



World Food
Programme

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Iran (Islamic Republic of) Annual Country Report 2021

Country Strategic Plan
2018 - 2022

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Overview

Iran continued to be one of the countries hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Middle East and North Africa region during 2021. The plunging economic conditions, worsening at a faster pace compared with 2020, intertwined with a sharp inflation rise, affected people's purchasing power, including the most vulnerable groups of refugees - WFP beneficiaries - living inside settlements. Despite these difficulties combined with continued sanctions, WFP was able to unceasingly carry on its assistance, proving its capacity to be present when it matters most. The operations focused on uninterrupted assistance to vulnerable refugees residing in settlements and disadvantaged local communities in the highly deprived provinces of Sistan and Baluchistan struck by drought and COVID-19. WFP also stepped up to assist newly arrived refugees who were forced to leave Afghanistan, following the collapse of the official government and the power seizure by the Taliban.

Amid all these challenges, WFP successfully assisted around 30,600 refugees with monthly cash assistance at a double transfer value to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and the economic downturn. The food distribution of three commodities (wheat flour, vegetable oil and lentils) was completed without any interruption for the same beneficiaries living in 20 settlements, ensuring their food security. Besides, monthly cash was transferred to almost 3,000 refugee girl students as education incentives and school feeding items were provided to 7,700 schoolchildren and 600 teachers with the aim of improving their education and nutrition status. With respect to resilience activities, WFP worked on enhancing the capacity of communities exposed to COVID-19 and the economic downturn to resist, adapt and recover from the negative repercussions. Consequently, around 400 women and men benefited from livelihoods-strengthening and income-generation opportunities. WFP also provided family food rations to close to 13,700 Iranians (versus planned 8,000) who were affected by drought to allow them to cover one month of their food requirement. The new influx from Afghanistan added to the severity of the response to meet refugees emerging needs. WFP took the initiative of prepositioning ready-to-eat (RTE) food rations for an estimated 20,000 new arrivals at the borders as well as dry food rations for an estimated 10,000 arrivals who might stay longer. In total, 94 mt of RTE and 496 mt of dry food rations were provided for the new refugee influx in consultation with the Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrants' Affairs (BAFIA); and in coordination with other agencies and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) to avoid duplication of assistance and ensure better targeting within the Food Security Sector led by WFP.

The implementation of all activities continued to comply with COVID-19 precautionary measures and standard operating procedures developed in 2021. As all WFP Iran staff were fully vaccinated, in-person office attendance became more frequent and regular. Monitoring practices were conducted through field visits to the settlements. However, the reduction of the country office carbon footprint was thoughtfully considered wherever possible by reducing the number of flights. The post-distribution monitoring (PDM) exercise was the biggest mission in the field and was of high importance after almost two years of remote data collection.

WFP continued its fruitful cooperation with its partners, including BAFIA, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Iranian Red Crescent Society and international INGOs such as Relief International and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), in different forums and scopes. In December, WFP concluded a UN-to-UN agreement with UNHCR to use WFP's existing cash-based transfer (CBT) platform to transfer one-time multipurpose winterization cash assistance of around USD 20 per individual to the existing WFP beneficiaries as complimentary non-food assistance. This agreement will accommodate any future bilateral service provision needs in line with WFP commitment to support humanitarian stakeholders to respond to emergencies in Iran.

44,855

Total beneficiaries in 2021

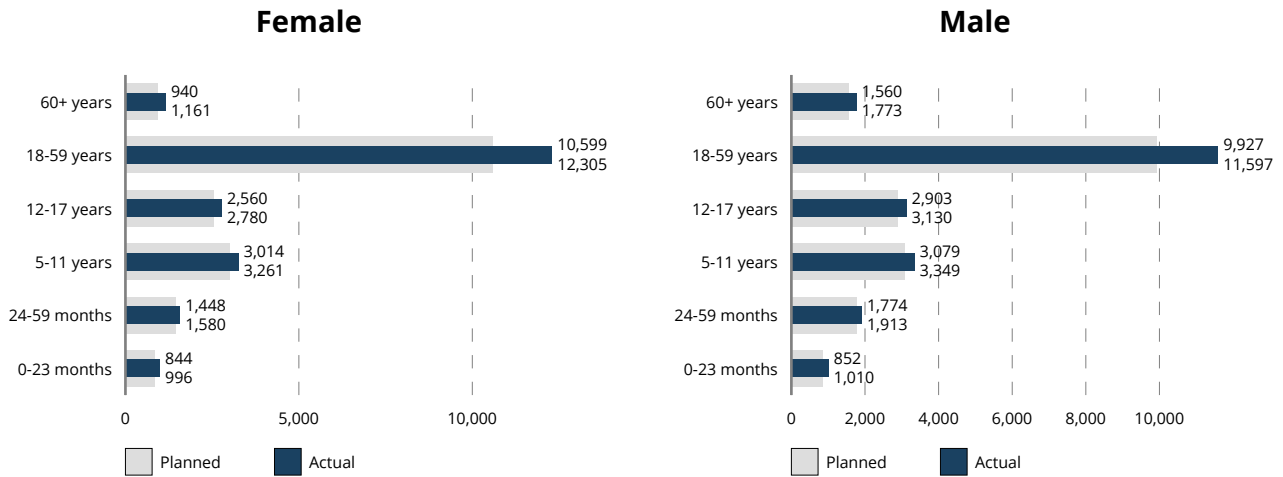


49% female

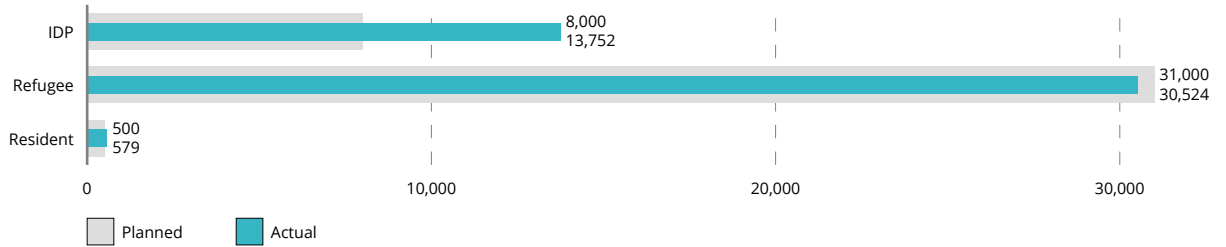


51% male

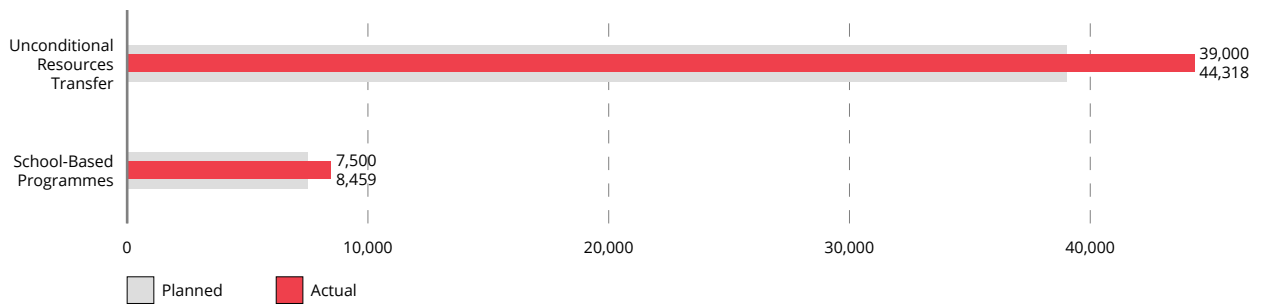
Beneficiaries by Sex and Age Group



Beneficiaries by Residence Status



Beneficiaries by Programme Area



Beneficiaries by Modality



44,589

total actual food beneficiaries in 2021

of 39,500 total planned
(21,953 Female, 22,636 Male)



33,578

total actual CBT beneficiaries in 2021

of 34,300 total planned
(17,990 Female, 15,588 Male)

