



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

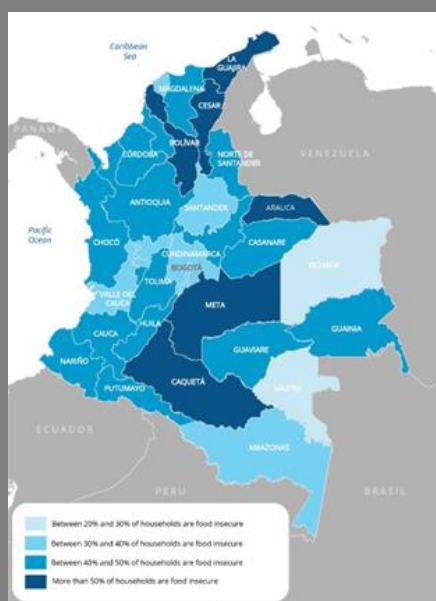
WFP Colombia Country Brief May 2022



Arhuaco children in Colombia © WFP/Colombia

Operational Context

The humanitarian context in Colombia is complex, with multiple risks and multi-dimensional challenges. Colombia's 50-year-long armed conflict resulted in 6.8 million internally displaced people (IDPs). While Colombia is on a path to peacebuilding and stabilisation, violence caused by armed groups linked to illegal economies still affects thousands of Colombians every year. The country has also become the most prominent host for Venezuelan migrants. Six million have already left, and more than 2 million are in Colombia. The COVID-19 crisis has further exacerbated the situation and impacts food security for both Colombians and migrants, especially for those who depend on informal labour or who are in extreme poverty. WFP supports the Colombian Government in achieving Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17. WFP's strategy is aligned with the Government's humanitarian, recovery, development, and capacity-strengthening priorities. The agency has been present in Colombia since 1969.



Population: **49.1 million**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Human Development Index:
83 out of 189 (2020)

Chronic malnutrition: **10.8%**

In Numbers

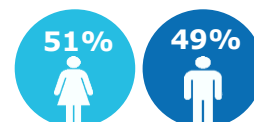
207.2 mt of food assistance distributed*

USD 6.4 m of cash-based transfers made*

USD 104.1 m six months (June - November 2022) net funding requirements, representing 77% of total

USD 87.6 m Emergency Response

336,683 people assisted*
in May 2022



*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- WFP operations and monitoring were briefly halted by an armed strike in early May in northern Colombia. WFP could not reach any schoolchildren with school meals for three days.
- In assistance to the Government in ensuring access to the social protection system, WFP has helped 155,784 Colombians and migrants to register in the system this year. WFP aims to support one million people if funding permits.
- WFP assisted 313,446 migrants and vulnerable Colombians (returnees, host communities, displaced people, victims, and ex-combatants) through multiple interventions:
 - 81,308 schoolchildren received meals, including 58,710 Colombian and 22,598 migrant children in La Guajira and Barranquilla. In June, WFP plans to reach nearly 28,000 migrants and over 57,000 Colombian children.
 - WFP assisted 24,475 Colombians affected by COVID-19 with in-kind and voucher assistance. Reached 8,373 vulnerable people affected by displacements and armed violence with food rations and in-kind assistance.
 - WFP successfully concluded its project (September 2021 to May 2022) with the World Bank, reaching 61,388 vulnerable migrants, host communities and Colombian returnees with one-time emergency cash transfers.

Monitoring

- Around 42 percent of people in Colombia are food insecure, as per WFP's recent data. Food insecurity levels have reduced since mid-2021. This trend, however, may reverse due to high levels of food inflation (26 percent higher food prices compared to May 2021).

Contact info: Tanja Koch (tanja.koch@wfp.org)

Country Director: Carlo Scaramella

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Colombia

Country Strategic Plan (2021-2024)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
654.3 m	223.8 m	104.1 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 2: Venezuelan migrants, Colombian returnees and members of host communities receive humanitarian assistance, equitable access to quality differential services and expeditious and massive access to the labour market and entrepreneurship options, with a focus on food security and nutrition, with the support of WFP and in coordination with the United Nations country team, as a complement to the efforts of the Colombian Government.

Activities:

- Provide humanitarian assistance and access to services.
- Strengthen institutional capacities and provide support.

Strategic Outcome 3: The public policies, institutional capacity, systems and services for the promotion of food security, nutrition and social inclusion are technically strengthened, and vulnerable populations have access to adequate and nutritious food throughout the year for the acceleration of catalytic SDGs, in particular SDG 2, with the support of WFP and in coordination with the United Nations country team, as a complement to the efforts of the Colombian Government.

Activities:

- Support the Government and territorial entities in strengthening their capacity and strategies.
- Provide technical assistance and support for school feeding.
- Provide food and nutrition assistance, including strengthening the social protection system.

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 1: By 2024, people and communities in a situation of food vulnerability in the PDET municipalities prioritized by the Government improve their quality of life by strengthening their resilience and sustainable livelihoods, and local governments strengthen their capacities, contributing to the stabilization and consolidation of the territories, with the support of WFP and in coordination with the United Nations country team, as a complement to the efforts of the Government.

Activities:

- Provide food assistance through conditional transfers and asset building to ensure the transition from humanitarian assistance towards self-sustainability and development phase activities.
- Provide technical assistance for strengthening livelihoods, ensuring food self-sufficiency and the generation of surpluses for markets.
- Strengthen the social cohesion, prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) and leadership capacities of the livelihoods and resilience beneficiaries.
- Support the most vulnerable people to manage and reduce climate-related risks to food security and adapt to climate change.

- WFP started planning its 2022 emergency food security assessment (EFSA) to be carried out in 13 departments. The EFSA will collect food security and nutrition data of migrants, Colombian returnees, and host communities to update WFP's understanding, inform its operations and provide evidence-based data for inter-agency cooperation.

Partnerships

- USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance announced a USD 15 million top-up to WFP to assist migrants with cash-based interventions.
- Canada is funding WFP with USD 1.4 million for its crisis response operations. These funds will enable WFP to provide school meals to vulnerable migrant children.
- United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund confirmed USD 1.1 million for six months for emergency food assistance to address the acute food needs of over 13,000 people in need in Chocó, in partnership with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Pan American Health Organization.

Challenges

- With all-time high levels of food inflation and its operational costs increasing, WFP's funding shortfalls are impacting its ability to maintain its operations and reach vulnerable Colombians and migrants.
- School feeding for migrant children remains underfunded and has been impacted throughout 2022, reaching fewer than 50 percent of migrant children with school meals than in 2021 (60,000 unique beneficiaries in 2021 compared to 29,400 in 2022).
- WFP requires USD 104.1 million to maintain its planned operations to assist the same number of vulnerable people over next six months.

Donors

Canada, Colombia, European Union (DG-ECHO), France, Germany, Italy, Republic of Korea (the), Switzerland, United States of America, World Bank, and private donors.

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