

Sao Tome and Principe Annual Country Report 2020



Country Strategic Plan 2019 - 2024

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2020 Overview

WFP Sao Tome and Principe has been repositioning itself to ensure **prompt alignment to the Government's agenda**, the Zero Hunger Strategic Review report (ZHSR) and national needs, along with ensuring strategic response to unexpected challenges and capacity gaps identified by the main national and regional actors.

Over the years, WFP has transitioned its role as a direct implementer of the school feeding programme and food assistance and nutrition interventions to an advisor of the Government, leading consultations with the Government and other partners regarding food security, nutrition, school meals and smallholder agriculture. WFP focuses on **strengthening national capacities** to enable them implement sustainable solutions for addressing food insecurity and drive full government ownership in the areas of school feeding and smallholder's agriculture.

The Country Strategic Plan (CSP) was approved in June 2019 and revised in 2020 following Government requests for WFP to support the national COVID-19 response plans. The revision facilitated the addition of a new strategic outcome focusing on **meeting the food and nutrition needs of crisis-affected populations**, contributing to SDG target 2.1. WFP together with the Government and partners provided food assistance for 19,287 children from 127 schools located in four national districts (Cantagalo, Lobata, Lemba and Caue) and the autonomous region of Principe (RAP).

WFP capacity strengthening activities were aligned to SDG target 17.9, aiming to galvanise partnerships and coordination, and enhance national capacities to implement Sustainable development goals (SDGs). In 2020, WFP's priority was to **reinforce national and international partnerships**. WFP strengthened its partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE); the National School Feeding and Health programme (PNASE); the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development (MAFRD); the National Support Center for Rural Development (CADR); and the National Council for Food Security and Nutrition (CONSAN). WFP also reinforced collaboration with other development partners including UN agencies and international non-governmental organisations (INGOs). WFP also played a crucial role in the coordination of humanitarian air flights to Sao Tome and Principe during closure of the country borders.

Despite the WFP strategic and programmatic challenges and the COVID-19 outbreak that hit the country in 2020, resulting in an unprecedent **socio-economic crisis**, WFP was able to provide country capacity strengthening support to the main Government counterparts (PNASE, CADR and CONSAN) and to successfully implement some activities planned for 2020.

WFP supported PNASE to finalise the **revision of the School Feeding Law**, which is expected to strengthen the Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSFP) programme by strengthening community ownership, sustainable financing, and integration of nutrition and food security. WFP working in collaboration with CONSAN and the National Nutrition Programme (PNN) increased its advocacy on food security and nutrition through awareness-raising campaigns on the importance of investing in food security and nutrition national programmes.

To support **smallholder initiatives**, WFP provided a training course for CADR rural agriculture extension officers and 600 vulnerable households on sustainable agricultural techniques, under the MPTF project.

Gender was mainstreamed in all WFP interventions, particularly during the COVID-19 outbreak. WFP supported the Government in ensuring food security of vulnerable households, with focus on female-headed households who were most affected by the socio-economic impact of the pandemic.

Insufficient funding remained one of the major strategic risks for WFP Sao Tome and Principe. The reinforcement of national consultations with the Government and local authorities and investments in advocacy, and Country Strategic Plan (CSP) internal and external visibility were the main mitigation measures adopted in 2020. Reinforcing partnerships with other UN agencies, government donors and international financial institutions (IFIs) is one of the main priorities and way forward to secure stable financing for CSP activities for 2021 and beyond.

