



World Food Programme

SAVING
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WFP Guatemala

Country Brief

November 2022



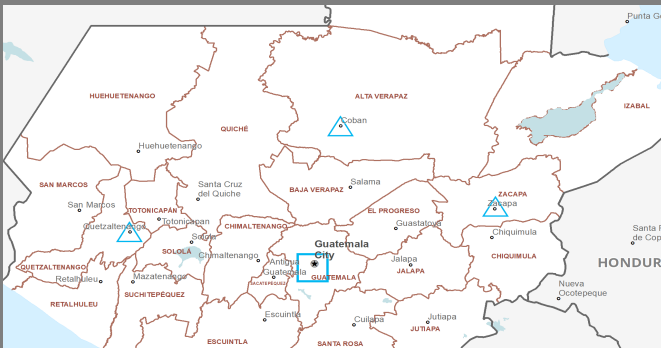
Operational Context

Guatemala is a multicultural country with 40 percent of inhabitants being indigenous Mayan. Despite its middle-income status, two-thirds of its population lives on less than USD 2 per day, and among indigenous people, poverty averages 79 percent. Guatemala has the highest gender inequality index in the region. Highly correlated to poverty, stunting in children aged 6-59 months is among the highest in the world and the highest in the region.

WFP assistance in Guatemala aims to achieve a sustainable improvement in food security and nutrition of the most vulnerable people. It is aligned to the National Plan, "K'atun: Our Guatemala 2032," and the government's national plan to attain progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

As Guatemala is among the ten countries in the world most vulnerable to climate change and most exposed to natural hazards, WFP supports the national response to drought and flood-affected smallholder farmers to help them cope with the lean and rainy seasons, while restoring their livelihoods.

WFP has been present in Guatemala since 1974, and is currently in the process of opening three field offices in Quetzaltenango, Coban and Zacapa.



Population: **17.1 million**

2019 Human Development Index: **127 out of 189**

Income Level: **Middle**

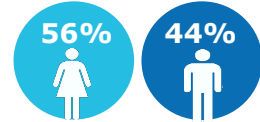
Chronic malnutrition: **46.5% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

USD 997,592 cash-based transfers made

USD 14.8 m six months (December 2022–May 2023) net funding requirements representing 39 percent of total

54,923 people assisted in November 2022



Operational Updates

- WFP delivered cash-based transfers to 34,900 beneficiaries, including 18,965 women and girls, in four departments affected by the rainy seasons. Of the beneficiaries, 3,800 were targeted for early recovery activities and 12,000 with food vouchers.
- Under Climate Financing Activities, from May to November 2022, WFP insured 9,400 smallholder farmers against climate risks in seven departments. Due to excessive rainfall, 13,133 payments, totalling USD 2.5 million, were disbursed to compensate smallholder farmers for crop losses.
- In an effort of engaging the private sector and fostering strategic collaborations to end hunger and malnutrition, WFP participated in the forum "All for the SDG's", organized by the local, influential organization CentraRSE, composed of 100 companies dedicated to making a difference in the country.
- WFP's nutrition brigades continued working in five municipalities with the national health services personnel. Over 9,700 children under 10 and 2,000 young women received a nutritional evaluation, counselling and micronutrients or complementary food to improve their food intake.
- The "Linking family farming to the School Feeding Programme" jointly implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and WFP received a recognition from the Office of the Resident Coordinator and UN Women as Agents of Change for Gender Equality.

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Country Strategic Plan (2021-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
206.8 m	137.9 m	14.8 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome #1:

Crisis-affected populations in Guatemala are able to meet their essential needs during and in the aftermath of crises.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide direct nutrition and gender responsive assistance to crisis-affected populations

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome #2: Vulnerable populations in targeted areas have access to comprehensive services and programmes that promote healthy diets by 2024.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Strengthen national and local capacities in nutrition and healthy diets promotion for vulnerable population

Strategic Result 4: Food Systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome #3: Rural vulnerable populations and local institutions engage in nutrition and gender-sensitive, sustainable and climate-resilient food systems throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Strengthen capacities of institutions responsible for school feeding, school communities and smallholder farmers
- Provide training, equipment, cash-based transfers and technical assistance to vulnerable smallholder farmers, communities, cooperatives and local institutions

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

Strategic Outcome #4: National institutions have strengthened capacities and improve their coordination to manage an integrated social protection system by 2024.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance at policy and operational level to social protection institutions
- Provide technical assistance to national and subnational institutions of the emergency preparedness and response system.

Strategic Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Strategic Outcome #5: National partners have access to efficient services and technical assistance throughout the year.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide food procurement services to national institutions and other partners.
- Provide services and technical assistance to national institutions and other partners.
- Provide on-demand cash-based transfer services.

- In 2022, WFP implemented the project "Resilience for food security and nutrition of the most vulnerable communities in Huehuetenango," supporting 500 women beneficiaries with cash transfers, technical assistance for food production and gender-sensitive nutritional counseling. Following the conclusion of project, WFP interviewed 400 women beneficiaries to evaluate the impact. Post-monitoring results showed that beneficiaries' households food security improved from 40 percent prior to the start of the project, to 93 percent by the end.

Challenges

- Throughout November, multiple prolonged roadblocks took place against high fuel prices and inflation. Due to the protests, WFP was forced to limit field monitoring activities.
- WFP is currently unable to scale up emergency and early recovery activities. From December 2022 to May 2023, WFP has a shortfall of USD 12.8 million to carry out crisis response operations.

Capacity Strengthening

- WFP held in four departments a workshop addressing the Communication Strategy for Social and Behavioural Change, part of the Government National Crusade for Nutrition, with 100 people of the technical staff of the Ministry of Agriculture.
- In Chiquimula, Zacapa and El Progreso, 36 staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, academia, local governments, and national institutions part of the agroclimatic technical tables were trained on climate services. Together with WFP's technical staff, they received training on the installation, configuration, and use of 16 digital agroclimatic sensors. The trainings are part of the setting up of the sensors in the three departments.
- In Chimaltenango and Quetzaltenango, 474 beneficiaries received training on school feeding law implementation, pedagogical school gardens, creation of savings and credit groups, as well as on the use of the School Feeding Mobile Application.

Donors

Canada, European Union, Germany, Government of Guatemala, International Fund for Agricultural Development, Republic of Korea, Spain, Switzerland, United States of America and private sector donors.

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