



World Food Programme

COVID-19 in Guinea

April 2020 situation report #01

267,000

Food insecure people

NOT AFFECTED BY COVID-19

1.4 million

People not having sufficient food

NOT AFFECTED BY COVID-19



Country Context

Guinea recorded its first COVID-19 case on March 12, 2020. To date, the number of confirmed cases stands at **1,710 cases** including **450 recoveries** and **9 deaths**. The country has an overall limited capacity to respond to the pandemic, including poor supply of testing tools, inadequate health infrastructures and no intensive care facilities.

The Government took several preparedness, prevention and response measures to limit the spread of the virus, including the closure of public places, prohibition of large gatherings of over 20 people and restriction on people's movements. A National Contingency Plan with the objectives to contain the pandemic and mitigate its socio-economic consequences was published in April.

The COVID-19 pandemic will affect the most vulnerable populations to an extent that is still difficult to anticipate, beyond the immediate public health effect, economic consequences are already apparent among the most vulnerable groups, women and men and those surviving on income in the informal sector. March 2020 figures from the *Cadre Harmonise* indicates that 113,641 people are food insecure, which is estimated to rise to 267,170 people by August 2020. As the estimates do not take into account the socio-economic threats posed by COVID-19, it is very likely that the figures will rise to 500,000 by mid-year in a country where 55 percent of its population live below the poverty line, 70 percent hold an informal job and 21 percent are food insecure.

WFP's Operation Update

WFP is the lead Agency in the National Logistic Cluster for the transportation and delivery of food, non-food items (NFIs) and medical equipment for the Government and key stakeholders, including UN agencies, NGOs, Embassies. WFP is also the lead in the deployment of humanitarian staffs to areas where they are most needed to assist people.



Logistics

In close collaboration with the Government and key stakeholders, WFP took an active part in the contingency operational needs mapping and the development of a response plan including logistics requirements.

The country office (CO) provided logistic support to the Government for the transportation of medical equipment including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from the Chinese Government and 9 ventilators from the Jack Ma's Foundation.

Because of the limited capacity of health centres for the treatment of COVID-19 and the rapid increase in number of confirmed cases, WFP was requested by the Government to take part in the evaluation of former Ebola sites and assess if they could be turned into covid-19 treatment centres or required rehabilitation. The assessment highlighted the need for rehabilitation. It was then decided for WFP to set up 2 Wickhalls with a capacity of 50 beds each, at the epidemic treatment Nongo centre.



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School Feeding

To mitigate the effects of schools closure on children's food and nutrition security, the country office is developing a continuity plan including the distribution of take-home rations. The assistance will reach 150,000 schoolchildren with approximately 1,400 mt of food presently stocked in the 1,216 WFP-supported schools. WFP also participates in the Education Cluster working to ensure education continuity with distance learning on televisions and radios.

Smallholder Agricultural Market Support (SAMS) and Food Assistance for Assets (FFA)

Taking into account both the risks of transmission and the need for continuity, WFP-Guinea has made adjustments to its ongoing activities including reorganising groups with much smaller numbers of people and introducing individual activities such as the production and distribution of masks and soaps. Cash based transfers are ongoing.

- Creation of 92,000 local face-masks adapted for multiple use by 160 tailors, which the CO will purchase and distribute to 11,500 people.
- Production of 36,800 disinfectant soap (DIAMA) by 131 soap makers and distribute to 2,300 households.
- Manufacture and maintenance of 760 handwashing kits targeting 11,500 people to facilitate and improve their handwashing practices.
- Provide cash based transfers to 1,355 local craftsmen (tailors, soap makers, handwashing kits manufacturers and those responsible for their maintenance) as an exchange for the services they provide thus contributing to improve their food security during the current COVID-19 context.

Nutrition

Nutrition activities are ongoing and adjusted to include crowd management, social distancing, handwashing, temperature control, and wearing of masks, for the safety of health workers and beneficiaries. A small sensitisation campaign is also ongoing with awareness raising messages on the prevention of COVID-19 transmission targeting caregivers of children aged 6-59 months, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG), chronically ill people and disabled people.

In line with its approach of 'leaving no one behind', WFP has initiated partnership agreements, to ensure continued delivery of nutrition assistance to 20,000 HIV and Tuberculosis patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. It has further redirected 50 percent of its UBRAF fund to COVID-19 response activities in providing nutrition assistance to HIV patients.

Emergency Response

Under SO 2, Crisis Response, the country office is developing an emergency response action plan targeting 300,000 people. The plan entails unconditional assistance (food and cash based transfers) during the lean season (June-September) and livelihood support with conditional assistance afterwards (October-December) supporting vulnerable populations towards resilience. With the aim to implement a 'whole of society' approach, geographic coordination and the coherence of the response will be ensured through a close collaboration with the Government and key partners including UN agencies and the civil society.

WFP'S Funding Status

WFP's funding shortfall stands at **USD 31.3 m** for the next 6 months in view of the current COVID-19 pandemic. Last January, contributions from Japan's Supplementary Budget were confirmed, while no other confirmation followed despite two medium-probability opportunities. As previously committed donors are facing difficulties to allocate resources due to COVID-19, WFP is now targeting new donors for emergency funding, while exploring actively WFP corporate and UN pooled funding, such as PBF, UN COVID-19 Response & Recovery Fund and the Immediate Response Account (IRA) of WFP.



WFP OPERATION				
Program	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	Funding Shortfall (in USD)	Shortfall (in %)
Nutrition	3 200 000	500 000	2 700 000	84%
SAMS & FFA	1 400 000	400 000	1 000 000	71%
School Feeding	7 000 000	1 000 000	6 000 000	86%
Emergency	19 728 141	400 000	19 328 141	98%
Total	31 328 141	2 300 000	29 028 141	93%

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