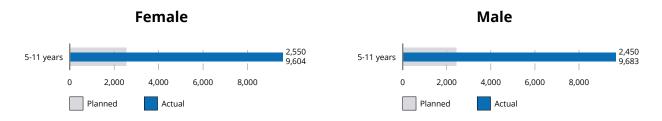
19,287



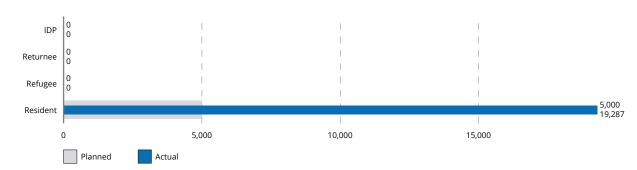


Total Beneficiaries in 2020

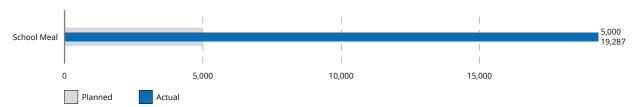
Beneficiaries by Sex and Age Group



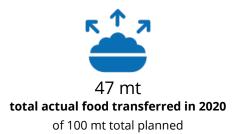
Beneficiaries by Residence Status



Beneficiaries by Programme Area

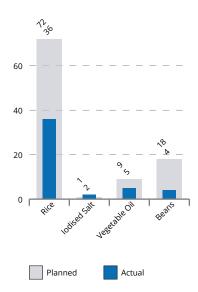


Total Food and CBT

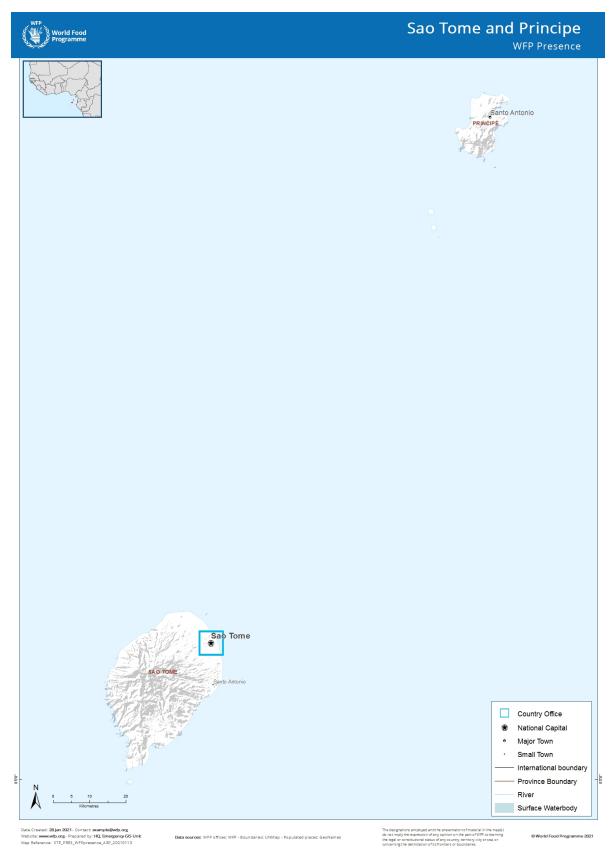




Annual Food Transfer



Context and operations & COVID-19 response



Sao Tome is a small Island Developing State (SIDS) located in the Gulf of Guinea and comprises an archipelago of two main islands, Sao Tome and Principe, situated about 140 km apart. It is a **middle income country** with a population that has grown on average by 2.17 percent per annum over the last decade to a total of 215,000 inhabitants. Over half of Sao Tome and Principe's population is female (50.5 percent) and more than one third of households are headed by women.



Notable progress has been achieved in terms of human development in recent years, especially with regards to health and education indicators. In 2019, Sao Tome and Principe ranked 137 out of 189 countries in the Human Development Index (HDI), placing the country above average for Sub-Saharan Africa, and falling in the medium human development category. These achievements have led the country to be enlisted for LDC graduation status by 2024.

Despite the progress, poverty rates remain high and the country still faces challenges to achieve the Sustainbale Development goals (SDGs) and an inclusive economic and social growth. One-third of the population still lives on less than USD1.9 per day, and more than two-thirds of the population is poor. The unemployment rates in 2020 have increased compared to the previous years mainly due to the **socio-econimic impact of COVID-19** with women and young people disproportionately affected.

Severe **food insecurity** is a concern due to high unemployment rates compounded by the country's geographical location and the reduced workforce which prevents the production of food in quantities needed to meet the markets demand. The reliance on food imports and the high food market prices makes it difficult for the households, particularly the most vulnerable, to meet their food and nutritional needs. Around 10 percent of families reported in 2020 that at least one family member had to skip a full day of meals due to lack of money. Food affordability remains a challenge, with 42 percent of households reporting experiences of food shortages for a few months of the year, and 26 percent declaring that they experience food shortages for almost the entire year.

Over the years, WFP has repositioned itself as the **strategic partner of the Government** to address the food security and nutrition challenges with focus on school children. This has played a key role in saving lives and changing lives of thousands of Santomeans. WFP's Country Strategic Plan 2019-2024 is fully aligned with the Government's development agenda and SDGs 2 (zero hunger) and 17 (partnerships). Working towards SDG 17 WFP's strategic outcome 1 is committed to strengthening the capacity of the Government to implement a sustainable school feeding programme linked to smallholders' market and to promote food and nutrition security. In 2020, WFP introduced strategic outcome 2 which focuses on supporting crisis-affected populations to meet their basic food and nutritional needs during and in the aftermath of the crisis.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

Sao Tome and Príncipe has been severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, with first cases reported in March 2020. Although the full impact of the pandemic is not yet known in the medium-long term, its socio-economic impact will be devastating, especially for small island states heavily dependent on external support, as is the case with Sao Tome and Principe. The state of emergency was declared on 20 March 2020 by the President of Republic. The Government adopted several preventive measures affecting the different sectors including the education sector with the **closure of all 209 schools** in the country and the suspension of the school feeding programme.

WFP was requested by the Government of Sao Tome and Principe to support the implementation of the national contingency plan. In this context, **WFP undertook a budget revision** of its CSP to facilitate the scale-up of its operations. The budget, which was approved in July 2020, added an activity to the CSP which focused on crisis response. Through this, WFP was able to mobilize additional resources and to reprioritize programming and operational approaches to support the Government in its efforts to address the new reality and to assist the vulnerable population during and in the aftermath of the crisis.

With the closure of schools and the suspension of the school feeding programme between March and September 2020, WFP, in partnership with the National School Feeding Programme (PNASE), **provided food assistance in the modality of alternative take-home rations** to more than 5,000 vulnerable children identified by the Ministry of Education that were in urgent need of food assistance and at risk of food insecurity. Between October and December 2020, with the reopening of the schools, WFP purchased food from local markets and delivered to the National School Feeding Programme as part of the back to school campaign implemented in partnership with UNICEF. In addition, WFP provided financial and technical support to the Ministry of Agriculture in the nationwide agricultural and fisheries mapping exercise and support for local food production, aiming at ensuring the food security of the population, with focus on the most vulnerable.

With the closure of the country borders between March and August 2020, WFP **led the logistical coordinatio**n of the humanitarian flights to Sao Tome and Principe. Tons of medical supplies and equipment were transported to the country through the humanitarian corridor, along with humanitarian personnel to support the Government's response to the pandemic.

In addition, WFP in **collaboration with other UN agencies and development partners**, prepared a COVID-19 Response Plan to address the country's needs and conducted a COVID-19 socio-economic impact assessment (SEIA) to collect and analyze data that will inform the UN recovery plan for the next 2 years. In addition, the UN agencies



implemented joint activities to support vulnerable groups.

