

Standard Project Report 2015

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2015

GUINEA-BISSAU

Food and nutrition assistance and building resilience of vulnerable population affected by the post election crisis in Guinea Bissau

Project Number	200526
Project Category	Single Country PRRO
Overall Planned Beneficiaries	369,085
Planned Beneficiaries in 2015	161,680
Total Beneficiaries in 2015	183,640

Project Approval Date	31 May 2013
Planned Start Date	01 Mar 2013
Actual Start Date	01 Mar 2013
Project End Date	31 Mar 2016
Financial Closure Date	n.a.

Approved budget as 31 December 2015 in USD	
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	478,206
Cash--based Transfer and Related Costs	68,374
Direct Support Costs	5,246,399
Food and Related Costs	20,099,825
Indirect Support Costs	1,812,496
Total Approved Budget	27,705,300

Commodities	Metric Tonnes
Total Approved Commodities	17,223
Planned Commodities in 2015	6,993
Actual Commodities in 2015	5,050

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Country Overview



COUNTRY BACKGROUND

With 1.7 million people populating 36000 km², Guinea-Bissau ranks 177 out of 187 countries in the 2014 Human Development Index. Despite considerable economic potential, the country has long been constrained by political turmoil and social unrest that have caused economic development to regress. After the 2014 presidential and legislative elections, the government launched a 2015-2025 long-term strategy and its 2015-2020 Terra Ranca plan, which was presented at the March 2015 International Conference for Guinea-Bissau in Brussels, where donor pledges exceeded Euro 1.3 billion.

Over 69 percent of Bissau-Guineans people live below the poverty line on less than 2 USD per day with higher poverty rates among people aged 15-25 live 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.

Nearly half the population 15 years and over are illiterate, with a wide gap in illiteracy between men (45 percent) and women (71 percent). Net enrolment, attendance and completion rates at primary school are extremely low, with disparities among regions; 27 percent boys and 51 percent girls are out of school; the regions with the most negative education indicators are Oio, Bafata Gabu. 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 over 6 percent among children under 5, and chronic malnutrition rates of 27.6 percent countrywide, reaching over 30 percent in Oio (35.3 percent) and Bafata (34 percent).

Agriculture accounts for 69 percent of GDP and provides direct or indirect income to 85 percent of the population. Fifty percent of the arable land is dominated by cashew nut production, mostly exported unprocessed, characterized by lack of investment and smallholder plots of 2-3 hectares which limit yields.

Rice is the main cereal crop and is mostly cultivated for self-consumption. Rice production is affected by irregular rainfall patterns, lack of investment in infrastructure and equipment, environmental degradation affecting lowland rice cultivation, lack of agricultural inputs and credit, urban migration and weak organization of farmers. The country depends on imported rice, but because rice purchases and cashew nut production are closely linked, a decrease in household income from cashew nut impacts the affordability of imported rice.

According to the June 2015 Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring Survey (FSNMS) , Tombali (17 percent), Oio (16 percent), Gabu (13 percent) and Bolama (12 percent) regions were most affected by food insecurity on account of a delayed start of the rainy season which affected the 2014-2015 cereal production, and an increase in food prices.

SUMMARY OF WFP ASSISTANCE

Through its Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO 200526), initiated in March 2013, WFP assisted children aged 6-59 months with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), children aged 6-23 months for the prevention of chronic malnutrition, people living with HIV (PLHIV) and tuberculosis (TB) under treatment, vulnerable, food insecure smallholder farmers, malnourished pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and primary school children.

Stunting prevention was implemented in 2 regions, Oio and Bafata, where the prevalence of chronic malnutrition is above 30 percent; WFP school feeding activities were implemented in regions where school enrolment was below 60 percent. Food assistance was used to retain children at school and stabilize attendance rates, particularly at the end of the cashew nut season when parents tend to take children out of school to help with the harvest. WFP provided girls from grades 4-6 with take-home rations as an extra incentive to improve their retention in schools.

WFP assisted undernourished PLHIV on anti-retroviral therapy (ART) and tuberculosis clients on directly-observed treatment (TB-DOTS) to facilitate nutritional recovery and enhanced adherence to treatment. WFP also assisted food-insecure families of PLHIV and TB-DOTS clients with a family entitlement.

In 2015, in support of the government, WFP assisted vulnerable smallholder farmers in 8 regions to rehabilitate rice land through food-for-asset interventions to improve their food security status thanks to World Bank funding; WFP also piloted local purchases of food directly from smallholder farmers' organizations through funding provided by the European Union. Lessons learned from these activities will inform implementation in 2016 through the new Country Programme.

The FSNMS was launched in April 2015 to support the government and partners in monitoring the food security and nutrition situation and make recommendations to policymakers and guide interventions. Though the data was collected in June 2015, the first FSNMS Bulletin will be published only at the beginning of 2016 following considerable delays in implementation related to lack of government ownership.

