



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Colombia Country Brief August 2025

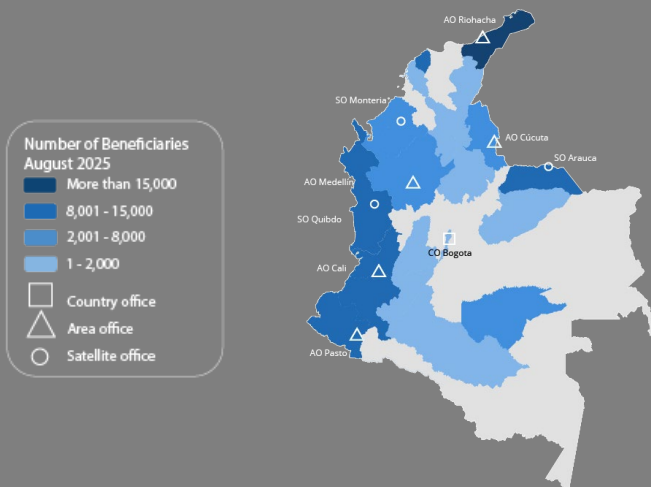


Operational Context

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).



Population: **53.4 million**

2025 Human Development Index:
83 out of 192

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **10.8 percent**

In Numbers

267 MT of food assistance distributed*

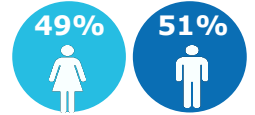
USD 3.16 million cash-based transfers made*

USD 45.3 million six months (September 2025 – February 2026) net funding requirements, representing 57 percent of total needs

176,278 people assisted*

In August 2025

*Preliminary figures



Operational Updates

In **August**, WFP assisted **over 139,600 Colombians**—including returnees, host communities, and internally displaced persons (IDPs)—and **36,600 migrants** across **14 departments**. **Key activities included:**

- **Emergency Response** - WFP support **more than 72,000 people** affected by conflict and weather-related events, including recently in the **Bajo Cauca region**, where ongoing violence has severely impacted local communities. WFP is also strengthening collaboration with local stakeholders to reach **over 8,000 people** affected by armed conflict—particularly in hard-to-reach areas—through **in-kind assistance**.
- **Mobile Units** - In coordination with the National Family Welfare Institute (ICBF), **WFP reached 22,581 people** affected by conflict and weather-related events—**59% of whom were children**.
- **Migration Response** - WFP assisted **41,500 migrants**, 70% of whom receiving cash-based transfers. Due to funding constraints, **two community kitchens in Norte de Santander and Nariño were closed**, affecting around 1,800 in-transit migrants per month, who will no longer receive hot meals.
- **Livelihoods and Resilience – The Labour Reconversion Project** in Nariño selected **101 people for training and employability initiatives**. Participants include indigenous communities, conflict victims, and persons with disabilities. In August, participants completed **soft skills workshops** and joined **Communication with Communities sessions**.
- **Climate Change Adaptation** - The **Productive Units for Self-Consumption Project**, implemented in partnership with the Colombian Department of Social Prosperity, **reached 9,300 households in 15 municipalities**. Activities included 1,860 community gatherings and 3,200 technical visits, delivering 130,500 chickens, 3,000 sheep, and 27,000 sacks of feed to promote sustainable farming. Additionally, 62 fairs facilitated knowledge exchange and strengthened local economies while supporting climate change adaptation.
- **School Feeding** - WFP provided **over 76,600 children**, including **7,275 migrants**, with **more than 1.4 million school meal rations** across **13 municipalities in La Guajira**.
- **Innovation and Social Protection** - Through its **Innovation Hub**, WFP supported the **pagadarios characterisation project**, offering guidance to local officials in **Cali and Bogotá**. *Pagadarios* refers to individuals who pay daily for rooms without a formal rental agreement, leaving them excluded from social protection programmes. WFP is helping design a **human-centred, replicable toolkit** to inform inclusive public policy.

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Photo caption: Family assisted during the emergency response to the floods in La Guajira. The World Food Programme delivered in-kind food assistance to the affected population. © Photo/ WFP Colombia

Country Strategic Plan (2025-2028)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
592.6 m	100.6 m	44.1 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

- OCHA reports that, as of 2025, **over 1.4 million people in Colombia have been affected by escalating violence and weather-related events**, already exceeding the total for all of 2024. This includes 597,000 individuals unreachable due to humanitarian access restrictions. The number of people impacted by violence has risen by 39% and those affected by weather-related events by 24% compared to 2024.
- Migración Colombia indicates that since January 2025, **authorities have identified 113,338 irregular migrants** transiting the country. **Migrant flows saw a 61% decrease from the same period in 2024**. Conversely, reverse migration from Panama has increased by 11% since February, with over 16,000 migrants returning to Colombia from Panama and Central America as of August.
- WFP monitoring results of its nutrition project in Quibdo, Chocó show that **92% of beneficiaries have improved their food consumption score** and resorted to fewer risky coping strategies. In participating children between 6-23 months, the project has improved their minimum complementary meal frequency, reducing the chances of malnutrition and stunting. Additionally, 87% of entrepreneurs supported by WFP indicated that the knowledge and support received has helped them to improve their income-generating abilities.

Challenges

- WFP is currently experiencing significant funding constraints for emergency operations. The existing budget will only sustain emergency programmes until October; without additional resources, critical crisis response activities will be interrupted. Assistance to communities affected by conflict, climate-related shocks, and migrants will be fully suspended after September and October, respectively—leaving over 600,000 people without essential life-saving support for the remainder of 2025. WFP urgently requires USD 36.5 million to maintain emergency response operations over the next six months.

Partnerships

- The Government of Colombia, through the Governorship of La Guajira contributed COP 1.026 billion (about USD 246,279) to the conservation and restoration of strategic ecosystems, and support efforts to safeguard natural resources and promote environmental sustainability in the department.
- The Honorable Randeep Sarai, Canada's Minister of International Development, conducted an official visit to Leticia, Amazonas within the framework of the Weaving Livelihoods of Life in the Colombian Amazon joint project with the Government of Canada, highlighting the commitment to strengthen cooperation and advance sustainable development initiatives in the region.
- WFP Colombia signed a partnership agreement with Fundación Promigas, which will coinvest resources in organizations selected by the Nourishing Peace Fund.

Stories from the field

- [Watch](#) how WFP is delivering humanitarian food assistance to people affected by conflict in the department of Guaviare.
- [Watch](#) a story from a WFP staff based in the field office in Cali as part of the World Humanitarian Day.

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.