



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Colombia Country Brief November 2019

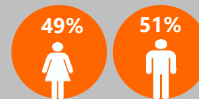
In Numbers

354 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 3.5 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 45M 6 months funding needs

390,753 people assisted



WFP
SAYS
NO to
GENDER
BASED
VIOLENCE

Operational Context

Colombia is one of the most unequal countries in the world, with a Gini index of 49.7 and a gender inequality index of 0.429. Sixty years of conflict have had a significant impact on the country's social, economic and political landscape, with more than 8 million victims of internal conflict. Despite progress on the implementation of the peace agreement, Colombia continues to face severe humanitarian challenges.

The situation in Venezuela, marked by hyperinflation and difficult access to food, has triggered a massive inflow of Venezuelans into Colombia. According to the latest official figures, Colombia is hosting 1.6 million Venezuelans and 300,000 returnees. WFP's strategy is to assist the Colombian Government in dealing with the migration crisis, and it 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 Government priorities to address humanitarian, recovery, development and technical assistance needs. WFP has been present in Colombia since 1969.



Operational Updates

- According to the new [Regional Refugee and Migrants Response Plan](#) for 2020, some 5.6 million Venezuelans will have settled or passed through Colombia by the end of 2020, with a total of 3.5 million migrants and host communities in need of assistance; out of these, 1.8 million will require food assistance. Currently, there are some 1.6 million Venezuelans in Colombia. In November, WFP reached an all-time high 390,933 vulnerable people through hot meals in community kitchens, redeemable vouchers, food kits for walking migrants and school feeding activities.
- Despite progress in establishing peace, internal conflict and violence persist in Colombia. From January to October, some 60,832 people have been displaced and 23,677 confined across the country. WFP Colombia is currently providing food assistance to some 20,000 vulnerable conflict-affected people across Colombia.
- WFP Colombia is preparing a new Country Strategy Plan to support vulnerable people through 2021-2024, in alignment with government priorities and those in the upcoming United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.
- WFP successfully conducted a registration pilot in the Nariño department, using the corporate platform SCOPE, and a future one is planned in Arauca. WFP also held a joint mission with UNHCR, the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD) and the Collaborative Cash Delivery Network to identify opportunities of collaboration on cash transfers and data sharing.
- WFP Colombia is implementing a communication campaign to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse. So far over 5,000 people, including cooperating partners, members of local governments, WFP staff and people assisted have been directly informed, 60 percent of these being women and girls.

Population: 49.1 million

2019 Human Development Index: 79 out of 189

Income Level: Lower middle

Chronic malnutrition: 10.8% of children

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

Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
256 m	174.5 m	45 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: crisis response

- 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: crisis response

- 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 increased 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.

- **Emergency Food Security Assessment for migrants (EFSA):** Preliminary results from the EFSA carried out by WFP in the bordering departments of Arauca, La Guajira, Cesar, Norte de Santander and Nariño in September 2019 showed that 54 percent of Venezuelan households. The first six months in Colombia can be the hardest for migrants, with 40 percent of Venezuelans having poor or limited access to food. More concerning is that food insecurity levels reach 60 percent for pendular migrants and as high as 80 percent for people in transit. 55 percent of Venezuelans are using negative strategies to cope with this situation and half of the surveyed report having begged on the streets.

- **Colombia Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2020:** Results of the latest [Colombia HNO](#) were released on 21 November, revealing some 6.3 million people are affected by conflict and natural events in Colombia, of which 5.1 million need humanitarian assistance. This includes 530,000 victims of forced displacement, 1.6 million people with access restrictions, 40,000 people in confinement situation, some 358,800 victims of mines and other unexploded devices, almost 1 million people affected by natural events and 300,000 women victims of gender-based violence. Of these, about 2.4 million people are estimated to be food insecure.

Challenges

- The Venezuelan migrant crisis is chronically [underfunded](#). Although it is projected to become the worst migrant crisis in 2020 in terms of people forcibly displaced, average funding per migrant only reaches USD 125, a concerning low level in comparison with other refugee and migrant crises in the world. In this context, WFP Colombia is planning to nearly double the number of people we support in 2020, for which we initially project some USD 150 million will be needed.

Life story: Angels

- Angélica (pre-school), Angelo (first grade) and Juan Ángel (fifth grade) were born in Venezuela to a Colombian mother. They now live and go to school in the Colombian border town of Cúcuta where they receive healthy nutritious meals provided by WFP’s school feeding programme. Little Ángel says “when we had nothing to eat, we took mangoes from a tree and we ate them for breakfast, lunch and dinner”. Now they feel comfortable in their new school and are happy with the food they receive.

Donors

Canada, Colombia, European Commission, Germany, Switzerland, Republic of Korea, USA, UN CERF, UN Adaption Fund, Church of the Later Day Saints.