



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA**  
**NATION RELIGION KING**



**THE SECOND NATIONAL  
STRATEGY FOR FOOD SECURITY  
AND NUTRITION 2019-2023**

Developed by:

Council for Agricultural and Rural Development  
in collaboration with the Technical Working Group for  
Social Protection and Food Security and Nutrition

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**Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen  
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia**

**Message**

UNOFFICIAL  
TRANSLATION

**Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of  
the Kingdom of Cambodia**

**Address during the occasion of the 6<sup>th</sup> National Nutrition Day  
(November 6, 2019)**

**Under the theme  
“Breastfeeding is the best choice for human capital and national  
economic development”**

- *Highly respected venerable monks;*
- *Samdech, His Excellency, Her Excellency, ladies and gentlemen and compatriots!*

On this auspicious occasion of the 6<sup>th</sup> National Nutrition Day, November 6, 2019, I would like to express my great pleasure and full support for organizing this remarkable day. National Nutrition Day is celebrated annually to educate and raise public awareness throughout the nation on the important role nutrition plays in contributing to human capital development, increasing employment efficiency, boosting economic growth and social development.

Improving nutrition is a cross-cutting issue, which requires good cooperation, coordination, participation, intervention and investment across relevant sectors, including health, education, employment, agriculture, rural development, water and sanitation, gender, economy, social protection, and more. This year, National Nutrition Day is celebrated under the theme **“Breastfeeding is the best choice for human capital and national economic development.”** This theme is relevant to the health, education and economic sectors, and is connected to several aims. These include increasing public awareness on the importance and value of breast milk, and changing parent and caregiver behaviors so they are practicing breastfeeding during the first hour after delivery, exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months, continued breast feeding to two years of age and beyond, and appropriate complementary

feeding for child over 6 months old. Breastfeeding provides a wide range of health benefits to mothers and newborns, including emotional and spiritual connection, and all of the nutrients infants need in the form of their first natural vaccination to protect them from illness.

Under the spirit of great responsibility to eliminate malnutrition among women and children and reduce the mortality rate among newborns and children under 5, the Royal Government of Cambodia has developed and disseminated regulations and necessary measures to promote maternal and child nutrition. Those measures include but are not limited to: Sub-decree No. 133 ANKr, dated 18 November, 2005, on the Marketing of Products for Infant and Young Child Feeding, and Inter-Ministerial Prakas No. 061, dated 16 August, 2007, on the Implementation of Sub-decree No. 133; Roadmap to Accelerate Nutrition Improvement; Strategic Directions for Food Security and Nutrition 2030; Cash Transfer Program for Pregnant Women and Children Under 2 years of Households Holding Equity Cards or ID poor Cards, with an aim to promote maternal and child health as well as contribute to addressing malnutrition among children from poor households; Use of information technology (IT) to create a food security and nutrition information system; Formation of a Technical Working Group on Food Security and Nutrition; Response to global efforts to implement the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, and the engagement of the Royal Government in regional and global cooperation frameworks such as becoming a member of the global Scaling Up Nutrition Movement and implementation of zero hunger initiative by 2025...etc.

While several measures have been put in place to promote nutrition, breastfeeding has markedly declined in past years. The 2014 Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey of the Ministry of Planning confirmed that: the rate of exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months declined from 73.5% in 2010 to 65% in 2014, and continued breast feeding for children of 12 to 15 months old also declined. This may be the result of: lacking knowledge on breastfeeding; lack of support from family in relation to breastfeeding; labour migration among mothers; maternity leave being too short, and; the prevalent marketing of infant formula milk, confusing people on the value of breast milk and how irreplaceable it is.

On this occasion of the 6<sup>th</sup> National Nutrition Day celebration, I would like to call on all relevant ministries and institutions, development partners,

civil society organizations, private sectors and the general public to pay more attention to promoting **nutrition through breastfeeding**, with the aim of contributing to promoting maternal, child and infant health and well-being to ensure harmonization within families. The Ministry of Health, which is the Vice Chair of the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development, in charge of nutrition, has made great efforts to provide nutrition treatment and health care services to the people.

In connection with the above efforts, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I call on all stakeholders working to support maternal and child health and nutrition to continue with the implementation of their activities as follows:

1. Increase cooperation to ensure maternal and child nutrition and promote breastfeeding as the best choice to reduce child malnutrition;
2. Continue educational and promotional campaigns on the importance of the breastfeeding at the national and subnational levels;
3. Continue to encourage pregnant women to go for pre-natal check-ups and deliver their baby at the hospital or health centre;
4. Continue to provide health services and pay attention to maternal and child health care through scaling-up baby-friendly hospitals and communities across the country;
5. Both state and private media to continue to actively disseminate and create educational programs relevant to nutrition;
6. Continue to firmly implement Sub-decree No. 133 ANKr, dated 18 November, 2005, on the Marketing of Products for Infant and Young Child Feeding, and Inter-ministerial Prakas No. 061, dated 16 August, 2007, on the Implementation of Sub-decree No. 133;
7. Continue to develop monitoring mechanisms to manage commercial advertisements and misleading marketing of formula milk products;
8. Strengthen the enforcement of the Law on Labour 1997, specifically Articles 182 to 187 on maternity leave, to promote the practice of breastfeeding among working mothers.
9. **Formulate and Implement the Second National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (2019-2023).**

Before I end, I would like to call on all relevant ministries, institutions, development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector and compatriots to continue to pay attention and participate with the Royal Government of Cambodia, assisted by the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development who tasked to coordinate the food security and nutrition sector to increase joint efforts to eliminate all forms of malnutrition and achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals **“Leaving no one deprived of food and suffering from malnutrition”**, especially Goal 2 **“End hunger, achieved food security, improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.”**

Finally, I would like to wish respected leaders, venerable monks and compatriots the four gems of Buddha’s blessings: Longevity, Nobility, Health, and Strength.

Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> day of waxing Moon, Lunar month of Katdeuk, Year of Pig, Eksaka,  
B.E. 2563

Phnom Penh, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

(Signature and stamp)

HUN SEN

## Foreword

The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC), under the brilliant leadership of **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia** has prioritized food security and nutrition as an important cross-cutting issue to fully develop the human capital and economy of Cambodia. In the Sixth Legislature of the National Assembly, food security and nutrition remain high on the agenda for the Royal Government of Cambodia under the Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency Phase IV and the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2019-2023 and the Cambodian Sustainable Development Goals 2016-2030.

Building on the achievement of the First National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (NSFSN) 2014-2018 and the economic and social development in Cambodia recent years, the major directions for the Second National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2019-2023 are through the Twin Track Approach, leaving the key sectors to manage food security nutrition actions within their own objectives, resources and capabilities. Whereas, the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) will focus on multi-sectoral and cross-cutting priority actions that require coordination.

The Second NSFSN 2019-2023 has been developed based on the findings of the Mid-Term and Strategic Review of the First NSFSN 2014-2018 (MTR)<sup>1</sup> and the publication Accelerating Progress Towards SDG 2<sup>2</sup> and through extensive discussion at national and sub-national level. The National Action Plan for the Zero Hunger Challenge in Cambodia, the SUN Movement Action Plans and actions for dealing with the double burden of malnutrition has been integrated into this Second NSFSN 2019-2023 for better management and implementation.

CARD as the Chair of the Technical Working Group for Social Protection and Food Security and Nutrition (TWG-SP&FSN) has a great deal of work remaining to be done to ensure that the Second NSFSN 2019-2023 is widely understood and relevant for implementation at both national and subnational levels. To achieve the vision, goals, objectives and priority actions of the Second NSFSN 2019-2023, all relevant ministries and institutions, development partners, and civil society who are members of the TWG-SP&FSN must increase their efforts to be active in implementing their assigned tasks.

To respond to the negative impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic on food security and nutrition status of Cambodian people and to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal number 2 to “**End hunger, achieve food security, improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.**”, I strongly urge to all relevant ministries and institutions,

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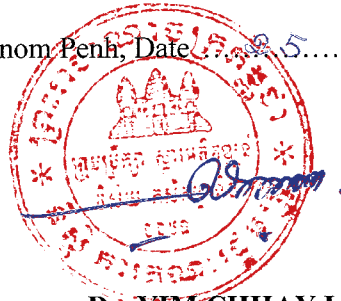
<sup>1</sup> CARD (2017). *Mid-Term and Strategic review of the National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2014-2018, I. Progress inventory, II. Situation Update, III. Strategic Directions towards 2030*. RGC, Phnom Penh.

<sup>2</sup> CARD (2019). *Accelerating progress towards SDG2. Policy Effectiveness Analysis for the NSFSN 2019-2023*. RGC, Phnom Penh.

all levels of local authorities and the international community, to continue to provide both technical and financial assistance to support the implementation of this Second NSFSN 2019-2023. This support will ensure more effective and efficient actions, with fruitful and positive results.

On behalf of **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia**, I would like to express my sincere thanks to and acknowledge the contributions of all relevant ministries and institutions, the sub-national authorities, development partners, civil society, academia and the private sector who have been involved in and supported the development of this Second NSFSN 2019-2023. I would like also to express special thanks to all management and staff of the CARD, and the many development partners including FAO, WFP, WHO, UNICEF, GIZ, EU, the World Bank and the SUN-CSA led by Helen Keller International (HKI), who have actively participated in the process and supported the development of the Second NSFSN 2019-2023 successfully.

