



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief August 2019

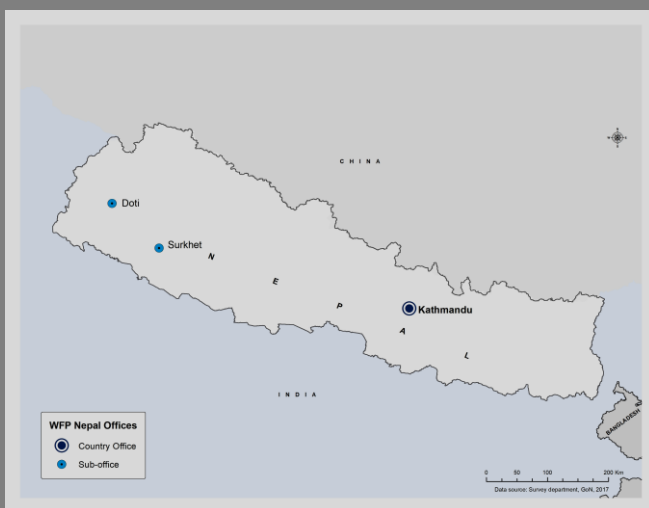


Operational Context

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 the 2030 Agenda. 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 million food-insecure people

1.4 million malnourished pregnant and lactating women

US\$ 2.2 million, six-month (Sept 2019-Feb 2020) net funding requirements

58,685 people targeted in WFP's 2019 flood response

Operational Updates

- Since 11 July, districts across the southern belt of Nepal received heavy monsoon rains resulting in 117 deaths and the displacement of at least 12,000 households. An estimated 176,800 people's food security is currently affected as a result of the flooding, of which 79,900 people, or 13,800 households, are deemed to be the most in need of assistance.
- Following a request from the Government, WFP has started a programme to prevent the deterioration of nutrition among children in five flood-affected districts (Mahottari, Saptari, Siraha, Sarlahi and Rautahat) by implementing blanket supplementary feeding. Almost 45,000 children aged 6 to 59 months and pregnant and nursing women will be reached under this programme. WFP is collaborating with UNICEF and other partners on the ground to integrate this programme with other emergency responses.
- WFP completed cash distributions reaching 8,305 people in Siraha, one of the districts worst affected by the floods.
- WFP held a two-day learning mission to Sindhupalchok, a School Meals Programme (SMP) district, in August. Participants included government officials, WFP's Country Director and three WFP staff. The objective of the mission was to develop a better understanding of Home-Grown School Feeding from a sustainability perspective, which could be applied to the programme in the future.
- After a period of thorough consultation with key stakeholders, WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with four government bodies (the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies, the Department of Food Technology and Quality Control and the Nepal Food Corporation) to support the scale up of rice fortification. The MoU should facilitate the reduction of micronutrient deficiencies in Nepal.
- WFP conducted a four-day Practical Emergency Logistics Training for 29 staff from the Nepal Police Disaster Management Division.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/nepal

Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Sep 2019 – Feb 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
125.8 m	45.9 m	2.2 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 2: 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 4: 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 5: 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 6: 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.

Operational Updates (continued)

- WFP has completed the Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience (CLEAR) - an analytical approach developed by WFP to better understand how food security is affected by climate risks - in all the districts of the Karnali and Sudurpaschim. The results of CLEAR will be reflected in WFP's next Food Security Atlas.

Challenges

- Activities under Strategic Outcomes 2 and 3 were affected by monsoon rains. With the rains now subsiding, they will get back on track in September.

WFP's flood response



Gurakh Rai has been disabled since birth and lives alone in a makeshift hut near a local temple where he works. He has three daughters who are all married. His wife died some time ago. Despite his disability, Gurakh manages his daily life with little to no help. His daughters visit him whenever they can, to ensure he is well and support him by providing food and medicine or other help as needed. Like most households in Jaleswor Municipality, Gurakh survives on less than US\$1 per day.

When the floods came, Gurakh was performing his daily puja at the temple. Fortunately, water could not enter the temple, so he stayed there, waiting for the disaster to end. WFP provided Gurakh with rice and lentils and has assisted 58,500 flood-affected people with life-saving food, cash and nutrition assistance. "Thank god for WFP," he said, "otherwise I don't know how I would have survived. I didn't want to be a burden on my daughters".

WFP is currently implementing an emergency nutrition response in flood-affected districts in the Terai.

Donors

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