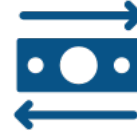
Total Food and CBT



4,389 mt

total actual food transferred in 2021

of 4,123 mt total planned

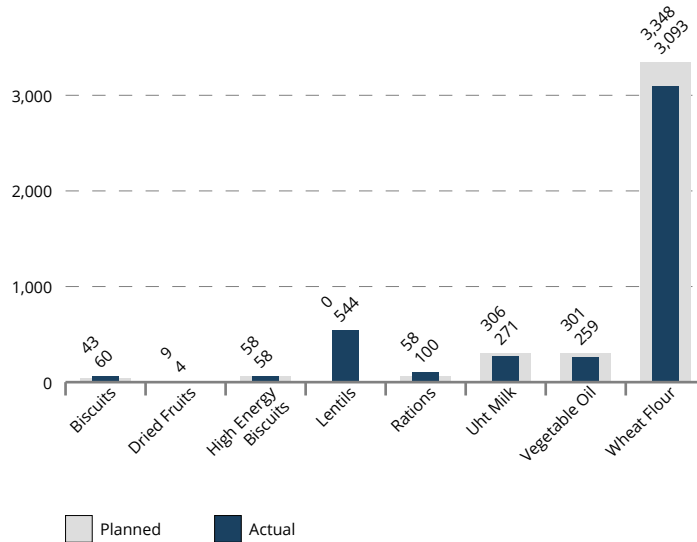


US\$ 1,381,706

total actual cash transferred in 2021

of \$US 1,449,900 total planned

Annual Food Transfer



Annual Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher



Context and operations



Iran is home to one of the largest and most protracted refugee population in the world. In terms of refugee-hosting countries, Iran ranks eighth with around 800,000 registered refugees; 56 percent female and 44 percent male (750,000 of whom are from Afghanistan). While most refugees live in urban areas, 4 percent of the most vulnerable documented people reside in 20 settlements spread across 13 provinces. The latter receive government and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) support in forms of housing and utilities, healthcare and education, as well as WFP food assistance. Additionally, over two million Afghans of different status are also present in Iran. The vast majority are undocumented while some are passport holders with valid visas.

2021 was particularly challenging for Iranians and refugees living in Iran as the country was among those badly hit by COVID-19 and threatened by multiple economic and climate shocks. Fueled by the protracted pandemic, the country continued to suffer from the adverse consequences of sanctions and economic downturn. While Iran's economy is mainly supported by oil and gas exports, the country remained in recession as sanctions imposed after Washington withdrew from the nuclear agreement are severely curbing the economy. Recent economic trends have added pressure on the low-income Iranians and refugees and stalled poverty reduction. It is currently estimated that loss in incomes and the rising cost of living will push poverty up by 20 percentage points [1].

Iran continued to be one of the worst affected countries by COVID-19 in the Middle East and North Africa region in 2021 with around six million confirmed positive cases and around 130,000 deaths reported to WHO since the start of the pandemic in March 2020. The pandemic has gravely restricted jobs and incomes in many labour-intensive activities, including high-contact service industries and the informal sector, involving mostly refugees.

Inflationary pressures have also increased, as the Iranian Rial depreciated due to limited sources of foreign exchange and heightened economic uncertainty. The cost of some food items increased almost 41 percent year-on-year in December 2021 [2]. This sharp increase in the price of basic food commodities, combined with inflation and lack of job opportunities has significantly reduced purchasing power and increased levels of food insecurity amongst vulnerable populations, especially refugees.

Over the course of 2021, and due to the sharp deterioration of the situation in Afghanistan, a number of new Afghans in need of international protection have arrived in Iran since the summer of 2021, and more are expected to enter Iran either through the crossing border points, if they get access, or irregularly through unofficial border crossings [3]. WFP, as part of the inter-agency efforts led by UNHCR, geared up preparedness measures to be able to respond to humanitarian needs of up to 150,000 Afghans who were expected to arrive during the last quarter of 2021. The country

office (CO) received surge capacity in the areas of emergency coordination and logistics. It concluded food supply agreements and prepositioned ready-to-eat meals and dry rations for more than 20,000 persons at three transit/reception centers managed by the Bureau for Alien and Foreign Immigrants Affairs of the Ministry of Interior (BAFIA). As an active member of the Regional Refugee Response Plan (3RP), WFP significantly contributed to the inter-agency coordination by leading the Food Security sector and the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunication sector, as well as actively contributing to the work of other sectoral and inter-sectoral fora.

WFP in Iran is currently implementing its programmes under its 2018-2022 Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) towards contributing to the Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG 2 Zero Hunger), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). In general, WFP operates under the umbrella of the regional Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) launched in 2012 by the Governments of Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and UNHCR.

Falling under the crisis response focus area, WFP's current ICSP (2018-2022) addresses the basic food and nutrition needs of 31,000 food-insecure Afghan refugees living in 20 settlements as well as crisis-affected Iranians, while supporting other partners through service provision activities.

In this respect, in 2021, WFP continued providing unconditional food assistance through a hybrid modality of cash and in-kind to 31,000 refugees. Its augmented assistance, in place since April 2020, remained in order to mitigate the impact of loss of refugees' income and consequent food basket depletion, mainly due to the COVID-19 and economic recession.

Activity 2 included conditional transfers, facilitating education and livelihood activities through incentives for girls' education and school feeding for girls and boys in school and their teachers at primary and junior high school levels. This initiative aims mainly to support school children's nutrition, increase retention and reduce gender disparities. WFP also provided livelihood support to 13 settlements through capacity strengthening to help refugees create sustainable sources of income.

As a disaster-prone country, in 2021, Iran was affected by earthquakes, drought and flash floods which impacted lives, livelihoods and infrastructures. Under activity 3, upon request from the Government, WFP supplied family food rations to be distributed by the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) to almost 14,000 people affected by the drought in Sistan and Baluchistan province in the fall of 2021.

Through a budget revision approved in December, WFP added a new service provision activity to accommodate a request from UNHCR to provide a winterization top-up to all refugees residing in settlements using WFP's existing cash-based transfer (CBT) platform, which was completed in the same month [4].

Risk Management

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic and deteriorated economy continued to compound existing risks. Worsened food security of WFP's beneficiaries remained one of the main risks, resulting mostly from a decrease in purchasing power and jobs loss. WFP mitigated the risk by increasing the cash transfer value and integrating additional commodities to the beneficiaries' food basket.

The new influx of Afghan refugees emerged as a major risk for the CO in 2021 given its limited capacity and resources. With the support of the Regional Bureau of Cairo, the CO managed to develop a Concept of Operations (ConOps) to respond to these new needs and led the regional UN response in the areas of food security and supply chain.

Another main risk was the ability of the CO to procure food commodities in a timely manner given constrained local market capacity, especially due to the sanctions and import limitations. The CO mitigated this risk by updating its list of suppliers more frequently. Additionally, WFP expanded its supplier rosters through the UN procurement task force to find more reliable suppliers who agree with the United Nations terms and conditions. Food supply agreements were concluded to secure the commodities and reduce lead times.

The unconvincing economic situation and COVID-19 restrictions also increased the risk of suspension of workshops and sustainability of activities. In addition to existing mitigation strategies, such as the provision of supplementary support to income-generation workshops, WFP advocated with the Government to facilitate the implementation of livelihood activities and hired a liaison assistant stationed at the BAFIA premises to follow-up on WFP activities and ensure their smooth implementation.

Lastly, while natural disasters remained one of the main risks in the country, WFP supported Iranians affected by drought in 2021 through IRCS.

Partnerships

Throughout 2021, WFP Iran focused on deepening its established partnerships and broadening its donor base. Its primary partner remained the host government, in addition to the government donors. Since the start of its operations in the country, WFP has benefited from a strong partnership with the Bureau for Alien and Foreign Immigrant Affairs (BAFIA) of the Ministry of Interior and supported its national priorities for achieving food and nutrition security. BAFIA is the legally designated national authority to coordinate the assistance to refugees and the cooperation with international agencies in Iran. BAFIA staff are permanently present in the settlements to handle all their affairs. They manage the delivery of WFP food assistance to the beneficiaries by providing free-of-charge warehousing and technical staff to manage storage, handling and distribution of food items. In 2021, WFP Iran reviewed the requirements of warehouses and provided supplementary equipment to subsequently support its partner where required. CO worked directly with BAFIA and settlements' authorities on capacity strengthening of WFP's beneficiaries as well as organizing income-generating workshops inside the settlements.

Government donors remained WFP's key partners and the principal sources of funds for the implementation of the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP). The generous flexible multi-year funding received from Germany, WFP's main traditional donor, at the Country Portfolio Budget (CPB) level allowed WFP to resume cash transfers to beneficiaries after a month of interruption in the first quarter of the year due to lack of funding. The contribution was channeled under a regional grant to WFP Iran and Afghanistan in collaboration with the Regional Bureau in Cairo (RBC) and the Regional Bureau in Bangkok (RBB). After the generous contribution from the Government of Japan in 2020, WFP Iran received further support for 2021, which was earmarked for food items under activities 1 and 2 of the ICSP. Furthermore, with the potential new refugee influx from Afghanistan, Iran CO succeeded to expand its donor base and secure a generous first-time flexible contribution from the Government of the United Kingdom to address the emerging needs of new arrivals and existing refugees.

