



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief October 2020

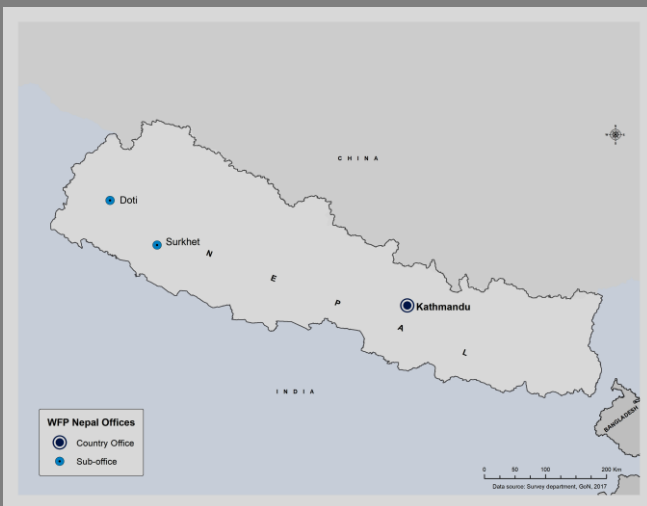


Operational Context

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)

2019 Human Development Index: **147 out of 189**

Income Level: **Least developed**

Chronic malnutrition: **36% of children between 6-59 months**

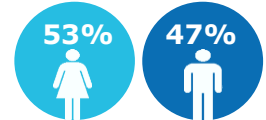
In Numbers

2.8 million food-insecure people

1.84 million malnourished pregnant and lactating women

US\$ 0.75 million, six-month (Nov 2020 - April 2021) net funding requirements

802,311 people reached in November 2020



Situational Updates

- At the end of October, the national COVID-19 tally stands at 170,743, with 937 fatalities. The Government has implemented an odd-even rule for vehicles in Kathmandu as well as other more infected districts to curb the spread of the virus. Under the odd-even rule, vehicles with odd number plates can ply the road on odd days of the Nepali calendar, and those with even number plates on even days.

Operational Updates

- WFP successfully completed another round of take-home ration distribution under the school feeding programme, in coordination with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. In total, 1,322 mt of food, consisting of rice, lentils, vegetable oil and salt, was distributed, reaching 154,752 school children and their families in seven food-insecure districts of the Karnali and SudarPaschim provinces in the absence of a hot daily meal at school.
- The blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSFP) – a part of WFP’s COVID-19 and monsoon response – concluded in October in all municipalities of Province 1 and 2, including later additions. In total, WFP reached 27,931 nursing and pregnant women and children aged 6-24 months through the programme. WFP is currently seeking financial support from Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) to expand this programme’s reach to 22 additional municipalities of Province 2.
- Under WFP’s emergency preparedness activity, WFP conducted a four-day practical emergency logistics training (PELT) in October. Held in Nepalgunj, the training saw 16 participants from various government and development agencies from the Banke district.

Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Nov 2020-Apr 2021 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
126.64 m	94.58 m	0.75 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.

- Food assistance-for-assets activities under the Climate Change Adaptation for Food Security in Karnali (CAFS-Karnali) project are ongoing in Juma, Kalikot and Mugu. These schemes have directly benefitted 6,900 households, and will further benefit the community through community nurseries, irrigation-based water systems, and improved water mills. Under the same project, WFP distributed cash to 1,177 households in October, amounting to NPR 21.7 million (USD 182,000).

- WFP has started implementation of a food security recovery project in Kailali – under the COVID-19 response - providing women-led small enterprises with revival support and self-employment based vocational and skill training to unemployed women, youth and returnee migrants affected by the secondary impacts of COVID-19.

- WFP has started another COVID-19 response livelihoods and economic recovery project, providing immediate employment opportunities through food assistance-for-assets activities to 14,000 households in six districts (Rautahat, Sarlahi, Dailekh, Kalikot, Jajarkot and Bajura) across three highly vulnerable provinces.

Highlight of the month



In October, WFP received a McGovern-Dole grant for the 2020 financial year cycle (4 year project) amounting to USD 25 million to carry forward activities under school feeding. The news comes as the Government expanded school feeding in all public schools of 70 (out of 77) districts in Nepal. The current expansion of the Government's cash-based school meals, together with the USDA-supported school meals, now covers all children (around 2.8 million) studying from pre-primary schools through to grade 5 (in seven USDA-supported districts, children from pre-primary grades to grade 8).

Donors

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

Photo Page 1: © WFP/Manoj Thapa

Photo Page 2: © WFP/Miriam Eid