

Crisis response revision of Ecuador country strategic plan (2017–2022) and corresponding the implementation of a new modality

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	1 April 2017– 31 December 2022		1 April 2017– 31 December 2022
Beneficiaries	1 791 269	23 201	1 814 470
Total cost (USD)	197 247 946	132 773	197 380 719
Transfer	169 238 635	124 670	169 363 305
Implementation	8 711 494	0	8 711 494
Direct Support Costs	7 219 988	0	7 219 988
Sub-total	185 170 116	124 670	185 294 786
Indirect Support Costs	12 077 829	8 104	12 085 933

Ecuador country strategic plan, revision 7

1. RATIONALE

1. This Budget Revision (BR) aims to allow WFP Ecuador to further improve the context-based assistance of the emergency response to the migrant flow crisis (activity 1), particularly to incorporate in-kind assistance for beneficiaries transiting through border provinces.
2. Ecuador has seen an increase in the flux of in-transit migrants, refugees and returnees through its borders in 2021, and this has positioned the country at the centre of the migration route towards "Cono Sur" countries (Chile, Peru, etc.). According to the Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V), around 451,093 Venezuelan migrants could be in Ecuador, including people entering irregular paths. A constant increase in the influx of Venezuelan migrants is detected in border areas, and the number of assisted people by WFP has been steadily increasing each month after the opening of borders.
3. Currently, in-transit migrants and refugees receive a one-off voucher for a value of USD 30 per person, redeemable in a national supermarket chain. However, border areas do not have supermarkets available, leaving migrants and refugees with a food access gap of three days. To respond to this gap, WFP Ecuador has decided to complement the current CBT interventions for in-transit populations with one-off in-kind assistance, to ensure that these vulnerable populations have access to a food ration until they are able to redeem their CBT entitlements in areas where supermarkets are available.
4. WFP Ecuador aims to scale up its response by complementing the existing CBT assistance with in-kind resources from November 2021 until the end of the current CSP in December 2022. WFP will target in-transit migrants and refugees at border provinces including Loja, Sucumbios, Carchi and El Oro with the additional in-kind support. To finance this new modality, resources will be transferred from CBT to the new in-kind component.



2. CHANGES

Strategic orientation

5. This revision (BR07) will result in a new modality of assistance under Strategic Outcome 1 (SO 1)/ Activity 1. The activity description was modified in the text to cover the new assistance modality:
 - Previous activity description: Complement the Government's social protection strategy by providing CBTs to the most vulnerable populations and provide support in vulnerability analysis and knowledge management.
 - Modified activity description: Provide immediate food assistance to meet the essential needs to vulnerable populations in support of national institutions and Government Social Protection programmes (Food, CBT, CS).
6. To incorporate the beneficiaries that will receive additional in-kind assistance, the number of beneficiaries under the CBT intervention was adjusted. The targeted beneficiaries will receive both types of assistance (in-kind food rations, as well as value vouchers). This combination will help cover the food gap needs of the population that crosses Ecuador's borders. While this CSP modification is largely designed to incorporate a combined package of assistance to cover immediate food needs of beneficiaries previously planned under activity 1, WFP may be able to leverage the modified activity to incorporate an increase of direct assistance in the future, should there be an expansion of needs.
7. In the NBP, the food rations are reflected as OTHER: PPF Rations.
8. Previous revisions to the Ecuador Country Strategic Plan have included:
 - an augmentation of strategic outcome 1 in line with a higher influx of migrants, merging activities 1 and 2 (USD 9.8 million, December 2018);
 - an augmentation of strategic outcome 1 and budget-neutral technical revisions to strategic outcomes 2 and 3 (USD 20 million, December 2019); and
 - an increase to the beneficiaries under strategic outcome 1 and the introduction of strategic outcome 5 on service provision (USD 77 million, July 2020).

Strategic outcomes

9. Under strategic outcome 1, WFP will continue to focus on the most vulnerable migrant and host populations, including People with Special Needs, whose food security has been jeopardized. With this revision, WFP Ecuador will include an in-kind component to the CSP to better respond to the food needs of in-transit migrants and refugees in the border areas.
10. For local procurement, WFP Ecuador will identify a local supplier that ensures: (i) capacity to deliver the food rations according to WFP requirements; (ii) be responsible for the packaging of the rations, noting that the bags with WFP and donor visibility will be provided by WFP; (iii) be in charge of the proper storage of the rations. The food-items provided must comply with the food safety and quality requirements requested by the



WFP. WFP will continue working with cooperating partners for the distribution of the food rations for the targeted beneficiaries. The CPs are in charge of withdraw, transportation and delivery of the Food Rations.

