



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

# WFP Guinea-Bissau Country Brief September 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. While 70 percent of women aged 15 and above are illiterate, the illiteracy rate among men of the same age group is 42 percent.

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: **1.9 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **177 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low income**

Chronic malnutrition: **27.6% of children under 5 years old**

## In Numbers

**2.8 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 0** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 0.2 m** six months (October 2018 - March 2019) net funding requirements, representing 2% of total

**466 people assisted**  
in September 2018



## Operational Updates

- In September, WFP received a contribution of 2.314 mt of rice from the United States Department of Agriculture's McGovern-Dole Food for Education Programme to support school meals in Guinea-Bissau. The port operation was successfully completed in collaboration with port authorities and Ministry of Education staff. Further McGovern-Dole contributions of rice, vegetable oil and beans are expected in October.
- In end September, UNICEF and the National Directorate of Water Resources provided a training to WFP staff on tools and methodologies to collect data on water quality. This will enable WFP staff to monitor water quality at WFP-assisted schools through regular collection of water samples using these tools and methodologies. Schools will also receive guidance on good practices for improved water quality and food hygiene.
- In partnership with the Ministry of Education, WFP provided refresher trainings on school meals management and good practices for 101 school inspectors and school meal focal points from Gabú, Bafatá, Oio and Cacheu regions. The training contributed to improvements in implementation of the school meals programme, including more timely and accurate reporting.
- WFP supported the mid-term review of the United Nations Guinea-Bissau Partnership Framework (UNPAF) through participation in the UNPAF workshop, outcome groups, field visits, and meetings with the UNPAF consultant. The mid-term review helps United Nations agencies in Guinea-Bissau to improve their coordination and adjust to identified challenges and needs for the next UNPAF phase.

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**Photo:** WFP/Bob Barad

**Caption:** Discharge of 2,319 mt of rice contributed by the United States Department of Agriculture's McGovern-Dole Food for Education Programme.

**Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2019)**

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>12.5 m</b>	<b>11.9 m</b>	<b>0.2 m</b>

**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

**Activities:**

- 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

**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

**Activities:**

- 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

**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

**Activities:**

- 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

**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

**Activities:**

- 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

**Monitoring**

- WFP continues to conduct monitoring activities in close partnership with Ministry of Education. For the next school year that starts in October, Ministry of Education staff will be fully responsible for monitoring of school meals in 47 WFP-assisted schools.

**Challenges**

- Attention of Government actors continues to focus on organization of soon-to-be-held legislative elections and the presidential election anticipated for 2019.
- Increased engagement of Government actors in election-related activities is likely to reduce the time required to support food assistance-related interventions and may delay implementation of policies and strategies designed to promote economic growth and improve the living conditions of vulnerable people.

**Donors**

Brazil, European Union, Guinea-Bissau Japan, United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, and United States