Operational Context

The Colombian humanitarian context is complex, with multiple risks and affects coexisting. Colombia’s 50-year-long armed conflict left 7.8 million IDPs, and while the country has set a path of peacebuilding and stabilization, violence caused by armed groups linked to illegal economies still affects thousands of Colombians every year. Colombia has also become the largest host for Venezuelan migrants fleeing dire living conditions in their country. Nearly 5.7 million have already left, and 1.8 million of them are in Colombia which expects another 500,000 to arrive over the next months. The COVID-19 crisis further exacerbates the situation and impacts food security for both Colombians and migrants, especially for those who depend on informal labour, or who are in extreme poverty.

WFP is supporting the Colombian Government in its efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17. WFP’s strategy is aligned with Government’s humanitarian, recovery, development, and capacity strengthening priorities. WFP has been present in Colombia since 1969.

Operational Updates

- In support of nearly 295,000 Venezuelan migrants, Colombian returnees and members of host communities, WFP has been distributing cash-based transfers (CBT), in-kind food assistance, hot meals, food kits, and providing school feeding. WFP will also assist about 1,200 Venezuelans in the strained border municipality of Necoclí (Antioquia) following the arrival of thousands of multi-national migrants heading north.

- In the month of September, WFP provided life-saving emergency assistance (in-kind and CBT) to nearly 12,400 people who are forcibly displaced or confined in their communities due to disasters or internal violence. This includes the Telembí triangle in Nariño, as well as preparations in close coordination with the national Disaster and Risk Management Unit and other humanitarian actors to support 20,000 people across several municipalities in the La Mojana region in the north of Colombia, where a dam broke after heavy rains.

- WFP continued to assist nearly 7,600 Colombians affected by the COVID-19 crisis through vouchers in Amazonas and Chocó. Preparations are underway for a second phase of support to the Government’s testing, contact tracing and selected isolation strategy (PRASS) aiming at 75,000 people.

- WFP continued providing school feeding to nearly 81,500 Colombian and Venezuelan school children in La Guajira, Arauquita, Barranquilla, Cúcuta, Santa Marta and Valledupar. While both take-home rations as well as on-site distributions are already being offered to children in La Guajira, Barranquilla has recently completed a pilot project in order to facilitate the transition between the different modalities. On 10 September, WFP launched its social and behavioural change campaign “What does equality taste like?” in Santa Marta and Barranquilla.

- WFP has been developing a strategy for defining and guiding its work in support of inclusive and shock-responsive social protection systems and services in Colombia. This way, it aims to contribute to ensuring that food security and nutrition needs of the most vulnerable are being met in close collaboration with Government authorities.

In Numbers

USD 64.4 m six months (October 2021 – March 2022) net funding requirements representing 49% of total

354,367 people assisted in SEPTEMBER 2021

Operational Updates

- In support of nearly 295,000 Venezuelan migrants, Colombian returnees and members of host communities, WFP has been distributing cash-based transfers (CBT), in-kind food assistance, hot meals, food kits, and providing school feeding. WFP will also assist about 1,200 Venezuelans in the strained border municipality of Necoclí (Antioquia) following the arrival of thousands of multi-national migrants heading north.

- In the month of September, WFP provided life-saving emergency assistance (in-kind and CBT) to nearly 12,400 people who are forcibly displaced or confined in their communities due to disasters or internal violence. This includes the Telembí triangle in Nariño, as well as preparations in close coordination with the national Disaster and Risk Management Unit and other humanitarian actors to support 20,000 people across several municipalities in the La Mojana region in the north of Colombia, where a dam broke after heavy rains.

- WFP continued to assist nearly 7,600 Colombians affected by the COVID-19 crisis through vouchers in Amazonas and Chocó. Preparations are underway for a second phase of support to the Government’s testing, contact tracing and selected isolation strategy (PRASS) aiming at 75,000 people.

- WFP continued providing school feeding to nearly 81,500 Colombian and Venezuelan school children in La Guajira, Arauquita, Barranquilla, Cúcuta, Santa Marta and Valledupar. While both take-home rations as well as on-site distributions are already being offered to children in La Guajira, Barranquilla has recently completed a pilot project in order to facilitate the transition between the different modalities. On 10 September, WFP launched its social and behavioural change campaign “What does equality taste like?” in Santa Marta and Barranquilla.

