



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cambodia Country Brief December 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**

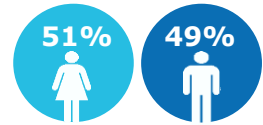
In Numbers

253.6 mt of food distributed

US\$ 164,926 cash-based transfers made (estimated)

US\$ 1.33 million six months (January to June 2020) net funding requirements

233,950 people assisted
In December 2019



Operational Updates

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and WFP jointly developed a national manual to support education officials at national and sub-national levels on the operation and management of the national home-grown school meal programme. With endorsement from the Minister of Education, Youth and Sport, WFP and the Ministry will use this manual as a training tool to strengthen the capacity of education officials from relevant departments nationwide.

WFP embarked on a research project with Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV) and a private company (17 Triggers), to identify the best methods with which to stimulate behaviour change amongst school aged children towards healthier diets. This project will be completed in early 2020 and will feed into the development of a wider Social Behaviour Change Communication package that will be developed in the coming years.

WFP continued to collaborate with the Ministry of Planning, working together to draft a partnership agreement. WFP also supported the Ministry's National Institute of Statistics to review and revise the food security module of the Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey questionnaire. As part of this support, WFP assisted in conducting enumerator training for their provincial staff to undertake data collection for this survey in 2019. Further training and food security data analysis will take place in 2020.

WFP supported the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, in close collaboration with Global Child Nutrition Foundation and the WFP Brazil Centre of Excellence against Hunger, to host the 21st Global Child Nutrition Forum. The forum is the largest

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	January – June 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
72.25 m	47.93 m	1.33 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.

international forum on school feeding and this was the first to be held in Asia. The event brought together 357 participants from 72 countries, including high-level officials from government and multilateral institutions, and representatives of donor organizations, the business sector, non-governmental organizations and media outlets. It was a successful event, which provided an opportunity for Cambodia to learn and share experiences on the establishment of the national school feeding programme.



357 delegates from 72 countries attended 21st Global Child Nutrition Forum in Siem Reap, Cambodia from December 2-6.

WFP and Green Trade company of the Government of Cambodia launched the local rice fortification facility to blend fortified rice kernels with Cambodian white rice for the school feeding programme of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.

This was the first time that fortified rice kernels were blended with Cambodian white rice at a national rice mill on a large scale (1,000mt) and is a promising start to the scale-up of rice fortification in Cambodia. Cambodia has recognized the importance of food fortification as a strategy for improving the nutrition security of its population with the mandatory iodization of salt and the fortification of fish and soy sauce. Micronutrients of fortified rice such as vitamins and minerals, e.g. iron, zinc, vitamin A and B12, are essential for optimizing health and growth.



Representatives from relevant government ministries and partners visited Green Trade's mill and learned about the process of blending fortified rice kernels with Cambodian white rice. Photo: © WFP/Ratanak Leng