



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Guinea-Bissau Country Brief May 2019



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: **Lower income**

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

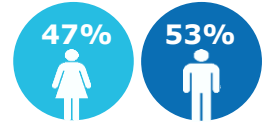
In Numbers

547 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 0 cash-based transfers made

USD 5.48 m six months (June-November 2019) net funding requirements, representing 46% of total

192,736 people assisted in May 2019



Operational Updates

- WFP distribution of the nutritious food supplement Super Cereal Plus resumed in May. This activity benefits 935 children age 6 to 59 months under treatment for moderate acute malnutrition in 35 nutritional recovery centres in Bafata, Gabu and Oio regions.
- Locally purchased food reached schools in 214 communities, improving nutrition and diversifying meals of 56,059 children.
- In preparation for resilience activities, WFP conducted field visits to 53 communities of Bafata, Gabu and Oio regions. WFP observed levels of vulnerability among women and men heads of household, income sources, family size, and proportion of children, elderly or disabled family members. The observations improved WFP's understanding of family priorities and will support the design of sustainable interventions addressing their needs. WFP also met with NGO partners to share planning for resilience-related activities and review a model template specifying core information to be provided with project proposals.
- On 20 May, the President of Guinea-Bissau promulgated the school feeding law that was approved by the Council of Ministers in January. The law guarantees annual budget allocations by the Government of Guinea-Bissau for school feeding activities, and links local agricultural production to the supply of food for school canteens.
- WFP distributed art materials to help 16,000 schoolchildren engage in the 2019 WFP Children's Design Competition. Four local artists provided on-site support in visual arts and freehand techniques to 350 schoolchildren who had demonstrated talent through designs shared in the first phase of the competition. Five drawings from Biombo, Cacheu, and Bolama regions were selected for entrance into the global competition.

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Photo: WFP/Luisa Cardoso

Schoolchildren from Dembandje primary school in Bafata region display their entries to the 2019 WFP Children's Design Competition, 7 May 2019.

Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.3 m	1.2 m	5.5 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.
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

- WFP continues to conduct monitoring activities in close partnership with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health. In May, WFP monitoring staff visited 25 schools and 41 nutrition centres engaged in WFP-assisted school feeding and nutrition activities.
- WFP and Ministry of Health staff visited 40 health centres in Oio, Bafata and Gabu regions to assess local infrastructure and capabilities in preparation for introduction of SCOPE CODA digital monitoring for treatment of malnutrition.

Challenges

- Current WFP stocks of imported rice, beans and vegetable oil are sufficient to resume school feeding activities for the 2019-2020 academic year, but will be fully consumed by December 2019. WFP is seeking renewed funding to ensure continuation of this activity supporting 180,000 schoolchildren in 874 primary schools across the eight rural regions of Guinea-Bissau.

Donors

[Brazil](#), [European Union](#), [Guinea-Bissau](#), [Italy](#), [Japan](#), [Multilateral Funds \(Sweden\)](#), [UNAIDS](#), [United Nations Peacebuilding Fund](#), [United States](#)