



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Timor-Leste Country Brief June 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

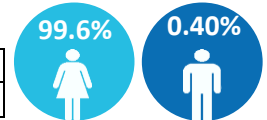
**4.902 mt** of specialised nutritious food distributed to 817 pregnant and lactating women

**12** Nutrition Education sessions reached **463** community members, of whom **25%** were men and boys, from communities across **5** municipalities (Bobonaro, Covalima, Dili, Ermera and Oecusse).

**US\$1.92 m** six months (July - December 2019) net funding requirements

### People assisted

Women	Men/Boys	Total
818	3	821



## Operational Updates

- WFP held Nutrition Education sessions in four schools in Covalima and Ermera, reaching 161 students (80 boys, 81 girls) aged 11-18 years.
- WFP, in collaboration with the office of the UN Resident Coordinator, delivered a session to the National Olympic Athletes on Sustainable Development Goal 2 for ending hunger and malnutrition.
- WFP completed data collection for the Fill the Nutrient Gap Cost of Diet (CoD) survey in 6 municipalities: Baucau, Bobonaro, Dili, Ermera, Manufahi and RAEOA-Oecusse; covering 36 markets at Village, Administrative Post, and Municipality levels. The CoD data collection was conducted by trained enumerators under close supervision and collaboration with the National Council for Food Security, Sovereignty and Nutrition in Timor-Leste (KONSSANTIL).
- The draft agreement with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion (MSSI) has been updated reflecting inputs from the Ministry of Finance. The agreement between WFP and MSSI will facilitate the provision of technical support in areas such as electronic beneficiary registration in social protection systems and payment solutions.
- The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) has cleared a draft agreement with WFP. Formalising of this agreement through an MoU will initiate the implementation of activities in support of the school feeding programme, including strengthening the M&E system, rice fortification and supply chain management.
- Three warehouse management and food quality and safety sessions were delivered to 72 health staff from 13 municipalities in a training on integrated management of acute malnutrition, organized by the National Health Institute (INS) and UNICEF.

**Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)**

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	July-Dec Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
16.97 m	2.46 m	1.92 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.

- 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.

**Highlight of the Month**



10 students from the National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL)- Nutrition and Dietetic Department, participated in the Fill the Nutrient Gap - Cost of Diet (CotD) data collection process and supported WFP by entering the data into modelling software.

WFP and UNTL have developed a close partnership and recently signed an agreement to increase participation in an internship program, giving opportunities to students from different faculties to learn practical skills in international relations, nutrition, monitoring & evaluation, reporting and communications, and more.

**Operational Updates (cont'd)**

- Conducted a joint assessment with MoEYS supported by HELP Logistics by visiting four schools in Dili and Ermera municipalities, with the objective to assess current supply chain situation of the school feeding programme.

**Monitoring**

- WFP field support units visited 69 households and 50 health facilities in ten municipalities where WFP operates, as part of WFP monthly monitoring activities.

**Challenges**

- Underfunding of the CSPs, particularly Strategic Outcome 1, is strongly affecting project implementation rates and hindering the consolidation of earlier 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, provided by the Government of Timor-Leste and Canada, is expected by end-July which will cover requirements until August.

**Donors**

Government of Timor-Leste, Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), SRAC/Multilateral Contributions, Private Donors