



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief August 2021

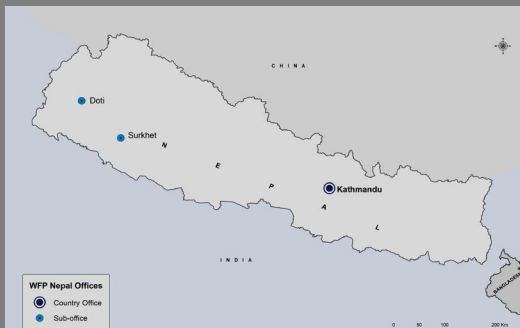


Operational Context

Nepal promulgated its new constitution in 2015 in a peaceful process that restructured the country as a federal democratic republic, creating an excellent opportunity to achieve economic growth, poverty reduction and pursue the 2030 Agenda. However, the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent nationwide lockdowns have pushed people back below the poverty line and reversed some of the economic and developmental gains made in the previous decades.

In mid-2021, Sher Bahadur Deuba was appointed Nepal's Prime Minister for the fifth time, leading a coalition government. Key issues facing the Government include securing enough vaccines for Nepal's eligible population, coordinating disaster response efforts for the monsoon floods, and strengthening the economy.

WFP Nepal is currently in its third year of the current [Country Strategic Plan](#) 2019-2023, addressing Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17. WFP has been operating in Nepal since 1963, supporting the Government to develop **greater food security among vulnerable communities and build resilience to disasters**.



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\$ 0.54 million six-month (Sep 2021 - Feb 2022) net funding requirements

Situational Updates

- Nepal continued to see a decline in the number of COVID-19 cases reported daily in August, with the total tally of cases (recovered and active) standing at 762,647 by the end of the month. The Government of Nepal further relaxed prohibitory orders across the country, with the reopening of movie halls, restaurants, and schools.
- Incessant monsoon rains continue to trigger flash floods and landslides in Nepal, with many rivers close to warning levels. Several localised floods have been reported throughout the country, affecting thousands of households.

Operational Updates

- Following the UN Food Systems pre-summit last month, the Government signed a declaration of support to join the Global School Meals Coalition, which has the goal of ensuring that by 2030, every child in the world can access a healthy school meal every day, so that they can grow, learn, and thrive. The Coalition will also move to mobilize strong political will and concrete actions to drive change at the local level, with government ownership being at the heart of its agenda. Furthermore, the Coalition will also help to address the COVID-19 pandemic by driving actions that can urgently re-establish, improve and scale-up school meals programmes around the world.
- Under WFP's Emergency Preparedness and Response project, a Practical Emergency Logistics Training (PELT) was successfully conducted at Birgunj Provincial Humanitarian Staging Area in August. A total of 20 personnel from the security forces, of which 30 percent were women, participated in the training.
- On 13 August, the flood forecast met the pre-defined readiness trigger at the Koshi River Basin for Anticipatory Action CERF, activating preparedness activities. Based on the trigger, WFP deployed field staff to support the ground preparations for potential anticipatory cash assistance activation in Province 1 and Province 2, both in the Koshi basin. Anticipatory Action is an innovative approach which systematically links early warnings to actions with a view to enabling relevant stakeholders and communities to take early actions and minimize the impact of floods, ultimately safeguarding lives and livelihoods.

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Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Sep 2021 - Feb 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
141.65 m	105.53 m	0.54 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.

- The National Planning Commission (NPC) convened the Third National Food Systems Dialogue in August, with WFP as the lead agency and technical support from several UN agencies. The dialogue, which saw the participation of WFP's Country Director a.i, discussed and endorsed the national pathways and priority actions for next three years to achieve equitable, resilient, and sustainable food systems in Nepal by 2030, as part of the decade of action. During the event, NPC shared commitments received from various stakeholders, including the Government. Around 135 participants from the NPC, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and other relevant government agencies, development partners including UN agencies, the private sector, academia, and civil society organizations attended the dialogue.

Monitoring

- WFP's monitoring and evaluation unit has completed the outcome monitoring for Activities 2, 3 and 5 in the current Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023. Overall, the study concluded that the performance of the CSP against selected indicators is satisfactory.
- The baseline survey report for the National School Meals Programme has been drafted and is currently being prepared for external dissemination.

Photos from the field



Above: Photo from the Practical Emergency Logistics Training (9-12Aug2021) at PHSA Birgunj.

Below: A Mobile Storage Unit erected by WFP in Province 2.



Donors

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

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