



World Food Programme

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LIVES

# WFP Timor-Leste Country Brief October 2022



WFP Representative presented her credentials to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation on 18 October 2022 as the new WFP Country Director in Timor-Leste. © WFP/Injun Song

## 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 centre of the country's development efforts through the Road Map for Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (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 in areas where WFP has a comparative advantage and potential to maximize the impact of its assistance to ensure that no one is left behind.

With WFP's technical support, the President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Dr José Ramos Horta, launched the National Nutrition Campaign in Ainaro Municipality. © WFP/Noel Estevas



Population: **1.3 million**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

## Highlights

- WFP Representative held Country Strategic Plan (CSP) discussion meetings and courtesy visits with the Prime Minister, Vice Prime Minister, the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion (MSSI), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.
- WFP held an official handover of Japan's contribution of food commodities to support vulnerable populations; these include fortified rice, beans, and cooking oil to the Ministry of Solidarity and Social Inclusion (with participation from the Vice Prime Minister, the Minister of MSSI, and representatives from the Embassy of Japan).
- WFP celebrated the World Food Day event at the Municipality of Ermera with the Ministry of Agriculture and National Council for Food Security, Sovereignty and Nutrition. This entailed appreciating the food culture in Timor-Leste and emphasizing the importance of food and nutrition. WFP also promoted healthy diet messages through social media channels starting a week prior to the event.

## Situation Updates

- Timor-Leste registered an additional 44 locally transmitted COVID-19 cases in October. 23,257 cases were confirmed since March 2020. As of end August, 89.5 percent of the population aged 18 years and above were fully vaccinated. All WFP Timor-Leste's staff are fully vaccinated.

## Operational Updates

### Nutrition

- WFP, together with the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), conducted the Scale-up Nutrition (SUN) taskforce meeting to discuss the progress on the Consolidated National Action Plan for Nutrition and Food Security and implementation in addressing malnutrition in the country.
- WFP held a technical discussion with the Ministry of Health regarding Super Cereal distribution with the latest updates and the 2023 annual state budget allocation for nutrition intervention for collaboration and advocacy.
- WFP initiated a six-month advertising campaign on GMN-TV, a local TV station, with videos that promote Super Cereal, rice fortification, and school feeding in relation to WFP's capacity-strengthening efforts with the Government of Timor-Leste on health and nutrition.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
25.74 m	18.41 m	1.4 m

## Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Children under 5, 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 oversaw the rehabilitation process of the Ministry of Health's flospan storage facility in the municipality of Bobonaro. A simple, frameless structure, flospan storage facilities protect food commodities against vermin, control internal temperature, and have strong resistance to earthquakes and heavy precipitation.

## Research, Assessment and Monitoring

- WFP published the first [Timor-Leste Market Assessment report](#) to provide information on the general market situation in four municipalities (Baucau, Bobonaro, Dili, and Manufahi) and inform the design of the most appropriate response. The assessment found that markets remain relatively well-integrated and provide a condition conducive for market-based programming of cash or voucher. It also highlighted services, infrastructure, quality, and price as key dimensions that require market strengthening initiatives.
- WFP finalized the first WFP mobile Vulnerable Analysis and Monitoring survey for the IPC Acute analysis report in November 2022.
- WFP finalized the Price Monitoring Report for the months of July-September.

## Challenges

- Given the global economic uncertainty due to the conflict in Ukraine, WFP continues to closely monitor the prices of food and non-food items, in collaboration with the Government of Timor-Leste.
- Malnutrition prevention and treatment services for women and children require more resources following the food price increases.

## Donors

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

## School Feeding

- WFP installed two fortified rice blending machines in Baucau and Bobonaro. WFP conducted capacity strengthening activities for local rice millers, including a training for the technical staff of two domestic rice millers to promote local production of fortified rice.

## Supply Chain

- WFP provided financial support to the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion, to strengthen the Ministry's capacity on food transportation and distribution management.
- WFP provided technical guidance to the Autonomous Medical and Pharmaceutical Supply Agency on the movement of Super Cereal to Community Health Centres.