



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief December 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. 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**

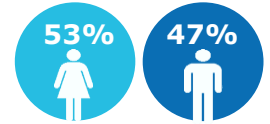
In Numbers

4.6 m food insecure people

1.4 m pregnant and nursing women malnourished

US\$ 2.4 m six months (January -June 2019) net funding requirements

203,267 children received WFP school meals in December 2018



Operational Updates

- WFP successfully implemented the Temporary Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP 2018). Following its conclusion in December, the new WFP Nepal Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023 (CSP) will commence in January 2019.
- WFP delivered its last round of support to the refugees from Bhutan with the final cash-for-food amount distributed in December. This will support the neediest refugees for an additional six months. From 2019, UNHCR and the Government of Nepal will continue to support the most vulnerable refugees.
- WFP signed a Letter of Understanding (LoU) for the new CSP with the Government of Nepal which officiates the roll-out of WFP's CSP operations in the country.
- The KOICA funded Saemaul Zero-Hunger Community Project has concluded in December. Representatives of WFP, KOICA and Good Neighbours International along with local government officials attended a closing ceremony in Doti and handed over two multi-purpose buildings to the local community. This project has benefited nearly 31,700 local people and empowered women, improved market access for local agro-products and ensured better livelihoods for all.
- WFP's protracted earthquake relief and recovery programme has concluded in Dhading, Gorkha and Nuwakot districts. Closing ceremonies were conducted in the presence of local leaders. The project has benefited around 75,000 people through food/cash for assets and income generation activities.
- A Technical Working Committee (TWC), chaired by the Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, has been formed to develop key policy guidance and standard measures to strengthen the National School Meals Program. The TWC meeting was held in the presence of a WFP school meals expert, to finalize the technical assistance framework as well as to discuss the process of developing a national integrated school meals guidelines.

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Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Jan - June Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
125.8 m	22 m	2.4 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

- WFP hosted delegates from the Bhutanese government at the Humanitarian Staging Area in December. The visitors were given a tour of the premises while being briefed on WFP Nepal's emergency preparedness work.
- As part of the ongoing Mother Child Health and Nutrition Programme activities, throughout December, WFP distributed a total of 123 metric tonnes of SuperCereal to 34,000 pregnant and nursing women and children aged 6-23 months in the Karnali region.

Monitoring

- The end-line evaluation on the Saemaul Zero-Hunger Community Project (SZCHP) is in its final stage and a draft report is currently under review.

Challenges

- WFP continues to reach out for donor commitments to ensure full programme implementation to achieve the Strategic Results outlined in the CSP.

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. A launch ceremony is expected in early 2019.

Donors

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