On another note, WFP Iran maintained strong collaboration with other UN agencies as part of its commitment towards SDG 17. The CO collaborated closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in 2021 to conduct joint assessments and field missions, specifically the annual post-distribution monitoring (PDM) and the joint assessment missions (JAMs). UNHCR, as the main humanitarian agency mandated to support refugees, has led the coordinated operation of international agencies to support a potential Afghan refugee influx in 2021. Building on its strong comparative advantage in food security and supply chains in humanitarian settings, WFP Iran was in charge of leading these two sectors, while collaborating with other sectors, including nutrition.

Moreover, the CO signed a UN-to-UN agreement with UNHCR to avail its CBT platform for UNCHR's winterization top-up to all 31,000 refugees residing in 20 settlements. WFP also continued its partnership with two international NGOs, Relief International and the Norwegian Refugee Council, through the coordination of the cash and livelihood working groups.

The Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS), designated as the first responder for emergencies by the Government of Iran, remained WFP's core partner for all emergency response programmes under activity 3 of the ICSP. In 2021, WFP cooperated with IRCS to respond to the drought and COVID-19 emergencies through distribution of family food rations among some affected Iranians.

In 2021, WFP Iran managed to extend its partnership with Tejarat bank as its Financial Service Provider for two more years, supporting the agency with free-of-charge services for its monthly cash transfer to the beneficiaries.

CSP Financial Overview

Since its inception in 2018, WFP Iran's Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) (2018-2022) has remained well resourced. In 2021, WFP Iran's funding requirements of USD 5.3 million were fully covered - including funds carried over from 2020 - to ensure vulnerable populations were able to meet their basic needs in a challenging year of COVID-19 and economic downturn. Moreover, around USD 1.6 million of a multi-year grant received in 2021 will be carried forward to 2022.

All the funding received for WFP activities were direct contributions from traditional donors, including Germany, the Republic of Korea, and Japan, in addition to a first-time funding from the United Kingdom. Close coordination and active engagement with the donors were key in increasing the proportion of flexible contributions received this year, amounting to 90 percent of all the annual funding secured, which allowed the CO to allocate it where most needed and provide effective support to vulnerable beneficiaries.

However, in early 2021, WFP cash assistance had to be interrupted in the month of March due to donors' restrictions on some received contributions which were earmarked for procurement of food items, while the flexible contributions were only granted mid-year. To address this funding gap, the CO applied for an advance financing from Immediate Response Account (IRA) for the month of April, which was repaid later, thanks to the flexibility of Germany. This enabled the CO to address beneficiaries' needs on time with no further interruption.

On another note, overall expenditures in 2021 exceeded WFP's original implementation plan by 11 percent as one activity was added to transfer around USD 600,000 to the beneficiaries' bank cards on behalf of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as a one-time winterization top-up. To enable this and future on-demand service provision, the CO initiated a budget revision adding a second strategic outcome to the ICSP.

Overall, the financial management of WFP Iran activities in 2021 was significantly affected throughout the year by major fluctuations of the local currency and the high inflation rate in the local market. WFP closely monitored the funding situation and regularly reviewed the budget against the implementation plan to take necessary actions (including revising the implementation plan).

As the CO anticipates the need for around USD 14 million to respond to a potential new influx of refugees from Afghanistan during 2022, WFP will continue to advocate for timely, multi-year and flexible funding to ensure programme continuity and implementation predictability.

Annual CSP Financial Overview by Strategic Outcome

	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditure
01: Food insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations in Iran are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs throughout the year	3,569,190.0	3,569,185.0	5,099,532.0	3,979,885.0
02: Crisis-affected populations in Iran benefit from improved capacities of national entities and other partners to prevent and respond to emergencies	618,000.0	0.0	601,211.0	600,211.0
Non strategic result and non strategic outcome specific	0.0	0.0	1,298,649.0	0.0
Total Direct Operational Cost	4,187,190.0	3,569,185.0	6,999,392.0	4,580,096.0
Direct Support Cost (DSC)	863,611.0	856,481.0	854,587.0	425,634.0
Total Direct Costs	5,050,801.0	4,425,666.0	7,853,979.0	5,005,730.0
Indirect Support Cost (ISC)	279,847.0	287,668.0	262,712.0	262,712.0
Grand Total	5,330,647.0	4,713,335.0	8,116,692.0	5,268,443.0

Programme performance

Strategic outcome 01: Food insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations in Iran are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs throughout the year



30,600 refugees were reached through food distribution and cash assistance uninterrupted



WFP assisted **13,700** Iranians affected by natural disasters and COVID-19 pandemic



8,500 boys and girls and their teachers were reached through school snacks



3,000 girl students received education incentives uninterrupted



280 women and **100** men were reached by livelihood activities

In a context of protracted crisis, refugees living in Iranian settlements are particularly exposed to food insecurity and significantly depending on food assistance provided by humanitarian actors in close collaboration with the Government of Iran. As per post-distribution monitoring (PDM) visits carried out in selected refugee settlements in November 2021, protracted refugees reported increasing challenges in satisfying their basic needs, especially related to food and healthcare, due to increased prices of food commodities, very limited access to income-generating opportunities, monetary inflation and reduced purchasing power. Households with high dependency ratios, especially where members with critical medical conditions and disabilities are present, are particularly vulnerable to food insecurity and adoption of negative coping strategies and require additional targeted support, in close collaboration with protection and humanitarian stakeholders.

While the main factors contributing to increasing levels of food insecurity affect, to some extent, different population groups across Iran, newly arrived Afghans are believed to be at high risk of hunger and malnutrition due to the combination of previous exposure to catastrophic conditions in Afghanistan and extremely limited access to self-reliance opportunities upon arrival in Iran. According to UNHCR's latest data on new arrivals, food has been consistently reported among the top four most urgent needs for new arrivals since August 2021, together with documentation, shelter and livelihoods. Moreover, according to the latest UNHCR post-distribution monitoring data related to multi-purpose cash (MPC) programming, the food component of MPC is confirmed to play a central role, with up to 25 percent of all expenditures within beneficiary households being dedicated to purchase food.

Through three main activities under Strategic Outcome 1 (SO1), WFP sought to improve the food security and livelihoods of 31,000 food-insecure women, men, girls and boys living in settlements, as well as around 8,000 Iranians affected by natural disasters. The related three activities under this outcome were designed in direct alignment with WFP's core mandate of achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 (Zero Hunger).

Under **activity 1**, beneficiaries receive unconditional cash and in-kind assistance. Households headed by women received a cash entitlement complementing the in-kind food basket to meet 100 percent of their basic food needs. Households headed by men received a similar in-kind assistance and a slightly reduced cash amount covering 80 percent of their food needs, as they have access to other types of income.

In 2021, WFP reached almost all its planned refugee beneficiaries (99 percent) with unconditional resource transfers. As a result of advanced planning and securing required funds, WFP succeeded to distribute cash top-ups (double cash ration) and lentils - an important source of protein provided since April 2020 with the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic - to around 30,600 beneficiaries along with their full entitlements. Along with that, vegetable oil, reintroduced in September 2019, became part of the officially approved food basket for the beneficiaries. All beneficiaries have also received reusable nano masks to protect themselves against COVID-19.

Under **activity 2**, WFP provides education access and livelihoods support through its three sub-activities: 1) Providing school feeding through cash-based transfer modality for Iranian girls at primary and secondary schools, 2) Providing school snacks for refugee girls and boys at primary and secondary schools and their Iranian teachers, and 3) Providing livelihoods and capacity building opportunities for men and women to support them to improve their food consumption and livelihood situation.

In this regard, WFP assisted around 91 percent of the 3,000 targeted girls at primary and secondary schools with a cash incentive to promote their education. The school feeding programme, (distribution of milk and date bars) targeting 8,000 refugee girls and boys and their 500 Iranian teachers at primary and secondary schools, showed an over-achievement of 112 percent compared to the planned number of refugee students and their Iranian teachers. The school snacks were distributed mostly on-site during the first three months of the year and then as take-home rations due to school closures during the pandemic. The school snacks programme not only helped education and nutrition of children, but also helped families' economy, as this freed up some money to be spent on other needs.

While some of the livelihood activities requiring gatherings had been suspended due to COVID-19 since early 2020, most of the operations resumed in October 2021 following the improvement in the pandemic situation. In addition to the provision of supplementary support for already existing income-generation activities, eight new livelihood projects, including tailoring, welding and mushroom cultivation, were initiated in late 2021, providing income-generating opportunities for almost 390 refugees. In addition, 43 women received training mainly on tailoring through established workshops.

Under **activity 3**, WFP supports the Government emergency preparedness and response through the provision of emergency cash-based or in-kind assistance to crisis-affected populations. This year, many areas in the country experienced drought. Upon receiving a request from the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS), WFP provided around 3,400 emergency family food rations to cover one-month requirement of more than 13,700 individuals affected by the drought in Sistan and Baluchistan provinces in the third quarter of 2021 (160 percent above the planned beneficiaries).