The current PRRO was extended in time from January to 31 March 2016 to be followed by a Country Programme (2016-2020) that will be presented at EB1/2016. The CP will be aligned with the human development and agriculture pillars of the Guinea Bissau Government's strategic and operational plan and with human development and economic growth and poverty reduction pillars of the United Nations Strategic Cooperation Framework for Guinea-Bissau.

Guinea Bissau has achieved some progress with regards to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), since 2000 in terms of reduction of maternal mortality and increase in the youth literacy rate. However, most data on achievements by 2012 is missing. WFP contributed to the achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 1, 2, and 3 by supporting the country's poverty reduction, food security, and nutrition policies.

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Number of children below 5 years of age	19,788	20,224	40,012
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	56,559	52,799	109,358
Number of adults	13,746	20,247	33,993
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	90,093	93,270	183,363
Total number of beneficiaries in 2014	80,436	89,718	170,154
Total number of beneficiaries in 2013	86,964	128,094	215,058

Distribution (mt)						
Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country PRRO	1,360	426	645	2,301	317	5,050
Total food distributed in 2015	1,360	426	645	2,301	317	5,050
Total food distributed in 2014	811	184	223	1,555	113	2,886
Total food distributed in 2013	1,780	122	114	495	61	2,571

Operational SPR

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND RELEVANCE

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 200526 was designed to support households and communities to recover from recent climatic and food-price shocks compounded by political instability, structural weakness, and other economic and social vulnerabilities. Recovery activities laid the foundation for long-term investments to address the food security status of vulnerable people and communities.

The PRRO is aligned with WFP's Strategic Results Framework and Strategic Objective 2, "Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies." It contributes to Millennium Development Goals 1, 2 and 3. It is also in line with the Country Strategic Plan "Terra Ranca", to the National Nutrition Strategic Plan 2015-2019, to the government's Education Development Plan 2016-2025. WFP was an active contributor to the drafting of the United Nations Strategic Cooperation Framework for Guinea-Bissau (UNSCF) 2016-2020.

The first outcome of the project aims to improve access to assets and basic social services including community and market infrastructure through (i) the provision of daily school meals to primary school children to increase enrollment, gender parity and retention and through take home rations for girls from 4th to 5th grade to retain them in school; ii) food assistance for assets for food insecure vulnerable groups aiming to improve their productive base and access to markets and enhance their food security. The second outcome aims to reduce under-nutrition through: i) targeted supplementary feeding for moderately malnourished children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women; ii) nutritional and food support to malnourished client under anti-retroviral therapy (ART) and tuberculosis (TB) clients and their households to recover their nutritional status and improve treatment adherence as prescribed by the Care & Treatment pillar; (iii) the provision of complementary feeding to children 6-23 months of age for the prevention of stunting.

RESULTS

Beneficiaries, Targeting and Distribution

Through this PRRO, WFP assisted: (i) children aged 6-59 months with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM), malnourished pregnant and lactating women (PLW); children 6-23 months of age irrespective of nutritional status in regions with high stunting rates; (ii) malnourished PLHIV on anti-retroviral therapy (ART) and tuberculosis (TB) clients; (iii) food-insecure households and iv) primary school children.

In 2015, the food basket consisted of cereals, Super Cereal with sugar, pulses, vegetable oil and canned fish for school feeding; Super Cereal Plus for children aged 6-59 months under treatment for MAM; vegetable oil and Super Cereal for malnourished PLW; Plumpy'Doz for prevention of stunting; vegetable oil and Super Cereal for food-by-prescription ART/TB clients receiving individual rations; cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and salt for ART or DOTS food insecure households targeted along with ART/ TB clients; cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and iodized salt for beneficiaries under Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) and Food for Training (FFT).

Targeting of school feeding, which is the largest activity in the PRRO, was done on the basis of food security and educational indicators, namely in regions where enrolment rates are below 60 percent and other indicators such as attendance, gender parity, retention, are below the national average (Bafata, Gabu, Oio, Quinara, Biombo). Targeting of nutrition interventions is based on prevalence of global acute malnutrition and stunting rates; the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey in 2014 showed that Bafata and Oio are the regions with the worst stunting rates (over 30 percent) and that is where the activity concentrated most. Targeting of food security interventions through food assistance for assets was implemented thanks to a donor contribution that focused on short-term and medium-term food security, economic stabilization and revitalization through improvement in agricultural productivity, particularly for rice, in 8 regions. Targeting of People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) and TB was done in health centers on the basis of the nutritional status.

The number of children aged 6 - 59 months receiving targeted supplementary feeding was lower than planned due to lower admissions to the nutrition and health centres. This could be attributed, on the one hand, to a general reduction in prevalence of global acute malnutrition rates (GAM), according to the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2014, the national prevalence of GAM is 6 percent with Oio showing the highest prevalence at 8 percent. According to the recommendations of the mid-term evaluation of the PRRO (2104), WFP is meant to phase out from MAM treatment and concentrate its efforts on stunting prevention.

