



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cambodia Country Brief June 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 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 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

204 mt of food distributed

US\$ 340,000 cash grant to HGSF schools

US\$ 275,000 six months net funding requirements (July to December 2022)

213,000 people assisted

Operational Updates

School Feeding Programme

- The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) and WFP conducted a 2-day workshop to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for the national home-grown school feeding programme, using the theory of change approach. Key stakeholders from relevant ministries jointly worked on the long-term and intermediate goals of the programme and formulated actions with measurable indicators to achieve the identified goals within the specific context of Cambodia.
- FAO and WFP, in collaboration with MoEYS, launched a project to establish nutritional guidelines and standards for school meals. The project, "School Food Nutrition Guidelines and Standards for Safeguarding Children and Adolescents' Right to Foods" aims to strengthen in-country capacity to effectively design, implement and monitor the programme and support the integration of the guidelines and standards into national legal frameworks. A total of 40 representatives from national and sub-national government, development partners and civil society attended to share inputs and feedback on the proposed activities and approach. The project was part of a global collaboration between WFP and FAO, for which Cambodia has been selected as one of two pilot countries.

Food Security & Nutrition

- To better capture the impact of the global fuel and food crisis, WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) expanded monthly market monitoring from 45 to 58 markets. The latest monthly update revealed that rising fuel, fertiliser and transportation costs have resulted in increasing food prices, making it difficult for the poor and vulnerable to purchase nutritious food.

Contact info: Chou CHEA (chou.chea@wfp.org)

Country Director: Claire CONAN

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/cambodia

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	July-December 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
80.35 m	67.70 m	0.275 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.

- As part of its overall effort to achieve healthy diets for all, WFP, as chair of the SUN Business Network (SBN), supported AgriHouse to conduct their second taste-testing survey to optimize the nutritional composition of snacks for school-aged children, using crickets as a source of climate-friendly protein. A total of 49 children tasted the seven snack recipes and provided feedback on the texture and flavours, allowing the company to finalize their recipes and develop the prototypes for their nutritional targets. As a winner of the WFP Innovation Challenge, the company won US\$ 100,000 to develop and test a nutritious snack for school children at a price point that will be competitive against the abundance of unhealthy snacks within school premises.

Disaster Risk Management

- To develop the social assistance contingency plan 2022, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSAVY), WFP and partners organized a consultative workshop to discuss and collect inputs from key stakeholders. This included bringing together 79 representatives from relevant national and sub-national administrations and humanitarian agencies to work on the plan to ensure that poor and vulnerable communities have access to social protection scheme before, during and after a 2022 climate shock hits. The team will update the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) to offer evidence-based and unified transfer values across social assistance programmes in Cambodia, given the recent rising inflation and unaffordability of nutritious food, especially for the most vulnerable.
- WFP, as co-chair and secretariat of the Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF), conducted the all-member meeting to share the preliminary findings of the HRF foresight exercise and discuss the stockpile mapping for emergency preparedness and humanitarian response in 2022. WFP, on behalf of the HRF, further participated in the annual preparedness partnership of Cambodia (PPC) workshop, organized by the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), to present HRF's preparedness for the flood season.
- The Embassy of Japan and WFP conducted a joint field visit to Kampong Thom to observe the construction and the impacts of the climate-resilient infrastructure on people's livelihoods. They met with beneficiary families who directly benefited from the canal, road and safe evacuation centre. The infrastructures ensured food availability for their families, sustained their business in the face of the double shocks of COVID-19 and floods and provided safe shelter in times of floods or in times of COVID-19 infections. The field visit illustrated the benefits of the partnership between Japan and WFP in support of national priorities in integrated risk management.

Donors

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