Phnom Penh, Date 17.06.2020



**Dr. YIM CHHAY LY**

**Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of CARD**

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>ASEAN</b>	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
<b>BFCI</b>	Baby Friendly Community Initiative
<b>BMI</b>	Body Mass Index
<b>CARD</b>	Council for Agricultural and Rural Development
<b>CDHS</b>	Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey
<b>CDP</b>	Commune Development Plan
<b>CIP</b>	Commune Investment Programme
<b>CSA</b>	Civil Society Alliance
<b>CSDGs</b>	Cambodia Sustainable Development Goals
<b>CSES</b>	Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey
<b>DPs</b>	Development Partners
<b>DFAT</b>	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>FSN</b>	Food Security and Nutrition
<b>GAP</b>	Good Agricultural Practices
<b>GDCE</b>	General Department of Customs and Excise
<b>GFF</b>	Global Finance Facility
<b>GIZ</b>	German Development Cooperation
<b>HKI</b>	Helen Keller International
<b>HRF</b>	Humanitarian Response Forum
<b>HSP3</b>	Health Strategic Plan 2016 - 2020
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communication Technology
<b>IYCF</b>	Infant and Young Child Feeding
<b>JMIs</b>	Joint Monitoring Indicators
<b>KfW</b>	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (German Development Bank)
<b>MAD</b>	Minimum Acceptable Diet
<b>MAFF</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
<b>MAM</b>	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
<b>MEF</b>	Ministry of Economy and Finance
<b>MISTI</b>	Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation
<b>MLMUPC</b>	Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
<b>MLVT</b>	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
<b>MoC</b>	Ministry of Commerce
<b>MoE</b>	Ministry of Environment
<b>MoEYS</b>	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
<b>MoH</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>Mol</b>	Ministry of Interior

<b>MoInf</b>	Ministry of Information
<b>MoP</b>	Ministry of Planning
<b>MoSAVY</b>	Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation
<b>MoT</b>	Ministry of Tourism
<b>MoWA</b>	Ministry of Women’s Affairs
<b>MoWRAM</b>	Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology
<b>MPWT</b>	Ministry of Public Works and Transportation
<b>MRD</b>	Ministry of Rural Development
<b>MTSR</b>	Mid-Term and Strategic Review
<b>NCDD</b>	National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development
<b>NCDM</b>	National Committee for Disaster Management
<b>NCDs</b>	Non-Communicable Diseases
<b>NCN</b>	National Council for Nutrition
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>NNP</b>	National Nutrition Programme
<b>NSCFF</b>	National Sub-Committee for Food Fortification
<b>NSCIDD</b>	National Sub-Committee for Iodine Deficiency Disorder
<b>NSDP</b>	National Strategic Development Plan
<b>NSFSN</b>	National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition
<b>NSPC</b>	National Social Protection Council
<b>NSPPF</b>	National Social Protection Policy Framework
<b>PGS</b>	Participatory Guarantee Systems
<b>PRISM</b>	Platform for Real-time Impact and Situation Monitoring
<b>RGC</b>	Royal Government of Cambodia
<b>SAM</b>	Severe Acute Malnutrition
<b>SBCC</b>	Social and Behavioural Change Communication
<b>SBN</b>	SUN Business Network
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SME</b>	Small and Medium Enterprises
<b>SUN</b>	Scaling Up Nutrition
<b>TOR</b>	Term of References
<b>TWG</b>	Technical Working Group
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNDAF</b>	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations International Children’s Fund
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>WASH</b>	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization



# INTRODUCTION



Cambodia has made substantial improvements in food security and nutrition (FSN) over the past two decades. Nonetheless, the latest national statistics produced in 2014 show that one in three children under five were stunted (32%); one in four were underweight (24%); and one in ten children were wasted (10%). These statistics do not sit well with the progress made by the country to reach lower middle-income status.

Food security and nutrition are complex issues for Cambodia. Whereas in the past, there has been a strong focus on dealing with problems of food insecurity and undernutrition, there is now a transition to problems of overweight and obesity and resulting diet-related diseases. Both problems occur within the country at the same time, sometimes in the same communities, families or even for the same individuals over their lifetime.

The Second National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN) 2019 - 2023 signals an historic change in approach for Cambodia, in that the Strategy is designed to deal with both undernutrition and overweight and obesity issues.

The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) is committed to promoting FSN and ending food insecurity and hunger. FSN issues are addressed in the *Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency Phase IV 2019 - 2023*, both in Rectangle 1, Angle 3, relating to public health and nutrition, and in Rectangle 4, Angle 1, which deals with improving agriculture and rural development. Guided by the Rectangular Strategy Phase IV and the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2019 - 2023, the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 aims at reducing food insecurity and combatting malnutrition in all forms for all Cambodian people. The strategic framework for FSN is elaborated in this 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023. This Strategy is aligned with the *National Action Plan for the Zero Hunger Challenge in Cambodia 2016 - 2025* and the *Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Global Action Plan 2016 - 2030*. It supports the achievement of the Cambodia Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs), particularly CSDG 2,

**ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture.** The Strategy is aligned with the Joint Monitoring Indicators (JMIs) for the Technical Working Group (TWG) for Social Protection and Food Security and Nutrition chaired by the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD).

Amongst the remaining challenges for achieving food security and improved nutrition in Cambodia, some are **sector specific** and require the concerted efforts of all those involved in the sector. In addition, there are complex **cross-sectoral challenges** that require joint action, coordination and, in some cases, an integrated approach to problem solving.

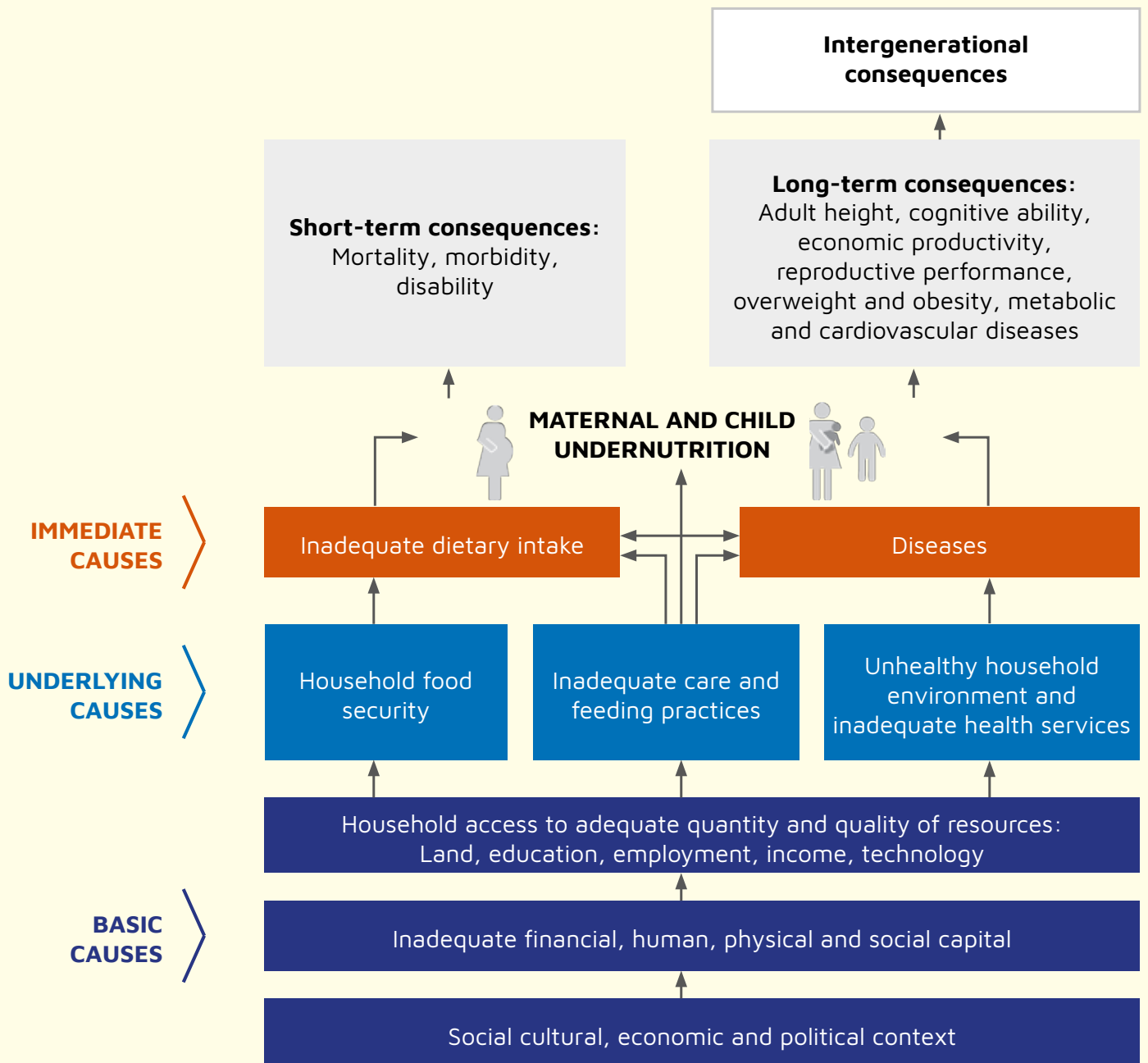
Urbanization, migration, climate change and demographic changes all pose new challenges and also opportunities for dealing with food insecurity and malnutrition, as attention shifts from increasing production of the rice staple crop, to providing for income growth, good health, education and improved living conditions to support economic and social development. Maintaining sectoral commitments for FSN and meeting the cross-sectoral challenges requires increased public and private sector investments to support FSN. The lack of frequent data and an effective FSN information system are major constraints for planning, coordination and decision-making.

This Strategy builds on the recommendation from the *Mid-Term and Strategic Review (MTR) of the NSFSN 2014 - 2018*, as well as the detailed policy analysis *Accelerating Progress towards SDG2* (CARD, 2019). A document describing Key Concepts for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 has been produced to support the Strategy. Following the endorsement of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023, guidelines for implementation at sub-national level and detailed actions plans for each of the joint priorities of the Strategy will be developed.

## **CONCEPTUAL MODEL FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> NSFSN 2019–2023**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 adopts the conceptual model from UNICEF (Figure 1) as a foundation. The Strategy recognizes food insecurity as an underlying cause of malnutrition and aims at addressing all forms of malnutrition, including undernutrition, inadequate micro-nutrients, overweight, obesity, and resulting diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Using this conceptual model is a deliberate step to focus the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 on key results and the

ultimate impacts on the level of malnutrition. This fits the thrust of the major ministries involved and the increasing sophistication required for effectively dealing with the complex problems associated with malnutrition.



**FIGURE 1**  
THE CAUSES OF MATERNAL AND CHILD UNDERNUTRITION. **SOURCE:** UNICEF (2013).

## BASELINE SITUATION

Due to the length of time between successive Cambodia Demographic and Health Surveys (CDHS) and the reliance on the CDHS for the main indicators of malnutrition, the baseline for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 remains at 2014, when the most recent national survey was conducted. It is expected that the next update on these figures will be available in 2021. Food insecurity indicators will be measured through FAOSTAT, the Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey (CSES) and other sources.

TABLE 1: THE BASELINE SITUATION FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023

Indicators for children under 5	CDHS 2000	CDHS 2014
Stunting	50%	32%
Underweight	39%	24%
Wasting	17%	9.6%
Anaemia (6-59 months)	63.4%	55.5%
Under 5-mortality (per 1000 live births)	124	35
Neonatal mortality (per 1000 live births)	37	18
Mortality in 1 <sup>st</sup> year of life (per 1000 live births)	95	28
Median duration of breastfeeding	23.7 months	18.4 months
Exclusive breastfeeding	11.1%	64.6%
Anaemia (6-23 months)	81.8%	74.1% <sup>1</sup>
Children 6-23 months who receive minimum acceptable diet (MAD)	21.7% (2005) <sup>2</sup>	30.4%
Indicators for women aged 15-49	CDHS 2000	CDHS 2014
Anaemia	57.8%	43.6% <sup>1</sup>
Underweight (BMI <18.5)	20.7%	14%
Overweight (BMI ≥25.0)	6%	18%
Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)	CDHS 2000	CDHS 2014
Households without a toilet facility	79%	44%

<b>Access to iodized salt</b>	<b>CDHS 2000</b>	<b>CDHS 2014</b>
Households with adequately iodized salt	13.8%	68.9%
<b>Food insecurity</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2018</b>
Global Hunger Index Score <sup>3</sup>	43.5	23.7
Prevalence of undernourishment (3 years average 2016-2018) <sup>4</sup> (SDG 2.11)	N/A	16.4%
Prevalence of severe food insecurity (3 years average 2016-2018) <sup>4</sup>	N/A	14.2%
Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity (3 years average 2016-2018) <sup>4</sup> (SDG 2.1.2)	N/A	44.9%
Food expenditure share (average monthly value per capita) <sup>5</sup>	N/A	43% (2017)
Food consumption score	N/A	N/A*

1 Secondary 2014 CDHS Analysis

2 Indicators for assessing infant and young child feeding practices. Part 3 Country Profiles. UNICEF 2010.

3 Global Hunger Index: Cambodia: <https://www.globalhungerindex.org/cambodia.html>

4 FAOSTAT: [www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/FS](http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/FS)

5 Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey (CSES) 2017

\* Food consumption score will be available in 2020 as part of the UN Social impact assessment for COVID-19.

## VISION

The vision for the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition 2019 - 2023 is that:

**All Cambodian people have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, at all times, to meet their dietary needs and preferences and optimize the utilization of this food for a healthy and productive life.**

## GOAL

The Goal for 2023, translates the longer-term vision into specific, measured achievements in terms of the key indicators of progress:

**Between 2014 and 2023, rates of child stunting will be reduced by at least 7 percentage points, child wasting by at least 2 percentage points, and reduce the rates of increase of overweight and obesity for children under 5 years of age and women of reproductive age.**

## OBJECTIVES

The objectives for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 are to:

- Strengthen the food environment and consumer behaviours to enable healthier food choices, particularly for the first 1,000 days of life (the time spanning roughly between conception and a child's second birthday);
- Promote diversified, nutritious and sustainable food production (crops, horticulture, fish and livestock) while maintaining sustainability and efficiency in rice production and strengthen value chains for nutritious foods, including food safety, food quality and food fortification where applicable;
- Improve nutrient absorption and reduce disease among children, pregnant and lactating women, and adolescents through increased access to safely managed drinking water, improved hygiene and sanitation behaviours and facilities at household level;

- Strengthen community-led nutrition through coordination and implementation for all stakeholders for nutrition programmes at community level;
- Protect food security, nutrition and health from seasonal, chronic and ad-hoc shocks and stresses and natural disasters including those associated with climate change;
- Reduce remaining inequalities in access to sufficient, nutritious and diverse foods and good nutrition among vulnerable and marginalized populations, especially women and children, by increasing employment opportunities and incomes, strengthening markets and providing social assistance;
- Increase quality and use of nutrition-related health services and promotion of optimal nutrition behaviours;
- Enable effective governance arrangements for all FSN objectives at national and sub-national levels and build capacities to integrate FSN in commune development plans (CDP) and three-year rolling investment programmes (CIP).

## MAIN TARGETS

- Reduce **stunting** in children under 5 by 7 percentage points, from 32% in 2014, to 25% in 2023;
- Reduce **wasting** in children under 5 by 2 percentage points, from 10% in 2014, to 8% in 2023;
- Reduce the rate of increase of **overweight** and **obesity** among children under 5 and women of reproductive age.

## SECONDARY TARGETS

- Reduce the number of new-borns with **low birth weight** by 2 percentage points, from 8% in 2014, to 6% in 2023;
- Increase rates of **exclusive breastfeeding** for infants 0-6 months by 3 percentage points, from 65% in 2014, to 68% in 2023;
- Reduce the number of women of reproductive age with **BMI<18.5** by 4 percentage points, from 14% in 2014, to 10% in 2023;
- By 2023, 90% of rural population have access to **improved drinking water**;
- By 2023, 90% have access to **improved sanitation**;

- By 2023, 33% of the rural population have access to **safely managed drinking water**;
- By 2023, 35% of the rural population have access to **safely managed sanitation**;
- By 2023, 90% of populations have access to the use of **adequate iodized salt**.

## STRATEGIC APPROACH



The 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 is built on a strong foundation of sectoral activities and results, overlain by a set of joint actions, with overall coordination and reporting on results by CARD.

This strategy is broadly referred to as a Twin-Track Approach (Figure 2), leaving the key sectors to manage FSN actions within their own objectives, resources and capabilities whilst CARD focuses on the priority actions requiring cross-cutting and multi-sectoral coordination.

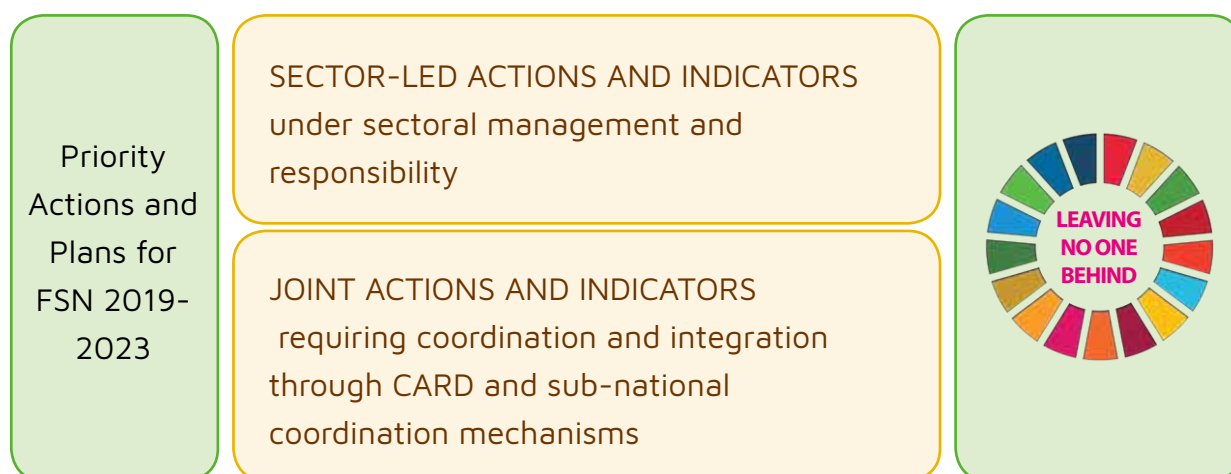


FIGURE 2: THE TWIN-TRACK APPROACH FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023

In the Twin-Track approach, the separation of the national priorities for FSN into sectoral concerns and joint responsibilities is a critical step for addressing ownership issues in relation to the Strategy. The accountability framework was developed from a comprehensive list of priority actions for food security and nutrition, considering the work of government, development partners, academic institutions, media and the private sector. These actions are allocated into two streams according to whether they are **sector-led activities** (involving independent actions by relevant ministries); or through **joint actions requiring multi-sectoral coordination**, overseen by CARD.

For each of the joint priorities, a Task Force (the name of this group may be changed after the mid-term review) will be formed (formally or informally) and that body will set objectives, develop the targets and actions plans and lead the implementation and reporting process. Where there are existing coordinating bodies, these bodies will be supported as primary drivers for the implementation of joint priorities for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023. Where there is no existing body, CARD and partner agencies will identify interested parties and support the formation and operationalisation of the group. All Task Forces are expected to be operational by the end of 2020.

The framework for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 is an elaboration of the twin-track approach, which incorporates a set of cross-cutting issues relating to gender equality and youth, environmental safeguards and equity. These cross-cutting issues are mainstreamed into all sectors and all joint priority actions. The foundation for the strategic framework is built upon improved governance and partnerships. The Strategy is supported by a unified Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) campaign. These elements are represented in Figure 3.



FIGURE 3: THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023

## CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES



The cross-cutting issues for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 are:

- **Gender and Youth:** ensuring all priority actions reflect explicit objectives for gender responsiveness, gender equality and the engagement of youth. While empowerment of women is a key issue for the Strategy, it is important that gender includes consideration of the needs of men and women, girls and boys in an inclusive and transformative framework. The Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) has a vital role to play, but gender equality should be a concern for all ministries involved, for CARD, all development partners and the private sector. One of the emerging issues addressed under this Strategy is the engagement of youth. All actions under the Strategy should consider youth engagement and provide opportunities for youth to have a voice in their own future.
- **Environment:** protection of the natural resource base from pollution and degradation and sustaining safe and healthy environments for rural and urban populations. The Ministry of Health (MoH), the Ministry of Environment (MoE), the Ministry of Rural Development (MRD), the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction (MLMUPC) and the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology (MoWRAM) all have responsibilities relating to the provision of a healthy living environment. The 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 calls upon each Ministry to contribute to environmental goals through their individual responsibilities and according to their individual plans. In addition, these Ministries are urged to share guidelines and to ensure mainstreaming of environmental concerns for all actions relating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023, both at national and sub-national level.
- **Equity:** reducing inequalities means ensuring that priority actions address the needs of the most vulnerable and provide for equity in addressing FSN. Equity issues largely fall to MoWA, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSAVY), the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MLVT) and the National Social Protection Council (NSPC). Nonetheless, equity principles apply to all actions under the Strategy and should be considered by all sectors and for all the joint priorities.

TABLE 2. ALIGNING THE CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES, THE OBJECTIVES OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 AND CSDG TARGETS (DETAILED IN APPENDIX 1).

Cross-Cutting Issues	Objectives of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023	CSDG Targets
<b>Gender and Youth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve nutrient absorption and reduce disease among children, pregnant and lactating women, and adolescents through increased access to safely managed drinking water, improved hygiene and sanitation behaviours and facilities at household level.</li> </ul>	1.2, 1.4, 2.2, 2.3, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.a, 5.1, 5.5, 5.c, 6.2
<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote diversified, nutritious and sustainable food production while maintaining sustainability and efficiency in rice production.</li> <li>Protect food security, nutrition and health from shocks and stresses and natural disasters including those associated with climate change.</li> </ul>	1.4, 2.4, 6.3, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 14.2
<b>Equity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen community-led nutrition through coordination and implementation for all stakeholders for nutrition programmes at community level.</li> <li>Reduce remaining inequalities in access to sufficient, nutritious and diverse foods and good nutrition.</li> <li>Increase quality and use of nutrition-related health services.</li> </ul>	1.4, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 4.2, 5.1, 6.1

The 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 will address these cross-cutting issues by ensuring that:

- All relevant sectors should consider issues of gender and youth, environment and equity in their policies and strategic plans in all areas relating to FSN;
- These issues should be considered explicitly in the planning, implementation and monitoring of all activities for all levels, especially for local government;
- Targeting for FSN meets the needs of the most vulnerable;

- Full use is made of the human potential within society, especially for engagement and empowerment of women and youth;
- Activities are designed to promote a healthy living environment and to protect natural resources.

## SECTOR-LED CONTRIBUTIONS



The sector-led contributions to FSN are those that lie within a single sector. These have an extremely important part to play in the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 as they are vital to the achievement of food security and for combating malnutrition in all forms through nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions.

