



World Food Programme

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# Market & Seasonal Monitoring Update

December 2023



USAID  
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## CAMBODIA

United Nations World Food Programme in partnership with  
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# Preface

**2023 has been marked by significant challenges, including high global food inflation.** This inflation has been driven by geopolitical conflicts (Israeli-Palestinian and Russia-Ukraine), the impact of the El Niño phenomenon on agriculture, and food export restrictions by major producer countries.

**The El Niño, expected to persist until mid-2024,** is already having an impact on agricultural production in 2023 and is expected to influence forecasts for 2024, particularly in major agricultural producer countries. This is leading to an expected decrease in surplus for exports. Thailand, for instance, expects a 6% drop in agricultural production for the 2023-24 season due to the drier condition. India is expected to see the production decline in the first quarter of 2024, following the impacts felt in 2023. Vietnam, a successfully rice exporter in 2023, has advised some farmers to start their new crop early as a precaution against potential early 2024 droughts.

**The ban on rice exports from India in 2023 have had significant global implications.** This limitation has led to a substantial concerns over rice shortages on the global market, pushing rice prices towards a new 15-year high. India, affected by lower domestic production due to El Niño since the beginning of 2023, is likely to maintain its restrictions on rice exports until mid-2024.

**In December 2023, the FAO all rice price index continued to show a modest month-on-month (MoM) increase of 1.6% but a significant year-on-year (YoY) rise of 18.6%.** However, the FAO global food price index recorded a decrease of 1.5% MoM and 10.1% YoY. This improvement was primarily due to decreases in the prices of sugar, vegetable oils, and meat, which outweighed the increases in dairy products and cereals.

**Global rice prices are projected to increase by 6% in 2024,** following a 28% rise in 2023. These rising prices, driven by increased demand and reduced supply, are raising concerns about global food insecurity, especially given that rice is a main staple food for over 3 billion people.

**To understand how these shocks impact food availability and access to markets in Cambodia,** the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Agricultural Marketing Office (AMO) of Cambodia's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) collaboratively monitor main food prices and market functionality in 56 markets. Interviews with about 1,000 traders and chiefs occur every two weeks to assess supply and demand. Gasoline, diesel, and unskilled labor wages in agriculture and construction industries are also monitored.

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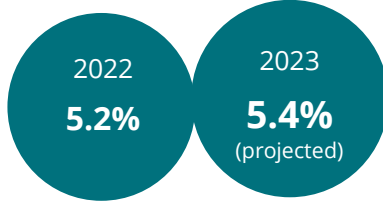
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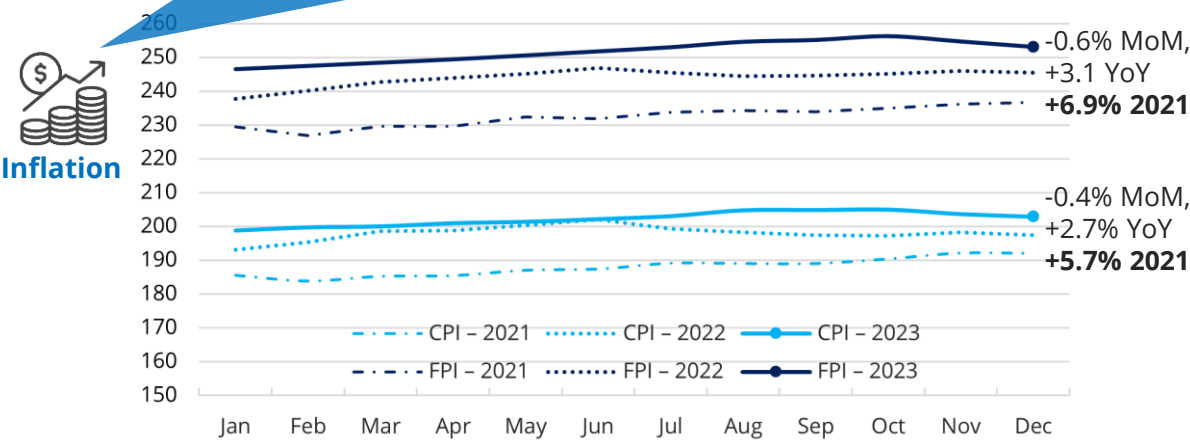
### Environmental Factors Influencing Prices



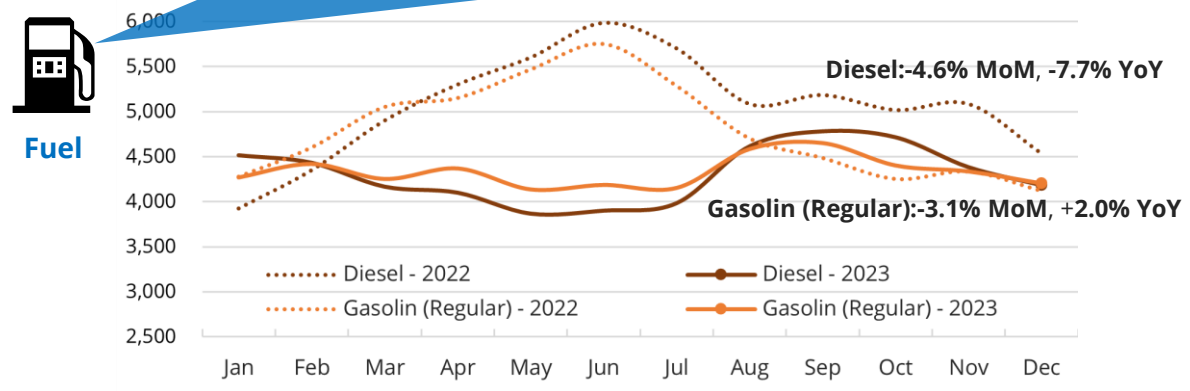
Economic growth rate



Since the beginning of the year, there has been a consistent increase in both the Cambodia Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Food Price Index (FPI). As of December 2023, both indices have continued to be moderately higher than their levels in 2022 and significantly higher than those in 2021. Cambodian households spend half (52%) of their income on food; households in the lowest expenditure quintile as much as 58% (CSES, 2021).



In December 2023, fuel prices in Cambodia continued to show a moderate decrease. The improvement in fuel prices is likely due to an increase in supply from non-OPEC+ countries that occurred simultaneously with a deceleration of global demand.



# Summary of Key Findings

In December 2023, there was a moderate month-on-month (MoM) decrease of 3.6% in the cost of the WFP basic food basket (BFB), which dropped to USD 27.3 per person per month. This decline was driven by decreases in prices for the majority of food commodities. Despite the decline, it is worth noting that the BFB cost remained 2.9% higher than the same month in the previous year (YoY) due to markedly higher prices for some key commodities. Specifically, mixed rice prices remained 32.7% higher YoY, while prices for vegetable oil, pork with fat, and morning glory were lower by 16.9%, 10.0%, and 9.8% YoY, respectively.

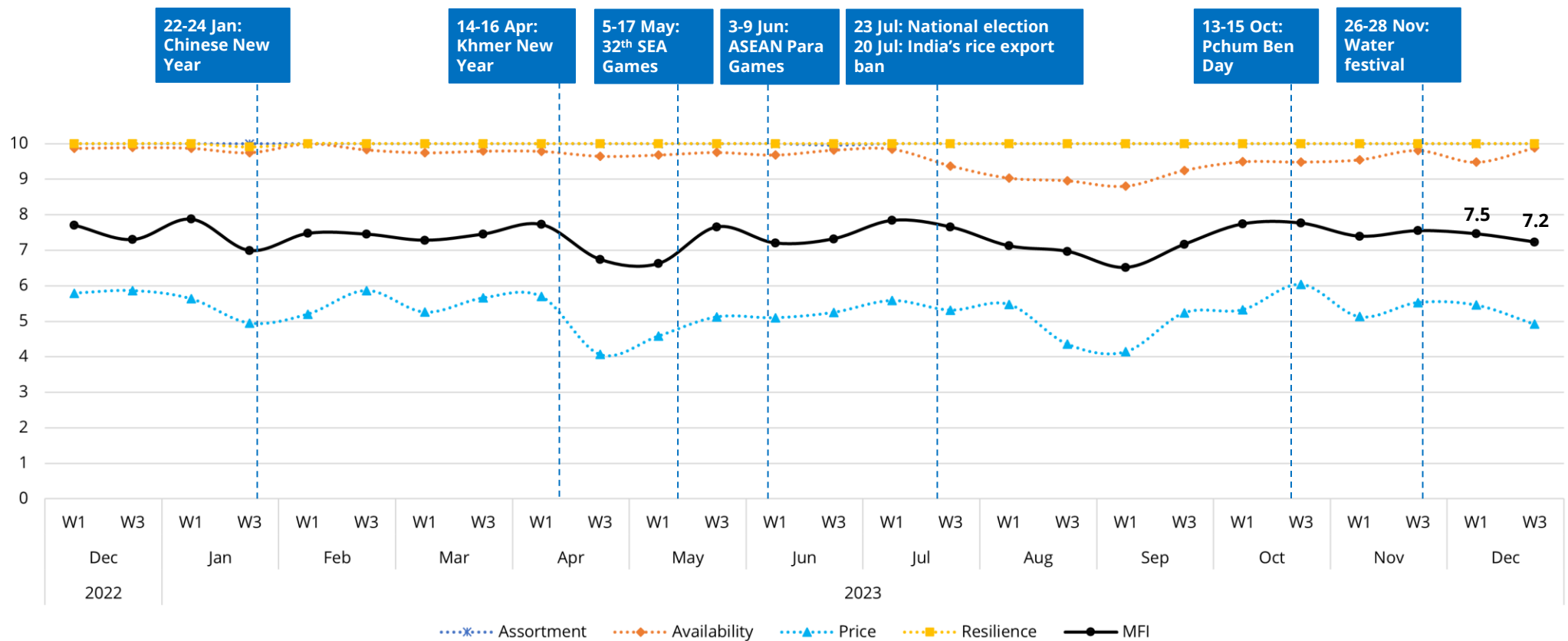
In December 2023, purchasing power of food basket showed a slight improvement, thanks to a moderate decrease in the cost of the food basket. There was a reduction in customer visits to markets, aligning with a slight decline in market functionality, mainly attributed to price instability.

