



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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WFP Nepal Country Brief June 2023

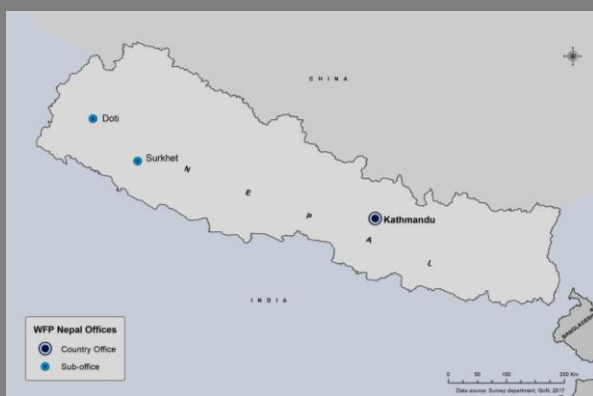


Operational Context

Nepal promulgated its new constitution restructuring the country as a federal democratic republic, creating an excellent opportunity to achieve economic growth, reduce poverty, and pursue the 2030 Agenda. With COVID-19 all but declared an endemic, Nepal has started its economic and social recovery from the secondary impacts of the pandemic. While there was strong economic growth in FY22, this appears to have slowed down in the first quarter of FY23, reflecting higher international prices and continuation of import restrictions.

Following the federal elections in November 2022, former Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal, also known as *Prachanda*, was once again appointed in late December 2022 for the third time. As part of the deal reached with a coalition party, Prime Minister Dahal will head the new government until 2025.

WFP has been operating in Nepal since 1963, supporting the Government to achieve greater food security and nutrition among vulnerable communities and respond to disasters while also building resilience.



Population: **29.1 million (2022)**

2022 Human Development Index:
143 out of 191 countries

Income Level: **Least developed**

Chronic malnutrition: **25% of children between 6-59 months**

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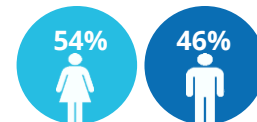
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In Numbers

310 mt of food distributed

US\$ 2.76 million six-month net funding requirements (July 2023 – Dec 2023)

180,922 people assisted in June 2023



Operational Updates

- This month, WFP organized two field visits for the Norwegian and Finnish Ambassadors in Nepal to Nuwakot district. During their visits, the two Ambassadors observed WFP's support in the implementation of the **national school meals programme**, from farm to schools as well as its capacity strengthening activities in the area. WFP works with schools in its six selected districts to ensure that primary schoolchildren have access to nutritious meals at schools. This is accompanied by a broader, sustainable integrated package of health and nutrition services.
- Under the **Local Infrastructure Support Programme (LISP)**, the construction of 83 out of 89 climate resilience infrastructure has been completed, with six ongoing. Through this, a total of 158,700 employment days to 4,514 households have been created. The LISP was initiated with the aim of improving selected local governments' ability to respond to the demand of rural citizens for access to local infrastructure services to create jobs and drive local economic development.
- WFP reached 22,962 **pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBWG)** and children aged 06-23 months through its mother and child health and nutrition intervention. The moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) pilot programme enrolled 10,949 children into the programme, of which 8,566 have completed treatment. To minimize the defaulter rate, WFP's field team continues to follow up regularly with children undergoing treatment.
- Under its **emergency preparedness and response (EPR)** activity, WFP donated six sets of fuel bladders and two mobile storage units (MSUs) to the Nepalese Army to augment their emergency logistics capacity. The fuel bladders will help the Nepali Army to preposition fuel in deep crisis-affected areas and enhance their air service capacity. Meanwhile, the MSUs will help them to conduct practical sessions of emergency logistics training. Furthermore, WFP also facilitated the delivery of shelter items on behalf of the Ministry of Home Affairs to people affected by the early monsoon floods in Panchar and Taplejung districts.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	June 2023 - Nov 2023 Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
169.92 m	119.82 m	3.97 m

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.

- This month, WFP conducted a training on **grain fumigation and best practices** on its management. The training, which was delivered to 25 participants including WFP staff and government officials, facilitated knowledge transfer on the essential role fumigation has on storing cereals and legumes, correct fumigation techniques, and factors that contribute to pest harbourage. WFP is currently coordinating with the Food Management and Trading Company Limited to organize a similar training in Biratnagar for relevant stakeholders from Provinces 1, 2 and 3.

Japan funded school meals programme hands over infrastructure



In June 2023, though the generous contribution from the Government of Japan, WFP handed over seven kitchens and handwashing stations to Mygang rural municipality in Nuwakot district.

WFP has been supporting the implementation of the national school meals programme (NSMP) in Nuwakot since 2020, through a home-grown school feeding (HGSF) approach which aims to foster the sustainability of the NSMP.

The HGSF approach – which contributes to several [Sustainable Development Goals](#), including 2 ([zero hunger](#)) and 4 ([quality education](#)) - links the school meals programme with local smallholder farmers to provide nearly 2 million schoolchildren in Nuwakot district with food that is safe, nutritious, diverse and locally produced. At the community level, this approach promotes nutrition education and better eating habits while encouraging the diversification of production with a special emphasis on local crops. Community engagement, in turn, enhances the sustainability of the programme.

WFP thanks the Government of Japan for its generous support and continued partnership.

Donors

Adaptation Fund, Australia, Canada, China, ECHO, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Joint SDG Fund, Nepal, Norway, United Kingdom, United Nations, Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), United States of America, World Bank, and private donors.