

REVISION

Ecuador country strategic plan, revision 1

Gender and age marker code: 4

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	1 January 2023 – 31 December 2027	No change	No change
Beneficiaries	572 428	632 636	1 205 064
Total cost (USD)	144 353 752	20 950 969	165 304 721
Transfer	116 551 695	19 470 421	136 022 116
Implementation	9 479 392	100 260	9 579 652
Direct support costs	10 035 285	98 830	10 134 115
Subtotal	136 066 371	19 669 511	155 735 882
Indirect support costs	8 287 381	1 281 458	9 568 839

1. Rationale

1. Between 2022 and 2023, Ecuador experienced a complex economic, political and social situation, combined with deteriorating security and climate-related events. Poverty rates increased to 27 percent in June 2023 from 25.2 percent in December 2022¹ (INEC). Moreover, in the first quarter of 2023, the growth was 0.7 percent compared to the same period in the previous year. Regarding political context, in May 2023, the President of Ecuador declared the dissolution of the National Assembly and called for early elections. The first round occurred in August, and the second round of elections will occur in October. Regarding the social situation, amid the internal security crisis, between 1st January and 2nd July, 3,568 violent deaths have been recorded, equating to 19.83 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants.
2. WFP CARI remote assessments in Ecuador in March 2022 confirmed a deteriorating trend in food security. 2.4 million Ecuadorians were severely food insecure, increasing from 2.1 million in August 2021. Moreover, Ecuador has the second-highest stunting rate in Latin America and the Caribbean, reaching 27 percent nationally and 30 percent in rural areas for children under 2.
3. The Working Group for Refugees and Migrants estimates that there were 502,214 migrants in December 2022. According to the Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA October 2022) conducted by WFP, 303,000 migrants were food insecure, of which 265,000 were moderately food insecure and 38,000 faced severe food insecurity. These results also indicated that the percentage of severely food insecure migrants grew by 6 to 7.5 percent, compared to EFSA in March 2021. Furthermore, according to historical trends, WFP

¹ [202306 Boletin pobreza ENEMDU.pdf \(ecuadorencifras.gob.ec\)](#)

anticipates that Ecuador will receive an additional 180,000 in-transit migrants in 2024, of which roughly 105,000 will be food insecure².

4. Additionally, the El Niño phenomenon (ENOS) has been affecting the Ecuadorian coast during the second half of 2023 with an orange-level warning having been issued at the end of October. This is expected to continue throughout 2024. According to the Secretariat for Risk Reduction and Emergencies response plan, at least 2.4 million people are exposed to ENOS in Ecuador. Of these, WFP estimates that a total of 330,000 could be food insecure. WFP elaborated plans for the response, including complementary and expanded engagement with the social protection system, thus facilitating the implementation of timely and effective response activities in synergy with local authorities and the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion (which leads the Government's shock-responsive social protection efforts), as well as the Secretariat for Risk Reduction and Emergencies.
5. In response to this deteriorated situation during the period 2023-24, the proposed budget revision will increase WFP operations in the crisis response focus area. This is based on the results of the EFSA and the ongoing and anticipated occurrence of the El Niño-induced disasters and other effects in the Coastal Region of Ecuador for which contingency measures are needed.

2. Changes

Strategic orientation

6. There is no change in strategic orientation. The proposed revision addresses humanitarian needs under strategic outcome 1, activity 1.

