



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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LIVES

WFP Colombia Country Brief

June 2025

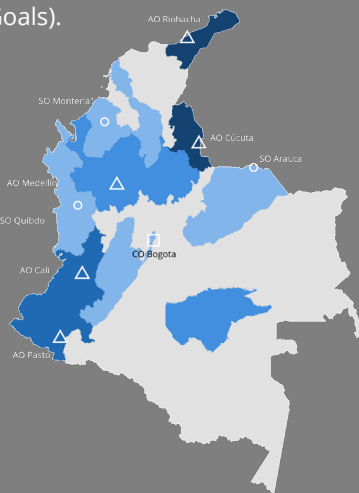
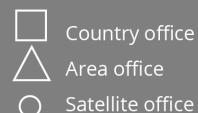
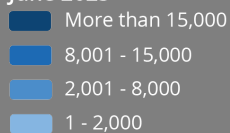


Boy receiving a school meal in Fonseca, La Guajira. WFP implements the School Feeding Programme in La Guajira, coordinating transportation, preparation and distribution of meals, while supporting school nutrition in urban and rural areas.

Operational Context

Despite being an upper-middle-income country, Colombia faces a complex humanitarian and food security crisis, with 13 million moderately or severely food-insecure Colombians (25 percent of the population) according to the latest WFP assessment (EFSA, 2024). Furthermore, 37% of migrants with the intention to stay in Colombia are food insecure, while 72% of migrants in transit continue to remain food insecure. Improving food security is one of the Government's priorities, together with advancing the peace process. The situation in Colombia is also marked by internal violence, forced displacements, widespread presence of illegal armed groups, ongoing mixed-migration flows, severe climate-related emergencies, and economic shocks. In this context, 9.1 million people need humanitarian assistance (OCHA, 2025). Likewise, Colombia's decades-long armed conflict resulted in 9.5 million victims of which 90 percent are internally displaced persons (OCHA, 2024). At the same time, 2.8 million migrants are currently reported (Colombian Government, 2025), representing one of the largest figures across the region concerning migration. WFP operates in Colombia since 1969, and its strategy aligns with the Government's priorities on food security, humanitarian response, recovery, development, and capacity-strengthening to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for Goals).

Number of Beneficiaries June 2025



Population: **51.8 million**

2024 Human Development Index:
89 out of 191

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **10.8 percent**

In Numbers

289 MT of food assistance distributed*

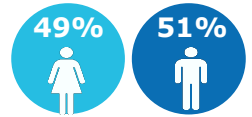
USD 2.16 million cash-based transfers made*

USD 44.5 million six months (July – December 2025) net funding requirements, representing 52 percent of total needs

151,511 people assisted*

In June 2025

*Preliminary figures



Operational Updates

In June, WFP reached over **114,700 Colombians** (including returnees, host communities and internally displaced persons - IDPs) and **36,700 migrants** across 14 departments. WFP has reached **288,373** unique beneficiaries in 2025.

Some of the activities to highlight include:

- **Emergency Response** - WFP assisted about **32,000 people affected by violence in five departments**. In Norte de Santander, WFP reached about **8,000 people affected by displacement and confinement in the Catatumbo subregion**. This despite access constraints and difficult security challenges amidst ongoing armed clashes between armed groups. Additionally, **the operation began in-kind food assistance to more than 7,900 people affected by violence and weather-related events in Guaviare**.
- **Livelihoods and Resilience** – WFP finalized the targeting process of the employability transition project for **100 former miners in Nariño**. Training on soft skills will begin in July. Also, the agency continued the implementation of the rural women project financed by Herbalife. WFP conducted a capacity assessment for six women organizations in Nariño and Cauca.
- **Migration** – In June, WFP reached **about 34,800 beneficiaries** in the migration response of which 58 percent received cash-based transfers. **The operation closed 7 additional community kitchens for in-transit migrants** due to decreasing migration flows and following the transition towards CBT interventions. Furthermore, WFP started the targeting of migrants with the intention to settle in Atlántico and Nariño for CBT assistance. Distributions are scheduled to begin in early August.
- **School Feeding** – WFP reached more than **77,054 children** (including 7,275 migrants) by distributing more than **935,500** school meal rations in **13 municipalities of La Guajira**.
- The Mobile Units project, coordinated with the National Family Welfare Institute (ICBF), reached **21,434 people affected by conflict and weather-related events**. **59% of the beneficiaries were children**.
- **Innovation** – An Identi pilot was carried out in the department of Nariño at migrant community kitchens. This tool enables the validation of a digital beneficiary registration system using voice recognition. **909 registrations were completed**, demonstrating the effectiveness of the tool for beneficiary registration. WFP received feedback and documentation of lessons learned for future scale-up.
- **Service Provision** – As part of the Colombian's government Hambre Cero (Zero Hunger) initiative, WFP have distributed **34,898 food baskets for vulnerable Colombians** in Bogotá, Cesar, and Magdalena. Additional distributions will be carried out in Nariño and Chocó starting in July.

