



WFP Cambodia Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
DEV 200202 (June 2011 – Dec 2017)	170.8 m	114.9 m (67%)	-

*October 2017 – March 2018

WFP provides assistance to the most marginalised Cambodians living in food-insecure communities through the Country Programme (CP). The CP, launched in 2011, has been extended until December 2018. The programme covers food and cash-based safety nets in the sectors of education, nutrition, asset creation and livelihood support. Food assistance is also provided in response to emergencies, when required.

In 2016, WFP assisted 610,150 people in Cambodia. With a preceding record of assisting 840,000 people annually since 2011, WFP's school feeding programme, including the school meals and scholarship programmes (cash or take-home rice entitlements granted as conditional transfers to pupils with at least 80 percent attendance), has supported universal access to primary education and promoted increased enrolment, retention and graduation. Building on this success, WFP is working with the Royal Government to establish a national school feeding programme by 2021.

WFP's nutrition programme aims to reduce malnutrition through nutrition sensitive investments and public health measures such as rice fortification. Considering that Cambodia is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the region, WFP's food-for-assets (FFA) programme aims to strengthen resilience and climate change adaptation amongst the most vulnerable communities.

WFP's ongoing projects are in line with the Zero Hunger Challenge, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, the development goals of the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17.

Main Photo Credit: WFP/Ratanak Leng
Caption: Schoolchildren receiving their breakfast from the WFP school meals programme in Siem Reap Province.

Highlights

- A new partnership agreement was signed between WFP and World Vision International to implement the school feeding programme and other complementary activities such as school vegetable gardening, literacy materials, water, sanitation and kitchen infrastructure, and training on nutrition and personal health, in Kompong Thom for school year 2017-18.



Credit: WFP/Ratanak Leng

WFP's school feeding programme allows Cambodian children from the most vulnerable, food-insecure households to access primary education. The school feeding programme, including school meals and scholarship support, also promotes increased attendance and retention.

In Numbers

12,860 people in need of food assistance

People Assisted
Septemb 2017



September 2017

Country Background & Strategy

Operational Updates

- WFP Cambodia, in partnership with WFP China Office, has arranged an official mission to China focusing on South-South and triangular cooperation between WFP and the Governments of Cambodia and China. The focus of this mission was to provide government officials from both countries and staff from WFP Cambodia and WFP China Office an opportunity to share their knowledge and experiences concerning policy support systems, grain reserve technologies and farmer aggregation, and fortification, in particular rice fortification. The delegates visited state owned grain reserves located in Changzhou city, which is a modern grain logistics centre with digital management systems for grain treatment.

Challenges

- Due to limited funding, WFP Cambodia has been running at 45 percent of the overall planned activities. Since November 2014, 195,000 children and their families have been cut off from the school meals programme; food distributions under the maternal and child health and nutrition component ended in June 2014; FFA activities have been reduced by 50 percent; and the cash-for-work pilot has been suspended since 2014.



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 achieving a lower middle income status by 2020. According to the World Bank, a significant portion of the population remains 'near poor' as they are still at high risk of falling back into poverty at the slightest shock.

The 2014 Cambodia Demographic Health Survey found that undernutrition rates remain a public health concern, with 32 percent of children under 5 years of age stunted, 24 percent underweight, and 10 percent wasted. Micronutrient deficiencies are widespread. The maternal mortality ratio is 170 deaths per 100,000 births, while the under-5 mortality rate is 35 per 1,000 births, both significantly improved since the last survey. Cambodia is highly vulnerable to natural disasters, with regular monsoon flooding in the Mekong and Tonle Sap basin and localised droughts in the plains. Rising inequality, landlessness and deterioration of common resources have eroded the coping capacity of food-insecure people. 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**

2015 Human Development Index:
143 out of 188

Income Level: **Lower middle income since July 2016**

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

Donors

USA, Japan, Cambodia, Germany, Australia, Private Sector

Contact info: Mr. Ratanak Leng (ratanak.leng@wfp.org)

Country Director: Nancy WALTERS

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/cambodia