



# WFP Ecuador Country Brief

April 2018

## Operational Context

Ecuador is an upper middle-income country; 63 percent of the Ecuadorian population live in urban areas. Income inequality is high as evidenced by a Gini coefficient of 0.48 (National Institute of Statistic and Census – INEC 2015). Gender Based Violence affects six out of ten women (2015). Despite the peace process in Colombia, new refugees are still arriving in the country, in addition to an increasing number of vulnerable Venezuelans.

The country is prone to natural hazards, including droughts, floods, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes.

WFP’s goal in Ecuador is to be an innovative partner, supporting government policies and priorities as well as contributing to food sovereignty, food security and nutrition of vulnerable people, and gender equality.



Population: **14.5 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **89 out of 188**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **23.9% of children under five years old**

Main Photo

Credit: Alejandra León / WFP.  
Caption: Cooking session during the Sustainable Week Initiative in Quito.

## In Numbers

**USD 0.4 m** six months (April -September 2018) net funding requirements

**USD 306,614** cash based transfers made

**20,624 people assisted**  
In April 2018

52%



48%



## Operational Updates

- The number of Colombian refugees and Venezuelan migrants assisted under the human mobility activity is increasing each month. About half of the beneficiaries are Venezuelan migrants. Urgent additional funding is required to ensure assistance to this vulnerable population.
- WFP signed the 2018 Agreement with the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) to collaborate in the implementation of the human mobility activity.
- An international consultant carried out a Strategic Evaluation of Ecuador’s Country Strategic Plan, with the aim to assess and report on its results and draw lessons to inform further implementation of the plan. The consultant met with WFP’s key partners, ministries, UN Agencies and donors.
- Technical teams from the Ministry for Economic and Social Inclusion visited WFP programmes in the province of Imbabura. The main goal was to present the assistance modality that links smallholder farmers to social programmes and other markets to sell their produce.
- Adaptation to climate change measures under the FORECCSA project benefited 11,000 families in the Jubones River Basin and the province of Pichincha. The Deputy Country Director and the Minister of Environment and the National Secretary of Water visited community works for the installation of water pipes in Cayambe.
- WFP, FAO and UN Women were part of the III World Summit of Regions on Food Security and Sovereignty, to further activities to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger in Ecuador.

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| WFP Country Strategy   |                                  |   |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| Total Requirement (in USD)   | Confirmed Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
| <b>Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)</b>  |                                  |   |
| <b>41.45 m</b>   | <b>10.43 m</b>                   | <b>0.4 m</b>                                |
| <b>Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food</b>   |                                  |   |
| <b>Strategic Outcome 1:</b> <i>Refugees, displaced persons and vulnerable people in Ecuador are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements all year long</i>  |                                  |   |
| <b>21.1 m</b>  | <b>3.25 m</b>                    | <b>2.34 m</b>                               |
| <b>Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition</b>  |                                  |   |
| <b>Strategic Outcome 2:</b> <i>Smallholder farmers, especially women, in targeted areas, durably increase their incomes and improve their productivity by 2021.</i>  |                                  |   |
| <b>3.5 m</b>   | <b>2.55 m</b>                    | <b>-0.97 m</b>                              |
| <b>Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable</b>  |                                  |   |
| <b>Strategic Outcome 3:</b> <i>Food-insecure communities and individuals in areas that are highly vulnerable to climate change, and government institutions have strengthened capacity for adaptation to climate change by 2021.</i> |                                  |   |
| <b>7.58 m</b>  | <b>3.13 m</b>                    | <b>-0.75 m</b>                              |
| <b>Strategic Result 4: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs</b>  |                                  |   |
| <b>Strategic Outcome 4:</b> <i>National institutions and programmes in Ecuador, including social protection programmes, are supported to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition by 2021.</i>  |                                  |   |
| <b>2.95 m</b>  | <b>0.42 m</b>                    | <b>0.07 m</b>                               |

Since 1 April 2017, the Country Strategic Plan for Ecuador positions WFP as a strategic and public policy partner. WFP supports government efforts to achieve SDGs 2 and 17 through four outcomes. Each strategic outcome includes activities corresponding to government priorities and WFP's experience and expertise.

The five-year strategy envisages a decrease in WFP's direct implementation of programmes and the progressive hand-over of activities to the Government.

## Meetings

- Country Director met with:
  - The US Embassy to foster further cooperation on the assistance to vulnerable people on the move;
  - The Canadian Ambassador in order to endorse WFP's work in the country and articulation of the Gender Roundtable of International Cooperation;
  - The Development Bank of Latin America Representative in Ecuador, in order to articulate new initiatives of WFP's work on nutrition.
  - Mr. Guillermo Herrera, Prefect of Carchi, to strengthen the school feeding programme in the province. The work with local partners is key for achieving Zero Hunger.

## Country Context

- Over 1.6 million Venezuelans are living outside their country (IOM) - mainly in Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, Chile, Panamá, Peru and the United States. Migrants are highly vulnerable, with limited access to basic services and food. WFP is supporting the Government of Ecuador by providing food assistance to the most vulnerable Venezuelans, including women, and children.
- President Lenin Moreno expressed his concerns about the increasing violence at the northern border. The security situation in the Province of Esmeraldas is delicate and the armed conflict of Colombia continues to spill over into Ecuador. Violence at the northern border has increased since January. Since January 2018, there have been 10 attacks that left people wounded, kidnapped, and casualties include four soldiers and three journalists. The Government extended the state of emergency in San Lorenzo and Eloy Alfaro.

## Donors

United States of America, Republic of Korea, Adaptation Fund, Private and Multilateral donors.



## WFP Country Activities

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- SO 1**
1. Complement the Government's social protection strategy by providing Cash Based Transfers to the most vulnerable populations and support in vulnerability analysis and knowledge management.
  2. Strengthen strategies to link sustainable livelihoods to food security and nutrition activities.
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- SO 2**
3. Support and increase the participation of smallholder farmer organizations in national and local commercial mechanisms and institutional markets.
  4. Strengthen the capacity of farmer organizations.
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- SO 3**
5. Strengthen or develop emergency preparedness, response, and early warning systems.
  6. Strengthen the implementation of adaptation and resilience measures.
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- SO 4**
7. Technical assistance, research and assessments, to improve the implementation of programs linked to food security and nutrition.
  8. Knowledge management and sharing of best practices and studies, including through South-South cooperation.