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Country Strategic Plan (2025-2028)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
592.6 m	100.4 m	44.5 m

SDG 2 - Target 1: Access to Food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food-insecure and crisis-affected populations in Colombia meet their urgent food, nutrition and other essential needs and have the capacity and resources to prepare for, anticipate, respond to and recover from shocks, in the context of a more secure, inclusive and peaceful country

Activities:

- Provide unconditional food assistance to meet the basic needs of people exposed to or affected by extreme weather events, displaced or confined communities, victims of conflict and ex-combatants in the process of social and economic reintegration, migrants and host communities in both rural and urban areas.
- Provide country capacity strengthening to communities and government institutions for risk preparedness and management.

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in rural and urban areas in Colombia have improved food security, nutrition, health and education; access enhanced school feeding programmes; and benefit from strengthened social protection systems.

Activities:

- Strengthen social protection institutions and systems at the national and local levels, to strengthen their capacity in designing, implementing and monitoring programmes and policies.
- Support the Government in implementing the school feeding programme in prioritized municipalities.
- Reinforce national strategies and interventions that provide nutrition-sensitive food assistance and complementary feeding products to prevent malnutrition.

SDG 2 - Target 4: Sustainable Food systems

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable and food-insecure populations including displaced people and victims of conflict, people engaged in the peace process, migrants, returnees and host communities and people affected by climate-related and other shocks and stressors, improve their adaptive capacities, livelihoods and socioeconomic inclusion and benefit from resilient, sustainable and inclusive food systems.

Activities:

- Strengthen the capacities of national and local institutions, communities and relevant food system actors to develop and implement innovative strategies to address the challenges of climate change, ecosystem restoration and the management of resilience food systems.
- Provide technical assistance to communities vulnerable to climate change and other stressors, with a focus on Indigenous and Afro-descendant people, women and young people.
- Develop asset building programmes for smallholder farmers and other key food system actors, focusing on rural women producers

SDG 17 - Target 8: Global Partnership

Strategic Outcome 4: Government institutions, civil society and humanitarian and development partners in Colombia receive services that enable them to achieve their programmatic objectives effectively and efficiently

Activities:

- Provide services requested by government institutions and humanitarian and development actors, including capacity strengthening where applicable.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- According to OCHA, the escalation of violence and weather-related events in 2025 have already affected more than **1.4 million people nationwide**, surpassing the total number of people affected throughout all of 2024. People affected by violence have quadrupled in comparison to the same period last year.
- According to Migración Colombia since January of 2025, **authorities detected about 78,678 migrants without regular status transiting through the country**. Migrant flows have decreased 63% in comparison to the same period of 2024. In contrast, reverse migration flows from Panama have increased 33% since February as more migrants desists from migrating towards the north.
- WFP monitoring results of the Agricultural Self-Productive Units, funded by the Colombian department of Social Prosperity, has shown positive results both in terms of acceptance by the community and use of resources delivered. **91% of beneficiaries are satisfied with the activities of the project** and the workshops conducted by WFP. Furthermore, **81% of the resources delivered are used by the beneficiaries**. This project has generated several lessons learned, during the transportation of resources, communication with communities, and installation and planting of resources and assets.

Challenges

- WFP is currently facing financial challenges for the implementation of emergency activities. The current budget will only allow WFP to implement emergency programmes until October. Without additional funding, crisis response operations will face imminent pipeline breaks. Assistance to conflict-affected communities, populations impacted by climate-related shocks, and migrants will be fully suspended after September and October, respectively— leaving over 200,000 people without critical life-saving support. WFP urgently needs USD 33.5 million to cover emergency response operations for the next six months.
- In late May, non-state armed groups issued a statement imposing restrictions on UN agency access in five departments where WFP operates. WFP has limited field missions in Cauca and Guaviare while maintaining food assistance through local cooperating partners.

Partnerships

- WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of La Guajira to strengthen collaboration on food security, research, and capacity building in the department.
- WFP Participated in a joint CERF mission to Catatumbo as part of the coordinated humanitarian response to address urgent food and nutrition needs in the region. The operation continues to coordinate actions with other UN and humanitarian organizations in the field.
- On June 18, WFP celebrated the Sustainable Gastronomy Day by participating in an event organized by the Bogotá Chamber of Commerce, highlighting strategic partnerships that are transforming realities through food systems and local innovation.

Donors

Canada, Colombia, European Union (DG-ECHO), France, Germany, Italy, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, United States of America, and private donors. Additional support has been provided by the Adaptation Fund, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, WFP Innovation Accelerator, the United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Peacebuilding and the SDG Fund.

Stories from the field

- [Watch](#) how WFP implements the School Feeding Programme in La Guajira and supports small-scale farmers of the region by purchasing products for the programme's implementation.
- [Learn](#) how WFP is working to indigenous communities in the Amazon region to build resilience to climate change and zero hunger.