



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief February 2021

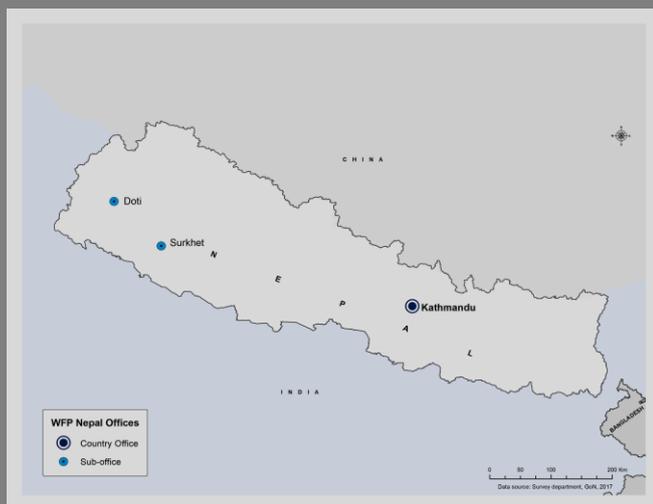


Operational Context

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**

In Numbers

2.8 million food-insecure people

1.84 million malnourished pregnant and lactating women

US\$ 2.07 million, six-month (Mar 2021 - Aug 2021) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- Under the Livelihoods for Economic Recovery Project (LERP) launched in response to COVID-19, WFP continued to implement the emergency nutrition operation in Province 2, reaching over 55,500 pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-23 months so far. For this, 333 mt of specialised nutritious food (wheat soya blend) was distributed. WFP is in the process of procuring food to reach beneficiaries in three additional municipalities of Saptari.
- Under LERP, 184 food assistance for assets (FFA) projects are also ongoing in five districts of Province 2. Through this, WFP has provided cash-based transfers to 13,000 vulnerable households so far. The assets constructed will support livelihood recovery and strengthen resilience to shocks and stresses amongst COVID-19 affected communities.
- The Government officially endorsed WFP-developed menu sets for the home-grown school feeding programme in February. The menus will be used as a reference across the country and have also been highlighted in the school-level implementation guideline – a key document for school feeding implementation.
- Under school feeding, WFP conducted project orientations and coordination meetings in Nuwakot for local government officials. Participants included the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Nuwakot and several ward representatives. Funded by the Government of Japan, school feeding in Nuwakot aims to strengthen the capacity of municipalities and schools to effectively implement the national school meals programme (NSMP).
- Under the Climate Change Adaptation project (CAFS-Karnali), WFP initiated the development of climate smart villages (CSV) in seven rural municipalities. The CSV method combines climate friendly technologies and practices with local capacity strengthening and aim to develop resilient agriculture systems, increase agricultural production, food security and adaptative capacities of smallholder farmers.
- In February, WFP started to build the fifth Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA) at the Gautam Buddha International Airport in Bhairahawa. Once all planned seven HSAs (one in each of Nepal's seven provinces) are completed, these bases will allow the provincial governments to respond effectively to local disasters, forming a network that will improve storage and transportation of goods to remote locations.

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Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Mar - Aug 2021 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
141.65 m	98.54 m	2.07 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.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance Global Partnerships

Strategic Outcome 6: Humanitarian and development partners have access to reliable common services by the end of 2023.

Activities:

- Provide on-demand service provision to all stakeholders in the country in order to support effective humanitarian response.

- On behalf of the national Logistics Cluster, WFP successfully conducted a Logistics Cluster orientation in six provinces - Province 1, Province 2, Bagmati Province, Lumbini Province, Karnali Province and Sudur Paschim Province. The purpose of these sessions is to train users in accessing products and services related to logistics through the Cluster.
- WFP conducted an inception workshop for the Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience (CLEAR) in coordination with WFP's Regional Bureau and the UK Met Office. CLEAR is an analytical approach developed by WFP to better understand how food security is affected by climate risks. Through this exercise, a comprehensive climate and livelihood analysis covering the entire country will be produced. The analysis will play an important role in strengthening existing climate change-related initiatives as well as developing adaptation-related strategies and programmes.
- The results of the third mVAM household survey was presented to the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and is in the process of being released. The survey found that the overall food security situation improved in recent months, with 16.8 percent of households with inadequate food consumption in December compared to 23.2 and 20.2 percent in April and August 2020 respectively.

Highlight of the month



The Government of Japan provided WFP with an assistance worth US\$ 3.47 million to implement the mother and child health and nutrition programme in an additional five vulnerable districts of Province 1 and 2. Through the provision of specialised nutritious food, this partnership will allow WFP to reach pregnant and lactating women and children aged 06-23 months and will support in the establishment of community food banks with food storage facilities.

WFP thanks the Government of Japan once again for their continued support to WFP and Nepal.

Donors

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

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