On the other hand, children in this age group are not systematically followed up during routine post-natal checks at health centres, coupled with a limited number of community based health workers to undertake the screening in the communities. On the other hand, the number of pregnant and lactating women (PLW) who received targeted supplementary feeding was higher than planned as WFP engaged to work closely with UNICEF to widen the targeted areas of intervention. While the number of beneficiaries reached under stunting prevention is satisfactory, it should be highlighted that activities in Oio region (about 10,000 children) were delayed on account of several logistical and programmatic constraints which were overcome by the end of 2015.

The number of ART and TB clients exceeded the planned for the arrangement made with National HIV Secretariat (SNLS). All PLHIV receiving ART in all assisted centres are to be covered due to the high prevalence of malnutrition and increased default rate during the time this category of beneficiaries did not receive food assistance. The number of TB clients under Directly Observed Treatment Short-course (DOTS) exceeded the planned due to the starting of assistance in new centres.

The number of ART and DOTS clients exceeded the planned due to the arrangement made with National HIV Secretariat (SNLS) to cover all PLHIV receiving ART in all assisted centres due to the high prevalence of malnutrition observed among this category of beneficiary and increased default rate during the time beneficiaries did not receive food assistance. The number of TB clients under DOTS exceeded the planned due to the starting of assistance in new centres. The number of FFA participants and beneficiaries was well above plan because the need was higher and also because while the project estimated that each participant would work on an average of 2ha, the average size of the plots and the capacity of cultivation per household is 0.25 ha / participant. Due to the heavy nature of the works, the number of male participants was higher than the number of females.

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number of adults	9,689	13,688	23,377	13,831	20,345	34,176	142.7%	148.6%	146.2%
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	48,052	47,605	95,657	56,554	52,877	109,431	117.7%	111.1%	114.4%
Number of children below 5 years of age	21,259	21,387	42,646	19,301	20,732	40,033	90.8%	96.9%	93.9%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	79,000	82,680	161,680	89,686	93,954	183,640	113.5%	113.6%	113.6%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2014	97,141	104,808	201,949	80,436	89,718	170,154	82.8%	85.6%	84.3%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2013	109,438	124,709	234,147	63,121	62,495	125,616	57.7%	50.1%	53.6%
The total number of beneficiaries includes all targeted persons who were provided with WFP food during the reporting period - either as a recipient/participant in one or more of the following groups, or from a household food ration distributed to one of these recipients/participants									

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Children 6 to 23 months given food under blanket supplementary feeding (prevention of stunting)	14,250	14,250	28,500	12,867	13,839	26,706	90.3%	97.1%	93.7%
Children receiving take-home rations		12,240	12,240		11,956	11,956		97.7%	97.7%
Participants in Food For Training	214	643	857	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
HIV/AIDS and TB beneficiaries	2,723	3,465	6,188	11,813	14,137	25,950	433.8%	408.0%	419.4%
Participants in Food For Assets	908	2,726	3,634	2,113	2,290	4,403	232.7%	84.0%	121.2%
Children receiving school meals	43,366	42,290	85,656	48,088	43,265	91,353	110.9%	102.3%	106.7%
Children 24 to 59 months given food under supplementary feeding (treatment for moderate malnutrition)	1,687	1,688	3,375	446	510	956	26.4%	30.2%	28.3%
Children 6 to 23 months given food under supplementary feeding (treatment for moderate malnutrition)	1,981	1,980	3,961	1,678	1,953	3,631	84.7%	98.6%	91.7%
Pregnant and lactating women participating in targeted supplementary feeding (treatment for moderate acute malnutrition)		2,680	2,680		4,123	4,123		153.8%	153.8%

Commodity Distribution

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Beans		29	
Canned Fish	322	307	95.2%
Corn-soya Blend (csb)	2,493	2,188	87.7%
Iodised Salt	39	10	26.5%
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	483	114	23.6%
Rice	2,133	1,360	63.8%
Split Peas	770	616	80.0%
Sugar	263	0	0.0%
Vegetable Oil	490	426	86.9%
Total for 2015	6,993	5,050	72.2%
Total reported in 2014 SPR	3,941	2,886	73.2%
Total reported in 2013 SPR	5,406	1,039	19.2%

'Story Worth Telling'

Mafalda Perreira, 58 years old, is the President of the school parents' association and is the grand-mother of 2 girls both at grade 1 in the primary school "1 de Junho" in Canchungo, Cacheu Region in northern Guinea-Bissau. For her the school meals and take-home-rations programme, started in November 2015 in the Cacheu Region, is the most welcome initiative that had as immediate consequence to increase the enrollment and attendance rate in the school. "Before the school meals, the children were arriving late and wouldn't go to school until they had had breakfast or lunch at home, now they rather run to go to school and even when they are sick, they refuse to go home before they have had their school meals". Guinea-Bissau is a low-income country where not all the parents have the means to afford 3 daily meals for their children. School meals motivate the children to attend lessons at school, and allow them to be more focused at school, whilst parents spend less money on food, saving the meal eaten at school.

