



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Bolivia Country Brief July 2023



Her Royal Highness Princess Sarah Zeid of Jordan visit to Bolivia
©Karen Peña/ONU Bolivia

Operational Context

The Bolivian economy has been traditionally based on the exploitation of natural resources, and it was always classified among poor countries until the World Bank raised Bolivia's classification from a low-income to a lower-middle-income country since 2010. Despite sustained growth, there is still marked inequality between urban, peri-urban, and rural areas, especially among indigenous groups and women who have historically been relegated. To date, these groups remain living in highly vulnerable areas with food insecurity, have very low incomes, are subsistence producers, and do not have access to markets that allow them to maintain adequate nutrition or develop their economic activities. During the implementation of its current CSP 2023-2027, WFP Bolivia will continue supporting national and local governments and its vulnerable populations in emergency responses and strengthening their capacities to make them more resilient, especially to the effects of climate change. WFP will also provide technical support to link smallholders to markets. WFP has been in Bolivia since 1963, and its current interventions align with the Bolivian Economic and Social Development Plan 2021-2025, which focuses on the social development of vulnerable indigenous populations.



Population: **12.0 m (est. 2022)**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2022 Human Development Index: **118 out of 191**

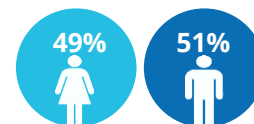
Chronic malnutrition: **16% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

USD 2,621 cash-based transfers made*

USD 2.7 m six-month (August 2023 – January 2024) net funding requirements, representing 85 percent of the total

246 people assisted*
in JULY 2023



*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- During the second week of July, WFP delivered CBT (2,621 USD) to 46 families from 5 municipalities in the departments of Beni and Pando. These families could not access the initial distributions due to transportation and communication disruptions caused by the floods. The assistance alleviated the effects of climate events thanks to the resources provided by the Immediate Response Account (IRA).
- From 1 to 8 July, Her Royal Highness (H.R.H.) Princess Sarah Zeid of Jordan visited Bolivia and, as a WFP advisor, met with several national authorities, including the Vice President, six Ministers of State and the Governor of the Department of Oruro. These meetings focused on current and necessary joint actions to advance towards Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger), emphasizing Food Systems and a gender approach.
- During her stay, H.R.H. Princess Sarah Zeid of Jordan had the opportunity to visit the people of the Uru Nation in the Department of Oruro, where she launched the WFP "Ancestral Knowledge & Natural Flavours" initiative. This aimed at revaluing highly nutritious traditional foods. She also met with women leaders representing the country's Indigenous Nations.

Challenges

- According to the latest update by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on El Niño phenomenon, a "strong" forecast for the November-January with over 95 percent chance through December 2023 – February 2024 is expected.

Contact info: wfp.lapaz@wfp.org

Country Director: Alejandro López-Chicheri

Further information: [WFP Bolivia](https://www.wfp.org/countries/bolivia)

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirement (In USD) as of June 2023	Allocated Contribution (in USD) as of June 2023	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
18.8 m	2.9 m	2.7 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food. SDG 2.1

Country Strategic Outcome 1: Food insecure and vulnerable households affected by shocks in Bolivia benefit from anticipatory action, prevention, emergency preparedness, coordination, and response support to meet their diverse emergency food and nutrition needs and quickly recover.

Focus area: Crisis Response.

Activities:

- Provide cash-based transfers to food-insecure households exposed to shocks in Bolivia.
- Provide technical assistance to local institutions to strengthen emergency preparedness and response, including through evidence-based advocacy.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes. SDG 2.3

Country Strategic Outcome 2: Food insecure smallholder farmers, indigenous communities, and particularly rural women in Bolivia are more resilient to climatic and other shocks and stresses, including through sustainable livelihoods, consistent incomes, improved productivity, and market access and demand.

Focus area: Resilience Building.

Activities:

- Provide cash-based transfers to food insecure smallholders and indigenous communities, in particular rural women; and access to climate adaptation services, including technical assistance.
- Facilitate links between food insecure smallholders, particularly indigenous and women, to sustainable and reliable markets.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs. SDG 17.9

Country Strategic Outcome 3: Local, regional, and national level institutions have improved capacity, coordination, programme, and policy coherence related to supporting most vulnerable groups in Bolivia by 2027.

Focus area: Root Causes.

Activity:

- Develop and implement a sustained strategy with national institutions to address food insecurity in a holistic and gender-transformative manner among the most vulnerable communities, based on advocacy, communications, and improved coordination at local, regional, and national levels.

- Consequently, coordination meetings between United Nations agencies (UNETE) and other humanitarian actors have been organized to exchange information and initiate preparation processes with the Government. It is essential to work on mobilizing resources to face future natural disasters or other crises.

Monitoring

- A Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) was held to assess the operation implemented to assist families affected by the floods in the north of the country. This process was initiated and completed in July 2023 with more than 300 interviews conducted, both in person and by phone, with people from the most remote communities. The information will be processed in August and the results will be used to generate lessons learned.

Partnerships

- Following the recent visit of H.R.H Princess Sarah Zeid of Jordan, WFP Bolivia took proactive steps to solidify the cooperation opportunities discussed. Letters were prepared and delivered to the ministries visited by H.R.H., including the Ministry of Health and Sports, Land and Rural Development, Foreign Relations, Planning, and the Vice President's Office. These letters documented the various opportunities for cooperation discussed during the high-level visit, ensuring that the shared goals and commitments were formalized for future dialogue and collaboration.

Donors

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, China, European Union (DG-ECHO), Germany (German Federal Foreign Office – GFFO and Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development - BMZ), Sweden (Ministry for Foreign Affairs, MOFA).