The priority actions for FSN for each sector are identified from the existing policies and plans for the sector. The sector involves private sector actors as well as the development partners and civil society, and each sector normally has its own coordinating mechanism at national level. The sector-led contributions made to the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 are relevant at national and sub-national level and these also need coordination to ensure that there is equity in access, stability and convergence in delivery.

The key sector-led priorities for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 are:

- 1. Agriculture:** the agricultural sector aims for increased productivity and diversification whilst enhancing food security, nutrition and health. Agriculture policies and programmes developed to minimize risks and maximize the benefits to food security and nutrition along the food value chain (from food production to food consumption) will provide the greatest benefits for both the economic and social development of the Cambodian people.

Both MoWRAM and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) make a critical contribution to the productivity and diversity of the agricultural sector for food security and nutrition. The sectoral strategies



are detailed in the *Agricultural Sector Strategic Development Plan 2019 - 2023*. The Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI) and the Ministry of Commerce (MoC) have increasingly important roles in value adding for agriculture. Sectoral coordination is through the TWG for Agriculture and Water, the TWG for Fisheries and the TWG for Forestry and Environment.

- 2. Health:** the health sector contributes to FSN through increasing the quality and use of nutrition-related services and promotion of optimal nutrition behaviours among women of reproductive age, children and adolescents; supporting optimal breastfeeding and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) and promoting nutrition counselling during routine health services; micronutrient supplementation and management of severe and moderate malnutrition; supporting legislation, quality assurance and promotion of fortified foods; and the integration of these nutrition-related services into essential health packages. The nutrition-specific interventions are largely under the direction of MoH as detailed under the *Health Strategic Plan 2016 - 2020 (HSP3)*, and building on the progress of the *Fast Track Roadmap for Improving Nutrition 2014 - 2020* - that aimed to expand a core package of nutrition-specific interventions and services to protect women and children during the 1,000-day window. The focus of the public health effort is on Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). The treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) is heavily dependent on the parents and influenced by the provision of good quality snacks (sourced from the private sector, such as fish powder enhanced snacks). This can be promoted through SBCC.
- 3. Education:** the overall contribution of the education sector towards food security and nutrition is that all students will complete secondary school well-nourished and having knowledge of optimal nutrition behaviours. Well-designed school health and nutrition programmes will also contribute to education sector goals. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) implements school feeding programmes and other related social assistance programmes and has an active school nutrition programme. The integration of all nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific activities including nutrition education, school feeding, deworming and other health programmes, WASH in schools and school gardening are joined into a cohesive programme for school aged children as one of the key elements of the Strategy. Local communities and local government must

be sensitized and engaged in support for nutrition activities at schools. The *National Policy on School Health* aims to contribute to improving quality of education and human resources by promoting health, nutrition, inclusive learning environment, culture and multi-sectoral partnerships. The contribution of the education sector towards food security and nutrition is guided by the *Education Strategy Plan 2014 - 2018* (update is in progress).

4. **Water Supply and Sanitation:** to ensure the expansion to universal access to improved drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services in rural and urban areas has a positive impact on food security and nutrition. Several ministries have a role to play in the provision of water supply and sanitation including MRD, MoWRAM and MISTI.
5. **Industry:** contributes to FSN through food processing to support nutrition-sensitive food systems and food safety. Helping to create a healthy food environment, where the quality and safety of nutritious foods are encouraged. In addition, the industrial sector is concerned for the health and productivity of its workforce, promoting healthy diets and good nutrition in the workplace and providing support for breastfeeding. The *Cambodia Industrial Development Plan 2015 - 2025* guides the modernization of industry, small and medium enterprise (SME) development and is strongly linked to MAFF's Department of Agro-Industry in promoting and regulating the development of the food industry in Cambodia. Cold chains and improvements in traceability, transportation, storage and logistics are a priority to ensure food safety and maintain compliance with industry standards.
6. **Commerce:** supports FSN objectives through ensuring compliance with regulations for food marketing including Sub-decree 133 on Marketing of Products for Infants and Young Child Feeding, and fortified products; the provision of a business environment that encourages the constructive engagement of the private sector; and ensuring that consumer interests are protected. Through the actions of the Directorate General of Consumer Protection, Competition and Fraud Repression, MoC makes critical contributions to food safety, labelling and consumer protection. It is essential that food safety is maintained for commerce through effective traceability and by promoting cold chains and food hygiene.

This set of key sectors does not in any way preclude the significant contributions made by other Ministries such as the Ministry of Interior (Mol), the Ministry of Information (MoInf), the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), the Ministry of Planning (MoP) and others.

TABLE 3: ALIGNING THE SECTOR-LED ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNANCE WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 AND CSDG TARGETS.

Sector-Led Priorities and Governance	Objectives of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023	CSDG Targets
<b>Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen the food environment and consumer behaviours by providing a stable supply of safe, nutritious and good quality food.</li> <li>• Promote diversified, nutritious food production and strengthen value chains for nutritious foods, including food safety and quality.</li> <li>• Reduce remaining inequalities in access to sufficient, nutritious and diverse foods and good nutrition by providing affordable food and promoting own-production and consumption-activities.</li> </ul>	1.4, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.a, 5.1, 5.5, 12.4, 13.2, 13.3, 14.b, 17.17
<b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase quality and use of nutrition-related health services.</li> <li>• Protect food security, nutrition and health from shocks and stresses and natural disasters including those associated with climate change.</li> </ul>	2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.9, 3.c, 5.1, 12.8, 13.2

<b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen the food environment and consumer behaviours by promoting good nutrition behaviours at schools.</li> <li>• Protect food security, nutrition and health from shocks and stresses and natural disasters including those associated with climate change.</li> <li>• Reduce remaining inequalities in access to sufficient, nutritious and diverse foods and good nutrition.</li> </ul>	4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.a, 13.3
<b>Water Supply and Sanitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve nutrient absorption and reduce disease among children, pregnant and lactating women, and adolescents through increased access to safely managed drinking water, improved hygiene and sanitation behaviours and facilities at household level.</li> </ul>	5.1, 6.1, 6.2, 13.2, 17.17
<b>Industry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote diversified, nutritious food production and strengthen value chains for nutritious foods, including food safety and quality.</li> </ul>	2.1, 5.1, 6.1, 8.2, 12.4, 12.5
<b>Commerce</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen the food environment and consumer behaviours.</li> <li>• Promote diversified, nutritious food production and strengthen value chains for nutritious foods, including food safety and quality.</li> <li>• Reduce remaining inequalities in access to sufficient, nutritious and diverse foods and good nutrition.</li> </ul>	2.1, 6.1, 12.4
<b>Governance and Partnerships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure effective governance arrangements for FSN.</li> </ul>	6.a, 13.2, 13.b, 17.18

CARD has a role to play in ensuring that cross-cutting issues are addressed and in advocating a coordinated and convergent approach for the harmonization of sector-led contributions to ensure that no one is left behind. Regular information sharing by the sectors in the forums conducted by CARD will be critical to securing commitment to the sector-led contributions and for assessing the overall contribution to the strategic objectives.

# JOINT PRIORITIES FOR MULTI-SECTORAL COORDINATION



The joint priorities were identified through extensive multi-sectoral consultation using both national and sub-national platforms for priority ordering, discussion and review. The priority ordering of the joint priorities reflects broad consensus across all provinces. The joint priorities for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 are six below:

## ***1. Healthy Diets: Strengthening Food Environments and Promoting Positive Consumer Behaviours***

In order to provide better access to sustainable and affordable healthy diets, food systems need to be transformed, in order to address the rising burden of overweight, obesity and diet-related non-communicable diseases. While undernutrition remains a major challenge in Cambodia, the risks of overweight and obesity are an emerging trend and there is an increasing risk of the people suffering from the double burden of malnutrition (the coexistence of both undernutrition and overweight or obesity). Ensuring Cambodians make optimal decisions about what they eat, how they form healthy habits or minimize unhealthy habits in their choices of foods throughout the lifecycle is essential for good nutrition and food security. Food-related consumer behaviours and decisions are complex and are not always consistent with good nutrition and health. These decisions are influenced by a wide range of factors - food habits, societal norms, market conditions and available information - and may vary by season, lifecycle stage and other external factors. Nutritious diets may not always be affordable or accessible.

This joint area will include identifying ways to improve the food environment and enhance consumer behaviour for nutrition in Cambodia. Possible areas to explore may include enhanced awareness raising of affordable nutritious foods, expansion of home grown school feeding, restrictions on advertising for unhealthy foods, promotion of fruit and vegetable consumption and competitive pricing for healthy foods. In addition to regulating against unhealthy foods or ingredients (e.g. sugar or excessive salt), influencing behavioural cues by

enhancing the convenience and attractiveness of healthy foods in schools, markets, workplaces and in homes may also be effective without restricting choices. Factors affecting convenience, such as caregiver time, as well as intra-household dynamics and cultural issues associated with diet will be considered in the design of interventions and actions tailored for urban and rural food environments.

Women in Cambodia tend to be principally in charge of food purchasing, processing, preparation and storage within their households, all of which are critical contributions to ensuring that household members regularly consume healthy, nutritious and safe diets. It is important that women's role in food production and preparation is recognized and that women are targeted with nutrition education, so that they can make informed decisions about the food that is grown or purchased and prepared for their households. To avoid reinforcing gender imbalances, men should also be targeted with nutrition education programmes in order to promote an equal distribution of domestic tasks, alleviate women's work burden and contribute to household food security and nutrition.

#### Activities that contribute to healthy diets include:

- Public awareness to encourage healthy eating choices and increased demand for healthy foods;
- Dietary guidelines for specific stages of the lifecycle;
- Campaigns to promote healthy snacking behaviour or campaigns to reduce salt consumption;
- Food labelling;
- Legislation to reduce high sugar, fat, salt in processed foods and guidelines for good marketing practices for processed foods;
- Public-Private partnerships to support the formulation of healthy and desirable convenient foods;
- Promotion of improved household food preparation and storage techniques including household access to increased refrigeration.

The work under this joint priority area is closely associated to the other joint priority areas in the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023, in particular: **Social Assistance and FSN and Food Value Chains, Food Safety and Fortification**. In order for people

to consume healthy diets, nutritious foods need to be affordable, accessible and safe. In this regard, the other areas of joint action support this objective by increasing purchasing power through social assistance and enhancing the availability of nutritious and safe foods. Healthy diets are also included in interventions led by MoH, such as the promotion of exclusive breastfeeding, optimal complementary feeding for young children and adequate dietary intake during pregnancy and lactation. The work on this topic also aligns with activities led by MoEYS for provision of nutrition education and school feeding. Healthy diets and food systems underpin CSDGs targets on health, agriculture, inequality, poverty, nutrition and sustainable consumption, as well as development challenges such as educational attainment, physical growth and labour productivity. Healthy diets are a key to meeting the CSDGs.