While 2021 started with sufficient funding for SO1 for the first two months, the contribution received in March was strictly earmarked for in-kind assistance, which led to the interruption of the transfer of cash entitlements for this month. Nevertheless, WFP managed to secure - and repay later - advanced financing to resume the cash and in-kind assistance for the rest of the year. Fully funded, WFP not only managed to cover the planned beneficiaries under this SO, but also managed to preposition food requirements for almost 20,000 potential new refugees following the turbulence in Afghanistan.

Due to travel restrictions, monitoring visits have been limited to the critical ones. As the COVID-19 situation improved in late 2021, the post-distribution monitoring (PDM) was conducted in person in November. WFP and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) hired experienced enumerators to collect reliable data on the outcome indicators by interviewing around 350 households in seven settlements, which covered 87 percent of the total population of refugees inside settlements. Initial findings from the PDM showed a deterioration in the food consumption of beneficiaries compared to the previous year, especially among households headed by men with acceptable consumption level whose proportion decreased by almost 3 percentage points compared to 2020. Though beneficiaries have received uninterrupted and even augmented food assistance, the deterioration could be the result of high inflation (around 41 percent), which has impacted the price of food items in the local market; and the limited job opportunities, as almost 30 percent of interviewed head of households reported being unemployed at the time of the PDM. These challenges have affected refugees' purchasing power, especially for households headed by men who were entitled to receive 80 percent of their food requirement from WFP with the assumption that they already have some source of income and can cover the remaining 20 percent.

On a related note, the food security of households headed by women who fully relied on WFP's food assistance and were entitled to receive 100 percent of their food requirement remained stable and even improved slightly. WFP will monitor the job market and prices as well as refugees food security status to adjust the assistance accordingly if deemed necessary. The Consumption-based Coping Strategy Index, which evaluates the level of stress faced by a household due to food shortage, shows around 2 percentage points improvement compared to last year. The improvement was observed in both households headed by men and women, which can be the result of the augmented and uninterrupted food assistance from WFP.

Based on the result of the PDM, 92 percent of the households whose children received school snacks were satisfied with the programme, and 81 percent believed that the programme played a role in their decision to enroll and keep

their children at school. However, the dropout rate has increased by almost 3 percentage points, which can be mainly attributed to the fact that schools were online, and some families could not afford having smart phones or tablets to allow children to continue their education.

Partnerships:

Through the implementation of this Strategic Outcome, WFP maintained very close cooperation with its main government and non-government partners, including the Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrants’ Affairs (BAFIA), UNHCR and IRCS. WFP conducted some assessment of the BAFIA-owned warehouses’ situation and consequently provided some required equipment such as pallets, ventilators and scales to support the Government in their effort to contribute to food storage and distribution among refugees inside settlements. WFP worked closely with other UN agencies and international organizations under the umbrella of the Refugee Coordination model, led by UNHCR. WFP, together with other UN agencies, contributed to the UNHCR Regional Response Plan for 2022, taking the lead in the sectors of food security, logistics and telecommunications. At the regional level, it collaborated with the Regional Bureaux of Cairo and Bangkok.

GAM

Gender was fully integrated in the implementation of activities 1 and 2, as evidenced by WFP’s Gender and Age Marker (GAM) monitoring codes 3 for activity 1 and 4 for activity 2. WFP ensured that households headed by women received enough assistance to meet their full food requirements, and supported women and girls empowerment through incentivizing families to send girls to school. Women were also engaged in the livelihood strengthening activities.

Considering the continued COVID-19 pandemic, WFP will monitor the situation to improve its assistance when required to maintain the beneficiaries’ food security. When the COVID-19 restrictions ease as the situation improves, WFP will resume its regular visits to the field to assess the assistance and address any possible gaps in a timely manner.

WFP GENDER AND AGE MARKER

CSP ACTIVITY	GAM MONITORING CODE
Provide unconditional food assistance to food-insecure refugees	3
Provide conditional support to refugee women and girls to incentivize and facilitate educational and livelihood activities	4

Strategic outcome 02: Crisis-affected populations in Iran benefit from improved capacities of national entities and other partners to prevent and respond to emergencies



One UN-to-UN agreement was signed with UNHCR to transfer winterization top-up to all beneficiaries

Strategic Outcome 2 focuses on the provision of on-demand cash-based transfer (CBT) services to the Government and other partners. WFP signed a UN-to-UN agreement with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) following a request received to use WFP's CBT platform to provide a one-off winterization top-up to all the most vulnerable refugees residing inside settlements. A budget revision was completed in December 2021 to add a strategic result (Enhance Global Partnership) to the Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) of WFP Iran, and accordingly one strategic outcome and one activity were added in order to provide cash services to beneficiaries on behalf of UNHCR.

Under the added activity 4, WFP used its CBT platform to facilitate cash transfers to 6,873 heads of households' bank cards, including 6,155 men-head of households and 718 women head of households, with a total population of 30,566 individuals. The cash transfer was completed according to the agreed timeframe. UNHCR was provided with a report received from the financial service provider on the successful completion of the transaction.

Having provided the same service to the Norwegian Refugee Council in 2020 and officially adding this CBT on-demand service provision activity to the current ICSP has positioned WFP as a strong agency and a partner of choice with reliable infrastructure in place for immediate response and sound ability to accommodate any future bilateral service provision needs.

Cross-cutting results

Progress towards gender equality

Improved gender equality and women's empowerment among WFP-assisted population

Gender-based disparities are persisting significantly among refugees. Most Afghan women and girls are severely affected by the traditional cultural values. The patriarchal ideology prevails, preventing their participation in decision-making at different levels. Despite the continued advocacy for gender equality among refugees, most refugee communities do not promote the social engagement of women and their role is usually limited to the activities and responsibilities within the household.

WFP's targeting criteria to provide 100 percent of the basic food requirements of households headed by women resulted, for the first time, in a higher acceptable rate of food consumption score among this group compared to households headed by men who receive 80 percent of their food requirement. This represents a positive change in women statuses given the persistent trend of higher food insecurity level among households headed by women, likely due to a lack of income among them, spurred by cultural barriers that restrict refugee women's participation in livelihood activities outside settlements.

WFP encourages women to be the recipients of cash-based transfers and bankcard holders through the provision of monthly monetary incentives to improve their decision-making over household resources. This initiative has resulted in about 18 percent of bank cards being issued in the name of women refugees. Rolling out this intervention has led to positive change in decision-making dynamics within the households [1]. The acceptance by men to have cards under the name of their wives is of utmost importance as it allows women to have a say on the use of financial resources of their families a role traditionally reserved only for men.

At the community level, women continued their effective participation as active members of refugee councils, food distribution and women committees, as demonstrated by a slight improvement compared to the last year. In most settlements, women who were in committees had regular meetings with refugee women in order to address issues and concerns in their settlements and to advocate for solving them, especially through active discussion with settlement authorities.

In livelihood programmes, WFP has established all income-generating activities inside settlements, which has minimized effects of cultural sensitivities and barriers for women participation. In 2021, WFP continued to prioritize women as much as possible in the establishment and expansion of livelihood activities. Consequently, this year, 75 percent of direct beneficiaries of livelihood projects were refugee women who received much higher value of monthly income than the average value of unconditional food assistance WFP has provided to date. While participants developed marketable technical and social skills through on-the-job trainings and teamwork activities, some of them demonstrated impressive managerial growth to run the whole business and supervise other women participants, which turned them into inspiring role models for other refugee women.

Since education plays a key role in the journey towards gender equality, WFP pursued the provision of incentives for girls' education as a take-home ration to encourage their regular attendance to schools. During the pandemic, education incentives were sustained to the girls who continued their education by attending online classes.

Protection and accountability to affected populations

Affected populations are able to benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that ensures and promotes their safety, dignity and integrity. Affected populations are able to hold WFP and partners accountable for meeting their hunger needs in a manner that reflects their views and preferences

All 20 settlements where documented beneficiaries are living are under the control of the Bureau for Aliens and Foreign Immigrants Affairs (BAFIA), which is responsible for the protection, safety and security of all beneficiaries. There is no restriction for commuting inside and outside of the settlements for beneficiaries who are residing in the settlements. Their travel between provinces is authorized via a laissez-passer issued by BAFIA. Residents benefit from free-of-charge services, such as health post, schools, shops, and can easily have access to the warehouses and the distribution points, mostly located in the center of the settlements, to receive their monthly in-kind entitlement. During the 2021 post-distribution monitoring (PDM) conducted in late November, no one reported any safety problem while traveling to or from the distribution points or accessing WFP assistance.

Almost all shops inside settlements are equipped with point of sale (PoS) machines. Beneficiaries can then easily redeem their cash entitlements. There are also automated teller machines (ATM) inside most settlements or nearby to ensure beneficiaries can easily withdraw money from their bank cards.

