**COUNTRY CONTEXT**

Population: 17.9 million

- High levels of inequality
- 23% of children <5 suffer from chronic malnutrition

Hosting large numbers of Venezuelan refugees and migrants

**COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN** focused on five strategic outcomes

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

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

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.

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

5. Humanitarian and development partners in Ecuador have access to reliable services throughout the COVID-19 crisis.

**EVALUATION** covers WFP activities implemented between April 2017 and August 2021

- From USD 42 million in 2017 to USD 197 million in 2021

**CONCLUSIONS**

WFP has ably delivered on its dual mandate in alignment with national priorities, though with a limited focus on malnutrition.

Effective contributions to the 2030 Agenda, including for gender. Opportunities to strengthen the triple nexus and protection and enhance advocacy of nutrition.

WFP pioneered climate change adaptation approaches to combat food insecurity. However, financial, design and implementation challenges prevail.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Strengthen the triple nexus and protection approach of WFP’s response in Ecuador, leveraging existing protection systems and alliances

2. Capitalize on WFP’s strategic position and learning to continue to support public policy design and implementation

3. Review the CSP structure to include a clear definition of coordination mechanisms, to enhance synergies between strategic outcomes

4. Strengthen staff capacities in crosscutting areas, particularly in gender, protection, nutrition, monitoring and climate change

5. Improve the integration of the performance monitoring system, financial tracking and programme management

6. Nutrition to be addressed as a crosscutting topic for the new CSP, emphasizing chronic malnutrition, obesity prevention and promotion of breastfeeding