



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief July 2021

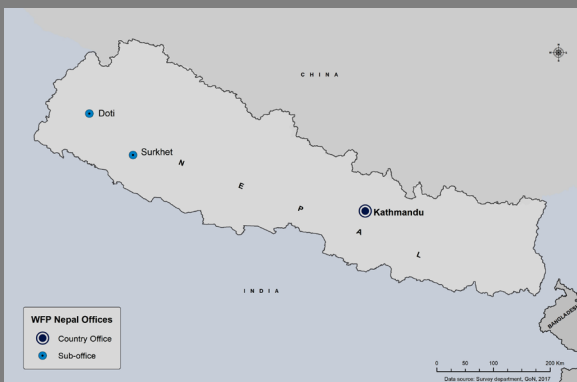


Operational Context

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 months**

In Numbers

2.8 million food-insecure people

1.84 million malnourished pregnant and lactating women

US\$ 3.83 million, six-month (Aug 2021 - Jan 2022) net funding requirements

Situational Updates

- The Government of Nepal announced on 25 July an extension of the current prohibitory modality in the capital where businesses can operate till 7 pm. Restrictions remain on activities such as conferences and gathering at public spaces. Schools across the country have remained closed since 26 April.
- The number of cases as well as infected people admitted at the hospital has been increasing gradually in most parts of the country. The Ministry of Health and Population have released a notice to the public to continue taking COVID-19 precautions considering the rising cases.

Operational Updates

- On behalf of the National Logistics Cluster, WFP continued to receive and store nearly 200 mt of COVID-19 related medical supplies for the Ministry of Health and Population at the Humanitarian Staging Areas (HSA) in both the capital and provinces. WFP also supported the Ministry in the transshipment of the China donated COVID-19 vaccine Vero Cell to the HSA in Kathmandu this month.
- The National Planning Commission (NPC) convened the Second National Food Systems Dialogue in July with technical support from UN agencies including WFP. As a focal agency, WFP coordinated with around 400 participants from the NPC, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and other relevant government ministries, development partners including private sectors, academia, and civil society organizations. The Food Systems Summit Dialogues aims to facilitate talks on sustainable food systems to inform policy making at every level of government as well as in the development sector.
- WFP reached a further 60,000 students in July through take-home ration distributions under school feeding. Monsoon rains continued to create hurdles in reaching the final 5,000 children due to roadblocks caused by rain-induced landslides.
- WFP's Mother and Child Health and Nutrition programme (MCHN) continues in five districts of the Karnali Province. Furthermore, WFP is currently preparing to expand this programme in five districts of Provinces 1 and 2, targeting nearly 77,000 beneficiaries.
- The [second market monitor for June/July](#) was released. Overall, markets functioned well across most of Nepal in June 2021, with slight improvements in supply and transportation of goods compared to May.

Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Aug 2021- Jan 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
141.65 m	104.92 m	3.83 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.

- Food assistance for assets (FFA) activities under the COVID-19 Livelihoods and Economic Recovery Programme (LERP) concluded in five districts: Rautahat, Sarlahi, Dailekh, Kalikot and Bajura. In July, WFP made cash-based transfers of USD 215,000 to 1,770 households under this programme.

Challenges in the Field



Locals use dangerous make-shift ladders to transport food and other essential items back to their communities.

Continuous rainfall during July has rendered two remote communities in Gorkha **vulnerable to food insecurity**. Chumnubri and Dharche rural municipalities are currently cut off from main markets, basic health, and essential services due to landslides triggered by the 2021 monsoon rains. More than 9,000 residents **risk facing food shortages** if help does not reach them soon. High levels of water in the Budigandaki River caused water banks to burst, washing away **only passage in and out of these villages**. Already remote in location, residents relied on mules to transport their needs, however, they are unable to manoeuvre on dangerous make-shift ladders and trails.

Nepal remains one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world with monsoon induced hazards being the most common. **WFP seeks approximately USD 80,000 to support communities in Chumnubri and Dharche municipalities** to provide logistics support to deliver food and other essentials as well as to work on the reopening of trails in the area.

Donors

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

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