



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Bolivia Country Brief December 2020

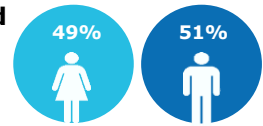


In Numbers

USD 1,879,125 in cash-based transfers

USD 0.6 m six months net funding requirements

13,429 people assisted
December 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.



- In December 2020, COVID-19 cases rose daily. On December 31st, 2020, 1,752 new cases were reported by the Ministry of Health.
- In rural Oruro, 970 smallholder farmer households were assisted with food baskets as part of WFP's *food assistance for assets (FFA)* initiative. In Zudañez, Department of Chuquisaca, 400 families from 15 communities were assisted with cash transfers as part of the *FFA initiative*. Farmers built and rehabilitated irrigation channels, traditional wells and ditches to reduce the risks and impact of climate shocks.
- In Entre Ríos, Department of Tarija, 500 families of 13 Guarani indigenous communities rehabilitated agricultural lands through fencing, built vegetable gardens and constructed the basic infrastructure to set up irrigation systems. They also received non-food items (NFIs) such as water tanks.
- A methodology to assess and calculate Food Security Indicators based on an Integrated Context Analysis (ICA) was jointly developed between WFP, the Ministry of Rural Development and Land (MDRyT) and the Ministry of Planning (MDP).
- WFP designed and developed an e-platform for the socialization, monitoring and updating of the Food Security Indicators to be managed by the MDRyT.
- WFP is supporting the formulation of guidelines for a COVID-19 "safe return to schools". This document will provide essential information to teachers, parents and municipal authorities for safe food management and other biosecurity considerations for the safe return to classes. The document is being developed together with the Municipality of La Paz.

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

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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	6.8 m	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.

Monitoring

- WFP carried out a Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) of the school feeding intervention implemented in Entre Rios, where 4,338 children were assisted with take-home rations.

Challenges

- WFP continues facing challenges to secure enough funding for the implementation of the Country Strategic Plan, particularly for SO2 and SO4, and the COVID-19 response in Bolivia.
- The rainy season has begun, so emergencies may potentially arise in the coming months.
- New government authorities are slowly settling into their positions. Thus, there is no clarity yet of the way forward for many plans.
- WFP is working on expanding its partnership base.

Partnerships

- WFP and World Vision Bolivia worked together to support the FFA initiatives in Entre Ríos and Oruro.

Donors

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