Children (around 25 percent of total population) attending schools.

The assistance to school meals program which is central to the poverty reduction strategy. WFP technical and household assets. WFP assistance is focused on education, negatively affect crops and road access as well as destroy houses prone to natural disasters such as floods and landslides, which puts the country at risk. Further information:

**Operational Context**

In 2017, estimated GDP per capita in São Tomé and Príncipe amounted to around USD 1,785 U.S. dollars. However, recent World Bank estimates show that about one-third of the population lives with less than USD 1.9 per day and more than two-thirds of the population is using a poverty line of USD 3.2 per day. In the past decades, the country has made considerable progress in reducing child mortality, malnutrition and improving maternal health. However, in 2014, it was estimated that 17.2 percent of children aged 6-59 months were stunted (20.5 percent boys and 13.9 percent girls), 8.8 percent were underweight (10.6 percent boys and 6.9 percent girls), and 4 percent were wasted (4.7 percent boys and 3.3 percent girls) — MICS-2014.

Human Development Index value is 0.589 — which puts the country in the medium human development category, ranking 143 out of 189 countries and above the Sub-Saharan Africa average. With Sao Tome, heavily dependent on food imports, food availability is unpredictable: there is no deep-sea port, and, in bad weather, landing is difficult on the country’s one short airstrip. In addition, no cereals are cultivated on the island. The country is prone to natural disasters such as floods and landslides, which negatively affect crops and road access as well as destroy houses and household assets. WFP assistance is focused on education, which is central to the poverty reduction strategy. WFP technical assistance to school meals programme reaches over 45,000 children (around 25 percent of total population) attending schools.

WFP has been present in Sao Tome and Principe since 1976.

**In Numbers**

**USD0.1 m** five months (February-July 2019) net funding requirements, representing 45% of total needs requirements.

**Operational Updates**

- On 10 January 2019, WFP Deputy Country Director met with the new Prime Minister, H.E. Mr. Jorge Bom Jesus, to discuss the ongoing and foreseen activities of WFP in Sao Tome and Principe, including the commitment by the previous Government for funding of USD 1 million towards the implementation of Activity 1 of the CSP 2019–2024, to be submitted for approval at the June 2019 Executive Board session (even if in the table, please specify what Activity 1 is here). Invitation previously extended to the former Prime Minister to attend the June Executive Board has been reiterated to the new Prime Minister who confirmed the disbursement of the funding committed by his predecessor and his attendance to the June Executive Board.

- From 21 to 22 January, WFP and FAO carried out a joint workshop to support the Ministry of Agriculture (including the food and nutrition security council (CONSAN), Ministry of Health (including the national nutrition programme (PNN) and Ministry of Education (including the national programme of school feeding (PNASE)) to come up with recommendations for a national consensus to put in place a sustainable home-grown school feeding programme based on the consumption of local commodities mainly. The three Ministers concerned attended the opening sessions together with the Ambassador of Brazil who presented the Brazilian experience in home-grown school feeding.

**Partnerships**

- The Ministry of Education through PNASE remains the main cooperating partner for WFP.

- WFP is also partnering with local and international NGOs.

**Monitoring**

- The process of the acquisition of a software for integrated management and monitoring of the school meals programme is ongoing.

**Challenges**

- Funds availability and resources mobilization for Transitional-Interim Country Strategic Plan implementation.

**Donors:** Multilateral

**Contact info:** diogenes.santos@wfp.org

**Country Director:** Abdoulaye Balde

**Main Photo**

Credit: Cipriano Semedo/WFP staff

Caption: Family photo of the opening session of the joint workshop (WFP/FAO) to support the Government (and others partners including CONSAN), for a sustainable home-grown school feeding programme based on local commodities.

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/sao-tome-and-principe
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Requirement (in USD)</td>
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**Strategic Result 5**: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement SDGs.

**Strategic Outcome 1**: The Government of Sao Tomé and Principe has enhanced capacity to implement food security and nutrition focused safety nets nationwide.

**Focus area: Root causes**

**Activities 1**: Provide technical assistance to the Government to design, finance and manage its national home-grown school meals programme.

**Strategic Result 5**: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement SDGs.

**Strategic Outcome 1**: The Government of Sao Tomé and Principe has enhanced capacity to implement food security and nutrition focused safety nets nationwide.

**Focus area: Root causes**

**Activities 2**: Provide targeted technical assistance for hunger-focused cost analysis and evidence generation for improved programme.