



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Sao Tome and Principe

Country Brief

January 2020



Operational Context

In 2019, the estimated GDP per capita in São Tomé and Príncipe (STP) amounted to around USD 2,040 and recent 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. Meanwhile, STP ranked 137 out of 189 countries in the 2018 Human Development Index and above the Sub-Saharan Africa average.

In the past decade, the country has made considerable progress in reducing child mortality and malnutrition, and in improving maternal health. However, in 2014, it was estimated that 17.2 percent of children aged 6-59 months were stunted, 8.8 percent were underweight, and 4 percent were wasted.

With STP 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 facilitating smallholder farmers' access to markets and strengthening capacities of the Government to implement the national sustainable home-grown school feeding programme, which reaches over 50,000 school children (around 25 percent of total population). WFP has been present in Sao Tome and Principe since 1976.



Population: **197,700**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

In Numbers

45% of 2020 needs-based plan funded

Operational Updates

- As part of the capacity strengthening support WFP is providing to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development, on 27 January, 40 agricultural extensionists from the Centre of support to smallholder Farmers and Rural Development (CADR) from all districts of the country were trained in January. Each extensionist received a certificate for the completion of two training sessions on sustainable agriculture and good agricultural practices. WFP participated in presenting the trainees with their certificates at the ceremony, which was forecasted on national TV and radio.
- On 22 January, WFP held a technical meeting with representatives from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Ministry of Education through the National School Feeding and Health programme (PNASE), the National Nutrition Programme (PNN), the National Institute of Statistics and the NGO HELPO. The meeting's objective was to discuss about the implementation of the joint assessment to conduct on the nutritional status of school children (boys and girls) aged 6 to 14 years. The planned pilot project will allow the Government, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders to have access to accurate data on the nutritional status of school children benefiting from the school feeding programme in Sao Tome and Principe. This nutritional evaluation is planned to be conducted between April and June 2020.

Partnerships

- The National School Feeding and Health Programme (PNASE), the National Council for Food Security and Nutrition (CONSAN) and the Centre of Support to Smallholder Farmers and for Rural Development (CADR) remain WFP's main partners in Sao Tome and Principe.
- WFP is also partnering with two local and international NGOs to implement the CSP activities.

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Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Sao Tome

Caption: Children walking and playing on the street

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024)		
2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
0.2 m	0.1 m	0 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*

- 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