



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cambodia Country Brief May 2022



Operational Context

Cambodia has achieved remarkable economic growth in the last two decades. The overall poverty rate has decreased from 47.8 percent in 2007 to 18.0 percent in 2019-20. 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 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

445 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 286,000 cash grant to HGSF schools

US\$ 304,000 six months net funding requirements (June to November 2022)

213,000 people assisted

Operational Updates

School Feeding Programme

- To support national ownership and operation of the school feeding programme, WFP completed the roll-out of the school feeding information system to all supported schools, including those under the national programme. The system is used to capture output-based data to facilitate monitoring and reporting. A follow-up review will be conducted to study the effectiveness of the training and assess the government's needs for technical support in system management.
- To strengthen the budget-planning capacity of the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (MoEYS), WFP jointly worked with MoEYS on a budget request to the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) for programme implementation in 137 more schools, which will be handed over in the next academic year, covering 35,768 more primary and pre-primary school children.

Food Security & Nutrition

- To support the national agenda on food fortification and respond to recommendations from the 2021 Food Systems Dialogue on commercializing fortified foods, WFP, in collaboration with the Cambodia Rice Federation, conducted a technical training on rice fortification. The training demonstrated the operational and practical requirements for fortifying rice, made the business case for rice fortification in Cambodia, and built millers' capacity in equipment operation and installation, as well as quality assurance and control. Fifteen in-country commercial rice mills participated and visited the Green Trade Company to observe the blending and quality assurance processes.

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	June-November 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
80.35 m	71.92 m	0.30 m

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 advance the contribution of the private sector to improve nutrition, the WFP-supported Scaling Up Nutrition Business Network (SBN) formally launched its 5-year strategy under the leadership of the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) and with over 100 participants, representing private sector companies, national and sub-national government institutions, development partners and civil society organizations.
- As an initiative to improve workforce nutrition, the WFP-supported SBN produced and disseminated a series of guidebooks, particularly for female factory workers in the garment, footwear and travel goods sectors. The guidebooks focus on breastfeeding support, healthy food at work, nutrition and health education, and nutrition-focused health checks.
- WFP released its monthly market update bulletin, together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, to provide an in-depth analysis of the impacts of COVID-19 and the Ukraine crisis on the food system in Cambodia, particularly on local food prices and market functionality.

Disaster Risk Management

- To enhance disaster risk management, WFP, as co-chair of the Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF), with the support of the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, organized a foresight exercise workshop with HRF sector co-lead and member agencies, National Committee for Disaster Management, Cambodian Red Cross, and other humanitarian partners to identify future risk scenarios and potential anticipatory actions. The results will be integrated into the HRF contingency plan.
- WFP, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation and UNICEF jointly initiated the development of a social assistance contingency plan to prepare for and respond to climate hazards. National and sub-national stakeholder consultations will be held in June-July to refine and validate the contingency plan in preparation for the flood risk season.
- To enhance coherence in cash transfer value setting for humanitarian and social assistance programmes, WFP and Save the Children jointly organized consultations on the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) with government and development partners and are planning a field validation exercise with beneficiaries.

Donors

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

Photo: Srey Toch, a 12-years-old school meal beneficiary, answers her teacher’s question in class at Angsery Primary School, Kampong Chhnang.