



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Guinea Country Brief July 2020

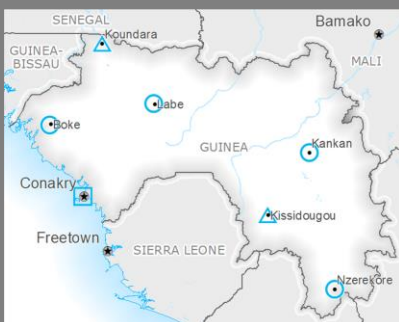


## Operational Context

The Guinean economy is dependent largely on mining and agriculture. However, low productivity, poor farming techniques and significant post-harvest losses undermine the agricultural sector, while poor road infrastructure hinders access to markets. Moreover, Guinea faces major socio-economic and political challenges. Poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition rates are alarming, especially in rural areas. On average, 55 percent of the Guinean population live below the poverty line and more than 21 percent of households are food insecure. The nutritional situation of children remains precarious; 6.1 percent of children aged 6-59 months suffer from global acute malnutrition (of whom 1.7 percent are severely affected) and 24.4 percent of children aged 6-59 months suffer from stunting.

WFP targets vulnerable groups of people in the four regions of Guinea particularly in rural areas, in order to improve food security, reduce malnutrition, enhance resilience and contribute to improve education achievements, all while contributing towards the achievement of SDG 2 and 17 and aligning with national priorities (PNDES 2016-2020) with a special focus on women and youth. The approach also aims to increase national ownership through institutional capacity strengthening.

In Guinea, the first COVID-19 case was detected on 12 March 2020, and the outbreak has affected more than 7,000 people with 46 deaths as of end July 2020. Beyond the immediate effect on public health, the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on food security, nutrition and livelihoods are already visible among the most vulnerable people, particularly the poorest households, casual labourers and petty traders. Loss of income and comparatively restricted market access are among the principal causes of food insecurity. According to the 2020 March cadre harmonisé, 267,170 people are food insecure and WFP estimates an additional 613,571 people to be food insecure by the end of 2020 due to the socio-economic effects of COVID-19. WFP has been present in Guinea since 1964.



Population: **13.4 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **174 out of 189**

Income Level: **Low income**

Chronic malnutrition: **24.4% of children aged 6-59 months**

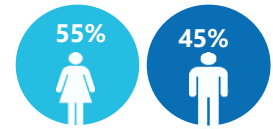
## In Numbers

**1,062 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 89,507** cash-based transfers made

**USD 11.2 m** six months (August 2020- January 2021) net funding requirements

**127,926 people** assisted in July 2020



## Operational Updates

- **Crisis response activities:** In response to the lean season through the RESIGUI project, food distribution and cash transfers to 100,000 food insecure people (20,000 households) is scheduled to start in August 2020.
- In line with the national strategy “STOP COVID-19 in 60 days”, since June 2020, targeting 3,000 households directly affected by COVID-19 in Conakry, including infected people, contact persons and confined families, WFP continued distribution, reaching 1,965 people (393 households) with 19.7 mt of food in July. In total, WFP has distributed 46.1 mt of food to 4,605 people (921 households).
- On 24 July 2020, the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) a joint WFP, UNICEF and WHO project, in collaboration with the ministry of social affairs, was launched on 24 July 2020. The project targets 12,563 vulnerable people, mainly those working in the informal sector with inadequate access to basic social services in the regions most affected by COVID-19 (Conakry, Boke and Kankan). Food distribution is scheduled to start in August.
- In July, WFP signed a tripartite agreement with the *Agence Nationale d'Inclusion Economique et Sociale (ANIES)* and the *International Trade Centre (ITC)*. Within this framework, emergency food assistance to 25,000 vulnerable households affected by the socio-economic effects of COVID-19 began in Conakry.
- **Resilience activities:** WFP provided seeds and fertilizers to 38 farmer organisations, reaching a total of 1,565 smallholder farmers in the regions of Boké, Kankan, Kissidougou, Guéckédou and N'Zérékoré to enhance soil fertility and productivity. Targeted farmers organisations received training on internal governance, simplified fund and equipment management and good agricultural practices. In addition, community management committees, which were set up in the 38 communities, were trained on assets maintenance.
- Through its food assistance for assets (FFA) activities, WFP provided **USD 89,507 cash transfers to 861 people** amongst the 957 smallholder farmers (of whom, 456 are women) that participated in the rehabilitation work of 56.7 ha agricultural land, launched in March 2020 in the region of Nzerekore, Kankan, Faranah and Boke. Each of the 861 beneficiary and their families received an amount of GNF 972,000 (USD 104) for a period of 48 days worked, assisting a total of 4,305 people.
- Since June 2020, WFP has been providing materials including sewing machine, local iron, cotton cloths, moulds, barrels and petroleum to 2,302 artisans, who also received technical trainings for the production and distribution of local masks and soaps. The country office provided chlorine solutions and installed hand-washing kits in the same communities. This USD 400,000 assistance targeted the region of Boké, Kankan, N'zérékoré and Faranah.

