



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cambodia Country Brief July 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 17.8 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**

2020 Human Development Index: **144 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **32 percent of children under 5**

In Numbers

179 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$370,000 cash grant to HGSF schools

US\$143,000 six months (August 2022 - January 2023) net funding requirements

213,000 people assisted

Operational Updates

School Feeding Programme

- To address the impacts of rising food prices on the suppliers of the homegrown school feeding programme, WFP amended the supplier contract and provided orientation on the standard operation procedure to the provincial and district offices of education, local authorities and schools. New prices will be implemented starting next month, and WFP will continue to closely monitor commodity prices using a supplier monitoring checklist currently under finalization.
- To help schools boost nutrition and ensure food safety, WFP and the provincial school health department held a workshop to discuss the operational guidelines for food preparation at schools. 25 key stakeholders from the health departments, schools and non-governmental organizations jointly reviewed the content and design of the guidelines, which will be used to support cooks and storekeepers in food preparation, hygiene practices and food safety.
- To gain insights into the national school feeding programme, the National Social Protection Council, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and WFP conducted a joint field visit to observe on-site implementation in five schools in Kampong Thom and Siem Reap. In-depth discussions were held on programme handover, budget implications and the impact of rising food prices on the programme.

Food Security & Nutrition

- In view of the global fuel and food crisis, WFP, as chair of the UN Nutrition Network, produced [a joint statement and policy brief](#) with FAO, UNICEF and WHO on the risks of rising food and fuel prices on food security, which will disproportionately affect the poorest households. It concluded with recommendations for key actions to be taken in the short, medium and long-term.

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)	August 2022-January 2023 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
80.35 m	72.17 m	0.143 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 fight micronutrient deficiencies amongst schoolchildren, WFP blended over 500 mt of rice donated by the Royal Government of Cambodia with DSM-donated fortified rice kernels to improve its nutritional quality. This fortified rice will be distributed to 222 schools to benefit 56,000 students in Kampong Thom, Odar Meanchey and Pursat.
- To integrate food security and nutrition activities with those of the government and partners, WFP updated its food security and nutrition booklet to align with the new National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2019-2023. The new version will be used to guide the commune development and investment plans across the country.
- To promote healthy diets and physical activities, WFP and partners supported a half-day running marathon organized by the country's youth nutrition champions. Over 1,000 participants joined in a 3 km or 10 km marathon and disseminated key messages around healthy diets to their families and communities.
- To better capture the impacts of the global food and fuel crisis on vulnerable households, ADB, UNICEF and WFP expanded the scope of the joint household vulnerability survey with an increased sample size. The latest results from this survey indicated that many household-level food security and nutrition indicators deteriorated between late 2021 and mid-2022, possibly as a result of rising inflation and unaffordability of nutritious foods, especially for the most vulnerable people.

Disaster Risk Management

- To strengthen national disaster risk management measures, the National Committee for Disaster Management, WFP and partners organized the 29th National Disaster Risk Reduction Forum to reactivate the platform and promote dialogue and coordination to enhance policies, strategies and investments in disaster risk reduction. About 100 officials from line ministries, sub-national government departments, development partners, non-governmental organizations and private sector attended this event to exchange views, knowledge and experiences and identify challenges and good practices.

Donors

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