"I love the beans and the canned fish and I prefer the food that I eat at school"said delighted Samira Alfredo Watna, 6 years old, one of Mafalda's grand-daughters. Since November 2015 beans, canned fish and cereals (alternatively) are at school meal menu every day at 10 am. The young girl wants to be a mathematics teacher just like her dad.

Progress Towards Gender Equality

In 2015, WFP and its partners have concentrated their efforts on promoting gender equality and particularly on strengthening women's leadership. Monitoring activities have shown that in the households benefiting from family rations through the support provided to PLHIV and TB, more women are called upon to make decisions on the use of assistance than men which is very encouraging given that decision making is traditionally attributed to men in the Bissau-Guinean society. This reality is reflected in the school environment where women's leadership is not yet achieved.

Women's participation in the school management committees is very low and they are not often occupying leadership roles such as president or executive secretary. However, the monitoring surveys have shown that women participate equally with men in speaking out and taking decisions that are made democratically in the group meetings.

Low enrollment of girls is a major issue in Guinea-Bissau. Studies such as the 2013 Report on the Situation of the Education Sector (RESEN) have shown that in low-income households, particularly those in rural areas, it is more likely that the choice of school is based on the male child than on the female child. Social representations vis-à-vis gender implied that girls were much more drawn upon than boys in household tasks and in some economic activities such as petty trade. To address gender disparity in schools, in addition to providing take home rations to girls from 4th to 6th grades in order to foster their retention, WFP has also carried out sensitization broadcasts through the national radio and through 8 locally based radios. The information provided includes aspects related to education topics including gender equity in schools.

Women participation in FFA activities was very active although male participants outnumbered female participants, mostly on account of the very heavy works to be executed. WFP will conduct a gender analysis in early 2016 to determine in which ways WFP activities in the country can be best geared to better address the needs and capacities of men and women, particularly when food for assets interventions are concerned as past experience showed that FFA implementation arrangements can be an additional overburden on women's already heavy workload.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
Base value: Dec-2015, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2015, Baseline value from last follow-up, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	50	14	14	14
Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
Base value: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2015, Baseline value from last follow-up, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	30	53	53	53
Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
Base value: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2015, Baseline value from last follow-up, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	20	33	33	33
Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees				
Base value: Dec-2014, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Baseline value, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	50	56	56	27
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
Base value: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2015, Baseline value from last follow-up, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	60	100	100	100

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

A monitoring exercise in 2015 showed that the level of security and protection of beneficiaries of WFP assistance is satisfying. None of the beneficiaries interviewed reported a protection/insecurity issue. On the other hand, only 3 percent of the beneficiaries interviewed were aware of feedback mechanisms, either for lack of information or because the mechanisms are not in place. This will be addressed by the programme in 2016 through the implementation of a feedback mechanisms in schools, health centers and other areas of intervention of the programme. Similarly very few beneficiaries were aware of their entitlements and of the targeting mechanisms; women were less informed than men. WFP will have to ensure that such information is made available through the cooperating partners through training. WFP will also strengthen post-distribution monitoring in 2016 to ensure that beneficiary protection and information issues are adequately addressed. In addition, WFP will make use of rural radios to broadcast information on the activities as well as produce posters in local languages in all distribution sites regarding beneficiary entitlements as well as implementation modalities.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
Base value: Dec-2014, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Baseline value, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	90	3	3	3
Proportion of assisted people (men) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
Base value: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2015, Baseline value from last follow-up, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	90	11	11	11
Proportion of assisted people (men) who do not experience safety problems travelling to/from and at WFP programme sites				
Base value: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2015, Baseline value from last follow-up, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	90	100	100	100
Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to/from and at WFP programme sites				
Base value: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2015, Baseline value from last follow-up, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	90	100	100	100
Proportion of assisted people (women) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
Base value: Dec-2015, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2015, Baseline value from last follow-up, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	90	0	0	0
Proportion of assisted people (women) who do not experience safety problems travelling to/from and at WFP programme sites				
Base value: Dec-2015, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2015, Baseline value from last follow-up, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	90	100	100	100

Outputs

In 2015, the school feeding programme reached more beneficiaries than planned in most component of this PRRO project thanks to a good resource situation and a generally stable pipeline.

All planned primary schools received assistance during 95 percent of the school year. Given the existence of some 100 mt in stock at the end of school year 2014/2015 which had a short expiry date, the regional school feeding directorates in Bafata and Gabu region proposed to use the stocks for extra-curricular activities during the period from mid-August to mid-September, to which WFP agreed. The extra-curricular activities consisted in teaching hygiene, basic sanitation, HIV/AIDS awareness, children's rights and duties. School children were also involved in preparing and maintaining school gardens and were taught basic horticultural practices. Overall, 165 schools with 27,200 school children in Bafata (12,773 boys and 14,427 girls) and 55 schools in Gabu region with 11,194 school children (5699 males and 5495 females) benefited from the activities. These were much appreciated by the Ministry of Education as well as the communities.

