provide specialized nutritious foods to 8,000 pregnant and nursing women and 12,000 children 6-23 months in 14 municipalities of Maguindanao under the current PRRO.
- Lack of funding has seriously hampered WFP’s ability to fulfil its operational objectives. Pipeline break continues for food assistance-for-assets activities. No food has been distributed since April.
- For National Nutrition Month, WFP and the Department of Health launched the first National Guidelines for Management of Moderate Acute Malnutrition. WFP provided technical and financial support for its development and launch.
- At the First Southeast Asia Regional School Feeding Workshop in Cambodia, WFP Philippines and the Department of Education shared country lessons and experiences on national policy development and implementation of school meals programmes.

## Challenges

- As Marawi conflict ensues and martial law is extended, WFP continues to support the Government of the Philippines in responding to the food assistance needs of the affected population. The Department of Health has called for intensified actions to address the nutrition security of affected population needs. The Government would also welcome international support to an eventual Marawi rehabilitation effort.
- Funding remains a huge challenge and has already resulted 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 remained 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 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

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