Risk Management

The COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the existing risks foreseen under the Country Strategic Plan 2019-2024. One of the main operational risks identified in WFP operations was the **underfunding** which may impede activity implementation.

WFP continue to **monitor the identified risks** throughout implementation. To mitigate these risks, the WFP developed a Partnership Action Plan and is investing in advocacy and visibility aiming at mobilizing resources from traditional and non-traditional donors to implement the CSP activities. WFP also continued position itself a development partner, advisor, a convener and an enabler in the area of food security and nutrition.

Partnerships

In 2020, WFP was committed to accelerating the SDG 17 in Sao Tome and Principe, by reinforcing its role as an advisor, a convener, and an enabler; positioning itself as the **strategic partner of the Government** to promote food security, health and nutrition of school aged children, consolidating the national school feeding programme and supporting smallholder farmers' access to markets.

In Sao Tome, there was a favourable environment for WFP as a resident UN agency to strengthen its partnership with the Government, UN partners and other development actors including national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and to promote the collaboration between the different actors involved in food security and nutrition through a **whole society approach**. WFP was able to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE); the National School Feeding and Health programme (PNASE); the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development (MAFRD); the National Support Centre for Rural Development (CADR); and the National Council for Food Security and Nutrition (CONSAN), in support of the national development priorities. WFP supported the (i) revision of the National School Feeding and Health programme Law, (ii) the development of the information management system for the MAFRD, (iii) promoted training sessions for CADR personnel and for smallholder farmers, and (iv) supported awareness and sensitization campaigns in collaboration with CONSAN and the National Nutrition Programme (PNN) about food security and nutrition.

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP advocated for increased **implementation of joint projects** among development partners, including donors. The Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) represented a great opportunity for WFP to collaborate with other UN agencies (ILO, UNHABITAT and FAO) and with national and international NGOs (HELPO and ADAPPA) towards the implementation of a joint humanitarian project focused on ensuring equitable access to food and working conditions to 600 vulnerable households affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in all seven districts of the country. Under the GPE Fund, WFP and UNICEF signed an agreement to provide food assistance to 19,287 school children in five districts of the country, ensuring their food security and school attendance after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Similar to previous years, the major operational impediment for WFP's operation in 2020 was reduced funding due to donor fatigue and reduced in-country presence coupled with the fragmented private sector structure. The Government continued to be a key partner and donor to WFP operations. In 2020, Government funding decreased due to financial and economic downturn aggravated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, WFP is increasingly positioning itself on the **humanitarian-development nexus**, and is advocating with donors, particularly with International Financial Institutions (IFIs), to be recognized in the development field.



CSP Financial Overview

2020 was an atypical and challenging year for Sao Tome and Principe and for the WFP in-country operation mainly due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Notwithstanding the challenges, WFP was able to partially achieve the results proposed under the Country Strategic Plan (CSP).

WFP updated its implementation plan based on the **available and forecasted** resources including resources carried forward from the previous year's country capacity strengthening activities. Additional funds were received from the UN Pooled Fund, Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) through the UN Resident Coordinator Office and from the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) fund.

To support the implementation of the national COVID-19 response plan, WFP undertook a **budget revision** that increased the cumulative CSP budget (2019-2024) from USD 1.6 million to USD 2.4 million to accommodate the crisis response activities under strategic outcome 2. In 2020, the CSP was 58 percent funded (USD 187,000) against its needs-based plan requirements, with majority of the funding (USD96,000) being carryovers from the previous year. Of the available resources, 75 percent of the resources were confirmed contributions for strategic outcome 1 on capacity strengthening while 25 percent were for strategic outcome 2 on crisis response.

At activity level, activity 1 was 46 percent funded; activity 2 was fully funded; and activity 3 was partially funded at 35 percent against 2020 requirements. In 2020, WFP mobilized USD 71,039 from the MPTF to implement the UN joint-project with FAO, ILO and UNHABITAT under the CSP activity 2: "capacity strengthening and coordination support to the Government to stimulate local food value chains and smallholders' agricultural markets". The unforeseen challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic led to the extension of the MPTF joint-project and carry-over of the unspent balance to 2021.

Furthermore, under the CSP activity 3 "Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations through in-kind transfers", WFP signed an agreement with UNICEF after receiving funds from the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) amounting to USD 55,056. In alignment with the budget revision, WFP planned to assist 5,000 vulnerable school children during the COVID-19 outbreak, through the alternative take-home rations transfer modality. However, based on the Government request, WFP shifted the food transfer modality from alternative take-home rations to on-site distribution in collaboration with the national school feeding programme, supporting the implementation of the back-to-school strategy and encouraging the school enrollment and attendance of **19,287 children**. As a result funds for this activity were carried forward to 2021.

Being a small WFP development operation implemented in a Small Island Development State (SIDS) the challenging funding environment remained one of the main strategic risks for the CSP implementation in 2020. The **Government continued to be a key partner and donor to WFP** operations, however, due to financial and economic downturn aggravated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, Government funding decreased significantly in 2020. Capacity strengthening interventions had to be re-prioritized as the focus shifted to COVID-19 crisis response

As part of its resource mobilisation strategies, WFP **reinforced national consultations with the Government**, particularly with the Prime Minister (January 2020), the Minister of Education and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development (through monthly meetings), and with the President of the autonomous region of Principe (October 2020). In parallel, WFP focused on boosting the CSP visibility aiming at attracting donors and strengthened its partnerships with other United Nations agencies (FAO, ILO and UNHABITAT) and with (I)NGOs for Country Capacity Strengthening (CCS) related interventions and with UNICEF for crisis response assistance to the targeted population. These joint initiatives have been found to be cost-effective.

