



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Bolivia

Country Brief

March 2024



"Searching for water, llamas moved away from my land and were attacked by pumas. No more." FFA in Carangas - Oruro © Miguel

Operational Context

The Bolivian economy has been traditionally based on the exploitation of natural resources, and it was always classified among poor countries until the World Bank raised Bolivia's classification from a low-income to a lower-middle-income country since 2010. Despite sustained growth, there is still marked inequality between urban, peri-urban, and rural areas, especially among Indigenous Peoples and rural and Indigenous women who have historically been relegated. To date, these groups remain living in highly vulnerable areas with food insecurity, have very low incomes, are subsistence producers, and do not have access to markets that allow them to maintain adequate nutrition or develop their economic activities. During the implementation of its current CSP 2023-2027, WFP Bolivia will continue supporting national and local governments and its vulnerable populations in emergency responses and strengthening their capacities to make them more resilient, especially to the effects of climate change. WFP will also provide technical support to link smallholders to markets. WFP has been in Bolivia since 1963, and its current interventions align with the Bolivian Economic and Social Development Plan 2021-2025, which focuses on the social development of vulnerable indigenous populations.



Population: **12.0 m (est. 2022)**

2023 Human Development Index:
120 out of 193

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **16% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

USD 1.4 m six-month (April – September 2024) net funding requirements, representing 57 percent of the total

Operational Updates

- In response to potential floods, landslides and droughts, WFP established a preparedness cell comprising UN agencies and government entities, including the National Meteorology and Hydrology Service, Ministries of Planning, Rural Development, Health, and the Vice Ministry of Civil Defence. Based on these scenarios, WFP designed a six-month operation to assist those affected by such weather-related events.
- WFP developed risk maps to prioritize areas of intervention and have a stronger focus and consistency operations to provide temporary assistance through CBT for 10,000 affected families (or 50,000 people). These efforts complement the Government's strategies to respond to emergencies in timing and response territory to avoid duplication.

Monitoring

- From 26 to 29 March, WFP initiated field monitoring activities to evaluate its Cash for Work and Food for Assets interventions in the Oruro department. Analysed assets included water retention ponds (vigiñas), irrigation channels, local unpaved roads undergoing cleaning and repair, and native tree planting initiatives. Monitoring methods encompassed both satellite imagery and on-site inspections, allowing for accurate monitoring and verification of assets to ensure accurate monitoring and verification of assets.

Partnership

- On 7 March, WFP was confirmed funding for its pilot project on livelihoods and sustainable economic development for Indigenous communities in the Amazonian plain.

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Further information: [WFP Bolivia](https://www.wfp.org/countries/bolivia)

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirement (In USD) as of March 2024	Allocated Contribution (in USD) as of March 2024	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
18.8 m	7.6 m	1.4 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food. SDG 2.1

Country Strategic Outcome 1: Food insecure and vulnerable households affected by shocks in Bolivia benefit from anticipatory action, prevention, emergency preparedness, coordination, and response support to meet their diverse emergency food and nutrition needs and quickly recover.

Focus area: Crisis Response.

Activities:

- Provide cash-based transfers to food-insecure households exposed to shocks in Bolivia.
- Provide technical assistance to local institutions to strengthen emergency preparedness and response, including through evidence-based advocacy.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes. SDG 2.3

Country Strategic Outcome 2: Food insecure smallholder farmers, indigenous communities, and particularly rural women in Bolivia are more resilient to climatic and other shocks and stresses, including through sustainable livelihoods, consistent incomes, improved productivity, and market access and demand.

Focus area: Resilience Building.

Activities:

- Provide cash-based transfers to food insecure smallholders and indigenous communities, in particular rural women; and access to climate adaptation services, including technical assistance.
- Facilitate links between food insecure smallholders, particularly indigenous and women, to sustainable and reliable markets.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs. SDG 17.9

Country Strategic Outcome 3: Local, regional, and national level institutions have improved capacity, coordination, programme, and policy coherence related to supporting most vulnerable groups in Bolivia by 2027.

Focus area: Root Causes.

Activity:

- Develop and implement a sustained strategy with national institutions to address food insecurity in a holistic and gender-transformative manner among the most vulnerable communities, based on advocacy, communications, and improved coordination at local, regional, and national levels.

Challenges

- The rainy season persisted, albeit with less intensity than in earlier months. By the end of March, cumulative data from the Vice Ministry of Civil Defence identified 582,820 people as affected, with 230,192 people classified as severely affected across all nine departments. The Ministry also reported 55 deaths and five missing persons.
- In March, the UN Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) registered 33,849 hectares of land affected by flooding and 19,529 lost crops hectares. Some 222,299 livestock were affected, with 1,674 dead animals recorded.
- Coordinated with the Vice-Ministry of Civil Defence and the HCT, WFP started assisting 9,230 families in the department of Oruro and 1,651 families of the Tshiman-Mosenete Indigenous people in the Amazon region.

Donors

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, China, European Union (DG-ECHO), Russia, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), and Sweden (Ministry for Foreign Affairs, MOFA).