



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cambodia Country Brief August 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**

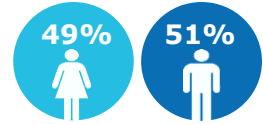
In Numbers

449 mt of food distributed

US\$ 0 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 1.48 million six months (September 2019 to February 2020) net funding requirements

312,430 people assisted
In August 2019



Operational Updates

- WFP and the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) reconfirmed their commitment to partnership in a meeting between WFP's Country Director and Senior Minister HE Kun Kim, the new head of NCDM. WFP and NCDM have worked together for more than two decades to save lives of vulnerable populations during emergencies.
- WFP supported the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) in conducting a field study to assess the feasibility of the "National School Meal and Nutrition Policy". The findings will influence the further development of the policy by allowing for the participation of other relevant sectors and contributing to the programme's sustainability. WFP remains engaged in the process and continues to work with MoEYS to develop the national homegrown school feeding programme.
- WFP also supported MoEYS's Primary Education Department in holding a user reflection workshop on the digital information system, designed by WFP, that supports the cash scholarship programme for primary school students. 69 staff from Kampong Thom, Siem Reap and Battambang provinces and MoEYS departments took part in the workshop, which allowed WFP to collect user feedback with which to upgrade the system and its user manuals. WFP is also exploring ways to integrate it with other information management systems, to facilitate better decision making and, possibly, to hand over the system to MoEYS in the future.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	September 2019 – February 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
50.24 m	19.99 m	1.5 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 Cambodia held a staff retreat to keep staff informed on ranges of topics, like updates related to the Country Strategic Plan 2019 – 2023, explore recent successes and consider how to overcome challenges in the future while maintaining a respectful working environment.
- WFP and the National Institutes of Statistics (NIS) of the Ministry of Planning met to disseminate recommendations on data sharing solutions to the participants from line ministries and UN agencies. Line ministries usually submit data in the forms of hardcopy and/or scanned PDF formats to NIS and this requires NIS to manually enter these data into its Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) reporting system, which takes time. The meeting presented proposed data sharing solutions and discussed ways forward to support the challenges of data sharing from line ministries to NIS.



Photographs from the WFP Cambodia 2019 staff retreat.