



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cambodia

Country Brief

September 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: 22 percent of children under 5 years of age are stunted, 16 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**

2021/2022 Human Development Index:
146 out of 191 countries

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **22 percent of children under 5**

In Numbers

283 mt of food distributed

US\$ 128,000 cash distributed to schools

US\$ 357,085 six-month (October 2022 - March 2023) net funding requirements

213,000 people assisted

Operational Updates

School Feeding Programme (SFP)

- To facilitate national government ownership of the SFP, WFP is working closely with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS) and the National Social Protection Council (NSPC) to prepare related policy, technical support, capacity building and programme operational framework. This month, the Government confirmed to increase its school feeding budget to cover 137 additional schools in the next academic year, covering a total of 427 schools under the national programme.
- As part of its commitment to providing technical and capacity strengthening support to the national SFP, WFP organized a workshop to finalise and endorse the draft theory of change and an accompanying monitoring and evaluation framework. Two government officials from MoEYS and NSPC will attend the 23rd Annual Global Child Nutrition Forum in Benin in late October for a cross-country exchange on school feeding operations.
- At school level, to strengthen monitoring and record management capacities, WFP delivered 17 cluster trainings and in-person coaching to storekeepers and data entry focal points in five provinces. The training enabled participants to properly file and verify stock records and documents for data accuracy, consistency and completeness and use the school feeding information system for better recording and reporting purposes. Currently, 823 schools are utilising the skills to complete the quarterly progress reports and submitted to the provincial education department for financial clearance.
- At district level, the Provincial Departments and District Offices of Agriculture, with WFP's support, conducted a series of trainings to build capacities of smallholder farmers and suppliers in seven districts on safe and diverse food production and post-harvest handling. A total of 233 producers and suppliers (70 percent women) participated in the trainings.

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
80.35 m	94.41 m	0.36 m

Strategic Result: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Vulnerable communities in Cambodia have access to nutritious, 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 to 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.

Food Security and Nutrition

- To mainstream food security and nutrition in programme implementation, WFP, together with the Council of Agriculture and Rural Development (CARD) and partners, conducted a training of trainers session to 40 participants from CARD, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and the Royal University of Phnom Penh on integrating food security and nutrition into commune development and investment plans. Cascade trainings will follow to transfer the knowledge to key officials at sub-national and local levels countrywide.
- To scale up efforts to tackle malnutrition among school children, WFP and MoEYS organized a consultation workshop to develop a nutrition-in-schools campaign to reduce the consumption of highly processed foods and encourage increased consumption of fruit, vegetables and proteins among school children. 36 representatives from UN agencies, civil society organizations and relevant line ministries/departments from Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Thom and Siem Reap participated to identify the different target audiences and discuss how to strategically use evidence-based communication to promote changes in nutrition knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of school children and their caregivers.
- WFP released its [monthly market update bulletin](#), together with MAFF, to update the impact of the global fuel and food crisis on local food prices and market functionality. In August, the cost of a balanced food basket rose to a new record high, aggravating food insecurity and inflation. Although excess rainfall resulted in favourable growing conditions, this also caused flash floods in some parts of the country, affecting agricultural cultivation.

Disaster Risk Management

- To enhance future local planning for and investment in climate-resilient infrastructure, the National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development Secretariat (NCDDS) and WFP organized a workshop to document lessons learnt from the completion of 19 projects (canals, reservoirs and roads) in 16 communes. A total of 67 officials from national and sub-national levels, development partners and civil society organizations gathered to share and discuss the management and construction of these small-scale climate-resilient infrastructure projects.

Donors

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