Annual CSP Financial Overview by Strategic Outcome

	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditure
01: 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.	189,370	189,370	141,293	41,862
02: 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 crises.	131,906	0	46,513	0
Total:	321,276	189,370	187,806	41,862

The annual financial figures presented in this table are aggregated at Strategic Outcome level. The full presentation of the annual financial overview for the CSP, including breakdown of financial figures by activity, resources not yet allocated to a specific Strategic Outcome, Direct Support Costs and Indirect Support Costs are available in the Annual Financial Overview for the period 01 January to 31 December 2020.

Programme Performance

Strategic outcome 01: ■ 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.



2020 was a challenging year for WFP's operation in Sao Tome and Príncipe (STP), mainly due to the **socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19**. The effects of COVID-19 were reflected in social sectors including livelihoods, education and food security and nutrition. To mitigate the spread of the virus, the Government endorsed several restrictive measures such as the closure of country borders, and the suspension of school and school feeding activities. Given this scenario, WFP in-person collaboration with Government counterparts and national stakeholders was affected and some country capacity strengthening activities planned to be implemented in 2020 with the Government ministries were cancelled or postponed to 2021. These activities included awareness and sensitization campaigns about the importance of adding nutritious local products to school menus; improvement of the National School Feeding and Health Programme (PNASE) and the Ministry of Education information management system; the assessment of the nutritional status of school children aged 6 to 14 years; and the revision of national laws and policies.

Notwithstanding the challenges, WFP was able to achieve some good results in both capacity strengthening activities planned under the strategic outcome 1. Gender was integrated in capacity strengthening activities, with focus on ensuring access to food for vulnerable men, women, boys and girls during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Activity 1 of the CSP focused on strengthening the capacity of the Government in the design, management and coordination of an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender-transformative and nutrition-sensitive home-grown school feeding (HGSF) programme and related food security and nutrition policies and programmes.

In alignment with the 2020 Government priorities, WFP supported PNASE to finalize the **revision of the School Feeding (SF) Law**. The Law was created in 2012, however its existing gaps in terms of nature, principles, the programme's organizational structure and its lack of financial sustainability were a concern for the Ministry of Education. The revision process started in 2019 with the recruitment of the national legal consultant and the selection of the members of the revision committee, composed of representatives of the Ministry of Education, PNASE and National Council for Food Security and Nutrition (CONSAN). The revision of the school feeding Law was finalized in August 2020 and the new proposal was submitted to the Ministry of Education for validation and approval by the Council of Ministers. In October 2020, the new Law was presented to 55 deputies of the National Assembly during an awareness-raising campaign on food security and nutrition organized by the CONSAN and the National Nutrition Programme (PNN).



In March 2020, WFP working in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the PNASE organized an awareness-raising activity on the importance of the consumption of nutritious local products in school meals. This was part of the celebration of the African School Feeding Day organized during the first week of March 2020. The awareness-raising campaign which also had the participation of the educational sector, UN agencies and other development partners targeted school children from the six districts of Sao Tome.

WFP supported the PNASE to provide **food and hygiene materials** to vulnerable school children during the closure of schools as a mitigation measure to curb the spread of COVID-19. Following the Government's request, WFP provided financial support to the PNASE in the amount of USD 25,000 to distribute take-home rations and hygiene materials to vulnerable children. In addition, WFP strengthened the PNASE capacity in monitoring by supporting monitoring activities during distribution processes that took place between June and September.

Under activity 2, WFP focused on providing capacity strengthening and coordination support to promote sustainable and equitable local food value chains and stimulate smallholder agricultural markets.

Technical and financial support was provided to CONSAN to conduct an awareness-raising campaign on food security and nutrition across the country between 19 and 30 October 2020, targeting the national, regional and district deputies. The main objective of the campaign was to raise awareness on the importance of **investing in food security and nutrition** of the population, particularly the most vulnerable, and to approve food security and nutrition-related laws and policies to ensure the sustainability of the national food security and nutrition programmes. This activity was co-organized by WFP in partnership with the CONSAN and the PNN.

WFP, in collaboration with FAO, ILO and UNHABITAT, designed and implemented the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) project, aiming at addressing the increasing levels of food insecurity among the most **vulnerable rural and peri-urban population**, due to the disruptions on food systems aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Under this UN joint-project, WFP was able to mobilize USD 71,039 to provide technical and financial support to the Centre for Rural Development (CADR). With these resources, 568 vulnerable households (mostly female-headed) were trained on innovative and sustainable agricultural techniques adapted to the climatic conditions, land availability, and to their food and nutritional needs. In addition, 32 school gardeners were trained on production techniques in small growing spaces, recycling techniques for materials such as PET bottles and tyres, and using practical biological methods to control and prevent pests and plant diseases.

Through the 2030 SDG Funding, WFP financed the establishment of an innovative **database and information management system** to collect and manage data for smallholder farmers in the agriculture and production sectors.

Funding constraints and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic led to the **postponement of some planned activities**, resulting in partial achievement of some planned outputs. Some activities such as the revision of the CADR policies and regulation and the design of the CONSAN internal policy were postponed to 2021. Based on lessons learned in 2020, WFP will strengthen its partnerships with UN agencies, (I)NGOs and other development partners to ensure cost-effectiveness of WFP limited resources and will invest in evidence building, advocacy and visibility of WFP's development interventions.

WFP Gender and Age Marker	
CSP Activity	GAM Monitoring Code
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	3
Provide capacity strengthening (including through South-South cooperation) to the Government in the design, management and coordination of an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender-transformative and nutrition-sensitive HGSM programme and related food security and nutrition policies and programmes	3

Strategic outcome 02: 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 crises.







