

Crisis response revision of Cuba country strategic plan (2021–2024) and corresponding budget increase

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	1 July 2021– 31 December 2024	1 January 2025– 31 December 2025	1 July 2021– 31 December 2025
Beneficiaries	2 680 007	245 930	2 925 937
<i>(USD)</i>			
Total cost	75 064 525	36 906 945	111 971 470
Transfer	66 289 153	32 683 857	98 973 010
Implementation	1 795 480	790 017	2 585 497
Adjusted direct support costs	2 398 488	1 180 535	3 579 023
Subtotal	70 483 122	34 654 409	105 137 530
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	4 581 403	2 252 537	6 833 939

Gender and age marker code*: 4.

* <http://gender.manuals.wfp.org/en/gender-toolkit/gender-in-programming/gender-and-age-marker/>.

Rationale

1. The country strategic plan (CSP) for 2021–2024 is aligned with the priorities and needs of the Government of Cuba to support national social protection systems, strengthen national and local government capacities, build resilience to climate impacts and improve food and nutrition security. It focuses on local food systems, enhancing the link between agricultural cooperatives and social protection institutions to guarantee food supply for social protection programmes, particularly for school feeding and community canteens.
2. WFP will extend the CSP for one additional year until 31 December 2025, following the one-year extension of the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework (UNSDCF). It will also allow WFP to formulate the next CSP in line with the national framework and the UNSDCF for 2026–2030.
3. Furthermore, due to the complex economic situation, the Government requested WFP support to mobilize resources to respond to increased needs. Cuba is experiencing the worst economic recession in the last three decades¹ due to the cumulative effects of the partial achievements of the economic reforms, and the enduring impact of Hurricane Ian in September 2022. These limitations resulted in the slow recovery of tourism, declining remittances, fuel shortages and a negative impact on the sustainability of social protection mechanisms.

¹ Cuba Debate. 2023. [Díaz-Canel en TV: Agradecer siempre a nuestro pueblo su heroísmo, su apoyo, su comprensión y su aporte.](#)

4. Cuba experienced a gross domestic product contraction of 2 percent in 2023² and inflation was estimated at 30 percent, reflecting three consecutive years of rising prices.
5. Access to essential goods, especially food, remains a significant concern.³ Domestic food production continued to decline,⁴ and the food distribution system faced increasing financial constraints to import food, impacting food availability.

Changes

Strategic orientation

6. No change in strategic orientation.

Country strategic plan outcomes

7. The budget adjustments in the four CSP activities respond to the one-year extension and the updated needs, covering the period 2024–2025.

Country strategic plan outcome 1, activity 1

8. From June 2024 to July 2025, WFP will include three-kilogram monthly rations of milk powder for 125,000 children aged 2–7 in all provinces, contributing to access to food while supporting their nutrition in line with national public policy.
9. In 2025, WFP will continue assisting 200,000 social protection beneficiaries in the five eastern provinces and the central ones with the WFP food basket and expand assistance to 50,000 new beneficiaries.
10. WFP will include prepositioning 2,000 mt of food (rice, beans and vegetable oil) for the 2025 hurricane season for immediate use in case of a disaster. These stocks will be stored in government warehouses in three strategic locations and regularly rotated with government food dedicated to the subsidized monthly food ration, thus ensuring that the food maintains WFP quality standards and does not expire.
11. WFP will increase capacity strengthening for the 2025 hurricane season to have a prepositioned stock of non-food items (mobile storage units, family tents, electric generators for warehouses with lamps, kitchen, canteens items and batteries) from a rapid emergency response to a complex situation. WFP monitors the status of the prepositioned stocks of food and non-food items monthly.

Country strategic plan outcome 2, activity 2

12. From 2024 onwards, WFP Cuba did not assist with corn-soya blend due to the lack of suppliers and this change is reflected in this budget revision through a reduction in the plan. Moreover, in response to the deterioration of the country's economic conditions, WFP is scaling up the micronutrient powder distribution to prevent malnutrition by including new areas of coverage and 134,000 children between 6–24 months with two-cycle rations each year, as agreed with nutrition and health authorities and in line with the Ministry of Public Health strategy.

