



- The first national conference on rice fortification was convened in Kathmandu by the Department of Health Services, Department of Food Technology and Quality Control, and the Nepal Food Corporation (NFC) in association with WFP in December.
- WFP's ongoing flood response to address food and nutrition insecurity in the Terai continues. Under the food security component, WFP has reached 74 percent of its target population, while 61 percent have been reached through the nutrition component.

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WFP Assistance

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)* ¹
Country Programme			
DEV 200319 (2013-2017)	216.3 m	60.5 m (28%)	5.4 m
Restoring Food and Nutrition Security and Building Resilient Livelihoods in Earthquake-Affected Areas			
PRRO 200875 (Jan 2016 – Dec 2018)	49.5 m	13.2 m (21%)	3.3 m
Food Assistance to Refugees from Bhutan			
PRRO 200787 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2017)	7.5 m	4.2 m (56%)	0.4 m
Logistics and Telecommunications Augmentation and Coordination in Response to the Earthquake in Nepal			
SO 200848 (Apr 2015 – Dec 2017)	36.3 m	26.2 m (72%)	-
Augmentation of National and District Level Emergency Logistics Preparedness in Nepal			
SO 200999 (Nov 2016 – Dec 2016)	7.2 m	3.9 m (53%)	-
Emergency Operation – Flood Response			
IR-EMOP 201098	1.5 m	0%	1.5 m
EMOP 201101	6.01 m	4.2 m (70%)	-

*January 2017 - March 2018

GENDER MARKER 2A  PRRO 200875

The immediate response emergency operation (IR-EMOP 201098) has provided life-saving food, cash or nutrition assistance to 218,260 flood-affected people. An eight month **emergency response and recovery operation (EMOP 201101)** was launched in September. This operation aims to provide nutritional and unconditional cash assistance to populations affected by the flood.

Nepal Country Programme (CP 200319) contributes towards the Government of Nepal's efforts in enhancing the food and nutrition security of vulnerable communities and increasing resilience to disasters. The CP covers four areas – livelihoods, education, and nutrition and capacity development.

Livelihood creation provides seasonal employment and livelihood training, rehabilitation of rural roads and trails, irrigation channels and other community assets.

WFP provides education support to the Ministry of Education, which has proved to be vital in the Government's efforts to improve access to education through the School Meals Programme. These combined efforts have achieved higher attendance rates while improving nutritional intake among school children in rural Nepal. In addition, WFP is focusing on increasing awareness related to hygiene and nutrition.

WFP supports the Ministry of Health to implement the Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programme to prevent chronic malnutrition amongst expectant mothers and children aged 6 to 23 months.

Established by WFP as a field surveillance mechanism in 2002 at the height of the conflict, the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System, known as NeKSAP, has expanded and evolved as a nationwide food security monitoring system, based on strong collaboration between the Government, WFP and other institutions at the national and sub-national level. NeKSAP was institutionalized in the Government in June 2016 and WFP continues to provide technical assistance to adapt NeKSAP to the new federal system of governance.

The earthquake recovery project (PRRO 200875) supports local communities and the Government to "build back better" in the most food-insecure earthquake-affected communities. Community asset rehabilitation activities (i.e. repairing rural roads/trails to enable connectivity to major route ways and re-establishing access in high hilly areas, promoting resilient livelihoods and addressing post-earthquake food and nutrition needs), are ongoing in three quake-affected districts: Nuwakot, Dhading and Gorkha.

The emergency response project for logistics and telecommunications (SO 200848) WFP continues trail rehabilitation in some of the earthquake-affected districts.

The emergency preparedness project for capacity building (SO 200999) builds national and district level emergency logistics capacities to respond to future disasters.

¹ Resourcing figures are as per country office pipeline.

In Numbers

228,018 children received school meals in December.

47,845 people received unconditional cash distribution in flood affected districts.

