



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Timor-Leste Country Brief August 2018



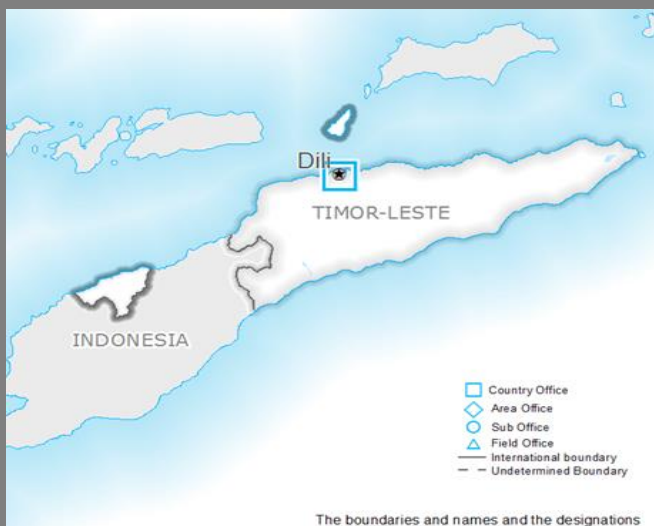
Operational Context

Timor-Leste is one of the world's newest countries, being internationally recognized as an independent state in 2002.

Poverty rates have dropped from 49.9 percent in 2007 to 41.8 percent in 2014 according to the World Bank.

The proportion of hungry poor reduced from 46.9 percent to 34.3 percent over the past decade as per 2017 Global Hunger Index. However, Timor-Leste's rates of malnutrition are the highest in Asia and are categorised as serious by WHO.

WFP has been present in Timor-Leste since 1999. WFP Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2018-2020) supports attainment of the national Government's vision and contributes to its Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030.



Population: **1.2 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **133 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **50% of children between 6-59 months**

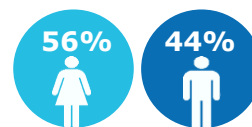
In Numbers

4.2 mt of ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF) distributed to 1,400 girls and boys under the age of five

14 nutrition education sessions organised in public schools in five municipalities, reaching 538 students

US\$ 2.4 m six months (September 2018-February 2019) net funding requirements

1,400 people assisted
in August 2018



Operational Updates

- In August, six cooking demonstrations and nutrition education sessions were organized across communities in Bobonaro, Covalima, Dili, Ermera and Oecusse by WFP field staff, in collaboration with Ministry of Health personnel, reaching 527 participants, a third of which were men and boys.
- 14 nutrition education sessions were organized in schools in five municipalities, reaching 538 students (268 boys, 276 girls) aged between 11 and 18 years.
- WFP and the Australian-funded programme Farming for Prosperity (To'os ba Moris Di'ak - TOMAK) conducted a formative research on adolescent nutrition and health in Timor-Leste. Data collection was finalized and preliminary results of the research findings were shared with representatives of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, National Health Institute and other development partners during a validation workshop.
- WFP Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific David Kaatrud visited Timor-Leste from 22 to 24 of August, engaging the Government, partners and donors in a partnership addressing food security and nutrition challenges in Timor-Leste.
- The potential use of rice fortification in Timor-Leste's social safety nets and school meals programme was discussed during two rice fortification roundtable meetings, organized by WFP and the National Council for Food Security, Sovereignty and Nutrition (KONSSANTIL). An acceptability trial of fortified rice will be conducted in school meals programmes in three municipalities.
- Together with the Timor-Global Factory team WFP provided a one-day training, simulation and practice to Medical and Pharmaceutical Supply Agency (SAMES) staff on reconstitution and repackaging of Super Cereal so that it can be easily distributed and meets beneficiary requirements.

Contact info: Denita Baptista (denita.baptista@wfp.org)
Country Director: Dageng Liu
Further information: www1.wfp.org/countries/timor-leste

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Sep-Feb Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
16.97 m	2.0 m	2.4 m

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 1: Children under five, adolescent girls and pregnant and lactating women have improved nutrition towards national targets by 2025

Focus area: Root Causes

Activities:

1. Provide nutritious food and raise awareness through social and behaviour change communication for targeted individuals.
2. Provide the Government and partners with technical assistance and evidence for enhancing the efficiency of national programmes and safety nets.

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 2: National and subnational government institutions have increased capacity sustainably to deliver food-, nutrition- and supply chain related services by 2020.

Focus area: Resilience

Activities:

3. Provide the Government and partners with technical expertise for improved targeting, monitoring and programme analysis.
4. Provide the Government and partners with technical expertise for the development of an efficient and effective supply chain management system.

Challenges

- Early Parliamentary elections were held on 12 May, and the 8th Constitutional Government was formed on 22 June. The delayed appointment of some cabinet ministers has slowed down decision-making and engagement on CSP agreement and implementation by the concerned line ministries.
- Underfunding of the CSP, particularly Activity 1, is strongly affecting project implementation and challenging the consolidation of previous gains. No fortified blended food (Super Cereal) was distributed to pregnant and nursing women since March 2018. The pipeline break will continue through September 2018 when the Super Cereal, newly repacked from 25 kg to 3 kg, becomes available to the communities.
- Further food stock outs are expected by December 2018 unless new contributions are received and programmed urgently. WFP has been coordinating with the Ministry of Health and SAMES to optimize the utilization of in-country stocks to mitigate the pipeline break.

Monitoring

- Together with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), WFP conducted a joint monitoring and field visit to Ermera-Railaco on 29 August to monitor the progress of the supplementary food distribution in health posts and community health centres. The team also visited the Timor-Global factory to discuss further engagement on the production of Timor-Vita.
- WFP visited 50 of the 180 households and 26 of the 125 health facilities targeted quarterly in the six municipalities where WFP operates.

Highlight of the Month



The Prime Minister H.E. Taur Matan Ruak met with David Kaatrud on 23 August 2018 at Government Palace, Dili.

WFP Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific David Kaatrud visited Timor-Leste and held several meetings with key relevant stakeholders including the Prime Minister, the President of Parliament, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Minister of Social Solidarity and Inclusion, Minister of Education, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Minister of Legal Reforms and Parliamentary Affairs. The meetings helped renew and strengthen WFP's collaboration and with the Government to address food security and nutrition challenges in Timor-Leste under the new Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020).

Donors

Government of Timor-Leste, SRAC/Multilateral Contributions, Private Donors