



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Bolivia

Country Brief

October 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 1.7 m six months net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- After the elections (October 20th), the security situation has prevented WFP to carry out its activities in a normal way. Following UNDSS and SMT, WFP staff worked from home. The SMT has suspended all national and international missions until November 15th. This situation has forced WFP to stop operations for the time being.
- At the request of the Ministry of Rural Development and funded by 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 Santa Cruz, La Paz, Oruro, Chuquisaca and Tarija. The objective is to identify gaps and strategies to identify new markets. In October, induction on the methodology of the study was given to the new consultants hired. In addition, the information gathered to date was systematized, and methodological instruments were designed for the continuity of the study.
- The REPSOL funded activity aims to strengthen smallholder's associations linking them to food-based social protection programs such as school feeding. Within the framework of the FLA between WFP and FAUTAPO, training workshops were held on October 17th and 18th for smallholder's associations.
- In the framework of SRAC funded activity, the identification of families to work on asset creation has started as well as the processes to buy non-food items. Agreements with the municipal governments for the support in the activities have been established.

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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	3.6 m	1.7 m

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

Challenges

- WFP Bolivia is facing challenges in securing sufficient funding for the implementation of the Country Strategic Plan. The country office is making progress in expanding its donor base, targeting non-traditional donors.
- The 2019 presidential elections held on October 20th have generated demonstrations all over the country denouncing fraud. This has signified a delicate security situation that has prevented WFP to carry out its activities.

Partnerships

- **Korea:** A new Project for 2021 was submitted to KOICA.
- **IFAD:** A regional proposal on improving food industry-related job opportunities for smallholders and young people, involving Bolivia, Colombia and Honduras, has been submitted.
- **Gender division-WFP:** The CO and WFP's gender division in HQ are discussing the possibility to conduct the double burden study as well as a complementary gender study for Bolivia.
- **Innovation WFP:** A proposal for a pilot experience was presented to the innovation challenge to develop a software to link production to sustainable urban markets.

Donors

- **China:** The first Chinese contribution to WFP Bolivia was confirmed at the end of 2018 to support Strategic Outcome 4 of the CSP (until March 2020).
- **Repsol Foundation** supports school meals in the Municipality of Entre Ríos, Tarija Department (until May 2020).