



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Colombia Country Brief November 2022

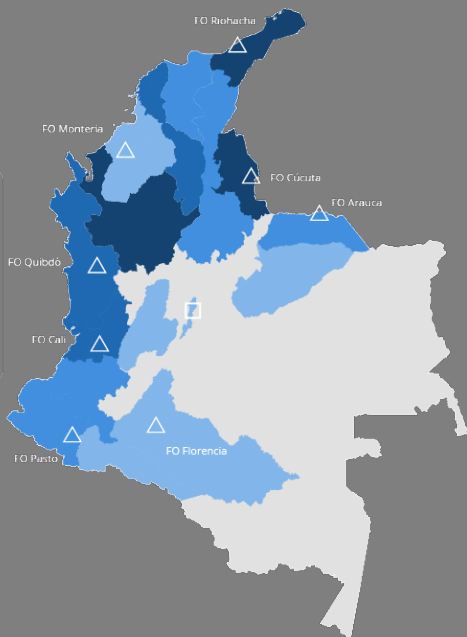
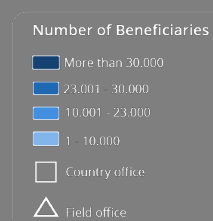


Harvesting pineapples from farms supported by WFP's livelihoods programmes (Agua Bonita, Colombia)

Operational Context

Despite being an upper-middle-income country, Colombia faces a challenging food security situation. One in three Colombian households, and three in four pendular migrants and people in transit are food insecure, according to WFP's recent comprehensive food and nutrition security assessment (source: WFP, 2022). Improving food security is the Government's priority, together with advancing the peace process. Colombia also faces a complex humanitarian situation, exacerbated by multiple emergencies triggered by increasing violence from non-state armed groups (NSAGs), often overlapping with extreme weather events, a massive migration crisis, economic shocks of high inflation and currency devaluation, as well as the pandemic's residual impacts. Colombia's 50-year-long armed conflict resulted in 7.8 million internally displaced people (IDPs), while Colombia has also been the largest host for migrants from Venezuela. Nearly 2.5 million are currently registered in Colombia. The country office's strategy is aligned with the Government's priorities on food security, humanitarian, recovery, development, and capacity-strengthening to ultimately achieve Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17. WFP has been present in Colombia since 1969.

WFP BENEFICIARIES November 2022



Population: 49.1 million

Income Level: Upper middle

Human Development Index:
88 out of 191 (2021/22)

Chronic malnutrition: 10.8%

In Numbers

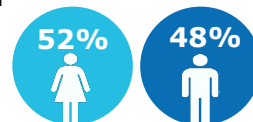
880 mt of food assistance distributed*

USD 5.8 m cash-based transfers made*

USD 86.8 m six months (December 2022-May 2023) net funding requirements, representing 68 percent of total

USD 64 m Corporate Attention Emergency Response

412,207 people assisted*
in November 2022



*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- On 1 November, the Government declared a national state of emergency, as 80 percent of the country was impacted by heavy rains and floods. WFP issued a flash appeal of USD 12 million to assist affected people for a 6-month response.
- WFP assisted 412,207 vulnerable Colombians and migrants with diverse interventions in November. Including:
 - Over 180,600 Colombians received food baskets, emergency assistance and school meals. Also, 228,000 migrants received hot meals, food rations, cash-based transfers, vouchers and school meals.
 - More than 110,000 schoolchildren received meals, including 57,660 Colombian children in La Guajira and 43,966 migrant children in La Guajira, Norte de Santander and Atlántico departments.
 - In addition, 24,939 conflict-affected beneficiaries in remote areas in Choco received in-kind food assistance from WFP from May to November 2022.
 - WFP assisted 17,892 beneficiaries affected by massive floods in the subregion of La Mojana.
- WFP distributed 23 mt of emergency food kits, delivered by mules, to 1,500 beneficiaries in remote areas in the Taminaka region of La Guajira affected by Hurricane Julia in early October. Of beneficiaries assisted, 80 percent were Indigenous women and children.

Contact info: Tanja Koch (tanja.koch@wfp.org)

Country Director: Carlo Scaramella

Further information: <https://www.wfp.org/countries/Colombia>

Country Strategic Plan (2021-2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
654.3 m	275.7 m	86.8 m

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.

Monitoring

- Peace talks between the Government and the National Liberation Army resumed in November in Caracas, Venezuela. The outcomes of the talks may impact WFP's ability to implement its assistance to migrant and Colombian populations across several regions, such as Choco, Norte de Santander, Bolivar and Arauca.
- WFP is finalizing its Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment. Preliminary data shows that one in three Colombian households is food insecure. WFP aims to complete its analysis by mid-January 2023.
- Inflation continues reducing households' purchasing power, limiting food access and increasing food insecurity, predominantly affecting the most vulnerable. According to Colombia's statistics institute, in November, annual inflation peaked at 12.5 percent, the highest since 1999, and food price inflation accelerated to 27 percent.
- Lack of resources, experience, and knowledge of the labour market remain the main challenges for migrants to find work, as per WFP's recent monitoring. Despite that, 69 percent of migrants, have accessed employment and have started generating an income this year, since participating in WFP's socioeconomic integration projects.

Partnerships

- WFP received a donation to support the Government by developing a tool to better identify families unable to access the national social protection system.

Challenges

- WFP requires USD 86.8 million from December 2022 to May 2023 to continue assisting vulnerable populations. This lack of funding affects all of WFP's programmes in the country.

Donors

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

Additional support has been provided by the Adaptation Fund, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, WFP Innovation Accelerator, and the United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Peacebuilding.