In Numbers

- **USD 2.7 m** cash-based transfers made*
- **USD 14.5 m** six months (June - November 2022) net funding requirements, representing 78 percent of total funding requirements
- **82,935 people** assisted* in May 2022

*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- In May, WFP provided food vouchers to 75,466 migrants, refugees, and people from host communities across Ecuador. WFP also delivered cash-based transfers (CBT) to 9,851 pregnant and lactating women and girls as well as children under 2 in 16 provinces to improve their nutrition during the first 1,000-day window.

- Moreover, 6,188 migrants, refugees, and people from host communities received hot meals at shelters and canteens in 16 provinces. In addition, 2,821 migrants on the move received a one-time food voucher, and 157 vulnerable Ecuadorians received food assistance through CBT.

- WFP held a workshop on food security, nutrition and gender in Manabi for 57 smallholder farmers and technical staff from the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (32 women).

- WFP donated a technological platform to the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion to increase the efficiency of donations and CBT to priority groups. WFP Ecuador Chief of Mission Matteo Perrone and Minister of Economic and Social Inclusion Esteban Bernal attended a ceremony together to mark the donation.

- WFP and the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion held a joint event to present the results of studies on the impact of COVID-19 on food consumption across Ecuador. WFP Ecuador Chief of Mission Matteo Perrone and 33 representatives of Ecuadorian public institutions and United Nations agencies attended the event.

- WFP continues to deliver trainings on food safety and quality to partners at shelters and canteens. After the trainings, WFP conducts monitoring and coaching exercises to measure trainee improvement in following guidance on managing healthy and nutritious foods for WFP’s beneficiaries.
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2017-2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>197.4 m</td>
<td>145 m</td>
<td>14.5 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome #1: Refugees, displaced persons and vulnerable people in Ecuador are enabled to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements all year long.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:
- Complement the Government’s social protection strategy by providing Cash-Based Transfers to the most vulnerable populations and support in vulnerability analysis and knowledge management.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition

Strategic Outcome #2: Smallholder farmers, especially women, in targeted areas, durably increase their incomes and improve their productivity by 2021.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:
- Support and increase the participation of smallholder farmer organizations in national and local commercial mechanisms and institutional markets.
- Strengthen the capacity of farmer organizations.

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome #3: Food-insecure communities and individuals in areas that are highly vulnerable to climate change, and government institutions have strengthened capacity for adaptation to climate change by 2021.

Focus area: Resilience

Activities:
- Strengthen or develop emergency preparedness, response, and early warning systems.
- Strengthen the implementation of adaptation and resilience measures.

Strategic Result 5: Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome #4: National institutions and programmes in Ecuador, including social protection programmes, are supported to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition by 2021.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:
- Technical assistance, research and assessments, to improve the implementation of programs linked to food security and nutrition.
- Knowledge management and sharing of best practices and studies, including through South-South cooperation.

Strategic Result 8: Enhance Global Partnership

Strategic Outcome #5: Humanitarian and development partners in Ecuador have access to reliable services throughout the crisis.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:
- Provide technical assistance and services through the logistics sector to the National Disaster Management Offices and relevant partners to improve emergency logistics coordination and supply chain management.

Monitoring

- The results of WFP remote assessments in Ecuador have confirmed a deteriorating trend of the food security situation. The number of severely food insecure people increased from 2.0 million (11.4 percent of total population) in August 2021 to 2.4 million (13.6 percent of total population) in March 2022. More than 400,000 people fell into severe food insecurity in only six months.

- As of May, Ecuador presents the highest inflation of the last seven years: year-on-year inflation from May 2021 to May 2022 was 3.4 percent. Food prices are of particular concern: 9 of the 13 food groups monitored by WFP on the markets have increased their prices in May, compared to April. For example, cereals prices increased by 2.4 percent, edible fats and oils by 9.5 percent and fresh vegetables by 6 percent. Such increases affect the purchasing power of households and negatively impact the consumption of healthy and nutritious diets of the most vulnerable.

- In May, WFP received 823 calls through its community feedback and response mechanism. Key issues reported by beneficiaries concerned the monthly voucher programme, how to receive food, in-transit, and other technical assistance. WFP responded by increasing communication campaigns and engaging with beneficiaries on a case-by-case basis.

Challenges

- The persistence of COVID-19 continues to challenge WFP activities. Ecuador’s Ministry of Health recorded 8,500 new COVID-19 cases in May. Over 14 million people (84 percent of the population) are vaccinated under the National Vaccination Programme, including 100,000 migrants and refugees.

- According to the National Institute of Statistics, the national unemployment rate decreased from 4.8 percent in March to 4.7 percent in April. Within this period, unemployment for men decreased from 4.3 to 3.9 percent; while women’s unemployment rose from 5.5 to 5.8 percent. Underemployment increased from 23 percent in March to 23.9 in April.

- The value of the food and beverage component of the Basic Family Basket continues to increase as Ecuador faces inflation and economic insecurity. In May, the basket rose from USD 240.5 to 244.9 compared to April.

Donors

Brazil, Canada, European Union, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea (the), United States of America, and private and multilateral donors.

Additional support has been provided by the Adaptation Fund.

*Budget Revision 07 was approved in December 2021.*