



WFP Nepal Country Brief March 2019

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

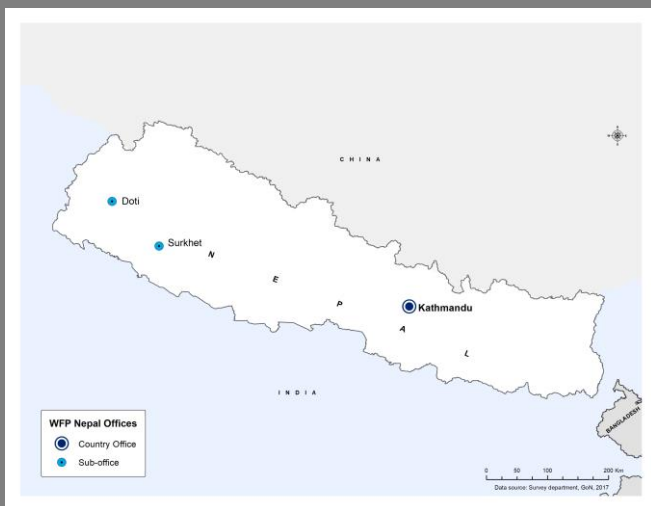


Operational Context

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 1963.



Population: **29.8 million** (Jan 2019)

2017 Human Development Index: **149 out of 188**

Income Level: **Least developed**

Chronic malnutrition: **36% of children between 6-59 months**

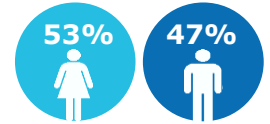
In Numbers

4.6 m food-insecure people

1.4 m pregnant and nursing women malnourished

US\$ 6.3 m six-month (Apr-Sep 2019) net funding requirements

211,647 children received WFP school meals in March 2019.



Operational Updates

- On 10 March 2019, WFP lost seven members of staff who were aboard the ill-fated Ethiopian Airlines flight 302, bound for Nairobi from Ethiopia which killed all 157 passengers. Amongst them was Ekta Adhikari, a dedicated young humanitarian who had worked for WFP in Nepal, Papua New Guinea and Ethiopia. In a tribute WFP's Executive Director David Beasley said, "As we mourn, let us reflect that our colleagues were willing to travel and work far from their homes and loved ones to help make the world a better place to live. That was their calling, as it is for the rest of the WFP family."
- In support of the Government, WFP completed an initial draft of the Integrated National School Meal Programme Implementation guideline. Once approved, this guideline is expected to standardize the implementation of school feeding across the country.
- Together with the National Planning Commission, WFP conducted a Consolidated Livelihoods Exercise for Analyzing Resilience (CLEAR) in Province 7. CLEAR is an analytical approach developed by WFP to better understand how food security is affected by climate risks, including floods, cyclones and droughts.
- WFP's Evidence, Policy and Innovation unit has been selected to participate in the WFP Innovation Accelerator's Bootcamp in Germany in May. The unit will work with business development experts on last-mile data collection and rural financial access innovations.
- A Forecast-based Financing (FbF) mission successfully identified sites and established warehouse management committees with the local authorities for the prepositioning of emergency supplies.
- WFP continues to improve access through engineering. Work on two trails are 90 percent and 15 percent complete under the *Purnima* project in Gorkha and Dhading. *Build Back Better* has completed 50 percent road work, with the trails being 90 percent completed, in Dolakha.
- Under the Emergency Preparedness and Response Project, WFP is conducting a Logistics Capacity Assessment in three provinces – 2, 6 and 7. This is expected to be completed within the next three months.

Contact info: [Kessang Lama \(kessang.lama@wfp.org\)](mailto:kessang.lama@wfp.org)
Country Director: [Pippa Bradford](#)
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/nepal

Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Apr – Sep Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
125.8 m	33.6 m	6.3 m

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Affected populations in Nepal have timely access to adequate food and nutrition during and in the aftermath of natural disasters and other shocks.

- Activities:**
- Provide food assistance for targeted shock-affected people, including food and cash-based transfers (CBTs) and specialized nutritious foods and related services for the treatment and prevention of malnutrition in children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls.

Strategic Result 1: End Malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: Food-insecure people in targeted areas have improved nutrition throughout the key stages of their lives by 2025.

- Activities:**
- Support the strengthening of national nutrition-sensitive, gender-responsive social safety nets for vulnerable populations and provide specialized nutritious foods, technical assistance, logistics and social behaviour change communication for the prevention of malnutrition.
 - Provide gender-transformative and nutrition-sensitive school meals and health packages in chronically food-insecure areas and strengthen the Government’s capacity to integrate the national school meals programme into the national social protection framework.
 - Provide technical support to the Government for the development of a rice-fortification policy framework and supply chain system for use in social safety nets.

Strategic Result 2: Sustainable Food Systems

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable communities in remote food-insecure areas have improved food security and resilience to climate and other shocks by 2030.

- Activities:**
- Develop and improve risk-resilient infrastructure and strengthen local capacity to identify climate risks and implement adaptive strategies.

Strategic Result 3: Nepal has Strengthened Capacity to Implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 4: The Government has strengthened capabilities to provide essential food security and nutrition services and respond to crises by 2023.

- Activities:**
- Strengthen preparedness capacity, establish emergency logistics and institutional platforms and improve access to food reserves to enable government and humanitarian partners to respond rapidly to crises.
 - Provide technical assistance to enable the Government to strengthen the food security monitoring, analysis and early-warning system and align it with the federal governance system.

Strategic Result 4: Nepal has enhanced policy coherence on FSN

Strategic Outcome 5: Government efforts towards achieving zero hunger by 2030 are supported by inclusive and coherent policy frameworks across all spheres of government by 2023.

- Activities:**
- Provide technical assistance and support evidence generation for government and multisector partners to enhance rights-based food security and nutrition plans, policies, regulatory frameworks and service delivery.

Monitoring

- The end-line evaluation (Financial Year 2014) and the base-line survey (Financial Years 2017) for the McGovern Dole Food for Education and Child Nutrition project has been approved by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Challenges

- Weather conditions in Samagaun, Samdo, caused delays in WFP’s engineering work. Pre-monsoon rains are expected to continue into April which may further hamper progress.

Tribute to Ekta Adhikari

“When a tragedy like that strikes, I don’t think there are any magic words you could really say. I think it is a matter of being together, hugging each other, and keeping each other in our prayers and our thoughts”. David Beasley, WFP Executive Director.



Ekta was a dedicated young professional who was committed to using her skills to ensure food reached some of the world’s most vulnerable people. In 2015, Ekta joined WFP to support the humanitarian sector in her home country and worked tirelessly throughout the earthquake emergency as part of the logistics cluster. She travelled to Papua New Guinea after the April 2018 earthquake, and then moved to Ethiopia in September 2018 working on the emergency response at Dilla in SNNP region, and transferred to the Country Office in Addis Ababa in December 2018.

On 25 March 2019, the Country Office in Kathmandu paid their last respects to Ekta Adhikari. A memorial ceremony was attended by family members, the acting Resident Coordinator, as well as representatives from the Ministry of Home Affairs alongside WFP country office colleagues. During the memorial, the Country Director Pippa Bradford stated that Ekta was *“a dedicated and talented young woman who was a vibrant, enthusiastic person who brought much joy to our office”.*

Donors

Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Norway, the Government of Nepal, United States of America, United Kingdom, United Nations and private donors.