



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 m	234 m (50%)	34.2 m (50%)

*August 2017 - January 2018

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: A returnee in North Waziristan Agency of FATA receiving cash assistance through WFP's cash-based livelihood programme.

Highlights

- Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 "call to action" event held.
- Work on "Positive Deviance" is currently underway in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and three provinces of Pakistan.
- WFP launched the "Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment of Returned Households Residing in FATA" report.
- WFP provides cash to returnees in North Waziristan Agency in Pakistan.
- BISP and WFP launch "Nutrition Drive" for 1.5 million women.

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.



July 2017

Operational Updates

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 “call to action” event held

The Government of Punjab, in collaboration with WFP Pakistan, organized a “call to action” event in order to reiterate the Government’s commitment towards achieving SDG 2: “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.” The discussion revolved around the attainment of SDG 2 with particular focus on government efforts, inter-sectoral coordination, communication, policy development, technological advancement, public-private partnership and social entrepreneurship. The session was very successful in identifying some of the key challenges that the province currently faces, and identifying the way forward for a more collaborative and focused effort.

Food insecurity rate reduces by 20 percentage points since 2014 in FATA

WFP Pakistan released the “Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment of Returned Households Residing in FATA”. This is a joint initiative by the Food Security Cluster, the FATA Bureau of Statistics, and the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Unit under the leadership of the FATA Secretariat. The study indicates a consistent and significant drop in the total food insecurity rate in FATA between 2014 and 2017. This report provides updated evidence regarding the food security, livelihoods and market situation in all seven FATA agencies. It finds that while in 2014, 44 percent of the population was defined as food-insecure, in 2017 only 24 percent are in the same situation where they do not have access to or cannot afford sufficient food for their daily dietary and nutritional needs.

WFP provides cash to returnees in North Waziristan Agency (NWA) in Pakistan

WFP Pakistan has successfully implemented its first cash-based livelihood programme for conflict-affected people who have returned to their areas of origin in the North Waziristan Agency (NWA) of FATA. Under the programme, people are paid to work on activities that provide livelihood opportunities while helping reduce disaster risks in their communities. This initiative aims to benefit 6,600 families in NWA.

The Positive Deviance approach to change nutrition behaviour in Pakistan

The Positive Deviance (PD) initiative is an approach to social and behavior change, based on positive strategies of certain individuals in every community to find better solutions to their problems. Currently, a study on Positive Deviance is underway in FATA and three provinces of Pakistan to identify positive, replicable and sustainable solutions in communities to address malnutrition in Pakistan. Based on the findings of the study, WFP will develop a well-informed and nutrition-based behaviour change communication strategy that would complement its ongoing nutrition interventions.

The Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) and WFP launch “Nutrition Drive” for 1.5 million women

BISP, in collaboration with WFP, launched a nutrition drive for 1.5 million women across the country. WFP is currently training BISP social mobilizers on the following key nutrition topics: spending wisely on nutrition; maternal nutrition; and exclusive mother feeding. These master trainers will further create awareness among 1.5 million beneficiary mothers in 32 districts across the country. This initiative will be a step towards creating an impact at the grassroots level by improving knowledge, attitudes and practices related to nutrition.

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.