



World Food Programme

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# WFP Guinea-Bissau Country Brief January 2020

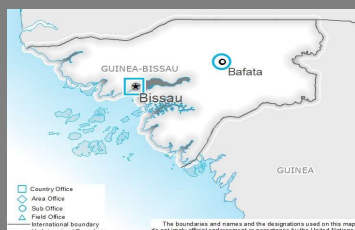


## Operational Context

Forty-five years of political instability have deeply constrained socio-economic and human development. More than two-thirds of the population live below the poverty line, and due to the gender bias in accessing resources, poverty impacts women more than men.

While legislative and presidential elections in 2014 after the coup d'état in 2012, ended the Transition Government and ushered in the democratically chosen President and Prime Minister, the political instability began again in August 2015, with a dismissal of the Prime Minister, and continued throughout the presidential mandate, which appointed eight Prime Ministers and dismissed four. The country held successful legislative elections in March 2019 establishing a new Government, which successfully organized Presidential elections on 24 November and 29 December 2019 without violent incidents. However, the result is currently being disputed. The outgoing President is the first one who has served a full five-year term and the country waits for the first peaceful handover.

WFP focuses on capacity strengthening of government institutions and builds synergies with national partners to optimize mutually supportive interventions that are part of an integrated strategy around home-grown school feeding, resilience, stunting prevention and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) treatment, emergency preparedness and responses. WFP mainstreams the corporate gender policy across its activities, and the gender analysis study conducted in early 2016 guided Country Strategic Plan (CSP) formulation, which is aligned with the country's "Terra Ranka" development strategy and Zero Hunger Strategic Review approved by the Government in Jan 2019. WFP has been present in Guinea-Bissau since 1974.



Population: **1.9million**

2018 Human Development Index: **178 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low income**

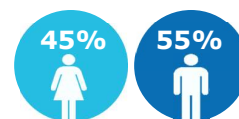
Chronic malnutrition: **27.6% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**198 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 7.3 m** six months net funding requirements

**180,189 people assisted**  
in January 2020



## Operational Updates

- WFP distributed 167,885 mt of food to 865 schools and reached 175,249 school children in eight regions with daily hot meals.
- WFP continued the distribution of 1.503 mt of premixed nutritious foods to 353 children aged 6 to 59 months under treatment for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in 42 nutritional recovery centres in Oio, Bafatá, and Gabu, three regions with the highest stunting rate in the country. Each child received 200g per day of nutritious food for 90 days.
- WFP distributed 28mt of premixed nutritious foods to 4,587 children aged 6 to 23 months through its stunting prevention programme also in Oio, Bafatá, and Gabu. The individual ration is the same as that of MAM above.
- WFP in collaboration with the Ministry of Education trained 14 headmasters and members from 32 school management committees on the management of the school feeding programme and warehouse procedures.
- WFP organised a workshop, in partnership with a national NGO, ALTERNAG, to disseminate results and recommendations from the study on "*HIV-sensitive social protection to identify social barriers to access treatment*" in the Oio region and Bissau. The event raised awareness among regional health officials on how to overcome social, cultural, physical, and economic barriers preventing people living with HIV (PLHIV) in accessing social services.
- In close partnership with the NGO ALTERNAG, WFP produced and distributed the Nutritional Support Guide for PLHIV and communication materials in antiretroviral treatment centres. WFP and ALTERNAG organized trainings on implementation of the Guide in Bafata, Gabu, Tombali and Quinara regions and 74 regional health officials attended the trainings.

**Contact info:** Marco Principi ([marco.principi@wfp.org](mailto:marco.principi@wfp.org))

**Country Director:** Kiyomi Kawaguchi

Further information: <http://www.wfp.org/countries/guinea-bissau>

**Main Photo**

Credit: WFP/Renata Lobo

Caption: Beneficiaries of the School Feeding Program in Guinea Bissau, Oio region.



**Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024)**

Total Requirement 2019 (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>5.9 m</b>	<b>2.7 m</b>	<b>7.3 m*</b>

**Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food**

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Crisis-affected populations in Guinea-Bissau are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements in the aftermath of shock.

**Focus area:** *Crisis response*

**Activities:**

- Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations and strengthen the capacity of and coordination among national partners in responding to crises as a contingency measure

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

**Strategic Outcome 2:** School-age children in Guinea-Bissau have access to nutritious meals during the school year

**Focus area:** *Root causes*

**Activities:**

- Provide nutritious school meals to pre- and primary schoolchildren and take-home rations for girls in years 5 and 6 and strengthen the capacities of the Government and partners at the central and local levels to implement and monitor a nutrition-sensitive and gender-transformative school feeding programme

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Populations at risk of malnutrition in Guinea-Bissau, particularly children, women and girls of reproductive age and people living with HIV, have improved nutrition status in line with national targets by 2024

**Focus area:** *Root causes*

**Activities:**

- Support the implementation of the national nutrition policy and the protocol for the integrated prevention of stunting and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition focusing on the provision of support for policy design and gender and age-informed implementation, technical assistance and capacity strengthening to the Ministry of Public Health, Family and Social Cohesion; social and behaviour change communication, the prevention of stunting among children aged 6–23 months, the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition among children aged 6–59 months, and food and nutrition assistance to people living with HIV and their households

**Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes**

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Smallholder farmers in Guinea-Bissau, particularly women and young people, have improved livelihoods and increased household incomes by 2024

**Focus area:** *Resilience building*

- Provide an integrated package of assistance interventions to associations of women and young smallholder farmers that comprises nutrition and literacy education, training in basic business skills, sensitization to their rights to adequate food and nutrition, market access through the school feeding programme and the transfer of knowledge on the optimization of agricultural value chains

**Strategic Result 4: Countries strengthened capacities**

**Strategic outcome 5:** National institutions and legislators in Guinea-Bissau have enhanced capacity in and are accountable for the development, implementation and monitoring of evidence-based food security and nutrition policies and programmes by 2030

**Focus area:** *Root causes*

**Activities:**

- Provide an integrated package of assistance interventions to associations of women and young smallholder farmers that comprises nutrition and literacy education, training in basic business skills, sensitization to their rights to adequate food and nutrition, market access through the school feeding programme and the transfer of knowledge on the optimization of agricultural value chains

**Monitoring**

- WFP completed reconciliation of dispatched and distributed commodities between LESS and COMET from September to December 2019. Findings confirmed the non-reconciled balance in 2019 was negligible.

**Challenges**

- The ongoing political instability continues to be a major challenge involving multiple risks. The strike may hinder health, education, agriculture and social services if prolonged. For instance, one of the WFP and Ministry of Agriculture implemented resilience activities has been on hold until the strike is resolved.
- Current stocks of rice, beans, and vegetable oil, in-kind contribution, will be fully consumed by March 2020. WFP seeks additional cash and in-kind donations to ensure continued support to school feeding through the end of 2020 feeding 180,000 schoolchildren in 874 primary schools across the eight regions of Guinea-Bissau.

**Donors**

European Commission, United Nations Peacebuilding Fund