The rising price of rice, coupled with favorable weather conditions, and lower prices for fuel and fertilizer, led to an increase in paddy cultivation and production in 2023. By December 2023, wet-season paddy production had increased by 22%, and the cultivation of dry-season paddy saw a 21% increase, compared to the same period in the previous year.

However, under the influence of the current strong El Niño conditions in the region, Cambodia is expected to experience below-normal rainfall and hotter temperatures from January to March 2024. This is likely to exert pressure on the high demand for water. In response, people are advised to conserve water, and farmers are suggested to consider abandoning plans for the second dry-season paddy cultivation to mitigate potential impacts and losses caused by water scarcity.

# Market functionality

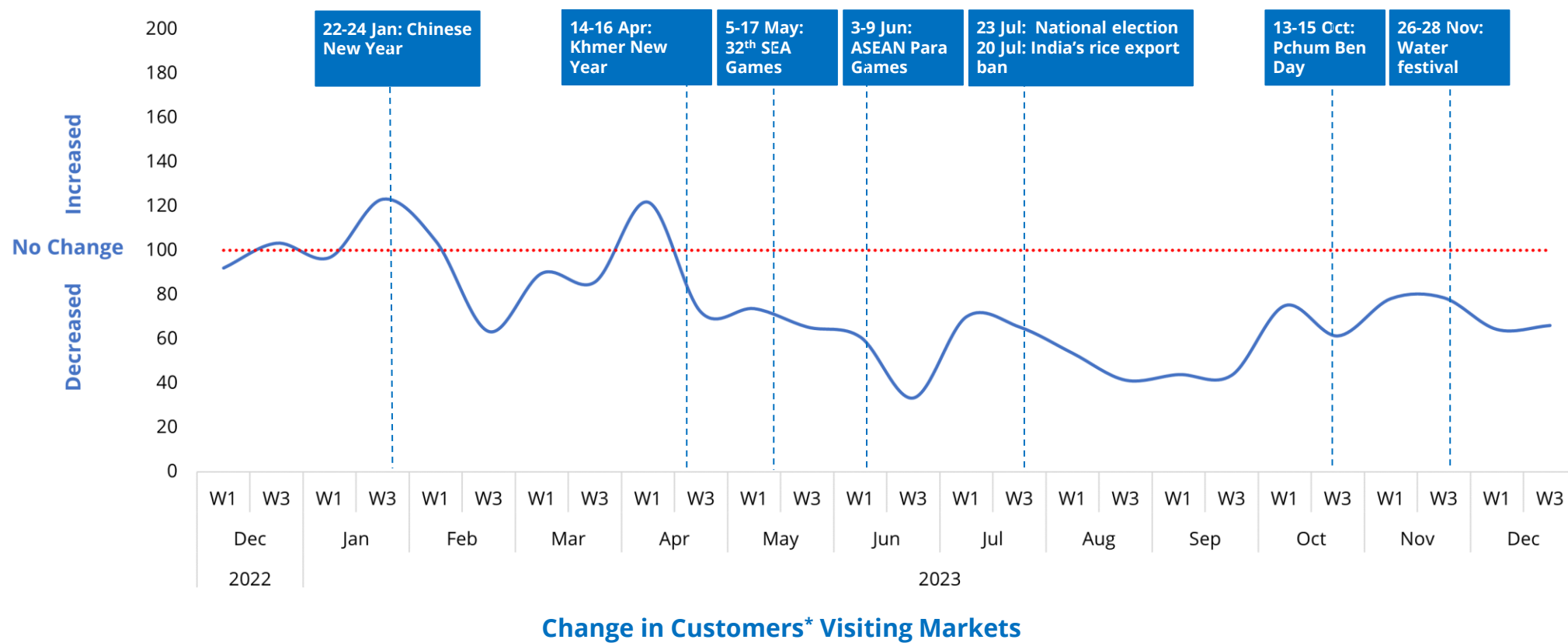
In December 2023, there was a minor decline in the market functionality index\* (MFI) compared to the previous month. This decline was primarily attributed to stability in prices of essential goods. Market chiefs and traders were interviewed regarding the food supply situation. In December 2023, nearly no one reported an increase in supply prices for key food commodities, except for rice.



\* The market functionality index (MFI) measures the functionality of monitored markets along the following key dimensions: assortment of essential goods, physical availability of goods in sufficient quantities, affordable and stable-predictable prices, and the underlying resilience of supply chains. Each dimensions ins in the reduced MFI is indexed on a scale of 0 to 10, with a higher value indicating better market functionality at the time of monitoring. Overall MFI is an aggregation of the four dimensions. [Detail methodology of MFI](#). From mid-September 2022 onwards, information on non-food items (NFI) is also included in the analysis. Started from April 2023, the calculation of MFI and its dimensions was adjusted to ensure a more precise depiction.

# Market access: Customer trends

In December 2023, there was a moderate decrease in the number of customers visiting markets compared to the previous month. This decline was likely attributed to the re-emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly the spread of the new Covid-19 variant, Omicron JN.1, in Cambodia.

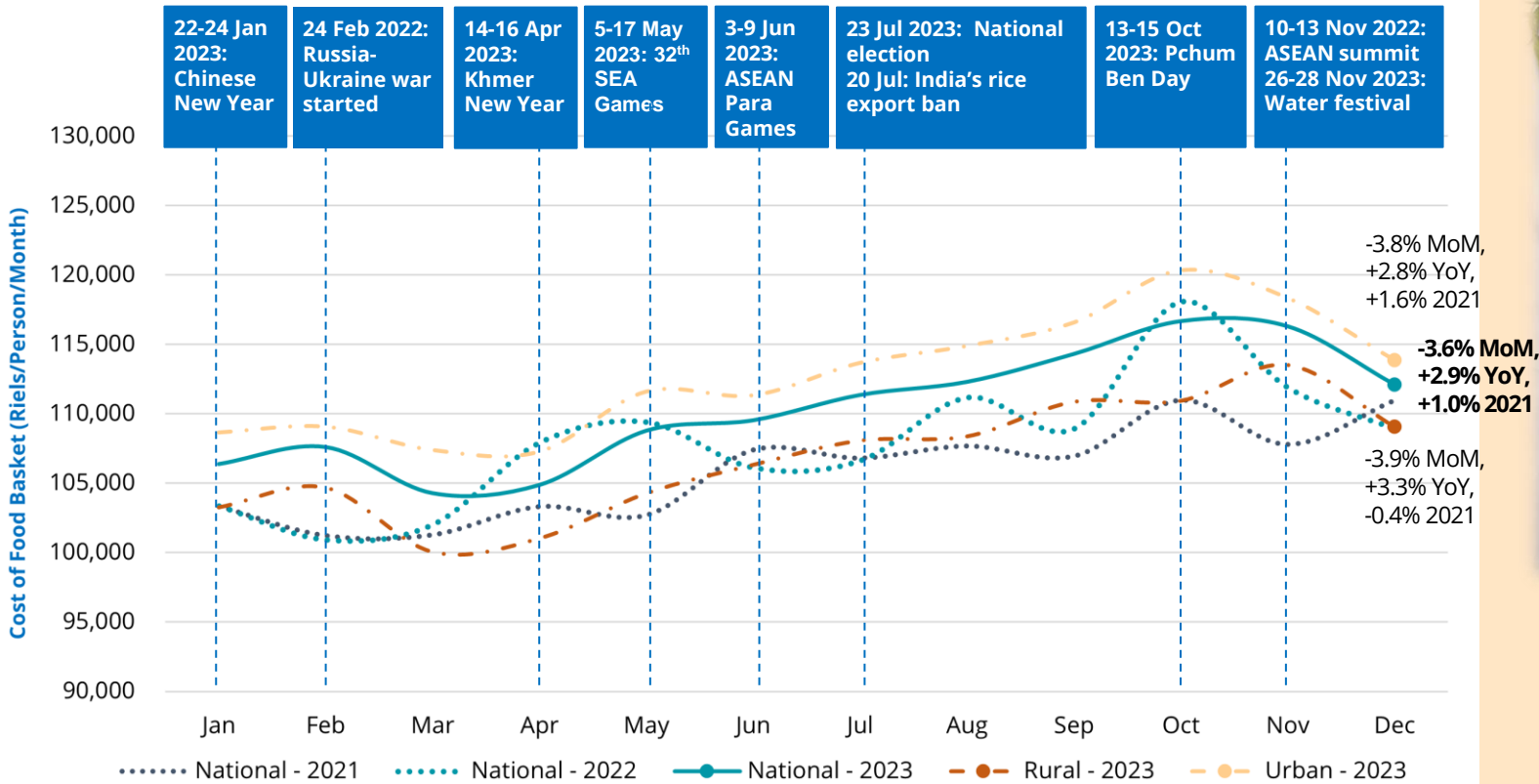


\* Across the 56 monitored markets in the country, market chiefs and traders were interviewed about market accessibility and customer visits in the first and third weeks of the month, compared to the previous two weeks. The value of change in customers is calculated based on a diffusion index or advance/decline index to track the change of customers visiting the market in a time series.

