



World Food Programme

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WFP Venezuela

Country Brief

October 2023



Operational Context

Despite signs of economic recovery, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) continues to face a challenging socioeconomic situation, exacerbated by global supply chain disruptions, food price increases and other external factors. In October 2023 Venezuela registered a 318 percent food inflation, as per the World Bank. The Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2022-2023 for Venezuela aims to support 5.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in the country, 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 presence in the states of Falcon, Trujillo, Yaracuy, Barinas, Anzoátegui, Monagas, Sucre, Delta Amacuro, Amazonas and Apure.



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

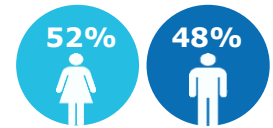
Human Development Index: **120**
out of 191 (UNDP, 2021)

In Numbers

222 mt of food assistance delivered.

USD 61.5 m six months (November 2023 – April 2024) net funding requirements, representing **62 percent** of total needs.

15,399 people assisted*
in October 2023



*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- WFP reaches half a million people through its school-based programme, food assistance and livelihoods interventions.
- This month only, WFP assisted 15,399 early education school children, students with disabilities and school personnel during the first week of school year 2023-2024 (23 to 27 October). WFP will continue its food distributions during the first half of November to reach all states under its school-based programme.
- Also, 9,000 people received livelihood interventions in the states of Amazonas, Apure, and Sucre. Besides participating in technical trainings on fishing, commercial and agricultural activities, participants also received food assistance to support their livelihood recovery.
- WFP continued refurbishing school kitchens for onsite meals. As of October, WFP remodeled 254 school kitchens in the states of Falcón, Barinas, Trujillo, and Yaracuy.
- WFP signed Field Level Agreements with 17 cooperating partners (10 international NGOs and 7 national NGOs) to implement the school-based programme during the school year 2023-2024. These partners received onboarding training as part of their capacity-strengthening activities.
- The Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster conducted workshops with partners to analyze the food security situation in Venezuela. The main sources of information used were: partners' consultations and reports, context analysis, and OCHA's annual needs analysis. Food, access to water and sustainable livelihoods remain the main concerns for vulnerable communities across the country. The results from these workshops will support needs prioritization and the design of the 2024 response.

Contact info: Chiara Cardosi (chiara.cardosi@wfp.org)

Country Director: Laura Melo

Further information: <https://www.wfp.org/venezuela-bolivarian-republic>

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2023 - 2025)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
569.9 m	73.5 m	61.5 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

- The Logistics Cluster and the Logistics Working Group from Colombia, both led by WFP, co-facilitated a binational discussion with the Economic Integration Chambers of both countries, to explore opportunities for easing flows of relief cargo such as food, Non-Food Items (NFI) related to humanitarian programmes between Venezuela and Colombia. Besides providing information about legal framework for flows of goods, the chambers explained how the scope of their mandate could support supply chain by liaising with key stakeholders having products such as food and medicines registered in both countries.
- In October, the Logistics Cluster held meetings with partners in the states of Bolivar and Sucre. Findings showed that, in both states, the scarcity and high price of fuel continued to be the main constraint impacting transport services, especially in maritime and river transport. In addition, in Delta Amacuro, humanitarian actors faced challenges in sharing boats for river operations due to administrative processes.

Monitoring

- WFP conducted interviews with around 2,000 people across 1,100 schools where the school based programme is implemented. Key findings of these interviews showed high satisfaction of beneficiaries on the quality of the foods received (84 percent). Moreover, nearly all beneficiaries (99 percent) consider that Super Cereal Plus has great nutritional benefits and is well accepted by children. Additionally, 72 percent of people also know how to use WFP feedback channels, of which 80 percent informed they received a timely response.
- WFP assisted some 400 people through its helpline. According to 29 percent or every third of helpline users, the main concern remains the shift from take-home food rations to hot meals. WFP continued to sensitize communities about the objectives and modalities of its school-based programme. In addition, WFP carried out a training for *Interagency Contact Line* operators to share key information on main changes for school year 2023-2024.

Donors

Canada, European Commission (DG-ECHO), France, Germany (GFFO), Italy, Japan, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States of America (USAID's BHA) and private donors.

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