



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Cuba Country Brief November 2019



In Numbers

USD 13.7 m total requirements

13.7 mt of food assistance distributed

36,500 assisted people
(October 2019)



WFP
SAYS
NO to
GENDER
BASED
VIOLENCE

Operational Context

Over the last 50 years, Cuba's comprehensive social protection programmes have primarily eradicated poverty and hunger. Although effective, these programmes mostly rely on food imports and strain the national budget. Recurrent natural shocks place further challenges to food security and nutrition.

WFP accompanies the Government on its efforts to develop a new management model to make food-based social protection programmes more efficient and sustainable. WFP supports social safety nets for different vulnerable groups, strengthens agricultural value chains and promotes the improvement of resilience and disaster risk management. These activities contribute to Sustainable Goals 2, 5 and 17.

WFP has been working with Cuba since 1963.



Population: **11.2 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **73** out of **189**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

2017 Gender Inequality Index: **65** out of **165**

Operational Updates

- WFP representatives from Regional Bureau Panama and Headquarters visited Cuba to support WFP Country Office in the design of the new Country Strategic Plan 2021-2024. The CSP will include innovative interventions on school feeding by transferring cash to local institutions; WFP will strengthen the early warning system through the development of a crop monitoring system and the promotion of innovative financial tools to increase climate resilience.
- Under the second phase of DIPECHO project, WFP facilitated a workshop with the participation of meteorologists and hydrologists from the five Eastern provinces and Camaguey to improve the drought surveillance.
- WFP supports national priorities to enhance Cuba's social safety nets for vulnerable groups (children and elderly people) by providing regular and specialized nutritious foods.
- WFP continues to support the Government in strengthening agricultural value chains, promoting linkages with local social safety nets that assist vulnerable populations. In selected provinces of Eastern Cuba, grain trailers, spreaders and a harvester were distributed to beneficiaries. Farmers and local authorities highly appreciated these donations.

Monitoring

- WFP continuously monitors the implementation of programme activities, ensuring accountability, transparency and measuring operational performance in close collaboration with national and local counterparts.
- WFP carried out all visits planned to monitor WFP's food storage and over 90 percent of the visits scheduled to monitor food distribution to final beneficiaries.

WFP Country Strategy

Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018-2019)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
13.7 m	13.8 m	0.3 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Primary school children and elderly people assisted by state institutions in targeted municipalities have access to adequate food through strengthened social protection programmes all year long.

Focus area: *Root causes*

Activity 1:

- Provide food assistance to vulnerable people benefiting from food-based social protection programmes and promote technical support and training of experts and decision-makers engaged in these programmes.

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable people in shock-affected municipalities have stable access to basic food to meet their dietary requirements following a natural disaster.

Focus area: *Crisis response*

Activity 2:

- Provide unconditional food assistance to shock-affected populations from prepositioned food stocks to ensure swift delivery.

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Nutritionally vulnerable people in targeted municipalities can meet nutritional requirements through strengthened social protection programmes all year long.

Focus area: *Root causes*

Activity 3:

- Provide specialized nutritious foods to vulnerable people and technical assistance and training to experts and decision-makers of national and local institutions engaged in nutrition programmes.

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

Strategic Outcome 4: Smallholder farmers and agricultural value chain stakeholders in targeted municipalities have enhanced capacities to contribute to sustainable food production systems for stable and high-quality food supply to social protection programmes by 2018.

Focus area: *Root causes*

Activity 4:

- Provide training, equipment and technical support to smallholder farmers, traders and other stakeholders of food value chains.

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

Strategic Outcome 5: Communities, technical institutions and local authorities in selected municipalities have strengthened disaster risk-management systems to reduce the impact of natural hazards on food security by 2018.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activity 5:

- Provide training and technical assistance to decision-makers and smallholder farmers to improve local risk-reduction management.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

- WFP monitored the cyclonic activity in the Atlantic Basin until November 30th when the cyclonic season finalized. WFP will continue to follow-up on the drought.

Partnership

- WFP Cuba and representatives from WFP Regional Bureau and Headquarters met with traditional and potential partners to discuss thematic areas of the future Country Strategic Plan. During consultations, partners highlighted the alignment of WFP proposals with national priorities and the new Cooperation Framework 2020-2024. A Partnership Action Plan was developed for being implemented jointly by WFP and the Cuban authorities.
- Technical experts from the Korean Organization for International Cooperation (KOICA) carried out a field mission to Cuba as part of the final evaluation of the project proposal: "Strengthening the resilience of the local food system to natural disasters and climate change with a nutritional approach for supplying social safety nets". This project has targeted five municipalities in the Eastern provinces affected by the drought. As a result of the mission, the project proposal was improved and sent to KOICA technical team for its final consideration.

Donors

Donors to WFP Cuba include Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Germany, European Union, Italy, private sector, Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the SDG Fund and the United Arab Emirates.