



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cambodia Country Brief March 2019



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 13.5 percent in 2014. The Government is committed to reaching middle-income country status by 2030. However, a significant portion of the population remains 'near poor' and still at high risk of falling back into poverty at the slightest shock.

Undernutrition remains a public health concern; 32 percent of children under 5 years suffer from stunting, 24 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: **15.6 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **146 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

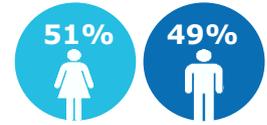
Chronic malnutrition: **32 percent of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

1,474 mt of food distributed

279,100 people assisted

In March 2019



Operational Updates

- On 28 March WFP and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia signed a Letter of Understanding on the implementation of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2019-2023. The signing ceremony took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation with participation of representatives from relevant ministries who are the main partners for the implementation of the CSP.
- This year marks 40 years of WFP support to the Cambodian people. Over this time WFP has regularly adjusted its portfolio of work to the changing needs of the country. The CSP will contribute to Cambodia's development priorities and help Cambodia to reach the Sustainable Development Goals.
- WFP received a USD 2.7 million contribution from the Government of Japan to support emergency preparedness and response in Cambodia. The contribution will enable WFP to support the Government of Cambodia to manage and mitigate risks and enhance coordinated disaster preparedness and response efforts in line with the Government's disaster management policies. The WFP Country Director thanked the Government of Japan: "The generous support from the people of Japan will not only help to protect lives and livelihoods in the most vulnerable areas, but, importantly, also protect and support Cambodia's sustainable development and economic growth. WFP will continue to strengthen its long-standing partnership with the National Committee for Disaster Management and its subnational disaster management committees to mitigate the impacts of shocks for local communities in flood-prone areas".

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	April-September Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
50.24 m	15.05 m⁽¹⁾	0 m

(1) Resource Migration is still progressing

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.

- On 18-20 March, WFP and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports hosted an annual school-feeding workshop with participation from relevant stakeholders in the school feeding programme including education officials at national and sub-national level and non-profit organization partners. The workshop aimed to review overall programme achievements, challenges, solutions and lessons learned during the school year 2017-18 and to identify proposed ways forward for the 2018-19 school year.
- WFP provided technical training to education officials at both national and sub-national levels on how to use the online cash scholarship system in three provinces. Since 2018, WFP has been working closely with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports to co-design and develop an online web-based cash scholarship information system to monitor the scholarship programme. The online system helps to speed up and maintain timely, accurate data collection of scholarship information from communities, schools, provinces to national level. It also provides necessary information for timely decision-making and response to support cash scholarships of schoolchildren.



Education officials in Battambang province receiving training to use Cash Scholarship Online System on mobile devices. Photo: Ratanak Leng/WFP