



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Guatemala



COUNTRY BRIEF

March 2026



8,938 people assisted in February 2026
(55percent female)



148,146 food rations in January-February 2026 prepared and prepositioned for the Government



USD 242,459 cash transferred in February 2026



USD 22.3 M required in the next six months
(March – August 2026)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In February 2026, WFP assisted 8,938 people in Alta Verapaz and Quiché through emergency assistance, capacity strengthening, and malnutrition prevention activities.
- In parallel, WFP prepared and pre-positioned 148,146 food rations (January–February 2026) to enable a rapid, Government-led emergency response.
- Ahead of the May–August lean season, WFP Guatemala faces a severe 87percent overall funding gap shortfall in the next 6 months (March–August 2026), heightening risks to food security and nutrition outcomes.
- WFP Guatemala’s Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2026–2030 was presented and approved by the WFP Executive Board in Rome.

Reporting Period: February 2026

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Guatemala is a multicultural country with over 40 percent inhabitants self-identifying as Indigenous Mayan.
- Despite its middle-income status, one in six people lives on less than USD 2 per day. Chronic malnutrition (stunting) among children aged 6–59 months remains among the most severe globally, affecting 1 in 2 children, and ranking fourth to sixth worldwide, the highest in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- In 2026, food insecurity remains a critical concern. [The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\) projections for February–April](#) indicate that up to 3 million people (approximately 16 percent of the population) are estimated to face acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) during this period, including nearly 250,000 in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).
- Moreover, [acute malnutrition levels among children under five](#) continue to be alarming. In the first two months of 2026, over 4,000 cases were reported, marking a 13 percent increase from the same period in 2025.
- Ahead of Guatemala’s May–August lean season, WFP Guatemala faces an 87 percent funding shortfall against its six month overall net funding requirements (March–August 2026) and a severe gap of 93 percent over the subsequent twelve months (March 2026–February 2027), underscoring the urgent need for additional flexible, humanitarian and development funding to prevent further deterioration in food security and nutrition outcome.

Photo Caption & Credit: Caption. WFP/Executive Board Session

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Cash-Based Transfer (CBT) Assistance

- In Alta Verapaz department, 8,012 individuals (55 percent women) affected by acute food insecurity and malnutrition, received emergency food assistance through unconditional CBT.

In-kind Food Assistance

- Between January and February 2026, WFP prepared and pre-positioned 148,146 food rations in support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), ensuring readiness to deliver timely emergency assistance to the most vulnerable populations.

Sustainable Food Systems

Resilience and Livelihood Support

- As part of WFP's resilient livelihood activities, 897 individuals (98 percent women and girls) attended capacity-strengthening sessions focused on sustainable agricultural production and entrepreneurship in Quiché and Alta Verapaz departments.

Malnutrition Prevention Support

- In the framework of malnutrition prevention activities, 24 individuals (58 percent women and girls) received nutrition monitoring and counselling support through a WFP-supported Nutrition Brigade in Alta Verapaz department.

LEARN MORE ABOUT WFP'S WORK

**HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP
IN GUATEMALA**

KARLA ARTEAGA
Jefa de bodega Zacapa
WFP Guatemala

+1 MILLÓN DE RACIONES AL AÑO
Asistencia para crisis y programas sociales

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STORIES FROM THE FIELD



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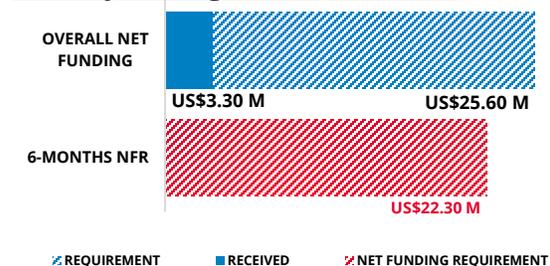
**NOURISHING RESILIENCE
IN ALTA VERAPAZ**

PARTNERSHIPS

- On 12 February, as part of a joint inter-agency initiative, [WFP convened a coordination workshop with CONRED](#) and MIDES to align Anticipatory Action (AA) and Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP) efforts.
- On 21 February, [WFP, in partnership with UNICEF, supported an official visit led by Vice President Dr. Karin Herrera that advanced a South-South and Triangular Cooperation \(SSTC\) learning exchange with Dominican Republic authorities through INAIPI](#), enabling structured dialogue on transferable good practices on early childhood development and adaptive social protection.
- Between 24 and 26 February, [WFP Guatemala Country Director and Representative](#), accompanied by the Vice President of Guatemala, [attended the First 2026 WFP Executive Board session in Rome](#) to present and secure approval of the WFP Guatemala's Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2026-2030, reinforcing the Government's high-level commitment to food security and nutrition.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2026-2030)



Donors CSP 2026-2030

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