



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Timor-Leste Country Brief May 2022



WFP, together with the Ministry of Health, launched the distribution of super cereal program through the contribution from China (Crispin da Costa Araujo © WFP)

## 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: **47% of children between 6-59**

## Highlights

- On 5 May, Taur Matan Ruak, Prime Minister, launched the final report of Timore-Leste Food and Nutrition Survey and the National Health Sector Nutrition Strategic Plan 2022-2026.
- On 11 May, WFP, together with the Ministry of Health, launched the distribution of super cereal program to the malnourished pregnant and nursing mothers, supported by the contribution from China.
- WFP began a baseline assessment in three municipalities (Baucau, Bobonaro, and Manufahi) to assess school infrastructures and supply chains relevant to school meals, fortified rice, and nutrition for the Say No to 5S project (school health and nutrition project) supported by the contribution from KOICA (the Republic of Korea).

## Situation Updates

- On 19 May, Timor-Leste celebrated the inauguration of new President Dr. Jose Ramos-Horta, a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and the 20th anniversary of restoration of independence in Timor-Leste on 20 May. WFP Executive Director, David Beasley, sent a letter of congratulations to the new President and offered to strengthen the partnership with WFP to improve food security and nutrition.
- Timor-Leste registered an additional 24 locally transmitted COVID-19 cases in May 2022. Since March 2020, 22,915 cases have been confirmed in the country. As of the end of May 2022, 73.4 percent of the population aged 18 years and above have been fully vaccinated. All of WFP Timor-Leste staff are fully vaccinated.

## Operational Updates

### Nutrition

- WFP continued to provide technical support to the Scale-up Nutrition Secretariat under the Prime Minister's Office to finalize the M&E framework of the Consolidated National Action Plan for Nutrition and Food Security.
- WFP handed over 305 mt of super cereal (CSB+) to the Ministry of Health (MoH), along with the Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) fliers and posters on super cereal consumption.
- WFP, together with the MoH, began the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme training for nutrition coordinators, community health committee ("Saude Na Family") focal points, the maternal, and child health focal points at community health centers.
- WFP continued to work with CARE International to develop the 3rd edition of Lafaek children's magazine to promote healthy and nutritious diets for children.

### Food Fortification

- WFP finalized vendors to procure two blending machines to support the rice fortification activities of domestic millers and awarded the contract to vendors.
- The Ministry of Trade, Commerce, and Industry (MTCI) submitted the Food Fortification Decree-Law to the Office of the President of the Council of Ministers (CoMs) for further discussions and approvals from the Government.

**Contact info:** Jiyoung Michelle Han ([jiyoungmichelle.han@wfp.org](mailto:jiyoungmichelle.han@wfp.org))

**Country Director:** Dageng Liu ([dageng.liu@wfp.org](mailto:dageng.liu@wfp.org))

Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/timor-leste](http://www.wfp.org/countries/timor-leste)

## Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
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25.74 m

17.84 m

0.00 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 supported the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion (MSSI) and the MTCI with IT equipment (12 desktops and 4 electronic scales) to support a local agriculture business, called “Loja De Povu”.
- The Ministry of Trade, Commerce, and Industry (MTCI) submitted the Food Fortification Decree-Law to the Office of the President of the Council of Ministers (CoMs) for further discussions and approvals from the Government.

## School Feeding

- WFP handed over IT equipment (desktops and laptops) to the President of Authority, the Municipality Administration, and the Municipality Education Office in Baucau, Bobonaro, and Manufahi to assist the offices in their knowledge and information management.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation provided a non-objection letter regarding a tripartite agreement between WFP, MSA, and MoEYS.

## Supply Chain

- WFP coordinated with the State Secretariat of Civil Protection regarding the handling, storing, and delivery of 38 mt of High Energy Biscuits (HEBs).
- WFP provided technical support and coordinated with SAMES (Autonomous Service for Medicines and Medical Equipment) and the Ministry of Health regarding the handling, storing, and delivery of 305 mt of Super Cereal (CSB+).
- WFP coordinated with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and KONSSANTIL (National Council for Food Security, Sovereignty and Nutrition in Timor-Leste) regarding the warehouse management and PHL training both at the national and the municipality level.
- WFP has drafted a national survey report on warehouses in partnership with the National Directorate for Quarantine and Biosecurity (DNQB).
- Civil Protection Authority participated in a seminar on disaster risk reduction and emergency management, organized jointly by WFP Centre of Excellence for Rural Transformation and the National Disaster Reduction Centre of China.

## Research Assessment and Monitoring

- WFP provided analysis and monitoring tools for the Cesta Basica 2.0 — the government’s basic food basket program — to ensure its effectiveness and inclusiveness to fight hunger and support the vulnerable population.
- WFP released its [Market Monitor Report](#) for May. Vegetable oil prices continue to remain at elevated levels despite the lifting of the export ban of palm oil by Indonesia.
- WFP completed food market assessments in four municipalities (Dili, Baucau, Manufahi, and Bobonaro), including surveys on the market functional index (MFI).
- WFP finalized the reporting formats for the super cereal program and the general food distribution program.

## Challenges

- Considering the high level of global uncertainty including the ongoing crisis in Ukraine, WFP will continue to monitor closely food and non-food item prices together with the Government of Timor-Leste.
- Malnutrition prevention and treatment services among the women and children require more investments following the food prices increase.

## Donors

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