The level of achievement of the nutrition activities under the PRRO was also satisfactory and more beneficiaries than planned could be reached under the care and treatment support to PLHIV and TB. However, the continuation of this financial support will not be guaranteed in 2016 as the Global Fund priorities for the country do not include nutrition support to PLHIV. This will require advocacy, based on evidence-building, on the importance of nutrition for this category of beneficiaries. The training of health staff as well as community health workers managing prevention of stunting intervention planned to take place mid 2015 was postponed to early 2016 as WFP and the cooperating partner still need to develop appropriate training support material.

As for food assistance for assets, in partnership with Rural Engineering Department of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, 5,302 hectares of land for rice cultivation were rehabilitated. The activities consisted in the rehabilitation of dykes and drainage channels to reclaim land for rice cultivation and they were undertaken from May to July. During this period, a total of 312,613 work days were generated for the benefit of food insecure smallholder farmers in eight regions who benefited from food entitlements. While yields and total production have not yet been measured, it is estimated that the total production amounted to 13,300 mt of paddy rice which corresponds to 7,950 tons of cleaned rice. This quantity will contribute to alleviate effects of hunger for at least six months prior to the next agricultural season. FFT was planned to run together with FFA for the rehabilitation of rice perimeters. However, due to the delayed signature of the agreement with the donor, the FFA activities were also delayed and FFT activities could not be carried out because of the intense work plan in matter of FFA. Nevertheless, FFA trainings were provided on the job, during the execution of the activities. WFP also supported training of local farmer groups on indigenous fruit-processing techniques and preparation of nurseries as well as construction and maintenance of improved stoves for schools in their communities. The activities, conducted through 3 national NGOs, benefited 479 women and 265 men.

A national Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System survey was undertaken in June 2015 in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; the second round which was due in October could not take place on account of political instability which delayed many activities. The publication of the first bulletin and the second round have been delayed until early 2016.

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
SO 2: Capacity Development: Strengthening National Capacities				
Number of national assessments/data collection exercises in which food security and nutrition were integrated with WFP support	exercise	2	1	50.0%
SO 2: FFA				
Hectares (ha) of agricultural land benefiting from rehabilitated irrigation schemes (including irrigation canal repair, specific protection measures, embankments, etc)	Ha	5,000	5,301	106.0%
SO 2: HIV/TB: Care and Treatment				
Number of ART clients who received both individual nutritional food supplement and household food assistance	Individual	330	3,086	935.2%
Number of beneficiaries of ART individual nutritional food supplement and household food assistance	Individual	3,080	21,602	701.4%
Number of beneficiaries of TB treatment individual nutritional food supplement and household food assistance	Individual	3,108	4,348	139.9%
Number of institutional sites assisted	site	57	57	100.0%
Number of TB treatment clients who received both individual nutritional food supplement and household food assistance	Individual	333	466	139.9%
Quantity of fuel efficiency stoves distributed	stove	17	17	100.0%
SO 2: Nutrition: Prevention of Stunting				
Number of health centres/sites assisted	centre/site	30	28	93.3%
Number of staff members/community health workers trained on modalities of food distribution	Individual	100	0	0.0%
SO 2: Nutrition: Treatment of Acute Malnutrition				
Number of health centres/sites assisted	centre/site	50	50	100.0%
Number of staff members/community health workers trained on modalities of food distribution	Individual	17	15	88.2%
SO 2: School Feeding				
Number of primary schools assisted by WFP	school	422	422	100.0%
Number of PTA members trained in school feeding management or implementation	Individual	475	466	98.1%
Quantity of kitchen utensils distributed (plates, spoons, cooking pots etc.)	utensil	24,712	24,712	100.0%

Outcomes

Outcome monitoring in 2015 was partial, due to an extensive recruitment process for an Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) officer, which limited the in-country monitoring and analysis of some of the outcomes for the majority of the year. However, in October the recruitment was finalized to reinforce the country team and a robust monitoring and evaluation plan is being developed to strengthen M&E in 2016.

Most of the school feeding related indicators saw a positive change as related to the 2014 and to the baseline results. There was a significant increase in enrollment in schools assisted by WFP between 2014 and 2015 with a slightly higher increase for boys than girls. The gender ratio remained at a level of 0.9, still short of reaching parity. The retention rate recorded at the end of the school year was higher than previous years and it surpasses the targets set by the programme. There are still differences in enrolment and retention rates for boys and girls indicating that WFP, the government and the partners need to continue their efforts and initiatives to reach gender parity. This is particularly critical given the sharp decline in gender parity from 1 in primary school (with regional disparities) to 0.81 in secondary schools. According to the mid-term evaluation of the PRRO in 2014, though the take-home ration can contribute to the retention of girls from the 4th to the 6th grade, it cannot address the issue completely.

