



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief July 2018

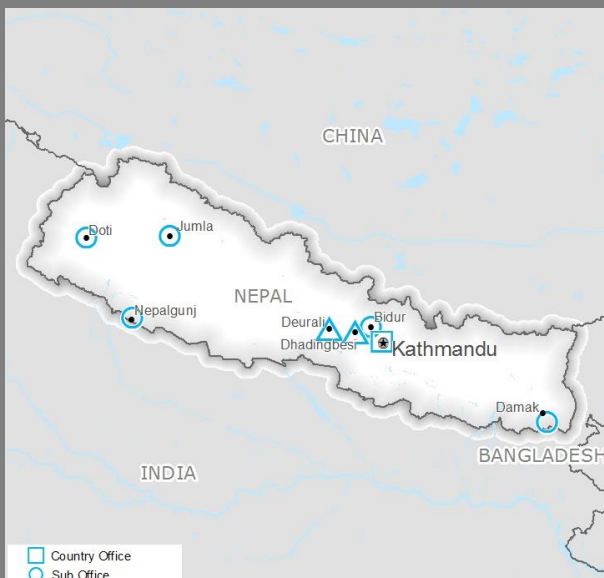


Operational Context

The Constitution of Nepal, adopted in 2015, restructured the country as a federal democratic republic, representing a new era for the country at an opportune time to make progress on Agenda 2030. It also enshrined food as a fundamental right of every citizen with a new Right to Food Act. Both changes started early this year and present an opportunity to include Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 in national policies, budgets and sub-national plans in the new federal structure.

The Zero Hunger Strategic Review (ZHSR), conducted in 2017-18, found that the country still suffers from serious food insecurity and malnutrition despite commendable progress on these fronts. It also outlined a series of recommendations to address the problem.

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 between 6-59 months**

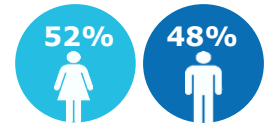
In Numbers

4.6 m food insecure people

1.4 m pregnant and nursing women malnourished

US\$ 0 m six months (August 2018-January 2019) net funding requirements

201,730 children received WFP school meals in July 2018



Operational Updates

- An interim standard operating procedural guideline for WFP's complaint and feedback mechanism, *Namaste WFP*, was developed to streamline efforts in the response process across various stakeholders for improved accountability to communities where WFP implements school meals. These guidelines were endorsed by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology's Food for Education Project.
- With the onset of the monsoon season, WFP has started to be on standby in case of a major flood. WFP Nepal continues to monitor early warning signs rigorously.
- WFP is working closely with the Centre for Education and Human Resource Development and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to revise the current School Meals Programme guideline. This will later be disseminated at local levels, in support of the scaling up of the National School Meals Programme.
- WFP provides assistance to refugees from Bhutan including through complementary vegetable cultivation activities. In order to optimally utilize the available resources and ensure value for money, WFP shifted its transfer modality from in-kind to cash-based, as part of the gradual transition plan.
- WFP supported a consultative meeting at the Ministry of Agriculture, Land Management and Cooperatives (MOALMC) in July to leverage support for the signing of the joint Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on rice fortification. Participants for this event included high level ministry officials. The MoU has been submitted to the Ministry of Finance for their approval.
- WFP's Evidence, Policy and Innovation (EPI) unit, consulted with the Chief Minister and Ministers of Agriculture in the Karnali Province and social development and other officials on the re-alignment of NeKSAP in the federal structure. They also met with Dailekh district and government officials and those at the local levels. Local, federal and provincial authorities expressed their interest in working with WFP on monitoring systems such as NeKSAP.

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Temporary Interim Country Strategic Plan Jan-Dec 2018

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Aug-Jan Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
42.75 m	38 m	0 m

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: School-aged children in food insecure and remote rural areas have sustainable access to food by 2022

- Activities:**
- Provision of school meals, and strengthening capacity

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Refugees from Bhutan in Eastern Nepal maintain access to adequate food

- Activities:**
- General food distribution for the refugees from Bhutan

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Children aged 6-23 months old, pregnant and lactating women and other vulnerable persons in Nepal have improved nutritional status by 2030.

- Activities:**
- Support the Government to design and implement programmes for the prevention of malnutrition.
 - Provide technical support to the Government in order to develop rice fortification policies.

Strategic Result 3: Improved small-holders food security

Strategic Outcome 4: improved availability of pro-small-holder public goods and services in vulnerable communities in central and western Nepal by 2030.

- Activities:**
- Enhance resilience and improve adaptation to shocks and to effects of climate change.

Strategic Result 4: Nepal has enhanced policy coherence on FSN

Strategic Outcome 5: Capacities of national and local authorities are enhanced to prepare for a respond to food security and emergencies by 2030.

- Activities:**
- Enhance capacity of sub-district level governments
 - Development of National Disaster Response Platforms and strengthening emergency preparedness response capacity
 - Strengthen capacities of food security monitoring and analysis
 - Ensure business continuity to enable WFP to respond to a catastrophic disaster by establishing safe facilities

Monitoring

- WFP Nepal is planning the impact evaluation of Saemaul Zero Hunger Community Project (SZHCP) as well as the protracted earthquake recovery operation. Two separate comprehensive terms of references have been finalized in consultation with all relevant partners. The evaluation process is expected to take approximately six months, with the final reports due by the end of 2018.

Challenges

- The Nepal Food Security Monitoring System, known as NeKSAP, supported by WFP, continues to monitor early warning levels for floods across the country. Project activities as well as food distribution in remote areas may be affected.

Zero Hunger Strategic Review of SDG 2 in Nepal

Since 2017, WFP has been supporting the Government of Nepal to undertake a Zero Hunger Strategic Review of SDG-2 (end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture) in Nepal. This nationally-led, independent and analytical study has reviewed Nepal’s policies, strategies and current implementation plans and activities relating to SDG2. The final recommendations include key actionable areas for the Government, development partners, private sector and civil society organisations. WFP worked with the National Planning Commission through the SDG2 Advisory Group throughout the period, particularly in bringing together key partners from across government, UN and civil society organisations. FAO and UNICEF have also provided input in this initiative. The study was conducted by national partner NARMA Consultancy, and the final report of the Zero Hunger Strategic Review of Food Security and Nutrition in Nepal, now awaits endorsement by the Government.

Donors

[United States of America](#); [United Nations other funds and Agencies](#), [UN Central Emergency Response Fund](#), [Australia](#), [Canada](#), [Norway](#), [United Kingdom](#), [private donors](#) and [Republic of Korea](#).