



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Bolivia

## Country Brief

July 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.

WFP Bolivia has started the implementation of 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 the social development of vulnerable indigenous populations. WFP has been present in Bolivia since 1963.



Population: **11.4 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **118 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

### In Numbers

**USD 11.7 m** total requirements

**USD 1.5 m** six months net funding requirements

### Operational Updates

- As part of the ECHO-funded project for the development of an early warning system, two workshops were held in Beni and Pando.
- WFP Bolivia will carry out a six-month intervention relying on the Three-Pronged Approach to identify a list of asset creation activities. To this end, Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP) were carried out in de Chuquisaca Department (Sucre and Monteagudo) and other in Tarija.
- WFP and FAO are designing a gender and food security assessment within the framework of a UNDP-financed project, supporting the local Government of Oruro in developing investment plans.
- At the request of the Ministry of Rural Development and with funding from China, WFP is carrying out a smallholder value-chain assessment, focusing on vegetables, apples, maize, beans and quinoa in 14 municipalities in the departments of La Paz, Oruro, Chuquisaca and Tarija. The objective is to identify gaps and strategies to boost production and identify markets.
- The REPSOL funded activity aims to strength smallholder's associations linking them to the market of school meals in Entre Ríos. Agreements have been signed with the municipality and with the *Fautapo* Foundation.
- The PROBITAS-funded activity helps identify capacity gaps in four agricultural associations in Entre Ríos. The enhancement of the infrastructure of the association "*Nueva Vida*" was completed.
- Elisabeth Faure, WFP Country Director, was interviewed by Fides News Agency (*Agencia Nacional de Prensa*) to discuss current malnutrition problems in Bolivia. This interview was quoted in other newspapers in the country.

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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>2.8 m</b>	<b>1.5 m</b>

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

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Communities affected by shocks can 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

- The Decentralized Evaluation of the Country Programme 2013-2017 was launched, in coordination with the Vice-Ministry of Planning to the government and cooperation partners.

## Challenges

- WFP Bolivia is facing challenges in securing sufficient funding for the implementation of the CSP. The country office is making progress in expanding its donor base, targeting non-traditional donors and UN joint initiatives.
- Considering the 2019 elections in Bolivia, there could be a risk of high turnover among government staff.

## Partnerships

- **Korea:** The Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and WFP Bolivia country office are collaborating to secure financing for a three-year project.
- **China:** A South-South cooperation proposal involving WFP and IFAD has been submitted to obtain technical experts from China's nutrition institution.
- **Rome-based agency collaboration:** WFP is engaging with FAO and IFAD on joint resource mobilization efforts.
- **Ministry of Health:** WFP and the Government are engaged in joint resource mobilization to raise funds for a "Double Burden of malnutrition" study in Bolivia.

## Donors

- **PROBITAS foundation** supports the capacity strengthening of smallholder farmer associations in the municipality of Entre Ríos, Tarija Department, until mid-2019.
- **ECHO** supports the creation of a beneficiary registry for an early warning system using bio-indicators until mid-2019.
- **China:** The first Chinese contribution to WFP Bolivia was confirmed at the end of 2018 to support Strategic Outcome 4 of the CSP until the end of 2019.
- **Repsol Foundation** supports school meals in the Municipality of Entre Ríos, Tarija Department, until mid-2020.