

# WFP Venezuela Country Brief December 2023

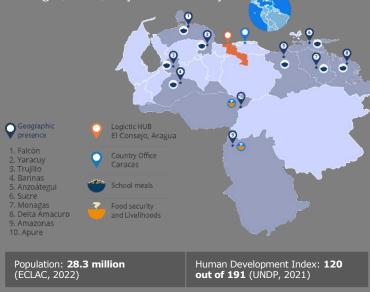
World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES



## **Operational Context**

Despite signs of economic recovery, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela 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, according to the World Bank. According to the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2023 for Venezuela, 5.2 million people are 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 resiliencebuilding interventions, including climate change adaptation activities and capacity strengthening of national actors. Currently, WFP has presence in the states of Amazonas, Anzoátegui, Apure, Barinas, Delta Amacuro, Falcón, Monagas, Sucre, Trujillo and Yaracuy.



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# **In Numbers**

471 mt of food assistance delivered.

**USD 67.9 m** six months (January to June 2024) net funding requirements, representing 64 percent of total needs.

**304,175 people** assisted\* in December 2023



\*Preliminary figures

## **Operational Updates**

- In December, WFP provided food assistance through it school meals programme to more than 300,000 people. Of these, some 193,000 are students receiving hot meals served at schools, and 110,000 received take-home food rations. Among the latter, students with disabilities, early education children from schools in the state of Delta Amacuro, and other hard-to-reach areas.
- Out of the total beneficiaries, 124,000 are preprimary school children, 76,000 are primary students between 7 to 11 years old, almost 14,000 are students with disabilities, almost 45,000 are school personnel and around 41,000 are household members of students with disabilities.
- WFP distributed food assistance to families of students with disabilities allowing them to use their incomes to cover other essential needs, such as health and hygiene.
- Overall, by the end of 2023, WFP reached almost 1,800 preschools across the states of Anzoategui, Barinas, Delta Amacuro, Falcon, Monagas, Yaracuy, Sucre, Trujillo. Of these, around 300 are special education school attended by students with disabilities.
- Through its community-based interventions focused on food assistance and livelihoods recovery, WFP reached, more than 11,000 people in the states of Amazonas, Apure and Sucre, including indigenous people and households headed by women and elderly. In 2024, WFP will launch a lessons learned analysis exercise, aiming to engage with community stakeholders and partners to promote accountability spaces that's support programme design and scale up.
- WFP prepared a hazard analysis to identify the states with highest risk of climate-related disasters such as heavy rainfall, earthquakes, and droughts.

# **WFP Country Strategy**



Interim Country Strategic Plan (2023 - 2025)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
569.9 m	78.1 m	67.9 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 is designing a work plan to present to local authorities aimed to support institutional capacities on risk management and emergency response. In addition, WFP aims to implement a pilot project on climate-related disaster response at community level, including early warning systems and risk management awareness activities for school staff.
- WFP held its first "GenTalk" as part of a regional initiative to promote links with gender equality and women empowerment partners. The workshop hosted 15 National and International Non-Governmental Organizations, UN Agencies, Academy representatives and community stakeholders to talk about food security and livelihoods from a gender perspective. Results showed that WFP's community consultations and monitoring exercises serve as a starting point for building a gender roadmap to ensure humanitarian programmes are gendersensitive and reduce any risk related to gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse.
- The Logistics Cluster hosted the third binational meeting with the Economic Integration Chambers from Venezuela and Colombia. The discussion opened as space to provide context information on payment methods to improve goods import between the countries.
- The Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster led by WFP and FAO approved 49 projects to be presented under the Humanitarian Response Plan 2024. The projects were presented by 44 humanitarian organizations and have USD 162 million funding requirement.
- In addition, the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster launched a survey to identify the main topics of interest to continue implementing capacity-building activities with partners. Results show a preference for activities with indigenous communities and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

## Monitoring

 WFP assisted more than 700 people through its helpline. The main comments raised by users included i) request to extend livelihoods interventions in Amazonas, Apure and Sucre; ii) concerns about the shift from take-home rations to onsite school meals including; iii) assistance requests related to food and other essential needs such as health and hygiene.

### Donors

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