



WFP NEPAL

COUNTRY BRIEF

February 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- WFP handed over 1,039 schools in Sudurpaschim Province to Nepal's national Mid-Day Meals Programme, with federal cash-to-schools funding starting fully in January 2026.
- WFP supported the Government in convening a National Dialogue on Food Fortification. At community level, WFP improved nutrition knowledge and practices among women and caregivers through 340 cooking demonstrations reaching 8,449 participants.
- WFP established 160 Farmer Nutrition Schools engaging 4,000 smallholder farmers, while additional training of trainers and 169 Farmer Nutrition learning sites promoted climate-resilient, nutrition-sensitive techniques, improving food access and livelihoods, especially for women farmers.

IN NUMBERS



99,411 people assisted in November 2025 - January 2026



48%
Male



52%
Female



951.9 mt food distributed



USD 638,019 (FEB – JUL 2026) net funding requirements

Photo Caption & Credit: Women participants return from a Kaule Farmer Nutrition School session in Gandaki Province. @WFP Nepal/ Dayaram Sapkota

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- 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.
- GDP growth rate increased from 1.9 percent in 2023 to 3.9 percent in 2024, largely due to higher remittances, hydropower production and improved performance in agriculture and the tourism sector. The World Bank expected growth to rise to five percent in 2025, driven by gradual monetary policy relaxation. In October 2024, 16.5 percent of the population was food insecure—0.9 percent higher than March 2024 but 6.4 percent lower than the April 2020 peak—while 4.81 million people had inadequate food consumption, with stable food prices overall but higher costs in mountain regions, which worsened access challenges.
- WFP has been operating in Nepal since 1963, supporting the government in achieving greater food security and nutrition among vulnerable communities, responding to disasters, and strengthening resilience.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Social Protection

- A significant milestone was achieved with the full handover of 1,039 schools in Sudurpaschim Province from WFP to the national Mid-Day Meals Programme. From January 2026, federal funding through the cash-to-schools mechanism became

fully operational, marking progress toward a fully nationally led school feeding programme.

School-Feeding Programme

- WFP conducted a training-of-trainers on Home-Grown School Feeding for all field-based staff, strengthening internal capacity to support government's scale-up of the model and contributing to improved programme quality, stronger local procurement systems and greater sustainability at school and municipal levels.
- In collaboration with the Government's Centre for Education and Human Resource Development, WFP launched provincial Home-Grown School Feeding workshops for provincial officials and 100 local-level education and agriculture staff. By January 2026, four workshops were completed in three provinces, with six more scheduled for February, ensuring nationwide coverage. These workshops strengthen government capacity to implement and scale the Home-Grown School Feeding approach effectively at all levels.

Nutrition and Fortification

- The Government of Nepal and WFP convened the National Dialogue on **Food Fortification**, uniting government Ministries, development partners, civil society and the private sector. The event concluded with joint call to action to accelerate national food fortification efforts and strengthen multisectoral commitment to improving micronutrient status.
- WFP improved nutrition knowledge, skills, and dietary behaviours among women and caregivers in food-insecure communities of Karnali and Madhesh Provinces. Through 340 cooking demonstrations delivered via mothers' groups, WFP equipped 8,449 participants with practical guidance on preparing diverse and nutritious meals using local food, contributing to healthier eating practices and enhanced nutrition outcomes.
- In Madhesh Province, WFP helped local governments to assess nutrition status of 3,009 children aged 6–59 months. Of these, 97 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition were referred for treatment; 325 caregivers received counselling on feeding, dietary diversity and regular growth monitoring.

Resilience and Livelihood Support

- WFP enhanced food and nutrition security and rural livelihoods in Nepal, WFP initiated 160 Farmer Nutrition Schools, engaging 4,000 smallholder farmers who strengthened their skills in climate-resilient and nutrition-sensitive agriculture.
- Complementing this, two training-of-trainers events was delivered to 58 certified facilitators and 169 Farmer Nutrition learning sites were established to

demonstrate low-cost, climate-resilient techniques such as efficient irrigation, bio-mulching, composting, improved nursery management and integrated pest and crop management. Additionally, seasonal diversity kits and agricultural tools were provided to all participating households to help them establish Home Nutrition Gardens covering 155 hectares, improving year-round access to diverse foods.

- WFP strengthened the economic resilience and climate-adaptive capacities of smallholder farmers in Madhesh Province. Two local governments now have climate-resilient, gender-responsive agriculture policies in place, while 193 marginalized farmers (75 percent women) initiated agribusinesses, improving livelihood opportunities. An additional 268 farmers (98 percent women) enhanced their ability to access climate, agriculture and market information services, supporting more informed and resilient production decisions.

Innovation Accelerator

- WFP advanced its strategic objective of fostering climate-resilient food systems by strengthening collaboration with the private sector to accelerate locally driven climate-adaptation solutions. Through the WFP Innovation Accelerator, four Nepal-based ventures, DV Excellus, Gham Power, PlantSat and aQysta, received tailored support to refine their innovations and align them with WFP priorities and Nepal's national climate-adaptation agenda. Their participation in the Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA) bootcamp in January 2026 enhanced the technical soundness and scalability of their solutions. The most promising ventures will advance to the AFCIA Sprint Programme, gaining access to up to USD 200,000 in equity-free funding, mentorship and WFP-supported field testing to pilot and scale impactful climate-adaptation technologies.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)



Donors:

France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Joint SDG Fund, Nepal, Norway, United Nations, United States of America, World Bank, and private donors.