



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Nepal Country Brief June 2022

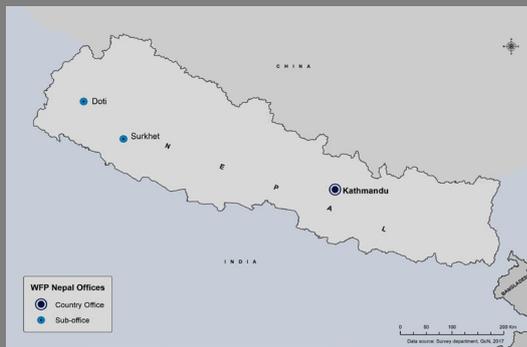


## Operational Context

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. Nepal struggled through the COVID-19 pandemic, especially the second wave in 2021, but the ongoing vaccination drive has helped to reduce the fatality rate.

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 coordinating disaster response efforts and strengthening the economy.

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**

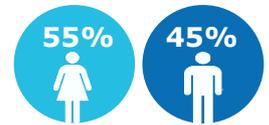
## In Numbers

**555.51 mt** of food distributed

**US\$ 135,316** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 5.87 million** six-month net funding requirements (Jul - December 2022)

**274,975 people assisted** in June 2022



## Operational Updates

- **WFP organized a field visit to school feeding programme districts** for officials from the Japanese Embassy in Nepal and members of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The objective of the two missions was to observe the distribution of the hot midday meals to students as well as results of WFP's capacity strengthening activities in Nuwakot and Doti districts. WFP works with governments across the world to ensure that all primary schoolchildren have access to nutritious meals at schools which is accompanied by a broader, sustainable integrated package of health and nutrition services.
- **WFP facilitated a 10-member high-level study mission to India**, comprising of government ministers and Secretaries from the Ministry of Agriculture, National Planning Commission and others; the purpose of this visit was to observe and learn how agriculture and food security related policies are being implemented successfully in India and to apply the recommendations into Nepal's Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act 2018 (RtF). Working closely with WFP in India, this was the first government-to-government high level delegation with the Government of Nepal committing to move forward the approval of the RtF Act.
- **WFP has been providing technical and financial support to the Ministry of Health and Population** to develop a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the treatment and management of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) programme to be piloted in Siraha district. The SOP is expected to be approved in the first week of July with implementation of the pilot to begin by the end of next month. In addition, WFP will preposition 90 metric tonnes of specialised nutrition food (wheat soya blend) as a monsoon preparedness measure, which will be ready to be distributed to pregnant and lactating women and children under two years of age should there be an emergency.
- **WFP completed unconditional cash-based transfers** under a US Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded programme to support improved education and nutritional outcomes among children. Nearly **40,000 households (82 percent women)** received cash transfers amounting to US\$ 2,576,300. As the world's largest provider of humanitarian cash transfers, WFP also provides on-demand cash-transfer services to other United Nations agencies in the country, for improved transparency and financial reporting.

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## Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023

| Total Requirement (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Jul 2022 - Dec 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>165.23 m</b>            | <b>109.73 m</b>                  | <b>5.87 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 to targeted and 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 inaugurated two Mobile Humanitarian Staging Areas (HSAs)** in Bardibas and Basantapur. The Australian Ambassador to Nepal and the Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs were present at the opening ceremonies at each of the MHSAs, together with WFP's Representative and Country Director. Constructed with generous contributions from Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, these MHSAs are important platforms that will allow local governments to respond efficiently to small-scale disasters, including flooding and landslides.

## Monitoring & Evaluation

- **WFP completed the USDA McGovern Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Programme baseline survey.** Approved by USDA, WFP also successfully held a dissemination workshop to present survey findings with government officials, donors, and partners. The full report is available [here](#).

## Price fluctuations in the markets



**WFP conducted the sixth round of mobile vulnerability analysis and mapping (mVAM) surveys** in May, focusing on the impact of the conflict in Ukraine on food security and livelihoods across 15 major markets in Nepal.

**The results showed an upward trend in prices, with a significant increase in the prices of vegetables, fruits, and edible oils** while cereals and pulses remained relatively stable. The price hike can largely be explained by the conflict in Ukraine, and the related increase in fuel prices and transportation costs. While there are no causes for alarm just yet, the current and anticipated disruption in global supply chain will likely increase pressure on local markets, as well as food access, especially for vulnerable households. The full mVAM report is available [here](#).

**Donors:** Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, the Government of Nepal, Joint Sustainable Development Fund, United States of America, United Kingdom, United Nations, and private donors.