



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Cambodia

## Country Brief

October 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\$ 1.16 m** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 162,000** six months net funding requirements (November 2021 to April 2022)

**150,000 people** assisted

### Operational Updates

#### School Feeding Programme

- As the Royal Government announced that schools would reopen nationwide on November 1, 2021, WFP has supported the preparation to resume school meals together with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS), local education authorities and sub-national partners. A checklist on school 'readiness' served as a guide for food to be prepared and eaten safely and focused on availability of food and non-food items as well as cooking and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in schools. School staff and local authorities have coordinated food procurement with local suppliers, updated menus and gotten ready for school meals to resume in full in November.
- To strengthen the policy and operational framework for the national school feeding programme, WFP and MoEYS have drafted both a national school meals policy and sub-degree for national home-grown school feeding programme and held bilateral consultations with 11 line-ministries to collect inputs to finalize the documents in 2021.
- WFP and MoEYS have also launched an analysis of public financing options for school feeding as part of the development of the joint transition strategy for the national school feeding programme. The strategy is expected to be finalized in November.

#### Food Security and Nutrition

- To prepare for a joint report on food security and nutrition trends, WFP and the Ministry of Planning organized a training for 20 officials from the National Institute of Statistics on data analysis and interpretation of the 2019 Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey.

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**Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)**

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	November 2021–April 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>80.35 m</b>	<b>67.70 m</b>	<b>0.162 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.

- To celebrate World Food Day, WFP participated with partners in an event organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) in Prey Veng province to raise awareness on the need to transform food systems to be more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable. Fifty participants observed the integrated farming practices on a 6-hectare organic farm and distributed rice and vegetable seeds to farmers. The event called for actions across sectors to ensure that current food systems deliver enough affordable, nutritious and safe food to all to lead active and healthy lives while protecting our environment.

**Disaster Preparedness & Response**

- To respond to the severe flooding in Banteay Meanchey, WFP, in coordination with local government, provided cash assistance to 12,000 vulnerable families affected by the floods. Each household received the first of four instalments in October to stabilize household food consumption and recover from the floods. The provision of cash gives people choice in which needs they prioritise, including replenishing lost food stocks and restoring livelihoods.
- To enhance coordination and information sharing on flood preparedness and response with national authorities, WFP and DanChurchAid, as co-chairs of the Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF), convened an intersectoral meeting with HRF members as well as a representative of the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM). The latest flood impacts and response activities in October were shared together with identified gaps. A post-monsoon meeting was planned with disaster risk management actors.

**Donors**

Cambodia, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Germany, Japan, KOICA, Private Sector Donors, and USA (USDA and USAID)

*Photo: Tek Chann, 11, a student of Angserey Primary School, one of the schools receiving support from WFP's school feeding programme happily answered his teacher's question. ©WFP/Nick Sells.*