Highlights

The Country Office bid farewell to Head of Office, Mr Svante Helms, who completed his four-year term successfully.

To gain insights into food consumption behaviour amongst schoolchildren, WFP and the Ministry of Education carried out a social behaviour change formative research across the country.

Operational Update

• After four years of dedicated service, WFP Bhutan’s Head of Office Svante Helms completed his tenure successfully. Under his guidance, WFP Bhutan Country Office expanded its portfolio supporting the Royal Government in areas of food systems and agriculture, nutrition and disaster risk reduction.

• To gain insights into food consumption behaviour amongst school-age children, WFP and the Ministry of Education conducted a social behaviour change formative research, with support from KOICA. The research involved 25 schools across the country, and the results will inform the national social behaviour change strategy for nutrition.

• With technical support from WFP, a food mapping exercise was conducted by the Tarayana Foundation. The mapping exercise is part of a process to create a database of available foods, consumption patterns, cooking and storage practices, and informal seed preservation among others. WFP partners with the Tarayana Foundation to advocate for and support healthy diet among rural and vulnerable populations.
### WFP Bhutan Strategy

#### Country Strategic Plan 2019 – 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Aug 2022-Jan 2023 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.94 m</td>
<td>6.63 m</td>
<td>0 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** School-age children, women and vulnerable groups in Bhutan have improved nutrition in line with national targets by 2023  
**Focus area:** Root Causes

**Activities:**
- Assist the Government in its transition to a national school nutrition programme based on an integrated approach to school feeding that connects school feeding with nutrition education, school health and school agriculture and embeds gender across all activities, strengthened supply chains and school nutrition infrastructure optimization.
- Provide technical assistance to the Government and the national food production and trade sectors to ensure that sound policies are in place and ensure quality and safety of fortified foods, especially rice, throughout their supply chains.

#### Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Government has strengthened capability to address food security and nutrition challenges and prepare for and respond to crises, including those resulting from climate change, by 2023.  
**Focus area:** Root Causes

**Activities:**
- Provide the Government with gender-informed and vulnerability-focused capacity strengthening relevant to its management of national emergency resources, development, enhancement and testing of national emergency response plans and coordination systems, through WFP's leadership of the emergency logistics and communications sectoral working group.

- Refurbishment of kitchen and store in 15 schools was completed. This includes nine schools initiated in 2020, which faced significant delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- As part of enhancing the School Agriculture Programme (SAP), 21 schools were provided with mini power tillers. The power tillers help students gain technical skills in mechanical farming. An additional 20 schools will be supplied with power tillers this year. The SAP is a national programme to educate children on food production and agriculture and is implemented in almost all schools across the country.

---

**Donors**

KOICA; First-line of Defence (USAID); Global Logistics Cluster support; WFP internal funds