



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Sao Tome and Principe

Country Brief

June 2019



Operational Context

In 2017, estimated GDP per capita in São Tomé and Príncipe amounted to around USD 1,785 U.S. dollars. However recent World Bank estimates show that about one-third of the population lives with less than USD 1.9 per day and more than two-thirds of the population is using a poverty line of USD 3.2 per day.

In the past decades, the country has made considerable progress in reducing child mortality, malnutrition and improving maternal health. However, in 2014, it was estimated that 17.2 percent of children aged 6-59 months were stunted (20.5 percent boys and 13.9 percent girls), 8.8 percent were underweight (10.6 percent boys and 6.9 percent girls), and 4 percent were wasted (4.7 percent boys and 3.3 percent girls) – MICS-2014.

Human Development Index value is 0.589 — which puts the country in the medium human development category, ranking 143 out of 189 countries and above the Sub-Saharan Africa average.

With Sao Tome, heavily dependent on food imports, food availability is unpredictable: there is no deep-sea port, and, in bad weather, landing is difficult on the country's one short airstrip. In addition, no cereals are cultivated on the island. The country is prone to natural hazards such as floods and landslides, which negatively affect crops and road access as well as destroy houses and household assets. WFP assistance is focused on education, which is central to the poverty reduction strategy. WFP provides technical assistance to the national school feeding programme which reaches over 50,000 children attending schools (around 25 percent of total population).

WFP has been present in Sao Tome and Principe since 1976.



Population: **197,700**

2017 Human Development Index: **143 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **31% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

US\$0.1 m five months (June-Dec 2019) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- The Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024) was approved by the WFP Executive Board in Rome on 14 June, in the presence of the Prime Minister of Sao Tome and Principe (STP). The Prime Minister thanked the Executive Director of WFP for the technical support that WFP is providing to the Government and reinforced the Government's commitment to fund USD 1 million for the CSP implementation.
- WFP STP attended the development partners meeting, held on 7 June 2019 in the UN Building. During the meeting, the Government presented the National Sustainable Development Programme aiming to operationalize the Government's programme, combining it with the SDGs and the international agendas. The current coordination model was also discussed with the UN Resident Coordinator who is working on reinforcing the UN coordination role among the development partners.
- At the end of June, WFP successfully concluded the Transitional-interim Country Strategic Plan and all related activities, jointly planned with the Government. The implementation of the CSP 2019-2024 will start in July 2019.

Partnerships

- The Ministry of Education through PNASE remains the main cooperating partner for WFP.
- WFP is also partnering two with local and international NGOs.

Monitoring

- I kindly propose to delete this paragraph because the same activity is described in paragraph below. Capacity strengthening of the human resources of PNASE and schools' canteens managers of Ministry of Education on M&E (Monitoring and Evaluation) and training cooks on basic nutrition and hygiene will take place in May and June 2019 in all districts of the country, including the Autonomous Region of Principe.

Challenges

- Funds availability

Donors:

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Main Photo

Credit: WFP/ Abdoulaye Balde

Caption: Prime Minister courtesy visit to Rome for the CSP approval at the WFP Executive Board.

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/sao-tome-and-principe

Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (January 2018- June 2019)

2019 Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Five Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
0.3 m	0.2 m	0.1 m

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement SDGs.

Strategic Outcome1: The Government of Sao Tomé and Príncipe has enhanced capacity to implement food security and nutrition focused safety nets nationwide.
Focus area: Root causes

- Activities1:** Provide technical assistance to the Government to design, finance and manage its national home-grown school meals programme:
- Provide financial support to PNASE for acquisition of a software for the integrated management of the school meals programme.
 - Support the strengthening of PNASE by training cooks and improve their working space (furniture of complete cooks’ uniforms, boots and others kitchen accessories).

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement SDGs.

Strategic Outcome1: The Government of Sao Tomé and Príncipe has enhanced capacity to implement food security and nutrition focused safety nets nationwide.
Focus area: Root causes

Activities 2: Provide targeted technical assistance for hunger-focused cost analysis and evidence generation for improved programme.