



WFP Pakistan Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Transition: Towards Resilient and Food-Secure Pakistan	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
PRRO 200867: (2016-2018)	464.8 m	234 m (50%)	34.2 m (50%)

*July - December 2017

GENDER MARKER 2A  PRRO 200867

In January 2016, WFP began its activities under a new operational model "Transition: Towards Resilient and Food-Secure Pakistan". Under the framework of this project, WFP has been working in close partnership with a variety of federal and provincial government departments, as well as sister agencies to: ensure the improvement of food security and nutrition among displaced and returnee populations; reinforce the resilience of communities living in the most hazard-prone areas; address malnutrition among the most vulnerable segments of the society, particularly pregnant and nursing women and children under the age of 5 years; and support an environment for women to achieve social and economic equality.

WFP's specific activities in the country currently include: life-saving relief food assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and their host communities, as well as returnees from Afghanistan; school meals in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA); livelihood support activities in areas of return in FATA and drought-affected districts of Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP); nutrition programmes in KP, FATA, Sindh, Balochistan and Pakistan Administered Kashmir (AJK) regions; community-based disaster risk reduction interventions in the most hazard-prone and food-insecure locations; and government capacity strengthening in disaster risk management and other areas linked with food security and nutrition. WFP is targeting 2.7 million people for assistance in 2017.

WFP provides monthly **relief food distributions** to displaced and returned families in KP and FATA to meet their basic food needs. WFP's **food-assistance-for-assets** (FFA) activities help highly vulnerable groups, particularly those who have lost their productive assets to restore their livelihoods and create durable assets. These are met through a combination of cash and food assistance depending on the availability of infrastructure, services and food in the targeted areas and local markets.

Nutrition-specific support activities being implemented in targeted districts focus on cases of moderate acute malnutrition amongst vulnerable women and children, while sister agencies focus on severe acute malnutrition.

Main Photo Credit: WFP/SRSP
Caption: Under the food assistance for assets programme, women of Bara, Khyber agency of FATA, are actively participating in a kitchen gardening training session.

Highlights

- WFP Pakistan welcomes USD 25 million from the Government of the United States.
- Canada funds the Strategic Humanitarian Response Facility in Gilgit Baltistan (GB), Pakistan.
- Study on the "Cost of the Solution" to the nutrition problem.
- Agreement signed with Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) and Department of Health, Punjab.
- Launch of the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative feasibility study in Punjab.

A stunting prevention project is being implemented in Sindh and will be expanded to FATA and Baluchistan.

WFP's **school meals** activity in FATA aims to increase enrolment and stabilise attendance in primary schools through provision of high energy biscuits, with a specialized focus on supporting girls' education through cash incentives.

WFP has been working with **local producers** and the private sector to develop and produce specialised nutritious products for the treatment and prevention of malnutrition. These efforts stimulate the economy through engaging the local private sector, creating employment and raising food safety standards. WFP mills and fortifies wheat flour with a vitamin and mineral premix in Pakistan. Apart from fortifying food, WFP also supports a national and provincial strategy for wheat flour fortification that builds commercial local capacity to mill and fortify wheat.

Since mid-2016, WFP has supported the Federal and Provincial Government and other development partners in carrying out the **Food Security and Nutrition Strategic Review**, which will position food security and nutrition at the centre of the national development agenda and support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG-2) "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture". WFP also supports the National Zero Hunger initiative, the Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) and the National & Provincial Fortification Alliances (since 2012), in addition to encouraging the formulation of multi-sectoral policies and strategies. WFP is technically supporting the Provincial School Education department and is engaged in the Government's food security and nutrition-related evidence-based assessments and analyses creating a knowledge base to enhance local programming and policy decision-making.

The **Humanitarian Response Facilities** (HRF) and emergency storage facilities (flopsans) constructed and installed by WFP continue to enable provincial authorities to respond to small and medium scale emergencies and disasters.

WFP has been coordinating with the Government at both the national and provincial levels. In 2016, WFP signed individual memoranda of understanding with the Governments of KP, Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan, AJK, and the FATA Secretariat as well as with the related disaster management authorities based on its three-year programme. Seventeen provincial and federal annual work plans were also signed with the relevant line departments.

June 2017

Operational Updates

WFP Pakistan receives a contribution from the United States Government

WFP Pakistan has welcomed a contribution of USD 25 million from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contribution will allow WFP Pakistan to continue its school meals and nutrition programme to improve the health and nutrition of women and children in targeted areas of Pakistan. The contribution will also be used to provide fortified wheat flour to people of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) who had to abandon their homes due to conflict or natural disasters.

