



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Bolivia Country Brief January 2019



Operational Context

Bolivia has made significant progress in improving food and nutrition security and 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, acting as a facilitator 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**

2017 Human Development Index: **118 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

In Numbers

USD 11.7m total requirements

USD 815k Six Month Net Funding Requirements

Operational Updates

- The ECHO funded project for the development of an early warning system based on Natural Indicators (Bioindicators) has started with the design and development of a system for beneficiary registration (RIDA).
- A training on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) was delivered in late December 2018. The Vice-Ministry of Civil Defence (VIDECL) among other ministries and participants from other Latin American countries have been trained on the use of drone technology and its contribution to humanitarian assistance as well as to the development of disaster prevention systems within the country.
- With support from Sodexo, the sub-office of Tarija has received building material and class room equipment that will benefit the schools in Entre Ríos. This will improve the quality of school meals and will enhance the supervision, technical assistance and training for 2019.
- Broadcasting Campaign for Nutrition Communications was launched. This project seeks to disseminate audio-visual messages to adolescents, with the aim of promoting healthy eating habits. This is being transmitted by a public television channel (ATB) and a radio station.
- The PROBITAS funded activity is helping to identify capacity strengthening needs of four associations that transform produce into products in Entre Ríos.
- At the request of the Government through the Vice-Ministry of Civil Defence (VIDECL) and the Ministry of Development Planning with support from the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator, an international team of experts from the Humanitarian Country Team (EHP) participated in the Capacity Assessment Mission (CADRI) for Disaster Risk Reduction. WFP was part of the group of food security evaluators and the lead agency in Yacuiba.

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Further information: www1.wfp.org/countries/bolivia-plurinational-state

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
11.7 m	748k	815k

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 is finalizing the decentralized evaluation of its 2013-2017 Country Programme, that will be presented in February.

Challenges

- WFP Bolivia is facing challenges in 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 and UN joint initiatives.
- Considering the 2019 elections in Bolivia, there could be a risk of a high turnover rate among Government staff. International cooperation may be instrumentalised throughout the campaign.

Partnerships

- **Korea:** Following the pre-approval of a proposal to the Korean Cooperation Agency (KOICA) in December 2018, KOICA organized a field mission to Bolivia. WFP joined the mission, which included field visits and meetings with national authorities.
- **Repsol Foundation:** WFP is in negotiations to potentially extend the project in Entre Rios.
- **ECHO:** A proposal has been submitted to extend the current funding by ECHO and to include drones for emergency preparedness and response.
- **Rome-based agency collaboration:** WFP is engaging with FAO to develop joint proposals and joint resource mobilization efforts.

Donors

- **PROBITAS Foundation** is supporting capacity strengthening of smallholder farmers' associations in the Municipality of Entre Ríos, Tarija department, until mid-2019.
- **ECHO** is supporting the creation of a beneficiary registration for an early warning system using bio-indicators with the Ministry of Civil Defense until mid-2019.
- **Vigo:** WFP is being supported by the Spanish city of Vigo in the production and broadcast of audio-visual material targeted to urban youth for the promotion of healthy eating habits until March 2019.
- **China:** The first Chinese contribution to WFP Bolivia was confirmed at the end of 2018, this supports SO4 of the CSP for the year 2019.