Some key ongoing activities can be an entry point for a plan of action in this area. For instance, national dietary guidelines for school-aged children have been developed and are being disseminated by MoEYS. Recent legislation has been put in place by the MoEYS to ban the marketing of unhealthy snacks in schools. MoH and GIZ lead the NCD Alliance and the *National Multi-Sectoral Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases 2018 - 2027*, providing a strong framework for the guidance of actions relevant to NCDs and healthy diets. The SUN Business Network (SBN) is being developed in Cambodia to help the private sector contribute constructively to improving diets and nutrition.

The promotion of appropriate feeding practices and dietary behaviours is identified in the *United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2019 - 2023* as a key activity under the Nutrition Accelerator. This includes ensuring adequate nutrient intake throughout the lifecycle such as through the continued promotion of breastfeeding and other optimal behaviours related to IYCF practices; as well as tackling rising levels of overweight and obesity.

It will be essential to gather a better understanding of the context and the different factors that influence behaviour within different geographic areas and population segments - preferences, convenience, knowledge, beliefs, marketing, key influencers, in addition to food affordability and availability. Youth may be an important entry point to promote healthy behaviours and to help increase information for others about healthy foods. The use of both traditional and innovative approaches will be explored to implement strategies

and interventions in this joint area. For instance, web-based and mobile channels for sharing information and the development of video games to promote healthy food choices.

## ***2. Nutrition-Sensitive WASH***

To improve nutrition intake and reduce diseases, access for all ages to safely managed drinking water, improved hygiene and sanitation behaviours and facilities is essential. The Sub-Working Group for WASH and Nutrition manages the joint priority for Nutrition-Sensitive WASH.

Inadequate access to sanitation has socio-economic and health consequences for Cambodian people. Clean water, proper hygienic toilets and good hygiene practices are essential to the survival and development of children. Water and sanitation-related diseases are among the leading causes of sickness and death in children globally. WASH is also a determinant of child stunting and wasting. Good WASH can help protect children, and prevent these problems.

Child undernutrition in Cambodia is a result of multiple causes, such as poor growth in utero, low nutrient intake, repeated infection and illness, immediate factors driven by household food insecurity, low care and care resources for children, insufficient quality and access to essential health and nutrition services, and poor access to WASH services and unhealthy household environments. Inadequate WASH conditions facilitate ingestion of faecal pathogens, which leads to diarrhoea, intestinal worms and environmental enteric dysfunction.

Access to WASH in rural Cambodia is still low and Nutrition-Sensitive WASH faces many challenges in practice at the local level. These challenges include identifying who has the responsibilities and the interests to take action and what their role and terms of reference (TOR) should be. There is a strong need for SBCC and the establishment of regulations, protocols and reporting systems. Those responsible for WASH at a local level complains of a lack of incentives. Lack of budget and focal points to drive improvement have been critical constraints in practice.

Urban areas have better sanitation and water coverage. However, these issues still need to be addressed. Sanitation and water in urban areas are under the mandate of MISTI and MRD.

The WASH sector's vision is to achieve that every person in a rural community has sustained access to safe water supply and sanitation services and lives in a hygienic environment by 2025 (National Strategy for Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene 2011 - 2025). This is an ambitious vision, built on a record of accomplishment for exceeding targets in this area. This is the result of a combination of success factors relating to good planning; setting the right priorities and through joint actions. Other elements for success lie in an active learning process, the combination of national and sub-national efforts; effective leadership and through engagement at all levels in planning process and local targets. Inspiration is critical to success, as is ownership. In recent years, the approach has moved away from subsidisation to focus on providing the enabling environment, the roadmap and targets; private sector participation, resource mobilization from beneficiaries to ensure that priority is accorded to this change; innovations in technology and design; and the development of a value chain to support WASH and nutrition.

#### Priorities for the joint priority (by order of importance)

- Use/access latrines;
- Hand washing with water and soap;
- Safe drinking water;
- Clean houses and yards.

Sanitation is a fundamental aspect for the wellbeing of any society in the world and this is widely recognized in different strategic plans. The NSDP 2019-2023 proposes that 90% of the rural population have access to safely managed water and clean water supply and sanitation services by 2023. CSDG 6 aims to 'ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all' and targeted 100% of equitable access to WASH by 2030. HSP3 targeted a reduction of stunting rates among children under 5 years from 31.5% to 25%. The strategic objective 1.13 promotes hygiene and sanitation, food safety, oral health and school health. Strategic objective 5 is to improve public health facilities have appropriate basic infrastructure, which is referred to as 'basic physical systems' including water and electric systems, sewerage and waste disposal systems.

The *National Strategic Plan 2014 - 2025 on Rural WASH* envisages achieving 100% of people having access to water and sanitation in rural areas. The

*National Action Plan II - Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene* targets by 2023, 90% of rural population have access to improved drinking water and improved sanitation while 33% of the rural population have access to safely managed drinking water and 35% of the rural population have access to safely managed sanitation. In Cambodia, 80 % of the population live in rural areas while almost half of them lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

### **Stakeholders**

The key stakeholder group for the integration of WASH and Nutrition is the WASH-Nutrition Sub-Group of the TWG for SP&FSN and the TWG for Rural Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (TWG-RWSSH). This group is well-established, formally supported and advanced in functional terms. The group has developed its own strategic guidelines and may serve as a model for driving coordinated activities forward for other joint priorities. The Sub-Group brings together representatives from CARD, MRD, MoH, MoP, Mol and the National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development (NCDD), the donors, UN, civil society and the private sector.

For effective integration of WASH and Nutrition, coordination has to be strengthened mainly at sub-national level. Safe drinking water involves multiple jurisdictions according to whether bottled or piped water, provision by for-profit or not-for-profit organizations and urban versus rural supplies.

### ***3. Food Value Chains, Food Safety and Fortification***

Diversified and sustainable food production, nutrition-sensitive food value chains and food environments, improved food safety and food fortification, where applicable, are essential building blocks of nutrition-sensitive food systems in Cambodia.

Food systems are a key driver in reducing malnutrition in all forms. Food systems incorporate four functions – food production; food handling, storage and processing; food trade and marketing; and consumer demand, food preparation and preferences. Coordination of interventions across these functions is critical. The food environment – the places and ways in which food is sold to and accessed by people – is important to consider for achieving nutritional outcomes, as it serves as the interface between the food system and an individual’s diet.

Creating nutrition-oriented value chains is a way to help maximize the contribution of sustainable agriculture to improved nutrition. The aim of a nutrition-oriented food value chain is to ensure food is processed, distributed and marketed with the aim of delivering a safe, healthy diet but also to promote dietary patterns that have low environmental impacts. The benefits of a nutrition-oriented food value chain go beyond economic value. A nutrition-oriented food value chain will increase agriculture outputs and incomes for farmers and others, deliver higher quality of foods like fruits, vegetables, dairy and animal sourced foods to satisfy the diversifying Cambodian diet, generate jobs along the value chain, reduce food losses and waste and deliver healthy diets in ways that are affordable, equitable, acceptable and appealing. Value chains can be nutrition oriented and economically viable at the same time. Nutrition-sensitive value chains require labelling of nutritional values and related information in Khmer language.

Making food value chains nutrition-sensitive will make invaluable contributions to the health and well-being of the Cambodian people.

The major activities in developing a nutrition-oriented food value chain should include:

- Improve the quality of nutritious foods;
- Ensure food safety and quality measures are implemented;
- Strengthen food transport and storage to preserve nutritious foods and the nutrient content of foods and contribute to increased diversification of diets;
- Value adding during processing and packaging of foods (e.g., fortification, labelling);
- Reduce food loss and waste during production, processing, distribution at the consumer level;
- Integrate small farmers into value chains, including establishing cooperatives;
- Empower women by investing in labour-saving technologies for work in the value chain but also for work performed outside food production and supply, such as for input supplies and services, food processing, trading and retailing;
- Make nutritious foods available, affordable and appealing at the point of purchase.

Making food value chains more nutrition-oriented will be achieved by changing policies, making investments, influencing standards and regulations, research and innovation, and connecting and building capacity of different actors. The work on nutrition-oriented food value chains under the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 is closely linked to other joint areas, particularly consumer behaviours and demand for nutritious food; and to sector-led work under the Agriculture Sector relating to nutrition-sensitive agriculture and urban and peri-urban food systems.

Making a food value chain work for nutrition and healthy diets requires inputs from a wide range of stakeholders including MAFF, MoC, MoH, MoP, MoE, MISTI, the Ministry of Tourism (MoT). The private sector, including small farmers, has a major role in building a nutrition-oriented value chain in Cambodia through engaging in food processing, storage and transport, packaging, labelling and responsible marketing. Nutrition-oriented food value chains are also integral in the UNDAF 2019-2023 that aims at helping to broker relationships between government and the private sector and the work of civil society can also be leveraged. Adequate, diversified and affordable diets through food crop diversification, food safety, food quality and promotion of affordable, easily accessible and diversified diet are integral to the Nutrition Accelerator under the UNDAF 2019-2023.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 will provide new innovative ideas as well as build off existing work, including MAFF's work on diversification of the food production system for livelihood improvement and risk reduction and as part of more balanced farming systems. This includes the development of future smart foods that have market potential and are nutrient dense, climate smart and locally adapted. Value chains are also being developed for home grown school feeding and learning from these experiences may be relevant for future activities.

### Food Safety

Passage of the food safety law and regulations is necessary to make progress in the strategic period. In order for this law to be passed, inter-ministerial consultation required between MoC, MoH, MAFF, MISTI, MoT and GDCE. MoC recommends a short-lived committee to see these actions through under the leadership of MoC. The Inter-ministerial *Prakas* on the implementation and institutional arrangements of food safety based on the farm to table approach

(Prakas No. UATH.BRK 868, 22 October 2010) provides guidance for food safety management and defines the roles of the main actors. A value chain setting would help to understand roles of each actor in the food safety area. To overcome the challenges in making progress with food safety, especially in urban settings, there is a need for a coordination mechanism to capture the attention of the highest level, to set top-down direction. Approaching food safety along ministerial divisions, leads to competitive interests and duplication of effort.

#### Areas to focus for food safety improvement:

- Private sector engagement to ensure better outcomes for consumers, whilst maintain a profitable environment;
- Strengthen packaging of food in terms of labelling and standards;
- Improve coordination of laboratories' roles and limit overlapping;
- Develop guidelines for Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), organic standards and Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) through MAFF;
- Adoption of national and international market standards.