In 2020, the **COVID-19 outbreak triggered unprecedented health and socio-economic crises**. The Government of Sao Tome and Principe approved the national response plans in May 2020 to mitigate the negative impact of the pandemic on the most vulnerable population, particularly women and children. Several contingency measures, including the closure of the country borders and the closure of all 209 public and private schools were introduced, affecting nearly 50,000 children, 800 kitchen helpers and other active actors in the education sector. Consequently, the national school feeding programme was interrupted, threatening the food and nutrition security of the youngest portion of the national society, which represents 25 percent of the total population.

Aiming to minimize the socio-economic impact caused by the COVID-19 outbreak, the Government of Sao Tome and Principe requested support from partners, including WFP, to support the national response plan. In particular, the government requested WFP to **reinforce its support to the areas of food security and nutrition**, by introducing a food assistance modality to vulnerable children during and in the aftermath of crises.

In this regard, **WFP scaled up its in-country operation** and conducted a budget revision in July 2020 to adjust its CSP to the new institutional needs identified by the Government and national stakeholders. An additional activity on crisis response was incorporated in strategic outcome 1. Through this activity, WFP was able to provide assistance to safeguard the food and nutrition security of crisis-affected populations including school children in targeted areas during and in the aftermath of crises.

This activity was **funded at 35 percent**, resources available were utilised to positively respond to the Government request to support the implementation of the national contingency plan for COVID-19, with focus on the contingency plan of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Agriculture, and management of the humanitarian air support to Sao Tome and Principe during closure of the country borders.

WFP signed an agreement with UNICEF to support the Back to School strategy, a joint crisis response initiative implemented between October and December 2020 with funding from Global Partnership for Education (USD 55,056). Leveraging on WFP expertise and comparative advantage in the area of school feeding and nutrition, WFP was involved in this joint activity as an implementing partner of the nutrition component. The initiative aimed to address the increasing food security and nutrition challenges among vulnerable populations aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Critical life-saving food assistance was provided to 19,287 school-aged children at risk of food insecurity and undernutrition in 127 schools located in four national districts (Cantagalo, Lobata, Lemba and Caue) and the autonomous region of Principe (RAP).

The food assistance was **co-financed by the Government**. Distributions were managed by the PNASE in close coordination with WFP. Initially, the assistance was to be delivered in the form of alternative take-home rations to assist 5,000 vulnerable school children during the COVID-19 outbreak. However, based on the Government request, WFP shifted the food transfer modality from alternative take-home rations to on-site distribution. This increased the



planned number of beneficiaries from 5,000 school children (2,550 girls and 2,450 boys) to 19,287 school children (9,604 girls and 9,683 boys). Gender and age were mainstreamed in implementation of activities, aiming at encouraging the school enrolment and attendance of both girls and boys in an equitable manner. The initiatives reinforced national efforts in securing a high degree of enrolment and school attendance for the new school year.

Due to the unpredictability of the evolution and duration of the crisis, fluctuation of food prices was identified as a potential financial risk that could have affected the operationalisation of this joint activity. As a mitigation strategy, WFP managed the **procurement of 48 mt** of assorted food commodities from **local markets** on behalf of the PNASE and the Ministry of Education. [1] WFP also provided logistical support by delivering food commodities to the PNASE warehouses.

In addition to food assistance interventions, WFP donated face masks and hygiene materials to the Government counterparts and national stakeholders, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development, the National Support Centre for Rural Development, and PNASE. The PNASE also received hygiene, cleaning materials and face masks for its staff, including 400 kitchen helpers in 108 schools in the country. This support was part of the WFP **COVID-19 response plan** in the country, aiming at implementing actions that contribute to reducing the spread of the disease and fighting the pandemic in Sao Tome and Principe.

Within the scope of the United Nations contribution to operationalize community radios in the context of **risk-prevention and control of COVID-19**, WFP signed an agreement in September 2020 with two local companies to provide materials and technical assistance to the community radios in the south of Sao Tome. WFP also financed a 10-day training course for journalists and communication professionals through an agreement signed with the National Secretary for Communication.

WFP in close collaboration with other UN agencies and development partners conducted the COVID-19 **socio-economic impact assessment (SEIA)** in the country, aiming at collecting and analysing relevant data that will inform the UN recovery plan to be implemented between 2021 and 2022.

WFP Gender and Age Marker	
CSP Activity	GAM Monitoring Code
Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations through in-kind transfers	1



Cross-cutting Results

Progress towards gender equality: Improved gender equality and women's empowerment among WFP-assisted population

Sao Tome and Principe (STP) is a remote Small Island Developing State (SIDS) located in the Gulf of Guinea, with a population of 215,000 (50.5 percent, 49.5 percent is male). Despite its small size, STP faces a number of challenges in reaching the SDGs. The poverty rate is still high, particularly for women and youth. **Female-headed households are poorer than their male equivalents** with a poverty rate of 61.6 percent compared to 55.8 percent. In addition, women have less access to employment opportunities than men. For every 162 men employed, there are only 100 women, and men are more numerous than women in almost all employment categories, except in the informal sector where women represent 55.8 percent of the workforce.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic largely contributed to the deterioration of this situation and increased the risk of food insecurity and undernutrition of the most vulnerable population, particularly women, children and the elderly. WFP promptly responded to the Government request to provide food assistance, in the modality of take-home rations, to the most vulnerable school children during the closure of schools and the suspension of the school feeding programme. The food baskets were **equitably distributed**, between June and September, to more than 5,000 vulnerable boys and girls aged 3 to 14 years in all districts of the country and in the autonomous region of Principe.

