



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Colombia Country Brief September 2025

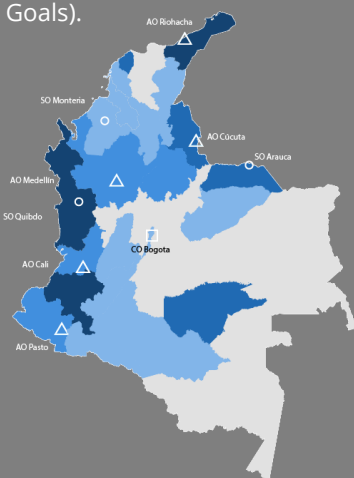


Food handlers from WFP's School Feeding Programme in La Guajira. In September, the World Food Programme reached 76,401 children through 1.57 million school rations. © Photo/ WFP Colombia

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 September 2025



Population: **53.4 million**

2025 Human Development Index:
83 out of 192

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **10.8 percent**

In Numbers

454 MT of food assistance distributed*

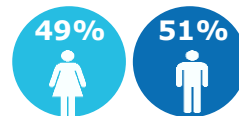
USD 3.59 million cash-based transfers made*

USD 49.8 million six months (October 2025 – March 2026) net funding requirements, representing 63 percent of total needs

196,165 people assisted*

In September 2025

*Preliminary figures



Operational Updates

In September, WFP reached over **169,400 Colombians** (including returnees, host communities and internally displaced persons - IDPs) and **26,763 migrants** across 18 departments. Some of the activities to highlight include:

- **Emergency Response - WFP reached over 57,000 beneficiaries through both in-kind and CBT, in response to armed conflict**, in eight departments. New emergency situations were addressed in Antioquia and Chocó, where increased violence by armed groups has severely impacted the livelihoods of communities. WFP successfully concluded the CERF-funded project in the El Catatumbo region, reaching about 22,000 beneficiaries through CBT and in-kind assistance.
- **Livelihoods and Resilience** – The Nourishing Peace Fund, supported by the Howard G. Buffet Foundation, launched its third call for proposals to strengthen productive and organizational capacities for small agricultural farmers of victims of conflict and ex combatants. The initiatives will contribute to the economic development of rural areas by providing physical assets to support socioeconomic reintegration and sustainable productivity, while promoting community dialogue and conflict resolution. To date the fund has benefitted 1,445 people. 51% of whom are peace signatories.
- **Migration** – In September, WFP reached **about 33,600 beneficiaries** as part of the migration response, of which 90 percent received cash-based transfers. **The operation closed one community kitchen in Nariño for in-transit migrants** due to the lack of funding. Distribution of food kits began in the last week of September in Nariño.
- **Socioeconomic Integration - The labour reconversion project in Nariño in conjunction with the Colombian Ministry of Mines continues to support 101 participants and their families** with food assistance and transport incentives, improving food security and access to training. 74 people attended employability workshops in four municipalities, covering job interviews, résumé writing, and job search strategies. WFP and its cooperating partner have strengthened ties with local companies to create job opportunities for participants.
- **School Feeding** – WFP reached more than 76,401 children (including 7,272 migrants) by distributing over 1.57 million school meal rations across 13 municipalities in La Guajira. WFP is also implementing a *Stop Hunger* project in 10 schools focusing on sustainable waste management within the School Feeding Program to reduce the environmental impact, promote circular economy practices, and train food handlers and students. By the end of 2025, 11,500 students and 60 food handlers will benefit.
- The Mobile Units project, coordinated with the National Family Welfare Institute (ICBF), reached **21,728 people affected by conflict and weather-related events. 57% of the beneficiaries were children.**

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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	104.9 m	49.8 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 **1.5 million people nationwide**, surpassing the total number of people affected throughout all of 2024. This number includes 879,000 people that could not be reached due to restriction in humanitarian access. People affected by violence have increased 74% in comparison to the same period of 2024 and people affected by weather-related events have increased 72%.
- According to Migración Colombia since January of 2025, **authorities detected 124,442 migrants without regular status transiting through the country**. Migrant flows have decreased 61% in comparison to the same period of 2024. In contrast, reverse migration flows from Panama have increased 31% since February as more migrants desists from migrating towards the north. As of September, more than 17,300 migrants have returned to Colombia from Panama and Central America.
- WFP monitoring results of the Production Units for Self-Consumption project in coordination with the Colombian Department of Social Prosperity show that **44% of beneficiary households do not use negative coping strategies after the project ended, an overall improvement of 17 percentage points**. Additionally, the **overall acceptable food consumption score among beneficiaries went from 88% to 94%**. Results also show an improvement in the frequent intake of legumes, cereals and proteins demonstrating the positive impact in the food security and nutrition of beneficiaries.

Challenges

- WFP is currently facing financial challenges for the implementation of climate-related emergencies. As of September, WFP has only been able to reach 8% of affected people by climate emergencies. Without additional funding, response to climate-relate events will face imminent pipeline breaks, leaving over 700,000 people without critical life-saving support until the end of 2025. WFP urgently needs USD 39 million to cover emergency response operations for the next six months.

Partnerships

- WFP received USD 8.4 million from the United States´ Department of State to respond to the food security needs of victims of armed violence in conflict affected areas of Colombia.
- The operation received a COP 240,873,000 (USD 61,560 approximate) contribution from Fundacion Promigas towards WFP´s Nourishing Peace Fund in Colombia.
- WFP and the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) signed a cooperation protocol with the intention to support key initiatives in Colombia in archiving zero hunger.

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

- [Learn](#) how WFP in coordination with the Colombian Department of Social Prosperity is delivering inputs for vulnerable smallholder farmers in Antioquia, Magdalena, Cauca, Bolivar and Chocó. This project contributes to improve food security and nutrition of rural communities while encouraging food production for self-consumption and the purchase of surpluses.
- [Watch](#) the Nourishment Peace Fund webinar and its third call for proposals to strengthen productive and organizational capacities for small agricultural farmers of victims of conflict and ex-combatants.