# National: Cost of a basic food basket

In December 2023, the national cost of the basic food basket (BFB)<sup>1</sup> experienced a moderate decline of 3.6% month-on-month (MoM), reducing it to 112,100 riels per person per month, which is equivalent to USD 27.3. The cost of BFB in urban<sup>2</sup> and rural markets decreased by 3.8% MoM (USD 27.8) and by 3.9% MoM (USD 26.6), respectively.

When comparing to the same month in the previous year (YoY), the cost of the BFB was 2.9% higher. The cost is higher YoY in rural areas than in urban areas. It is also noteworthy that the BFB cost remained nearly the same compared to the same month in 2021.



## A basic food basket (BFB) Daily per capita ration



The BFB consists of key commodities including mixed rice, snakehead fish, pork, duck egg, vegetable oil, sweet potato and morning glory which contribute to the minimum energy requirement of 1,937 kcal/person/day. The BFB was adopted from WFP's Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) study in Cambodia. See Annex 3 for more details on the methodology.

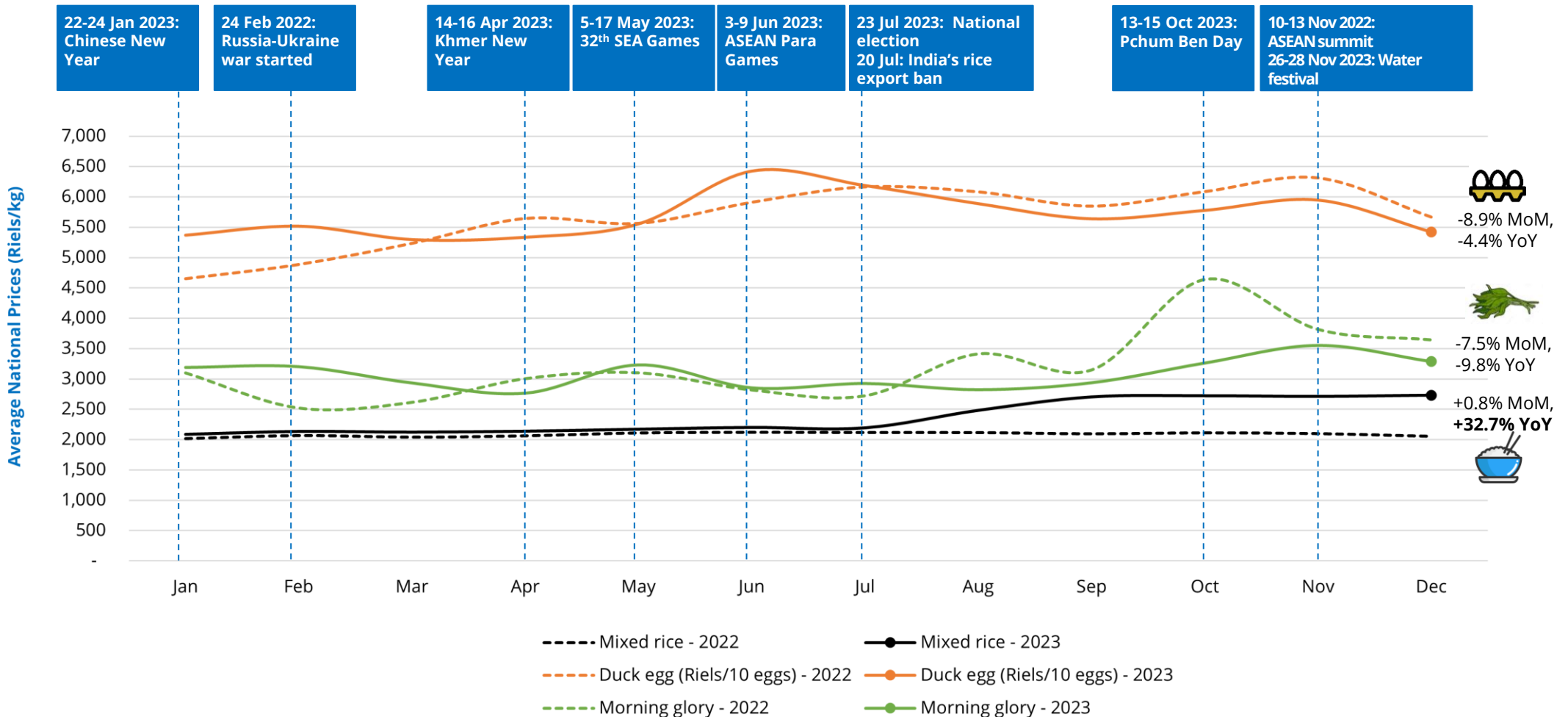
<sup>1</sup> The cost of the WFP basic food basket (BFB) is calculated to assist with interpreting the impact of monthly changes in food commodity prices on the cost of a basic diet consumed in Cambodia.

<sup>2</sup> Urban markets refer to the markets situated in the provincial towns, all other markets in the monitoring are considered as rural markets

# National: Price trends of mixed rice, duck eggs, and morning glory

In December 2023, retail prices for mixed rice remained relatively stable compared to the previous month (MoM) but were 32.7% higher than the same month in the previous year (YoY). Duck eggs and morning glory experienced significant price decreases, both MoM and YoY, with reductions of 8.9% MoM and 4.4% YoY for duck eggs, and 7.5% MoM and 9.8% YoY for morning glory.

See Annex 1 and 2 for additional food commodity prices.

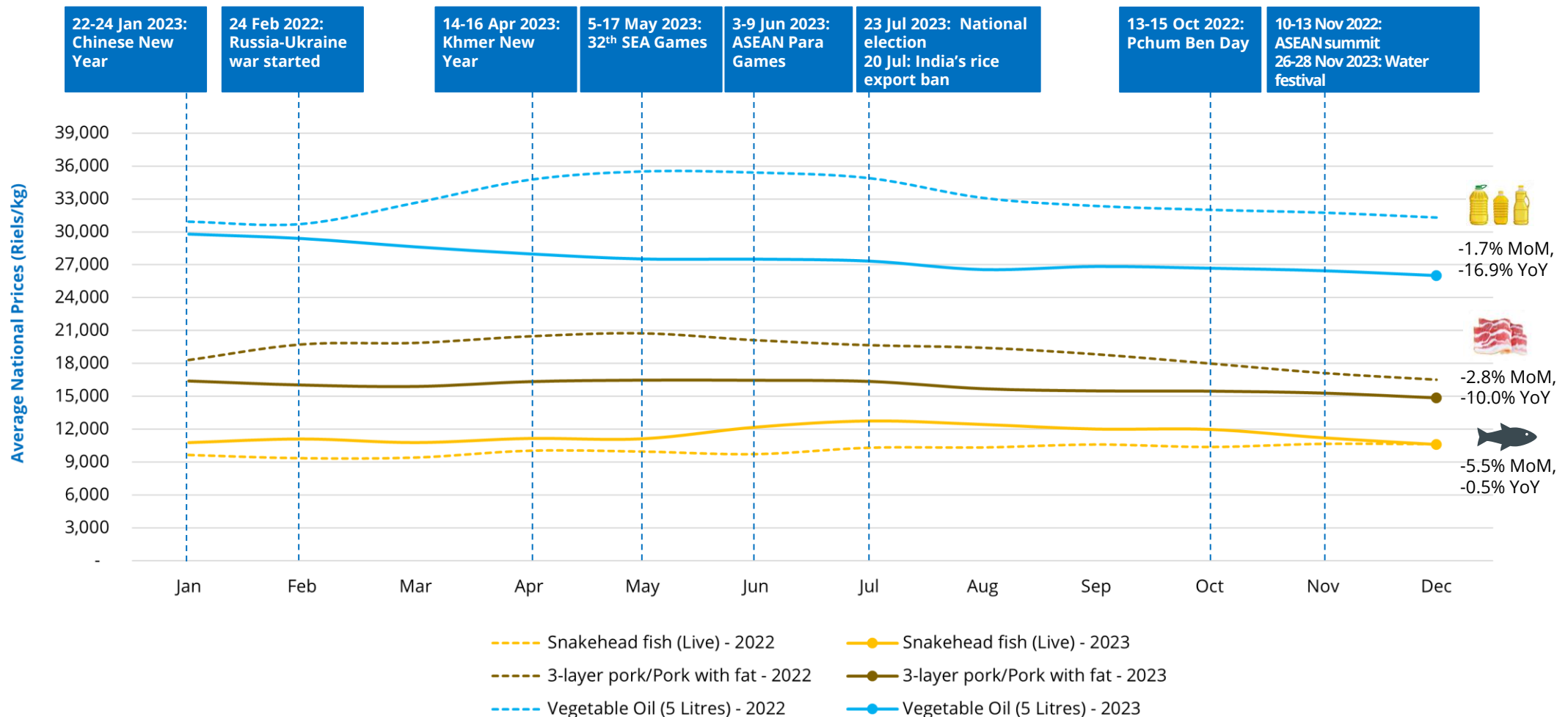


Note:  
 - Morning glory is commonly eaten in Cambodia and its price trend does not always indicate price fluctuations of other vegetables in the Annexes.  
 - Food prices was collected remotely by call centre.

# National: Price trends of snakehead fish, pork with fat, and vegetable oil

In December 2023, retail prices for vegetable oil, pork with fat, and snakehead fish experienced price decreases, both MoM and YoY. Prices for vegetable oil decreased by 1.7% MoM and 16.9% YoY, prices for pork with fat decreased by 2.8% MoM and 10.0% YoY, and prices for snakehead fish decreased by 5.5% MoM and 0.5% YoY. The reduction in snakehead fish prices can be attributed to the open commercial fishing season that began in October 2023.

See Annex 1 and 2 for additional food commodity prices.



