



WFP Colombia Country Brief

November 2021

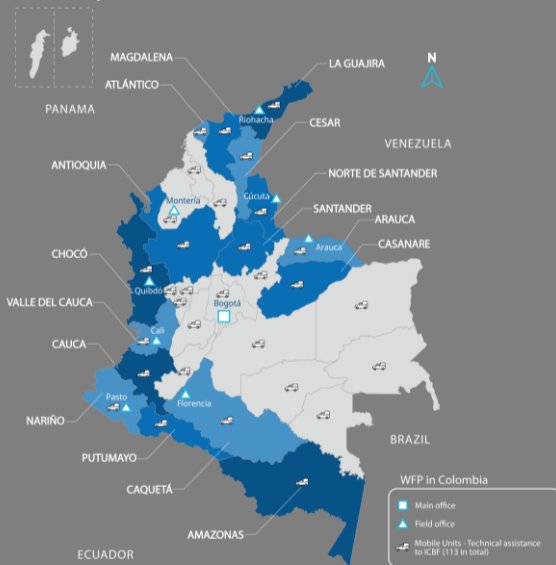


Photo: WFP celebrates Innovation for Nutrition event with Colombia's First Lady

Operational Context

The humanitarian context in Colombia is complex, with multiple risks and affectations 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. 6.0 million have already left, and more than 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 the Government's humanitarian, recovery, development, and capacity strengthening priorities. WFP has been present in Colombia since 1969.



Population: 49.1 million

2020 Human Development Index:
83 out of 189

Income Level: Upper middle

Chronic malnutrition: 10.8%

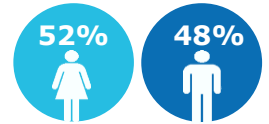
In Numbers

USD 6.2 m cash-based transfers made

USD 78.5 m six months (December 2021 - May 2022) net funding requirements, representing 35% of total

USD 61.7 m L2 Emergency Response

457,348 people assisted
in NOVEMBER 2021



Operational Updates

- In November, WFP has provided cash-based and in-kind assistance as well as capacity strengthening and socio-economic integration activities to 457,348 vulnerable people across Colombia. This includes Venezuelan migrants, Colombian returnees, host communities, and victims of armed violence and extreme weather events, such as in La Mojana where WFP is supporting 47,000 people affected by flooding. Many of WFP's beneficiaries suffer from multiple affectations, as in the case of dozens of ethnic communities in Chocó who are subject to insecurity, violence and recent floods.
- WFP Colombia started the process of handing out certificates to eligible Venezuelan migrants which will serve as the proof (*prueba sumaria*) required for the stay permit under the Temporary Protection Status (TPS). To date, WFP has conducted more than 140 sensitization sessions reaching thousands of eligible migrants to inform them about the TPS implementation.
- 83,374 children benefitted from school feeding in Barranquilla, Cúcuta, La Guajira, Santa Marta and Valledupar as well as Arauca, where WFP continued implementing a pilot project sourcing local products from smallholder farmers.
- From 23 to 25 November, the joint initiative *Innovation for Nutrition* (I4N) between WFP and Colombia's First Lady hosted a [ground-breaking event](#) with numerous global and local leaders from different sectors, messages from the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, WFP Executive Director David M. Beasley, and the President of Colombia Iván Duque, and more than 2,000 attendees. Nine states have committed to a regional pact for fighting hunger and malnutrition. WFP Colombia also celebrated the soft launch of its new regional Innovation Hub HZERO which will promote innovative approaches to food security and nutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Monitoring

- An [Overview of Food Security and Nutrition 2021](#) in Latin America and the Caribbean finds that 59.7 million people in the region suffered from hunger in 2020, with an increase in the pre-valence of hunger in the region to 9.1 percent, the highest value in 15 years.
- WFP Colombia launched a new publication ([first bulletin](#)) on the food security and socio-economic situation in the country. The document provides an overview and analysis of primary and secondary data overall and for different population groups, including Colombian nationals and migrants.

Partnerships

- WFP’s partnership with the World Bank in Colombia is now effective, and preparations have been finalised for the first 1,700 prioritized households to receive cash transfers during the week of 30 November in support of addressing the socio-economic impact of COVID-19.
- WFP Colombia has just finalized an agreement for USD 2 million with the Howard G. Buffet Foundation to foster the productive reintegration of ex-combatants living in so-called former Territorial Training and Reincorporation Spaces (AETCRs) and the surrounding communities.
- The Global Logistics Cluster co-organized a workshop with WFP Colombia and the National Disaster Management (UNGRD) on emergency preparedness: Representatives from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela discussed logistics challenges and coordination issues on emergency responses across the region. The event brought together stakeholders from the public, private and humanitarian sector to develop new ways of working.

Challenges

- Important funding shortfalls are foreseen in 2022 which will impact WFP’s operations and severely reduce the number of vulnerable people assisted. In 2021, WFP has been reaching an average of 370,000 people per month. While the overall humanitarian situation shows increasing needs among migrants, victims of violence and natural and climatic hazards, as well as people affected by other shocks (e.g. COVID-19), the funding situation of WFP is of great concern. In light of the expected funding shortfalls, as of early 2022 WFP Colombia will be forced to reduce the monthly number of beneficiaries by 40 percent, unless additional resources can be mobilised. This will primarily affect assistance to several hundred thousand migrants, victims of violence, and school-aged children, in particular migrants from Venezuela who will not have access to feeding programmes.

Donors

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

WFP is also implementing operations and activities funded by the Adaptation Fund, UN CERF, and the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Peacebuilding (MPTF).

Country Strategic Plan (2021-2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
654.3 m	171.9 m	78.5 m

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.