² Cuba Debate. 2023. [Alejandro Gil: Economía cubana estima una contracción en 2023, según proyecciones.](#)

³ Cuba Debate. 2023. [Informan ministros cubanos sobre situación energética, abastecimiento de combustibles y canasta familiar normada.](#)

⁴ Cuba Debate. 2023. [Alejandro Gil: Economía cubana estima una contracción en 2023, según proyecciones.](#)



13. As part of the scale-up strategy, WFP developed the scenario of micronutrient powder remnants beyond the prioritized distribution focused on children. In such a situation, WFP has anticipated, in consultation with health and nutrition authorities, to target prioritized population groups, incorporating children up to 59 months and older people in specific social protection institutions.
14. WFP will remove milk powder under activity 2. It is considered under activity 1.
15. This operation includes capacity strengthening, which involves purchasing equipment and printing didactic materials for families and health community teams, as well as coordinated training and communication activities.

Country strategic plan outcome 3, activity 3

16. WFP will reduce the days of coverage of WFP commodity vouchers for full boarding and external primary schoolchildren in the five eastern provinces during 2024 and include children in half-boarding primary schools in the five eastern provinces for the first eight months of 2025. WFP did not start the planned commodity voucher modality because the negotiation with the Ministry of Education is still ongoing.
17. The capacity strengthening plan is increased in 2024 to include the carry-over created by delays during 2023 in purchasing agricultural equipment, especially the irrigation systems, due to delivery times, shipping liners and the number of suppliers for Cuba.

Country strategic plan outcome 4, activity 4

18. In 2025, WFP will continue strengthening the Government's capacity and expanding technical and financial support on vulnerability analysis, targeting, beneficiary registration, digitization processes, and transfer modalities. It will also work with the Government to adapt and digitize the existing assistance database (OREGI platform) and its interoperability with the characterization of families (CNF for its Spanish acronym).

Beneficiary analysis

TABLE 1: DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY CSP MODALITY						
Year	Period	Food	Cash-based transfers	Commodity vouchers	Capacity strengthening	Total
2021	Current	677 405	0	7 889	8 100	693 394
	Increase/decrease	0	0	0	0	0
	Revised	677 405	0	7 889	8 100	693 394
2022	Current	657 412	0	6 477		663 889
	Increase/decrease	0	0	0	0	0
	Revised	657 412	0	6 477		663 889
2023	Current	892 486	0	18 159	160 206	1 052 692
	Increase/decrease	0	0	0	0	0
	Revised	892 486	0	18 159	160 206	1 052 692
2024	Current	648 101	0	18 159	151 734	800 206
	Increase/decrease	213 130	0	0	54 005	267 135
	Revised	861 231	0	18 159	205 739	1 067 341
2025	Current	0	0	0	0	0
	Increase/decrease	784 223	0	18 159	178 223	980 605
	Revised	784 223	0	18 159	178 223	980 605

Note: Table 1 is presented in a different template, already used in other approved budget revisions. The usual one cannot be produced because the corporate system COMET does not allow the calculation of overall beneficiary figures for CSPs designed under the old corporate results framework for 2017–2021 and which have been retrofitted in 2022 to align with the corporate results framework for 2022–2025. The agreed table presents the unique beneficiaries per year, which is consistent and verifiable in the country office tool for managing effectively.

