In Numbers

USD 24,807 in cash transfers

USD 0.6 m six months net funding requirements

1,602 people assisted

October 2020

Operational Updates

- In October, Bolivia has shown a decrease in daily COVID-19 infections. New cases reported by the Ministry of Health were the lowest since May 2020.

- WFP will develop a food supplement for children under two years old in the Municipality of Riberalta with the support of Japanese Private Sector (JAWFP). In October, WFP held coordination meetings with municipal technicians and local smallholders’ farmers.

- Within the framework of the programme financed by the World Bank, WFP is supporting the recovery centres in Oruro, La Paz, Tupiza, and Sucre. Agreements were also signed to support the patients from rural municipalities of Entre Ríos, Padcaya, Bermejo, Villazón, Uncia, Llallagua, Yotala, Viacha, and Uriondo.

- In Sucre, 306 families of smallholders’ farmers received cash assistance as part of a “food assistance for asset” activity. Farmers are working in exchange on the rehabilitation of urban gardens in peri urban areas of the city.

- In Entre Ríos, WFP held meetings with technicians from the Municipality and the Implementing Partner. In November, 4,360 children will be assisted with take-home rations; this group of beneficiaries have not received school meals due to the closure of the schools.

- WFP and the Ministry of Rural Development and Lands are working together to update indicators of Food Vulnerability in Bolivia. Assessment are being performed and the results are expected in November.

- WFP was interviewed by La Razon, the main national newspaper, and by ATB, a national TV media, about the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize.
WFP and the municipality of Sucre are working on guidelines documents for a "safe return to school" in a COVID-19 context. This document will provide essential information to relevant municipal authorities for safe food management and other biosecurity considerations in schools.

WFP and the municipality of La Paz are working on a digital Communication Campaign with “back-to-school” nutritional messages. WFP will also deliver biosecurity items for distribution by the beginning of the 2021 school year.

Monitoring

- WFP carried out a Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) of an intervention implemented in the urban area of Oruro, where 2,000 vulnerable families have been assisted in previous months to reduce their food insecurity. Results showed that the households had access to food for nearly one month.

- WFP, in coordination with the Ministry of Health, launched a survey to estimate the impact of the COVID-19 on food consumption patterns and behaviours at the national level.

Challenges

- WFP continues facing challenges to secure enough funding for the implementation of the Country Strategic Plan and the COVID-19 response in Bolivia.

- Bolivia is experimenting drought with extensive forest fires and is prone to floods between the months of November to March which will increase the risk to food insecurity, particularly on smallholders’ farmers.

- On October 18th the Presidential elections were held. A new government was elected, and the involvement of the new authorities must be ensured.

Partnerships

- WFP and the Ministry of Planning signed an agreement to develop a platform facilitating access to statistical information on food vulnerability in Bolivia.

- WFP and the Ministry of Rural Development and Lands presented a proposal for funding from KOICA.

- WFP and the Ministry of Rural Development signed an agreement to update food security indicators.

Donors