



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Nepal Country Brief December 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, 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, nutrition and resilience among vulnerable communities and respond to disasters while building resilience.



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**

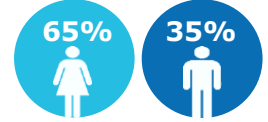
In Numbers

427 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 39,676 cash-based transfers made

US\$ 2.79 million six-month (Jan - June 2022) net funding requirements

105,401 people assisted in December 2021



Operational Updates

- WFP together with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) inaugurated the fifth (out of six planned) provincial Humanitarian Staging Area (PHSA) in Birgunj on 3 December 2021. The PHSAs allow provincial governments to respond effectively and rapidly to local disasters, forming a network that improves storage and transportation of goods to remote locations.
- WFP concluded training and orientation sessions for local government representatives from 48 cash-based national school meals programme districts. These sessions focused on expanding the understanding of the 1,097 participants on key provisions and minimum standards to implement the school meals programme to maximize its benefits in the classroom.
- The prevention of acute malnutrition (BSFP) targeting pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-23 months affected by the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic was expanded to Sunsari district, in Province 1. In addition to the provision of specialised fortified food, WFP has also been delivering nutrition education on the importance of food and prevention of malnutrition.
- In December, WFP supported the National Planning Commission (NPC) to launch and disseminate the Fill the Nutrition (FNG) analysis report. The FNG analysis revealed that 36 percent of children in Nepal are chronically malnourished and that multisectoral action is required to accelerate the prevention of malnutrition.
- District level consultations for the Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience (CLEAR), were completed in Province 2 and Lumbini province in December 2021. Plans to conduct similar exercises in the remaining provinces are being finalised jointly with the NPC. The CLEAR approach is an analytical method developed by WFP to better understand how food security is affected by climate risks.
- In December, WFP commenced implementation of the Karnali Local Infrastructure Services Programme (LISP), together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and FCDO. The LISP aims to strengthen the capacity of local governments for inclusive planning and delivery of resilient infrastructure and green recovery job creation, among others.

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Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Jan 2022 - Jun 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
165.23 m	110.39 m	2.79 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 to support effective humanitarian response.
- Provide on-demand cash-based transfer management support to all humanitarian and development partners to enable them to provide efficient cash transfer services to the affected population to meet their essential needs.

- WFP successfully concluded the improvement of rural trails in Gorkha, Dhading, and Rasuwa districts under the engineering component of the COVID-19 Livelihoods and Economic Recovery Programme (LERP). These trails created employment opportunities for nearly 3,000 local community members and benefited over 26,130 people. WFP received several letters of appreciation from local governments for their work with local communities reporting a reduction in travel costs and the price of some goods, including rice and non-food items, as a direct result.
- WFP successfully delivered a two-day emergency telecommunication training to 15 participants in Dhangadhi, from various national security forces, out of which 20 percent were women.

WFP Achievements in 2021



Photo: A school feeding beneficiary smiles at the camera while playfully washing his hands. © WFP/Miriam Eid

Despite challenges brought on by the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal in 2021, WFP continued to support vulnerable men, women, boys, and girls to meet their food and nutritional needs. This year, WFP:

- Reached over 1.1 million beneficiaries in the most food insecure areas of Nepal.
- Made cash-based transfers of over US\$3.6 million to beneficiaries.
- Distributed over 8,100 mt of fortified food.
- Supported over 20 different agencies through the Logistics Cluster to coordinate and transport relief items as part of their COVID-19 and monsoon related responses.
- Continued to provide technical assistance that will lead to longer lasting, government-led solutions for the people of Nepal.

WFP is grateful to all its donors and partners, whose commitments have allowed us to continue to save lives and change lives in Nepal.

Donors

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