



# WFP The Gambia Country Brief

April 2018

## Operational Context

With a population of 1.9 million, the Republic of The Gambia is faced with rising food insecurity, poverty and malnutrition, despite a promising environment for improved growth, stability and partnerships.

Progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 is limited, given the high level of vulnerability to food insecurity coupled with the high prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) in children aged 6-59 months and stunting rates above the national average, with a high of 24.9 percent in four districts. Forty-eight percent of the population lives below the national poverty line, 8 percent is food insecure.

According to the 2015 Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) survey, the prevalence of GAM increased to 10.3 percent, up from 9.9 percent in the 2012 survey. WFP has been present in Gambia since 1970.



Population: **1.9 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **173 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower**

Chronic malnutrition: **22.9% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**250 mt** of food assistance distributed (in April)

**USD 22,400** cash-based transfers made

**USD 2,452,709** six months (May-October 2018) net funding requirements

**115,917 people assisted** in April 2018

## Operational Updates

- WFP supported the 3<sup>rd</sup> Commemoration of the Africa School Feeding day in The Gambia led by the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education (MOBSE). School children benefitting from the school meals programme actively participated. Various national food processors and institutions demonstrated the use of local foods that are child-friendly and nutritious. Participants displayed a diverse collection of foods for the children to explore. The students performed a drama on the impact of using innovations like cash-based transfers in schools to improve diet diversity.
- On 24 April, WFP and UNICEF in partnership with National Nutrition Agency, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, and Gambia Red Cross Society conducted a joint central level Training of Trainers on SAM/MAM screening. Fifteen participants were also registered using mobile technologies/systems (ONA).
- As part of ICSP implementation, the Gambia country office in partnership with the National Disaster Management Agency through a MoU has developed six community action plans in two regions. The action plans describe what the community wants to achieve as well as the activities and resources required to successfully complete the plan. The community action plan is a framework for implementing the activities that are decided by the identified communities. A total of 120 community members including women and girls participated in the development of the action plans.

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Isatou Njai Cham  
Caption: Africa School Feeding Day celebrations, Banjul

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WFP Country Strategy		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>Interim Country Strategic Plan (Jan 2018- Dec 2018)</b>		
7.7 m	5.3 m	TBD
<b>Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food</b>		
<b>Strategic Outcome 1:</b> School aged children in the most food-insecure areas have adequate access to safe and nutritious food throughout the year <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
4.1 m	5.3 m	TBD
<b>Strategic Outcome 2:</b> Targeted children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women in the Gambia have enhanced nutritional status throughout the year <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
3.1 m	3.2 m	TBD
<b>Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition</b>		
<b>Strategic Outcome 3:</b> National and subnational institutions have strengthened capacity to manage food security and nutrition policies and programmes by 2030 <i>Focus area: Resilience Building</i>		
0.3 m	0.3 m	TBD
<b>Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities</b>		
<b>Strategic Outcome 4:</b> Government efforts towards achieving zero hunger by 2030 are supported by effective (and coherent) policy frameworks <i>Focus area: Resilience Building</i>		
0.1 m	0.1 m	TBD
<b>Strategic Result 6: Policies to support sustainable development are coherent</b>		

- A project steering committee meeting chaired by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare was conducted on 30 April 2018. The meeting validated the report on the field visits conducted in project sites in four regions and progress report on the implementation of the different components implemented by WFP, UNICEF and FAO. The UN agencies also presented a revised logframe of the project as recommended by the ROME mission earlier this year.
- Super Cereal and Oil were distributed to pregnant and lactating women in four regions of the Gambia: Lower River Region, North Bank Region, Central River Region and Upper River region. Distribution was implemented by the Regional Health Directorate under the supervision of Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.
- A total of 152.98 mt white beans received in stock was procured from Women Farmers Association.

## Partnerships

- WFP maintains an active collaboration with government partners, civil society organizations, private sector, academia, development partners and other United Nations (UN) Agencies, particularly the Rome-based Agencies, to ensure the harmonization of activities in food security and nutrition.
- WFP participates in working groups in key sectors such as education and social protection, and chairs the UN Programme Coordination Group.

## Donors

European Commission, The Gambia, Japan, Canada, Australia, Korea, and Multilateral



## WFP Country Activities

	Provide daily nutritious school meals for girls and boys in pre-primary and primary schools in vulnerable, food-insecure areas. (Food/CBT/Capacity Strengthening-CS)
<b>SO 1</b>	Provide capacity strengthening support for on school meals management for national and regional institutions, and school level (CS) Provide agricultural market support (including HGSP) to smallholder farmers (CS)
<b>SO 2</b>	Provide targeted supplementary feeding to children aged 6-59 months and PLW for treatment of malnutrition as well as SBCC, for both PLWs, caregivers and other community members (Food/CS) Provide blanket supplementary feeding for children aged 6-23 months and Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) for mothers, caregivers and other community members (Food/CS) Provide capacity strengthening support for national institutions managing nutrition sensitive and nutrition specific activities (CS)
<b>SO 3</b>	Assess (Zero Hunger Score/SABER) and strengthen capacity of government and other partners for disaster risk reduction and social protection (CS)