Beneficiaries can be in direct contact with the WFP Iran country office through a hotline which was established in 2018 and diverted to a WFP-dedicated cell phone since April 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic started and work from home was practiced. Suggestion and feedback boxes are available in all the settlements. WFP social media is also used as a communication channel to ensure no complaint or feedback is unattended. Beneficiaries are informed on hotline and other means of communication through dissemination of visit cards during field visits, and through monthly monitoring calls. All the complaints/feedback received through each of the mentioned means of communication are being recorded and disaggregated by age and sex of the callers in the community feedback mechanism (CFM) log designed internally. For each complaint, a ticket will be raised in the log, which is monitored on a monthly basis. In case the problem is solved or referred to other units or agencies, the ticket will be closed after the necessary action is taken.

Beneficiary data sharing, including monthly cash transfer, card issuance and card cancellation data between WFP and its financial service provider (FSP) is continuously done through a Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) introduced by the FSP. In 2021, WFP Iran conducted the Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) to identify, assess and mitigate the risk arising from processing personal data. The assessment recommended to conduct direct consultations with beneficiaries to capture first-hand data protection perspectives and concerns and collect informed consent in line with WFP corporate guidance when required to ensure beneficiaries' data are protected. This recommendation will be addressed during 2022.

WFP has initiated a special assistance to beneficiaries with celiac disease as of 2019, replacing wheat flour with a cash top-up. WFP has started participating actively in a UN disability task force along with other agencies and has started negotiation with BAFIA to receive the disability data for planning purposes. In 2022, disability will be part of a Joint Assessment Mission to be conducted jointly with UNHCR and BAFIA; this will help to inform a possible targeting approach for this group for the new ICSP.

Following the requests received from beneficiaries through the hotline and other CFM channels to increase their entitlements to compensate the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP continued the double cash ration and distribution of lentils, while vegetable oil was added officially to the entitled food basket. WFP also provided its cash platform to enable UNHCR to transfer a one-off winterization top-up to beneficiaries' bankcards to support them meeting their basic needs.

Given the pandemic-related travel restrictions, WFP could not implement any field visits during most of the year to have face-to-face interaction with beneficiaries. Following the nationwide vaccination in the country for the host community along with refugees, field visits resumed as of late 2021 allowing in-person interaction with beneficiaries. The PDM exercise was conducted in person and the results showed that more than 99 percent of interviewed households had not experienced any issue accessing WFP assistance/programme sites, which proves the high security inside settlements. Almost 94 percent of interviewed beneficiaries believed that WFP assistance was being provided in a dignified manner. They found distribution points' conditions appropriate, which is a great achievement considering a 13 percent improvement compared to 2020. Moreover, almost 98 percent agreed that they are being treated very well by WFP hotline staff and bank staff when approaching them to solve the issues regarding in-kind or cash assistance

Compared to 2020, the number of people who were informed about WFP assistance, i.e., 'who is included', 'what people will receive' and 'length of assistance', decreased. The decrease is only related to the fact that the type of questions asked was different from the previous year; if only the response to the question similar to last year is considered (what people will receive), the indicator would show 1 percent improvement.

As for the newly arrived Afghans, despite lack of comprehensive vulnerability assessment data at this stage, they are believed to be particularly vulnerable from a protection point of view due to various reasons. Those currently residing in remote areas close to the border are believed to be particularly vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition due to the circumstances in which they crossed the border, remoteness of their whereabouts and extremely limited access to assistance and services, as well as their exposure to risks of detention and deportation, etc. Newly arrived Afghans who live in urban areas are expected to have different levels of vulnerability. Some of them joined family members and/or extended networks who had previously settled in Iran and might have increased access to shelter options, informal job opportunities and support. Others might be more exposed to food insecurity and protection threats due to lack of supportive networks. They might struggle to find self-sufficiency options and recur to negative coping strategies to handle hunger.

Environment

Targeted communities benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that does not harm the environment

Environmental degradation and food insecurity are intimately interlinked in Iran. Different parts of the country are threatened in different seasons by flooding and drought-related water shortages, exacerbated by the weak enforcement of existing environmental regulations. Water-stressed areas have continuously increased, especially in the central and southern regions of Iran, mainly due to the lack of rain, uneven distribution of water, prioritization of industrial activities and unsustainable water use in agriculture. In addition, deforestation, land degradation, overgrazing and desertification endanger food security and livelihoods in many regions across the country. Besides massive wildfires which burned vast parts of northern and western forests in 2021, any minor climatic shock in general can force the most food insecure populations in urban and semi-urban areas to adopt negative coping strategies, such as charcoal production which further increases deforestation. Unsustainable industrial expansion and population growth have intensified rapid urbanization, which contributed to biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, such as air and water pollution.

WFP observed special considerations where applicable/allowed to improve the sustainability of its activities and to avoid causing unintended harm to the environment. As most refugee settlements are located in rural areas, refugees are highly involved in seasonal agricultural activities, which makes them severely vulnerable to climate change and natural disasters. In contribution towards sustainable nature-based solutions, WFP established environment-friendly livelihoods projects for refugees in 2021, including mushroom cultivation, bag and suit making and welding activities to help boosting their self-reliance and livelihoods. WFP also completed a fish farming project which provides a sustainable source of income and nutrition while ensuring that water usage is optimized.

In April 2021, two WFP staff members received Environmental and Social Risk Screening (ESRS) training empowering the country office (CO) to identify environmental and social risks and their intensity to determine further action if required and to ensure sustainability of activities. Subsequently, WFP applied ESRS' tool in evaluating six new income-generating projects. All those projects were categorized as low risk requiring no revision in the design and no risk management plan.

The WFP team tried to substitute air travel with road trips as much as possible, especially for large-scale practices like the post-distribution monitoring missions, with the aim of reducing the CO carbon footprint. Additionally, meetings are being held online as much as possible to reduce the number of trips inside the cities. WFP procures requested goods and services locally, which also contributes to lower carbon emission.

WFP Iran has adopted several measures to help minimize its environmental impact, such as using light-emitting diode (LED) lights to minimize electricity consumption, changing the air conditioning systems to energy-efficient ones, setting individual password on printers to give the chance of deleting the print of any unwanted document, disposing old and non-sensitive documents through wastepaper collectors for recycling and using rechargeable batteries for different electronic devices.

Extra Section

How WFP's School Feeding programme is helping Nazanin to achieve her dream

In the Afghan tradition, girls are more likely excluded from education. Poverty, early marriage, cultural and traditional views are amongst the factors driving educational inequality and hindering the prospects of girls.

The World Food Programme's education incentive for young girls invites families to send their girls to school in return for cash that every girl receives after each month of regular attendance. It contributes to the household economy while also empowers girls by dissuading parents from marrying off their girls early.

WFP's school feeding programme also provides daily school snacks to 8,500 refugee boy and girl students in 20 settlements across Iran, an essential safeguard contributing to increased enrolment and encouraging parents to keep children in schools.

Despite the challenges faced by Afghan girls, some are determined to stay in education and obtain professional qualifications girls like Nazanin, a young refugee student.

Nazanin is a shy 11-year-old student in primary school in Saveh settlement. She is very clear on her career aspirations. Nazanin wants to be a doctor when she grows up. I don't want anyone to be sick and I want to help my fellow citizens, I want other girls to learn and get educated as well.

Nazanin lives with her mother and eight brothers in a tiny house in the settlement where they struggle financially since her father passed away years ago. Her mother is old and cannot work constantly, which is why WFP's assistance plays a major role in her family economy.

When you are hungry you have neither energy to work or go to school, nor desire to learn. Says Bi Bi Shah, Nazanin's mother.

To ensure refugee children meet their nutritional needs, every month, WFP is distributing about 50 mt of school snacks containing biscuits, date bars and milk amongst refugee boys and girls and their teachers, under strict hygiene protocols in schools or as take-home rations.

For Bi Bi Shah, a mother of nine, the school feeding programme is essential for the future of her children because the snacks provided to them are the only nutritious meal they may receive in the day. I really appreciate this programme, because at least I'm sure my kids don't go to school on an empty stomach.

School snacks mean a lot to many children living in settlements. Today, thousands of boys like Nazanin's brothers are benefitting from WFP's school feeding programme which prevents them from being victims of child labour and losing out on their childhood.

As a result of the Education Incentive initiative, girls like Nazanin have become nurses, teachers and doctors and are serving their fellow citizens inside the settlements and in the host community. Thanks to the generous contributions from our donors, 31,000 of the country's most vulnerable refugees can receive timely support at a time of amplifying needs.

Data Notes

Overview

[1] People living with disabilities also received WFP's in-kind and cash assistance. However, the agreement with the Government counterpart and existing data collection tools did not allow disaggregation of beneficiaries by disability. This will be pursued in 2022. Hence, please note that disability figures will not be reported in the 2021 Annual Country Report of Iran.

