

Highlights

- On 22 March 22, the Norwegian State Secretary, Tone Skogen, together with representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, visited the Humanitarian Staging Area, highlighting the importance of disaster preparedness.
- The Implementation Strategy for Emergency Logistics Preparedness in Nepal document is in its final stages of completion.

WFP Nepal Country Brief

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%)	9.9 m (65%)
Restoring Food and Nutrition Security and Building Resilient Livelihoods in Earthquake-Affected Areas			
PRRO 200875 (Jan 2016 – Dec 2018)	63.7 m	9.8 m (15%)	6.6 m (84%)
Food Assistance to Refugees from Bhutan			
PRRO 200787 (Jan 2015 – Dec 2017)	7.4 m	4.17 m (56 %)	0.1 (19%)
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%)	-

*April – September 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.

Nutrition support is provided to the Ministry of Health to prevent chronic malnutrition among pregnant women, nursing 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.

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 assistance for assets (FFA) and cash-based assistance for assets (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

251,818 children received school meals in March

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

Children Assisted
March 2017

53%



47%



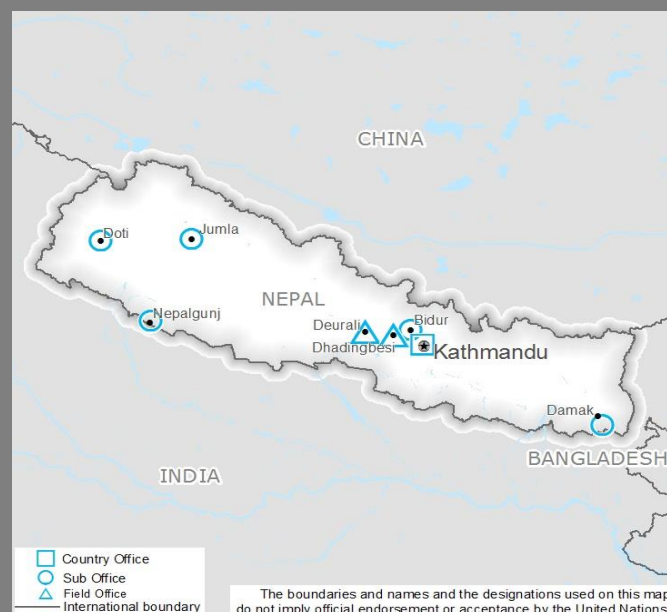
Operational Updates

- In March, WFP 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 new integrated food security phase classification (IPC-acute) map will be produced and disseminated in April.
- WFP continues its focus on creating access in rural Nepal to support food security and resilience. Under the Quick Win Trail Project, funded by the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), assessments by engineers have been completed for 40 km of trails in Sindhupalchok, with a further 1180 km left to be assessed.
- For SCOPE, WFP's digital beneficiary and transfer management platform, data base creation has been completed for recipients and WFP is in the process, together with Nepal Investment Bank Limited, of creating bank accounts for cash distribution through the platform.
- A field level agreement (FLA) was signed between WFP and Support to Poor Producers in Nepal (SAPPROS), Welthungerhilfe (WHH) and the Lutheran World Foundation (LWF) for Nuwakot, Dhading and Gorkha, respectively.
- Under the Saemaul Zero Hunger Communities Project (SZHCP) funded by the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), infrastructure designs and estimates have been completed, and construction has commenced in 7 village development communities.
- WFP Nepal and the Nutrition Section of the Child Health Division (CHD), Department of Food Technology and Quality Control (DFTQC) and Nepal Food Corporation (NFC) held key meetings in the last month for a major rice fortification initiative for Nepal. A high level Advisory Committee meeting for rice fortification is due to be held in April 2017.
- For the school infrastructure and development programme, under the Country Programme, the construction of infrastructure for 40 schools in the far western region has reached the second phase of the Best and Final Offer (BaFO) stage.

Challenges

- Nepal will hold its first local elections in 20 years in May, an important milestone in its long and difficult transition to democracy that the Government hopes will culminate in a general election. An escalation in tensions could potentially lead to protests and disruptions which may hamper the delivery of food assistance.
- WFP continues to anticipate policy announcements from the Government of Nepal on the status of refugees. With less than 10,000 beneficiaries left in WFP-supported refugee camps in the country, an exit strategy is being elaborated by WFP for the PRRO supporting Bhutanese refugees.

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.

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: **37% 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.