Transfers

TABLE 2: FOOD RATION (g/person/day) AND CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/person/day) BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY

	CSP outcome 1									CSP outcome 2						CSP outcome 3							
	Activity 1									Activity 2						Activity 3							
Beneficiary type	Shock-affected population	Older people in SAF	Older people in FDP	Pregnant women in FDP	Children 2-7 years old	Beneficiaries in hospitals (COVID-19)	Children in primary schools	Older people in older people's homes and grandparents' homes	Children 6-11 months	Children 12-23 months	Adolescents	Pregnant women in maternity homes	Older people		Children in day-care centres		Children (half boarding)	Children (full boarding)	Children in external primary schools		Pregnant women and girls in maternity homes	Older people in community canteens	
													Community canteens and OH institutions	Full boarding day-care									
Modality	Food		Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	CBTs	Food	CBTs	CBTs	Food	CBTs	CBTs	CBTs	
Cereals	50		50	33.33	33.33		15	15															
Pulses	30		30	16.66	16.66	60	30	30															
Oil	30.66		30.66	15.33	15.33	61.32	15.33	15.33															
Canned fish		250																					
Milk powder					100	25					25		25	50		50			25				
Fresh vegetables																							
Salt																							
Sugar																							
Super Cereal												50	50	50		50							
Micronutrient powder									1	1													
Total kcal/day	556	520	556	309	309	362	759	556	556	n/a	n/a	91	188	278	369	19	369	19	19	91	477	19	19



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Modality	Food		Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food	Food				
% kcal from protein	7.0	47.3	7.0	7.7	7.7	40.0	7.2	7.0	7.0	n/a	n/a	40.0	16.3	24.0	27.9	66.3	27.9	66.3	66.3	40.0	16.8	66.3	66.3															
CBTs (USD/person/day)																																						
Number of feeding days per year	60	2	180	360	360	180	180	105	180	60	120	220	360	360	360	231	231	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220	220				

Abbreviations: CBTs = cash-based transfers; FDP: final distribution point (Government's warehouses); OH: Historian's Office (*Oficina del Historiador*); SAF: family attention (*Sistema de Atención a la Familia*).



TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUE						
	Current budget		Increase/decrease		Revised budget	
	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)
Cereals	9 927	6 769 120	3 825	3 101 029	13 751	9 870 150
Pulses	5 412	6 187 978	1 994	2 275 610	7 406	8 463 589
Oil and fats	5 193	18 432 925	1 886	5 903 782	7 078	24 336 707
Mixed and blended foods	544	255 982	- 124	- 58 465	420	197 516
Other	2 098	11 157 154	4 512	12 109 512	6 610	23 266 666
Total (food)	23 173	42 803 159	12 092	23 331 468	35 266	66 134 627
Cash-based transfers		1 173 841		71 387		1 245 228
Total (food and cash-based transfer value)	23 173	43 977 000	12 092	23 402 855	35 266	67 379 855

Cost breakdown

TABLE 4: COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)					
	WFP strategic outcome 1	WFP strategic outcome 2	WFP strategic outcome 3	WFP strategic outcome 4	Total
	CSP outcome 1	CSP outcome 2	CSP outcome 3	CSP outcome 4	
Focus area	Crisis response	Root causes	Resilience building	Resilience building	
Transfers	25 760 380	280 307	6 040 174	602 996	32 683 857
Implementation	382 885	21 264	327 028	58 840	790 017
Adjusted direct support costs					1 180 535
Subtotal					34 654 409
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)					2 252 537
Total					36 906 945

TABLE 5: OVERALL COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN COST BREAKDOWN, AFTER REVISION (USD)					
	WFP strategic outcome 1	WFP strategic outcome 2	WFP strategic outcome 3	WFP strategic outcome 4	Total
	CSP outcome 1	CSP outcome 2	CSP outcome 3	CSP outcome 4	
Focus area	Crisis response	Root causes	Resilience building	Resilience building	
Transfers	75 468 456	1 785 504	19 613 110	2 105 940	98 973 010
Implementation	992 109	198 134	1 060 398	334 857	2 585 497
Adjusted direct support costs	2 712 961	65 133	721 714	79 215	3 579 023
Subtotal	79 173 526	2 048 770	21 395 222	2 520 012	105 137 530
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	5 146 279	133 170	1 390 689	163 801	6 833 939
Total	84 319 805	2 181 941	22 785 912	2 683 813	111 971 470