



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



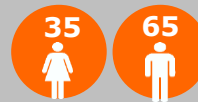
WFP Guatemala Country Brief November 2019

In Numbers

US\$2.2 m cash-based transfers made
February-November 2019

62,500 people assisted
February-November 2019

Modality:
Cash transfers



WFP
SAYS
NO to
GENDER
BASED
VIOLENCE

Operational Context

Guatemala is a multicultural country with 40 percent of inhabitants being indigenous Mayan. Despite its middle-income status, two-thirds of its population lives on less than USD2 per day, and among indigenous people, poverty averages 79 percent, with 40 percent living in extreme poverty, with the highest gender inequality index in the region. Highly correlated to poverty is stunting in children aged 6-59 months, among the highest in the world and the highest in the region.

WFP, present in Guatemala since 1974, provides its assistance through the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) since 2018. Its goal is to achieve a sustainable improvement in food security and nutrition of the most vulnerable people. It is aligned to the National Development Plan, "K'atun: Our Guatemala 2032", and the national priorities to make progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Guatemala is among the ten countries in the world most vulnerable to climate change and one of the most exposed to natural hazards in the region. Hence, WFP is supporting the national response to drought-affected subsistence farmers to help them cope with the lean season while restoring their livelihoods.



Population: 16.9 million
Income Level: Middle

2018 Human Development Index: 127 out of 189

Chronic malnutrition: 46.5% of children between 6-59 months

2017 Gender Inequality Index (2018 HD Report): 120 out of 160

Operational Updates

- WFP continued providing food assistance to food-insecure households in Alta Verapaz and Chiquimula to help them meet their basic needs. During the November cycle, nearly 6,200 households received cash transfers; a total of USD607,860 was distributed.
- WFP and the Ministry of Education, in partnership with the Panamerican University (UPANA), satisfactorily graduated 58 national staff from the learning programme on the implementation of the School Feeding Law. The 4-month training strengthened the capacity of the MINEDUC at all levels.
- Daniel Kang, Country Director of KOICA in Guatemala, and WFP Representative visited communities of the Dry Corridor implementing WFP-supported resilience-building activities for improved food security. In the two-day visit, women and men smallholder farmers' organizations participating in income-generating projects shared their experiences. Rural staff of the Ministry of Agriculture further explained the technical assistance provided to strengthen productivity and commercialization among organizations in four provinces, with WFP's support.
- WFP and other UN sister agencies are, at the demand of the elected President and Vice-president of Guatemala due to take office in January 2020, working the proposal for a national strategy to improve nutrition called *The National Crusade for Nutrition 2020-2023*. A top priority of the strategy to be launched early 2020 is stunting prevention, and the whole of society will be invited to contribute.
- With the focus of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence Campaign (from 26/11 to 11/12), WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture launched an exhibition of works on walls among organizations fostering rural development with gender equality. Murals highlighted ways of preventing violence, particularly among the young population.
- As a new Government will be in place by January 2020, WFP participated in UN meetings with the transition teams of relevant ministries, in addition to meetings with the designated ministers for continuity of ongoing WFP operations and identification of new opportunities of cooperation.

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Country Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
69.9 m	19.5 m	4.7 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome #5: Populations in areas affected by shocks can satisfy their basic food and nutrition requirements.
Focus area: *Crisis response*

- Activities:**
- Unconditional or conditional food assistance
 - Enhanced national capacity for conducting emergency food security assessments
 - South-South cooperation and technical assistance on data collection, standardization, and analysis for emergency response

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome #1: Children aged 6-23 months in prioritized areas with elevated malnutrition rates have reduced the prevalence of malnutrition.
Focus area: *Root causes*

- Activities:**
- Community-based behavioural change communication
 - Gender-sensitive capacity strengthening on malnutrition prevention

Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition

Strategic Outcome #3: Food-insecure communities and individuals address the impact of climate-related shocks on their food security and nutrition, adapt to climate change and build resilience.
Focus area: *Resilience building*

- Activities:**
- Food assistance for assets creation and livelihood support
 - Enhanced resilience in disaster-affected communities

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome #4: Smallholder farmers in areas with a potential surplus for nutritious food production have greater access to markets.
Focus area: *Resilience building*

- Activities:**
- Technical assistance to smallholder farmers for improved production and commercialization

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome #2: National institutions and programmes are enabled to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms.
Focus area: *Resilience building*

- Activities:**
- South-South cooperation on gender and nutrition
 - Technical assistance for emergency preparedness and response
 - Policy framework on food security and climate change
 - National capacity to purchase from smallholder farmers

Main Photo:
 Credit: © WFP/Library
 Caption: Women of Tecuiz community in San Agustín Acasaguastlán, El Progreso, explain the tilapia project to the KOICA Director.

- At the request of the Food Security and Nutrition Secretariat—SESAN, WFP conducted an emergency food security assessment in partnership with NGOs working on Food Security. Preliminary findings confirm crop losses in the *Postrera* cycle. The final report will be presented to the National Committee of Food Security and Nutrition (CONASAN) early 2020.
- The EFSA informed that 2.3 million people or one-third of the population are facing food insecurity. Out of them, 480,000 people are severely food insecure, and more than two-thirds of the most vulnerable households are adopting negative coping strategies.
- WFP operations in Alta Verapaz resumed mid-November as the state of siege came to its end. A 2-month no cost-extension of CERF intervention was approved to complete cash transfers until February 2020.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- WFP web-based platforms, namely the country office monitoring and evaluation tool (COMET), the Logistics Execution Support System (LESS) and the Beneficiary and Transfer Management System (SCOPE) are essential in tracking and registering cash transfers, food and non-food items, and disaggregating beneficiary data. A set of corporate strategic output and outcome indicators facilitates monitoring and reporting on achievements.
- WFP fully participates in the design of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF) 2020-2024. Following the Common Country Assessment phase, collective outcomes were identified with a long-term vision. Following the consultation phase that started in October, a total of 8 workshops were completed in November with different actors to validate the 2030 vision and the theories of change of the CF. Two more workshops will be held in December with the national entities and designated authorities of the new Administration.

Challenges

- Underfunding, particularly for Malnutrition Prevention and Smallholders Agricultural Market Support activities is hampering WFP abilities to achieve its goals.

Donors

Canada, European Union, Germany, Sweden, Norway, CERF and SRAC multilateral.