



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

# WFP Timor-Leste Country Brief March 2019



## 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.

According to the first Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Analysis Report released in January 2019, approximately 430,000 people (36 percent) are chronically food insecure, out of which 15 percent are experiencing severe chronic food insecurity (IPC Level 4). The major contributing factors are low agricultural productivity, poor quality and quantity of food consumption, and low value livelihood strategies combined with high dependency on single livelihoods.

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



Population: **1.2 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **132 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

## In Numbers

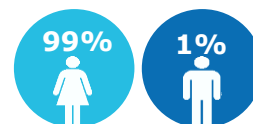
**0.450 mt** of ready-to-use supplementary food distributed to 150 girls and boys under 5 years

**29 mt** of Super Cereal distributed to 4,849 pregnant and nursing women

**18** nutrition education sessions organized in five municipalities, reaching 825 community members

**US\$ 2.0 m** six-month (April-September 2019) net funding requirements

**4,999 people assisted** in March 2019



## Operational Updates

- The Fill the Nutrient Gap (FNG) analysis tool was endorsed by KONSSANTIL at the Permanent Working Group meeting for primary data collection on the Cost of the Diet. WFP will continue the fundraising for the exercise to be conducted before the review of the 2014-2019 National Nutrition Strategy.
- WFP presented the report on the Social and Behaviour Change Communications (SBCC) Symposium held in December at a meeting with Health Development Partners.
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, WFP organized 18 cooking demonstrations and nutrition education sessions across communities in Bobonaro, Covalima, Dili, Ermera and Oecusse, reaching 825 participants, 25 percent of which were men and boys.
- Seven nutrition education sessions were organized in schools in five municipalities, reaching 655 students (166 boys, 489 girls) aged 11-18 years.
- WFP supported and participated in activities during International Women's Day celebration, including advocacy on the importance of good nutrition and cooking demonstrations during an event hosted by the Secretary of State for Equality and Inclusion in Liquica. WFP also supported the Seminar on Safe Cities and Design Competition.
- WFP and HELP Logistics Asia engaged the Secretary of State for Civil Protection to discuss the existing disaster operational management structure and map supply chains to enhance the readiness and response to disasters in Timor-Leste.
- Discussions were also held between WFP and HELP Logistics Asia with the National Logistics Centre, which supports the Ministry of Education in providing rice for the school meals, to identify gaps in the implementation of their supply chain and examine best entry points to optimize WFP's support.

## Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Apr-Sep Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>16.97 m</b>	<b>2.2 m</b>	<b>2.0 m</b>

## 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

- Underfunding of the CSP, particularly Strategic Outcome 1, is strongly affecting project implementation and challenging the consolidation of previous gains.
- Both Super Cereal and ready-to-use-supplementary food are out of stock since March/early April. Food procurement of 35 mt of Super Cereal is under way and expected to arrive by end-June to cover requirements until August thanks to contributions from Timor-Leste and Canada.
- An acceptability trial on rice fortification in selected schools located in Dili Municipality and the roll-out of the Systematic Approach for Better Education Result (SABER) exercise for the School Feeding Programme are under preparation. Both initiatives will start once a Memorandum of Understanding is signed with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

- A half-day simulation exercise on supply chain management was organized by HELP Logistics for WFP staff in Timor-Leste, with the objective to understand the challenges, gaps and costs which are faced by every stakeholder involved in the supply chain process.

## Monitoring

- WFP conducted a joint monitoring with Ministry of Health in Bobonaro, Covalima, Manufahi and Oecusse to observe the implementation of Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP), as well as nutrition and health promotion sessions.
- Started collecting data on Health Facility and Household Monitoring using the Mobile Data Collection and Analytics (MDCA), in five municipalities.

## Highlight of the Month



*H.E. President of Parliament with members of parliament commission D and F together with UN Representatives after presentation at National Parliament.*

Together with the UN Resident Coordinator and other UN Agencies (FAO, UNICEF, WHO and UNFPA), WFP held a nutrition session with the National Parliament Commission F and D to raise awareness about the status of nutrition and food security in Timor-Leste.

## Donors

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