



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Cuba Country Brief October 2018



Operational Context

Over the last 50 years, Cuba's comprehensive social protection programmes have largely eradicated poverty and hunger. Although effective, these programmes mostly rely on food imports and strain the national budget. Recurrent natural shocks place further challenges to food security and nutrition.

WFP accompanies the Government in its efforts to develop a new management model to make food-based social protection programmes more efficient and sustainable. WFP supports social safety nets for different vulnerable groups, strengthens agricultural value chains and promotes the improvement of resilience and disaster risk management. These activities contribute to Sustainable Goals 2, 5 and 17.

WFP has been working with Cuba since 1963.



Population: **11.2 million**

2016 Human Development Index:
68 out of 188

Income Level: **Upper middle**

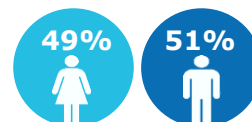
2015 Gender Inequality Index:
0.304 (rank: 62 out of 188)

In Numbers

130.49 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 12.7 m total requirements

87,009 people assisted
in September 2018



Operational Updates

- WFP is supporting national priorities to enhance the sustainability of social safety nets for vulnerable groups (children, pregnant and lactating women, and the elderly), providing regular and specialised nutritious foods.
- WFP is distributing Super Cereal Plus to more than 2,500 elderly people assisted at day-care centres and elderly homes of the Office of the Historian of Havana City (OHC).
- WFP organized a tasting session to promote the nutritional benefits of Super Cereal Plus and its different forms of preparation. Around 60 elderly people and caregivers participated in the tasting. Furthermore, WFP organised an exchange with 100 elderlies about healthy eating and aging.
- As part of its nutritional activities, WFP supports the Lácteos Bayamo factory (in Granma province) in the production of fortified food "NutriArroz". A trial production of 3 mt of NutriArroz was achieved as part of the implementation and adjustments required.
- WFP continues to support the strengthening of the bean value chain, promoting linkages with local social safety nets that assist vulnerable groups. Training and equipment is being provided to farmers and other actors in selected municipalities to enhance the efficiency of the value chain.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/cuba

Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
12.71 m	8.02 m	-2 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Primary school children and elderly people assisted by state institutions in targeted municipalities have access to adequate food through strengthened social protection programmes all year long.

Focus area: Root causes

Activity 1:

- Provide food assistance to vulnerable people benefiting from food-based social protection programmes and promote technical assistance and training of experts and decision makers engaged in these programmes.

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable people in shock-affected municipalities have stable access to basic food to meet their dietary requirements following a natural disaster.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activity 2:

- Provide unconditional food assistance to shock-affected populations from prepositioned food stocks to ensure a swift delivery.

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Nutritionally vulnerable people in targeted municipalities are able to meet nutritional requirements through strengthened social protection programmes all year long

Focus area: Root causes

Activity 3:

- Provide specialised nutritious foods to vulnerable people and technical assistance and training to experts and decision makers of national and local institutions engaged in nutrition programmes.

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

Strategic Outcome 4: Smallholder farmers and agricultural value chain stakeholders in targeted municipalities have enhanced capacities to contribute to sustainable food production systems for stable and high-quality food supply to social protection programmes by 2018.

Focus area: Root causes

Activity 4:

- Provide training, equipment and technical support to smallholder farmers, traders and other stakeholders of food value chains.

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 5: Communities, technical institutions and local authorities in selected municipalities have strengthened disaster risk-management systems to reduce the impact of natural hazards on food security by 2018.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activity 5:

- Provide training and technical assistance to decision makers and smallholder farmers to improve local risk-reduction management.

Monitoring

- WFP has a system in place to continuously monitor the implementation of project activities, ensuring accountability, transparency and measuring operational performance. These tasks are conducted in close collaboration with national and local counterparts.
- WFP carried out all visits planned to monitor the storage of WFP food, and over 90 percent of the visits scheduled to monitor food distribution to final beneficiaries.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

- A below average rainfall continues in the eastern and central regions of the country. WFP continues to monitor precipitation in all Cuban provinces to be better prepared for the next dry season.
- WFP participated in the International Seminar on Insurance, hosted in Havana, where a proposal was presented for agricultural insurance to become a tool to prevent drought.

Gender

- WFP joined the Ministry of Agriculture in the celebration of Rural Women's Day on 15 October. On WFP Stand people came to receive the "Vaccine for Gender Equality", including the Minister of Agriculture and the Representative of FAO.

Donors

Donors to WFP Cuba include Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Germany, European Union, Italy, private sector, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, SDG Fund and Switzerland. Additional support has been provided by UN CERF.