

Interim country strategic plan revision

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela interim country strategic plan, revision 2

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	1 March 2023 – 31 December 2025	12-month extension	1 March 2023 – 31 December 2026
Beneficiaries	1,395,656	105,860	1,501,516
Total cost (USD)	455,828,888	- 43,172,077	412,656,811

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY FOR APPROVAL: CD

1. RATIONALE

- 1. Twenty-nine months after operationalizing the ICSP, food security remains a national priority for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (hereinafter referred to as Venezuela), considering challenges related to access to food, local food production and economic stability. Although the country experienced periods of gradual economic recovery, Venezuela continues to face a confluence of internal and external factors, including economic challenges, rising food prices, disruptions in the global supply chain, and weather-related risks, as well as limited access to international markets and investment.
- 2. Leveraging schools as a key entry point for its food security programmes, WFP gradually scaled up and diversified its food assistance operations to schools and targeted communities in the most vulnerable areas of the country. WFP provides food assistance through onsite hot meals or take-home rations at schools, general food assistance in vulnerable or shock-affected communities and supports the recovery of local communities with livelihood support, capacity strengthening, and emergency preparedness. By the end of 2024, the WFP had reached its highest scale of operations, delivering food assistance to over 880,000 people across 11 states, with the operational capacity to continue expanding its coverage.
- 3. However, the developments in the global humanitarian funding during the first trimester of 2025 represent important shortfalls for WFP Venezuela operations. Therefore, WFP proceeded with initial adjustments to its activities for the first semester of 2025 and a revision of its programme and operations plan for the second semester of 2025, to better reflect the reduced funding landscape.
- 4. From March to July 2025, WFP prioritized maintaining coverage, reaching 625,000 beneficiaries and ensuring continuity of assistance to existing beneficiaries while reducing the number of assistance days per month and adapting the food basket composition. Furthermore, capacity strengthening activities were reduced to the critical minimum. Although needs persist and may increase, WFP revised its implementation plan for the second semester of 2025 with a more targeted prioritization, moving from 11 states of



- coverage to 6 states, reducing beneficiaries from 811,000 to 431,800, and narrowing the scope of capacity strengthening activity.
- 5. Furthermore, Venezuela finalized an extended electoral period, having completed presidential, national assembly, state government and municipal government elections between July 2024 and July 2025. Venezuela is also updating its *Plan de la Patria*, highlighting seven transformations up to 2030. Considering this, the United Nations Resident Coordinator and the Venezuelan Government reached a consensus to extend the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation (UNSDCF) framework up to December 2026.
- 6. These conditions have made it necessary for WFP to revise its ICSP for 2025, which envisages a reduction in 2025 planned beneficiaries under SO1 and SO3, and a limited increase in overall beneficiaries, due to the inclusion of 2026 figures. The plan reflects changes in 2025 and allows WFP to align with the UNSDCF. Therefore, this revision aligns the ICSP more accurately in terms of beneficiaries, budget requirements, available resources, and interagency framework for operations in Venezuela. This revision covers the period from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2026.

2. CHANGES

Strategic orientation

7. There is no change in the strategic orientation.

CSP outcomes

- 8. Under ICSP Outcome 1, Activity 1, WFP carries out the school-based programme, its central activity in the country to reach vulnerable people in priority areas through integrated interventions. Through this activity, WFP provides food assistance for children, people with disabilities and school personnel enrolled in pre-primary, primary and specialized education schools, as well as the most vulnerable families of these students, through a combination of hot meals, take-home rations, and a nutrition-sensitive complement with Super Cereal Plus for children aged 6 to 36 months, enrolled in pre-primary schools. For 2025 and 2026, WFP will reduce its geographic coverage and planned beneficiaries, while maintaining food assistance days, modalities, and rations.
- 9. WFP has adjusted onsite food rations to reflect the current commodity voucher transfer value and introduced commodity voucher for take-home rations in one state. WFP also reduced the number of beneficiaries of food-for-training activities under this outcome to better reflect implementation figures and funding projections.
- 10. Furthermore, capacity strengthening activities such as community education sessions, trainings and school kitchen maintenance were reduced to a minimum to reflect the funding landscape trends.
- 11. Under ICSP Outcome 2, Activity 2, there is no change.
- 12. Under ICSP Outcome 3, Activity 3, WFP will continue to (i) strengthen institutional capacities for emergency preparedness, and (ii) implement its community-based food assistance and livelihood support interventions in targeted communities, in support of households' access to food. Furthermore, where needs are higher, community-based activities will complement school-based activities under ICSP Outcome 1, supporting families' access to food during the most critical months of the year. The increase in emergency food assistance is planned due to the increased risk of flooding in the country, as well as the activation of emergency school feeding in 2025-2026. As a result, WFP has included the alternative take-home ration (THR) within this activity.
- 13. WFP will maintain capacity strengthening transfers for (i) livelihood diversification support in targeted communities, and (ii) continuation of emergency preparedness actions.