[2] High Energy biscuits in the commodities table in the annual food transfer box refer to date bars.

Context and Operations

[1] The World Bank, Iran Overview: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/iran/overview#1>

[2] The Central Bank of Iran: <https://www.cbi.ir/>

[3] UNHCR Briefing Notes, 26 Oct 2021: UNHCR - UNHCR welcomes steps to ease movement at Pakistan-Afghanistan border.

[4] WFP Iran Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022) – Budget Revision 07. Approved by CD in December 2021.

CSP Financial Overview

[1] The "non-SO specific" is related to the contribution received at the top level and the CO can programme based on its requirement.

Strategic outcome 01

Note on Data Tables: school boys and girls receiving school feeding as "alternative take-home rations" and "On-Site" has overlap considering COVID-19, which resulted in closure of schools in some months.

Progress towards gender equality

[1] Women decision making on the use of assistance has increased gradually by 3 percentage points comparing to 2018.

[2] Values of the gender decision-making indicators are reported disaggregated by modality this year for the first time. No baseline available for this new disaggregation, as previously results were reported only aggregated. Therefore, the original baseline from previous reporting years is used for both modalities.

Environment

The cross-cutting indicator on environmental screening was introduced in 2020 and not reported prior to 2021 by the CO.

Annex

Reporting on beneficiary information in WFP's annual country reports

To produce estimates of the total number of unique beneficiaries WFP has assisted yearly, the data from all activities and transfer modalities must be adjusted to eliminate overlaps and add new beneficiaries. This exercise is based on WFP's understanding of the local context, partnerships and activities; the resulting adjusted totals are recorded in COMET. The process of calculating these adjusted totals follows the rules established during the activity planning stage, these rules can be amended to reflect new information that emerges once implementation begins.

The final estimated number of beneficiaries assisted in each country is validated by country offices and entered in COMET at the end of every year:

- the total number of beneficiaries, which is the sum of all direct beneficiaries reached under all country level activities, based on the adjusted totals that seek to eliminate overlap;
- the total number of beneficiaries receiving food transfers, cash-based transfers and commodity vouchers or capacity strengthening, the sum of all direct beneficiaries reached under the activities for each of these transfer modalities, based on the adjusted estimates that seek to eliminate overlap;
- the total number of beneficiaries assisted under each programme area, the sum of all direct beneficiaries reached under WFP's eight programme areas at the country level;
- the number of schoolchildren assisted under school-based programmes, the sum of all participants assisted under the school-based programmes, adjusted to exclude overlaps and activity supporters such as teachers and cooks.

Although WFP conducts quality assurance to provide beneficiary data which are as accurate as possible, numerous challenges remain regarding data collection, verification, entry and processing. Beneficiary numbers in ACRs should be considered "best estimates", subject to over- and under- estimation.

Figures and Indicators

WFP contribution to SDGs

 SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture											
WFP Strategic Goal 1: Support countries to achieve zero hunger						WFP Contribution (by WFP, or by governments or partners with WFP Support)					
SDG Indicator	National Results					SDG-related indicator	Direct				Indirect
	Unit	Female	Male	Overall	Year		Unit	Female	Male	Overall	
Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)	%					Number of people reached (by WFP, or by governments or partners with WFP support) in the context of emergency and protracted crisis response	Number	22,248	22,607	44,855	

Beneficiaries by Sex and Age Group

Beneficiary Category	Gender	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Total Beneficiaries	male	20,095	22,772	113%
	female	19,405	22,083	114%
	total	39,500	44,855	114%
By Age Group				
0-23 months	male	852	1,010	119%
	female	844	996	118%
	total	1,696	2,006	118%
24-59 months	male	1,774	1,913	108%
	female	1,448	1,580	109%
	total	3,222	3,493	108%
5-11 years	male	3,079	3,349	109%
	female	3,014	3,261	108%
	total	6,093	6,610	108%
12-17 years	male	2,903	3,130	108%
	female	2,560	2,780	109%
	total	5,463	5,910	108%
18-59 years	male	9,927	11,597	117%
	female	10,599	12,305	116%
	total	20,526	23,902	116%

Beneficiary Category	Gender	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
60+ years	male	1,560	1,773	114%
	female	940	1,161	124%
	total	2,500	2,934	117%

Beneficiaries by Residence Status

Residence Status	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Resident	500	579	116%
Refugee	31,000	30,524	98%
IDP	8,000	13,752	172%

Beneficiaries by Programme Area

Programme Area	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
School-Based Programmes	7,500	8,459	112%
Unconditional Resources Transfer	39,000	44,318	113%

Annual Food Transfer

Commodities	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual vs. Planned
Everyone has access to food			
Strategic Outcome: Strategic Outcome 01			
Biscuits	43	60	141%
Dried Fruits	9	4	39%
High Energy Biscuits	58	58	101%
Lentils	0	544	-
Rations	58	100	172%
Uht Milk	306	271	89%
Vegetable Oil	301	259	86%
Wheat Flour	3,348	3,093	92%

Annual Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher

Modality	Planned Distribution (CBT)	Actual Distribution (CBT)	% Actual vs. Planned
Everyone has access to food			
Cash	1,449,900	1,381,706	95%

Strategic Outcome and Output Results

Strategic Outcome 01: Food insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations in Iran are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs throughout the year				Crisis Response	
Output Results					
Activity 01: Provide unconditional food assistance to food insecure refugees					
Detailed Indicator	Beneficiary Group	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
A.1: Beneficiaries receiving cash-based transfers	All	General Distribution	Female	15,190	14,978
			Male	15,810	15,588
			Total	31,000	30,566
A.1: Beneficiaries receiving food transfers	All	General Distribution	Female	15,190	14,847
			Male	15,810	15,453
			Total	31,000	30,300
A.2: Food transfers			MT	3,649	3,896
A.3: Cash-based transfers			US\$	1,360,800	1,354,080
Activity 02: Provide conditional support, especially to refugee women and girls, to incentivize and facilitate educational and livelihood activities					
Detailed Indicator	Beneficiary Group	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
A.1: Beneficiaries receiving cash-based transfers	All	School feeding (take-home rations)	Female	3,300	3,012
			Total	3,300	3,012
A.1: Beneficiaries receiving food transfers	All	School feeding (alternative take-home rations)	Female	0	4,040
			Male	0	4,419
			Total	0	8,459
A.1: Beneficiaries receiving food transfers	All	School feeding (on-site)	Female	3,450	4,017
			Male	4,050	4,395
			Total	7,500	8,412
A.2: Food transfers			MT	415	393
A.3: Cash-based transfers			US\$	89,100	27,626
Activity 03: Provide support to the Government for emergency preparedness and response, including the provision of emergency food assistance through cash-based or in-kind transfers to crisis-affected populations					
Detailed Indicator	Beneficiary Group	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
A.1: Beneficiaries receiving food transfers	All	General Distribution	Female	3,984	6,848
			Male	4,016	6,904
			Total	8,000	13,752
A.2: Food transfers			MT	58	100

Output Results					
Activity 02: Provide conditional support, especially to refugee women and girls, to incentivize and facilitate educational and livelihood activities					
Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual	
A: Refugees, especially women, receive livelihood support to generate income for their families and increase self-reliance.					
Food assistance for asset					
A.10*: Total value (USD) of capacity strengthening transfers	A.10*.1: Total value (USD) of capacity strengthening transfers	US\$	383,433	55,000	
C: Refugees, especially women, receive livelihood support to generate income for their families and increase self-reliance.					
Food assistance for training					

C.1: Number of people trained	C.1.66: Number of direct beneficiaries receiving Capacity Strengthening transfers (Female)	Number	222	43
C.1: Number of people trained	C.1.67: Number of direct beneficiaries receiving Capacity Strengthening transfers (Male)	Number	146	0
N*: Schoolchildren and teachers at the primary and secondary school levels receive snacks every day they attend school				
School feeding (alternative take-home rations)				
N*.1: Feeding days as percentage of total school days	N*.1.1: Feeding days as percentage of total school days	%	100	96.15
School feeding (on-site)				
N*.1: Feeding days as percentage of total school days	N*.1.1: Feeding days as percentage of total school days	%	100	87.1