Children Assisted
December 2017

52%



48%



Operational Updates

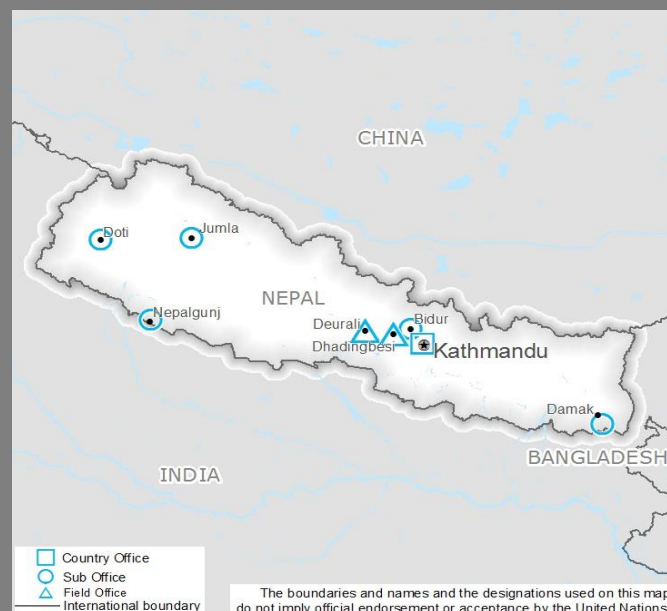
- Under the emergency flood response operation, unconditional cash distribution is nearing completion in Saptari and Rautahat. In December, WFP reached 74 percent (47,845 people) of people targeted for assistance through the cash-based transfer component of this operation. The nutrition component reached over 60 percent of its targeted population in December. The remainder of both components is expected to be completed in January 2018.
- The complaints and feedback mechanism *Namaste WFP*, operational under the school meals programme in Dailekh, Sindhupalchok and Bardiya, has been activated in WFP's earthquake recovery programme districts of Nuwakot, Dhading and Gorkha, and the emergency flood operation in Saptari and Rautahat. Preparations are underway to roll out *Namaste WFP* under the nutrition component of the emergency operation in six districts of Terai - Sunsari, Saptari, Siraha, Mahottari, Sarlahi and Rautahat - as well as under livelihood activities in Doti district.
- As part of its handover and transition plan, the Ministry of Education has requested WFP to continue support to their Schools Meals Programme, for 236,000 school children, until the end of the Nepali fiscal year (mid-July 2018). It is anticipated that 36,000 students in Baitadi and Dadeldhura will be covered by the Government's cash-based school meals in 2018.
- A Logistics Cluster meeting in December, chaired by the Ministry of Home Affairs, conducted a lessons learned exercise on the August floods response. The report is currently being prepared, and will be shared after partners' feedback and comments are reviewed.
- A review with recommendations for operationalisation of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) regional food bank has been completed. The report has been finalized and will be circulated amongst partners next month.
- WFP, together with the Ministry of Agricultural Development, organized a NeKSAP training session on web-based data entry. This was for district level NeKSAP focal persons in the central and far-western development regions. A total of 87 participants were trained.
- WFP continues to support the Government in the Sustainable Development Goal 2, Zero Hunger Strategic Review Process and in planning for the Nepal Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019-2023. In December, the Strategic Review preliminary findings were presented to the Government and a series of sub-national consultations were conducted across the country, to inform the findings of the final report, expected in late February 2018. Further consultations with donors and other stakeholders will be held during January 2018.

Challenges

- Provincial and federal elections were held on 20 November and 7 December. A moratorium on operations was enforced by local government including on WFP activities in flood-affected districts.

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December 2017

Country Background & Strategy



After a decade of post-conflict transition, political and social progress in Nepal has been slow. The GDP per capita is USD 707 and 25 percent of the population lives on USD 1.25 per day or less. Poverty in the Far West development region (Karnali Zone) is the highest, with 46 percent of people below the poverty line. This is partly due to the geographical location of Karnali, which falls purely in the mountain belt, resulting in lower levels of agricultural productivity and infrastructure development.

Frequent natural disasters negatively affect livelihoods and food security. Nepal's vulnerability to high food prices, especially in remote mountain areas, further exacerbates food insecurity. Challenging and isolated geography, natural disasters, civil unrest and lack of infrastructure complicate efforts to improve livelihoods, establish functioning markets and transport food.

WFP's Country Programme supports the Government of Nepal in tackling food insecurity, focusing on social safety nets in the areas of nutrition, education and rural livelihoods support.

WFP has been operating in Nepal since 1964.

Population: **26.6 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
145 out of 188

Income Level: **Least Developed**

Chronic malnutrition: **36% of children under 5**

Donors

Top donors in 2016/2017: United States of America; United Nations other Funds and Agencies, UN Central Emergency Response Fund, Australia, United Kingdom, private donors and Republic of Korea

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