



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cambodia Country Brief July 2021



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 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: 32 percent of children under 5 years are stunted, 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: **15.5 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **146 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **32 percent of children under five**

In Numbers

US\$ 54,000 six months net funding requirements (August 2020 to January 2021)

WFP began the take-home ration programme in place of the school meals programme during school closures.

Take-Home Rations

To further mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable households and ensure that children do not miss out on food during the school closure, WFP supported the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) to distribute family food parcels to over 14,000 vulnerable households in 205 more schools in six provinces. These families were identified as vulnerable by local authorities, held the national IDPoor equity card and have children enrolled in the schools supported by MoEYS's homegrown school feeding programme. They received 25 kg of rice, which complemented other social assistance initiatives from the Royal Government of Cambodia.

Food System Dialogues

As part of the UN Food System Pre-Summit, WFP and partners supported the Royal Government of Cambodia in its presentation of the roadmap for sustainable food system 2030, marking the main national contribution to the global sustainable development goals. This roadmap was resulted from the synthesis of 26 national food system dialogues organized under the leadership of the Council for Agriculture and Rural Development (CARD). In addition, WFP, FAO and Helen Keller International (HKI) joined a panel discussion to share the country's insights and experiences on how multi-stakeholders could collaborate to transform food systems and improve nutrition outcomes.

Prior to the pre-summit, WFP and CARD launched a new network called the SUN Business Network Cambodia (SBN Cambodia) to encourage collaboration and mutual support between the private sector, business associations, government, civil society and development partners to accelerate progress in nutrition, reduce malnutrition and sustainably contribute to healthy diets and practices. About 100 participants discussed how to (1) develop a strong SBN brand, (2) increase nutrition awareness and demand, (3) increase the supply of nutritious foods and fortified products, (4) strengthen the enabling environment for improved nutrition and (5) promote health and nutrition in communities and the workplace.

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	August 2021-January 2022 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
80.35 m	67.71 m	0.054 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.

As part of its continued support to the Royal Government of Cambodia’s effort in national shock-responsive social protection scheme, WFP and the General Secretariat for the National Social Protection Council and United Nations (NSPC) co-organized a validation workshop to finalize the structure in which the existing national social protection systems could be used to mitigate the impacts of large-scale shocks in a timely and adequate manner. Around 85 participants from various government ministries, development partners, civil society organizations and the private sector working on social protection, humanitarian/disaster responses, financial services and insurance gathered to feedback and endorse this important framework.

To further enhance coordination of flood-preparedness plans with national authorities, the Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF), co-chaired by WFP and DanChurchAid, and the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) met to establish and strengthen information sharing mechanisms in order to promote effective planning and implementation of disaster risk reduction at both national and sub-national levels. HRF also attended a consultation meeting on national contingency plan to provide inputs to NCDM to finalize the plan for endorsement.

In addition, WFP, NCDM and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, also organized a series of online and on-site trainings on the basic geospatial information technology for disaster risk management. 22 participants from 11 government institutions and some humanitarian agencies were trained on the technical aspects of geographic information system, remote sensing knowledge, roles of geospatial information, map-making skills and earth observation methodologies to handle disaster risk management in the country.

To mitigate the impacts of floods, WFP, in partnership with the National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development Secretariat (NCDDS), launched a new project to support flood-affected communities in four provinces on food security and community-based shock recovery. Sixteen communes will be selected for the project, and a comprehensive food security and nutrition assessment will be carried out in these flood-affected areas prior to the recovery support through the rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure and the enhancement of local planning capacity and knowledge on food security, disaster preparedness and mitigation.

Donors: Cambodia, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Germany, Japan, KOICA, Private Sector Donors, and USA (USDA and USAID)