#### Food Fortification

Food fortification, the addition of micronutrients to foods, is a safe, efficacious and cost-effective way to improve the nutritional status of populations. Food fortification can have a positive public health impact because it makes these foods more nutritious without consumers having to change their dietary habits. In Cambodia, food fortification activities have been implemented for a number of years, with mandatory iodisation of salt, and fortification of fish sauce and soy sauce. Fortified rice is already provided as part of school feeding programmes and efforts have been initiated to fortify rice locally. Food fortification regulations are currently in place; Sub-decree on Management of Iodized Salt Exploitation (Sub-decree 69), Regulatory Standard for Fish Sauces (CS 005:2003 Rev-1:2015), Regulatory Standard for Soy Sauces (CS 066:2011 Rev-1:2015), and Joint Prakas on Production and Use of Iron Fortified Fish and Soy Sauces (48 NCN). Further work is needed on legal frameworks, quality assurance and awareness raising for both producers and consumers. The National Sub-Committee for Food Fortification (NSCFF) and the National Sub-Committee for Iodine Deficiency Disorders (NSCIDDD) under the National Council

for Nutrition (NCN) of MoP are responsible for implementation of fortification programmes with support from UNICEF, WFP and other agencies.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 reflects ongoing food fortification priorities for:

- Establishing national policies, technical guidelines, regulations, law on fortification of micronutrients into food, and promoting the effective enforcement of existing laws and regulations;
- Extending the fortification of micronutrients into other appropriate foods and ensure the required quality and quantity;
- Promoting the incorporation of each level of micronutrients into the national standard list;
- Analysing the data on the consumption of food by each type;
- Promoting the importance of the use of micronutrient-fortified foods (iodized salt, fish sauce, and soy sauce, and micronutrient-fortified rice).

#### **4. Community-Led Nutrition**

Communities should be actively engaged in designing and managing nutrition and information related services and have access to the array of services they require and desire (health, WASH, agriculture, social protection) to achieve good nutrition and food security. Building capacity in CDP and three-year rolling CIP for FSN is necessary.

The aim under this joint area of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN is to increase efforts to reach communities with nutrition information and services. With the ongoing decentralization process in Cambodia, there is a good opportunity to engage commune councils and commune funding to accelerate good nutrition at the community level. There are also opportunities for drawing external resources to directly support activities at this level. Commune councils will be increasingly responsible for coordinating of programme implementation with active participation in decision-making and taking action by families and communities to improve nutrition. Active and effective engagement of communities to achieve good nutrition will require significant capacity and infrastructure support.

### Community-led nutrition focuses on the following elements:

- Active participation of communities to change behaviours and practices where they have opportunities to learn and share experiences and influence/demand changes in service delivery content, approach and platforms;
- Focus on community mobilization and behaviour change at the household level, recognizing that individual and household behaviours and practices are at the heart of achieving better nutrition;
- Combination of both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive approaches through multi-sectoral planning at the local level or other means to align different services;
- Provide services for all, ensuring that there are no barriers for affordability or other constraints to access by the poor and vulnerable;
- Community mobilization and SBCC campaigns to support optimal behaviours and practices;
- Involve multiple actors at the community level – such as parents of young children, Village Health Volunteers, teachers or extension workers, Village Health Support Groups, and Commune Councils;
- Capacity building for community-level actors (paid and unpaid) and households.

The work under this joint area of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN will build from the wide range of community-led nutrition programmes already being implemented in Cambodia. *The Fast Track Road Map for Improving Nutrition for Women and Children 2014 - 2020* places an emphasis on fostering behaviour change for nutrition at the community level. The Cambodia Nutrition Project aims to strengthen community engagement. The *National Policy on Infant and Young Child Feeding*, and the MoH *Baby-Friendly Community Initiative* (BFCl) also provide scope to scale up community-based programming. A supportive document on Integrating Socially Inclusive FSN into CDP and CIP will help commune councils and commune budget committees to understand relevant concepts for FSN in CDP and CIP processes. It will serve as a supportive tool to provide guidance on integrating FSN into CDP and CIP to support the existing sub-national planning guidelines and procedures. It encourages communes to reflect on how they can invest in FSN activities through no-cost and self-funded initiatives.

## Stakeholders

This joint area will be coordinated by CARD with input from different stakeholders such as MoP, MoH, MRD, MAFF, Mol, MEF, development partners (particularly World Bank and GIZ) and civil society. The Cambodia Nutrition Project (RGC, World Bank, DFAT, KfW and GFF) has a strong interest and involvement in service provision at the community level.

The TWG SP & FSN meetings will provide opportunities for contributions to the policy process and to share recent developments. SUN Civil Society Alliance (CSA) offers a platform for civil society actors working in nutrition to share learning and experiences and a strong driving force to carry ideas forward.

*Moving forward, there are several opportunities to strengthen community-led nutrition under the Task Force leading this joint area.*

- Ensure platforms or mechanisms for coordination around nutrition are built at the sub-national or community level, particularly to incorporate the multi-sectoral approaches needed for improving nutrition when there is often a low priority among the different sectors for nutrition;
- Strengthen capacity of commune councils and other local governance structures like the Community Committees for Women and Children to take ownership, plan, budget, implement, supervise and monitor nutrition-related activities in their communities;
- Consolidate the evidence and learning from ongoing programmes in a way that is accessible to programme designers and policy makers and ensure inputs from CSA and other partners, including the private sector, are efficiently and effectively used to build sustainable approaches;
- Explore development of a standardized approach for training, incentivizing, and supervising community workers;
- Monitor the inclusion of nutrition within development plans and assist Commune Councils with information to support decision-making related to investments for FSN.

## *5. Social Assistance and Food Security and Nutrition*

Social assistance is vital in combating hunger and malnutrition. By addressing the underlying causes of hunger, social assistance programmes directly enhance households' ability to produce food and augment income. In the

absence of social protection, the food-insecure are often forced to cope in ways that further increase their vulnerability and undermine their future income. The extension of social assistance to vulnerable population groups is critical for equity and access issues, ensuring that linkages between FSN and Social Assistance are maintained, particularly within the 1,000 days window of opportunity. Key programmes relevant to FSN include the Health Equity Fund, the Cash Transfer for Pregnant Women and Children under 2 years and school feeding programmes. In addition, the provision of access rights to food sources from fisheries and forests also serve a role in the provision of social assistance.

The linkage between FSN and social assistance is well understood in Cambodia and the role of social assistance is increasing as the nation builds economic strength. The policy framework for social protection for Cambodia is the *National Social Protection Policy Framework (NSPPF) 2016 - 2025*. The 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023 supports the NSPPF 2016-2025.

There is a fast-paced agenda for reform and social protection as part of the change agenda. The role of the private sector and the responsibilities of households to provide for their own future through contributory schemes are growing in line with economic development. New applications are possible for the future, including the provision of crop or livestock insurance to help farmers cope with shocks. In addition to formal programmes, the management of public access and community natural resources such as water, soils, biodiversity, fisheries and forests for the benefits of the communities entitled to access these resources is a form of social assistance.

Improvements in FSN and social assistance provision are closely intertwined. Improving the ability of households to access an adequately nutritious diet and having access to health services and education are all critical interventions that help to reduce malnutrition and food insecurity. It is essential that social assistance schemes are adequate; taking into account the costs associated with essential needs, such as accessing nutritious food and healthcare, and being aligned to the rising cost of living. Social assistance schemes that help to reduce issues for access to health services and nutritious foods could substantially contribute to reducing malnutrition in Cambodia.

Access to employment, social protection, involvement in household decision-making, and the impact of cultural norms on household decision-making (such

as women eating less during periods of food insecurity) are critical factors. The increase in the social assistance measures available to women and children is a very positive step towards to achievements for the social protection system in Cambodia.

When women have control over household income, they are more likely to invest in improving their family's living conditions, investing in child health, nutrition and education. Thus, the role of women in household decision-making can be a critical factor in the household situation for FSN.

Key social assistance programmes identified in the NSPPF 2016-2025 related to FSN are:

- **Cash Transfer for Pregnant Women and Children under 2 years in response to malnutrition**, aimed at reducing undernutrition by making nutritious diets and healthcare more affordable for poor households;
- The **Health Equity Fund** that improves accessibility of health services, which is important to enable children suffering from severe acute malnutrition to access treatment;
- **School Feeding Programme** to support students' physical and mental development, which provides nutritious school meals to pre- and primary-school children;
- The **School Scholarship Programme**, which enables vulnerable children to have sufficient food and stay in school, for increased educational attainment has long term implications for FSN;
- The **Cambodia Food Reserve System of the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) and MEF to prevent food insecurity**.

### Stakeholders

CARD holds a position as Vice-Chair of the NSPC and Vice-Chair of the Sub-Committee for Social Assistance. CARD and other actors working on FSN see the importance of ensuring linkages between these platforms and mechanisms. CARD can help to coordinate the multiple sectors working in FSN-related social assistance programmes to discuss technical issues concerning nutrition-sensitive programming. The roles of CARD and NSPC are complementary in facilitating the successful implementation of programmes that aim to improve FSN. CARD will support NSPC to establish clarity on social assistance and

the challenges involved and advocate for Social Assistance considerations to be well integrated into broader FSN programming, such as natural resource management and other relevant areas.

The importance of ensuring cohesion between actors working in FSN and Social Assistance is recognized in this Strategy. Shock responsiveness of social protection is an area for improvement and needs to be considered from the early stages in developing social protection mechanisms in the future.

“Urban ID Poor” and “On Demand-ID Poor” programmes are being piloted in Cambodia and the ID Poor mechanism is under continuous development. MoP and other concerned partners are piloting programs to address limitations of the previous ID Poor system, the focus on the rural poor and the limited adaptability to changing circumstances for the poor and response to shocks.

## *6. Food Security and Nutrition in Disaster Management and Climate Change*

The priority actions for disaster management and climate change adaption are for developing resilience of production and distribution systems, thereby providing stability of food production and consumption through resilient food systems. There are important linkages between disaster risk management, climate change, the provision of social assistance and FSN. Maintenance or expansion of the Emergency Food Reserve is a critical element of disaster risk management. Promoting climate change adaptation in food systems is necessary for all future considerations of FSN. Climate change adaptation should be mainstreamed in relevant sectoral strategies and in the joint priorities in this Strategy. Each relevant ministry has a Climate Change Action Plan which guides their activities. Under the joint priority action for multi-sectoral coordination, food security and nutrition concerns are to be reflected wherever relevant in these plans. At the international level, the issues of concern include a priority to address climate change and natural disasters such as flood and drought. Cross-border water flows are critical issues for ensuring adequate flows for consumption and production purposes.

The key areas of work under this joint priority action relate to:

- Disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management;
- Climate change adaptation;

- Building community resilience to shocks and stresses;
- Integrating disaster risk management and shock-responsive social assistance.

## Disaster Risk Management

Cambodia has a chain of requests and responses for disaster management supported by Disaster Management Committees at all levels under the direction of Samdech Prime Minister. As part of this chain, the sub-national level can request action to the national level and the NCDM and the Cambodian Red Cross share the responsibilities for coordination of responses. Under the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023, Cambodia Food Reserve System and related emergency reserve schemes should be expanded and linked to ongoing rural development programmes. Early warning systems and information systems are critical to effective disaster risk management. With limited capacity for the sub-national coordination structure for disaster management, there is an ongoing need for capacity building. Disaster management and risk reduction should be built into the CIP to ensure quickest response. Furthermore, there is need to practice responses to complex situations including on-the-ground exercises with the commune level. Effective disaster management requires rolling out information systems for disaster management (such as PRISM) and building capacities to work with this information. The capacities for working with the information system need to be extended to the sub-national level, ensuring integration with ASEAN and other international connections. There is limited capacity in terms of human resources and finances for assessment of needs following disasters and this work and response is greatly assisted by SUN CSA Cambodia and other civil society organizations and UN agencies. The timeliness of responses needs to improve to provide support very quickly to communities in need.

