



WFP Colombia Country Brief

April 2018

Operational Context

Colombia is one of the most unequal countries in the world, with a Gini index of 53.5 and a gender inequality index of 0.429. Sixty years of conflict has had a significant impact on the country's social, economic and political landscape, with more than 8 million victims. Despite progress on the implementation of the peace agreement, Colombia is still facing serious humanitarian challenges. WFP's strategy in Colombia is based on the premise that supporting the Government in reaching Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 2, will achieve an inclusive peace. WFP's strategy is aligned with priorities of the Government to address humanitarian, recovery, development and technical assistance needs. WFP has been present in Colombia since 1969.



Population: **1.1 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **148 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **31% of children between 6-59 months**

Main Photo

Credit: Liliana Canencia
Caption: A small farmers association gathering women victims of violence working in resilience activities in Arboletes, Antioquia.

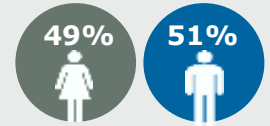
In Numbers

216 mt of food assistance distributed

721,582 USD cash based transfers made

USD 10.64 m six months (April – September 2018) net funding requirements

65,526 people assisted in April 2018



Operational Updates

- Despite the progress observed with by the gradual implementation of the peace agreement, violence continues to affect thousands of Colombians. Massive displacements, mobility restrictions and confinements affect communities, particularly on the Pacific Coast and border zones. In response to regional and local governments and to the Unit for Victims Assistance, WFP assisted 900 indigenous and Afrocolombian victims in the municipalities of Tumaco and Magüi Payán. Distribution activities were carried out jointly with local governments and ethnic authorities.
- Due to the economic crisis in Venezuela, 1.6 million people have migrated to neighbouring countries (IOM estimate). The primary drivers for migration are lack of access to food, medicine and functioning health services, in addition to violence (WFP & UNHCR Rapid Profiling, Colombia, 2017). Colombia is the country most affected by this influx, due to the vast and porous border with Venezuela. WFP is currently providing assistance to Venezuelan migrants and Colombian returnees, in particular vulnerable families, households headed by women with children, in the border departments of Norte de Santander, Arauca and La Guajira.
- WFP launched an initiative for strengthening the rural economy in partnership with the Government of Putumayo. This comprehensive intervention aims at strengthening productive systems, improving food security and promoting access to markets. The initiative implemented in 12 municipalities of Putumayo is expected to benefit more than 8,000 small producers and strengthen 300 productive units.

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WFP Colombia Strategy		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
Country Strategic Plan (2017-2021)		
109m	34.94 m	10.64 m
Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food		
Strategic Outcome 2: Access to food - Crisis-affected populations, including victims of violence, natural disasters and shocks, marginalized communities and vulnerable ethnic populations have adequate access at all times to nutritious foods and diversified diets, and are supported in establishing or improving their livelihoods		
26.69m	11.15m	1.52m
Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition		
Strategic Outcome 3: End Malnutrition - Communities and families have the capacities to prevent malnutrition in all its forms, with a focus on leaving nobody behind in marginalized urban and remote rural areas		
28.81m	6.42m	11.81m
Strategic Result 3: Smallholders have improved food security and nutrition through improved productivity and incomes		
Strategic Outcome 4: Smallholder productivity and income - Smallholder farmers (women and men) increase their production and marketing capacities sustainably		
3.95m	2.29m	0.01m
Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable		
Strategic Outcome 5: Sustainable food systems - Rural ethnic rural communities in vulnerable areas have increased capacity to recover from shocks and adapt to climate change		
6.17m	4.92m	0.03m
Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs		
Strategic Outcome 1: Capacity Strengthening - Local government and civil-society organizations have strengthened capacities to implement accountable programmes that contribute to reducing food insecurity and malnutrition.		
25.82m	1.78m	2.36m

WFP Country Activities

SO 1	Strengthen the capacities of territorial actors for planning, implementing and evaluating food and nutrition policies and programmes
	Develop and evaluate innovative food and nutrition models
	Support crisis-affected populations
SO 2	Implement home-grown school feeding, focusing on protection and targeting vulnerable children not covered by public programmes
	Provide food security and nutrition education and behaviour change communication
SO 3	Provide Technical support
	Implement school meals programmes in response to Government requests
SO 4	Provide technical support to rural smallholders
	Stimulate markets with WFP purchases
SO 5	Build resilience and enhance livelihoods

Monitoring

- The M&E team carried out monitoring activities to gather information on the implementation of capacity strengthening activities aimed at resilience and climate change adaptation at community level. WFP carried out interviews with key informants and focus group discussions.
- Based on the lessons learned from the complaints and grievance mechanism established in 2017 for the School Meals Programme in La Guajira, the country office is scaling up the mechanism for all its activities. The grievance mechanism is expected to be ready in June 2018.

Challenges

- Humanitarian challenges persist in Colombia due to the continued violence in the country. The slow implementation pace of the peace agreement is resulting in increased tension among illegal armed groups not involved in the peace process and FARC dissidents. The illegal crops substitution plan is a source of insecurity and tensions especially in the departments covered by WFP operations. Additionally, threats to and assassinations of social leaders and human rights defenders continued over the second quarter of 2017 and 2018.
- The migratory influx caused by the crisis with Venezuela is putting pressure on local governments responsible for ensuring security and the provision of basic services. Colombia is the country most affected; approximately 1 million persons have entered with the intention to stay. The UN expects at least an additional 0.5 million people to arrive until the end of 2018. A WFP profiling exercise undertaken in November-December 2017, provided additional evidence of vulnerability and food insecurity among migrant households in the three border departments of Arauca, La Guajira, and Norte de Santander. According to this exercise, approximately 30 percent of households were severely or moderately food insecure. In response to an official request of the Government for UN support, a UN Integrated Response Plan was finalized and submitted to the Colombian Government.

Donors

USA, Government of Colombia, Switzerland, Germany and Canada

