WFP Guinea-Bissau **Country Brief**

April 2018

Operational Context

Due to persistent political instability, no elected President has successfully served a full five-year term since independence from Portugal in 1973. Forty years of political instability have deeply constrained socioeconomic and human development. More than twothirds of the population live below the poverty line. Due to the gender bias in access to resources, poverty impacts women more than men. Half the population age 15 and above are illiterate.

WFP focuses on capacity development of Government institutions and builds synergies with national partners to optimize interventions. Interventions are mutually supportive of a school-centred approach and nutrition. The WFP gender policy aligned with the regional gender strategy and CO gender analysis study conducted in early 2016 guides Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (T-ICSP) implementation. WFP has been present in Guinea-Bissau since 1974.



In Numbers

300.6 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$4.2 m six months (May-October 2018) net funding requirements, representing 23% of total

173,593 people assisted in APRIL 2018



Operational Updates

- On 10 April, the Governments of Guinea-Bissau and Brazil joined with WFP (represented by both the WFP Centre for Excellence against Hunger and Guinea-Bissau Country Office) to sign a tripartite cooperation agreement for technical assistance in support of homegrown school meals in Guinea-Bissau. Brazil brings financial contributions of USD 200,000 and USD 14,400 of in-kind technical support to strengthen technical and institutional capacities of actors involved in implementation of the National School Meals Programme (NSMP). WFP will contribute USD 60,000. The Ministry of Education, Brazilian Mission and WFP agreed on the final version of the school meals law for the Minister of Education's proposal to the Council of Ministers.
- The Zero Hunger Strategic Review (ZHSR) technical team, supported by WFP, has organized a series of ten public consultations for Guinea-Bissau's ZHSR. Stakeholders from public institutions, youth and women's groups, civil society, private sector, media and Permanent Specialized Commissions of the National Assembly participated in the capital city of Bissau, and others in Canchungo, Bafata and Buba, to hear issues related to food security and nutrition, identify root causes, recommend solutions, and commit to actions.
- WFP and the Ministry of Education received 117 design entries from 80 participating schools located in the 8 regions of the country. Staff members from WFP and the Ministry of Education as well as local artists were invited to select five designs to send to WFP headquarters for entry into the international contest.

Main Credit: WFP / Kiyomi Kawaguchi

Income Level: Low income

Photo Caption: Public audience for Guinea-Bissau's Zero Hunger Strategic Review at the UN peacebuilding premises in Bafata

children 6-59 months

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WFP Country Strategy			
Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)		Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2019)			
21.3 m		10 m	4.2 m
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food			
Strategic Outcome 1: School age children in Guinea-Bissau have adequate access to safe and nutritious food all year-round. Focus area: Root Causes			
16 m		7.2 m	3.7 m
		(45%)	(20%)
Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition			
Strategic Outcome 2: Children and malnourished ART clients in Guinea-Bissau have malnutrition indicators in line with national goals by 2025. Focus area: Resilience Building			
2 m		0.2 m	0.1 m
		(7%)	(33%)
Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes			
Strategic Outcome 3: Smallholder farmers (particularly women) have enhanced livelihoods to better support food security and nutrition needs throughout the year. Focus area: Root Causes			
2.1 m		2.6 m	0.4 m
2.1111		(124%)	(33%)
Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities			
Strategic Outcome 4: National institutions have enhanced capacity to efficiently plan and implement programmes in the areas of food security and nutrition and disaster mitigation by 2025. Focus area: Root Causes			
0.2 m		0 m	0.1 m
		(006)	(E006)

WFP Country Activities

SO 1

SO 3

Provide school meals to primary school children, including take-home-rations for girls from 4th to 6th grade

Provide training to school management committees, teachers, and inspectors on the management of school meals and complementary activities

Provide technical and analytical assistance to the Government in policy formulation, legal framework and management of a national school meals programme

Provision of complementary food to children aged 6-23 months

SO 2 Treatment of MAM among children aged 6-59 months Provision of nutrition support to ART clients and their households

> Provide support to smallholders to develop efficient local food production planning, warehousing, transformation and marketing through asset rehabilitation and training of farmers' associations (including literary classes for woman

farmers' associations (including literacy classes for women farmers) in targeted areas

Provide technical and analytical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture and Institute of National Statistics to institutionalize the Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring

SO 4 institutionalize the Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS) for regular food and nutrition security monitoring and disaster mitigation with appropriate budget

Monitoring

 WFP conducted 11 joint field missions with the Ministry of Education and NGO partners for monitoring of school meals activities. The missions visited 20 sectors in seven regions (Biombo, Bafata, Bigene, Ingore, Mansoa, Mansaba, Farim, Contuboel, Sare Bacar, Fajonquito, Bambadinca, Canchungo, Cacheu, São Domingos, Tite, Fulacunda, Madina Boé, Beli, Catió and Empada).

Challenges

- Lack of resources resulted in discontinuation of stunting prevention and nutrition support for people living with HIV/AIDS and their families.
- Political instability remains a major challenge for achieving zero hunger and WFP operations. While the new Government settles into its role, WFP has worked with technical-level government colleagues and NGO cooperating partners.
- The new Government is reportedly preparing to submit the Government Programme and Budget for its short mandate. Until these are agreed, challenges for the advancement of capacity strengthening of WFP partner ministries will continue.
- Deficient port, road and telecommunications infrastructure creates delays for implementing planned food distributions.

Donors

Guinea-Bissau, European Commission, UN Peacebuilding Fund, Japan, USA

