



# WFP Philippines Country Brief

## WFP Assistance

Enhancing the Resilience of Communities and Government Systems in Regions Affected by Conflict and Disasters	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) : 200743 (April 2015 – Mar 2018)	73.9 m	27.8 m (38%)	4.7 m (52%)

\*January 2017 – June 2017

GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200743

Through the PRRO, WFP assists half a million people affected by the protracted conflict in Central Mindanao as well as typhoon-affected communities in Visayas and Mindanao. The assistance is tailored to reach the most vulnerable in areas where poverty, nutrition and basic education indicators remain well below the national averages. WFP supports food insecure populations including the internally displaced people and returnees through market-sensitive food assistance-for-assets, school meals, and stunting prevention programmes for children under two years of age and pregnant and nursing women.

Through the Disaster Preparedness and Response (DPR) Programme under this PRRO, WFP supports local government units, academic institutions, civil society and NGOs in strengthening disaster preparedness and risk reduction mechanisms through initiatives such as capacity strengthening trainings, installation of early warning systems, and community-based risk mitigation activities.

This operation also features capacity augmentation and policy development components to optimise the disaster response structures and policy frameworks of the Government of the Philippines in support of the Philippine Development Plan (2011–2016).

Credit: Photo WFP/Anthony Chase Lim  
Caption: Yum! Asia delegates travelled to Maguindanao to visit WFP's School Meals project. The delegates participated in the feeding activities and interacted with the children who received hot and nutritious daily meals at schools.

Main Photo

## Highlights

- WFP supported the Government of the Philippines in its humanitarian response following Typhoon Nock-Ten through logistics assistance.
- WFP reached 130,400 people in Mindanao to improve their food security.

National Response Capacity-Building: Applying Lessons Learned from the Haiyan/Yolanda Emergency	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)
Special Operation (SO): 200706 (July 2014 – June 2018)	12.9 m	5.3 m (42%)

This Special Operation (SO) aims to enhance the Government's disaster response capabilities in areas of logistics and supply chain management. It also aims to ensure that WFP is ready to activate emergency response options at-scale, in a timely manner, and in alignment with government relief mechanisms. Building on the key learnings from the Typhoon Haiyan emergency in 2013/2014, the operation aims to mitigate potential operational bottlenecks and challenges as identified during the large-scale humanitarian response.

Key to this operation is the establishment of a network of disaster response facilities in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao in support of an improved and decentralised emergency response network. WFP also provides technical assistance and trainings for government counterparts on practical, operational and strategic logistics.

## In Numbers (December 2016)

WFP Philippines assisted **130,400** people with food including:

**62,000** school children

**10,300** children aged 6-23 months

**8,800** pregnant and nursing women

**43,300** food-for-asset assistance

**6,000** general food distribution



December 2016

## Operational Updates

- WFP provided assistance to 130,400 individuals in Mindanao to enhance their resilience. Of this, 43,300 people received food through the asset-creation programme and another 6,000 through general food distribution, while 8,800 pregnant and nursing women and 10,300 children aged 6-23 months were supported under the stunting prevention programme. In addition, WFP provided school meals to 62,000 school age children in primary schools.
- The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) requested logistics assistance from WFP to transport relief goods to the areas that were affected by Typhoon Nock-Ten, which barreled the Bicol region of the country on 25 December. WFP provided 39 trucks to deliver 527 metric tonnes (mt) of relief goods (equivalent to 324 mt of family food packs and 202.5 mt of rice).
- The Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty (PAHP) is being rolled out to two regions in the country in collaboration with the Department of Agrarian Reform, DSWD and the Department of Agriculture with technical support from FAO and WFP. Patterned after the Food Acquisition Programme (PAA) and National School Feeding Programme (PNAE) of Brazil, the PAHP is aimed at reducing poverty and hunger in selected communities through the convergence of services of government line agencies.
- WFP Philippines was given a special citation by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) in recognition of its contribution to its partnership with local government units in disaster preparedness and response. The citation was given during the Gawad Kalasag awarding ceremonies.

## Gender

- The UN Country Office organized a workshop on Gender and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with the aim of aligning the gender guideline indicators provided for the SDGs to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). The Gender Working Group will be re-activated to take on oversight for this purpose.
- Members of the Gender Results Network gathered for the year-end review and assessed how each unit integrated gender equality and women's empowerment into their work and activities.

## Challenges

- Government security forces have continued their pursuit operations against non-state armed groups throughout central Mindanao. As a result, several commodity distributions have been postponed due to the increasing insecurity, causing delays in the implementation of WFP activities.

## Country Background & Strategy



Despite being one of the fastest growing economies in Southeast Asia in recent years, declines in poverty were modest, leaving marginalised groups such as women, children and the elderly vulnerable to hunger and poverty. This rapid economic growth however does not necessarily translate to better conditions when combined with other factors such as nutrition and food security. The Philippines has maintained GDP growth annually but poverty incidence remains high at 21.6 percent by the end of 2015.

According to the 2015 Global Hunger Index, the food and nutrition situation in the Philippines is 'serious' despite steady improvements since the 1990s, positioning the country at 53 out of 104 countries. Prevalence of undernutrition remains an issue of public concern. Based on the 2015 National Nutrition Survey, wasting and stunting among children in WFP's operational areas in Mindanao remained a problem at 7.1 percent and 33.4 percent respectively, which are higher than the national prevalence and above the acceptable range as defined by the World Health Organization.

WFP projects in the Philippines are in line with the Philippine UN Development Action Framework, and support the attainment of WFP Strategic Objectives, the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the Zero Hunger Challenge.

WFP re-established its presence in the Philippines in 2006 to support the ongoing Mindanao peace process and to help build community resilience to armed conflict, which undermines nutrition and food security.

Population: **101 million**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **33.4% of children between 6-59 months**