



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief September 2019

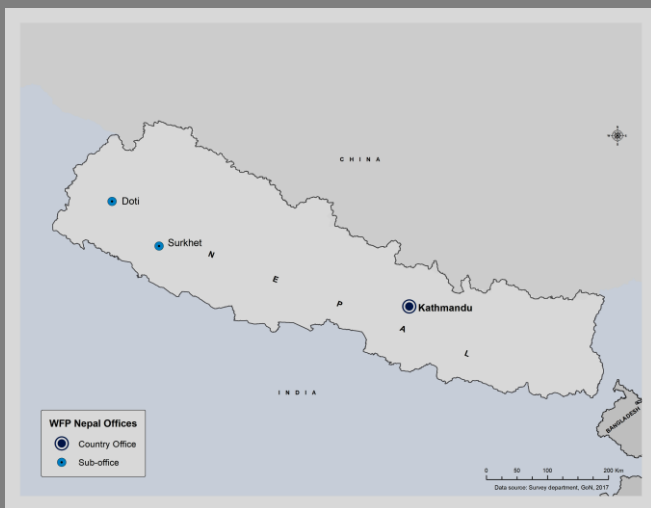


Operational Context

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**

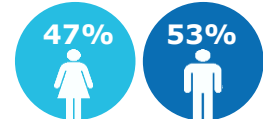
In Numbers

4.6 million food-insecure people

1.4 million malnourished pregnant and lactating women

US\$ 4.07 million, six-month (Oct 2019-Mar 2020) net funding requirements

164,051 children received WFP school meals in September 2019.



Operational Updates

- WFP has completed the first round of distributions for its Prevention of Acute Malnutrition programme in response to the recent flooding. WFP assisted 34,000 pregnant and lactating women, and children aged 6-59 months in five flood-affected districts: Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Siraha and Saptari.
- WFP and the Ministry of Health and Population signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU is the first step in making WFP's plans for a Mother and Child Health and Nutrition programme operational, which aims to improve nutrition in the Karnali Region for the remaining duration of the Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023).
- The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has officially endorsed the school meals guideline: School Meal Standard and Programme Facilitation Manual for Community Schools, 2076, which was developed with technical assistance from WFP. The endorsement comes after nine months of reviews, follow ups and consultations with various stakeholders.
- Under Strategic Outcome 4, WFP conducted five training sessions on emergency logistics including operational, practical and strategic perspectives, food storage management and quality control. There were 158 participants in the trainings (of which nine percent were female) from the Nepal Army, Nepal Police, Nepal Red Cross Society, Nepal Food Corporation and other stakeholders.
- Having signed the MoU for rice fortification in Nepal in August 2019, WFP is preparing an orientation programme for key stakeholders in Karnali Province. This is scheduled for October.
- WFP facilitated food security information management workshops in the two provinces, 6 and 7, with the highest levels of chronic food insecurity in the country, setting the groundwork for how provinces will leverage food security data to ensure the implementation of the Right to Food Act.

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Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Oct 2019 – Mar 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
125.8 m	45.27 m	4.07 m



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Thanks to WFP, three-year old Nisha’s future is brighter than it was when her family was displaced by floods in 2017.

Now that Nisha's nutrition has improved, Dhruapati wants all her children to escape the poverty cycle that has followed her family for generations. "I want them to grow up and get an education," she says.

At the age of 16, Dhruapati Devi Thakur was married to a man who was five years older than her. A decade later, she is now the mother of three children aged between three and nine years. Her husband is currently working as a barber and is barely making enough money to sustain their family of five. Most households in Hanumagar Nagar, where they live, survive on less than USD 1 per day. These households were devastated by the impact of the floods in August 2017. Dhruapati and her family, like the other 1.4 million people displaced by the floods, were forced to leave their inundated home and take refuge on a neighbour’s roof for three days, eating instant noodles and puffy rice to survive.

WFP provided life-saving food, cash and nutrition assistance, reaching the most vulnerable people in flood-affected districts, including pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6–59 months. Dhruapati’s youngest daughter, Nisha, was diagnosed with moderate acute malnutrition and was one of those receiving WFP’s fortified food, known as Super Cereal, to prevent her condition from deteriorating further.

“My youngest daughter never used to play with her siblings. She was always weak and sat in the corner by herself,” Dhruapati recalls. "Her malnutrition was confirmed when I took her to our local hospital. While WFP’s Super Cereal has improved Nisha’s condition, I will continue to monitor her status at our local health clinic as I have been told that they have started providing special food.”

Donors

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

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.