



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Cambodia

Country Brief

June 2023



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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

In Numbers

373 mt of food assistance distributed

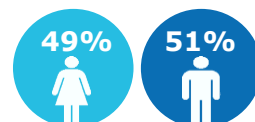
US\$ 514,000 cash to schools for Home-Grown School Feeding

US\$ 32,000 six-month (July - December 2023) net funding requirements

185,000 people assisted

Operational Updates

School Feeding Programme



- WFP and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) assessed Cambodia's national school feeding programme, using the Systems Approach for Better Education Results exercise to identify key areas for improvement. The exercise analysed policy frameworks, financial & institutional capacity, design, and community roles. A 2-day workshop was organized in Kampong Thom, involving five ministries to discuss the findings and identify opportunities to enhance programme management. Insights gained from the workshop will guide WFP's technical assistance to support more efficient and sustainable management of the national programme, leading to better outcomes for children and their communities.
- WFP, FAO and education offices organized supply-side forums in 25 districts across 5 provinces to connect smallholder farmers and suppliers with the school meals programme. These forums promote locally sourced, fresh, and diverse food for children, thus benefiting the local economy. A digital communication platform will be established to enhance network strength and value chain development in the programme and beyond.

Food Security & Nutrition

- WFP and MoEYS's school health department partnered with 17 Triggers, a leading behaviour change lab, to develop a school nutrition social behavior change campaign, promoting healthy eating habits among Cambodian children by increasing nutritious food consumption and reducing unhealthy snack intake. The campaign leverages the existing school meals programme and targets both children and caregivers to influence their diets at home. It aims to reach 686 primary schools this year, with an impact expected beyond the classroom.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/cambodia

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	June–November 2023 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
87.9 m	99.26 m	0.32 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.		

- WFP and the Cambodian Agriculture Cooperative Corporation trained over 40 management teams from 5 agricultural cooperatives (AC) in Koh Nhek district, Monduliri, along with representatives from provincial departments of agriculture, environment, and district authorities. The Training of Trainers on organic farming, natural resource protection, and AC management skills is part of a larger project series on skills development for AC members and smallholder farmers. By enhancing the capacity of ACs and their members, the project aims to enhance the livelihood and nutrition of smallholder farmers and their families, promoting a more sustainable future for the community.

Disaster Risk Management

- The Humanitarian Response Forum held its first in-person gathering in over two years, bringing together stakeholders to collaborate on humanitarian efforts towards a more sustainable future. Attendees provided insights on priority areas for 2023 and other critical topics, including the new humanitarian architecture, the establishment of the UN Humanitarian Country Team, and the UN's Early Warnings for All initiative. Updates were given on emergency preparedness and El Niño potential impacts by government representatives.
- WFP supported the National Committee for Disaster Management and the National Social Protection Council to participate in the 7th Asia-Pacific Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action in Nepal to build a network with regional practitioners and learn from country examples about scaling up and collaboration. The conference shared knowledge and evidence on anticipatory action implementation, mainstreaming, and evaluation while identifying good practices, gaps, roadblocks and milestones for a joint way forward at the regional and national levels. The event aimed to expose attendees to new ideas and best practices for anticipatory action and social protection, helping to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian action in the region.

Donors

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

© WFP/Samantha Reinders: Ouy (14, in Grade 6) and her sister Ai (12, Grade 5) are doing their homework on return from Bos Thom school in Siem Reap province. The school is part of a WFP funded school feeding programme.