



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Cambodia Country Brief March 2022



## 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

**243 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 143,000** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 19,000 m** six months net funding requirements (April to September 2022)

**246,000 people** assisted

## Operational Updates

### School Feeding Programme

- The US embassy, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) and WFP visited a school feeding programme in Siem Reap to commemorate the expansion of the national school feeding programme and hand-over 85 schools from WFP to the Government. With these additional schools, MoEYS has now taken over 290 schools from WFP for self-governing and made a new commitment to complete full national transfer by 2028.
- WFP and MoEYS conducted a refresher training for 84 provincial and district education officials (18 women) from nine provinces. The training aimed to equip officials with the necessary skills to transfer to school-level personnel next month, and to assist the Government to take the technical processes forward for the national programme. The homegrown school feeding operation, supplier selection process, and how to use the school feeding information system were discussed.
- WFP and FAO held supplier consultations at district and provincial levels, aimed at linking the school feeding programme to local farmers and encourage them to ensure food safety. One hundred ninety (74 women) contracted suppliers, cooperative farmers, local government officials, and relevant stakeholders from the education and agricultural sectors attended the consultation to establish networks and discuss best practices in the bidding process. The results from the consultation will help frame the overall programme design and guide cooperation with the small-holder farmers and suppliers.

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

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	April-September 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>80.35 m</b>	<b>67.70 m</b>	<b>0.19 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.

- The National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) and WFP conducted an interactive exercise on flood response in Kampong Chhnang to test (1) the capacity of relevant sub-national and local officials in responding to an emergency scenario, (2) the functioning of the climate hazard monitoring system (PRISM) and (3) the capacity of the safe evacuation committee in managing the centres. The exercise involved 130 people in the local community, and over 30 officials joined the simulated exercise to strengthen their capacity in responding to an actual disaster at both desk and field levels.
- WFP and NCDM conducted an induction workshop in Siem Reap province to mainstream gender-inclusive disaster risk management. The workshop discussed the existing guidelines and the significance of ensuring a gender perspective in disaster management policies and programmes. Forty-five key officials (ten women) from 13 provinces joined the workshop to discuss strategies to address gender-specific capacities, rights, needs, and measures that support women's socio-economic resilience and participation across all stages of disaster management to ensure equitable and effective disaster recovery outcomes.
- WFP provided three laptops, two hard-drives and one A3-color printer to equip the newly established Geographical Information Systems (GIS) unit to support NCDM to harness GIS and Remote-Sensing technologies in disaster management. WFP will continue to provide hands-on technical support to the unit to review, update and organize mapping products and spatial datasets. Additionally, WFP will support development of technical guidance to apply the two technologies in disaster management activities and transfer knowledge to the sub-national level.

**Donors**

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

*Photo: Sok Chantha, 12, a student in AngSerey where WFP runs the school feeding programme, is focusing in class after a nutritious school breakfast. ©WFP/Nick Sells.*