



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Colombia Country Brief December 2022



A girl holding produce in her mother's shop, a member of the Cooperative COASETEC (Cauca, Colombia)

Operational Context

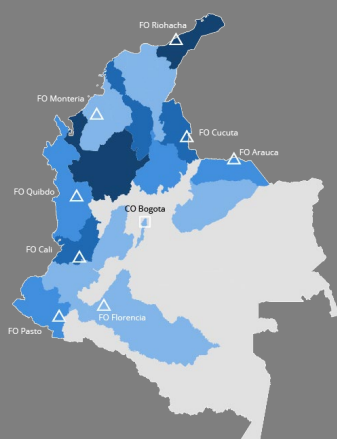
Despite being an upper-middle-income country, Colombia faces a challenging food security situation. One in three Colombian households, and three in four pendular migrants and people in transit are food insecure, as per WFP's recent assessment (WFP, 2022). Fighting hunger and improving food security and nutrition among those most vulnerable is the Government's priority, together with advancing the peace process under the new vision of "Total Peace". 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 counted 7.8 million internally displaced people, while also being the largest host of migrants. Nearly 2.5 million are currently registered in Colombia. The country faces a complex humanitarian situation, exacerbated by multiple emergencies triggered by increasing violence by non-state armed groups, often overlapping with extreme climatic events, a massive migration crisis, economic shocks of high inflation and currency devaluation, as well as the pandemic's residual impacts. 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 December 2022

Number of Beneficiaries



Country office
Field office



Population: 49.1 million

Income Level: Upper middle

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

Chronic malnutrition: 10.8%

In Numbers

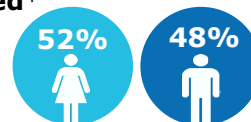
774 mt of food assistance distributed*

USD 17.3 m cash-based transfers made*

USD 132.2 m six months (January– June 2023) net funding requirements, representing 73 percent of total

USD 64 m Corporate Attention Emergency Response

272,305 people assisted*
in December 2022



*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- On 1 December, 26 of Colombia's 32 departments declared a state of emergency due to continued heavy rains and flooding and increased displacement, the latter mostly affecting rural and Indigenous communities in Caquetá, Nariño, Putumayo and Choco. WFP upscaled its cash-based transfers and in-kind emergency assistance to 2,300 affected families.
- WFP assisted 272,305 Colombians and migrants with diverse interventions in December, including:
 - 81,230 Colombians received food baskets, emergency assistance and school meals. 191,075 migrants received hot meals, food rations, cash-based transfers, vouchers and school meals.
 - In the final month of the school calendar, 14,000 children received meals, including 6,692 Colombian children in La Guajira and 7,308 migrant children in La Guajira, Norte de Santander, and Atlántico.
 - WFP completed its food assistance to people affected by massive floods in the subregion of La Mojana. 18,000 women and men received 140 mt of food to meet their food needs and to help recover agricultural livelihoods.

Monitoring

- Authorities recorded 18,500 people crossing from Necoclí to Panama, a 10 percent increase compared to November. WFP will continue monitoring the situation with local authorities and partners to determine the need for assistance.
- On 12 December, the first round of peace talks between the Government and the National Liberation Army concluded. The parties agreed on possible humanitarian actions to assist the population in Valle de Cauca and Choco, affected by violence and disasters. WFP continues to operate in these areas.

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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	315 m	132.2 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.

- WFP's latest monitoring concluded that one in four migrant families with pregnant or lactating women has borderline acceptable food consumption. These results demonstrate the continued need for nutrition-sensitive programming for vulnerable populations.

Partnerships

- On 12 December, WFP Colombia, Impact Hub Medellín and *Fundación Proantioquia* selected the winning projects of the last edition of the Acelera HZero innovation programme. These projects will benefit from a 6-month acceleration programme, where they will access tailored technical and financial support and connections to WFP's network of partners.
- WFP launched its Colombia [#ShareTheMeal](#) campaign to fund 500,000 school meals for children. This month, 26 percent of this goal was funded by 7,300 supporters.
- WFP is providing capacity strengthening to government partners, including the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management to improve emergency networks, collective response capacity and support UNGRD's management of the communal kitchen model.

Challenges

- In 2023, WFP's resource shortfall continues to challenge its overall operations. The expected 40 percent reduction from February 2023 will affect WFP's migration response.

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.