In terms of the partnerships involved, the NCDM combines work with MAFF and MoWRAM for forecasting, issuing alerts, coordinating responses and building overall resilience. Nonetheless, there is scope for much greater contribution by the private sector. In some cases, the responses are very technical and are led by the relevant line ministries. These situations fall under the sector-led activities, especially for health. There is need to improve the responses and to prepare for such emergencies including for transboundary disease control.

The partners involved need to pay attention in order to ensure that the needs

of women and vulnerable groups are taken into account for the preparation of safe areas, latrines and in provisions for WASH. MoWA has a key role in assisting with the recognition of these needs and the delivery of assistance during periods of emergency and in disaster management. In these situations, the poor and orphans need special care.

The effects of climate change can exacerbate the constraints that women face in achieving FSN. Work burdens may be increased by the extra work required to collect water or fuel as natural resources dry up or become degraded. Barriers to education and information access may mean that women have fewer opportunities than men do, to learn about climate smart agriculture practices and technologies. If rural women are not involved in adaptation of agriculture and rural livelihood, their understanding and abilities will not be brought to bear in dealing with the challenges involved.

Both natural and human-made shocks can deplete the assets of poor households and therefore further restrict their access to economic opportunities. Women are likely to take on additional economic roles within the household and community while still having unequal access to productive assets and resources and suffering the same, or even increased, work burden, but receiving lower salaries. In cases of complete asset depletion and extreme food shortage, women and girls are at risk of adopting negative coping mechanisms such as early and forced marriages or pulling girls out of school.

### Stakeholders

- NCDM;
- Cambodia Red Cross;
- MoE and MEF for climate change action through the Climate Change TWG;
- Members of Humanitarian Response Forum (HRF);
- UN Agencies.

Under the UNDAF 2019-2023 (Sub-Outcome 3.1), the UN will promote an inclusive, gender-sensitive and participatory approach that ensures informed decision-making on resource management, including land use activities. Interventions will aim to engage communities to achieve better conservation of ecosystems, improved livelihoods and socio-economic development through

sustainable management of land and natural resources and biodiversity conservation interventions.

To address and manage risks from disasters and climate change, the UN aims to support government's efforts in developing and implementing national climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the SDGs and the Paris Agreement, while adopting an inclusive, participatory and gender-sensitive approach to its development and implementation.

Initiatives will be supported to fully integrate climate risk considerations into national and sub-national planning and budget as well as the provision of technology, data and information for weather forecasting and early warning to citizens and local communities to ensure appropriate actions to effectively cope with shocks and other extreme weather events, and the impact on women and men.

## COORDINATION



The role of CARD in the coordination of food security and nutrition at international, national and sub-national levels lies in several key functions, including:

- Improve nutrition, by ensuring convergence of food security, improvements in care and feeding practices, and in improved home environment and health service (promoting a common conceptual framework);
- Ensuring that cross-cutting issues are addressed;
- Promoting a coordinated and convergent approach for the overlay of sector-led contributions;
- Coordinating the governance, planning and implementation arrangements for each of the joint priorities for multi-sectoral coordination;
- Promoting common guidelines and standards and consistent messaging;
- Conducting of FSN research and identifying gaps to ensure no one is left behind;
- The provision of training and capacity building to support multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder contributions to FSN, working at both national and sub-national level;
- Information sharing and knowledge management including the management of the FSN Information System;
- Monitoring and evaluation and reporting on an annual basis on the progress of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023;
- Resource mobilisation and advocacy, reaching to all relevant sectors and sources of funding.

The joint priorities are aligned with the objectives of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023. Cross-cutting issues and sector-led activities are all critical to the achievement of the objectives. The alignment of the joint priorities is shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4: ALIGNING THE JOINT PRIORITIES AND GOVERNANCE AND THE OBJECTIVES OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023.

Joint Priorities and Governance	Objectives of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023	CSDG Targets
Healthy Diets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen the food environment and consumer behaviours.</li> </ul>	2.1, 2.2, 2.4, 3.4
Nutrition-Sensitive WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve nutrition intake and reduce disease through increased access to safely managed drinking water, improved hygiene and sanitation behaviours and facilities.</li> </ul>	2.1, 2.2, 3.3, 3.9, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.a
Food Value Chains, Food Safety and Fortification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote diversified nutritious food production and strengthen value chains for nutritious foods, including food safety and quality.</li> </ul>	1.4, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.c, 8.2, 12.4, 12.5, 14.2, 14.b, 15.1
Community-Led Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen community-led nutrition through coordination and implementation of all stakeholders for nutrition programmes at community level.</li> </ul>	2.1, 2.3, 5.5, 6.2,
Social Assistance and FSN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote equity in access to sufficient, nutritious and diverse foods and good nutrition.</li> </ul>	1.3, 1.4, 2.2, 3.9, 4.1, 4.2, 4.5, 5.4
FSN in Disaster Management and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect food security, nutrition and health from shocks and stresses and natural disasters, including climate change.</li> </ul>	1.4, 2.4, 2.a, 5.1, 5.c, 6.a, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 14.2, 15.1
Governance and Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enable effective governance arrangements for FSN.</li> </ul>	6.a, 13.2, 17.18

## TASK FORCES FOR THE JOINT PRIORITIES



Each of the Joint Priorities for Multi-Sectoral Coordination is to be driven by a Task Force of concerned stakeholders coordinated by the TWG SP & FSN chaired by CARD. These Task Forces can be created either formally or informally. A formal Task Force is like the WASH and Nutrition Sub-Working Group. An informal Task Force is a loosely affiliated, coalition of interests, working under Terms of Reference and reporting to CARD.

Table 5 shows examples of the stakeholders expected to be active in each Task Force. All active participation in the Task Forces is welcome.

TABLE 5: JOINT PRIORITIES AND GOVERNANCE AND THE SUGGESTED MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASK FORCES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023

Joint Priorities and Governance	Membership of Task Forces (examples only of stakeholders involved)*
Healthy Diets	CARD, NNP and MoH, MoWA, WHO and NCD Alliance, UNICEF, WFP, HKI, Save the Children and SUN CSA Cambodia members.
Nutrition-Sensitive WASH	CARD, WASH and Nutrition Sub-Working Group and WVI.
Food Value Chains, Food Safety and Fortification	MAFF, MoWRAM, NCN, MoP, MoH, MoC, MISTI, EU, UNICEF, CARD. FAO, WFP, HKI, Save the Children, WVI, Plan International and other SUN CSA members.
Community-Led Nutrition	CARD, MoH, MRD, MoI, MoE, NCDD, GIZ, World Bank, HKI, Save the Children, WVI, SVC, FDRI, IIRR and other SUN CSA members.
Social Assistance and FSN	CARD, NSPC, MoSAVY, MLVT, MoH, UNICEF, WFP, FAO and SUN CSA Cambodia members.

<b>FSN in Disaster Management and Climate Change</b>	CARD, NCDM, Cambodia Red Cross, MAFF, MEF, MoWRAM, MoE, MoWA, WFP, HRF and SUN CSA Cambodia members.
<b>Governance and Partnerships</b>	CARD, MoI, CDC, GIZ, SUN Networks, NGO Forum, Private sector, research institutions, media and academia.

After official dissemination of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023, the Secretariat of the TWG SP & FSN will facilitate the development of guidelines (TORs) - with support from Development Partners (DPs) and SUN CSA Cambodia - for establishing the Task Forces to address each of the joint priorities. After the establishment of each Task Force by the TWG SP & FSN, the Task Force will implement work and report to the TWG SP & FSN in accordance with the TORs.

## GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS



Improved governance at all levels is critical to achieving the common goal of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023. While the governance mechanisms at the national level are generally strong and well maintained, there is a strong need for governance support at the local level, working in concert with the decentralization and de-concentration reforms under the NCDD. During the process of dissemination and implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023, targeted communications are to be developed for authorities of municipalities/cities, provinces districts, and communes to ensure that food security and nutrition are understood and ongoing progress is made for incorporation of FSN issues in the CDP and three-year rolling CIP.

In addition to the coordinating roles described for CARD, the institutional arrangements and strengthening of governance and partnerships requires actions at both national and sub-national level. **The specific actions required include:**

- Institutional establishment, capacity building and strengthening;
- Increasing funding of the priority areas for both sector-led and joint priorities and mobilizing multi-sectoral support for selected cross-cutting initiatives;
- Improved knowledge management and information systems for evidence-based policy and decision making (national, sub-national and local), including harmonization of targets and reporting use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to support SBCC;
- Facilitating sub-national coordination and implementation through targeted processes and communications;
- Improved SUN Network harnessing private sector contributions and aligning reporting systems with the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023.

## SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE COMMUNICATION



An integrated campaign for SBCC for FSN will support the Strategy and provide a foundation for its Strategic Framework. A SBCC approach will be detailed in a separate publication following the release of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023. The SBCC will be coordinated by CARD and will support the sector-led and joint priorities for action, ensuring that cross-cutting issues are also reflected across the whole framework. Guidelines for an integrated SBCC campaign are necessary to ensure that messaging is consistent with the policies and programmes arising from the sectors and joint priority actions, and to ensure that the SBCC guidelines are applicable to and usable by stakeholders at every level. The SBCC will generate coherent messaging, consistent with the policies of each relevant ministry, to address the immediate causes of malnutrition relating to: adequate diets and health; as well as the underlying causes of malnutrition relating to: household food security; care and feeding practices; and household environment and health services. The SBCC campaign will be directed at population groups particularly vulnerable to food insecurity and malnutrition, including rural and urban households, youth, women and other target groups. Advocacy of the SBCC campaign will involve the full range of actors concerned with malnutrition including decision makers, service providers, the private sector, mass media and academia. The SBCC will take full advantage of the range of communication channels available to successfully reach the target groups.

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023



To ensure consistency in annual reporting, the general guideline for reporting by the Task Forces is shown in the matrix below (Table 6). The matrix is designed to enable standardised reporting for each Task Force and for regular assessments of progress.

