



# Highlights



- In October, WFP provided food assistance to 195,606 people through nutrition and school meals activities.
- In partnership with UNICEF and the World Bank, WFP supported the organization of the first National Forum on Social Protection held in Bissau on 23 October.

## WFP Guinea-Bissau Country Brief

### WFP Assistance

Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CP 200846 (2016-2020)	21 m	26.5 m (126%)	0

\*November 2017 - April 2018

**GENDER MARKER 2A** CP 200846

Country Programme 200846 started in April 2016. This five-year programme (2016–2020) is WFP’s contribution to the three outcomes of the United Nations Partnership Assistance Framework (UNPAF, Bissau-Guinean equivalent of UNDAF) and is aligned with Government priorities in the strategic and operational plan for 2015–2020, also known as *Terra Ranka*.

Built on lessons learned from previous WFP operations, the Country Programme promotes government and community ownership of an integrated, multi-sector social protection approach to improve nutrition, food security and government capacity in early warning and assessment.

People assisted through the programme include primary schoolchildren; undernourished children 6 to 59 months; undernourished people living with HIV (PLHIV) on treatment and their families; and vulnerable smallholder farmers. Cash-based transfers provided since the last quarter of 2016 will be expanded as WFP gains more experience and receives additional cash contributions.

The country programme has three objectives:

Reduce undernutrition among children aged 6 to 23 months through stunting prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition among children aged 6 to 59 months; and provide nutritional support to undernourished people living with HIV.

Improve access to education and help increase government capacity for developing and managing a sustainable home-grown school meals programme.

Strengthen national capacity, both at government and community level, for scaling up food security and nutrition interventions, and connect agricultural production with sustainable markets.

## In Numbers

**195,606**  
People Assisted  
October 2017



## Operational Updates

On 13 October, WFP and the Ministry of Education completed the annual evaluation of school meals for the 2016/17 academic year to identify strengths and opportunities for improvement. The evaluation involved technicians from educational government structures and local authorities, and resulted in creation of a technical working group within the Ministry of Education that will deliver a draft action plan to WFP for 2017/18. The official action plan will be shared in November.

In partnership with UNICEF and the World Bank, WFP supported the organization of the first National Forum on Social Protection held in Bissau on 23 October. The Country Director spoke about WFP's three focuses in Guinea-Bissau: school meals, nutrition and health, and resilience. The event included the participation of representatives from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women, WHO, NGOs, embassies, World Bank and UNICEF.

WFP and its partners launched the second round of the Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS) for 2017. From 5 to 9 October, organizers trained surveyors about questionnaires for a survey gathering additional data for elaboration of a nutrition-focused communication strategy. Overall, 48 surveyors were trained by staff from nutrition and health governmental structures. From 10 to 26 October, data was collected from rural households in the eight regions of the country, including 38 sectors and 852 villages. Results will be shared in November.

WFP also supported the organization of the 15<sup>th</sup> Forum of Nutrition Focal Points of the West African Health Organization (WAHO), a specialized institution of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The Forum took place from 24 to 27 October, bringing together representatives from UN agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and academic institutions. The Forum provided a consultative platform for solving nutritional problems in the sub-region. Recommendations will be shared in November.

## Country Background & Strategy



Despite considerable agricultural potential, Guinea-Bissau has long been constrained by political turmoil that hampers economic development. With GDP of USD 1,057 billion and GNI per capita of USD 620, Guinea-Bissau is one of the poorest and most fragile low-income food-deficit countries today. Sixty-nine percent of Bissau-Guineans live below the poverty line on USD 2 per day, with higher poverty rates among people aged 15-25 years and women. Chronic food insecurity is compounded by shocks related to political instability, irregular rainfall and volatility of prices for imported rice and local cashew nut production for export.

Half the population above 15 years old is illiterate, with a wide gap in illiteracy rates between men (45 percent) and women (71 percent). Net enrolment, attendance and completion rates at primary school are extremely low, with significant disparities among regions; 27 percent of boys and 51 percent of girls are out of school. At 3.3 percent, HIV prevalence is among the highest in West Africa, with women more affected than men. Poor diet, inadequate feeding practices for young children, and high childhood morbidity contribute to global acute malnutrition rates of 6 percent among children 6 to 59 months, and chronic malnutrition rates of 27.6 percent countrywide.

WFP focuses on capacity development of Government institutions and builds synergies with national partners to optimize interventions. Interventions are mutually supportive of a school-centred approach. The regional gender strategy and a gender analysis study conducted in early 2016 guides country programme implementation.

WFP has been present in Guinea-Bissau since 1974.

Population: **1.8 million**

2016 Human Development Index:  
**178 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low income**

Chronic malnutrition: **27.6% of children 6-59 months**

## Donors

Guinea-Bissau, European Commission, Japan, USA