



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief April 2019

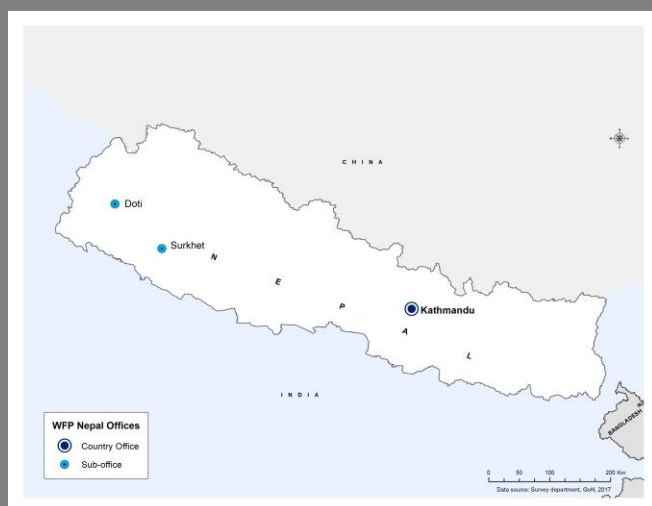


Operational Context

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\$ 7.93 m six-month (May-Oct 2019) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- The Government of Nepal has pledged to buy supplementary nutritious food to support storm victims in Bara/Parsa. WFP is on standby to support this distribution.
- WFP hosted a mission from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) whose generous contributions support the School Meals Programme. The delegation visited a government cash-based transfer municipality in Sindupalchowk where they met with local authorities, agricultural cooperatives school students and teachers to review the pilot Home Grown school feeding model.
- WFP completed a further Consolidated Livelihoods Exercise for Analyzing Resilience (CLEAR) in additional provinces of the Karnali. CLEAR is an analytical approach developed by WFP to better understand how food security is affected by climate risks, including floods, cyclones and droughts.
- Under the PURNIMA project, work has concluded in three sites. In an effort to increase female participation in construction, these sites have introduced day care centres to facilitate engagement of working mothers. WFP is planning to open further centres across its activities to promote equal gender participation.
- WFP conducted a project induction workshop for three local NGO partners under the Climate Change activity.
- Under the Emergency Preparedness and Response Project, WFP conducted a three-day Practical Emergency Logistics Training (PELT) for 47 Armed Police Force cadets. The event was held at the APF Disaster Management Training School in Kurintar.
- Under the joint UN Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (RWEE) project, partner selection to support planned activities is currently underway.

Contact info: Kessang Lama (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)	May – Oct Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
125.8 m	33.6 m	7.93 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

- Over the last seven months, WFP and the Food for Education Project (FFEP) have covered around 850 schools through process monitoring – an assessment of the intervention.

Challenges

- WFP's Mother and Child Health and Nutrition programme under Strategic Outcome 2 has suffered a pipeline break due to delays in the signing of agreements at the Ministry of Health. The recently re-centralised governance structure is expected to support the resolution of this pending issue.

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

Social exclusion and gender inequality is entrenched in the political, economic and social fabric of Nepal. WFP recognizes that in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 (zero hunger), it must work in tandem with SDG5 (gender equality).

The recent federalisation of the country's governing structure has allowed for more female representation in authoritative positions. Recent results from the Election Commission of Nepal shows a 93 percent representation from women in deputy mayor positions. It also shows progress on inclusion of marginalised castes and ethnic groups.

Despite this, exclusion and inequality still prevails affecting food and nutrition security. WFP's CSP outcomes will continue to tackle the inequalities that oppress and discriminate against groups in its activities through leveraging its assistance to bridge gaps.

WFP has institutionalised accountability to affected populations in all its activities, by providing information, consulting with communities and strengthening complaint and feedback mechanisms.

In April, local implementing partners were oriented on WFP's gender policies and standards including protection and accountability. GESI analysis across the five Strategic Outcomes are also planned for the months ahead to ensure that interventions are GESI responsive.

WFP has also been actively involved in a taskforce, together with other UN agencies, to identify challenges, lessons learned and best practices for gender inclusive construction projects in Nepal.

Donors

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