



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Timor-Leste Country Brief November 2021



Handover ceremony of school kitchens and school materials to EBC 123 Manleuana School, attended by the Chinese Ambassador in Timor-Leste, the Minister of Education, and WFP Timor-Leste Country Director (WFP © Noel Soares)

Operational Context

The World Food Programme (WFP) Timor-Leste Country Strategic Plan (CSP 2018-2022) supports the attainment of the Government of Timor Leste's vision and contributes to the National Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030.

The WFP CSP promotes the shift from the provision of food assistance to policy engagement and capacity development. It emphasizes putting people at the center of the country's development efforts through the Road Map for Achieving the SDGs, including ending hunger, combating all forms of malnutrition, and establishing sustainable food systems.

The CSP addresses food security and nutrition gaps identified by the National Strategic Review on SDG 2 and repositions WFP in areas where it has a comparative advantage and potential to maximize the impact of its assistance to ensure that no one is left behind.



The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Population: **1.3 million**

2020 Human Development Index: **141 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **50% of children between 6-59**



DAYS OF ACTIVISM
AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



Highlights

In November, at the multi-sectoral coordination workshop, WFP with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), donors, UN agencies, and civil society organizations reviewed the April floods response of the food security sector and commenced the preparedness planning process for the 2021/22 wet season. The workshop resulted in producing the draft of the Food Security Emergency Preparedness and Response sub-sector group plan.



Situation Updates

- Timor-Leste registered 32 locally transmitted COVID-19 cases in November 2021. Since March 2020, 19,800 cases have been confirmed in the country.

Operational Updates

Emergency Response and Preparedness

- For the inter-sectoral emergency coordination, preparedness and implementation, WFP has set up Field Support Units in four municipalities (Baucau, Bobonaro, Manuafahi, and Oecusse) with four new programme assistants.
- WFP donated information and communications technology (ICT) material to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) to support the Kharpa Beetle survey and assessments at warehouses across the country through partnering with the National Directorate for Quarantine and Biosecurity (DNQB).

Nutrition

- WFP finalized the Technical Agreement between WFP and the Radio and Television of Timor-Leste (RTTL) and prepared a 6-month nutrition video broadcast plan for the airtime.
- WFP conducted a joint field visit (with the National Medical and Pharmaceutical Supply Agency (SAMES), WHO, and WFP) to the municipalities of Bobonaro and Covalima to provide nutrition and supply chain training to health workers.
- WFP and UNICEF supported the Government with the finalization of the National Health Nutrition Strategy Plan for 2022-2026. The Plan aims to improve the nutritional status of Timorese population to accelerate the reduction of undernutrition and malnutrition through nutrition-specific and sensitive approaches.

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
21.39 m	9.31 m	0.24 m

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 1: Children under five, adolescent girls, and pregnant and breastfeeding women have improved nutrition towards national targets by 2025

Focus area: *Root Causes*

Activities:

1. Provide nutritious food and raise awareness through social and behaviour change communication for targeted individuals.
2. Provide the Government and partners with technical assistance and evidence for enhancing the efficiency of national programmes and safety nets.

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 2: National and subnational government institutions have increased capacity sustainably to deliver food, nutrition, and supply chain related services by 2022.

Focus area: *Resilience*

Activities:

3. Provide the Government and partners with technical expertise for improved targeting, monitoring, and programme analysis.
4. Provide the Government and partners with technical expertise for the development of an efficient and effective supply chain management system.

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise, and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 3: The Government of Timor-Leste has access to augmented services during and the aftermath of crisis

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

Activities:

5. Provide on-demand food procurement services to the Government of Timor-Leste

- WFP continued to work closely with the Ministry of Health for the monitoring of High Energy Biscuits distribution in all municipalities to improve the nutritional state of pregnant and lactating women.

Food Fortification

- WFP received US\$ 100,000 from the Government of Timor-Leste through the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce, and Industry (MTCI) for the procurement of fortified rice kernel.
- WFP is in the process of procuring 10 mt of fortified rice kernel and two blending machines for the rice fortification programme.

School Feeding

- WFP continued to engage with line ministries for the School Meal Coalition to strengthen the National School Feeding Program. In November 2021, WFP handed over

the school feeding kitchen to Escola Básica Central (EBC) 123 (Manleuana Primary School) in Dili, to support the healthy and safe school feeding environment.

Supply Chain

- WFP provided warehouse management training to SAMES and the National Directorate of Pharmacy and Medicines in four municipalities (Viqueque, Oecusse, Maliana, and Suai) to strengthen Timor-Leste's national logistics capacity.
- WFP donated 50 rice pallets to warehouses in the municipality of Baucau and has pledged to continue providing technical assistance on warehouse management.

Research Assessment and Monitoring

- WFP provided technical support to produce [quarterly Food Security Bulletin](#) through the Inter-Ministerial Council for Food Security, Food Sovereignty and Nutrition (KONSSANTIL).
- On 8 November, WFP presented the final report of Cesta Basica program at the technical meeting with the Coordinating Minister of Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce, and Industry, and UNDP.
- WFP developed an online questionnaire for the school storage assessment for the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (MOEYS) and provided training to the MOEYS staff for school storage assessments, using Open Data Kit application for data collection.

Challenges

- In addition to the Government ministries' efforts to raise the national vaccination rates, malnutrition prevention and treatment services require more investments and provisions for the vulnerable populations in Timor-Leste after the April floods and in the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Donors

Government of Timor-Leste, Australia, China, Japan, Republic of Korea, and New Zealand.