



WFP Cambodia Country Brief October 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 upper middle-income status by 2030. However, a significant portion of the population remains 'near poor' and still at high risk of falling back into poverty following a shock. Undernutrition remains a public health concern: 32 percent of children under 5 years are stunted, 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 under five**

In Numbers

1,291 mt of food distributed (estimated)

US\$ 0 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 1.3 million six months (November 2020 to April 2021) net funding requirements

54,046 people (52% female) assisted
In October 2020

Flood response

Cambodia experienced large-scale flash floods across 14 provinces in October. As co-chair and secretariat of the Cambodia Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF), WFP organized humanitarian coordination meetings with UN and INGO members, released six [flood situation reports](#) and facilitated a joint rapid assessment with the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM). This enabled the HRF to produce a [flood response plan](#) in cooperation with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

With support from the US embassy and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), WFP also provided immediate food assistance to 2,550 acutely-affected IDPoor households in 78 villages of Pursat province. WFP, in partnership with NCDM and local authorities provided 50 kg of rice and 2.2 kg of canned fish to each household.

School Feeding

WFP and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) conducted a third round of take-home ration food distributions to 39,653 primary school children and 1,643 school cooks from IDPoor households participating in school feeding. Each household received 25 kg of rice, 1 litre of vegetable oil and 2 kg of canned fish. The ration aims to fill a food consumption gap for poor families since the suspension of school meals since March.

To prepare for the resumption of school feeding, WFP and MOEYS conducted a feasibility assessment in two provinces to determine school readiness to implement school feeding post-COVID-19. The joint high-level mission and the technical-level discussions with school-meal implementers and communities led to the decision to resume the programme from January 2021.

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	November 2020–April 2021 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
72.5 m	42. m	1.3 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.

WFP and the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) signed a long-term partnership agreement to support multi-sectoral food security and nutrition governance and coordination. The aim is to develop and implement evidence-based policies and strategies, enhance coordination platforms and strengthen capacities at the national and subnational level to achieve SDG2 targets by 2030.

WFP and the National Social Protection Council continued to advance the shock responsive social protection (SRSP) agenda, initiating the formulation of a SRSP framework. In addition, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY) convened WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the United Nations Children’s Foundation (UNICEF) to explore how social assistance schemes could support poor households affected by the recent floods.

Events

The 2020 World Food Day celebration was held in Siem Reap Province under the theme “Grow, nourish, sustain. Together.” The celebration, led by the Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), with WFP and FAO support, highlighted the need for strong partnerships to enhance food systems in Cambodia.

WFP also marked World Food Day by publishing a [joint op-ed](#) with UNICEF highlighting the importance of nutrition for children and the critical role that school feeding and nutrition programmes have in ensuring this in Cambodia.

As part of the UN75 celebration, WFP joined its sister agencies to organize consultations with women and children groups in Kampong Thom province. The conversations focused on participants’ needs, hopes and aspirations and aimed to spark action towards a more inclusive future for all Cambodians.

Donors: Cambodia, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Japan, KOICA, Latter-day Saint Charities, Private Sector Donors, and USA (USDA and USAID)