Note: food prices was collected remotely by call centre.



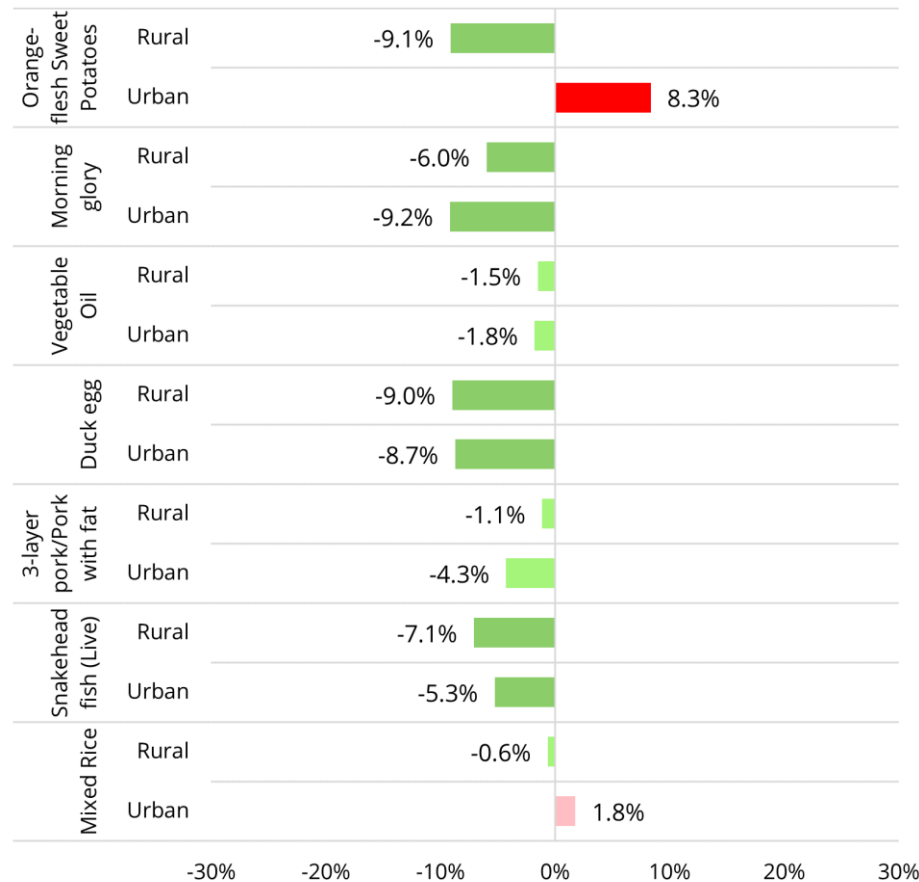
# Sub-national: Price differences and changes in urban and rural areas

In December 2023, the retail prices of most monitored food commodities (graphic below left) followed a similar trend in both rural and urban areas, with prices mostly decreasing. However, there were exceptions with mixed rice and orange sweet potatoes, which experienced price increases in urban areas.

The WFP basic food basket cost varied by province (map below right), with the Samaki market, Kampot province (USD 31.5) being 15% above the national average while the Soung market, Tboung Khoum province (USD 23.1) being 15% lower than the national average. Price deviations above the national average, particularly those more than 10%, were predominantly observed in urban markets.

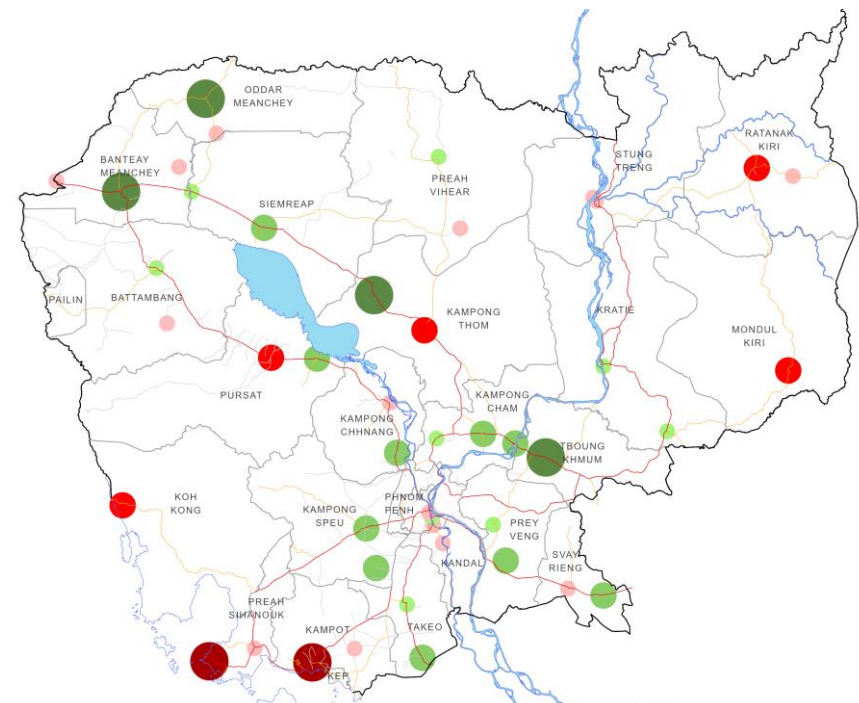
## Monthly change (%) in retail prices of key food commodities

November 2023 vs December 2023



Note:

- Data is from all 56 markets. See the Methods section for more details
- Food prices was collected remotely by call centre.



## BFB Deviation of cost of basic food basket by market or province vs. national average cost (December 2023)

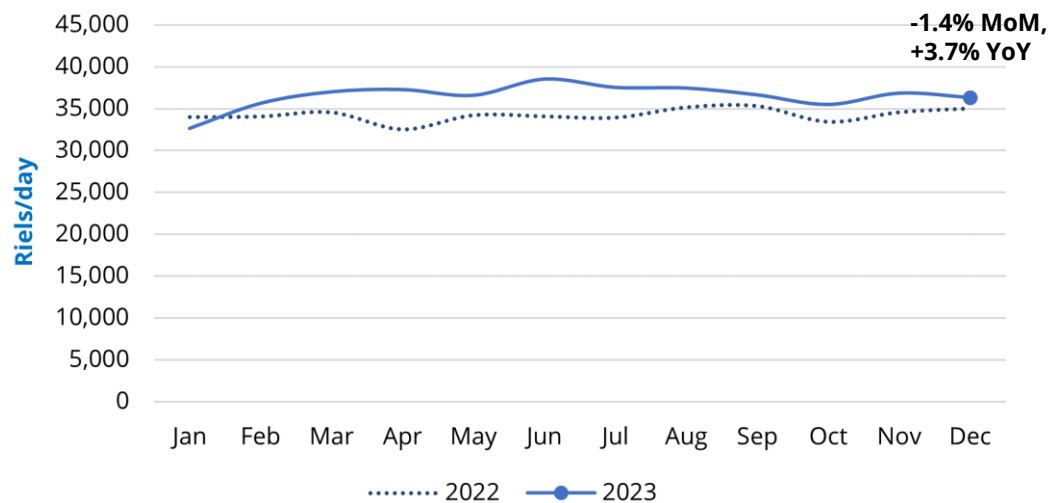
BFB Deviation from Average National Cost	Percent of markets in	
	Rural	Urban
● ≥ 10% Higher	0%	100%
● 5% to 10% Higher	0%	100%
● < 5% Higher	60%	40%
● < 5% Lower	33%	67%
● 5% to 10% Lower	70%	30%
● ≥ 10% Lower	25%	75%

# Unskilled Labor Wage and Purchasing Power

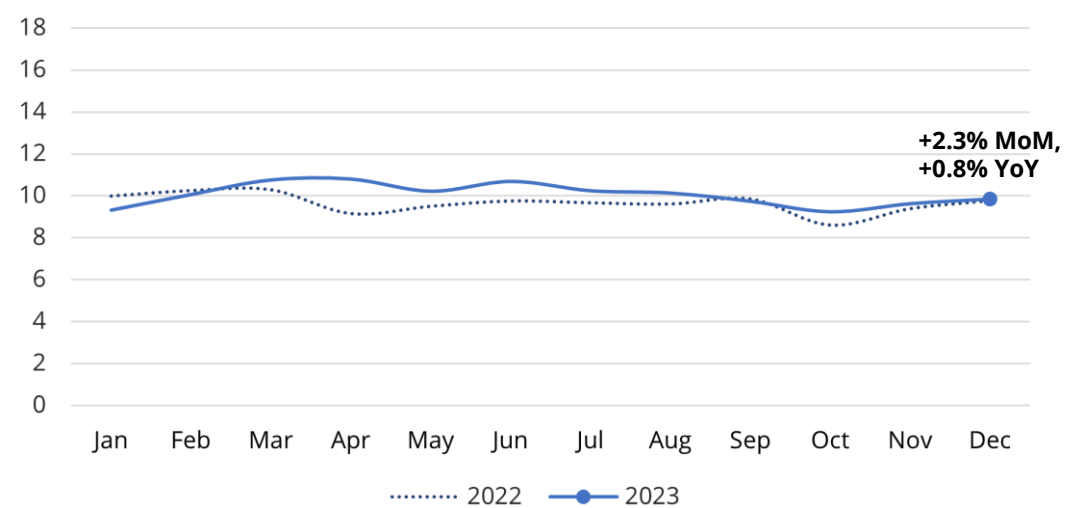
Unskilled labour wages data for agriculture and construction workers is collected by the Agricultural Marketing Office (AMO) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) on a monthly basis across the country. In December 2023, the average national wage for unskilled labour showed a slight month-on-month (MoM) decrease of 1.4%, falling to 36,300 Riels per day, which is approximately USD 8.9. Nonetheless, there was a modest year-on-year (YoY) increase of 3.7%.