- WFP has been developing a strategy for defining and guiding its work in support of inclusive and shock-responsive social protection systems and services in Colombia. This way, it aims to contribute to ensuring that food security and nutrition needs of the most vulnerable are being met in close collaboration with Government authorities.

Contact info: Sarah Colbourne (sarah.colbourne@wfp.org)
Country Director: Carlo Scaramella
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Colombia
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2021-2024)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (USD)</th>
<th>Six-month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>654.3 m</td>
<td>162.1 m</td>
<td>64.4 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Strategic Result 1:** Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Venezuelan migrants, Colombian returnees and members of host communities receive humanitarian assistance, equitable access to quality differential services and expeditious and massive access to the labour market and entrepreneurship options, with a focus on food security and nutrition, with the support of WFP and in coordination with the United Nations country team, as a complement to the efforts of the Colombian Government.

**Activities:**
- Provide humanitarian assistance and access to services.
- Strengthen institutional capacities and provide support.

**Strategic Outcome 3:** The public policies, institutional capacity, systems and services for the promotion of food security, nutrition and social inclusion are technically strengthened and vulnerable populations have access to adequate and nutritious food throughout the year for the acceleration of catalytic SDGs, in particular SDG 2, with the support of WFP and in coordination with the United Nations country team, as a complement to the efforts of the Colombian Government.

**Activities:**
- Support the Government and territorial entities in strengthening their capacity and strategies.
- Provide technical assistance and support for school feeding.
- Provide food and nutrition assistance, including through the strengthening of the social protection system.

**Strategic Result 4:** Food systems are sustainable

**Strategic Outcome 1:** By 2024, people and communities in a situation of food vulnerability in the PDET municipalities prioritized by the Government improve their quality of life by strengthening their resilience and sustainable livelihoods and local governments strengthen their capacities, contributing to the stabilization and consolidation of the territories, with the support of WFP and in coordination with the United Nations country team, as a complement to the efforts of the Government.

**Activity:**
- Provide food, technical and production assistance.

**Donors**

Canada, Colombia, France, Germany, Italy, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, USA, the World Bank, and private donors.

Additional support has been provided by UN CERF, the Adaptation Fund, and the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF).

**WFP had meetings with Migración Colombia to discuss technical and strategic aspects related to the ongoing cooperation as well as future priorities. Strengthening assistance along key routes, the implementation of the Temporary Pro-tection Status for Venezuelan Migrants (ETPV), socio-economic integration and shock-responsive social safety nets are essential elements as about 500,000 migrants are expected to arrive in the country in the next few months. In September, 36 ETPV training and pre-registration sessions took place in La Guajira, Arauca, Norte de Santander, Nariño and Valle del Cauca. WFP and its partners will also disseminate related communication material during their activities on the ground.**

**Monitoring**

- Findings from a survey among 118 households in Puerto Nariño (Amazonas) which benefitted from WFP’s support to people affected by COVID-19 indicated that the assistance helped to significantly reduce the number of meals in order to make ends meet. The share of people with an acceptable food consumption score increased by 18 percent following WFP’s intervention.

**Partnerships**

- At the United Nations Food Systems Summit in New York City, Colombia’s First Lady María Juliana Ruiz Sandoval presented the country’s achievements and vision as well as current priorities, such as innovation for enhancing nutrition at the national and regional levels in cooperation with WFP. The UN country team will establish an inter-agency group to support Colombia in pursuing its national roadmap.

- On 24 September, WFP co-hosted the Fix the Food Conference with the Nobel Peace Center to discuss the interconnectedness between food, peace and sustainable food systems. The programme is available here and the recording here. Among the contributors were Colombia’s former President and Nobel Peace Prize Leaureate Juan Manuel Santos (@00:48:20) and WFP Colombia’s Country Director Carlo Scaramella (@02:03:20).

**Challenges**

- The high vulnerability of Colombia to extreme weather events and security incidences related to the production and trafficking of illegal crops continues to disproportionately affect vulnerable population groups such as indigenous communities and Afro-Colombians. Recent data indicate that the number of massive displacements, forced confinements and people affected by disasters in the first eight months of 2021 surpasses those from the same period in previous years. In addition to its existing warehouses, WFP is establishing virtual buffer stocks and food supply agreements in order to be able to rapidly respond to future needs.