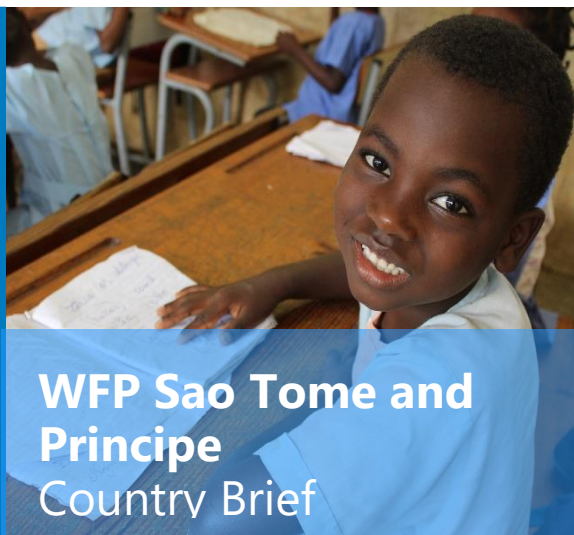




World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Sao Tome and Principe Country Brief

In Numbers

USD 0.3 m six months (December 2020 – May 2021) net funding requirements

WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Operational Context

In 2019, the estimated GDP per capita in São Tomé and Príncipe (STP) amounted to around USD 2,001. 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.

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 suffering from wasting.

The 2018 Human Development Index value of 0.609 puts the country in the medium human development category, ranking 137 out of 189 countries and above the Sub-Saharan Africa average.

With Sao Tome 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 single 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 strengthening capacities of the Government to implement the national sustainable home-grown school feeding programme, which reaches over 50,000 children attending schools (around 25 percent of total population) and facilitating smallholder farmers' access to markets.

Sao Tome and Principe confirmed its first case of COVID-19 on 6 April 2020. As of 30 November, a total of 991 COVID-19 cases was reported and 17 people died from the pandemic (WHO).

WFP has been present in Sao Tome and Principe since 1976.



Population: **215,056**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

Operational Updates

- WFP delegation headed by the Officer-in-Charge visited the Autonomous Region of Principe and met with the President of the Regional Government, Mr Filipe Santos, to discuss about the impact of COVID-19 on food security situation of the local population. The Autonomous Region of Principe is one of the most remote locations in the country and in the African Continent with approximately 9,000 inhabitants and with an economy reliant on tourism. The pandemic had a tremendous impact in the livelihood of the population, particularly the most vulnerable.
- Within the scope of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) project "ensuring the access for the most vulnerable households to food, their conservation infrastructure and better working conditions during the Covid-19 pandemic", to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the pandemic in the country, WFP, in partnership with national and international NGOs, held a training on school gardening and sustainable agricultural techniques to 32 schools in six districts of the country. In partnership with FAO, ILO and UNHABITAT, WFP also delivered agricultural materials, seeds and plants to the targeted beneficiaries.
- The 16-days of activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) were also part of the agenda of the National Institute for Gender Parity and Equality (INPG). To that effect, WFP offered posters to the INPG and joined the workshops and the sensitization campaigns organized in different districts of the country. Additionally, WFP led an internal campaign in the UN House, sensitizing the staff of the different UN agencies about GBV and distributing 2021 calendars with GBV messages.

Partnerships

- The National School Feeding and Health Programme (PNASE), the National Council for Food Security and Nutrition (CONSAN) and the National Centre for Supporting Smallholder Farmers (CADR) remain WFP STP's main partners.
- WFP is also partnering with UNICEF for the reopening of the schools, local and International NGOs, namely HELPO and ADAPPA for the MPTF project and the African Development Bank for the database and information management system for the Ministry of Agriculture.

Challenges

- Funds availability remains the main challenge for WFP STP. The country strategic plan's country capacity strengthening activities focused on implementing an innovative home-grown school feeding programme linked to smallholder farmers market remain underfunded.

Donors

Support to WFP Sao Tome and Principe CSP in 2020 has been provided by the UN COVID-19 Multi-Partner Trust Fund and the Global Partnership for Education Fund.

Contact info: Edna Peres (edna.peres@wfp.org)

Country Director: Wanja Kaaria

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/sao-tome-and-principe

Main Photo

Credit: Jorcilina Correia

Caption: Children at school after the reopening of the school year

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024)

2020 Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
0.3 m	0.12 m	0.3 m

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement SDGs

Strategic Outcome 1: 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.

Strategic Result 1: Access to food

Strategic (Outcome 2): Crisis-affected populations including school children in targeted areas are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of crisis.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations through in-kind transfers.