



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief December 2019

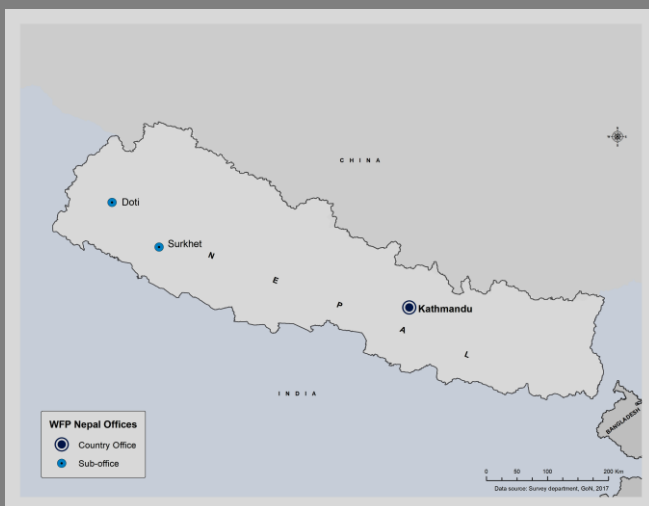


Operational Context

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**

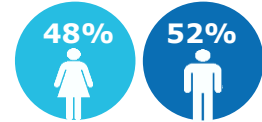
In Numbers

4.6 million food-insecure people

1.4 million malnourished pregnant and lactating women

US\$ 1.31 million, six-month (Jan - Jun 2020) net funding requirements

166,541 children received WFP school meals in December 2019.



Operational Updates

- In December, WFP's school feeding team, together with government officials, undertook a visit to Cambodia to attend the [Global Child Nutrition Forum \(GCNF\) 2019](#). Participants shared with and learned best practices on school feeding alongside 350 participants from 60 countries at this forum, which is the world's largest international conference on school feeding.
- After signing the Memorandum of Understanding to initiate rice fortification in Nepal, WFP and the Department of Food Technology and Quality Control have established a technical sub-committee to develop standards for rice fortification. They conducted two meetings in December and expect to present draft standards at the next meeting.
- Tribhuvan University launched an elective course titled "Emergency Logistics and Telecommunications" – developed by the Centre for Disaster Studies in close coordination with WFP. This post-graduate course will increase the number of professionals qualified to support emergency response in Nepal.
- Having completed the emergency nutrition response in five-flood affected Terai districts, WFP organised an after-action review meeting with implementing partners to share lessons learned and document challenges faced during the operation. Feedback from this review meeting will be used to shape future emergency nutrition operations.
- With WFP's support, 135 rural women farmers completed construction of two market outlets under the Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (RWEE) project. This construction created short-term wage employment opportunities for the women. The process of transferring cash to the participants is currently ongoing.
- The Ministry of Agriculture, and Livestock Development has cleared the Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) "Regional Agricultural Forecasting Toolbox" report on the production of paddy in 2019. This report, produced by WFP and the Ministry, incorporates crop yield forecasting in Nepal.

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Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Jan – Jun 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
125.8 m	45.99 m	1.31 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.

Monitoring

- WFP has completed data collection for post-distribution monitoring under the emergency nutrition operation in response to the July 2019 flooding in the Terai.
- WFP is currently continuing data collection for the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) baseline survey.
- WFP has developed process monitoring tools for two programmes: Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security in Karnali and the mother and child health and nutrition. These tools, which included a questionnaire and issue-based monitoring system, will be used to assess the progress of the interventions.

Challenges

- The recent drop in temperatures across the country has affected the daily lives and livelihoods of many communities, especially in mountainous regions. This may cause unnecessary obstructions in WFP activities including the mother and child health and nutrition programme and engineering work.

Photos from the archive



© World Food Programme/ Miriam Eid
A young student from WFP's school feeding programme playfully smiles at the camera.

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