



WFP Iran Country Brief

WFP Assistance

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP)	18.1 m	1.2 m	--
IR01 (Jan 2018 – Dec 2020)			

*January – June 2018



WFP aims to ensure basic food security for vulnerable Afghan and Iraqi refugee households living in refugee settlements in Iran. WFP, UNHCR and the Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrants' Affairs (BAFIA) assess, through vulnerability criteria, those households eligible to receive full food basket meeting 100 percent of daily energy requirements for vulnerable refugees. This includes female-headed households; with an elderly, or chronically ill person; with a person living with disabilities; with one breadwinner considered "extremely vulnerable". Currently 45 percent of the targeted refugees are considered extremely vulnerable. The food basket consists of fortified wheat flour, fortified vegetable oil, rice, sugar and lentils.

A partial entitlement is provided to the vulnerable households (covering 55 percent of the people targeted) who are able to meet some of their food needs through other sources. The partial entitlement includes fortified wheat flour, fortified vegetable oil and lentils, covering over 60 percent of their daily caloric requirements. Since this group has at least one breadwinner in the household, it is assumed that they are able to provide their remaining 40 percent of food requirements.

WFP supports girls and young people from the assisted refugee settlements in completing their education. Take-home entitlements of fortified vegetable oil are provided as an incentive for families to encourage enrolment and continued attendance of girls in primary and secondary schools and young male and female beneficiaries who attend skills training courses. Youth from the settlements receive an incentive of fortified vegetable oil to attend

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/M. Khodabakhsh
Caption: Afghan refugees school children. Bardsir settlement in Kerman Peovince.

Highlights

- In December, WFP Iran assisted 13,240 refugees with full entitlements and 16,181 with partial entitlements.
- The Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) was approved by Executive Board on 14 November. Shifting from in-kind to Cash-based Transfers (CBT) will start as of January 2018, under the ICSP.

technical training courses to increase their livelihood opportunities. The implemented activities are consistent with WFP Strategic Objective 1, to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies and 2, to support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies. Through this operation, WFP aims to improve food consumption and dietary diversity of vulnerable refugee households and to increase access to education and human capital development for refugee children and youth.

WFP and UNHCR conducted a Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) in May 2016, which recommended periodic review of all joint operations to assess refugees' food vulnerability, capacities and nutritional needs, and to ensure they are adequately addressed through the ongoing operation. The JAM recommended an inter-sectorial assessment be conducted to ascertain the feasibility of transitioning the transfer modality of assistance from in-kind to cash-based transfers (CBT). A follow-up inter-sectorial assessment was conducted in August 2016, of which one key recommendation was the adoption of a hybrid system to provide refugees with cash assistance alongside in-kind distribution of fortified wheat flour. The recommendations will be implemented with the start of Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) on 01 January 2018.

In Numbers

30,000 targeted refugees

29,421 refugees received WFP food assistance in November

People assisted in December



December 2017

Operational Updates

- In December, all five food commodities were available in all settlements and all refugees received full entitlements. In total, WFP food distributions reached 8,238 women, 8,238 men, 6,178 girls and 6,767 boys. In 2017 WFP Iran had a healthy pipeline for the entire 2017, all refugees received full entitlement for all 12 months without any shortfall.
- In December, 12 female and 12 male refugees participated in skills training courses that included embroidery, sewing, plumbing, in four settlements (Bardsir, Ardakan, Meybod and Torbat e Jam). Each participant received four bottles of fortified vegetable oil. The duration of skills training courses is three months, this round started from 1st of October 2017.
- Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) was conducted in 6 large settlements (Rafsanjan, Bardsir, Bani Najar, Saveh, Mohajerin and Ardaka) during the period of 15-24 December. Results were shared with the Regional Bureau for analysis and the report will be published in January. Main objectives of this mission are to review food assistance in refugee settlements during the past 12 months and review the food security trend since 2015.
- To ensure food security of refugees during the gradual transition period from in-kind to cash-based transfers, all refugees received full ration during the period of October-December, in addition to an extra monthly ration of their full requirement in December.

Partnerships

- All international humanitarian assistance for refugees is administered by BAFIA, the government department responsible for refugee affairs. BAFIA is accountable to and responsible for WFP customs clearance, storage and distribution of WFP commodities. The Refugee Council at each settlement constitutes the Food Management Committee, where men and women refugee members participate in food storage and distribution under the supervision of BAFIA. WFP's PRRO is implemented in close cooperation and coordination with UNHCR.

Gender

- WFP, together with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrant Affairs (BAFIA), continues to advocate for greater participation of women in social, and cultural activities through arranging meetings with provincial authorities, refugee councils, settlement authorities and men and women themselves during monitoring visits.

Country Background & Strategy



The Islamic Republic of Iran, is an upper-middle income country with a population of 80,481,000 people, and is the world's fourth largest refugee-hosting country. Despite efforts to facilitate the repatriation of refugees living in Iran, a significant number of poor and food insecure refugee households continue to require humanitarian support, including WFP food assistance. Currently 30,000 of the most vulnerable refugees, live in the 20 settlements throughout the country receiving WFP food assistance since 1987. WFP is planning to replace most of its in-kind food assistance with cash, which can be spent in shops and markets inside the settlements, starting January 2018. This restores the dignity and diversifies the dietary intake of refugees, who are now able to buy food according to their preference; benefits the community as a whole by encouraging purchases in local shops; and increases the efficiency of assistance. WFP is also supporting activities that will enhance the livelihoods of refugees and equip them with better skills to rebuild their lives once they go back to their countries.

WFP has been present in Iran since 1987.

Total refugees: 979,410

2015 Human Development Index:
69 out of 188

Income Level: Middle income

Gender Inequality Index: 69 out of
188

Donors

Germany, People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Multilateral funds and private sector

Contact info: Dara Darbandi (dara.darbandi@wfp.org)

Head of Office: Negar Gerami

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/iran