



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Sao Tome and Principe Country Brief

In Numbers

US\$ 0 six months (December 2019 – May 2020) net funding requirements

WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Operational Context

In 2017, the estimated GDP per capita in São Tomé and Príncipe amounted to around USD 1,785 and in 2019, World Bank estimates show that about one-third of the population lives on less than USD 1.9 per day, and more than two-thirds of the population is poor, using a poverty line of USD 3.2 per day.

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

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 crop development and road access as well as destroy houses and household assets.

WFP assistance is focused on strengthening capacities of the Government to implement the national sustainable home-grown school feeding programme, which reaches over 50,000 children attending schools (around 25 percent of total population), and in facilitating smallholder farmers' access to markets. WFP has been present in Sao Tome and Principe



Population: **0.2 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **137 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **17.2% of children between 6-59 months**

Operational Updates

- Representatives from the UN Resident Coordinator and WFP in Sao Tome and Principe (STP) held a courtesy meeting with the Prime Minister and the Minister of Agriculture, to present the activities implemented by WFP in 2019 and the plans for 2020. The Prime Minister thanked WFP for its continuous support to the Government and people of STP and reinforced the Government's commitment to contribute financially to the operationalization of WFP's Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2019-2024) in STP.
- As part of the capacity strengthening support WFP is providing to the Ministry of Education, IT equipment (including 11 computers) were handed-over to the National School Feeding and Health Programme (PNASE). This equipment will contribute to the operationalization of the logistics software system (SOL) newly-installed through WFP's financial support, thus contributing to improving the logistics and monitoring system of the PNASE, as well as the food transfer from the warehouses to school canteens.
- Technical support and capacity strengthening to the Ministries of Education and Agriculture, through the Rural Development Support Centre (CADR) for the latter, are ongoing for the implementation of the national school feeding programme (PNASE) and to improve smallholder farmers' access to markets.
- WFP will also be partnering with the National Council for Food Security and Nutrition (CONSAN) and the National Nutrition Programme (PNN) for the implementation of the CSP activities, providing coordination and capacity strengthening support.

Challenges

- Limited funds availability remains the main challenge for WFP in Sao Tome and Principe in implementing planned capacity strengthening activities.

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

Main photo: Credit: WFP/Edna Peres

Caption: WFP visit to school canteens in the South of Sao Tome Island.

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024)		
2019 Total Requirement (in USD)	2019 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
0.1 m	0.2 m	0 m

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

Strategic Outcome 1: 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

Activities:

- 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.
- 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.