



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Timor-Leste Country Brief May 2019



In Numbers

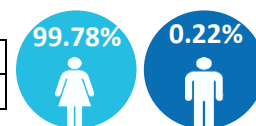
13.470 mt of specialised nutritious food distributed to 2,250 pregnant and lactating women

Nutrition education sessions were organized in **5** schools, reaching **287** students aged 11-18 years.

US\$ 2.0 m six-months (June-November 2019) net funding requirements

People assisted

Women	Men/Boys	Total
2,254	5	2,259



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**

Operational Updates

- WFP held nutrition education sessions in five schools in Bobonaro, Covalima, Ermera and Oecusse, reaching 287 students (127 boys, 160 girls) aged 11-18 years.
- WFP signed a Technical Agreement with Agora Food Studio, a local food-based organization, to promote local nutritious food and raise awareness about nutrition through events and trainings.
- WFP, with Catalpa International and the DFAT-funded Partnership for Human Development, supported the Ministry of Health to consolidate the results of a Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) Partner Mapping Survey carried out in February 2019.
- WFP and TOMAK, in collaboration with Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education, pre-tested the SBCC content developed for the Lafaek Magazine Special Edition on Adolescent Nutrition with several junior and senior High Schools in Baucau, Bobonaro and Dili Municipalities.
- WFP conducted a three-day Fill the Nutrient Gap Training to 36 enumerators for the Cost of Diet initiative in 6 municipalities: Baucau, Bobonaro, Dili, Ermera, Manufahi and RAEOA. The participants included staff from key line ministries, students from the National University (UNTL) and WFP field staff.
- WFP and UNICEF Supported the National Health Institute for the capacity building training on Integrated Moderate Acute Malnutrition Guidelines, Monitoring and Evaluation including SBCC to Nutrition Coordinators.
- WFP conducted a training on food safety for relevant stakeholders from the Government and private institutions.
- A mission from WFP's Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific came to Timor-Leste to review, assess and accelerate the implementation of rice fortification.
- The draft agreement with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion (MSSI) has been reviewed by Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and the Ministry of Finance. The agreement between WFP and MSSI will facilitate the provision of technical support to MSSI on areas such as beneficiary registration (e-registration) of social protection systems, management information system and payment solutions.

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Jun-Nov Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
16.97 m	2.2 m	2.0 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

- Underfunding of the CSP, particularly Strategic Outcome 1, is strongly affecting project implementation and hindering the consolidation of previous gains on nutrition.
- Stocks of specialised nutritious foods, including Super Cereal and ready-to-use-supplementary food, are running out. The arrival of 35 mt of Super Cereal, expected by end-June, will cover requirements until August, thanks to contributions from Timor-Leste and Canada.
- Delays in the formalization of partnership agreements with several line ministries and other national institutions are hampering the implementation of critical activities on nutrition, social protection and safety nets.
- Delays in the signing of an MoU with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports are preventing the start of 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.

Monitoring

- WFP field support units visited 33 households and 41 health facilities in ten municipalities where WFP operates.

Highlight of the Month



Group photo session after beach cleaning together with Secretary States for Environment, Secretary States for Youth and Sports, the Korean Ambassador, Timor-Leste Youth for Peace, Environmental Activities (ENVAC), Timor-Leste National SCOUT, Mercy Corps, and Telkomcel.

WFP joined the monthly beach cleaning activity organised by KOICA, supporting the Government of Timor-Leste's initiative on zero plastic and clean city.

Donors

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