



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cambodia Country Brief May 2020



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: **15.3 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

0 mt of food distributed

US\$ 0 cash-based transfers made (HGSP)

US\$ 0.8 million six months (June to November 2020) net funding requirements

0 people assisted

In May 2020

Operational Updates

Due to COVID-19 related school suspensions until the start of November, WFP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS), is planning a second take home ration distribution in late June to 81,104 school aged children and 1,633 school cooks. This will help to fill the immediate household food gaps while the Government is setting up their cash transfer programme for vulnerable groups affected by COVID-19. Based on lessons learned from the previous take home rations distribution, this distribution will include an increase in rations and is expanded to include school cooks whose jobs are also affected by COVID-19.

Together with MOEYS and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), WFP conducted a field visit to identify schools for the construction of model kitchens composing of WASH facilities, stoves and eating halls for the children. Three schools in two provinces were selected and endorsed by the MOEYS minister. The construction process will begin in June. These model kitchens are intended to set a standard for other schools to adopt in the future. Simultaneously, WFP is continuing to work closely with MOEYS and the Ministry of Economy and Finance to strengthen government capacity in the implementation of the national home-grown school feeding programme, and to develop guidelines and measures to prepare for schools re-opening.

WFP, recognizing the wider impacts of COVID-19 on small-holder farmers, has conducted a remote survey with over 60 participating suppliers in the home-grown school feeding programme to better understand the impact of the programme's suspension on their livelihoods and markets. Initial results indicated that they have experienced significant income losses and are struggling to service existing debts. WFP is considering options for temporary livelihoods support to these suppliers and smallholders.

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	June– November 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
72.25 m	42.21 m	0.8 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.

Operational Updates (Continued)

Meanwhile, WFP, in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and the World Bridge, expanded the remote market data collection coverage from 14 to 45 markets and increased the update frequency from monthly to bi-weekly allowing for greater ability to detect changes in critical food item retail prices. WFP will also be expanding the dissemination of this Market Update Bulletin to government counterparts and relevant stakeholders.

In partnership with WFP, the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) conducted two consultative workshops with sub-national and national authorities on provincial and national contingency plans for flood and drought. In the first consultative workshop, 35 sub-national government officials from all 25 provinces met to discuss the provincial plans and how to coordinate with the national level. In the second workshop, 35 national officials from relevant line-ministries and NGOs met to discuss the national contingency plan and the coordination with the sub-national authorities and other partners. The results of these workshops will lead to the finalisation of the national and provincial contingency plans, expected to be signed in late June.

In addition, WFP updated the National Committee for Disaster Management’s Platform for Real-time Information System Management 2.0 (PRISM 2.0) to integrate data from the latest flood and drought mapping and risk analysis, while also preparing the basic geographic information system (GIS) training package for them.



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