



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

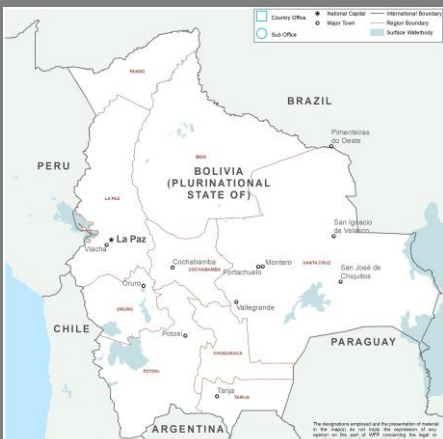
# WFP Bolivia Country Brief January 2025



Uru women using weaving machines provided by WFP © WFP

## 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: **11.3 m (2024)**

2023 Human Development Index: **120 out of 193**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

## In Numbers

**USD 4.6 m** six-month (February – July 2025) net funding requirements, representing 100 percent of the total.

## Operational Updates

- In January, we reached 485 people affected by droughts and wildfires, distributing more than 15,000 USD. This concluded our emergency intervention that began in the fourth quarter of 2024, during which over 26,500 people were assisted with more than \$780,000 USD in cash-based transfers in total.
- We initiated a call for proposals seeking NGOs to collaborate with us in delivering humanitarian assistance to those in greatest need in 2025 through FLA stand-by partners (with an activation of less than 72h). By the end of January, we received six proposals from potential cooperating partners. The revision of documentation and proposals will initiate in mid-February.
- On January 19th, the WFP launched a successful second fish-selling activity after establishing three solar-powered fishponds in late 2024 in the Llapallapani community, located in Oruro. Over 100 fish were sold at an average price of 40 Bs each (approximately 6 USD), highlighting the success of the initiative in securing markets for locally produced protein-based food.
- We met with other UN agencies in Bolivia to work together in preparation, response, and recovery efforts to support the most vulnerable populations as part of the United Nations Emergency Technical Team (UNETE) initiative.
- Considering that over 109,000 families have been affected by rains and floods during the rainy season, as reported by the Vice Ministry of Civil Defence (VIDECI), we have requested the activation of ADAM (Advanced Disaster Analysis and Mapping) and conducted the analysis of the flood impact in the affected areas with relevant flood forecasts.

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Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)		
Total Requirement (in USD) as of January 2025	Allocated Contribution (in USD) as of January 2025	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
18.8 m	8.7 m	4.6 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 food and non-food transfers and/or 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.

## Monitoring

- After December cash transfers performed under Field Level Agreements or FLAs in the eastern part of the country, WFP is performing in January its mandatory Post Distribution Monitoring or PDM this time with phone calls to more than 850 participants selected aleatorily, half of them men and half women, following manual recommendations. Reports expected to be completed after all calls done.

## Challenges

- Despite that rain was in a down trend compared with average in previous month, January had been marked with an increase in its intensity and frequency. According with Vice ministry of Civil Defence VIDECI, January ends with 84,029 families affected 21,500 of those with severe damages to their livelihoods. 19 deaths, in the whole country with 16 municipalities declared in disaster level in La Paz Department alone, which declared its emergency on the last day of the month.
- The National Meteorology and Hydrology Service (SENAMHI) had issued at least eight orange alerts for January due to expected rainfall, especially near major rivers and their branches, which could lead to overflow in surrounding areas.
- Prices had kept it increasing at unusual high rates. Annual inflation rate climbed to 12.03% for January, been the highest in 29 years, with a food and not alcoholic beverage inflation of almost 16%, a figure not seen since 2010.

## Donors

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), European Union (DG-ECHO), Korea, Russia, Norway and Sweden (Ministry for Foreign Affairs, MOFA)