



AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
PHNOM PENH

MEDIA RELEASE

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Australia Provides A\$4 million Food Aid to Cambodia

The Australian Government is providing A\$4 million (about USD2.2 million) to the World Food Programme (WFP) to address critical food shortages facing the poorest people of Cambodia. The food aid will be distributed through WFP's current Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation for Cambodia.

Current and anticipated food shortages are largely the result of three successive years of flood and drought. The results of a detailed needs assessment released last week by WFP estimate up to 1 million people will be in need of assistance between now and the end of the year. The Government of Australia, and WFP, place particular emphasis on targeting the most vulnerable and ensuring food aid is directed at those communities and households most in need of assistance.

Australia's contribution to WFP will help to alleviate the food security problems of many vulnerable Cambodians and will assist in the rehabilitation of rural infrastructure and provision of essential services through "food-for-work" activities such as building rural roads, irrigation, canals and other agricultural infrastructure.

This contribution further demonstrates Australia's commitment to assisting the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Cambodian people to protect the most vulnerable and to work towards the equitable development of the country.

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