



World Food Programme

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# WFP Nepal Country Brief January 2022

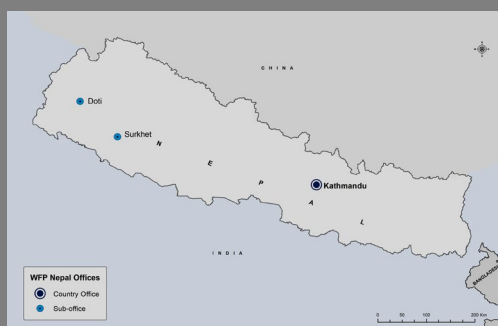


## Operational Context

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**

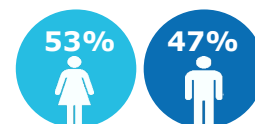
Chronic malnutrition: **36% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**836.9 mt** of food distributed

**US\$ 2.47 million** six-month (Feb - July 2022) net funding requirements

**302,672 people assisted** in January 2022



## Situation Update

- On 20 January, Nepal had a COVID-19 positivity rate of 52.6 percent, the highest average rate since the onset of the pandemic in March 2020. The new Omicron-fuelled surge led the Government to announce school closures together with other measures in an attempt to control the spread of the virus. By the end of January, positivity rates had dropped to 31.6 percent as the Government continued its vaccination drive.

## Operational Updates

- Following school closures, WFP adjusted its programme to ensure that schoolchildren still have access to nutritious food. As such, WFP is closely coordinating with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to distribute another round of school meal take-home rations in February.
- WFP, through its Women in Value Chain (WiVC) project, initiated Farmer Field Schools (FFS) for 22 groups involving 544 smallholder women farmers, which will benefit from a group-based learning method to teach farmers how to solve problems independently.
- Through the National Logistics Cluster, WFP continued to support the Ministry of Health and Population in transporting COVID-19 related medical items. In January, WFP dispatched 51 mt such items to provinces across the country. Furthermore, WFP received 78 mt of aid including oxygen cylinders at the Humanitarian Staging Area in Kathmandu for the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), UNICEF and Temasek Foundation. Lastly, WFP supported in repackaging winter relief items including jackets and shoes which were then dispatched to 10 Terai districts for people affected by the low winter temperatures.
- WFP, through the prevention of malnutrition programme – a COVID-19 and monsoon response operation – in selected districts of Province 1, 2, Karnali and Sudarpaschim reached 98 percent of its targeted beneficiaries (138,027) of pregnant and lactating women and children aged 06-23 months. A complementary activity of nutrition education is also underway in Province 2 under the same programme.

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## Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Feb 2022 - Jul 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>165.23 m</b>	<b>110.98 m</b>	<b>2.47 m</b>

### 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.

- In collaboration with the National Planning Commission and Province Planning Commissions, WFP successfully organized the Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience (CLEAR) workshops in Province 1 and Bagmati Province. Similarly, a district level consultation workshop was also completed in Gorkha. The overall objective of the CLEAR exercise is to identify and understand how specific livelihoods are affected by natural resource management, weather, and climatic impacts.
- The Gandaki Province Ministries of Law and Finance gave their content for the legal measures to set up the Province Food Council to be chaired by the Honourable Minister looking after the agriculture portfolio, as part of the implementation of the Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act 2018. WFP has continuously supported in the drafting of these legal measures. The document is in the process of final endorsement by the Council of Ministers.

## Saving Lives, Changing Lives,; a WFP Story from the Field



Photo: Naren, a 17-year-old beneficiary of WFP's anticipatory action programme, with his family.

"With the immediate cash support, we were able to buy enough food to meet our basic needs," said Naren Kisku, 17. Anticipatory action can be a lifeline for families and communities threatened by natural hazards and the impacts of climate change.

In October, WFP, thanks to the German Government, provided cash support 1,652 people hit by heavy rains that destroyed homes & harvests – including Naren's family.

Click [here](#) to learn more about his story and how WFP supported him and his family, among other community members affected by the Jhapa floods.

## Donors

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

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