



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Guatemala Country Brief August 2021



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, stunting in children aged 6-59 months is among the highest in the world and the highest in the region.

WFP assistance in Guatemala aims at achieving a sustainable improvement in food security and nutrition of the most vulnerable people. It is aligned to the National Plan, "K'atun: Our Guatemala 2032", and the government's national plan to attain progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

As Guatemala is among the ten countries in the world most vulnerable to climate change and most exposed to natural hazards in the region, WFP supports the national response to drought-affected smallholder farmers to help them cope with the lean season while restoring their livelihoods.

WFP has been present in Guatemala since 1984.



Population: **16.9 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **126 out of 189**

Income Level: **Middle**

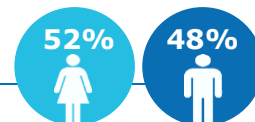
Chronic malnutrition: **46.5% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

US\$ 2,576,491 in cash transfers
(January-August 2021)

US\$ 2.2 m six months (September 2021-February 2022) net funding requirements

247,041 people assisted
January-August 2021



Operational Updates

- As part of its emergency response, WFP continued the distribution of unconditional Cash-Based Transfers (CBT) in 7 departments across the country. In August, over 73,000 beneficiaries received assistance as part of the response to seasonal hunger period (June-September).
- WFP and its partners in the field are supporting the creation of 64 women credits and loans groups in 3 departments of the country (Chimaltenango, Sololá, Retalhuleu). Savings generated by these groups will support women's livelihoods, and their decision-making capacity to improve their access to healthy foods.

In August, WFP and the Ministry of Education finished the delivery of an Amazon Inc. donation of school-kitchen items supporting 500 schools and over 91,000 children countrywide (46 percent are girls).
- As part of its resilience building activities in Huehuetenango, WFP finished the first round of cash for assets (CFA) benefiting 500 households.
- In Alta Verapaz, WFP conducted a seasonal livelihood exercise to determine locally relevant assets and other productive activities to be implemented as part of its resilience building intervention targeting indigenous women in the Polochic Valley.

Country Strategic Plan (2021-2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
166.4 m	41.5 m	2.2 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome #1:

Crisis-affected populations in Guatemala are able to meet their essential needs during and in the aftermath of crises.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide direct nutrition and gender responsive assistance to crisis-affected populations

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome #2: Vulnerable populations in targeted areas have access to comprehensive services and programmes that promote healthy diets by 2024.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Strengthen national and local capacities in nutrition and healthy diets promotion for vulnerable population

Strategic Result 4: Food Systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome #3: Rural vulnerable populations and local institutions engage in nutrition and gender-sensitive, sustainable and climate-resilient food systems throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Strengthen capacities of institutions responsible for school feeding, school communities and smallholder farmers
- Provide training, equipment, cash-based transfers and technical assistance to vulnerable smallholder farmers, communities, cooperatives and local institutions

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

Strategic Outcome #4: National institutions have strengthened capacities and improve their coordination to manage an integrated social protection system by 2024.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance at policy and operational level to social protection institutions
- Provide technical assistance to national and subnational institutions of the emergency preparedness and response system.

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome #5: National partners have access to efficient services and technical assistance throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide food procurement services to national institutions and other partners

Monitoring

- In August, WFP and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) conducted a monitoring visit in Huehuetenango to asset creation activities that support beneficiaries' livelihoods.
- As part of its response to seasonal hunger, WFP trained local partners in ten departments and government counterparts in the use of the mobile application (MODA) for the identification and registration of households over 15,000 households in the past month.
- Jointly with FAO, IFAD, and UN Women, WFP is developing the final report of the Joint Programme for Rural Economic Empowerment that will end in December 2021.

Challenges

- Due to rainy season, landslides and infrastructure damage have impacted main roads and highways.
- WFP has adapted its programme activities to comply with government sanctioned measures limiting activities convening large groups of people.

Donors

Canada, European Union (EU), Republic of Korea, Switzerland, United States of America.

