



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Timor-Leste Country Brief December 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.



The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Population: **1.3 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **132 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

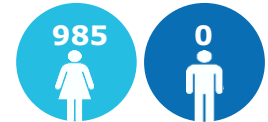
Chronic malnutrition: **50% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

5.9 mt of food distributed

US\$ 0.79 m six months (January – June 2020) net funding requirements

985 people assisted in December 2019



## Operational Updates

- Based on remote sensing data, WFP released its [second climate monitoring report](#) (as of 19 December 2019) with concerned ministries and development partners. The report found that across Timor-Leste, 36% (210,000 ha) of cropland falls under the category of severe to extreme drought. Lautem is also considered as having suffered a very long drought with more than 30 days without rainfall, affecting 40,000 people in the municipality.
- WFP and UNICEF supported the development of the 2020 National Nutrition Work Plan and participated in the Nutrition Annual Review organised by the Ministry of Health.
- In coordination with the Ministry of Health, WFP is finalizing a social and behaviour change communication video on adolescent nutrition, which will be used in schools throughout the country.
- WFP in collaboration with the Australian-funded program TOMAK and Care International, distributed a special edition of Lafaek Magazine (adolescents nutrition) throughout schools in the country. This edition aims to encourage behaviour change towards better nutrition among adolescents boys and girls.
- WFP supported the development of a rice fortification roadmap, led by the National Council for Food Security and Sovereignty and Nutrition in Timor-Leste (KONSSANTIL). This roadmap contributes to how rice fortification will be implemented in the country.
- WFP participated in the [21st Global Child Nutrition Forum](#) in Cambodia, together with representatives from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. During this forum, 300 participants from over 50 countries including Timor-Leste, shared about best practices and challenges in school feeding.
- WFP drafted the concept note and technical agreement for a pilot of the home grown school feeding programme. These documents will be reviewed with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Agriculture and schools by the end of January 2020.

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

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>16.97 m</b>	<b>5.1 m</b>	<b>0.79 m</b>

**Priority Under Activity 1: Nutrition and Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC)**

**Interventions:**

1. Support the Ministry of Health to promote Moderate Acute Malnutrition programming (including Simplified Protocol, Evaluation of Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme and Ready to Use Supplementary Feeding programming).
2. Policy support to the MoH for SBCC Manual and National SBCC Strategy
3. Production of ICE Materials (videos, posters, magazines, games, etc.) to combat adolescent and child malnutrition

**Priority Under Activity 2: Nutrition policy through Filling Data Gaps**

**Interventions:**

1. Finalization and distribution of the FNG/CotD research to key policymakers and stakeholders to inform policy around social safety nets.
2. Increase consumption of fortified foods through SBCC, policy change and rigorous research.

**Priority Under Activity 3: Strengthening Nutrition related Social Safety Nets**

**Interventions:**

1. Provide capacity development of development partners and Government ministries on informed safety net programming.
2. To support the development of effective safety net systems (i.e., School Feeding Programme, Food Vouchers, etc.) for the most vulnerable populations.
3. Introducing innovative tools and solutions for achieving effective safety net programs.

**Priority Under Activity 4: Assuring an effective Emergency Response and Logistic network in Timor-Leste**

**Interventions:**

1. Developing Emergency Response and Logistic capacities in the country relating to conflict, natural disaster and climate change through governmental capacity strengthening, policy creation, and introducing innovative tools to support capacities and programmes.

**Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition**

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Children under five, adolescent girls and pregnant and breastfeeding 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.

**Monitoring**

- WFP conducted joint monitoring with the Ministry of Health for the social behaviour change communication activities in Covalima Municipality.

**Challenges**

- Chronic underfunding of the CSP 2018-2020 affected project implementation, particularly in treatment and prevention of malnutrition, and improving nutrition for children, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and adolescent girls. An influx of funding in Q4 2019 has helped implementation plans for 2020.
- WFP is facing delays in formalizing partnership agreements with several line ministries and other national institutions. This is hampering implementation of critical activities in the safety net program, emergency preparedness and response.

**Donors**

Government of Timor-Leste, Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), SRAC/Multilateral Contributions, China and Japan