



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Bolivia Country Brief November 2020



Operational Context

In the last decade, Bolivia made significant progress in improving food and nutrition security and reducing extreme poverty. Sustaining progress, particularly in the most vulnerable areas, depends on the future of the country's oil and gas revenues, which since 2016, have dramatically decreased. Despite the advancement, poverty and malnutrition levels remain amongst the highest in the region.

The recent COVID-19 crisis takes place on the back of a severe political crisis, adding significant pressures to a fragile institutional setting and political imbalances. Both situations may have impact on the food security of Bolivians, especially for those who depend on informal labour and for indigenous communities with precarious sources of income.

WFP Bolivia is currently implementing its Country Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022. Adapting to the country's needs, 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. WFP's programmes are in line with the Five-Year National Development Plan 2020 that focuses on 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

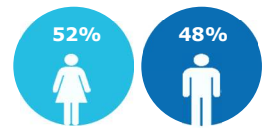
Chronic malnutrition: 16% of children between 6-59 months

In Numbers

USD 43,501 in cash transfers

USD 0.6 m six months net funding requirements

2,573 people assisted
November 2020



Operational Updates

- In November, Bolivia has shown a decrease in daily COVID-19 infections. New cases (are there official numbers available?) reported by the Ministry of Health were the lowest since May 2020.
- In Entre Ríos, 4,341 children that take part in the Supplementary School Feeding Programme (PACE) of the local government and have not received school meals due to the closure schools since the outbreak of the pandemic, were assisted with take-home rations.
- In Entre Ríos, a Food Assistance for Assets (FFA) initiative began at the end of the month. 500 families of 13 Guarani communities are working on the rehabilitation and preparation of agricultural land and pastures. They will receive food assistance, as well as wires, staples and water tanks in December.
- In rural Oruro, 970 families of smallholders' farmers are part also of the FFA initiative. The beneficiaries are cleaning, constructing and rehabilitating beams, irrigation channels, wells and ditches. Food assistance will be distributed in December.
- The Integrated Context Analysis (ICA) technical document, a result of WFP and the Ministry of Rural Development and Lands joint work, is finished and will be published in December.
- WFP is supporting the Municipality of La Paz and the municipalities of the Department of Chiquisaca with the elaboration of a guideline for a "safe return to school". This document will provide essential information to municipal authorities for safe food management and other biosecurity considerations in school.
- WFP has supported the Municipality of La Paz with a screen to broadcast messages about nutrition, feeding, safety and care regarding COVID-19 while distributing school feeding to 26,471 people.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/bolivia-plurinational-state

WFP Country Strategy



Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
11.7 m	6.4 m	0.6 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.

- The Supply Chain Unit has been procuring diverse non-food items i.e. agricultural tools, water tanks, face masks, among others, to assist the most vulnerable families in different interventions.

Monitoring

- WFP carried out a Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) of the intervention to support the Supplementary School Feeding Programme (PACE) of the local government of Entre Rios, where 4,341 children were assisted with take-home rations.
- WFP carried out a Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) of the intervention implemented in the peri-urban area of Oruro city where 2,000 vulnerable families were assisted to improve their food security. The final report was shared with local authorities.

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 entering a prone to floods season (November- March) which is expected to contribute to increase the risk of food insecurity, particularly of smallholders' farmers.
- WFP works on the involvement of the new national authorities

Partnerships

- WFP and World Vision Bolivia signed an agreement to support the reactivation of families' and communities' productive assets and provide food assistance to 970 families in 11 vulnerable municipalities in the rural area of Oruro.

Donors

Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia (World Bank), Japanese Private Sector (JAWFP), The Repsol Foundation.