



WFP Guinea-Bissau Country Brief

June 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 socio-economic and human development. More than two-thirds of the population live below the poverty line. Due to the gender bias in access to resources, poverty impacts women more than men. Half of the population aged 15 and above are illiterate.

WFP focuses on capacity strengthening of government institutions and builds synergies with national partners to optimize interventions that are mutually supportive of a school-centred approach and food and nutrition security. The WFP gender policy aligned with the regional gender strategy, and the country office 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.



Population: **1.8 million**

2016 Human Development Index:
178 out of 188

Income Level: **Low income**

Chronic malnutrition: **27.6% of children 6-59 months**

Main Photo

Credit: WFP / Osvaldo da Silva
Caption: Rural women meeting at Bacil (Cacheu region) share their priorities for advocacy training.

In Numbers

303.2 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$4.5 m six months (June-November 2018)
net funding requirements, representing 23% of total

174,059 people assisted
in June 2018

49%



51%



Operational Updates

- The 2018 Guinea-Bissau Country Office retreat was held from 4 to 7 June at the *Centro Federação Camponesa KAFO* – WFP's partner in local food procurement and women's empowerment – in Djalicunda, Oio region. The retreat focused on opportunities for personal and professional growth and fostering wellness to support staff development and integrated roadmap (IRM) implementation. Supported by HR consulting firm People for Success (P4S), the country office staff worked on self-awareness communication; managing stress, time and conflict; and teambuilding. On the last day of the retreat, all staff visited nearby health centres, schools, and communities benefiting from WFP support. They became more familiar with KAFO and discussed how WFP programming in school meals and nutrition can better support children and community members.
- Regional Director Mr. Abdou Dieng visited Guinea-Bissau from 10 to 13 June. He started the visit with the country office staff, discussing upcoming changes resulting from the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), IRM, and United Nations reform, and listening to staff views. He met with the President of Guinea-Bissau and four Ministers, the President of the Central Bank, the President of the National Institute of Educational Development, members of the diplomatic corps, the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG), the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), Zero Hunger Review (ZHR) technical team and the media to discuss mutual interests in improving nutrition, support for increasing school enrolment and quality of education, the generalisation of school meals and support for smallholder agricultural producers. WFP support to local food purchases for the school meals programme was especially appreciated by government partners. The Regional Director also travelled to Cacheu region to visit a school, an association of women farmers, and community members engaged in a participatory diagnostic workshop that will inform the baseline of the women's empowerment project.

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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. <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
16 m	7.2 m (45%)	3.7 m (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. <i>Focus area: Resilience Building</i>		
2 m	0.2 m (7%)	0.1 m (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. <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
2.1 m	2.6 m (124%)	0.4 m (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. <i>Focus area: Root Causes</i>		
0.2 m	0 m (0%)	0.1 m (50%)

WFP Country Activities

SO 1	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
SO 2	Provision of complementary food to children aged 6-23 months
	Treatment of MAM among children aged 6-59 months Provision of nutrition support to ART clients and their households
SO 3	Provide support to smallholders to develop efficient local food production planning, warehousing, transformation and marketing through asset rehabilitation and training of farmers' associations (including literacy classes for women farmers) in targeted areas
SO 4	Provide technical and analytical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture and Institute of National Statistics to institutionalize the Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS) for regular food and nutrition security monitoring and disaster mitigation with appropriate budget

- WFP cooperating partner Tiniguena launched a participatory diagnostic in 40 communities that benefit from Government-funded and WFP-managed home-grown school meals. The diagnostic will provide a baseline for WFP's rural women's empowerment project supported by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund. Under the project, women farmers will be trained to advocate for their rights, social services, and public policies that better meet their needs.
- Consultants directly contracted by Econometría started the data collection phase for the decentralized mid-term evaluation of the McGovern-Dole (MGD) funded school meals programme on 18 June. The consultants plan to cover 30 MGD-supported schools in 8 regions. They also expect to meet with government officials, other national partners, and United Nations agencies. Preliminary findings are expected in July.
- WFP continues to provide secretariat support for Guinea-Bissau's Zero Hunger Review (ZHR). On 29 June, the draft zero hunger report was discussed at a national consultation attended by members of Government (both national and regional), Parliament and Children's Parliament, and representatives from youth, women, faith-based organizations, civil society, the private sector, media, diplomatic corps and United Nations agencies. The consultation was opened by the Director General of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, joined by the United Nations Deputy SRSG and Resident Coordinator, and WFP Representative. The draft report is expected to be finalized in July.

Monitoring

- WFP completed eight joint field missions with the Ministry of Education and NGO partners for monitoring of school meals infrastructure and activities in five regions: Biombo, Bolama, Cacheu, Oio and Quinara.

Challenges

- According to a report by the Civil Protection Service of the Ministry of Internal Administration, strong winds and rain on 27 June affected over 11,000 people, including three deaths. Damage to family homes and assets may reduce the food security of affected people. UNCT will meet to discuss possible support to the response once it receives an official request from the Government.

Donors

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