Outcome Results								
Activity 01: Provide unconditional food assistance to food insecure refugees								
Outcome Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2021 Target	2021 Follow-up	2020 Follow-up	2019 Follow-up	source
Target Group: Refugees residing in 20 settlements - Location: Iran - Modality: - Subactivity: General Distribution								
Consumption-based Coping Strategy Index (Average)	Female	14.44	≤14.73	≤14.73	10.08	14.73	9.4	WFP
	Male	15.86	≤13.42	≤13.42	11.29	13.42	11.6	programme monitoring
	Overall	15.7	≤13.64	≤13.64	11.09	13.64	11.3	WFP programme monitoring
Food Consumption Score: Percentage of households with Acceptable Food Consumption Score	Female	76.5	≥76.5	≥76.5	80	75.4	68.6	WFP
	Male	79.3	≥79.3	≥79.3	71.5	76.7	78.3	programme monitoring
	Overall	78.9	≥79	≥79	73	76.5	77	WFP programme monitoring
Food Consumption Score: Percentage of households with Borderline Food Consumption Score	Female	17.6	≤17.6	≤17.6	15	19.3	20	WFP
	Male	18.5	≤18.5	≤18.5	23.1	20.5	16.3	programme monitoring
	Overall	18.4	≤18.4	≤18.4	21.7	20.3	17	WFP programme monitoring
Food Consumption Score: Percentage of households with Poor Food Consumption Score	Female	5.9	≤5.9	≤5.9	5	5.3	11.4	WFP
	Male	2.2	≤2.2	≤2.2	5.4	2.8	5.3	programme monitoring
	Overall	2.6	≤2.6	≤2.6	5.4	3.2	6	WFP programme monitoring

Activity 02: Provide conditional support, especially to refugee women and girls, to incentivize and facilitate educational and livelihood activities

Outcome Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2021 Target	2021 Follow-up	2020 Follow-up	2019 Follow-up	source
Target Group: ALI - Location: Iran - Modality: - Subactivity: School feeding (take-home rations)								
Retention rate / Drop-out rate (new):	Female	30	≤3.11	≤3.11	6	3.11	0	Secondary data
Drop-out rate	Overall	30	≤3.11	≤3.11	6	3.11	0	Secondary data
Retention rate / Drop-out rate (new):	Female	70	≥96.89	≥96.89	94	96.89	100	Secondary data
Retention rate	Overall	70	≥96.89	≥96.89	94	96.89	100	Secondary data

Strategic Outcome 02: Crisis-affected populations in Iran benefit from improved capacities of national entities and other partners to prevent and respond to emergencies - Crisis Response
Output Results
Activity 04: Provide cash transfer and other services to Government and other partners.

Output indicator	Detailed indicator	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
H: Crisis-affected populations benefit from services provided to Government and other partners in order to meet their basic needs. (Tier 3; category H, SR 8)				
CBT platform				
H.11: Number of agencies using common cash-based transfer platforms	H.11.1: Number of agencies using common cash-based transfer platforms	agency/organization	1	1

Outcome Results
Activity 04: Provide cash transfer and other services to Government and other partners.

Outcome Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2021 Target	2021 Follow-up	2020 Follow-up	2019 Follow-up	source
Target Group: refugees (to receive cash support from UNHCR or other organization through WFP) - Location: Iran - Modality: - Subactivity: CBT platform								
User satisfaction rate	Overall		=90	=100	100			WFP survey

Cross-cutting Indicators

Progress towards gender equality indicators

Improved gender equality and women's empowerment among WFP-assisted population								
Activity 01: Provide unconditional food assistance to food insecure refugees								
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2021 Target	2021 Follow-up	2020 Follow-up	2019 Follow-up	source
Target Group: Refugees residing in 20 settlements - Location: Iran - Modality: - - Subactivity: General Distribution								
Proportion of food assistance decision-making entity – committees, boards, teams, etc. – members who are women - -	Overall	28	≥21.5	≥21.5	22	21.5	22	WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: Refugees residing inside 20 settlements - Location: Iran - Modality: Cash - Subactivity: General Distribution								
Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - Decisions jointly made by women and men	Overall	27.6	≥52.06	≥52.06	46.4	52.06	51.7	WFP programme monitoring
Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - Decisions made by men	Overall	7.9	≤5.59	≤5.59	11.7	5.59	14.6	WFP programme monitoring
Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - Decisions made by women	Overall	64.5	≥42.35	≥42.35	42	42.35	33.7	WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: Refugees residing inside 20 settlements - Location: Iran - Modality: Food - Subactivity: General Distribution								
Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - Decisions jointly made by women and men	Overall	27.6	≥52.06	≥52.06	40.7	52.06	51.7	WFP programme monitoring
Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - Decisions made by men	Overall	7.9	≤5.59	≤5.59	6.6	5.59	14.6	WFP programme monitoring
Proportion of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality - Decisions made by women	Overall	64.5	≥42.35	≥42.35	52.7	42.35	33.7	WFP programme monitoring

Protection indicators

Affected populations are able to benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that ensures and promotes their safety, dignity and integrity

Activity 01: Provide unconditional food assistance to food insecure refugees

CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2021 Target	2021 Follow-up	2020 Follow-up	2019 Follow-up	source
Target Group: Refugees residing in 20 settlements - Location: Iran - Modality: - - Subactivity: General Distribution								
Proportion of targeted people having unhindered access to WFP programmes (new) - -	Female	90.7	=100	=100	99.6	97.33		WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
	Male	93.9	=100	=100	100	99.62		
	Overall	91.3	=100	=100	99.7	99.12		
Proportion of targeted people receiving assistance without safety challenges (new) - -	Female	100	=100	=100	100	100		WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
	Male	100	=100	=100	100	100		
	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	100		
Proportion of targeted people who report that WFP programmes are dignified (new) - -	Female	91.4	≥90	≥90	93.5	84		- WFP programme monitoring WFP programme monitoring
	Male	95	≥90	≥90	94.6	80.75		
	Overall	92.2	≥90	≥90	93.8	81.47		

Accountability to affected population indicators

Affected populations are able to hold WFP and partners accountable for meeting their hunger needs in a manner that reflects their views and preferences

Activity 01: Provide unconditional food assistance to food insecure refugees

CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2021 Target	2021 Follow-up	2020 Follow-up	2019 Follow-up	source
Target Group: Refugees residing in 20 settlements - Location: Iran - Modality: - - Subactivity:								
Proportion of project activities for which beneficiary feedback is documented, analysed and integrated into programme improvements - -	Overall	100	=100	=100	100	100	100	WFP programme monitoring
Target Group: Refugees residing inside settlements - Location: Iran - Modality: - - Subactivity: General Distribution								
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, length of assistance) - -	Female	44	≥94.66	≥94.66	74.8	94.66	92.9	WFP programme monitoring
	Male	27.9	≥95.09	≥95.09	66.7	95.09	97	WFP programme monitoring
	Overall	40.8	≥95	≥95	72.7	95	93.7	WFP programme monitoring

Environment indicators

Targeted communities benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that does not harm the environment								
Activity 02: Provide conditional support, especially to refugee women and girls, to incentivize and facilitate educational and livelihood activities								
CrossCutting Indicator	Sex	Baseline	End-CSP Target	2021 Target	2021 Follow-up	2020 Follow-up	2019 Follow-up	source
Target Group: Refugees residing inside 20 settlements - Location: Iran - Modality: - - Subactivity: Food assistance for training								
Proportion of FLAs/MOUs/CCs for CSP activities screened for environmental and social risk - -	Overall	0	=100	=50	50			-

Cover page photo © WFP/ Mohammad Khodabakhsh

Refugees baking bread in settlements with fortified wheat flour provided by WFP on monthly basis

World Food Programme

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<https://www.wfp.org/countries/iran-islamic-republic>

Financial Section

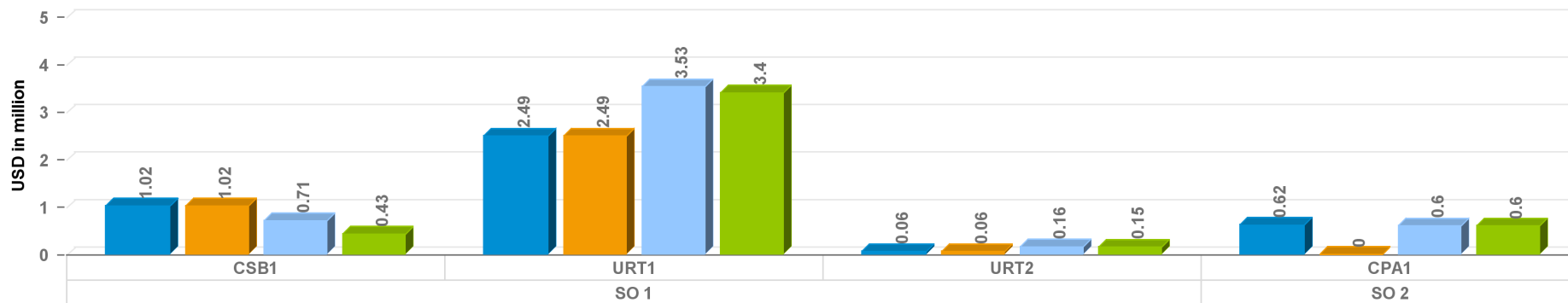
Financial information is taken from WFP's financial records which have been submitted to WFP's auditors.

