



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Guinea-Bissau Country Brief January 2022



Operational Context

Guinea-Bissau is a low-income and food-deficit country, ranking 175 out of 189 countries in the 2020 Human Development Index ranking. Forty-eight years of political instability since independence have deeply constrained socio-economic and human development. Poverty impacts women more than men, reflecting gender inequalities in access to education, land and credit. Vulnerabilities were further impacted by COVID-19, exacerbating institutional weaknesses, inadequate public services, lack of safety nets and overreliance on cashew nut exports.

In January, the country faced a new government reshuffle. Two parties that support the government, the Movement for Democratic Alternation (MADEM-G15) and the Assembly of the United People - Democratic Party of Guinea-Bissau (APU-PDGB), disagreed with the reshuffle, claiming that the President of the Republic, Umaro Sissoco Embaló, made the decision without consulting the Prime Minister, Nuno Gomes Nabian.

WFP focuses on capacity strengthening of national partners to optimize gender-transformative and integrated interventions, encompassing inclusive home-grown school feeding, rural women empowerment, social protection, resilience, stunting prevention and moderate acute malnutrition treatment, emergency preparedness and response. WFP has been present in Guinea-Bissau since 1974.



Population: **1.9 million**

2020 Human Development Index ranking: **175 out of 189**

Income level: **5% of children aged 6-29 months**

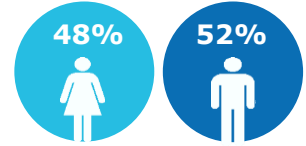
Chronic malnutrition: **28% of children aged 6-59 months**

In Numbers

227 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 1.6 m six-month (February-July 2022) net funding requirements

146,900 people assisted in January 2022



Operational Updates

- As part of the stunting prevention and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) treatment programmes, WFP distributed 16 metric tons of specialized nutritious foods (Super Cereal Plus) to 48 nutritional recovery centres in Oio, Bafatá, and Gabu regions to support a total of 915 targeted children in the first quarter of the year.
- As part of the resilience building activities in rural communities in Bafatá region, WFP and its partner NGO ECAS-D are assisting the local community in the rehabilitation of dikes and supporting women's associations in horticultural production. In addition, in Gabu region, ECAS-D completed the construction of three improved wells and held two awareness raising meetings to strengthen community participation in the rehabilitation of dikes.
- After having successfully ensured financing from the Joint SDG fund in 2021 with UNICEF and UNFPA, in January 2022 WFP coordinated the development of the project implementation plan to support the efforts of the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Solidarity to strengthen the national social protection system. With this new project, WFP will extend its social protection coverage by providing cash transfers to 1,500 vulnerable households located in areas severely affected by climate shocks, generating important evidence for the design of the social protection strategy.
- On 18 January, WFP received 725 mt of rice donated by the Government of China to support the school feeding programme for the school year 2021/2022.
- WFP continues to support Guinea-Bissau's High Commission for COVID-19 with the supply chain management of personal protective equipment, medical equipment, medicines and hospital laboratory supplies, by receiving, storing and delivering these items to health structures across the country. On 28 January, WFP delivered 175 bottles of oxygen to different hospital units in the capital Bissau and in rural areas (Canchungo, Mansoa, Bafata, Gabu, Quinara, and Tombali). As of January 30, Guinea-Bissau had recorded 7,586 COVID-19 cases, 154 deaths, and 6,642 recovered people.

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Country Strategic Plan (2019-2024)

2022 Total Requirements (in USD)	2022 Available Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
11. m	14.2 m	0.2 m

* optional explanatory note on Available Contributions figure

** optional explanatory note on Net Funding Requirements figure

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations in Guinea-Bissau are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements in the aftermath of shock.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide food and nutrition assistance to crisis-affected populations and strengthen the capacity of and coordination among national partners in responding to crises as a contingency measure.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Populations at risk of malnutrition in Guinea-Bissau, particularly children, women and girls of reproductive age and people living with HIV, have improved nutrition status in line with national targets by 2024.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Support the implementation of the national nutrition policy and the protocol for the integrated prevention of stunting and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition focusing on the provision of support for policy design and gender and age-informed implementation, technical assistance and capacity strengthening to the Ministry of Public Health, Family and Social Cohesion; social and behaviour change communication, the prevention of stunting among children aged 6–23 months, the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition among children aged 6–59 months, and food and nutrition assistance to people living with HIV and their households.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes

Strategic Outcome 4: Smallholder farmers in Guinea-Bissau, particularly women and young people, have improved livelihoods and increased household incomes by 2024.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide an integrated package of assistance interventions to associations of women and young smallholder farmers that comprises nutrition and literacy education, training in basic business skills, sensitization to their rights to adequate food and nutrition, market access through the school feeding programme and the transfer of knowledge on the optimization of agricultural value chains.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome 5: National institutions and legislators in Guinea-Bissau have enhanced capacity in and are accountable for the development, implementation and monitoring of evidence-based food security and nutrition policies and programmes by 2030.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Provide national institutions with support for policies, technical assistance and the transfer of knowledge and advocate for the effective formulation and implementation of gender-transformative social safety nets, food security and nutrition programmes (including data collection and analysis, evidence generation and monitoring systems) and emergency preparedness and response mechanisms.

the Tombali region, with the NGO Tiniguena. Findings indicate that following WFP's food assistance for assets (FFA) intervention, 92 percent of the population assisted reported an improvement in their asset base. One fourth of smallholder farmers in Tombali also reported increased agricultural productivity. Results from the PDM report confirmed that although WFP did not procure food locally, resilience building activities still significantly contributed to improving the livelihoods of smallholder farmers.

- WFP continued to identify the areas with the highest rates of food and nutrition insecurity, as well as the most vulnerable households. In January, WFP began the targeting of 367 vulnerable households, each of whom will benefit from a monthly cash-based assistance of 40,000 CFA (USD 73) for a period of three months, starting at the end of February.

Challenges

- COVID-19 containment measures caused delays in the distribution of commodities, and limited field visits to monitor activities. Poor road conditions limited the access to some nutritional recovery centres. The high turnover rate among government officials continued to negatively affect WFP's institutional capacity strengthening activities which aim to train national technicians in the management of moderate acute malnutrition and stunting programmes.

Cadre Harmonisé

- Although it covered eight regions in Guinea-Bissau, the November 2021 Cadre Harmonisé analysis did not include the Autonomous Sector of Bissau, which contains 25 percent of the national population affected by high rates of food insecurity and malnutrition. The results of the analysis indicated that nearly 58,000 people (5 percent of the analysed population) required urgent assistance in the period of November to December. During the projected period of June to August 2022, the number of people in need is likely to decrease to 40,700 people. However, it is estimated that over 221,600 people will be in phase 2 ('stressed'). In this regard, WFP's resilience building programme proves to be crucial as it aims to build communities' capacity to withstand shocks by increasing their asset base and improving their livelihoods.

Donors

Top five donors to WFP Guinea-Bissau Country Strategic Plan 2019-2024 include the European Commission, Guinea-Bissau/ Spain, Italy, Japan, China and USA. Additional support has been provided by the UN COVID-19 Multi-Partner Trust Fund and the UN Peacebuilding Fund

Monitoring

- In January, WFP focused on data collection for the Annual Country Report (ACR) through its various implementing partners. Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) completed in