



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Colombia Country Brief October 2025

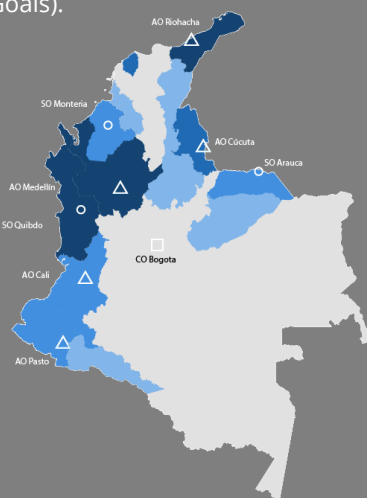
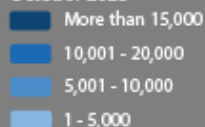


Field visit by WFP's Deputy Executive Director Cark Skau to beneficiaries of Early Recovery projects in Dibulla, La Guajira. © Photo/ WFP Colombia

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 October 2025



Population: **53.4 million**

2025 Human Development Index:
83 out of 192

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **10.8 percent**

In Numbers

469 MT of food assistance distributed*

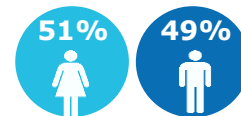
USD 2.9 million cash-based transfers made*

USD 45.3 million six months (November 2025 – April 2026) net funding requirements, representing 58 percent of total needs

189.377 people assisted*

In October 2025

*Preliminary figures



Operational Updates

In October, WFP reached over **161,600 Colombians** (including returnees, host communities and internally displaced persons - IDPs) and **27,700 migrants** across 15 departments. Some of the activities to highlight include:

- **Emergency Response - WFP reached over 66,100 beneficiaries through in-kind and CBT, in response to armed conflict and weather-related events**, in nine departments. New emergency situations were addressed in Antioquia, Chocó and Putumayo where increased violence by armed groups has severely impacted the livelihoods of communities. This situation is compounded by the impacts of weather-related events, especially in Antioquia and Putumayo where intensive rain and floods has destroyed critical infrastructure and damaged crops and people's livelihoods.
- **Early Recovery of Livelihoods** – In October, **WFP reached 2,124 people through its early recovery of livelihoods** strategy in five departments affected by armed violence and increased vulnerability. The interventions focused on improving food security, strengthen social cohesion, and reduce gender disparities. WFP started its early recovery project for 107 families in Medellín by strengthening food security through urban agroecological gardens, farmer field schools, and cash transfers.
- **Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience**– WFP continues the implementation of the “Weaving Livelihoods and Life” project in the departments of Caquetá, Putumayo, and Amazonas benefiting more than 12,000 people with participatory and sustainable actions. In October, Nature-Based Solutions were designed in Putumayo and Caquetá, and a pilot Early Warning System (EWS) was developed in Amazonas, strengthening communities' capacity to adapt to climate change.
- **Migration** – In October, WFP reached **about 33,200 beneficiaries** in the migration response of which 79 percent received cash-based transfers. Thanks to additional contributions from the US Department of State, the operation has enabled the continuity of assistance to migrant populations both with the intention to settle and without a permanent place of residence. WFP is planning to provide humanitarian assistance through hot meals and food rations for returned migrants in municipality of Necoclí as reversed flows continues to increase.
- **School Feeding** – **WFP reached more than 79,000 children (including 7,272 migrants) by distributing over 1.22 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 **20,151 people affected by conflict and weather-related events. 58% 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	115.12 m	45.3 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**, this is three times more than the total number of people affected in 2024. This number includes 1 million people with mobility restrictions due to curfews imposed by non-state armed groups. People affected by violence have increased 36% in comparison all of 2024 and people affected by weather-related events have increased 48%.
- According to Migración Colombia since January of 2025, **authorities detected 135,717 migrants without regular status transiting through the country**. Migrant flows have decreased 62% in comparison to the same period of 2024. In contrast, reverse migration flows from Panama have increased 45% since February as more migrants desists from migrating towards the north. As of October, more than 18,600 migrants have returned to Colombia from Panama and Central America.
- WFP monitoring baseline data for former miners in the socioeconomic transition projects in the municipality of Puracé, Cauca shows that **70% of beneficiary households use negative coping strategies to obtain food**, including borrowing money, reduce and postpone payments of essential needs, and spend long-time savings. Additionally, **the average per capita income is below the national poverty line of COP 435,375 (112 USD)**. This underscores the importance of this project to ensure that vulnerable communities obtain sustainable livelihoods and improve food security and nutrition.

Challenges

- WFP is currently facing financial challenges for the implementation of emergency response to climate events. By October, WFP has only reached 8% of the people in need of humanitarian assistance affected by disasters. With no resources for the ongoing rainy season, communities already destabilized by conflict face worsening food insecurity. WFP urgently needs USD 33.3 million to cover emergency response operations for the next six months.

Partnerships

- WFP received USD 4.6 million from the United States' Department of State to respond to the food security needs of vulnerable migrants, returnees, and host communities in Colombia.
- WFP received an additional contribution of COP 30,335,000,000 (USD 7.8 million) from the Secretaries of Education from La Guajira and Maicao to support the School Feeding Programme in the region.
- WFP received two contributions from the Colombian Government: one from the Colombian Institute for Family Well-being COP 645,658,225 (USD 166,000) to support the Mobile Units Project and assistance to conflict-affected populations. A contribution of COP 330,481,997 (USD 85,000) was received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to advance in socio-economic integration activities.
- WFP and the Departmental Government of Casanare signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen crisis response and advance food security initiatives in the department.

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](#) highlights from WFP's Deputy Executive Director Carl Skau visit to Colombia and some of the projects implemented by the operation in La Guajira
- [Watch](#) WFP's participation in the forum for the School Feeding Programme in Colombia led by Colombian Comptroller General Office