Strategic outcomes

7. Based on the EFSA 2022 results, WFP will expand assistance to migrants and refugees to an additional 208,981 individuals, in addition to the current 201,160 beneficiaries, thereby reaching a total of 409,141 migrants and refugees. This revised planning figure covers: 1) all food insecure migrants and refugees as determined in the EFSA 2022; and 2) the expected additional in-transit migrant/refugee caseload, which is based on conservative estimates. Throughout the entire CSP timeframe, WFP will continue implementing EFSA assessments to prioritize its response to the severe and moderately food-insecure population and those with less than 12 months of permanency in Ecuador. Assistance is primarily provided through cash-based transfers (CBT).
8. In alignment with the national Government's priority to shield the coastal population from El Niño, WFP will assist 40 percent (133,160 food insecure individuals) out of the total 330,000 expected food insecure persons with cash-based transfers (CBT). This planning figure considers that the national Government normally has the capacity to assist 60

² This is in line with the latest EFSA from 2022, which indicates a food insecurity prevalence among migrant populations of 60 percent.

percent of people in needed, based on past experience. In addition to the CBT recipients, WFP will ensure a nutritionally-balanced diet for to 290,495 people who have been temporarily displaced by natural disasters and are residing in temporary shelters, thereby requiring short-term humanitarian assistance. WFP will offer blanket support to everyone in the shelters. Gender and protection considerations will be integrated to address the specific needs of women, men, girls, and boys.

9. No changes are foreseen to the tried-and-tested transfer modalities from the current CSP. The assistance ranges from commodity vouchers in the temporary shelters to CBT support (through value or cash transfers) to people who are residing with host families, supplementing the Government's social protection system.
10. The CO maintains strong partnerships with national and local authorities. In June 2023, WFP finalized evaluations of five potential cooperating partners (CPs) through the United Nations Partner Portal, in strict adherence to corporate requirements. Aside from the five potential CPs already vetted, the CO is establishing standby FLAs with the Red Cross and Caritas in anticipation of El Niño, vital for an effective national-level response.
11. WFP has robust mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation and will continue to ensure that all beneficiaries are adequately informed of their rights and have access to community feedback mechanisms.
12. In line with the mid-year risk register update for the country office, the CO will support enhanced risk management in the coastal region. Key actions include enhanced mapping and contingency plans, employing remote modalities, and strengthening community engagement.

Beneficiary analysis

13. By reducing the number of days of assistance provided to specific population groups (i.e., refugees at destination and in transit, and pregnant and breastfeeding migrant women and girls attended under SO1), WFP has the capacity to increase the number of direct beneficiaries. WFP has made this decision to maximize coverage and ensure a more significant number of beneficiaries, considering the national situation mentioned above.
14. The budget revision includes: a) an additional 423,655 El Niño-affected beneficiaries, 290,495 of which will be accommodated in temporary shelters (70 percent of the population being from the host community and 30 percent being migrants and refugees), and 133,160 host community members, targeting individuals experiencing food insecurity; b) 208,981 people targeted under the migration crisis response.

TABLE 1: DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME, ACTIVITY & MODALITY									
Strategic Outcome	Activity	Modality	Period	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	
				(18+ years)	(18+ years)	(0-18 years)	(0-18 years)		
1	1	CBT	Current	105.635	99.487	81.351	69.555	356.028	
			Increase	112.294	82.436	73.202	73.209	341.141	
			Revised	217.929	181.923	154.553	142.764	697.169	
		Commodity voucher	Current	15.624	21.762	8.928	9.486	55.800	
			Increase	81.339	113.291	46.480	49.385	290.495	
			Revised	96.963	135.053	55.408	58.871	346.295	
		Food	Current	35.070	46.570	10.440	13.920	106.000	
			Increase	-	-	-	-	-	
			Revised	35.070	46.570	10.440	13.920	106.000	
2	3	CBT	Current	192	-	23.400	12.408	36.000	
			Increase	-	-	-	-	-	
			Revised	192	-	23.400	12.408	36.000	
2	3	Commodity voucher	Current	32	-	57.536	49.632	107.200	
			Increase	-	-	-	-	-	
			Revised	32	-	57.536	49.632	107.200	
3	4	Capacity Strengthening	Current	-	-	-	-	0	
			Increase	600	400	-	-	1.000	
			Revised	600	400	-	-	1.000	
TOTAL (without overlap)				Current	131.642	137.768	164.624	138.394	572.428
				Increase	193.175	197.875	119.227	122.359	632.636
				Revised	324.817	335.643	283.851	260.753	1.205.064