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**Main Photo**

**Credit:** WFP/Kadijah Savane

**Caption:** Soap making and distribution in vulnerable communities

## Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	2020 Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
22.4 m	2.4 m	11.2 m

## Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Food-insecure populations, including pre- and primary school-aged children, in targeted areas have access to adequate and nutritious food all year round

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Crisis-affected populations in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of a crisis

**Focus area:** Crisis Response

## Activities:

- Provide nutritious school meals to pre- and primary school children, including take home rations for girls prioritizing local purchase and strengthening partners' capacities
- Provide an integrated emergency food and nutrition assistance including SBCC and livelihood support to crisis-affected populations.

## Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Nutritionally vulnerable populations including children, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLW/Gs), HIV/TB antiretroviral therapy (ART) clients, people living with disability and orphans in Guinea, have improved nutritional status by 2030

**Focus area:** Root Causes

## Activities:

- Support beneficiaries through the provision of specialized nutritious food and integrated programmes including SBCC, and strengthen partner's capacities to prevent and treat all forms of malnutrition

## Strategic Result 4: Sustainable food systems

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Food insecure and climate-affected populations, including smallholder farmers, youth and women in targeted areas have improved their livelihood sources, have more efficient and inclusive value chains and resilient food systems by 2030.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

## Activities:

- Provide climate-resilient livelihood support to targeted groups to sustainably increase and diversify their role along the food value chain, strengthen access to markets including in relation to school meals/HGSF and improve food handling and processing

## Strategic Result 5: Countries Strengthening

**Strategic Outcome 5:** National institutions have enhanced capacities to manage food security and nutrition, social protection and disaster risk management systems by 2030.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

## Activities:

- Deliver capacity strengthening support to national institutions and other partners including through South-South Cooperation on the design and implementation of social protection, emergency preparedness and response, disaster risk management and supply chain systems

• **School Feeding:** WFP provided school meals to 14,537 children in 6<sup>th</sup> grade as they prepared for the national exam (entry in high school). A three-months take-home rations was also provided to 135,463 children staying at home because of school closures, and their families, with 735.36 mt of food consisting of rice, vegetable oil, beans, salt and super cereals.

• **Nutrition:** WFP provided moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) treatment through food and nutritious assistance to 1,047 children aged 6-59 months and 216 pregnant and lactating women and girls in Conakry, Kankan, Boké, Labé, Nzerekore and Faranah. It also provided assistance to 267 people living with HIV and their households in Conakry, reaching a total of 1,335 people.

• Through its first 1,000 days project for the prevention of chronic malnutrition in the prefecture of Labe and Kouroussa, WFP provided specialized nutritious foods to 2,446 children aged 6-23 months and hygiene kits (soap and chlorine solution) to 2,411 pregnant and lactating women and girls accompanied by awareness raising campaigns on good hygiene, food and nutrition practices as well as COVID-19 preventive measures.

## Monitoring

• An overall price increase of 35.7 percent vs 2019 was reported on fresh food products (aubergines, pepper tomatoes, carrots) and 25 percent for rice. Serious risks of food shortage and increasingly restricted access to food if measures are maintained will impact food and nutrition security. According to a recent survey on the impact of COVID-19, overall 73 percent urban households confirmed that the pandemic had affected their diet (vs 71 percent for rural households); 74 percent households indicated that they could not afford food and 61 percent households indicated that lack of money affected their diet. Perspectives are worrying if restriction measures were to remain until the end of the year. (*Enquête d'Impact de Covid-19 sur les ménages et entreprises en Guinée conduite par le ministère de l'économie en juin 2020*).

## Resource Mobilisation

- WFP Guinea has recently completed the first budget revision of its Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) 2019-2022, increasing the funding amount from 40.3 million to USD 56.4 million and increasing the number of beneficiaries by 300,000.
- The European Union recently committed EUR 8 million to support WFP Guinea through a 16-months project, "RESIGUI," targeting 100,000 food insecure people (20,000 households) in eight prefectures (Boke, Labe, Lelouma, Siguiri, Kankan, Macenta, Guekedou and Nzerekore) through a humanitarian-development nexus approach that entails crisis response, recovery and resilience strengthening.
- In collaboration with FAO and OHCDH, WFP Guinea secured a USD 1.02 m grant from the UN Peacebuilding Fund, to support a project in Nzerekore, Guinea's forest region. Proposals were submitted to China and Japan and are in development for UN-wide funds. Local outreach continues with the UK, USA and other donor governments.

## Donors

Donors to WFP Guinea in 2020 include Japan, Republic of Korea. Additional support has been provided by the COVID-19 Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) and European Union (DEVCO).