The terms of trade (ToT) is used to assess household food purchasing power for vulnerable households, computed by the ratio of the daily wage rates of unskilled labor and the average prices of daily basic food basket<sup>2</sup>. In December 2023, the ToT maintained a moderate MoM increase of 2.3% and remained nearly identical to the level of the same month in the previous year. This trend suggests an enhancement in the affordability of a basic food basket for unskilled labor. The increase in ToT was primarily attributed to a moderate reduction in the cost of the food basket, which compensated for a slight decrease in unskilled labor wages.

### Unskilled Labor Wage (December 2023)



### Terms of Trade (December 2023)



<sup>1</sup> This refers to the nominal wage, not adjusted for inflation.

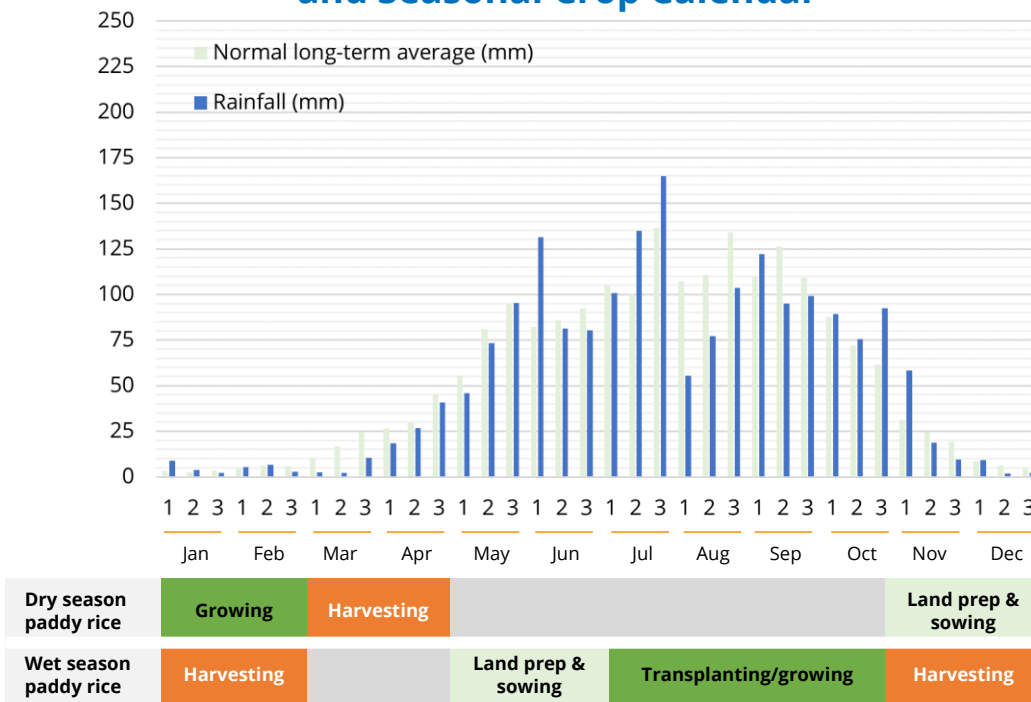
<sup>2</sup> The cost of the Basic Food Basket (BFB) is initially calculated on a monthly basis to reflect the total cost for a month. However, for the purpose of calculating the terms of trade (ToT), this monthly cost is converted into a daily value to provide a per-day estimation.

# Seasonal monitoring: Rainfall patterns

In December 2023, Cambodia experienced rainfall\* that was **below the national long-term average** (graph bottom left). Most provinces experienced **below-normal rainfall**, with the provinces in the southern plain and coastal areas experiencing a more pronounced dry condition (map bottom right).

The El Niño, La Niña, and Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Forecast indicates that **El Niño conditions continue to exert a strong influence, and the conditions are projected to persist until May 2024**, contributing to drier and warmer weather in the region. According to the seasonal forecast from the International Research Institute (IRI) of Columbia University and the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), **most provinces in Cambodia are expected to experience below-normal rainfall conditions and hotter temperatures from January to March 2024**. This is likely to exert pressure on the high demand for water for drinking and use in agriculture and industrial sectors. The Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MoWRAM) has advised **saving water** throughout the dry season until May 2024. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) has also urged farmers to consider canceling second **dry-season paddy cultivation** in some areas to mitigate potential impacts and losses resulting from anticipated water scarcity.

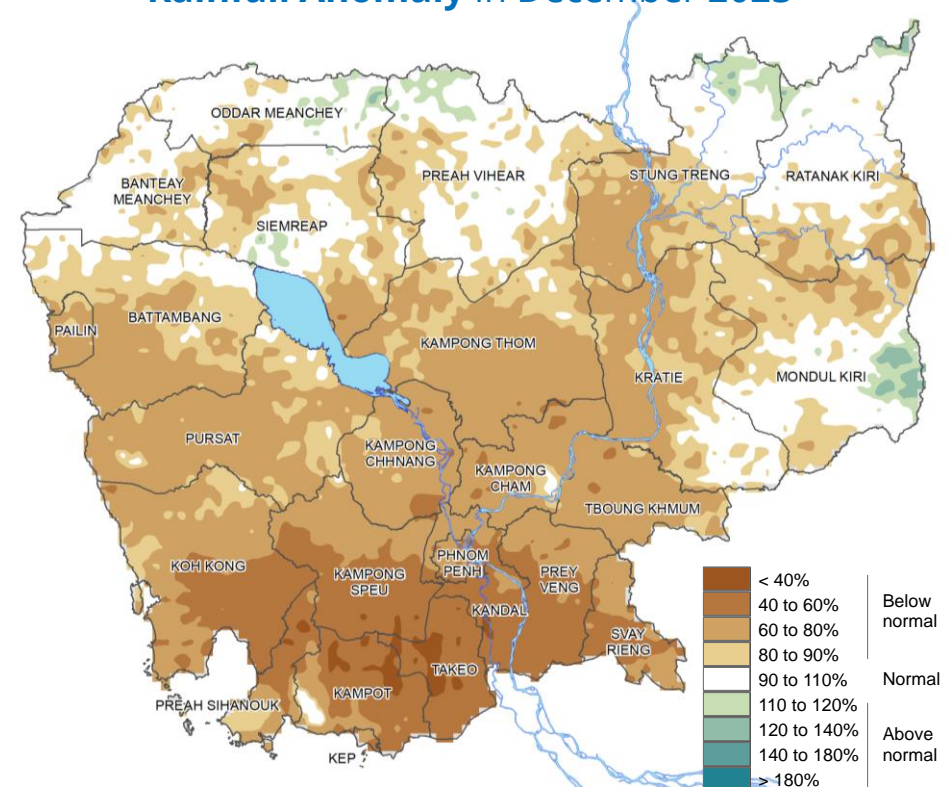
### National Average Rainfall (December 2023) and Seasonal Crop Calendar



Source: Rainfall from CHIRPS and analysis by WFP

\* Cumulative rainfall for a specific month is the sum of the three Dekat (every 10 days) rainfall for that month.

### Rainfall Anomaly in December 2023



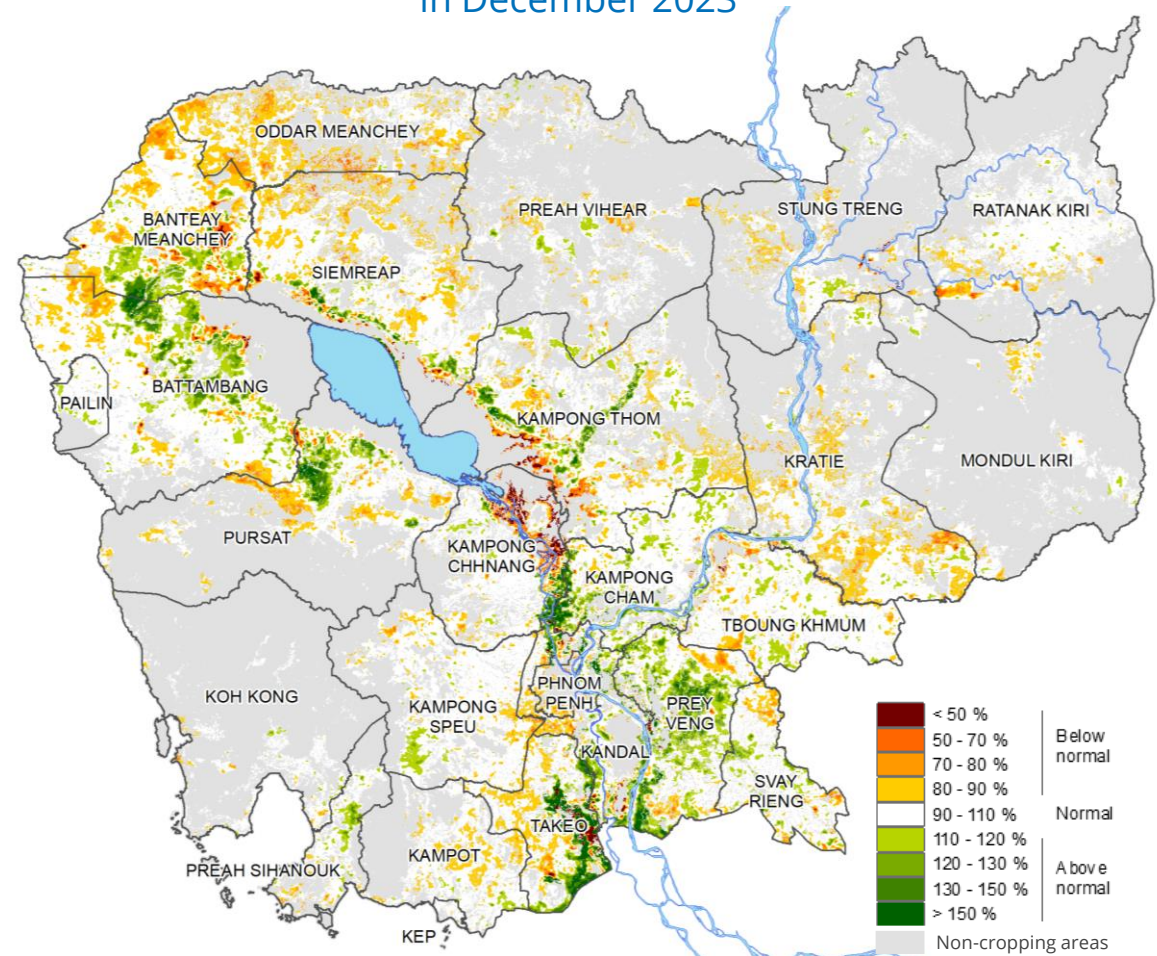
Source: Rainfall from CHIRPS and analysis by WFP.