Canada funds the Strategic Humanitarian Response Facility in Gilgit Baltistan (GB), Pakistan

The Government of Canada is providing Canadian dollars (CAD) 2.2 million (1.7 million USD) for the construction of a Humanitarian Response Facility (HRF) in GB. The facility will provide a central storage hub for the movement of critical humanitarian supplies during an emergency. This will be the seventh HRF built in Pakistan as part of a strategic network of eight planned storage facilities to help the Government better prepare for and respond to disasters. While WFP designs and builds the HRFs, the Government provides land for construction and takes over their operation and maintenance.

Study on the "Cost of the Solution" to the nutrition problem in Pakistan

WFP and the Government of Pakistan have been building evidence on the magnitude of undernutrition problems faced by Pakistan. This includes the Cost of Diet Study, Economic Consequences of Undernutrition, Nutrition in the Cities and Fill the Nutrient Gap Analysis, etc. WFP will now support the Government of Pakistan to carry out a study "Cost of the Solution" to the nutrition problem. This will help estimate the costs required to resolve the malnutrition crisis in Pakistan. In June, the Government and WFP agreed on the conceptual details of the activity and an internationally recognized institute is on board to conduct an inception meeting.

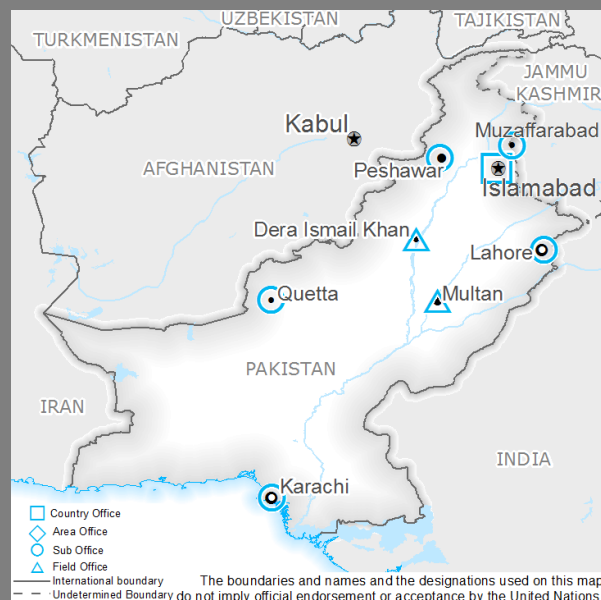
An agreement signed with Benazir Income Support Programme and Department of Health, Punjab

WFP, in collaboration with Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), is conducting an operational research to examine the impact of nutrition interventions within social safety nets on the beneficiaries of BISP. This research is being implemented in a district of Punjab by the Punjab Department of Health and the Aga Khan University Karachi, and will conclude in 2019. The findings of the research will provide evidence for programme planning and will support making social safety nets more nutrition sensitive.

Launch of the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative feasibility study in Punjab

WFP Pakistan is developing a comprehensive risk management approach to help vulnerable and food-insecure rural farming communities in disaster-prone areas of Punjab be more resilient to climate variability and shocks. In this regard, in collaboration with OXFAM Pakistan and under the lead of the Punjab Social Protection Authority, WFP has commissioned a feasibility study to identify entry points for an integrated climate risk management instrument. The findings of the study are expected to provide the basis for the formulation of a pilot project starting in the third quarter of 2017.

Country Background & Strategy



Pakistan ranks 77 (out of 109 countries) on the Global Food Security Index. According to Pakistan's Vision 2025, 60 percent of the country's population is facing food insecurity, and 44 percent of children under 5 years of age are chronically malnourished. A food security atlas has recently been completed and new statistics will be released soon. Food and nutrition insecurity in the country are primarily attributable to limited economic access to an adequate and diverse diet for the poorest and most vulnerable. However, significant in-kind donations of wheat to WFP over the past years demonstrate the Government's continued commitment to the country's humanitarian needs. The Government of Pakistan is the second largest donor to WFP operations in the country, after the United States.

Alongside the provision of critically needed relief and nutrition support to vulnerable population groups, WFP assistance in the country aims to complement the Government's efforts in enhancing food and nutrition security amongst vulnerable populations and provides technical support in developing relevant national strategies. The project encompasses community resilience building, disaster risk reduction, disaster risk management and preparedness elements for sustainability and national ownership. It is designed to reinforce government initiatives, support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and align with the strategic priorities identified in the Humanitarian Operational Plan and the One-UN Operational Plan II.

Through the construction of Emergency Response Facilities across the country, WFP aims to strengthen the Government's and other responders' humanitarian disaster preparedness and response capabilities.

Population: **182 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **147 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **44% of children 6-59 months**

Donors

USA, Pakistan, Japan, Australia, Canada, European Commission, UK, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Sweden, The Netherlands.