- 14. Under ICSP Outcome 4, Activity 5, the provision of services and the capacity strengthening to national actors and institutions have been increased in line with the current implementation experience, in order to deliver on-demand training and technical assistance that complement the requested services and enhance partners' capacities.
- 15. <u>Targeting approach and beneficiary analysis:</u> no change is foreseen in WFP's overall approach as WFP will continue using a geographical and vulnerability-based targeting method, prioritizing municipalities with highest vulnerability according to the Humanitarian Response Plan.
- 16. <u>Transfer modalities</u>: WFP foresees a reduction in the total tonnage of commodities required from 2025 and the inclusion of beneficiary and tonnage requirements for 2026. This entailed redistributing the planned coverage requirements from 2025 to 2026. WFP has also adjusted the amount of commodity vouchers to better reflect planned implementation levels and immediate response food assistance needs. The value voucher pilot will be postponed to 2026 to better reflect the feasibility of implementing these modalities in the country's context and in accordance with identified beneficiary preferences.
- 17. <u>Country office capacity:</u> staff costs and scope were reduced according to the implementation framework and more moderate funding trends.
- 18. <u>Supply chain:</u> there are no changes to the overall Supply Chain strategy. However, Emergency Distribution Points were closed in states where distribution will not occur and, to maximize resources, WFP will fully outsource the distribution of all rations in one state through a retailer. The expectation is to reduce operational costs, support the local market, and strengthen the local private sector, in line with the overall Supply Chain strategy, and to continue prioritizing national procurement over international/regional procurement, where the market allows. WFP will maintain a contingency stock of food for 2 months to support people in communities affected by shocks.

Beneficiary analysis

19. Under Activity 1 and 3, although there is a reduction in 2025 planned beneficiaries, the total number of beneficiaries increased due to the inclusion of 2026 figures.

TABLE 1: BENEFICIARIES BY CSP OUTCOME						
CSP Outcome	Activity	Output	Period	2025	2026	ALL YEARS
LCSP Outcome 01 L	Activity 01	Output 01	Current	805,600		994,415
			Calculated Increased/Decreased	-88,636	358,500	78,000
			Revised	716,964	358,500	1,072,415
CSP Outcome 03		Output 04	Current	206,700		439,208
			Calculated Increased/Decreased	-21,900	156,300	92,908
			Revised	184,800	156,300	532,116
TOTAL without overlap		Current	1,008,125		1,395,656	
		Calculated Increased/Decreased	-167,361	487,900	105,860	
		Revised	840,764	487,900	1,501,516	

Note: Beneficiary table is imported from COMET.



3. COST BREAKDOWN

TABLE 2: COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)						
CSP Outcomes	01	02	03	04	TOTAL	
Focus Area	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Crisis Response	Resilience Building	IOIAL	
Transfer	- 31 115 781	- 4771000	991 136	439 407	- 34 456 237	
Implementation	- 6 611 292	- 51 342	2 167 520	- 38 340	- 4 533 454	
Direct support costs					- 1 515 133	
Subtotal					- 40 504 824	
Indirect support costs					- 2 667 253	
TOTAL					- 43 172 077	

TABLE 3: OVERALL CSP COST BREAKDOWN, FOLLOWING THE REVISION (USD)						
CSP Outcomes	01	02	03	04	TOTAL	
Focus Area	Resilience Building	Resilience Building	Crisis Response	Resilience Building	TOTAL	
Transfer	256 037 856	8 513 945	44 960 940	5 111 921	314 624 662	
Implementation	38 910 560	780 688	10 001 747	597 175	50 290 170	
Direct support costs	18 510 122	565 006	3 445 558	346 896	22 867 583	
Subtotal	313 458 538	9 859 639	58 408 245	6 055 992	387 782 415	
Indirect support costs	20 374 805	640 877	3 796 536	62 179	24 874 396	
TOTAL	333 833 343	10 500 516	62 204 781	6 118 171	412 656 811	