# Seasonal monitoring: Vegetation and crop condition

In December 2023, despite lower rainfall, the vegetation in most cultivated crop areas of Cambodia showed normal to above-normal conditions (map on the right). However, slightly below-normal conditions were largely observed in the northern and eastern parts of the country.

By December 2023, more than 2.8 million hectares of wet-season paddy were harvested, resulting in a total production exceeding 9.3 million tonnes, which is about 22% higher than the same period in the previous year, as reported by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (quoted by Ministry of Information, 8 January 2024). According to the same source, the cultivation of dry-season paddy by December 2023 reached 554,210 hectares, surpassing the national plan by 11% and showing a 21% increase compared to the same period in the previous year.

## Normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI) Anomaly in December 2023



Source: NDVI from MODIS and analysis by WFP

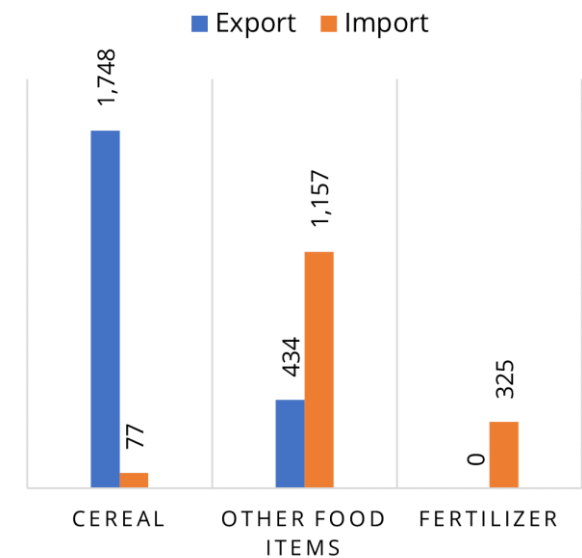
# Trade

In 2023, Cambodia's total official exports (excluding value of non-monetary gold) remained relatively stable with a minimal increase of 1.8% compared to 2022, reaching approximately USD 22,645 million. The cost of food exports amounted to USD 2,182 million (right-hand side chart) including cereals worth USD 1,748 million (+45% YoY, attributable to the extra milled rice exported to Philippine and Indonesia and an increase in global rice prices), and other food (such as meat, edible meat offal, edible vegetables, roots, tubers, animal/vegetable fats and oils) worth USD 434 million (+12% YoY). In 2023, a total of 656,323 MT of milled rice, valued at USD 465 million) were exported (quoted by Phnom Penh Post, 7 January 2024). This volume reached 94% of the annual milled rice export target of 700,000 MT and marked a 3% increase compared to the same period in the previous year. Additionally, according to the same source, approximately 4.4 million MT of paddy rice, equivalent to USD 1,32 billion, were exported during the same timeframe.

Cambodia's total official imports (excluding value of non-monetary gold) in the first eleven months of 2023 continued to show a moderate decrease, of 5% compared to 2022, amounting to USD 24,183 million. The primary cause of this decline was a reduction in non-food goods originating from key production countries, including Singapore, Thailand and other countries. This decrease can be attributed to disruptions in the supply chain and changes in demand distribution caused by multiple global crises including geopolitical tensions, the impact of El Nino, and the pandemic. These crises have resulted in increasing debt, inflation, and constrains on production.

Within Cambodia's total imports, the cost of food imports amounted to USD 1,234 million including cereals worth USD 77 million (+33% YoY) and other foods worth USD 1,157 million (+7% YoY). During the same period, the country also imported fertilizer worth USD 325 million (+18% YoY), mainly from Vietnam, Thailand, and China.

## Cambodian trade balance (value in million USD) of key commodity groups, as of December 2023



**Source:** *General Department of Customs and Excise, accessed on 9 January 2024*

# Policy response

## Social policy response

Since June 2020, the Government has implemented a nationwide cash transfer program for poor and vulnerable households disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. More than **700,000 poor households** classified as IDPoor (approximately 2.77 million people) received a total of **USD 1,275 million** in cash transfers between 25 June 2020 to 24 December 2023. This program is scheduled to end in March 2024. This will be succeeded by the **"New National Social Assistance Programme Framework" in the Family Package**, effective from April 2024, with a total reserved budget of **USD 165 million**.

The Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training has reported that **almost 20,000 young individuals from underprivileged households registered** for vocational training, as of December 2023 while the new academic year for vocational education is set to commence on January 15 (quoted by Phnom Penh Post, 01 January 2024).

A recent joint assessment of the programmes by the National Social Protection Council (NSPC) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) showed that the **government cash transfer programs** have contributed to a **13% reduction in food insecurity** among the beneficiaries (quoted by Phnom Penh Post, 21 December 2023).

## Economic response

In 2023, **foreign direct investment (FDI) in Cambodia showed a significant increase of 22%** compared to the previous year, amounting to USD 4.9 billion. This substantial growth largely attributed to the new investment law, and it led to the creation of over 307,000 jobs (quoted by Khmer Times, 10 January 2024).

Starting January 2024, **workers** in the textile, garment, footwear, and travel product industries will see their **minimum wage rise to USD 204**, a slight increase from the USD 200 minimum wage in 2023 (quoted by Khmer Times, 2 January 2024).

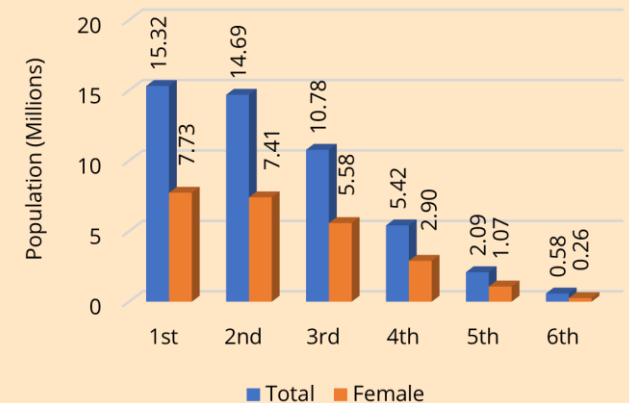
More so starting January 1, 2024, the Customs and Excise Department will enforce new import regulations on frozen meat products to **strengthen the import process and elevate consumer standards**. Importers of frozen meat will be required to secure a permit from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and meet specified criteria to guarantee product quality (quoted by Khmer Times, 29 December 2023).

On the 70th anniversary of the diplomatic relations, Japan has committed to **offering USD 170 million in aid** to Cambodia, aimed at enhancing healthcare in rural areas and supporting various development initiatives (quoted by Phnom Penh Post, 20 December 2023).