Between October and December 2020, WFP in collaboration with UNICEF implemented the back to school project funded by Global Partnership for Education (GPE), to ensure **equitable access to schools for boys and girls**, particularly the most vulnerable, and ensure their school attendance during the COVID-19 pandemic. Under this joint project, WFP distributed food to all primary schools and kindergartens in four districts of the Sao Tome island and in the autonomous region of Principe.

In 2020 WFP, in collaboration with FAO, UNHABITAT and ILO, implemented the Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) joint COVID-19 project whose activities focused on ensuring the access of 600 vulnerable households to food and livelihood assets during and in the aftermath of crises. With the National Institute of Gender Equality and Parity (INPG) as one of the main implementing partners, this project had a strong gender component aimed at **empowering vulnerable women** by providing them with the necessary tools to produce food for their livelihood. A significant number of beneficiaries were female-headed households living in very poor conditions and at high risk of food insecurity, aggravated by the pandemic. During the implementation of this project, a pre and a post gender analysis was conducted and gender-sensitive awareness sessions were organized with the women and men beneficiaries aged 18-75 years.

Between November and December 2020, WFP supported the implementation of **gender-based violence (GBV)** related campaign organized by INPG during the 16 days of activism against GBV campaign. To that effect, WFP produced sensitization materials with key messages about the importance of fighting GBV which were distributed to other UN agencies and development partners, and INPG to support the campaign.

Environment: Targeted communities benefit from WFP programmes in a manner that does not harm the environment

Sao Tome and Principe (STP) is an insular archipelago of two main islands, São Tomé and Príncipe, located in the Gulf of Guinea, about 350 km off the west coast of Africa, with a surface area of 1,001 sq. km.

The country's climate is favorable to agricultural production. However, due to its size and geographical location, Sao Tome and Principe is prone to shocks and environmental hazards which affect the food security of the population. Recurring natural hazards such as floods, landslides and environmental degradation prevent the production of sufficient food to meet the needs of the population. Food availability for the population and market stability are unpredictable due to limited transformation and conservation infrastructures which causes markets price variation, particularly at the peak of the rainy season.

The lack of regulations and policies on waste management is another concern in the country. There are no proper containers to separate the waste in the country and they are mixed and burned in an outdoor incinerator located close to the city center.

WFP's Country Strategic Plan (CSP), through its country capacity strengthening portfolio aims to enhance the capacity of the Government, and increase investments in agricultural friendly techniques, free of pesticides and chemical products to protect the water and soil. WFP, in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture through the National Center for Rural Development (CADR) **trained 560 vulnerable households** in sustainable and environmentally friendly agricultural techniques to produce food in their backyards and plots during and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. The on-site trainings were focused on transforming domestic waste to natural fertilizers and in utilizing water and seeds in a sustainable manner.

In addition, WFP in partnership with national and International Non-governmental Organizations, HELPO and ADAPPA respectively, supported the reactivation of **32 school gardens** in six districts of the country and trained school gardeners in sustainable and environmentally-friendly agricultural techniques, aiming at protecting the soil, increasing the consumption of local healthy products in school menus and ensuring the sustainability of the school feeding programme.



Data Notes

2020 Overview

Activities targeting beneficiaries were introduced in 2020 and due to COVID-19 and activity implementation timelines, outcome monitoring was not planned for 2020. Outcome data will be collected in 2021, WFP will revise its monitoring tools for 2021 to ensure reporting for people with disability.

Strategic outcome 01

Some activities were postpone due to COVID-19 and funding constraints, leading to the partial achievements of some outputs.

Strategic outcome 02

This activity was introduced in 2020, due to COVID-19 and activity implementation timelines, outcome monitoring was not planned for 2020. Outcome data will be collected in 2021

Progress towards gender equality

Gender cross-cutting indicator was not tracked in 2020.

Protection and accountability to affected populations

These indicators were not tracked in the ad-hoc assistance that was provided in 2020.

Environment

There was no data collection for environment indicators in STP

Figures and Indicators

WFP contribution to SDGs

VFP Strategic Goal 1: Support countries to achieve zero hunger				WFP Contribution (by WFP, or by governments or partners with WFF				ers with WFP	Support)		
SDG Indicator	National Results				SDG-related indicator	Direct				Indirec	
	Unit	Female	Male	Overall	Year		Unit	Female	Male	Overall	
Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)	%					Number of people reached (by WFP, or by governments or partners with WFP support) in the context of emergency and protracted crisis response	Number			25,778	
						Number of people reached (by WFP, or by governments or partners with WFP support) to improve their food security	Number			600	

SDG 17: Strengthen the means	of implem	entation a	ınd revi	talize the global partnership for s	ustainabl	e developmen	t
WFP Strategic Goal 2: Partner to support implementation of the SDGs			WFP Contribution (by WFP, or by governments or partners with WFP Support)				
SDG Indicator	National	National Results		SDG-related indicator	Direct		Indirect
	Unit	Overall	Year		Unit	Overall	
Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development	Number			Number of mechanisms (by type) developed (by WFP, or by governments or partners with WFP support) to enhance policy coherence (linked to zero hunger)	Number	1	

Beneficiaries by Sex and Age Group

Beneficiary Category	Gender	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Total Beneficiaries male	male	2,450	9,683	395%
	female	2,550	9,604	377%
	total	5,000	19,287	386%
By Age Group				
5-11 years	male	2,450	9,683	395%
	female	2,550	9,604	377%
	total	5,000	19,287	386%

Beneficiaries by Residence Status

Residence Status	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Resident	5,000	19,287	386%
Refugee	0	0	-
Returnee	0	0	-
IDP	0	0	-

Beneficiaries by Programme Area

Programme Area	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
School Meal	5,000	19,287	385%

Annual Food Transfer

Commodities	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual vs. Planned			
Everyone has access to food						
Strategic Outcome: Strategic Outcome 02						
Rice	72	36	49%			
lodised Salt	1	2	139%			
Vegetable Oil	9	5	61%			
Beans	18	4	20%			

Strategic Outcome and Output Results

Strategic Outcome 01:

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.