Annual Country Report

Iran Country Portfolio Budget 2021 (2018-2022)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2021 (Amount in USD)

Annual CPB Overview



Strategic Outcomes and Activities

■ Needs Based Plan
 ■ Implementation Plan
 ■ Available Resources
 ■ Expenditures

Code	Strategic Outcome
SO 1	Food insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations in Iran are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs throughout the year
SO 2	Crisis-affected populations in Iran benefit from improved capacities of national entities and other partners to prevent and respond to emergencies
Code	Country Activity Long Description
CPA1	Provide cash transfer and other services to Government and other partners.
CSB1	Provide conditional support, especially to refugee women and girls, to incentivize and facilitate educational and livelihood activities
URT1	Provide unconditional food assistance to food insecure refugees
URT2	Provide support to the Government for emergency preparedness and response, including the provision of emergency food assistance through cash-based or in-kind transfers to crisis-affected populations

Annual Country Report

Iran Country Portfolio Budget 2021 (2018-2022)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2021 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditures
1	Food insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations in Iran are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs throughout the year	Provide conditional support, especially to refugee women and girls, to incentivize and facilitate educational and livelihood activities	1,018,485	1,018,481	708,796	425,935
		Provide unconditional food assistance to food insecure refugees	2,492,120	2,492,120	3,529,764	3,401,940
		Provide support to the Government for emergency preparedness and response, including the provision of emergency food assistance through cash-based or in-kind transfers to crisis-affected populations	58,585	58,585	157,287	152,010
		Non Activity Specific	0	0	703,685	0
Subtotal Strategic Result 1. Everyone has access to food (SDG Target 2.1)			3,569,190	3,569,185	5,099,532	3,979,885
8	Crisis-affected populations in Iran benefit from improved capacities of national entities and other partners to prevent and respond to emergencies	Provide cash transfer and other services to Government and other partners.	618,000	0	601,211	600,211
Subtotal Strategic Result 8. Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs (SDG Target 17.16)			618,000	0	601,211	600,211

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Annual Country Report

Iran Country Portfolio Budget 2021 (2018-2022)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2021 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditures
	Non SO Specific	Non Activity Specific	0	0	1,298,649	0
Subtotal Strategic Result			0	0	1,298,649	0
Total Direct Operational Cost			4,187,190	3,569,185	6,999,392	4,580,096
Direct Support Cost (DSC)			863,611	856,481	854,587	425,634
Total Direct Costs			5,050,801	4,425,666	7,853,979	5,005,730
Indirect Support Cost (ISC)			279,847	287,668	262,712	262,712
Grand Total			5,330,647	4,713,335	8,116,692	5,268,443



Wanee Piyabongkarn
Chief

Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch

Columns Definition

Needs Based Plan

Latest annual approved version of operational needs as of December of the reporting year. WFP's needs-based plans constitute an appeal for resources to implement operations which are designed based on needs assessments undertaken in collaboration with government counterparts and partners

Implementation Plan

Implementation Plan as of January of the reporting period which represents original operational prioritized needs taking into account funding forecasts of available resources and operational challenges

Available Resources

Unspent Balance of Resources carried forward, Allocated contribution in the current year, Advances and Other resources in the current year. It excludes contributions that are stipulated by donor for use in future years

Expenditures

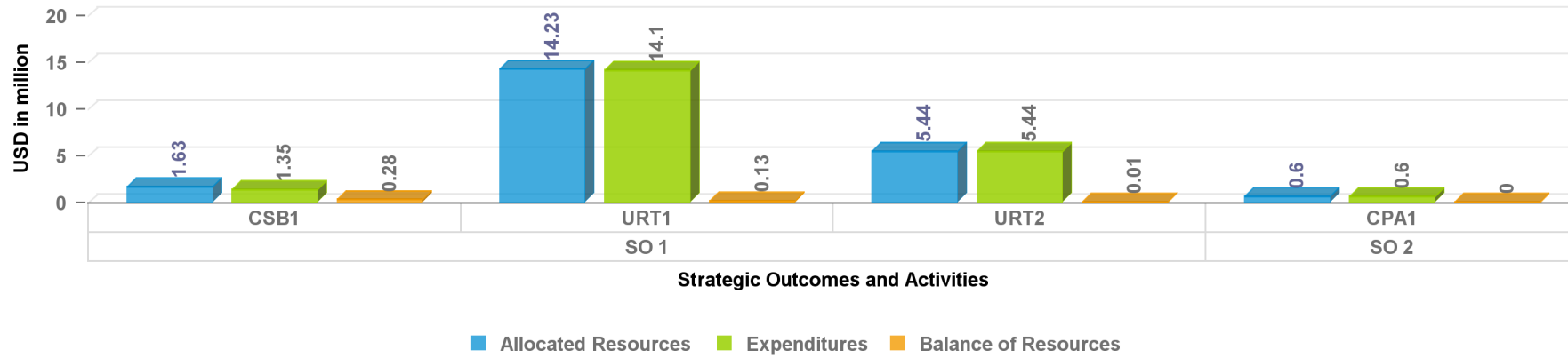
Monetary value of goods and services received and recorded within the reporting year

Annual Country Report

Iran Country Portfolio Budget 2021 (2018-2022)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2021 (Amount in USD)

Cumulative CPB Overview



Code	Strategic Outcome
SO 1	Food insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations in Iran are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs throughout the year
SO 2	Crisis-affected populations in Iran benefit from improved capacities of national entities and other partners to prevent and respond to emergencies

Code	Country Activity - Long Description
CPA1	Provide cash transfer and other services to Government and other partners.
CSB1	Provide conditional support, especially to refugee women and girls, to incentivize and facilitate educational and livelihood activities
URT1	Provide unconditional food assistance to food insecure refugees
URT2	Provide support to the Government for emergency preparedness and response, including the provision of emergency food assistance through cash-based or in-kind transfers to crisis-affected populations

Annual Country Report

Iran Country Portfolio Budget 2021 (2018-2022)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2021 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
1	Food insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations in Iran are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs throughout the year	Provide conditional support, especially to refugee women and girls, to incentivize and facilitate educational and livelihood activities	3,909,351	1,630,942	0	1,630,942	1,348,081	282,861
		Provide support to the Government for emergency preparedness and response, including the provision of emergency food assistance through cash-based or in-kind transfers to crisis-affected populations	4,547,669	5,443,225	0	5,443,225	5,437,949	5,277
		Provide unconditional food assistance to food insecure refugees	16,272,402	14,230,334	0	14,230,334	14,102,509	127,824
		Non Activity Specific	0	703,685	0	703,685	0	703,685
Subtotal Strategic Result 1. Everyone has access to food (SDG Target 2.1)			24,729,422	22,008,186	0	22,008,186	20,888,539	1,119,647

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Annual Country Report

Iran Country Portfolio Budget 2021 (2018-2022)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2021 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
8	Crisis-affected populations in Iran benefit from improved capacities of national entities and other partners to prevent and respond to emergencies	Provide cash transfer and other services to Government and other partners.	618,000	601,211	0	601,211	600,211	1,000
Subtotal Strategic Result 8. Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs (SDG Target 17.16)			618,000	601,211	0	601,211	600,211	1,000
	Non SO Specific	Non Activity Specific	0	1,298,649	0	1,298,649	0	1,298,649
Subtotal Strategic Result			0	1,298,649	0	1,298,649	0	1,298,649
Total Direct Operational Cost			25,347,422	23,908,046	0	23,908,046	21,488,750	2,419,296
Direct Support Cost (DSC)			2,754,505	2,081,947	0	2,081,947	1,652,994	428,953
Total Direct Costs			28,101,927	25,989,993	0	25,989,993	23,141,744	2,848,249
Indirect Support Cost (ISC)			1,778,170	1,605,787		1,605,787	1,605,787	0
Grand Total			29,880,097	27,595,780	0	27,595,780	24,747,531	2,848,249

This donor financial report is interim



Wannee Piyabongkarn
Chief

Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch

Columns Definition

Needs Based Plan

Latest approved version of operational needs. WFP's needs-based plans constitute an appeal for resources to implement operations which are designed based on needs assessments undertaken in collaboration with government counterparts and partners

Allocated Contributions

Allocated contributions include confirmed contributions with exchange rate variations, multilateral contributions, miscellaneous income, resource transferred, cost recovery and other financial adjustments (e.g. refinancing). It excludes internal advance and allocation and contributions that are stipulated by donor for use in future years.

Advance and allocation

Internal advanced/allocated resources but not repaid. This includes different types of internal advance (Internal Project Lending or Macro-advance Financing) and allocation (Immediate Response Account)

Allocated Resources

Sum of Allocated Contributions, Advance and Allocation

Expenditures

Cumulative monetary value of goods and services received and recorded within the reporting period

Balance of Resources

Allocated Resources minus Expenditures