



# WFP Colombia Country Brief

March 2022

World Food Programme

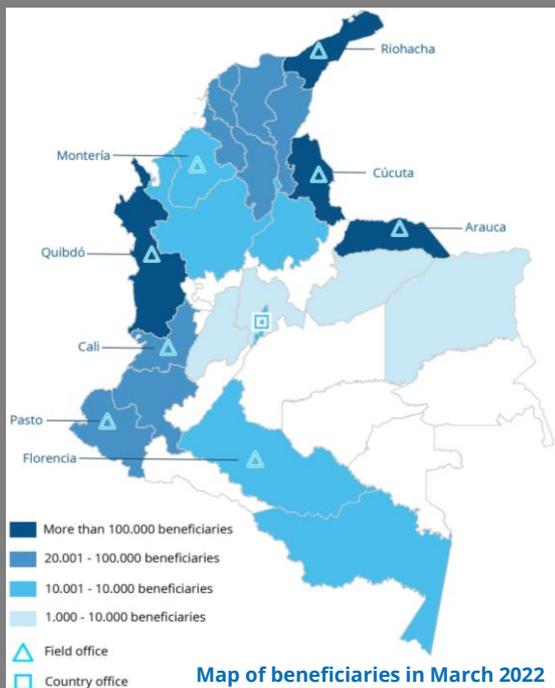
SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



Photo: WFP/Lorena Peña, Grandmother and grandson received food assistance, Bogota/Colombia

## Operational Context

The humanitarian context in Colombia is complex, with multiple risks and affectations coexisting. Colombia's 50-year-long armed conflict resulted in 7.8 million internally displaced people (IDPs). While Colombia is on 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 at home. Six million have already left, and more than 1.8 million are in Colombia which expects another 500,000 to arrive over the next months. The COVID-19 crisis has further exacerbated 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

Income Level: Upper middle

Human Development Index:  
83 out of 189 (2020)

Chronic malnutrition: 10.8%

## In Numbers

2,109 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 6.4 m cash-based transfers made

USD 86.6 m six months (April - September 2022) net funding requirements, representing 39% of total

USD 74 m Corporate Attention Emergency Response

467,976 people assisted in MARCH 2022



## Operational Updates

- WFP assisted 467,976 Venezuelan migrants and Colombian people (returnees, host communities, displaced people, victims, ex-combatants) in March thanks to its diverse range of interventions.
- Through its emergency assistance, WFP reached 43,331 people affected by recent displacements and armed violence with food rations and in-kind food baskets, with most people reached in Choco.
- WFP reached 28,864 Colombians affected by COVID-19 with in-kind and voucher assistance.
- Also, 21,512 migrant children across La Guajira and Barranquilla as well as 57,960 Colombian school children in La Guajira, received school meals; of which 74 percent were pre-school and primary school students. In March, WFP reached considerably more Venezuelan children than the previous month.
- WFP reached 20,118 Venezuelan migrants and host community with its one-time emergency cash transfers as part of its project with the World Bank.

## Monitoring

- WFP recorded 6.8 million (14 percent) of Colombia's population currently facing poor or borderline food consumption, compared to 8.8 million in January.
- Internal violence remains one of the key drivers for lack of access to food and food insecurity in 2022, pushing vulnerable people into acute food insecurity, affecting and disrupting food systems, local supply chains, and access to markets.

## Country Strategic Plan (2021-2024)

| Total Requirement (in USD) | Allocated Contributions (in USD) | Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>654.3 m</b>             | <b>226 m</b>                     | <b>86.6 m</b>                               |

### 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.

#### Activities:

- Provide food assistance through conditional transfers and asset building, to ensure the transition from humanitarian assistance towards self-sustainability and development phase activities.
- Provide technical assistance for the strengthening of livelihoods, ensuring food self-sufficiency and the generation of surpluses for markets.
- Strengthen the social cohesion, prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) and leadership capacities of the livelihoods and resilience beneficiaries.
- Support the most vulnerable people to manage and reduce climate-related risks to food security and to adapt to climate change.

## Partnerships

- WFP continues to lead the joint work with the National Planning Department (DNP, for its Spanish acronym) aimed at including over one million migrants in the national social protection system – a strategic intervention in support of inclusion policies.
- WFP will participate in a USD 3 million rapid response CERF funded project in Choco with UNHCR and PAHO to support vulnerable populations. The project is planned for six months and will cover activities related to food assistance, social protection, and health.
- WFP confirmed USD 550,000 from the Government of France to start implementing a project in Valle del Cauca to support 1,800 migrants, especially vulnerable pregnant and lactating women and girls, with nutrition and food assistance to foster socioeconomic integration.
- In 2022, WFP is working to diversify its donor portfolio, and expand its partnerships with the private sector, most recently philanthropic and corporate foundations, banks, logistics and telecommunication companies.

## Challenges

- At global level, the Ukraine crisis might impact people's access to food, challenge levels of food consumption, increase food prices, and affect mid-term agricultural productivity. There is a risk that this situation would result in more people experiencing food insecurity in Colombia.
- WFP requires USD 86.6 million to maintain its operations until September 2022, of which USD 74 million are required for WFP's emergency operations.
- WFP's resource shortfall continues to challenge its overall operations over the next six months.

## Donors

Canada, Colombia, European Union (DG-ECHO), France, Germany, Italy, Republic of Korea (the), Switzerland, United States of America (the), the World Bank, and private donors.

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