



World Food Programme

SAVING
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WFP Nepal Country Brief January 2020

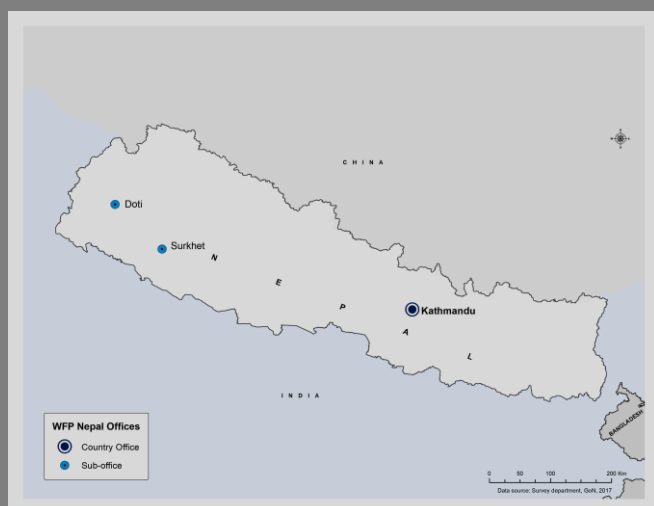


Operational Context

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**

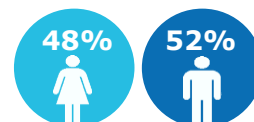
In Numbers

4.6 million food-insecure people

1.4 million malnourished pregnant and lactating women

US\$ 1.50 million, six-month (Feb - Jul 2020) net funding requirements

165,659 children received WFP school meals in January 2020.



Operational Updates

- During the first year of WFP's Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019-2023, WFP reached 332,724 people in Nepal under activities including the school feeding programme, climate change and resilience building and emergency preparedness and response. With the start of the CSP, WFP commenced its transition from direct assistance to capacity strengthening of existing institutions and the development of new ones. WFP thanks all its donors for their continued support to its activities.
- The opening ceremony for the new provincial Humanitarian Staging Areas for emergency logistics in Nepalgunj and Dhangadhi took place in January. The Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Mr Prem Kumar Rai, inaugurated the event, with the British Ambassador to Nepal and WFP Country Representative also present.
- WFP participated in the first School Meals Programme technical committee since the endorsement of the National School Meals Programme guidelines. These guidelines set up nutritional standards and management modalities for school meals in Nepal. The Secretary of Education ensured funding to take over two districts in 2020 and expressed interest in a field visit to schools of both food-based and cash-based modalities for the end of February.
- WFP completed planned activities under the Rural Women's Economic Empowerment project, which included construction of community-based infrastructure and irrigation schemes for 2019. These interventions created wage employment opportunities for rural women farmers.
- WFP presented a [Fill the Nutrient Gap](#) concept to the Nutrition Technical Committee members. The meeting included UNICEF and USAID engagement, and recommendations towards this Fill the Nutrient Gap process were positive.

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Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Feb – Jul 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
125.82 m	49.69 m	1.50 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.

- WFP's Evidence, Policy and Innovation unit began support to the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development on the zero draft of the bylaws for the Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act. In addition to this, the National Planning Commission has also requested WFP's support to review the Agriculture Subsidy Policy draft.
- Under WFP's Climate Change Adaptation for Food Security Project (CAFS), activities such as developing climate resilient community systems and improving agricultural productivity through water harvesting are ongoing. Under this, 817 participants are participating in food-assistance-for-assets (FFA) activities.

Monitoring

- WFP has completed data collection for the Country Strategic Plan baseline, against which results of WFP activities will be compared. The result is currently being analyzed by a private monitoring and evaluation company.
- WFP has completed post distribution monitoring for the emergency flood response, nutrition programme and rural women's economic empowerment project. WFP is currently finalizing reports and will be sharing these with stakeholders once ready.
- In 2019, WFP's beneficiary feedback mechanism received a total of 145 calls, of which 18 percent were female. The majority of these calls were requests for information on WFP interventions.

Challenges

- Rain and snowfall in some mountainous regions of the country delayed distribution across some WFP activities, including the mother and child health and nutrition programme in the Karnali. Normal distribution is expected to resume in February.

Photos from the archive



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Students from WFP's school feeding programme playfully smile for the camera.

Donors

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