TABLE 6: REPORTING MATRIX FOR PROGRESS FOR JOINT PRIORITY ACTIONS

CRITERIA	STANDARD ACHIEVED (1 being the lowest standard and 4 the highest standard of achievement)			
	1	2	3	4
<b>Group identity, organisational and institutional arrangements</b>	Interested parties identified	Leadership and routines for meeting and working together in place	Regular meetings and sustained interest	Recruitment and growing support for a stable group
<b>Alignment around results, targets, indicators and means of measurement</b>	Result framework not yet determined	Result framework presented to stakeholders	Results framework aligned with broader plans and agreed	Progress and planning aligned to results framework
<b>Reporting</b>	No reporting by the group	Reporting commenced, not yet comprehensive	Regular reporting not yet comprehensive	Reporting comprehensive and regular

<b>Key Messages</b>	Not yet determined	Identified	Messages tested with target audiences	Messages refined, aligned and widely disseminated
<b>Resource needs and costed action plans</b>	Not yet determined	Needs considered by group	Priority needs and actions identified	Priority needs and actions agreed and costed
<b>Research needs</b>	Not yet determined	Needs considered by group	Needs identified, prioritised and underway	Research results shared with stakeholders
<b>Supporting legal and regulatory environment</b>	Laws and regulations lacking	Laws and regulations drafted	Laws and regulations in place	Laws and regulations in place and enforced
<b>Scale of impact</b>	No impact achieved	Impacts only local and pilot scale	Impacts in specific provinces	Impacts at national level
<b>Cross-cutting issues: gender and youth, environment and equity</b>	Not incorporated	Considered in planning	Specific objectives and targets incorporated	Specific results achieved and reported

In addition to these qualitative assessments, each Task Force will select targets and indicators to demonstrate progress towards the joint priority and to contribute to overall reporting, including where relevant, the CSDG indicators and progress with JMIs.

## A GLOSSARY OF TERMS



For a more detailed explanation of the key concepts relating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023, see the companion publication, *Key Concepts for the 2<sup>nd</sup> NSFSN 2019-2023* published by CARD (2020).

**Body mass index (BMI)** can be used as an indicator for malnutrition. It is measured as the weight in kilograms divided by the square of height in metres.

**Community-led nutrition** means active and effective engagement of communities to achieve good nutrition with the support of national institutions and local government.

**Consumer behaviour** reflects all the choices and decisions made by consumers on what food to acquire, store, prepare, cook and eat, and on the allocation of food within the household.

**Equity** is the concept of fairness, as applied to the welfare of the citizenry in an organised state.

**Diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs)** include cardiovascular diseases (such as heart attacks and stroke, and often linked with high blood pressure), certain cancers, and diabetes. Unhealthy diets and poor nutrition are among the top risk factors for these diseases globally.

**Double burden of malnutrition** is characterised by the coexistence of undernutrition along with overweight and obesity, or diet-related non-communicable diseases, within individuals, households and populations, and across the life course.

**Food environments** refer to the physical, economic, political and socio-cultural context in which consumer engage with the food system to make their decisions about acquiring, preparing and consuming food.

**Food fortification** means adding vitamins or minerals to commonly eaten foods

and it has the potential to make a big impact on micronutrient deficiencies.

**Food safety** is defined by inter-ministerial *Prakas* No. UATH.BRK 868 to mean the process to ensure that food will not cause harm or affect the health of the consumer when it is prepared or eaten according to its intended use.

**Food security** is the situation when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. There are currently four dimensions of food security that need to be taken into account in understanding food security. These are availability, access, use and utilization and stability.

**Food supply chains** consist of the activities and actors that are involved from production to consumption and to the disposal of its waste, including production, storage, distribution, processing, packaging, retailing and marketing.

**Food systems** comprise all the elements (environment, people, inputs, processes, infrastructures, institutions, etc.) and activities that relate to the production, processing, distribution, preparation and consumption of food, and the output of these activities, including health and nutrition, socio-economic and environmental outcomes. There are two main components of food systems, the food supply chains and the **food environments**.

**Future Smart Foods** may be neglected and underutilised crops and are species that are nutrition-dense, climate-resilient, economically viable, and locally available or adaptable.

**Governance** means all of the processes of governing an organized society, including the actions of government, markets, civil society, social networks, whether through the application of power, law, commerce, norms and traditions or language.

**Malnutrition** in all its forms includes undernutrition (wasting, stunting, underweight), inadequate vitamins or minerals, overweight, obesity, and resulting diet-related non-communicable diseases.

**Nutrition-sensitive** interventions can address some of the **underlying and basic causes** of undernutrition and future overweight and obesity by incorporating

nutrition goals and actions from a wide range of sectors.

**Nutrition-sensitive food systems** ensure access to, and promote consumption of a healthy diet, while also taking into consideration other causes of malnutrition (including access to health services, access to safe drinking water and sanitation, adequate caring practices and a healthy environment).

**Nutrition-specific** interventions address the **immediate causes** of malnutrition, like inadequate dietary intake and disease, and some of the underlying causes like feeding practices and access to food.

**Overweight and obesity** are forms of malnutrition which are described by a body weight that is above normal for height as a result of an excessive accumulation of fat. It is usually a manifestation of expending fewer calories than are consumed.

**Sector-led interventions** are those activities which are planned, managed and reported by specific sectors, each with their own co-ordination platforms and ministries involved. Whereas, **joint priority actions** are a specific set of activities to address selected priorities where multi-sectoral coordination is required in order to be effective.

**Stunting** is a form of undernutrition often measured in children under the age of five which is described by low height-for-age, reflecting a past episode or episodes of sustained inadequate food intake.

**Sustainable food systems** are food systems that deliver food security and nutrition for all in such a way that the economic, social and environmental bases to generate food security and nutrition for future generations are not compromised. This means that it is profitable throughout (economic sustainability); it has broad-based benefits for society (social sustainability); and it has a positive or neutral impact on the natural environment (environmental sustainability).

**Underweight** is a form of undernutrition which is described by low height for age and/or low weight for height.

**Value added** is the extra value created over and above the original value of something. It can apply to products, services, companies, management, and

other areas of business. In other words, value-added is the enhancement made by a company or an individual to the value of product or service before offering it to the end customer.

**Value chains** are made up from the full range of activities, including design, production, marketing and distribution, which businesses conduct to bring a product or service from conception to delivery.

**Wasting** is a form of undernutrition often measured in children under the age of five which is described as low weight-for-height. It usually indicates recent and severe weight loss, because a person has not had enough food to eat and/or they have had an infectious disease, such as diarrhoea, which has caused them to lose weight.

## APPENDIX 1. CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> NSFSN 2019–2023 TO THE CSDGS

- 1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.
- 1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.
- 1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate technology and financial services, including microfinance.
- 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.
- 2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.
- 2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.
- 2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.
- 2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species,

including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed.

- 2.a** Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries.
- 3.2** By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.
- 3.3** By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.
- 3.4** By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.
- 3.9** By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.
- 3.c** Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States.
- 4.1** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.
- 4.2** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.
- 4.3** By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.

- 4.5** By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.
- 4.a** Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.
- 5.1** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
- 5.4** Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.
- 5.5** Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.
- 5.c** Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.
- 6.1** By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.
- 6.2** By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.
- 6.3** By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.
- 6.4** By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity
- 6.a** By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and

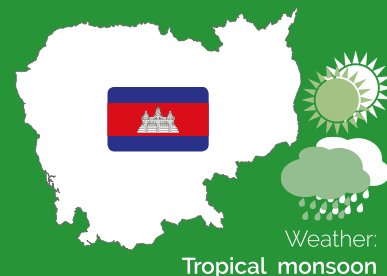
programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies.

- 8.2** Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors.
- 12.4** By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.
- 12.5** By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.
- 13.1** Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.
- 13.2** Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.
- 13.3** Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.
- 14.2** By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.
- 14.b** Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets.
- 15.1** By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements
- 17.17** Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.

**17.18** By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

# CAMBODIA

## COUNTRY PROFILE



### Political and administrative systems

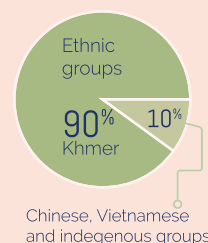
Sub-divisions

One capital, 24 provinces, 177 districts/Khan, 1,609 communes, 13,406 villages  
Phnom Penh  
King Norodom Sihamoni  
Prime Minister Hun Sen  
Parliamentary and Senate

Capital  
Head of state  
Head of government  
Legislative body

### Demography

Population ('000) **15,288<sup>a</sup>**  
Population under 5 ('000) **1,800<sup>b</sup>**  
Population under 18 ('000) **5,900<sup>b</sup>**  
% Population growth rate **1.2<sup>a</sup>**  
Land area (sq.km) **181,035<sup>d</sup>**  
Density per sq.km **75<sup>d</sup>**  
% urbanized **19.5%<sup>d</sup>**  
Life expectancy for male **67.1<sup>d</sup>**  
Life expectancy for female **70.1<sup>d</sup>**  
Number of births ('000) **98<sup>d</sup>**



### Socio-economic environment

Gross National Product per capita (USD) **\$1,395<sup>b</sup>**  
Gross Domestic Product per capita (USD) in 2019 **\$1,679<sup>e</sup>**  
Human development index **0.582<sup>b</sup>**  
Radio sets per 1000 population **300<sup>c</sup>**  
TV sets per 1000 population **730<sup>c</sup>**  
% female in labor force **79.9%<sup>c</sup>**



### Nutrition

Child stunting rate **32%<sup>d</sup>**  
Child wasting rate **10%<sup>d</sup>**  
Child underweight rate **24%<sup>d</sup>**  
Early initiation of breastfeeding **63%<sup>d</sup>**  
Exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months **65%<sup>d</sup>**  
Continued breastfeeding at age of 12 months **80%<sup>d</sup>**  
Continued breastfeeding at age of 24 months **37%<sup>d</sup>**  
Minimum acceptable diet age 6-23 months **30%<sup>d</sup>**

### Maternal and infant mortality

Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live birth) **170<sup>d</sup>**  
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) **28<sup>d</sup>**  
Under five mortality rate (per 10,000 live births) **35<sup>d</sup>**

### WASH

Improved water  
Urban 87.7%  
Rural 58.7%  
Total 64.8%

Improved toilets  
Urban 94.4%  
Rural 71.2%  
Total 76%

Sources:  
a: National Institute of Statistics, 2019.  
b: UNICEF, 2018.  
c: National Institute of Statistics, 2018.  
d: National Institute of Statistics, 2015  
e: MEF Speech, February 2020.

# STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR Food Security AND Nutrition IN CAMBODIA



# JOINT PRIORITY SECOND NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR Food Security AND Nutrition 2019-2023 in Cambodia



## Healthy Diets

Strengthen the food environment and consumer behaviours.

## Community-Led Nutrition

Coordination and implementation of all stakeholders for nutrition programmes at community level.

## Food Value Chains, Food Safety and Fortification

Promote diversified nutritious food production and strengthen value chains for nutritious foods, including food safety and quality.

## Social Assistance and FSN linkages

Promote equity in access to sufficient, nutritious and diverse foods and good nutrition.

## Nutrition-Sensitive WASH

Increased availability, access and utilization of quality WASH and health services.

## FSN for Disaster Management and Climate Change

Protect food security, nutrition and health from shocks and stresses and natural disasters, including climate change.

## Governance and partnerships

Ensure effective governance arrangements for FSN.



Gender and Youth



Environment



Equity





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