



# WFP Nepal Country Brief October 2024

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## Operational Context

Nepal has undergone significant changes since the promulgation of its constitution in 2015, which transformed the country into a federal democratic republic. This constitutional shift has presented a promising opportunity for Nepal to focus on economic growth, poverty reduction, and the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda.

In 2023, the GDP growth rate dropped to 1.9 percent, the lowest since 2020, and well below the 10-year average. This decline was primarily due to economic measures to curb inflation. The industry and services sectors experienced sluggish economic activity, whereas agriculture remained relatively stable. According to the World Bank, growth is set to rise to 3.9 percent in 2024 and five percent in 2025, driven by the delayed effects of lifted import restrictions and gradual monetary policy relaxation.

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 strengthening resilience.



Population: **29.1 million (2022)**

2022 Human Development Index:  
**143 out of 191 countries**

Income Level: **Least developed**

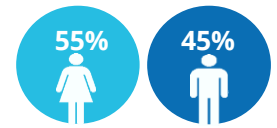
Chronic malnutrition: **25% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**131 mt** of food distributed

**US\$ 2 million** net funding requirements (October 2024 – March 2025)

**109,451 people** assisted



## Operational Updates

- Under the UK-funded **Recovery of Earthquake Damaged Infrastructure (REDI) Project** in Karnali Province, surveys and designs for 55 damaged public infrastructures have been completed, with construction underway on 24 schemes. User committees, with 65 percent female decision-makers, have been formed and 5,991 households are registered for employment in the reconstruction/rehabilitation efforts. Pre-construction training has been completed for 36 schemes.
- WFP provided technical support for the **Provincial Annual Health Review** in Karnali Province, which gathered over 500 participants and covered components of the **Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition Programme**. Similarly, a capacity-strengthening training was organized to train 21 officials of the Food Management and Trading Company Limited on production, quality assurance and supply chain management aspects of **rice fortification**.
- In Madhesh Province, 97 Female Community Health Volunteers were trained in **complementary food preparation** for children aged 6-23 months and subsequently conducted 90 cooking demonstrations, reaching over 2,600 households.
- Leading up to the fifth National Food Systems Dialogues in December, the National Planning Commission, with WFP and FAO support, conducted a **Food Systems Steering Committee** meeting with government ministries, development partners, private sector and civil society to foster collaborative efforts in creating resilient food systems. The Committee emphasized the importance of integrating food systems transformation into policies, for a more equitable, resilient and sustainable change.
- In food-insecure districts of Karnali Province, 202 metric tons (mt) of **fortified rice** were distributed at subsidized prices through 36 fair price shops, reaching 6,700 households.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)

Total Requirement (US\$)	Allocated Contributions	Net Funding Requirements
<b>140.39 m</b>	<b>79.17 m*</b>	<b>2 m</b>

### Strategic Result 1: Access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Affected and at-risk populations in Nepal meet their food, nutrition and other essential needs before, during and after shocks and other stressors.

**Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

**Activities:**

- Provide assistance to meet the immediate essential needs of crisis-affected populations, including food, nutrition and livelihood recovery, before, during and after shocks and other stressors.
- Provide capacity strengthening and coordination support to the Government, communities and humanitarian actors for evidence-based emergency preparedness and effective response.

### Strategic Result 2: End Malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 2:** School-age children and adolescents and nutritionally deprived groups in Nepal have improved education and nutrition outcomes and greater access to affordable, nutritious and safe diets, including through social protection programmes, by 2028.

**Focus area:** *Root Causes*

- Provide nutrition-sensitive school meals in targeted food-insecure areas and technical and operational assistance to strengthen the Government's capacity to implement the national school meals programme as part of the national social protection framework.
- Assist national institutions and the private sector to strengthen and deliver effective and sustainable health and nutrition-focused social protection programmes to meet the needs of vulnerable populations.

### Strategic Result 4: Sustainable Food Systems

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Smallholder farmers and climate vulnerable populations in Nepal benefit from climate-resilient and equitable food systems, sustainable livelihoods and climate-proof assets and services by 2028.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:**

- Provide technical assistance to national institutions and an integrated package of livelihood support activities, skills, services and assets to communities vulnerable to climate and other risks to build resilience to shocks and stressors.

### Strategic Result 5: Enhance Global Partnerships

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Communities vulnerable to and affected by crises in Nepal benefit from improved common services and enhanced capacities of the Government and humanitarian and development actors by 2028.

**Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

**Activities:**

- Provide on-demand services, including supply chain, cash-based transfers, engineering, analysis and evidence generation to the Government and humanitarian and development partners.

## Donors

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

Photo1: The management of flood relief items at the Kathmandu Humanitarian Staging Area

Photo 2: World Food Day event at WFP Nepal

- Under the supervision of the National Statistics Office, WFP undertook a **national household survey** covering all provinces to estimate food insecurity. This survey included 5,360 households from 335 sites, with 16 households randomly selected per site. Conducted twice yearly, the survey captures household food security data for both the agricultural lean and harvest seasons. The results of the survey will be released by the end of 2024.



- WFP hosted a **World Food Day** event themed '*Right to Foods for a Better Life and a Better Future*' at its new country office, bringing together government ministries, the private sector, development partners, UN agencies and youth representatives to discuss food security in Nepal. A panel discussion focused on access to nutritious food, the private sector's role in fortification and overall food security and climate change impacts on youth, fostering awareness and collaboration on these critical issues.

## Floods Emergency Response

The late September floods in Nepal have caused estimated losses of NPR 5.8 billion (USD 42 million), affecting 103,222 households reliant on mixed farming practices, many of whom urgently needed cash assistance for food and essentials items due to depleted stocks.

The National Food Security Cluster members have verified 6,287 households in Sunsari and Saptari districts of Koshi Province for the **UN Central Emergency Response Fund Anticipatory Action cash assistance**, with transfers ongoing. Unconditional cash support will also be distributed to 3,400 households in Kavre district, nearer to the capital, severely hit by floods and landslides.

WFP, as the co-lead of the **National Logistics Cluster**, continued coordination with government counterparts to expedite the disbursement of relief items. WFP facilitated the transshipment of 13.5 mt of relief items from the Government of India to Nepal. In total, 54 mt of government relief items, such as tents, buckets, and tarpaulins have been delivered to flood-affected districts from five strategically located Humanitarian Staging Areas.

A **Mobile Storage Unit** was set up at Tribhuvan International Airport to ease passenger congestion which was worsened by flood-related road issues.