



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Venezuela Country Brief May 2023



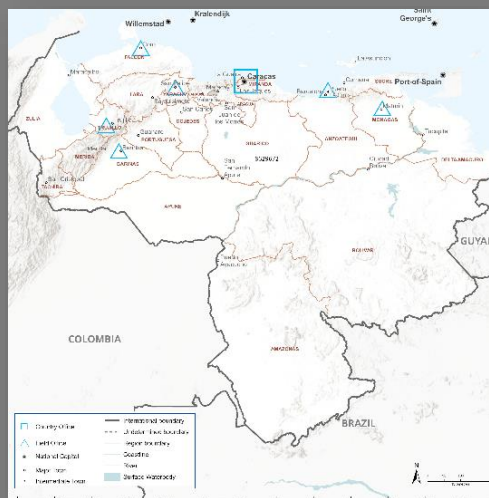
Operational Context

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) continues to face a challenging socioeconomic situation, exacerbated by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, global supply chain disruptions and food price increases. Despite signs of economic recovery, according to the World Bank, Venezuela ranked the third highest food inflation in the world in 2022

The Humanitarian Response Plan 2023 for Venezuela aims to support 5.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, of which 2.5 million are planned for food security and nutrition interventions.

WFP Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) 2023-2025 for Venezuela was approved at the end of February 2023. The ICSP enhances WFP school-based programme in the country, integrating emergency preparedness and response activities with resilience-building interventions, including climate change adaptation activities and capacity strengthening of national actors.

Currently, WFP has a presence in the states of Falcón, Trujillo, Yaracuy, Barinas, Anzoátegui, Monagas, Sucre, and Delta Amacuro.



Population: **28.3 million**
(ECLAC, 2022)

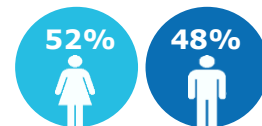
Human Development Index: **120**
out of 191 (UNDP, 2021)

In Numbers

3,780 mt of food assistance distributed*

USD 57.3 m six months (June to November 2023) net funding requirements, representing 73 percent of total needs

467,000 people assisted*
in MAY 2023



*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- In May, WFP distributed food assistance to 467,000 beneficiaries across the states where its school-based programme is implemented. Of these, more than 200,500 are pre-primary school children and 200,500 their household members, 14,200 are students with disabilities attending special education schools and 51,400 are school personnel.
- In May, WFP continued assisting 17,000 pre-primary school children and personnel through its hot meals programme in 100 schools in Falcón. Furthermore, to ensure food basket diversification, WFP continued engaging with local retailers to complement dry food with fresh food produced locally.
- As part of its nutritional-sensitive activities to reduce the risk of malnutrition, since the beginning of 2023, WFP has been distributing fortified food (Super Cereal Plus) to 39,000 children in three states where the school-based programme is implemented.
- To ensure the transition from school feeding take-home rations to hot meals served at schools, as of May, WFP has refurbished 72 kitchens and food storage in Falcón and Barinas.
- In May, WFP distributed kitchen utensils and equipment sets to prepare Super Cereal Plus in 450 schools in Anzoátegui, Monagas and Sucre. The kitchen sets include cooking appliances and water filters. In addition, burner gas stoves and gas cylinders were installed in the schools with no kitchen. So far, WFP has distributed kitchen sets to some 1,000 school kitchens across the states where the school-based programme is implemented.
- In the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding, WFP and the National Institute for Nutrition started training school cooks on food preparation, food hygiene and nutritious menus for hot meals served at schools. Trainings will be conducted during the upcoming months in all states where the school meals programme is implemented.

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Six Months Funding (June – November 2023)

Six Month Total Needs (in USD)	Needs Resourced (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
78.8 m	21.5 m	57.3 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome (SO) 1: By 2025 girls and boys in early and special education and other prioritized groups in the school system, school staff, pregnant and lactating women and other prioritized groups are better able to meet their food needs.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activity 1: Improve the food security and nutrition of priority groups, children in early education, boys and girls in special education and other priority school-age groups and their families, pregnant and lactating women and other priority populations through a comprehensive package that includes diversified school meals, adequate complementary food, take-home rations, communication to improve eating habits, infrastructure strengthening and capacity strengthening for the school community.

Strategic Result 2: Food systems are sustainable

Interim country strategic plan outcome 2: By 2025 national actors and institutions have strengthened capacity in prioritized strategic areas.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activities 2: Provide cooperation, support and technical assistance to national institutions to strengthen components of production chains, institutional procurement and climate-resilient agri-food systems that are resilient in the face of climate change.

Strategic Result 3: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs.

Strategic Outcome 3 (SO3): By 2025 people affected by natural disasters are better able to meet their food needs in the face of the effects of climate change.

Focus area: Crisis response

Activity 3: Improve food security and nutrition for women, men, boys and girls affected by natural disasters and strengthen national capacity to respond to and mitigate the effects of natural disasters and climate change.

Strategic Result 4: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs.

Strategic Outcome 4 (SO4): National and institutional actors in Venezuela are supported by efficient and effective supply chain and other services

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity 4: Provide coordination and management services to state institutions and national actors and allow access to common logistical services when warranted.

Activity 5: Provide support for the strengthening of the supply chain and logistics to support activities related to food and nutrition security.

- WFP in collaboration with the Logistic Cluster conducted a workshop on emergency preparedness and response for civil protection officers, firefighters among other first responders in Caracas. The training was focused on food assistance in emergencies and logistics (transport and storage). WFP aims to carry out these trainings across climate-vulnerable states in the country.
- The Food Security Cluster (FSC) conducted trainings on emergency food baskets and food security outcome indicators for partners in Barinas, Tachira and Sucre. In addition, with the Protection Cluster and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the FSC participated in multi-sectoral needs analysis and training sessions on child protection and triple nexus planning in Zulia.

Monitoring

- WFP continued to strengthen its Communication with Communities activities among beneficiaries. As of May, WFP assisted some 500 people through its helpline while continuing to share communication products on nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, responsible fatherhood and the equal distribution of unpaid care work to promote gender equality and women's empowerment among school communities.

Donors

Canada, European Union (DG-ECHO), France, Germany (GFFO), Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States of America (USAID) and private donors.

Additional support has been provided by the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the United Nations Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund.