



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Togo Country Brief May 2020



Operational Context

Togo is a West African low-income country with a population of 8.2 million people, of whom 60 percent live in rural areas and 40.4 percent are under 15.

With an overall poverty rate of 53.5 percent, 69 percent of rural households are living below the poverty line. About half of the population is affected by food insecurity, which is higher in rural areas (71 percent) than in urban areas (38.4 percent). The underlying causes of food insecurity are low productivity, soil degradation, irregular rains, post-harvest losses, and cyclical climate shocks such as flooding and droughts.

As per 2017 MICS Survey, 5.7 percent of children aged 6-59 months were suffering from acute malnutrition.

In 2019, HIV prevalence among adults aged 15-49 years was at 2.08 percent. An estimated 113,800 people were living with HIV/AIDS, including 76,230 patients under antiretroviral therapy of whom women account for 72 percent.

In Togo, the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed on 6 March 2020. As of 31 May 2020, the total number of confirmed cases reached 442, including 13 deaths.

WFP has been present in Togo since 1968.



Population: 8.2 million

2018 Human Development Index: **167 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower**

Chronic malnutrition: **23.8% of children between 6-59 months**

Operational Updates

WFP Togo has been operating three main projects focused on crisis response and resilience building activities.

United Nations SDG 2030 FUND

- Through the UN SDG 2030 Fund, WFP Togo aims to improve the quality and quantities of food production from smallholder farmers and food processors to better response to the requirements of internal and external food markets, including school canteens.
- A memorandum of understanding (MoU) and a field level agreement (FLA) were signed with the Ministry of agriculture, animal and fishery production to coordinate the implementation of the activities with other involved ministries, particularly the Ministry of primary and secondary education and the Ministry of grassroot development, in charge of the Government-run school canteens programme.
- WFP has provided technical and financial assistance to food systems actors to conduct the mapping of smallholder farmers' organizations, undertake a comprehensive needs assessment and prepare a capacity strengthening plan.

WFP Immediate Response Account (IRA) for Emergency preparedness activity in Togo

- This crisis response operation is aiming to strengthen the capacity of the national actors in charge of risks reduction and management and the National agency for civil protection (ANPC) in emergency preparedness and response measures.
- Through the IRA funding, WFP supported the ANPC and humanitarian partners including the Red Cross to elaborate and validate a common tool on humanitarian needs data collection in emergency. Around one hundred national actors (95 people) from the Savannah, Kara and Central regions in northern Togo were trained on joint rapid assessment of humanitarian needs after crisis. The preparedness activity included the mapping of food storage prepositioning capacities in the vulnerable Savannah and Kara regions, in preparation of emergency food assistance operations.

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Photo Caption: The Prefect of Tône Department opening the training workshop on rapid humanitarian needs assessment organized by WFP in Dapaong, Togo.

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) *
Name of Operation: United Nations SDG 2030 Fund			
Project Duration: Nov. 2019 – Aug. 2020	0.27 m	0.27 m (100%)	0 m (0%)
Name of Operation: Immediate Response Account for Emergency Activity			
Project Duration: Nov 2019 – Feb. 2020	0.55 m	0.55 m (100%)	0 m (0%)
Name of Operation: UNCT Food assistance to people affected by 2019 floods			
Project Duration: January – March 2020	0.35 m	0.35 m (100%)	0 m (0%)

UNCT Food assistance to people affected by floods in Togo maritime region

- WFP contributed to food assistance support deployed by the UN Country Team towards the populations in the Togo maritime region who were affected by floods and the overflowing of the Mono river in late 2019.
- Faced with COVID-19 restrictive measures, the situation of these households worsened and the need for food safety assistance in the form of food and cash transfer appeared necessary, as requested by the Ministry of Agriculture in the national COVID-19 response plan.

Monitoring COVID19

- In response to the request received from the Ministry of Agriculture to gather quality data on food and nutrition indicators in Togo and assess the impact of COVID-19 on the population's food security and livelihoods, WFP will conduct a data collection survey within 2,180 households and analyse the results to produce a report informing the government decision-making process on security and nutrition indicators in Togo.

Challenges

- The restrictive and preventive measures put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic have severely affected the field activities planned under the SDG 2030 project. An extension of the project duration was requested until August 2020.
- The security situation in the Central Sahel region has been rapidly deteriorating, due to the expansion of non-State armed groups and growing inter-ethnics tensions. The risk of a spill-over to coastal countries is very high and violent attacks have already occurred in the norther regions of Togo. The situation could potentially lead to internal population displacements, reduction of livelihoods activities and inaccessibility of transit/supply routes due to insecurity.

Launch of a new Limited Emergency Operations (LEO) framework

- WFP Togo will enter in July 2020 a 'Limited Emergency Operations' framework that will allow the country office to implement operations in response to the immediate needs of COVID-19 crisis-affected population and to provide critical common services to national humanitarian actors.

Donors

UN 2030 SDG Fund, OCHA Emergency Cash Grant, WFP-IRA