



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

## WFP Bolivia Country Brief September 2018



### Operational Context

Bolivia has made significant progress in improving food and nutrition security and in reducing extreme poverty. However, sustaining progress, particularly in the most vulnerable areas, depends on the future of the country's oil and gas revenues, which in recent years have dramatically decreased. Despite the progress, poverty and malnutrition levels remain amongst the highest in the region.

As of July 2018, WFP Bolivia has started to implement its Country Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022. With this plan, WFP moves away from food assistance and focuses on capacity strengthening, technical support, advocacy and communications, playing more of a facilitator role in support of the Government and adapting to the country's needs. WFP's programmes are in line with the Five-Year National Development Plan 2020 that focuses on social development of vulnerable indigenous populations.

WFP has been present in Bolivia since 1963.



Population: **11.4 million**

2016 Human Development Index: **118 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **16% of children between 6-59 months**

## In Numbers

**USD 11.7m total requirements**

### Operational Updates

- With the approval of WFP Bolivia's Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2018 – 2022 at WFP's Executive Board meeting in Rome at the end of June, WFP has completed the transitional ICSP and commenced activities under its new CSP 2018 – 2022.
- On 15 September, WFP Country Director Elisabeth Faure met with the newly appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs Diego Pary to present WFP's work and the CSP jointly developed with the Government (see picture).
- In the framework of Repsol contributions to WFP activities supporting school meals and smallholder farmers in the municipality of Entre Ríos (Tarija department), WFP and local health centres organized capacity strengthening workshops for 233 teachers and school board members of the municipality's 95 schools. Participants, more than 60 percent women, were trained on nutrition and healthy eating habits.
- WFP has received funds from ECHO for the development of a beneficiary registry and an early warning system, WFP has finalized the baselines, identified the relevant actors and is about to begin implementation.
- In the framework of WFP's activities to promote healthy eating habits, WFP and the youth multimedia platform PICA organized a workshop with teenagers to identify messaging and most appropriate mechanisms to communicate nutrition-related issues to this target population.
- WFP has begun the implementation of the 'Gender Transformation Programme', which aims to integrate a gender perspective into all programmes and functional areas of WFP. In September, the office completed a self-assessment as a baseline for the development of an improvement plan.

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**Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)**

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>11.7 m</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-0.11 m</b>

**Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food**

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Communities affected by shocks are able to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements in times of crisis.

**Focus area:** crisis response

**Activities:**

- Provide Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) to crisis affected households.

**Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition**

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Vulnerable groups at risk of malnutrition in all its forms have improved nutritional status by 2022.

**Focus area:** root causes

**Activities:**

- Provide capacity strengthening and technical assistance to the Government for the delivery of innovative nationwide communications campaigns and multisectoral policies and programmes that contribute to eradicating malnutrition.

**Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes**

**Strategic Outcome 3:** Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes by 2022.

**Focus area:** resilience building

**Activities:**

- Provide FFA and training to subsistence smallholder farmers.
- Strengthen government institutions in order to link smallholder surplus production under activity 3 with the demand generated by the school meals programme.

**Strategic Result 4: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs**

**Strategic Outcome 4:** National and subnational institutions have strengthened capacity to manage food security policies and programmes by 2022.

**Focus area:** root causes

**Activities:**

- Strengthen capacities of government institutions to reduce the food insecurity of the most vulnerable communities.

**Monitoring**

- WFP has begun the decentralized evaluation of its 2013 – 2017 Country Plan.

**Challenges**

- One challenge is securing sufficient funding for the implementation of the CSP, especially for 2019. The country office is working to expand its donor base targeting non-traditional donors, promoting South-South cooperation and UN joint initiatives.
- As the presidential political campaign is about to start, there is a risk that government counterparts will be harder to access and less available to work on the implementation of the CSP.

**Partnerships**

- **KOICA:** WFP carried out a field trip with KOICA experts to visit WFP's work with smallholder farmers in Oruro and inform a joint development proposal. WFP finished and submitted a proposal to work with KOICA from 2020 to 2024 on market-driven solutions to improve the food security of smallholders in Bolivia.
- **UEFA Foundation:** WFP submitted a proposal to work with female football associations for the promotion of nutrition and healthy eating habits in the city of El Alto.
- **WFP Innovation Accelerator:** WFP submitted a proposal for the development of a chatbot or application to inform the eating habits of pregnant and lactating women in Bolivia.
- **Delivering as One:** WFP is developing joint proposals with FAO and UNDP in an effort to strengthen inter-agency collaboration and engage in joint resource mobilization.

**Donors**

**Repsol Foundation:** Is supporting school meals in the Municipality of Entre Ríos, Tarija department.

**Probitas Foundation:** Is supporting smallholder farmers through school meals in the Municipality of Entre Ríos, Tarija department, until mid-2019.

**ECHO:** Is supporting the creation of a beneficiary registration and early warning system in the Ministry of Civil Defense until mid-2019.