Related to nutrition indicators, the default rate is higher than previous years which may be related to an exceptionally good harvest of cashew-nut in 2015 where caretakers, particularly women are intensely occupied. Though MAM treatment will be gradually phased out and WFP will concentrate its efforts on stunting prevention, as recommended by the PRRO mid-term evaluation, a closer coordination with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health in addressing acute malnutrition could guarantee better effectiveness of the programme, for example by strengthening the capacity of network of Community based Health Agents. The indicators related to ART and TB default and recovery rate show a slight deterioration in default and nutritional recovery rates for both beneficiary categories. Due to the limited M&E activities throughout the majority of the year, the collection of outcome information on the causes of this deterioration were limited, however pipeline breaks at the beginning of the year, which affected the activities, could have influenced the results. Likewise, WFP did not collect the community asset score (CAS) for food assistance for assets activities though the results were encouraging as the hectares of rice-land rehabilitated were higher than planned. In addition, outcomes related to the prevention of stunting (minimum acceptable diet and coverage rate) could also not be collected.

Outcome	Project end Target	Base Value (at start of project or benchmark)	Previous Follow-up (penultimate follow-up)	Latest Follow-up (latest value measured)
Strategic Objective 2: Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies				
ART Default Rate (%)				
Base value: Dec-2013, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring.	15	26.46	10.34	22.34
ART Nutritional Recovery Rate (%)				
Base value: Dec-2013, Programme & partners monitoring, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring.	75	56.45	83.97	72.93
Average number of school days per month when multi-fortified foods or at least 4 food groups were provided				
Base value: Dec-2014, School records, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, School records, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, School records, Programme monitoring.	16	12	12	15.5
CAS: Community Asset Score (average)				
	80			
Enrolment: Average annual rate of change in number of children enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, School records, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, School records, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, School records, Programme monitoring.	2	-3.57	-3.57	7
Enrolment (boys): Average annual rate of change in number of boys enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, School records, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, School records, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, School records, Programme monitoring.	2	2.73	2.73	8
Enrolment (girls): Average annual rate of change in number of girls enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2014, School records, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, School records, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, School records, Programme monitoring.	2	-4.41	-4.41	7
Gender ratio: ratio of girls to boys enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2013, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring.	1	0.89	0.9	0.9
MAM treatment default rate (%)				
Base value: Dec-2013, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring.	15	11.97	13.94	17.91
MAM treatment mortality rate (%)				
Base value: Dec-2013, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring.	3	0.71	0.31	0.7

Outcome	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
MAM treatment non-response rate (%) Base value: Dec-2013, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring.	15	1.28	4.28	4.04
MAM treatment recovery rate (%) Base value: Dec-2013, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Programme & partners monitoring, Programme monitoring.	75	83.25	76.76	77.34
Proportion of children consuming a minimum acceptable diet	70			
Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)	70			
Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions	70			
Retention rate (boys) in WFP-assisted primary schools Base value: May-2013, School records, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, School records, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, School records, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	91	91	87.2	97.9
Retention rate (girls) in WFP-assisted primary schools Base value: May-2013, School records, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, School records, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, School records, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	91	91	87.7	95.8
Retention rate in WFP-assisted primary schools Base value: May-2013, School records, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, School records, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, School records, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	91	91	87.4	96.4
TB Treatment Default Rate (%) Base value: May-2013, Health centers reports, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Health centers reports, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Health centers reports, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	15	12	8.78	10.63
TB Treatment Nutritional Recovery Rate (%) Base value: May-2013, Health centers reports, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Health centers reports, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Health centers reports, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	75	72.86	73.94	76.87

Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

The two major activities that currently WFP Guinea-Bissau is engaged in, as related to capacity development and hand-over are the school feeding programme and the food security and nutrition monitoring system.

In June 2015, WFP supported the Ministry of Education to conduct a System Assessment and Benchmarking for Education Results (SABER) which highlighted that school feeding in Guinea-Bissau is at the latent stage, requiring continuation of direct service provision by WFP for a few transitional years while working toward gradual handover. The SABER action plan recommended: (i) parliamentary approval of the national school feeding law to replace the decree approved by government in 2010; (ii) creation of a budget line in the Ministry of Education for school feeding; (iii) strengthen the Ministry's school feeding unit at central and decentralized levels; (iv) support for conception and implementation capacity; and (v) support for community participation. This exercise and its recommendations are an important basis for the elaboration of the new Country Programme due to start in 2016 and for the elaboration of a gradual hand-over strategy of school feeding to the government. The government has also shown great interest in the development of a Home Grown School Feeding approach which will gradually be developed on the basis of lessons learned from the 2015 local purchase pilot and also on the basis of experience in West African countries.

In 2015, the government and WFP participated in the Global Child Nutrition Forum held in Cabo Verde where very useful lessons were learned from the countries that are successfully implementing nationally owned school feeding programmes. WFP is looking forward to continue working together with the government and will welcome the renewed involvement of the Brazil Centre of Excellence during the implementation of the future WFP country programme to assist the country in devising an appropriate strategy for a national home grown school feeding model.