Transfers

15. The proposed BR focuses on adjusting upwards the count of benefited migrant populations within specific modalities to encompass newly identified needs:

- Migrants and refugees settling in Ecuador (value voucher and cash modality): USD 30 per person per 3 months. The number of beneficiaries has been revised based on available funding – before the BR, it was USD 30 per person per month for 6 months.
- Pregnant and breastfeeding migrants and refugees settling in Ecuador: monthly cash transfer of USD 55 per month per 6 months. The number of beneficiaries has been revised based on available funding – before the BR, it was USD 75 per person per month.
- In transit migrants in border areas: one-off value voucher of USD 10.
- Vulnerable populations in shelters and transit centers: commodity voucher of USD 2 per person daily. This action has been revised regarding the number of beneficiaries to encompass the population affected by the crisis (host and migrant communities).
- Vulnerable populations in shelters and transit centers: cash of USD 2 per person daily. This action has not been revised.

TABLE 2: FOOD RATION (g/person/day) or CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/person/day) BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY							
Strategic outcome 01							
Activity 1							
Beneficiary type	Refugees (at final destination)	Refugees and internally displaced persons (in transit)	Refugees (in transit, shelters and canteens)	Refugees (in transit)	Pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (migrants)	Shock-affected people	Shock-affected people
Modality (indicate food or CBT)	CBTs/cash	Food	CBTs/cash	CBTs/cash	CBTs/cash	CBTs/cash	Food
Cereals							
Pulses							
Oil							
Salt							
Sugar							
Super cereal							
Super cereal Plus							
micronutrient powder							
total kcal/day (to be completed for food and cash modalities)							
% kcal from protein							
Cash-based transfers (USD/person/day; use average as needed)	1			10	1.83		
Number of feeding days per year	90			1	180		

TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUE						
Food type/ cash-based transfer	Current budget		Increase		Revised budget	
	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)
Cereals	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pulses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oil and Fats	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mixed and blended foods	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	492	1 130 600	0	0	492	1 130 600
TOTAL (food)	492	1 130 600	0	0	492	1 130 600
Cash-based transfers (USD)		67 067 340	0	18 628 659		85 695 999
TOTAL (food and CBT value - USD)	492	68 197 940	0	18 628 659	492	86 826 599

3. Cost Breakdown

SDG targets/ WFP Strategic outcomes	SDG Target 2.1 - WFP Strategic Outcome 1	SDG Target 2.2 - WFP Strategic Outcome 2	SDG Target 2.4 - WFP Strategic Outcome 3	SDG Target 17.16 - WFP Strategic Outcome 5	Total
CSP Outcomes	1	2	3	4	
Focus area	Crisis Response	Root Causes	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	
Transfers	19 470 421	0	0	0	19 470 421
Implementation	100 260	0	0	0	100 260
Direct support costs					98 830
Subtotal					19 669 511
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)					1 281 458
Total					20 950 969

Abbreviation: SDG = Sustainable Development Goal.

Strategic Result / SDG Target	SDG Target 2.1 - WFP Strategic Outcome 1	SDG Target 2.2 - WFP Strategic Outcome 2	SDG Target 2.4 - WFP Strategic Outcome 3	SDG Target 17.16 - WFP Strategic Outcome 5	Total
Strategic Outcome	1	2	3	4	
Focus Area	Crisis Response	Root Causes	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	
Transfers	83 780 533	29 869 833	15 647 232	6 724 518	136 022 116
Implementation	3 411 433	1 863 108	3 122 486	1 182 625	9 579 652
Direct support costs	5 696 267	2 461 605	1 360 404	615 838	10 134 115
Subtotal	92 888 234	34 194 546	20 130 122	8 522 981	155 735 882
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	6 037 735	2 222 646	1 308 458	0	9 568 839
Total	98 925 969	36 417 192	21 438 580	8 522 981	165 304 721