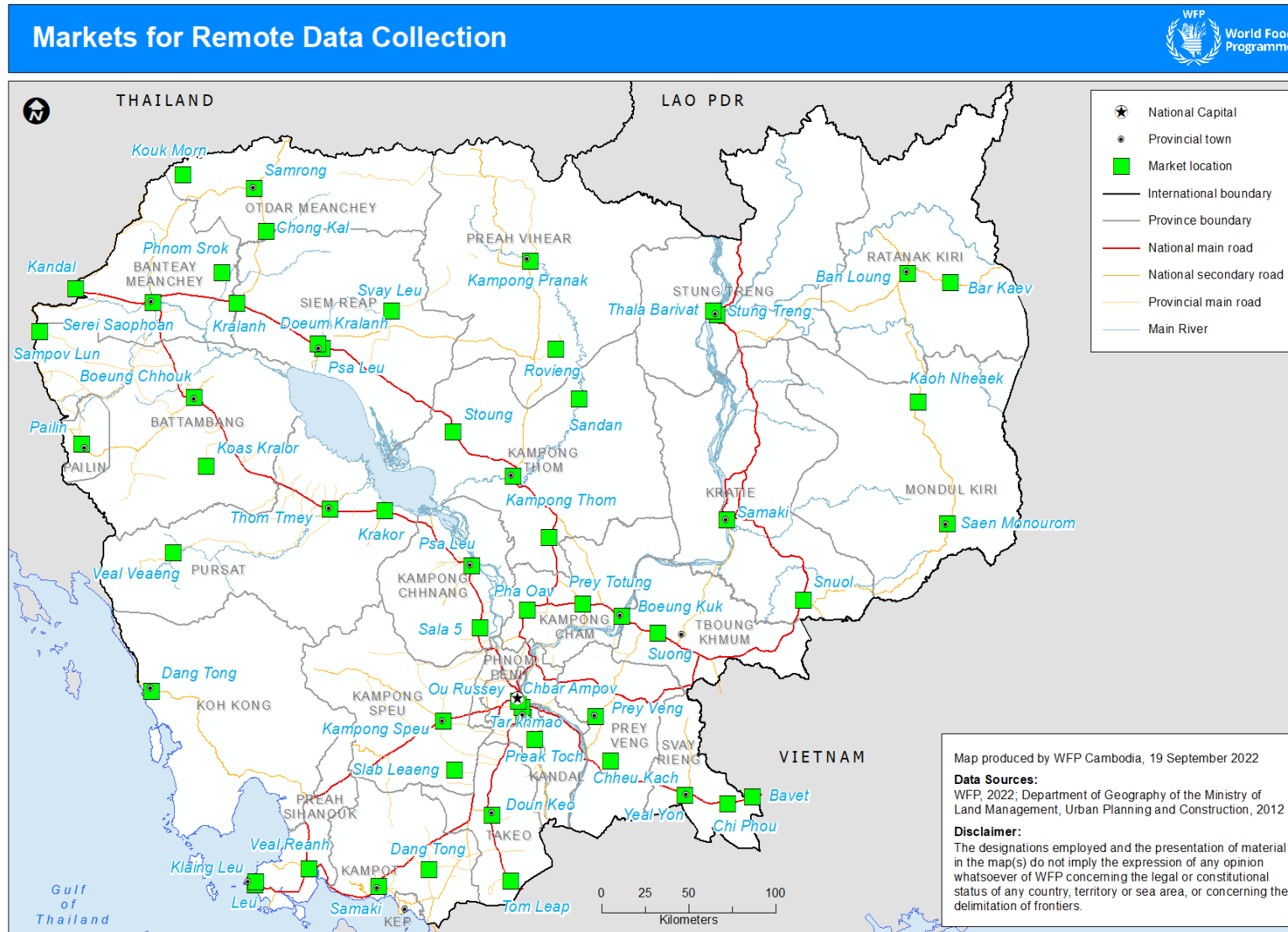
Source: Content produced by ChatGPT

## Number of population received COVID-19 vaccination



Source: Ministry of Health of Cambodia, 31 December 2023

# Methods and market locations



In November 2019, WFP began monitoring food prices in selected markets using a call center. Trained operators called traders once a month to collect data on 36 food commodities in 14 urban and rural markets in Battambang, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Thom, Otdar Meanchey, Siem Reap, Preah Vihear and Stung Treng.

In March 2020, WFP, in collaboration with the Agricultural Marketing Office (AMO) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), conducted a market survey in 31 additional markets to collect baseline data and expand the geographic coverage of markets. In these markets, the price of 16 key food commodities and information on market functionality is also collected.

From mid-April 2020, WFP expanded remote market monitoring to all 45 markets and increased the frequency to twice a month (i.e., the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks of the month).

In mid-September 2022, WFP included 15 additional food and non-food commodities (see annex) and expanded the market coverage to 56 markets.

# Annex 1: Change in retail prices

Food Commodity	Unit in Riels per	Average prices of current month	Change compared to last month	Change compared to last 3 months	Change compared to same month, last year	Food Commodity	Unit in Riels per	Average prices of current month	Change compared to last month	Change compared to last 3 months	Change compared to same month, last year
1.1. Mixed Rice	Kg	2,730	→ 0.8%	→ 1.1%	↑ 32.7%	8.10. Ngob leaves*	Kg	5,506	→ -0.4%	→ 1.9%	↓ -19.7%
2.1. Snakehead fish (Live)	Kg	10,601	↓ -5.5%	↓ -11.8%	→ -0.5%	8.11. Pumpkin leaves*	Kg	5,219	↓ -5.4%	→ 2.8%	↓ -8.1%
2.2. Trey Pra (Live)	Kg	7,225	→ -1.2%	→ -1.2%	↑ 6.7%	8.12. Pumpkin fruit*	Kg	2,524	→ 4.7%	↑ 7.5%	↓ -19.7%
2.3. Catfish (Live)	Kg	7,548	→ -3.2%	→ -2.2%	→ 0.2%	8.13. Bottle gourd*	Kg	2,889	↑ 9.7%	↑ 27.0%	→ 0.0%
2.4. Dried snake fish	Kg	27,042	→ -1.3%	→ -0.8%	→ 3.8%	8.14. Wax gourd	Kg	2,470	→ 0.5%	→ 0.1%	↓ -28.8%
2.5. Broahok	Kg	9,502	↑ 5.3%	→ -0.7%	→ -2.3%	8.15. Long eggplants	Kg	3,087	→ -2.2%	→ 4.5%	↓ -33.4%
3.1. 3-layer pork/Pork with fat	Kg	14,865	→ -2.8%	→ -4.1%	↓ -10.0%	8.16. Round eggplants*	Kg	3,517	→ 0.1%	↑ 27.3%	↓ -26.0%
3.2. Beef with fat	Kg	16,395	→ -4.5%	→ -3.0%	↓ -18.1%	8.17. Tomatoes*	Kg	4,963	↑ 5.7%	↑ 19.3%	↑ 14.3%
3.3. Chicken meat (Farm)	Kg	13,338	→ -2.7%	↓ -9.4%	→ -0.5%	8.18. Sponge gourd	Kg	2,881	↓ -5.1%	→ -2.0%	↓ -18.5%
4.1. Duck egg	10 eggs	5,422	↓ -8.9%	→ -3.9%	→ -4.4%	8.19. Ridge Gourd*	Kg	2,925	↓ -11.5%	→ -2.9%	↓ -22.4%
4.2. Salty/Fermented duck egg	10 eggs	7,045	→ -4.6%	→ -2.0%	→ -0.6%	8.20. Green papaya*	Kg	1,270	→ -2.1%	↓ -7.9%	↓ -18.6%
5.1. Vegetable Oil: Saji/Mongsay/Cailan	5 litres	25,993	→ -1.7%	→ -3.1%	↓ -16.9%	8.21. Long bean	Kg	4,471	↑ 12.5%	↑ 25.0%	↓ -17.6%
6.1. Iodized salt	Kg	1,242	→ 0.6%	→ -0.3%	→ -1.1%	8.22. Banana flower*	Kg	2,266	↑ 7.1%	→ -2.2%	→ -0.7%
6.2. Fish sauce (Lobster)	730 ml	3,464	→ -0.3%	→ 1.5%	→ 3.2%	8.23. Cauliflower*	Kg	7,055	↓ -9.4%	↓ -8.1%	↓ -6.5%
7.1. Ground Nut*	Kg	10,172	→ 0.3%	→ 0.5%	→ -0.4%	8.24. Chinese Kale*	Kg	5,667	↓ -27.1%	↑ 25.8%	↓ -13.4%
7.2. Soybean	Kg	5,183	→ -2.8%	↓ -10.0%	↓ -7.2%	8.25. Orange-flesh Sweet Potatoes*	Kg	2,572	→ 1.8%	↓ -7.7%	→ 1.8%
7.3. Green bean/mung bean	Kg	5,983	→ -1.7%	→ -1.4%	→ -0.3%	8.26. Garlic	Kg	7,150	→ -0.4%	→ -2.5%	↑ 42.1%
8.1. Morning glory	Kg	3,287	↓ -7.5%	↑ 11.9%	↓ -9.8%	8.27. Ripe tamarind	Kg	3,961	→ -1.6%	→ -3.7%	↓ -5.9%
8.2. Carrot*	Kg	3,119	→ 1.6%	→ -1.9%	↓ -10.9%	9.1. Ripe Banana	Kg	2,163	→ -3.1%	↓ -9.6%	→ -2.2%
8.3. Ivy gourd leave*	Kg	4,851	↓ -5.2%	↑ 7.9%	↓ -18.7%	9.2. Ripe Mango	Kg	2,500	↑ 25.0%	●	●
8.4. Moringa leaves*	Kg	5,108	→ -3.0%	→ 1.8%	↓ -17.3%	10.1. Fresh milk	140 ml	2,052	→ 1.7%	→ 3.9%	↑ 28.4%
8.5. Chinese spinach/Petsai*	Kg	3,578	↓ -37.5%	↓ -12.4%	↓ -27.7%	11.1. Coke	330 ml	2,000	→ 2.8%	→ 0.0%	→ 3.1%
8.6. Pak Choi*	Kg	3,521	↓ -28.9%	↓ -6.8%	↓ -26.5%	7.1. Gasoline (Regular)	litre	4,213	→ -4.0%	↓ -8.1%	→ -0.5%
8.7. Chinese flowering cabbage/SoySum	Kg	3,210	↓ -28.2%	→ -4.2%	↓ -30.1%	7.2. Diesel	litre	4,173	↓ -5.2%	↓ -9.2%	↓ -9.5%
8.8. Mustard Greens*	Kg	3,556	↓ -16.7%	→ 0.7%	↓ -18.2%	8.1. Fertilizer: Urea	Kg	2,893	→ -1.3%	→ -1.6%	↓ -19.7%
8.9. Amaranthus*	Kg	4,225	↓ -11.9%	↑ 18.1%	↓ -14.0%						

Note: Price data and change are reported in nominal terms/prices, i.e., prices observed in the market place.

\* Prices for these food commodities are only collected in markets in provinces where home-grown school feeding is implemented.

