



World Food Programme

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WFP Guinea-Bissau Country Brief April-June 2025



Operational Context

Guinea-Bissau has been experiencing political instability which has severely constrained socio-economic and human development. In this context, poverty impacts women more than men, as they have reduced access to education, land, and credit.

According to the World Bank's Economic Update for 2025 (covering 2024 data), Guinea-Bissau's economy remained resilient in 2024, with real GDP growth reaching 4.8 percent, slightly above the 4.4 percent rate in 2023. However, the country continues to face structural challenges such as its heavy dependence on raw cashew nut exports, ongoing political instability, and a weak business environment all of which exacerbate poverty and fiscal risks.

According to the March 2025 Cadre Harmonisé analysis, approximately 122,000 people were classified as acutely food insecure (in IPC crisis phase or worse) from March to May 2025. Approximately, 334,000 people are projected to be in the stressed phase and will require humanitarian assistance to prevent deterioration into crisis during the same period.

WFP, present in Guinea-Bissau since 1974, supports government policies and interventions in the areas of emergency preparedness and response, stunting prevention and moderate acute malnutrition treatment, education through its home-grown school feeding programme, resilience building, and social protection.



Population: **2.15 million**

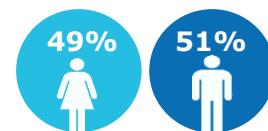
2024/2025 Human Development Report:
174 out of 193

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition: **30% of children**
between 6-59 months

In Numbers

203,000+ people assisted
In April-June 2025



US\$ 277,000+ cash assistance distributed

504 MT of food assistance distributed

US\$ 7.5 million six-months net funding requirement
(July – December 2025)

Operational Updates

- WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Solidarity, and the Ministry of Interior through the National Civil Protection Services. The agreement supports the implementation of the OCHA Emergency Grant for the flood response and aims to strengthen local authorities' capacity to lead community awareness campaigns on psychosocial support, Social and Behaviour Change (SBC), and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) in flood-affected areas.
- WFP completed digital registration for 8,645 members of 30 cooperatives across eight of Guinea-Bissau's nine regions on the Farm2go platform. This initiative aims to improve smallholder farmers' access to input and food markets and essential services such as financial tools. The platform advances national policies on financial inclusion, digital literacy, and food systems transformation, while also facilitating access to training, market information, and support services.
- WFP signed an agreement with the Confederation of National Cooperatives to enhance agricultural production and commercialization. The partnership includes a training-of-trainers programme for 90 members from 25 cooperatives, aimed at strengthening their technical and operational capacity for improved market access.
- WFP signed a partnership agreement with the National Farmers' Association (ANAG) to implement a similar training-of-trainers programme targeting 25 WFP-supported cooperatives and 9 affiliated with ANAG. The training will be held for 90 participants and aims to enhance technical skills and strengthen market access for smallholder farmers.
- WFP held a training and awareness workshop for 51 local suppliers to improve their understanding of WFP procurement procedures, enhance transparency, and promote accountability. The session covered WFP's procurement policies, bidding processes, fraud risk awareness, and compliance expectations. Participants also received guidance on registering with the In-Tend platform.
- As part of the One Tabanca project in Cumpanghor, in the Gabu region of Guinea-Bissau, WFP completed the installation of solar panels on newly constructed poultry houses. This is aimed at promoting clean energy use for lighting, ventilation, and temperature control, ensuring sustainable poultry farming and improved local production.

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Photo Caption Rice tasting event at Madre Serafina School in Safim, Biombo Region of Guinea-Bissau.

Credit: WFP Guinea-Bissau

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Received Contributions (in US\$)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
136.3 million	39.8 million	7.5 million

Strategic Target 1: 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 assistance to crisis-affected populations and strengthen the capacities of national partners and local communities in preparedness and response.

Strategic Outcome 2: Children, vulnerable populations, and people at risk of malnutrition in Guinea Bissau have improved diets and access to basic services, including health, education, and nutrition by 2027.

Focus area: *Root causes*

Activities:

- Provide nutritious school meals and take-home rations to schoolchildren for improved education outcomes, and pilot approaches to strengthening the national school health and nutrition system.
- Provide nutrition services for populations at risk of malnutrition and strengthen community and national-level nutrition services.

Strategic Outcome 3: Rural communities in Guinea-Bissau, particularly women and young people, have increased resilience in the face of climate change and socioeconomic shocks and stressors by 2027.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide an integrated support package to smallholder farmers, especially women's and young smallholder farmers' associations, for improved livelihoods, access to markets, diets, and resilience.

Strategic Target 5: Capacity Building

Strategic Outcome 4: The social protection system in Guinea-Bissau is strengthened by 2027.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide technical support and capacitate national institutions to build an efficient, inclusive, nutrition-sensitive, and shock-responsive social protection system.

- WFP delivered improved seeds and horticultural inputs to local authorities in Cacheu (Bigene), Bafatá (Ganadu, Bambadinca), and Tombali (Catio). This support will be distributed to 355 smallholder farmers affected by the 2024 floods. The support package includes onion, okra, and pepper seeds, as well as hoes, rakes, machetes, buckets, and watering cans.
- WFP held a kick-off meeting with its partners UNICEF, UNDP, and UNFPA under the African Development Bank-funded project **"Building Resilience and Boosting Private Sector Development"**. The meeting focused on aligning key deliverables for the first year of implementation.
- WFP and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research signed an MOU and finalized the annual work plan for the **School Feeding Programme**. The agreement strengthens institutional coordination and reaffirms a shared commitment to improving school meals, ensuring consistent access to nutritious food during the school year, and promoting quality education as part of the country's sustainable development goals.
- On international Children's Day, WFP organized a **rice tasting event at Madre Serafina School** to mark the final phase of the Participatory Varietal Selection (PVS) process. Students selected 'K-Rice,' a variety introduced from South Korea, as the most preferred among four high-performing types. The variety demonstrated strong yields, pest resistance, and grain quality, showing promise to improve food security, increase farmer income, and reduce reliance on imported rice.
- WFP completed and published the review of the [Guinea-Bissau Logistics Capacity Assessment](#) (LCA). The findings aim to strengthen supply chain operations and improve emergency preparedness in Guinea-Bissau. The report was shared with the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and presented at the UNCT meeting in June.

Challenges

- The broader political environment in Guinea-Bissau remains complex. While socio-economic progress continues, underlying challenges such as inflation, public debt, and recurring climate shocks persist. Recent briefings to the UN Security Council by the Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) have noted emerging concerns related to the upcoming 2025 elections and the functioning of state institutions. The UN, together with ECOWAS, continues to encourage constructive dialogue to preserve stability and support democratic processes.
- Guinea-Bissau remains among nine countries globally with very high maternal mortality rates, according to the recently released Trends in Maternal Mortality Estimates (2000–2023). The report, which assessed data from 195 countries, found that sub-Saharan Africa accounted for approximately 70 percent of maternal deaths in 2023. These findings highlight the continued need for investments in maternal health and health system strengthening across the region.
- In June, strong winds and heavy rains impacted the Gabu region, damaging an estimated 137 homes and affecting several communities. While no injuries were reported, the storm caused significant material losses. Humanitarian responders and local volunteers assessed the damage and provided assistance to affected families. The event underscores the increasing vulnerability of rural communities to extreme weather, reinforcing the importance of disaster risk reduction and climate resilience measures.

Donors *(in alphabetical order)*

African Development Bank, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, Germany, Government of Guinea-Bissau, Ireland, Japan, Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS, Korea, Norway, UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), Slovenia, Spain, and Joint Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Fund