



World Food Programme

WFP Timor-Leste Country Brief

September 2019

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



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

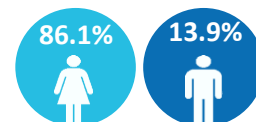
3.888mt of Super Cereal distributed to 648 pregnant and nursing women

WFP reached 1,441 community members through 26 nutrition education sessions and cooking demonstrations in five municipalities (Bobonaro, Covalima, Dili, Ermera and Oecusse).

US\$ 1.13 m six months (October 2019 - March 2020) net funding requirements

People assisted

Women	Men	Total
2114	342	2456



Operational Updates

- WFP supported the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, on the distribution of the LAFAEK Magazine which highlights the importance of a nutritious diet and healthy life style choices for adolescents. The magazines were distributed in five municipalities (Bobonaro, Covalima, Dili, Ermera and Oecusse).
- WFP developed and distributed a poster, along with the LAFAEK Magazine in five targeted municipalities, as part of the social behaviour change communication activities targeting adolescent girls and boys. The poster highlights the connection between nutrients and healthy growth and development through adolescence.
- WFP is continuing its data analysis for the [Fill the Nutrient Gap \(FNG\) Assessment](#). This assessment highlights likely nutrient gaps and identifies barriers to adequate nutrient intake. The preliminary result will be launched in October 2019 after an intensive consultation with members from the National Council for Food Security, Sovereignty and Nutrition (KONSSANTIL).
- WFP has also completed FNG data analysis training for KONSSANTIL personnel and nutrition students from the University of Timor-Lorosa'e. This will strengthen their capacity to also conduct future studies.
- WFP completed an acceptability trial which showed positive reception to fortified rice in two schools in Dili Municipality.
- WFP supported the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in revising the 2013 School Feeding Program Manual to ensure the guidance remains relevant. The process of the revision was led by the National Directorate of Social Actions for School with support from relevant stakeholders.
- WFP and the National Logistic Centre developed a joint workplan on warehouse management and rice fortification.

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- WFPs field support units visited 29 Health Facilities and 48 Households as part of their routine monthly visits.

Highlight of the Month



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WFP completed a rice fortification acceptability trial this month with support from KONSSANTIL, a joint-ministerial committee focused on nutrition in Timor-Leste made up of representatives from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	October 2019 – March 2020 Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
16.97 m	4.26 m	1.13 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:

- Provide nutritious food and raise awareness through social and behaviour change communication for targeted individuals.
- 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:

- Provide the Government and partners with technical expertise for improved targeting, monitoring and programme analysis.
- Provide the Government and partners with technical expertise for the development of an efficient and effective supply chain management system.

Operational Updates Continued

- 367 students (169 boys and 198 girls) aged 11-18 years attended seven nutrition education sessions organised in schools in Bobonaro, Covalima and Ermera.
- 1,441 participants (19.2% men and boys) took part in six cooking demonstrations and 20 nutrition education sessions organised across communities in Bobonaro, Covalima, Dili, Ermera and Oecusse.

Challenges

- Additional stocks of Super Cereal will be needed in October to provide micronutrient support to pregnant and lactating women who otherwise face moderate to acute malnutrition. The Country Strategic Plan (2018-2020) is underfunded, particularly Strategic Outcome 1 (which focusses on improving the nutrition of children, pregnant and lactating women, and adolescent girls). This is affecting project implementation and hindering the consolidation of earlier gains in nutrition.
- There are delays in formalizing partnership agreements with several line ministries and other national institutions. This is hampering the implementation of critical activities on nutrition, social protection and safety nets.

Donors

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