



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Bolivia Country Brief February 2025



WFP meets with Vice Minister of Equal opportunities @ 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 3.5 m** six-month (March – August 2025) net funding requirements, representing 98 percent of the total.

## Operational Updates

- We signed the agreement for the SDG Project with the Ministry of Rural Development and Lands (MDRyT), securing funding from UN Headquarters in New York to strengthen food systems and empower smallholder farmers in the Bolivian Amazon. As project lead, WFP will coordinate implementation alongside ILO, FAO, and IFAD.
- At the invitation of the School Complementary Feeding Unit (UNACE) of the La Paz Municipality, we visited three school gardens that actively engage parents, students, teachers, and municipal technical staff. These initiatives serve as models of urban resilience, and our visit strengthened our collaboration with the municipality, opening discussions on future joint urban resilience projects to reinforce food security and nutrition of children.
- On February 12, we met with the Vice Minister of Equal Opportunities, Miriam Huacani, to discuss strategies for protecting women and Indigenous populations during emergency situations. WFP staff shared experiences and best practices to ensure the protection of the affected people in these contexts, as well as our community feedback mechanisms for continuous improvement.
- At the invitation of the Ministry of Rural Development and Lands (MDRyT), WFP participated in the technical working group for the development of the National Agroecology Strategy 2025-2035. We contributed valuable insights on sustainable food systems, climate resilience, and community-based agricultural practices, reinforcing our technical expertise in food security and rural development.

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### Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirement (in USD) as of February 2025	Allocated Contribution (in USD) as of February 2025	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
18.8 m	9.0 m	3.5 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

- The WFP Bolivian office finished data collection for its mandatory Post Distribution Monitoring or PDM, this time with phone calls. Reports expected to be completed in the first week of the next month, with a shorter version to be used for Programmes Unit as an external communication material to raise awareness of WFP work in humanitarian relief in Bolivia.

## Challenges

- Latest Vice ministry of Civil Defence VIDECL, on February 24<sup>th</sup> 106,109 families affected and 41,157 families with severe damages to their livelihoods. These figures are in average a 60% more than the previous month. 37 deaths, in the whole country with 32 municipalities declared in disaster level.
- Annual inflation rate climbed to 13.22% for January, a figure not seen since October 2008, with a food and not alcoholic beverage inflation of around 21.47%.

## Donors

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