



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Cambodia Country Brief July 2019



## Operational Context

Cambodia has achieved remarkable economic growth in the last two decades. The poverty rate has decreased from 47.8 percent in 2007 to 13.5 percent in 2014. The Government is committed to reaching middle-income country status by 2030. However, a significant portion of the population remains 'near poor' and still at high risk of falling back into poverty at the slightest shock.

Undernutrition remains a public health concern; 32 percent of children under 5 years suffer from stunting, 24 percent are underweight, and 10 percent wasted. Micronutrient deficiencies are widespread. Cambodia is highly vulnerable to natural disasters, with regular monsoon flooding in the Mekong and Tonle Sap basin and localised droughts in the plains. Limited access for the poor to education and health services and low levels of investment in public infrastructure further perpetuate food insecurity and undernutrition.

WFP has been present in Cambodia since 1979.



Population: **15.6 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **146 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **32 percent of children between 6-59 months**

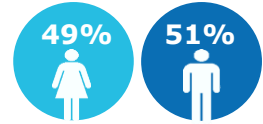
## In Numbers

**0 mt** of food distributed

**US\$ 19,500** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 397,000** six months (August 2019 to January 2020) net funding requirements

**312,430 people assisted**  
In July 2019



## Operational Updates

- WFP conducted a joint monitoring visit to a school meal programme in Siem Reap Province with Mrs. Michelle Calhoun, the Acting Deputy Administrator of the United States Department of Agriculture for the Office of Capacity Building and Development and a representative from the US Embassy in Cambodia. The mission allowed delegates to learn about and discuss the programme with key stakeholders including from relevant government ministries. The mission prioritised discussions about the national commitment and readiness to take over the school meal programme in the future.
- An independent consulting firm conducted data collection and analysis for the end-line evaluation of United States Department of Agriculture-supported school feeding programme (2017 -2019). The final report assessing the performance and results of the programme will be released in December. This will enable WFP Cambodia, the Government and cooperating partners to demonstrate achievements and identify areas to improve in future programmes. It will be especially relevant to the Government as it increases its leading role in the programme.
- WFP conducted a supply assessment for the homegrown school feeding programme (HGSFP) to capture feedback from suppliers on the revised quotation tools and processes. WFP will use the findings of the assessment to ensure that these processes and tools remain effective and relevant.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	August 2019 – January 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
50.24 m	16.39 m	0.39 m

Strategic Result: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Vulnerable communities in Cambodia have access to nutritious, safe, diverse, convenient, affordable and preferred foods by 2025.

Focus area: Root Causes

**Activities:** Provide implementation support and technical assistance, including support to evidence-based policy and programme development, to national and subnational public and private sector actors engaged in social safety nets, particularly home-grown school feeding.

Strategic Result: Food Systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Poor and vulnerable communities in Cambodia are more resilient to shocks and stresses in the food system by 2023.

Focus area: Resilience

**Activities:** Provide implementation support and technical assistance to national and subnational public and private sector actors engaged in food production and transformation. (CAR: Climate adaptation and risk management activities)

Strategic Result: Developing Countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 3:** National and subnational institutions have strengthened capacities to mitigate risks and lead coordinated shock preparedness and response efforts by 2025.

Focus area: Root Causes

**Activities:** Provide technical support and backstopping to national stakeholders engaged in shock preparedness and response mechanisms and risk informed coordination.

Strategic Result: Countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 4:** National and local governance institutions and social protection systems are better informed and strengthened toward improved services delivery by 2030.

Focus area: Resilience

**Activities:** Develop and integrate digital information systems and provide technical assistance in their use to government officials and their counterparts.

**Activities:** Provide technical, coordination and organizational assistance to the Government and other food security, nutrition and social protection actors at the national and subnational levels.

Strategic Result: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 5:** Development and humanitarian partners in Cambodia have access to common supply chain services throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience

**Activities:** Provide on-demand supply chain services to other United Nations agencies and humanitarian actors.

- WFP and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport organised the fourth cooking competition with participation from 149 school cooks in Oddor Meanchey Province. This is the fourth competition that WFP and the Ministry have run since 2016 and is held in a different WFP-targeted province each year. The competition aims to motivate school cooks from the school meal programme. It helps to raise cooks' awareness about the school meal programme and enabled them to explore and exchange ideas related to food service in schools and personal hygiene and food safety guidelines in the kitchen.



The cooking competition is one of the initiatives that WFP supports to recognise the contribution of school cooks, most of whom are women, in communities.



*"Today I feel very excited to attend this competition as I can meet many cooks from other schools," Mrs Keo Roth, 50-year-old school cook who won the competition at the district level said. "I proudly say the blessing words that I received from schoolchildren and their parents at my school become real now. I won the first prize as they wished. Thank everyone at my school!" Mrs Keo Roth exclaimed her excitement with a winning medal and a certificate of recognition in her hands.*