



WFP Cambodia Country Brief June 2020

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



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

US\$ 0.3 million six months (July to December 2020) net funding requirements

0 people assisted

In June 2020

Operational Updates

In the context of COVID-19 school closure, WFP, in collaboration with the provincial departments of education, has identified schools in three operational provinces to build 352 hand-washing stations and three rainwater catchments. The 3month-long construction will start in July, following WFP rainwater catchment specifications.

Further, WFP and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) are drafting a standard operational procedure (SOP) on food safety and hygiene practices for food handling and distribution in schools to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The SOP, now being reviewed and finalized, will ensure context-appropriate physical distancing and prevention efforts when schools re-open.

In support of the transition of school feeding programme to national ownership, WFP and MoEYS have identified 67 more schools for handover to the Government in the coming school year (2020-2021). WFP is supporting MoEYS to develop a national school feeding policy to guide the overall implementation and coordination across relevant ministries and multi-level authorities.

Also in support of these efforts, WFP, in partnership with MoEYS, has developed an instructional video for subnational authorities and school directors to manage the annual local food procurement process in support of the national home-grown school feeding programme.

WFP is also working with partners on producing a cookbook to assist school staff and cooks in selecting recipes with optimal nutrition values while accommodating students' preferences. All materials will be finalized ahead of the new school year which starts in November.

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	July- December 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
72.25 m	42.21 m	0.3 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.

On 24 June, Prime Minister Hun Sen announced the launch of the national cash transfer programme for households registered in the IDPoor system, in response to the socio-economic impact of COVID-19. WFP and other UN agencies supported the Ministry of Planning to enable on-demand IDPoor registration and to capture new poor and vulnerable households that have been impacted by COVID-19. WFP also worked closely with the National Social Protection Council and the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation to roll out the scheme.

WFP, together with the National Social Protection Council and other partners, agreed to develop a comprehensive framework to embed ‘shock-responsiveness’ across social assistance and social security programmes in the National Social Protection Policy Framework through improved policies, coordination, triggers and thresholds, financing and capacities. This framework will consider recurrent climatic shocks as well as the current context of the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic shocks affecting Cambodia today.

As part of WFP’s role in the Humanitarian Response Forum and the Global Logistics Cluster project, WFP has inventoried supply chain needs and logistics challenges of the humanitarian and development community in Cambodia. Initial results showed that partners are interested in closer logistics coordination and information sharing, utilizing existing platforms and enhancing engagement with national actors such as the Cambodian Red Cross and the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) as well as with private sector companies.



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