

WFP Venezuela **Country Brief** February 2024

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES **CHANGING LIVES**



Operational Context

Venezuela has shown some economic growth as a result of international political negotiations and other internal measures to promote economic stability. Despite such economic improvements, the country continues to face challenges related to global supply chain disruptions, food price increases and other external factors. According to the World Bank, in February, Venezuela, registered 91 percent food inflation, ranking third in the world.

The Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2024 identifies 5.1 million people as in need of humanitarian assistance, of whom 2 million are targeted for food security interventions. To respond to the needs in the country, WFP is providing food assistance through a school-based intervention, integrated with livelihoods activities, emergency preparedness and response operations, support to local producers and resilience-building activities to mitigate the impact of climate-related events. Currently, WFP has presence in the states of Amazonas, Anzoátegui, Apure, Barinas, Delta Amacuro, Falcón, Monagas, Sucre, Trujillo and Yaracuy.



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

In Numbers

1,100 mt of food assistance delivered*

USD 60.7 m six months (March-August 2024) net funding requirements, representing 63 percent of total needs.

365,465 people assisted* in February 2024





*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- In February, WFP reached some 365,500 people across 2,250 schools in the eight states where its school-based programme is implemented (Anzoategui, Barinas, Delta Amacuro, Falcon, Monagas, Yaracuy, Sucre and Trujillo).
- WFP's food distributions supported 56,780 students with disabilities, school personnel and household members across 300 special education schools.
- Overall, WFP distributed some 1,100 mt of food commodities, of which some 370 mt (33 percent) was fresh food distributed through local retailers.
- To ensure minimum standards for hot meals, WFP continued refurbishing school kitchens in early education schools. To date, WFP has refurbished and equipped 272 school kitchens in Falcón, Barinas, Trujillo and Yaracuy. In addition, WFP provided maintenance to 40 school kitchens in the state of Anzoategui by improving water systems and stoves.
- In addition, to ensure hot meals are served in safe conditions, WFP reinforced messages related to the use of water purification tablets during sensitization sessions and trainings for school cooks.
- In February, WFP finalized a roadmap on emergency preparedness and response to climate-related disasters. The document outlines some necessary actions for the implementation of emergency responses and disaster risk reduction. WFP aims to continue supporting national early warning systems to strengthen effective responses to weather-related events, such as landslides and floods.
- The Logistics Clusters held the first meeting of the "Best Practices Working Group". This coordination space will serve to deepen topics such as procurement, road transportation, and green logistics.

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	80.2 m	60.7 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 Logistic Cluster engaged with the University of the Andes in Colombia to explore their water electromobility project, which could serve as an alternative to river transport in Venezuela.
- Also, The Food Security Cluster held a workshop on Employment strategies facilitated by the organizations *Trabajo y Persona* and *Aprendo y Emprendo*. The training was part of the learning initiatives offered by the cluster to share experiences and challenges, as well as to define strategies to support the restoration and protection of livelihoods while improving the resilience in the communities.
- The Food Security Cluster presented its 2024-2025 strategy to the Global Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster. The main pillars of this strategy include anticipatory action, localization, nexus, communication and advocacy, as well as transversal topics such as Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), gender, and accountability to communities and environment.

Monitoring

- WFP conducted focus groups and key interlocutor interviews with students, household members and school staff of special education schools in the state of Anzoátegui. The findings showed that participants were satisfied with the registration, information and distribution processes. However, in households led by single mothers and elderlies, beneficiaries expressed concern about the care of people with disabilities while they are attending the distribution.
- WFP assisted some 957 cases through its helpline. Of these, 34 percent people suggested varying the products of the basket and include high schools in the programme; 20 percent people expressed concern about the preparation of the hot meals; 22 percent of users requested information or assistance; and 14 percent raised positive feedback about the quality of the assistance including the services provided by WFP and cooperating partner staff.

Donors

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