



World Food Programme

WFP Colombia Country Brief

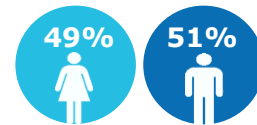
May 2019

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



In Numbers

254.5 m total requirements
USD 1,737,600 in cash transfers distributed
295,100 people assisted in May

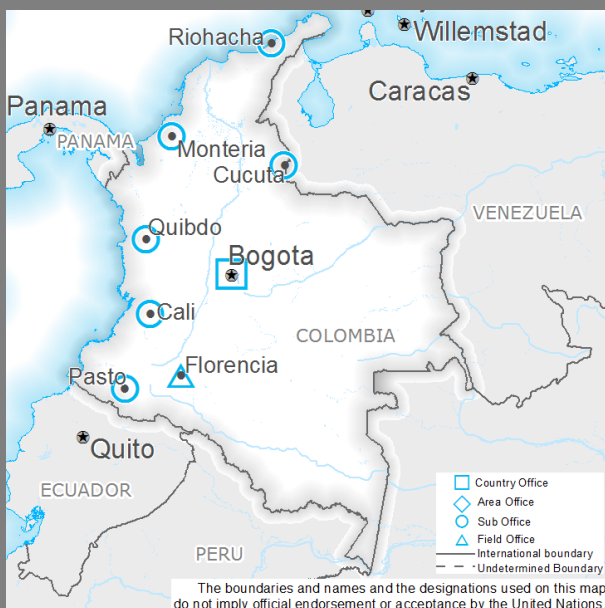


Operational Updates

- Four UN Executive Boards, UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, WFP, UNICEF and UN Women, visited Colombia to witness how UN agencies work together to support the peace process and the country's development priorities, and the Sustainable Development Goals. From 11-18 May, the 30-member delegation met with government officials, social organizations, donors and visited projects and communities in the departments of Meta and Nariño to observe project implementation. The delegation also discussed challenges and opportunities to closing development gaps and consolidating peace in Colombia. To conclude the visit, the Executive Boards met with civil society organizations in Bogota to discuss the peace process, the concerns of social leaders and human rights defenders. The Executive Board delegation members highlighted the UN commitment to continue supporting the efforts of the Colombian Government to assist the most isolated and vulnerable regions and achieve the SDGs.
- Despite progress in establishing peace and making reparations to the victims, the internal conflict and its effects persist. Massive forced displacements, mobility restrictions and confinements are threatening communities in several regions throughout the country, especially in the Pacific Coast and in border regions. Between January and March 2019, around 18,000 people have been affected by violence (Source: UNHCR). In April and May, 1,650 indigenous people in Chocó, and over 210 Afro-Colombians in Nariño were forcibly displaced by clashes between illegal armed groups. In Norte de Santander department, around 2,350 people have been affected by severe mobility restrictions, curbing their access to food and livelihoods.
- An enhanced response to the crisis is needed. In addition to the humanitarian assistance provided by the Colombian Government, municipal authorities and the Unit for Victims' Assistance (UARIV) have requested WFP support to complement assistance.
- As part of UN Local Coordination Teams, WFP Suboffices, other UN agencies and local actors periodically conduct joint situation analyses, monitoring the level of violence related to the armed conflict.
- In response to local authorities' request, and in coordination with local partners, WFP provided food assistance to 1,040 people in Norte de Santander department, and to 8,600 Afro-Colombians in Chocó department.

Operational Context

Colombia is one of the most unequal countries in the world, with a Gini index of 53.5 and a gender inequality index of 0.429. Sixty years of conflict has had a significant impact on the country's social, economic and political landscape, with more than 8 million victims. Despite progress on the implementation of the peace agreement, Colombia is still facing serious humanitarian challenges. WFP's strategy in Colombia is based on the premise that supporting the Government in reaching Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 2, will achieve an inclusive peace. WFP's strategy is aligned with priorities of the Government to address humanitarian, recovery, development and technical assistance needs. WFP has been present in Colombia since 1969.



Population: **49.7 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **90 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **31% of children between 6-59 months**

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
254.5 m	125.2 m	34.2 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Crisis-affected populations have adequate access at all times to nutritious foods and diversified diets, and are supported in establishing or improving their livelihoods.

Focus area: *root causes*

Activities:

- Support crisis-affected populations
- Implement home-grown school feeding

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Communities and families have the capacities to prevent malnutrition in all its forms.

Focus area: *root causes*

Activities:

- Provide food security and nutrition education and behaviour change communication
- Provide technical support
- Implement school meals programmes in response to government requests

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

Strategic Outcome 4: Smallholder farmers – women and men – increase their production and marketing capacities sustainably

Focus area: *resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide technical support for rural smallholders
- Stimulate markets with WFP purchases

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 5: Rural ethnic communities in vulnerable areas have increased capacity to recover from shocks and adapt to climate change

Focus area: *resilience building*

Activities:

- Build resilience and enhance livelihoods

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

Strategic Outcome 1: Local governments and civil-society organizations have strengthened capacities to implement accountable programmes that contribute to reducing food insecurity and malnutrition

Focus area: *root causes*

Activities:

- Strengthen the capacities of territorial actors for planning, implementing and evaluating food and nutrition policies and programmes
- Develop and evaluate innovative food and nutrition models

- In May 2019, in response to the migration crisis, WFP reached over 295,000 people providing hot meals in community kitchens, vouchers, food kits for ‘caminantes’ (walking migrants) and emergency school meals. WFP started implementing a new monthly planning scheme, where the targeting and inclusion of beneficiaries are done monthly instead of a three-month cycle. In addition, depending on beneficiary vulnerability, participation in the voucher scheme is now extended up to six months. WFP continues working with the Government to pilot a shock-responsive social protection mechanism in the second half of the year and channel cash-based assistance through existing government social protection systems.
- WFP launched USAID-funded activities to support the Government of Colombia’s efforts to assist vulnerable Venezuelan children, returnee Colombian children and host communities. The objectives of the programme are to increase school retention and dietary diversity by providing nutritious school meals; strengthen national and local governments’ capacities to implement efficient, transparent and inclusive school meals programmes; and to promote community integration and prevent discrimination, xenophobia and violence.

Monitoring / Vulnerability Assessment

WFP launched an Emergency Food Security Assessment to assess food security in the border departments, and a market assessment to gauge the functionality of various markets and the feasibility of shifting to multipurpose cash distributions. These two assessments will inform programmatic decisions in the following months.

Challenges

- The escalation of violence represents a threat to the peace process and may lead to a further escalation of the armed conflict in Colombia.
- Strengthened partnerships and coordination with the Government are needed to ensure longer-term solutions and socio-economic integration of migrants from Venezuela and Colombian returnees. Hence, WFP and the Government of Colombia are looking into how to embed the support to vulnerable migrants into the Colombian social protection system.

Donors

USA, Government of Colombia, Switzerland, Germany and Canada.