



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Sao Tome and Principe Country Brief September 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\$0.3 m six months (October 2019 – March 2020) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- During the month of September, WFP held meetings with members of the Sao Tome and Principe Government, namely the Minister of Education and Higher Education and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development, to discuss about the workplans prepared by the WFP country office.
- The workplans were already validated by the Government and will be implemented with different stakeholders involved in Home-Grown School Feeding approach: The National Council for Food Security and Nutrition (PNASE), National Council for Food Security and Nutrition (CONSAN) and the Ministry of Agriculture through the Centre of support to smallholder Farmers and Rural Development (CADR).

Partnerships

- The Ministry of Education through PNASE remains the main cooperating partner for WFP.
- The Ministry of Agriculture through the Rural Development Support Centre (CADR) is another WFP cooperating partner for the implementation of the CSP, particularly with regards to support to smallholder farmers market.
- The CONSAN (the National Council for Food Security and Nutrition) and the PNN (The National Nutrition Programme) will also be partnering with the WFP for the CSP implementation and will also benefit from capacity strengthening and coordination support.
- WFP is also partnering two with local and international NGOs.

Challenges

- Funds availability remains the main challenge for WFP STP.

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Main Photo
Credit: WFP/ Alice Occhilupo
Caption: Meeting at PNASE Headquarters to discuss and validate the workplan for the next five years.
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/sao-tome-and-principe

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024)		
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 Tome and Principe has strengthened capacity to implement an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender-transformative and smallholder-friendly home-grown school meals (HGSM) programme and related food security and nutrition policies and programmes nationwide by 2030.

Focus area: Root causes

Activity 1: Provide capacity strengthening (including through SSC) to the Government in the design, management and coordination of an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender-transformative and nutrition-sensitive HGSM programme and related FS&N policies and programmes (activity category: 4; modality: CS)

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Activity 2: Provide capacity strengthening and coordination support to the Government in providing incentives for sustainable and equitable local food value chains and stimulating smallholder agricultural markets (activity category: 7; modality: CS).