Change in the price compared to last month(s) and last year:

- ↑ Increase when % > 5
- Stable when % between 5 and -5
- ↓ Decrease when % < -5
- No prices recorded



## Annex 2: Change in wholesale prices

Food Commodity	Unit in Riels per	Average prices of current month	Change compared to last month	Change compared to last 3 months	Change compared to same month, last year	Food Commodity	Unit in Riels per	Average prices of current month	Change compared to last month	Change compared to last 3 months	Change compared to same month, last year
1.1. Mixed Rice	Kg	2,577	→ 0.5%	→ 0.7%	↑ 34.8%	8.10. Ngob leaves*	Kg	4,326	↑ 7.1%	↑ 12.1%	↓ -20.2%
2.1. Snakehead fish (Live)	Kg	9,518	↓ -6.1%	↓ -12.1%	→ -1.5%	8.11. Pumpkin leaves*	Kg	4,030	→ -4.6%	↑ 12.1%	→ -4.4%
2.2. Trey Pra (Live)	Kg	6,404	→ -2.1%	→ -1.7%	→ 4.2%	8.12. Pumpkin fruit*	Kg	1,921	→ 1.7%	↑ 7.1%	↓ -25.2%
2.3. Catfish (Live)	Kg	6,796	→ -1.1%	→ -1.1%	→ 0.5%	8.13. Bottle gourd*	Kg	2,063	→ -0.2%	↑ 29.3%	↓ -9.9%
2.4. Dried snake fish	Kg	24,700	→ 1.5%	→ -1.7%	→ 3.2%	8.14. Wax gourd	Kg	1,874	→ -1.2%	→ 0.0%	↓ -33.3%
2.5. Broahok	Kg	8,344	↑ 6.1%	→ -1.3%	→ -2.9%	8.15. Long eggplants	Kg	2,485	→ -1.4%	↑ 6.6%	↓ -36.6%
3.1. 3-layer pork/Pork with fat	Kg	13,592	→ -2.3%	→ -4.3%	↓ -10.5%	8.16. Round eggplants*	Kg	2,802	→ -4.5%	↑ 33.2%	↓ -31.3%
3.2. Beef with fat	Kg	14,944	→ -2.5%	→ -0.8%	↓ -17.3%	8.17. Tomatoes*	Kg	4,228	↑ 5.6%	↑ 21.7%	↑ 16.5%
3.3. Chicken meat (Farm)	Kg	12,397	→ -0.2%	↓ -9.0%	→ -0.4%	8.18. Sponge gourd	Kg	2,292	→ -4.0%	→ 2.5%	↓ -19.9%
4.1. Duck egg	10 eggs	4,955	↓ -10.4%	→ -4.9%	→ -4.7%	8.19. Ridge Gourd*	Kg	2,313	↓ -9.5%	→ -3.3%	↓ -25.2%
4.2. Salty/Fermented duck egg	10 eggs	6,511	→ -4.3%	→ -1.6%	→ -2.8%	8.20. Green papaya*	Kg	919	→ -3.5%	→ -2.2%	↓ -19.3%
5.1. Vegetable Oil: Saji/Mongsay/Cailan	5 litres	24,985	→ -2.0%	→ -2.8%	↓ -17.2%	8.21. Long bean	Kg	3,690	↑ 13.0%	↑ 27.8%	↓ -20.1%
6.1. Iodized salt	Kg	974	→ -1.8%	→ -1.3%	→ -4.1%	8.22. Banana flower*	Kg	1,838	↑ 11.6%	→ 3.7%	→ 3.0%
6.2. Fish sauce (Lobster)	730 ml	3,043	→ -2.2%	→ 0.9%	→ 2.3%	8.23. Cauliflower*	Kg	6,092	↓ -10.2%	↓ -5.7%	↓ -6.3%
7.1. Ground Nut*	Kg	9,171	→ -0.6%	→ -0.6%	→ 0.2%	8.24. Chinese Kale*	Kg	4,694	↓ -30.7%	↑ 28.8%	↓ -17.1%
7.2. Soybean	Kg	4,662	→ -3.6%	↓ -12.6%	↓ -8.8%	8.25. Orange-flesh Sweet Potatoes*	Kg	1,943	↓ -5.5%	↓ -13.3%	→ -4.4%
7.3. Green bean/mung bean	Kg	5,468	→ -1.9%	→ -1.6%	→ -0.6%	8.26. Garlic	Kg	6,387	→ -2.0%	→ -3.7%	↑ 45.1%
8.1. Morning glory	Kg	2,634	↓ -10.5%	↑ 16.5%	↓ -20.0%	8.27. Ripe tamarind	Kg	3,418	→ -0.6%	→ -2.6%	→ -3.3%
8.2. Carrot*	Kg	2,525	↑ 5.8%	→ -0.1%	↓ -11.3%	9.1. Ripe Banana	Kg	1,715	→ -3.4%	↓ -11.6%	→ -2.0%
8.3. Ivy gourd leave*	Kg	3,759	→ -4.9%	↑ 9.5%	↓ -19.6%	9.2. Ripe Mango	Kg	1,956	↑ 30.4%	●	●
8.4. Moringa leaves*	Kg	3,940	→ -0.7%	↑ 11.9%	↓ -20.6%	10.1. Fresh milk	140 ml	1,828	→ 3.8%	↑ 5.3%	↑ 30.6%
8.5. Chinese spinach/Petsai*	Kg	2,800	↓ -42.9%	↓ -16.3%	↓ -34.0%	11.1. Coke	330 ml	1,576	→ 2.7%	→ 0.8%	→ -1.2%
8.6. Pak Choi*	Kg	2,747	↓ -32.7%	↓ -10.0%	↓ -31.9%	7.1. Gasoline (Regular)	litre	4,014	→ -3.1%	↓ -8.0%	→ -2.8%
8.7. Chinese flowering cabbage/SoySum	Kg	2,518	↓ -30.9%	↓ -5.0%	↓ -34.4%	7.2. Diesel	litre	4,022	→ -4.5%	↓ -9.2%	↓ -11.5%
8.8. Mustard Greens*	Kg	2,743	↓ -19.8%	→ -1.1%	↓ -24.2%	8.1. Fertilizer: Urea	Kg	2,478	→ -0.3%	→ 0.8%	↓ -22.3%
8.9. Amaranthus*	Kg	3,439	↓ -10.5%	↑ 23.2%	↓ -10.6%						

Note: Price data and change are reported in nominal terms/prices, i.e., prices observed in the market place.

\* Prices for these food commodities are only collected in markets in provinces where home-grown school feeding is implemented.

Change in the price compared to last month(s) and last year:

- ↑ Increase when % > 5
- Stable when % between 5 and -5
- ↓ Decrease when % < -5
- No prices recorded

## Annex 3: Cost of a basic food basket

The development of the basic food basket presented in this report draws heavily from WFP's Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) analyses in Cambodia. To construct the food basket used in those analyses, a reference cohort from the 2014 Cambodia Socio Economic Survey (CSES) dataset was established based on the following criteria:

- i. Household total monthly expenditures falls between the 2nd and 4th quintiles;
- ii. Household has adequate food security (acceptable food consumption score);
- iii. Household did not utilize any negative coping strategies.

A food basket for this reference cohort was then established to understand if the consumption patterns were in line with what would be expected of a household to live a healthy and active life.<sup>1</sup> To do this, certain food items were identified to represent the categories captured in the food expenditure module (see Table 2 for the full list). The kilocalories of each food were identified and the quantities were derived from the CSES 2014 expenditure data to determine if the calories in the basket were in line with what one would expect of a person living a healthy and active life from a rights-based perspective.

Because the WFP market monitoring system does not capture prices for a few food commodities (i.e., milk, soybean/green bean and banana) used in the MEB analyses, these had to be dropped for the balanced food basket tracked in this report. Nevertheless, the dietary pattern reflected by the food items (and their weights, as captured in the g/person/day values) serve as a useful proxy for the cost of basic food basket in Cambodia.

<sup>1</sup> The basic food basket described and used in this market update should *not* be confused or conflated with the food basket used by the Ministry of Planning National Institute of Statistics (NIS) to construct national poverty lines. The basket in this report is constructed differently and is useful primarily as a proxy for food prices.

<sup>2</sup> Cambodia Socioeconomic Survey 2014. National Institute of Statistics, Cambodia.

<sup>3</sup> Estimating Minimum Expenditure Baskets And Expenditure Gaps In Cambodia. Technical Report, June 2020. WFP Cambodia.

<sup>4</sup> Market and Seasonal Monitoring Update, December 2023. WFP Cambodia.

**Table 2. Summary of inputs for calculation of basic food basket**

Food category <sup>2</sup>	Food commodity <sup>3</sup>	Food commodity <sup>4</sup>	kcal/pers on/day <sup>2</sup>	g/pers on/day <sup>2</sup>	Riels/g <sup>4</sup>	Riels/pers on/month <sup>4</sup>
Cereals	Rice	1.1. អង្ករចម្រុះ/ Mixed Rice	1,470.23	413.0	2.7	34,290
Fish	Mud fish	2.1. ត្រីដូក(រស់)/ Snakehead fish (Live)	76.47	91.0	10.6	29,353
Meat	Pork	3.1. សាច់ជ្រូកជាង/ 3-layer pork/Pork with fat	77.75	40.7	14.9	18,405
Egg	Duck egg	4.1. ស៊ីតទា/Duck egg	21.92	11.8	8.7	3,126
Diary	Milk	---NA---	7	12.0	---	---
Oil	Vegetable oil	5.1. ប្រេងឆា/ Vegetable Oil: Saji ឬ Mongsay ឬ Cailan	115.36	12.8	5.7	2,230
Veg	Morning Glory	8.1. ត្រកួន/ Morning glory	34.76	231.7	3.3	23,172
Tuber	Sweet Potato	8.25. ដំឡូងផ្លាពណ៍លឿង/ Orange-flesh Sweet Potatoes	19.21	19.6	2.6	1,534
Pulses	Soybean/green bean	---NA---	8	21.6	---	---
Fruit	Banana	---NA---	91	96.4	---	---
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,937</b>	<b>950.6</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>112,100</b>