



WFP Nepal Country Brief September 2018

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



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. The new Right to Food Act enshrines food as a fundamental right of every citizen. Both changes 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**

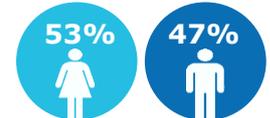
RIn Numbers

4.6 m food insecure people

1.4 m pregnant and nursing women malnourished

US\$ 0 m six months (October 2018-March 2019) net funding requirements

191,256 children received WFP school meals in September 2018



Operational Updates

- Feedback from WFP's Executive Board on the Nepal Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023 has been received. The next step is to finalising the CSP for approval by the Board in November.
- In September, WFP and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology organized a two-day workshop to establish a technical assistance framework, in order to define major areas of cooperation to improve and harmonize the expansion of the National School Meals Programme.
- WFP initiated an Open Streetmap based pilot project on trail and infrastructure mapping in the Jumla district, in Province 6, which was implemented in five *gaupalikas*. Training, orientation and field data collection concluded in September.
- Under the Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programme, WFP distributed 77 metric tons of nutritious wheat soy blend to pregnant and lactating women and children aged 06-23 months across districts in the food insecure Karnali region.
- WFP met with the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Industry, commerce and Supplies, the Ministry of Health and Population and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development in September to finalise the joint Memorandum of Understanding on the rice fortification programme in Nepal.
- An acceptability test and portion size study for the fortified rice has been initiated in the Bajura district.
- The design of a 1,000 metric ton warehouse to be built in Nepalgunj is nearing completion under the Emergency Preparedness and Response project.
- WFP sub-office in Nepalgunj is preparing to move their base to Surkhet. Operations will continue from the new location from October onwards.

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Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan Jan-Dec 2018		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Oct-Mar Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
41.56 m	41.56 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

- Preparation to conduct training for process monitoring and reporting is ongoing under WFP's education programme. These sessions will be given to government and NGO partners' staff at field level.
- A request for proposals is being prepared for the conduct of the impact evaluation for the protracted recovery and relief earthquake operation.

Challenges

- Sizeable funding gaps continue to limit WFP's operations across the country. WFP has initiated talks with government representatives at both the federal and provincial levels to seek possible resources in support of the underfunded MCHN programme.
- WFP is exploring funding options for capacity development and technical assistance to government counterparts which warrants long term commitment.

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.

WFP worked with the National Planning Commission through the SDG2 Advisory Group throughout the review process, 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 has now been endorsed 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](#).