The first phase of the implementation of a national Food security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS), highlighted its relevance and usefulness of the system to all the different actors operating in the field of Food and Nutritional Security. However, for a the system to be fully handed over to the government, a number of improvements will be required namely: i) a clear definition of mutual roles and responsibilities through a contractual agreement in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development as well as with FAO; ii) the Ministry of Agriculture should nominate a staff dedicated to this activity to be seconded by the WFP expert; likewise FAO should nominate a staff who will be the reference for the system; iii) to enhance the capacity of the FSNMS Technical Unit to in the analysis of food security and operationalization of the System; to meet this need, closer and stronger partnerships were designed with INEP (National Institute of Studies and Research) with the participation of two of their researchers in the technical cell, with INASA (Institute of Public Health) and with the GEPASE (Design Office, Planning, Evaluation of the Education System), which will also participate in the Technical Unit activities; iv) the consolidation of this partnership will not only facilitate monitoring of the implementation of FSNMS but also the process of its ownership of FSNMS by the government; v) partnership with UNICEF will be strengthened and expanded, particularly in terms of contributions in the fields of nutrition and water and sanitation (WASH).

INPUTS

Resource Inputs

With the generous contributions received from donors, WFP could undertake school feeding, nutrition, support to PLHIV and TB, food assistance for asset and food security monitoring; in fact the resources received for this project helped ensure that WFP was able to assist even more than the planned beneficiaries. The Government of Guinea Bissau donated 100 mt of rice for school feeding, for which WFP provided a matching fund to cover associated costs.

Donor	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/Purchased in 2015 (mt)
	In-Kind	Cash	
European Commission			359
Guinea Bissau	100	325	260
MULTILATERAL		1,044	879
Timor Leste		3	
World Bank		1,901	1,899
Total:	100	3,272	3,397

See Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors for breakdown by commodity and contribution reference number

Food Purchases and in-kind Receipts

Food was purchased locally, regionally and internationally. In 2015 the country office has made the following purchases: 963 mt of rice and 165 mt of beans in Senegal; 13 mt of salt were bought locally and 4946.20 tons of different commodities were purchased on the international market. The remaining commodities (1831 mt) were bought on the international market and through the Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF) in Las Palmas. Slight delays in reception of commodities were registered in 2015 that delayed the start of implementation of food assistance for assets, though not in a critical manner as activities were executed in full thanks to other existing stocks in country.

Commodity	Local (mt)	Developing Country (mt)	Other International (mt)	GCMF (mt)
Beans	0	165	0	
Corn Soya Blend	0	0	517	658
Iodised Salt	13	0	0	
Rice	963	175	0	325
Split Peas	0	0	275	
Vegetable Oil	0	415	0	56
Sum:	976	755	792	1,039

Food Transport, Delivery and Handling

Food commodities were received in WFP warehouses in Bissau and Bafata. Most food was delivered on time directly to final distribution points in all of the regions where the project is implemented. Although the roads are passable, during the rainy season some become inaccessible and hamper the transport of foodstuffs; for this reason, food is pre-positioned in advance for nutritional activities, which can represent a problem as storage conditions are not always optimal. WFP is discussing secondary transport arrangement with cooperating partners to enhance flexibility and feasibility of deliveries in the more inaccessible areas.

Post-Delivery Losses

Food losses were incurred in WFP warehouses and in health centres and schools as follows: Pulspe 1,65 mt and 0,2 mt of rice in WFP warehouses in Bafata; 0,75 mt of Super Cereal Plus and 0,6 mt of Pulspe in schools and 0,25 mt rice and 0,15 mt of SC in health centres. WFP will enhance training of cooperating partners on good warehouse management.

All commodities were destroyed according to guidelines after having being inspected by the Ministry of Health and declared unfit for human consumption.

MANAGEMENT

Partnerships

WFP is a member of different sectorial groups (food security, education, nutrition, gender, UN communication Group) and has solid partnerships with a number of government ministries, UN agencies and NGOs.

In 2015 WFP worked with the Ministry of Agriculture to implement the Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS); additional major partners in this exercise are the European Union, FAO, UNICEF and local NGOs. WFP worked in partnership with the Ministry of Education in the implementation of the school feeding programme and with the Ministry of Health in the implementation of nutrition activities.

WFP worked in partnership with twelve local NGO's and with Ministry of Agriculture to implement FFA activities.

WFP implemented improved stove construction and school gardens in partnership with two national NGO's. WFP signed Field Level Agreement (FLA) with CARITAS to implement stunting prevention of stunting activities in Bafata and Oio Regions as part of the project "Nutrition and livelihoods support to vulnerable population in Guinea-Bissau".

WFP partnered with WHO in preparedness measures against Ebola in Guinea-Bissau through the provision of logistics assistance for the storage of PPE kits as of preparedness measure against Ebola. WFP transferred two vehicles to the local health authorities of Gabu and Tombali regions in partnership with WHO to support the national health authorities on Ebola preparedness interventions.

