



WFP Nepal Country Brief

Highlights

- A joint programme was organized by the Government of Nepal, the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office, the United Kingdom Department for International Development and WFP on 24 and 25 May 2017 at the humanitarian staging area (HSA). The visit aimed to showcase the different facets of the HSA to high-level partners and humanitarian agencies, and to present a sustainable model for this common humanitarian platform.

WFP Assistance

| | Total Requirements (in USD) | Total Received (in USD) | 6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)* |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Country Programme | | | |
| DEV 200319 (2013-2017) | 216.3 m | 59 m (27%) | 10.6 m (70%) |
| Restoring Food and Nutrition Security and Building Resilient Livelihoods in Earthquake-Affected Areas | | | |
| PRRO 200875 (Jan 2016 – Dec 2018) | 63.7 m | 12.8 m (20%) | 6 m (76%) |
| Food Assistance to Refugees from Bhutan | | | |
| PRRO 200787 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2017) | 7.4 m | 4.2 m (56%) | 0.2 (23%) |
| Logistics and Telecommunications Augmentation and Coordination in Response to the Earthquake in Nepal | | | |
| SO 200848 (Apr 2015 – Dec 2017) | 36.2 m | 26 m (72%) | - |
| Augmentation of National and District Level Emergency Logistics Preparedness in Nepal | | | |
| SO 200999 (Nov 2016 – Dec 2016) | 7.2 m | 0.0 m (0%) | - |

*June - November 2017

GENDER MARKER 2A PRRO 200875

Nepal Country Programme (CP 200319) supports the Government of Nepal in enhancing the food and nutrition security of vulnerable communities and increasing resilience to disasters. The CP covers four areas:

Livelihood creation provides seasonal employment and livelihood training, rehabilitation of rural roads and trails, irrigation channels and other community assets. Under these projects, WFP implements the Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (RWEE) project, a joint five-year initiative with UN Women, FAO and IFAD, that promotes the empowerment of rural women through livelihood activities.

Education support is provided to the Ministry of Education to achieve holistic approaches to student well-being by improving nutritional intake through school meals. In addition, support is provided to continue increasing knowledge related to nutrition.

WFP has been supporting implementation of the Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programme in partnership with the Ministry of Health to prevent chronic malnutrition amongst expectant mothers and children aged 6 to 23 months.

Established by WFP as a field surveillance mechanism in 2002 at the height of the conflict, the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System, known as NeKSAP, has expanded and evolved as a nationwide food security monitoring system, based on strong collaboration between the Government, WFP and other institutions at the national and sub-national level. NeKSAP was institutionalized in the Government in June 2016 and WFP continues to provide technical assistance.

The earthquake recovery project (PRRO 200875): The protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) supports local communities and the Government to "build back better" in the most food-insecure earthquake-affected communities. Infrastructure and resilient livelihood projects are delivered through food- and cash-assistance-for-assets (FFA/CFA) projects providing either cash-based transfers or food assistance. Community asset rehabilitation activities, i.e. repairing rural roads and trails to enable connectivity to major route ways and re-establishing access in high hilly areas, promoting resilient livelihoods and addressing post-earthquake food and nutritional needs, are ongoing in three earthquake-affected districts: Nuwakot, Dhading and Gorkha.

The emergency response project for logistics and telecommunications (SO 200848) comprised the Logistics Cluster, Emergency Telecommunications Cluster, and the Remote Access Operation (RAO) during the initial response to the earthquake emergency. At present, WFP is continuing the RAO, with trail work in earthquake-affected districts.

The emergency preparedness project for capacity building (SO 200999) was approved in November 2016. This project builds on the national and district level emergency logistics capacities to respond to future emergencies.

In Numbers

231,538 children received school meals in May

34,400 people in four earthquake-affected districts were highly food-insecure.

