



World Food Programme

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LIVES

# WFP Cambodia

## Country Brief

May 2021



### 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: **15.5 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **146 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **32 percent of children under five**

## In Numbers

**US\$ 2.39 million** six months net funding requirements (June to November 2021)

No direct beneficiaries or transfers in May. The distributions as part of the school feeding programme are on hold due to COVID-19 related school closures.

### School Feeding

- WFP, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) and the Council for Agriculture and Rural Development (CARD), convened an in-depth dialogue on how Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF) programme can contribute to stronger nutritious value chains and become a gamechanger in local food system. Over 100 participants from various line ministries, development partners and the National Social Protection Council (NSPC) discussed and proposed solutions to develop and adjust the national HGSF programme.

### Food System for Healthy Diets

- Recognizing the potential role of the private sector in improving nutrition and food system in Cambodia, WFP, in partnership with the Cambodian Food Manufacturers Association (CFMA) and CARD, organized an in-depth dialogue to discuss how to strengthen the private sector's role in product development and innovation, quality management and promotion of healthy nutrition in retail food. About 60 key stakeholders participated to identify challenges and opportunities for private sector's engagement in food nutrition.
- To address the issue of unsafe food and explore the role of private sector in food safety, WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and CARD convened an in-depth dialogue with business associations, the chamber of commerce, private companies, government and development partners to discuss the issues of violations or misuses of chemical preservatives by food processors or retailers, bacterial contamination in animal source foods, limited awareness on food safety, weak demand of safe and nutritious foods and unready regulatory framework. The 90 participants proposed options to inform the roadmap to sustainable food systems for 2030 and the development of the Scaling-Up Nutrition Business Network (SBN) strategies.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	June–November 2021 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>80.35 m</b>	<b>53.80 m</b>	<b>2.39 m</b>

### 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.

### Strategic Result: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 6:** Vulnerable people affected by crisis in Cambodia have access to nutrition-sensitive food assistance during and after the crisis.

Focus area: Crisis Response

**Activities:** Provide nutrition-sensitive food-/cash-based assistance to crisis-affected populations to save lives and recover livelihoods.

- As part of their support to national preparedness effort, WFP, the Japanese Embassy and the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) officially handed over the six newly completed safe-evacuation centres (SECs) to local communities in three provinces. The centres, with the capacity to accommodate between 2,000 and 3,000 people, serve the dual purpose of housing displaced families when cyclones and floods strike during the rainy season and providing a multi-purpose space for the rest of the year. Built in compliance with international standards, they consist of a large hall, a kitchen, a laundry room, a storage room, bathrooms, a handwashing station, a livestock shelter and a large open field. Each site also includes water supply as well as electrical and lightning protection system.
- At the community level, commune authorities, with support from WFP and the National Committee for Sub National Democratic Development Secretariat (NCDDS), have completed a 3,300-meter dike, a 30,000-cubic meter pond and a 3,000-meter canal to enhance their resilience to climate shocks and support farming community's livelihoods (i.e., rice production, daily water needs and home garden) .
- WFP advanced collaboration with the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) to support the university's efforts in local capacity development on applied geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing technologies for disaster risk management in Cambodia.



A 30,000-cubic meter pond in Siem Reap province. © WFP/Photo Library

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