WFP also worked in partnership with National Secretary of Fight against AIDS (SNLS) as principal recipient of the Global Fund and with UNAIDS to provide nutritional support to ART clients including their households.

The main challenges related to partnership include the 2015 political crisis which had an impact on WFP activities, particularly affecting the school feeding programme and activities for the food security monitoring system. Despite these challenges, WFP successfully continued working together with the technical departments of the government. The limited capacity of local partners as well as the systematic collection of monitoring data also proved challenging. To foster and strengthen partnerships WFP will carry out training and technical support of NGOs and government partners in 2016.

WFP reviewed its partnership roster in 2015 thereby 15 NGOs were already assessed and recommended for future partnership. WFP will enhance training and technical support of NGO and government partners in 2016 to ensure better quality of interventions and M&E.

Partnerships	NGO		Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement	UN/IO
	National	International		
Total	20			7

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value (at start of project or benchmark)	Previous Follow-up (penultimate follow-up)	Latest Follow-up (latest value measured)
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services	6			
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners				
Base value: Dec-2015, Programme monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2015, Baseline value from last follow-up, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, programme monitoring, Programme monitoring.	100	100	100	100

Lessons Learned

The stunting prevention intervention experienced a delayed start due to the capacity of the cooperating partner to cover the targeted geographical area, including health centres run by the Ministry of Health. This proved that nutrition activities need a stronger coordination and that WFP needs to play a major role in fostering it, together with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health. The timeliness and quality of reporting also highlighted several weaknesses that can be overcome with training of partners and counterparts on monitoring and evaluation and reporting. Both these aspects will be taken into account in 2016, and a joint monitoring plan and monitoring visits will be undertaken.

A closer coordination with UNICEF will also be important to enhance the impact of stunting prevention by targeting the same geographical areas and health centres. The same applies to school feeding. UNICEF and WFP are discussing the renewal of a memorandum of understanding which ended in 2014 and which defined the terms of collaboration between the two agencies in the education and nutrition sectors.

Concerning food assistance for assets, the activities focused on protecting rice fields from the flooding caused by high sea levels through the rehabilitation/construction of dikes and canals; farmers also learned better water management practices. This allowed an increase in rice productivity per unit area. Rice-growers management committees were created at community level to manage and maintain dikes and canals, which also influenced the quality and timeliness of the works undertaken. The creation of these committees allowed to reduce conflicts between communities and contributed to a better and more sustainable use of the infrastructure created.

The lessons learned from this project were: i) to reduce the targeted areas and have a more concentrated approach involving less beneficiaries to enhance the scale of production on a watershed basis and maximize monitoring and evaluation and technical assistance costs; ii) to create a technical committee, including beneficiary representatives from both sexes, to thoroughly prepare the project in a participatory manner and to guarantee project sustainability as well as promote exchanges with villages that were successful in creating and maintaining assets; iii) to encourage farmers' groups and associations to open bank accounts and accumulate funds in order to ensure sustainable maintenance of agricultural infrastructure or the opening of new rice fields as necessary; iv) to partner with other organizations, particularly FAO, in order to acquire light equipment and undertake technical and management training, particularly in support of women's groups and associations, in order to relieve them of very heavy work and allow for their self-reliance; v) to give continuity to the efforts made in 2015 in building the capacity of the associations and groups in resource management.

Concerning the pilot local purchases component, implemented as a pilot home grown school feeding approach, although income agriculture is often reserved for men, the local purchase initiative encouraged women to organize themselves and get involved in the production of groundnut and beans to supply schools. WFP, in partnership with FAO, should encourage the managerial capacity of women's associations and, gradually, encourage the creation of /support to existing women farmers' cooperatives. A major problem encountered by the vegetable producers' associations, which are run by women, is the damage caused by animals in women's gardens. This is especially true in agro-pastoral communities in the east of the country (Bafata region).

The lessons learned from this project are related to the formulation of a more comprehensive strategy on HGSP from countries in the region that have successfully completed pilots in partnership with the Government and FAO.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No	Commodity	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/ Purchased in 2015 (mt)
			In-Kind	Cash	
European Commission	EEC-C-00433-01	Rice			285
European Commission	EEC-C-00433-01	Vegetable Oil			74
Guinea Bissau	GUB-C-00002-01	Corn Soya Blend		165	
Guinea Bissau	GUB-C-00002-01	Rice		160	160
Guinea Bissau	GUB-C-00003-01	Rice	100		100
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Beans		165	0
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Corn Soya Blend		658	658
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Rice		165	165
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Vegetable Oil		56	56
Timor Leste	ETM-C-00004-01	Iodised Salt		3	
World Bank	WBK-C-00022-01	Corn Soya Blend		517	517
World Bank	WBK-C-00022-01	Iodised Salt		10	13
World Bank	WBK-C-00022-01	Rice		753	753
World Bank	WBK-C-00022-01	Split Peas		275	275
World Bank	WBK-C-00022-01	Vegetable Oil		346	341
Total:			100	3,272	3,397