Children Assisted
May 2017

53%



47%



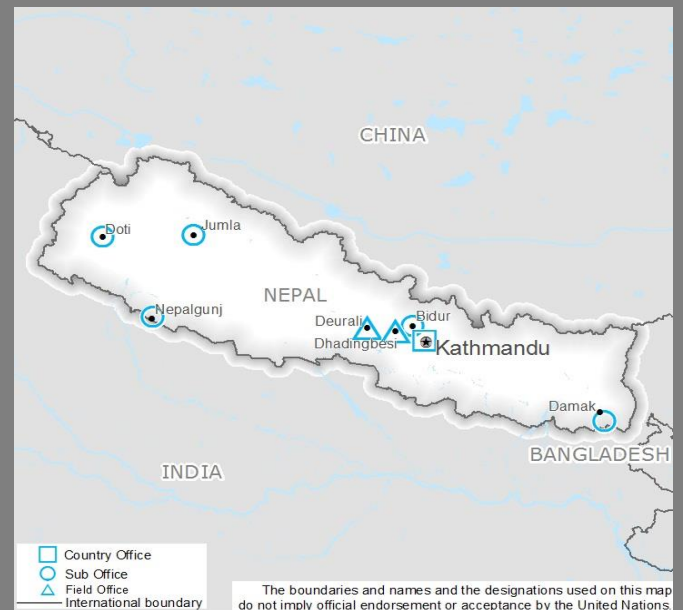
Operational Updates

- WFP previously supported the Ministry of Agricultural Development to hold 74 district food security network meetings across the country as part of the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System (NeKSAP). Based on the output of these meetings, a food security brief was prepared and shared with NeKSAP stakeholders and disseminated through the media in May. This brief included a new integrated food security phase classification (IPC) map.
- Schools from WFP's pilot district in Dailekh conducted orientation sessions for district level stakeholders on food handling, storage and preparation regarding upcoming new commodities (fortified rice, lentils, salt and oil).
- As a member of the National Early Grade Reading Technical Working Group, WFP joined the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to co-sponsor and organize a two day working retreat involving participation from the Government, non-governmental organization (NGO) partners and school administrators to determine the minimum programme package and streamline activity delivery to schools.
- WFP continues its focus on creating access in rural Nepal to support food security and resilience. Under the Quick Win Trail Project, 129 km of trails will be improved (57 percent completed to date) and a further 158 km (25 percent completed) will be assessed by engineers in Gorkha and Dhading.
- WFP-supported food-for-assets (FFA) activities have resumed, after a three week hiatus caused by the first phase of local elections. Coordination with newly elected representatives for rural municipalities have been initiated by local implementing partners.
- Under the Zero Hunger Communities Project currently active in 7 districts of Doti, over 50 percent of the planned infrastructure activities have been completed and 60 percent of vocational skill trainings and 70 percent technical trainings conducted. Beneficiary registration is complete and bank accounts are being created; 853 beneficiaries have received the first instalment of cash.
- Under the School Meals Programme/School Infrastructure Development Programme, contracts have been signed with contractors for the construction of 38 schools in 2 districts. Construction has progressed in both Doti and Dadeldhura, and around 15-20 percent of the work has been completed.
- WFP is supporting the Government of Nepal to conduct a Strategic Review of Sustainable Development Goal 2 (end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture). The ongoing local elections have delayed the next round of meetings, however, the Advisory Group has approved the shortlist of research institutes. The next Advisory Group meeting will be held in late June/early July.

Challenges

- Whilst the first round of local elections was successful, uncertainty surrounds the second phase of the elections following the announcement of protests. The second phase of elections has already been delayed until 28 June, and with the monsoon season soon approaching, the timely completion of planned activities and deliveries will be challenging.

Country Background & Strategy



After a decade of post-conflict transition, political and social progress in Nepal has been slow. The GDP per capita is USD 707 and 25 percent of the population lives on USD 1.25 per day or less. Poverty in the Far West development region (Karnali Zone) is the highest, with 46% of people below the poverty line. This is partly due to the geographical location of Karnali, which falls purely in the mountain belt, causing lower levels of agricultural productivity and infrastructure development.

Frequent natural disasters negatively affect livelihoods and food security. Nepal's vulnerability to high food prices, especially in remote mountain areas, further exacerbates food insecurity. Challenging and isolated geography, natural disasters, civil unrest and lack of infrastructure complicate efforts to improve livelihoods, establish functioning markets and transport food.

WFP's Country Programme supports the Government of Nepal in tackling food insecurity, focusing on social safety nets in the areas of nutrition, education and rural livelihoods support.

WFP is providing food assistance to refugees from Bhutan in Nepal. A protracted relief and recovery operation aims to support the livelihoods and food security of vulnerable people affected by the 2015 earthquake. An emergency preparedness operation will continue the work started before the earthquake.

WFP has been operating in Nepal since 1964.

Population: 26.6 million

2015 Human Development Index:
145 out of 188

Income Level: **Least Developed**

Chronic malnutrition: **36% of children under 5**

Donors

Top donors in 2016: United States of America; United Nations Other Funds and Agencies (excluding CERF), United Kingdom, private donors, and Republic of Korea.

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