Root Causes

Output Results

Activity 01: Provide capacity strengthening (including through South-South cooperation) to the Government in the design, management and coordination of an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender-transformative and nutrition-sensitive HGSM programme and related food security and nutrition policies and programmes.

Output Category A: Resources transferred

Output Category C: Capacity development and technical support provided

Output	Output Indicator	Beneficiary Group	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
	A.10*: Total value (USD) of capacity strengthening transfers					
A: Primary school children benefit from an improved national HGSM framework to increase their access to nutritious food, improve health and achieve better education results.	A.10*.1: Total value (USD) of capacity strengthening transfers		School feeding (take-home rations)	US\$	25,000	25,000
	C.4*: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national food security and nutrition stakeholder capacities (new)					
C: i. Primary school children benefit from an improved national HGSM framework to increase their access to nutritious food, improve health and achieve better education results.	C.4*.1: Number of government/national partner staff receiving technical assistance and training		Institutional capacity strengthening activities	individual	85	0
C: i. Primary school children benefit from an improved national HGSM framework to increase their access to nutritious food, improve health and achieve better education results.	C.4*.1: Number of government/national partner staff receiving technical assistance and training		School feeding (on-site)	individual	20	20
	C.8*: USD value of assets and infrastructure handed over to national stakeholders as a result of WFP capacity strengthening support (new)					
C: i. Primary school children benefit from an improved national HGSM framework to increase their access to nutritious food, improve health and achieve better education results.	C.8*.1: USD value of assets and infrastructure handed over to national stakeholders as a result of WFP capacity strengthening support (new)		Institutional capacity strengthening activities	US\$	15,000	0
	C.6*: Number of tools or products developed or revised to enhance national food security and nutrition systems as a result of WFP capacity strengthening support (new)					

C: iii. The people of Sao Tome and Principe	C.6*.1: Number of tools or	Institutional	unit	2	1
benefit from strengthened national capacities	products developed	capacity			
to operate gender-transformative social and		strengthening			
behaviour change communication		activities			
programmes on nutritional practices that					
improve their nutritional status.					

Activity 02: 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.

Output Category C: Capacity development and technical support provided

Output Category K: Partnership supported

Output Category M: National coordination mechanisms supported

Output	Output Indicator	Beneficiary	Sub Activity	Unit of	Planned	Actual
Cutput	output mulcutor	Group	Sub Activity	measure	Tunned	Actual
	C.4*: Number of people engaged in capacity strengthening initiatives facilitated by WFP to enhance national food security and nutrition stakeholder capacities (new)					
C: ii. The people of Sao Tome and Principe benefit from well-coordinated, equitable smallholder agricultural market support and local food value chains that facilitate the HGSM initiative and increase their overall food security.	C.4*.1: Number of government/national partner staff receiving technical assistance and training		Institutional capacity strengthening activities	individual	2	40
	C.6*: Number of tools or products developed or revised to enhance national food security and nutrition systems as a result of WFP capacity strengthening support (new)					
C: ii. The people of Sao Tome and Principe benefit from well-coordinated, equitable smallholder agricultural market support and local food value chains that facilitate the HGSM initiative and increase their overall food security.	C.6*.1: Number of tools or products developed		Smallholder agricultural market support activities	unit	2	1
	K.1*: Number of partners supported					
K: iv. Food-insecure populations benefit from the strengthened capacity of the Food Security and Nutrition Council to coordinate equitable and inclusive food security and nutrition policies and programmes to enhance their food and nutrition security.	K.1.1: Number of partners supported		Institutional capacity strengthening activities	partner	1	1
	M.1*: Number of national coordination mechanisms supported					
M: ii. The people of Sao Tome and Principe benefit from well-coordinated, equitable smallholder agricultural market support and local food value chains that facilitate the HGSM initiative and increase their overall food security.	M.1.1: Number of national coordination mechanisms supported		Institutional capacity strengthening activities	unit	2	2



Strategic Outcome 02 : 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 crises.

Output Results

Activity 03: Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations through in-kind transfers.

Output Category A: Resources transferred

Output	Output Indicator	Beneficiary Group	Sub Activity	Unit of measure	Planned	Actual
A:	A.1: Beneficiaries receiving food transfers	Students (primary schools)	School feeding (on-site)	Female Male Total	0	9,604 9,683 19,287
A:	A.1: Beneficiaries receiving food transfers	Students (primary schools)	School feeding (take-home rations)	Female Male Total	2,550 2,450 5,000	
A:	A.2: Food transfers			MT	100	47



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Primary school children eating a school meal in Sao Tome

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

Financial Section

Financial information is taken from WFP's financial records which have been submitted to WFP's auditors.

S.Tome, Principe Country Portfolio Budget 2020 (2019-2024)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2020 (Amount in USD)

Annual CPB Overview



Code	Strategic Outcome
SO 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.
SO 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 crises.
Code	Country Activity Long Description
SMP1	Provide capacity strengthening (including through South-South cooperation) to the Government in the design, management and coordination of an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender-transformative and nutrition-sensitive HGSM programme and related food security and nutrition policies and programmes.
SMS1	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.
URT1	Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations through in-kind transfers.

