



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Bolivia

Country Brief

March 2022



Operational Context

In the last decade, Bolivia made significant progress on improving food and nutrition security and reducing extreme poverty. Given the notable socioeconomic improvement, the country accomplished a middle-income status. However, poverty and malnutrition levels remain amongst the highest in the region.

The COVID-19 pandemic followed after a severe political crisis in 2019, adding significant pressures to a fragile institutional setting and political imbalances. Both situations impacted on the socioeconomic situation and food security of Bolivians, especially on those who work on the informal market, smallholder farmers and indigenous communities with precarious sources of income.

WFP Bolivia is currently implementing its Country Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022. Adapting to the country's needs and considering yearly natural disasters, WFP is consolidating its value added as the partner of choice for both emergency response and capacity strengthening, technical support, advocacy, and communications, acting as a facilitator in support of the Government. WFP's interventions are in line with the Five-Year National Development Plan 2020 that focuses on social development of vulnerable indigenous populations. WFP has been in Bolivia since 1963.



Population: **11.4 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **118 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

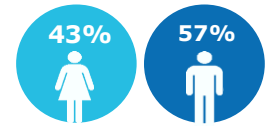
Chronic malnutrition: **16% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

USD 506,544 in cash-based transfers made

USD 1.8 m six-month (April–September 2022) net funding requirements, representing 65% of total

20,440 people assisted
in March 2022



Operational Updates

- In March, COVID-19 cases decreased from a weekly average of 275 at the beginning of the month to 240 at the end.
- As of March 31, 50 percent of the population received two vaccine doses, 61 percent had only one dose, and 11 percent also the third dose.
- The Vice Ministry of Civil Defence announced a reduction in the intensity of the rains, especially in the Altiplano and Chaco regions. However, rains continue affecting the departments of Beni and Pando, both of which declared an orange alert.
- To support the education of Indigenous people affected by climate change, WFP delivered school supplies to children from rural schools in the Indigenous community of Ucumasi.
- WFP delivered equipment to two associations of Indigenous women who produce nougat and quinoa cookies to strengthen the food security of adults and children in the department of Oruro.
- After the rehabilitation and building of productive assets such as irrigation channels and traditional water wells, WFP benefited 16,000 people from Indigenous communities surrounding Lake Poopo with cash transfers.
- Four Emergency Food Security Assessments (EFSA) and Marketing Functional Index, including gender, protection, and social behaviour change communication assessments in three major floods and drought-prone ecosystems, were carried out in addition to the EFSA for Entre Rios.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/bolivia-plurinational-state

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

| Total Requirement (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 11.8 m | 11.1 m | 1.8 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.

Challenges

- Due to the conflict in Ukraine, the Government of Bolivia has begun to worry about the cost of wheat flour, fundamental for the country's diet. The Government of Bolivia has promised to guarantee and maintain stable prices.
- WFP continues facing challenges to secure enough funding to implement the 2018-2022 country strategic plan, particularly funds for emergencies response (strategic outcome 1) and capacity strengthening (strategic outcome 4). For strategic outcome 3, the country office has received the required funds to support the Oruro intervention and other country regions.

Partnerships

- WFP signed an agreement with the departmental government of Oruro to assist 5,600 Indigenous families affected by climate change.
- Postgraduate students from the London School of Economics supporting WFP, concluded consultancies to identify potential projects for gastronomic routes and generate information for small producers and inputs for the new CSP.
- In partnership with the Argentinian White Helmets, WFP delivered assistance to vulnerable Indigenous people in the department of Oruro.

Donors

Germany, the Strategic Resource Allocation Committee (SRAC), and the Emerging Donor Matching Fund (EDMF).