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 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.

In Numbers

USD 26,222 USD cash-based transfers made

USD 2.5 m six months (July – December 2022) net funding requirements, representing 69% of total

2,495 people assisted in June 2022

*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- In June, COVID-19 cases increased from a weekly average of 229 at the beginning of the month to 861 at the end.
- WFP, and Rome-based agencies based in Bolivia, Paraguay, and Argentina carried out a tripartite mission to the region of the Gran Chaco Americano to explore opportunities for a joint intervention to address food insecurity caused by extreme droughts.
- In June, WFP provided cash-based transfers to 499 families from 10 Indigenous-Guarani communities in the municipality of Entre Ríos, affected by floods that caused the destruction of their homes, livelihoods, productive assets, and water systems. WFP also supported the rehabilitation or construction of assets such as irrigation channels, agricultural land, water tanks, and rehabilitation of water systems to increase their resilience in the upcoming rainy season, initiating in November.
- WFP carried out community consultations with Uru Indigenous communities, to identify assets to improve their livelihoods and resilience.
WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

<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>11.8 m</td>
<td>11.7 m</td>
<td>2.5 m</td>
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**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.

**Monitoring**

- According to WFP, the prices of wheat flour has increased from USD 24 at the start of 2022 to USD 35 per quintal in June. Seventy percent of the country’s wheat flour is imported.

**Challenges**

- The Ukraine crisis compounded with the ongoing pandemic has impacted the prices of fuel and food.

**Partnerships**

- WFP has signed an agreement with the university UTEPSA in Bolivia encouraging internships and practical work experience with students and recent graduates while contributing to the goal of Zero Hunger.

- On 28 June, WFP Representative in Bolivia Alejandro López Chicheri visited the Vice-presidency to offer WFP support and identify priority areas of work for the Government.

**Donors**

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