S.Tome, Principe Country Portfolio Budget 2020 (2019-2024)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2020 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditures
1	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 crises.	Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations through in-kind transfers.	131,906	0	46,513	0
Subtotal St Target 2.1)	trategic Result 1. Everyone has a	access to food (SDG	131,906	0	46,513	0
5	The Government of Sao Tome and Principe has strengthened capacity to implement an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender- transformative and	Provide capacity strengthening (including through South-South cooperation) to the Government in the design, management and coordination of an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender-transformative and nutrition-sensitive HGSM programme and related food security and nutrition policies and programmes.	132,497	132,497	61,206	54,294
5	smallholder-friendly home- grown school meals (HGSM) programme and related food security and nutrition policies and programmes nationwide by 2030.	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.	56,873	56,873	80,087	-12,431
	trategic Result 5. Countries have nt the SDGs (SDG Target 17.9)	strengthened capacity	189,370	189,370	141,293	41,863

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S.Tome, Principe Country Portfolio Budget 2020 (2019-2024)

Annual Financial Overview for the period 1 January to 31 December 2020 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Implementation Plan	Available Resources	Expenditures
	Non SO Specific	Non Activity Specific	0	0	5,932	0
Subtotal Strategic Result			0	0	5,932	0
Total Direct Operational Cost			321,276	189,370	193,739	41,863
Direct Support Cost (DSC)			54,855	37,655	25,936	0
Total Direct C	Costs		376,131	227,025	219,675	41,863
Indirect Supp	oort Cost (ISC)		24,449	14,757	7,688	7,688
Grand Total			400,580	241,782	227,363	49,550

Chief
Contribution Accounting and Donor Financial Reporting Branch

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Columns Definition

Needs Based Plan

Latest annual approved version of operational needs as of December of the reporting year. WFP's needs-based plans constitute an appeal for resources to implement operations which are designed based on needs assessments undertaken in collaboration with government counterparts and partners

Implementation Plan

Implementation Plan as of January of the reporting period which represents original operational prioritized needs taking into account funding forecasts of available resources and operational challenges

Available Resources

Unspent Balance of Resources carried forward, Allocated contribution in the current year, Advances and Other resources in the current year. It excludes contributions that are stipulated by donor for use in future years

Expenditures

Monetary value of goods and services received and recorded within the reporting year

S.Tome, Principe Country Portfolio Budget 2020 (2019-2024)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2020 (Amount in USD)

Cumulative CPB Overview



Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
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Code	Strategic Outcome
SO 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.
SO 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 crises.
Code	Country Activity - Long Description
SMP1	Provide capacity strengthening (including through South-South cooperation) to the Government in the design, management and coordination of an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender-transformative and nutrition-sensitive HGSM programme and related food security and nutrition policies and programmes.
SMS1	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.
URT1	Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations through in-kind transfers.

S.Tome, Principe Country Portfolio Budget 2020 (2019-2024)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2020 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
1	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 crises.	Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations through in-kind transfers.	131,906	46,513	0	46,513	0	46,513
Subtotal Strategic Result 1. Everyone has access to food (SDG Target 2.1)		131,906	46,513	0	46,513	0	46,513	

S.Tome, Principe Country Portfolio Budget 2020 (2019-2024)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2020 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
	The Government of Sao Tome and Principe has strengthened capacity to implement an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender-	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.	110,164	236,338	0	236,338	143,819	92,519
5	transformative and smallholder-friendly homegrown school meals (HGSM) programme and related food security and nutrition policies and programmes nationwide by 2030.	Provide capacity strengthening (including through South-South cooperation) to the Government in the design, management and coordination of an environmentally and socially sustainable, gender-transformative and nutrition-sensitive HGSM programme and related food security and nutrition policies and programmes.	226,902	77,387	0	77,387	70,474	6,912
	Subtotal Strategic Result 5. Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs (SDG Target 17.9)		337,066	313,725	0	313,725	214,294	99,431
	Non SO Specific	Non Activity Specific	0	5,932	0	5,932	0	5,932
Subtotal S	Subtotal Strategic Result		0	5,932	0	5,932	0	5,932

S.Tome, Principe Country Portfolio Budget 2020 (2019-2024)

Cumulative Financial Overview as at 31 December 2020 (Amount in USD)

Strategic Result	Strategic Outcome	Activity	Needs Based Plan	Allocated Contributions	Advance and Allocation	Allocated Resources	Expenditures	Balance of Resources
Total Direct Operational Cost 468,972			366,170	0	366,170	214,294	151,877	
Direct Support Cost (DSC) 74,419			50,334	0	50,334	24,398	25,936	
Total Direct Costs 543,391			416,505	0	416,505	238,692	177,812	
Indirect Support Cost (ISC) 35,320			27,252		27,252	27,252	0	
Grand Total 578,711			443,756	0	443,756	265,944	177,812	

This donor financial report is interim
Brian Ah Poe

Columns Definition

Needs Based Plan

Latest approved version of operational needs. WFP's needs-based plans constitute an appeal for resources to implement operations which are designed based on needs assessments undertaken in collaboration with government counterparts and partners

Allocated Contributions

Allocated contributions include confirmed contributions with exchange rate variations, multilateral contributions, miscellaneous income, resource transferred, cost recovery and other financial adjustments (e.g. refinancing). It excludes internal advance and allocation and contributions that are stipulated by donor for use in future years.

Advance and allocation

Internal advanced/allocated resources but not repaid. This includes different types of internal advance (Internal Project Lending or Macro-advance Financing) and allocation (Immediate Response Account)

Allocated Resources

Sum of Allocated Contributions, Advance and Allocation

Expenditures

Cumulative monetary value of goods and services received and recorded within the reporting period

Balance of Resources

Allocated Resources minus Expenditures