11. The addition of this new modality in the CSP envisions the possibility to target not only in transit migrants and refugees but also to address local vulnerable communities where CBT operations are not immediately feasible. Support to host communities will be implemented on ad-hoc basis in border areas where social tension has been reported.
12. WFP will seek to adopt risk mitigation measures to reduce potential risks associated to the new in-kind modality:
 - Implementation and results monitoring: WFP will provide on-site technical support on the implementation and monitoring of the programme from beneficiary registration and selection to the distribution of benefits and post-distribution monitoring. Regular meetings will be held with the local R4V (Grupo de Trabajo Refugiados y Migrantes – GTRM in spanish) to ensure timely implementation of the programme, identify gaps and challenges and provide solutions.
 - Operational risk: (Food distribution) WFP will select the distribution and monitoring site informed by risk assessment and adopt a risk-based monitoring approach whilst the activity takes place. This includes ensuring the food is properly kitted to enable swift delivery to beneficiaries so as to reduce the likelihood of diversion or theft while food is in transit. WFP will also augment the capacity of monitoring teams by strengthening SOPs and guidelines for planning and monitoring activities for direct distribution based on the risk profile of the local context. (CBT modality) CO is currently implementing a e-voucher operation with a national supermarket chain in Ecuador. In the modality, the CO has already put in place all the appropriate controls throughout the programme cycle to mitigate operational risks. These controls include functioning of operational processes framed in SOP; performing and documenting transfer reconciliation for each payment cycle; identification and follow-up of any data anomalies; authentication of beneficiary identities. Concerning the selection of a Financial Service Provider (FSP) the CO is exploring the market looking for possibility to implement such operation. Also, in these cases and to mitigate operational and fiduciary risks, the CO has plans several controls level such as due diligence on FSP solvency, internal controls, and functioning of operational processes.
13. Implementation arrangements for the rest of SOs and Activities will remain the same.

Beneficiary analysis

14. Beneficiaries are selected using established targeting methodologies within government social protection mechanisms combined with WFP technical assistance in vulnerability analysis and targeting approaches. This short-term timebound distribution of food rations is designed to bridge the gap in government programming and resourcing.
15. WFP Ecuador will continue to support the beneficiaries identified for CBT.



Strategic Outcome	Activity	Period	Women (18+ years)	Men (18+ years)	Girls (0-18 years)	Boys (0-18 years)	Total
1	1	Current	534 273	375 550	406 409	421787	1 738 019
		Increase/decrease	5 881	362	7 857	9 101	23 201
		Revised	540 154	375 912	414 266	430 888	1 761 220
TOTAL <i>(without overlap)</i>		Current	539,551	379,870	428,235	443,613	1,791,269
		Increase/decrease	5,884	362	6,737	10,218	23,201
		Revised	545,435	380,232	434,972	453,831	1,814,470

Transfers

16. To enable the CO to implement the new modality under activity 1, there has been a shift in the budget distribution, decreasing the number of beneficiaries targeted with the monthly voucher assistance without changing the number of feeding days per year involved, the daily ration and the Kilocalories intake. The addition of in-kind modality shifts the budget distribution between the target beneficiaries and does not change the total amount previously approved in the BR06. The assistance with in-kind modality considers:
- Vulnerable population and in transit migrants and refugees who will receive one-off food rations of USD 6.40 per person for one day.

Nº	Food	Nutrition group	Quantity
1	Crackers	Cereals and derivatives	3
2	Oatmeal with milk	Dairy products	1
3	Apple	Fruits	3
4	Orange	Fruits	3
5	Tuna canned in oil	Fish	1
6	Water	Soft drinks	1

17. The food ration has been developed by the WFP Ecuador using the app NutrirEC (available online) that allows estimating the kilocalories intakes per day per person, considering local availability of food. It will be distributed to all beneficiaries in transit without any limitations in terms of beneficiaries already supported by the WFP in the country.

Strategic outcome 1	
Activity 1	
Beneficiary type	Vulnerable population and in transit migrants and refugees
Modality	Food
Total kcal/day	2479.35 Kcal/day
One-off Food rations (USD/person/day)	6.40
Number of feeding days per year	1



Food type / cash-based transfer	Current Budget		Increase		Revised Budget	
	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)
Cereals	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pulses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oil and Fats	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mixed and blended foods	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	212	411 738	212	411 738
TOTAL (food)	0	0	212	411 738	212	411 738
Cash-Based Transfers (USD)		140 296 308		- 411 515		139 884 793
TOTAL (food and CBT value - USD)	0	140 296 308	212	223	212	140 296 531

3. COST BREAKDOWN

	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 3 / SDG Target 2.3	Strategic Result 4 / SDG Target 2.4	Strategic Result 5 / SDG Target 17.9	Strategic Result 8 / SDG Target 17.16	TOTAL
Strategic outcome	01	02	03	04	05	
Focus Area	Crisis Response	Root Causes	Resilience Building	Root Causes	Crisis Response	
Transfer	124 670	0	0	0	0	124 670
Implementation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Direct support costs						0
Subtotal						124 670
Indirect support costs						8 104
TOTAL						132 773

	Strategic Result 1 / SDG Target 2.1	Strategic Result 3 / SDG Target 2.3	Strategic Result 4 / SDG Target 2.4	Strategic Result 5 / SDG Target 17.9	Strategic Result 8 / SDG Target 17.16	TOTAL
Strategic outcome	01	02	03	04	05	
Focus Area	Crisis Response	Root Causes	Resilience Building	Root Causes	Crisis Response	
Transfer	149 084 139	4 720 123	11 371 181	2 809 967	1 377 895	169 363 305
Implementation	5 060 317	504 109	1 690 511	768 081	688 476	8 711 494
Direct support costs	6 088 652	292 877	577 779	191 287	69 393	7 219 988
Subtotal	160 233 108	5 517 109	13 639 471	3 769 335	2 135 764	185 294 786
Indirect support costs	10 439 611	365 076	894 406	248 015	138 825	12 085 933
TOTAL	170 672 719	5 882 184	14 533 877	4 017 350	2 274 588	197 380 719

