

WFP Venezuela Country Brief March 2024

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

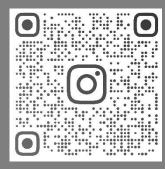


Operational Context

Venezuela has shown some economic growth as a result of international political negotiations and other internal measures to promote economic stability.

Despite 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 April 2024, Venezuela, registered 59 percent food inflation, ranking fourth in the world and representing an 88 percent.

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.



WFP HUMAN INTEREST STORY

Scan the QR code to learn more about WFP operation in Delta Amacuro



COUNTRY REPORT Scan the QR code to see the full document

In Numbers

2,168 mt of food assistance delivered*

USD 46 m six months (April to September 2024) net funding requirements, representing **50** percent of total needs.

371,725 assisted* in March 2024 *Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- In March, WFP reached more than 370,000 people across 2,300 schools in the states where its schoolbased programme is implemented (Anzoategui, Barinas, Delta Amacuro, Falcon, Monagas, Yaracuy, Sucre and Trujillo).
- WFP's food distributions supported 62,000 people from special education school communities. Of these, around 15,000 are students with disabilities, 46,000 are household members and around 1,000 are school staff serving across 300 special education schools.
- WFP distributed more than 2,000 mt of food commodities, of which 60 percent was purchased locally.
- To ensure hot meals are served in safe conditions, WFP continued refurbishing school kitchens in early education schools. In March, WFP improved water storage systems and stoves in 25 school kitchens in the states of Falcón, Trujillo, Barinas, Anzoátegui and Sucre to increase the capacity to prepare hot meals at schools.
- WFP has been actively fostering disability inclusion lens within its school-based programme. A recent initiative hosted over 2,000 families of students with disabilities from 20 special education schools in Monagas state, to participate in workshops to promote the reduction challenges faced by people with disabilities.
- WFP tested shopping trolleys for people with disabilities to facilitate the transport of food commodities distributed by WFP. The office expects to analyse the results to inform the design of the programme and provide a more adequate support. Currently, people with disabilities and their families receive about 35 kg of food monthly, which they often take home on foot.

WFP Country Strategy



Interim Country Strategic Plan (2023 - 2025)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
570 m	102 m	46 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

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- As part of its nutrition-sensitive activities, WFP conducted information sessions for students' caregivers to ensure the adequate preparation and consumption of fortified food (Super Cereal Plus). In addition, WFP completed capacity-strengthening activities for school cooks in the states of Trujillo and Anzoategui on healthy and balanced diets for children, safe food preparation and water purification.
- In March, WFP signed field level agreements with two additional local organizations, *Trabajo y Personas*, which will support livelihoods interventions and *Vanessa Peretti Foundation*, which will advise on how to enhance disability and inclusion lens within WFP school-based programme. National NGO partners represent over 50 percent of the total implementing partners in Venezuela.
- In the framework of International Women's Day, the Logistic Cluster published its first newsletter, heading a special topic on <u>"Women in Logistics"</u>.
- The Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster supported the reactivation of the agriculture working group, which focused on the definition of objectives for 2024, the introduction of the co-managed organizations, the presentation of the technical guide for the implementation of family gardens, and the exchange of experiences in the agricultural sector.

Monitoring

WFP Learning Action Review related to food assistance and livelihood interventions in Apure, Amazonas and Sucre showed that: i) communities recognized the active role of WFP's partners among all phases of the programme; ii) gender dynamics should be further considered for future interventions to avoid negative impact on participants and their families; iii) women raised positive feedback on inclusion on women empowerment messages combined with life skill trainings; iv) take-home rations represented an economic support for the households and allowed them to access basic services such as water, other food and hygiene products.

Challenges

• According to the Logistic Cluster, access to fuel continued to be the main constraint for humanitarian actors and transport service providers.

Donors

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

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