



# WFP Ecuador Situation Report #6

Date 17 May 2016

## In Numbers

**105,000** people assisted in first month

**161,000** targeted for WFP food assistance over three months

## Highlights

- On 16 April 2016 at 06:58 pm local time, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck the northern coast of Ecuador.
- The death toll has climbed to 660 people.
- WFP has activated an L2 emergency
- One month after the earthquake, WFP’s operations remain critically underfunded.

## Funding Update

### Requirements Ecuador EMOP 200665

- On 22 April, WFP launched an Emergency Operation (EMOP) 200655 and a logistics Special Operation (SO) for a period of three months (April to July 2016).
- Based on early findings of the food security assessments, WFP is planning to reach 161,000 people for a period of 3 months at a value of USD 14.2 million. The SO is valued at USD 2 million.

## Situation Update

- Government reports indicate 660 people killed, 13 missing, 113 rescued and 560 schools affected. Approximately 30,000 people are in shelters.
- A state of emergency was declared in the provinces of Esmeraldas, Santo Domingo, Manabí, Guayas, Los Ríos and Santa Elena. Pedernales town in the Manabi province was declared “disaster zone”, while a state of exception was declared nationwide to preserve security.
- The authorities immediately activated emergency protocols and the national Emergency Operations Centre. The military and police have been deployed to assist in the response.
- The government appealed for United Nations assistance. On 19 April, the Government of Ecuador requested WFP to provide food assistance to 520,000 people in the earthquake-affected provinces of Manabí and Esmeraldas.



**Ecuador: Earthquake Emergency Response**

## WFP Response

- WFP has distributed food assistance to more than 105,000 people in shelters, hospitals and communities.
- For the first time in Latin America, WFP is responding to an emergency through an existing government’s social safety net programme. WFP plans to reach the affected population with cash-based transfers through the Government of Ecuador’s platform which handles the cash transfers to vulnerable households.
- Additionally, WFP’s Special Operation (SO) provides logistics support and associated services to ensure that food assistance and other non-food humanitarian items arrive to earthquake-affected people.

Photo credit WFP/Alejandro Lopez Chicheri



## Food Assistance

- In line with the government's plan, the response strategy focuses on cash-based transfers. WFP will provide a monthly USD100 transfer to families. This modality will boost local economies and help people rebuild their livelihoods.
- WFP's cash transfers will complement the government's support for rent and utilities for families hosting affected persons.
- WFP's ongoing protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 200701 "Integration of Refugees and Persons Affected by Conflict in Colombia" has an emergency preparedness and relief component that was being used to support WFP's initial response.



## Logistics

- WFP logistic services include coordination, information management and emergency storage.
- WFP has organized three airlifts to support the emergency response, two of them with UPS Foundation support, to transport WFP operational equipment and other humanitarian cargo for humanitarian actors and the Government of Ecuador.
- Logistics centres have been established in Pedernales, Manta and Quito. WFP's temporary emergency storage service, which includes approximately 4,800 square meters of storage facilities and workspaces, is available to humanitarian actors. Due to lack of funding, WFP is looking into charging partners for service provision.
- In order to support the government, WFP established a mobile warehouse in Portoviejo that was loaned to the government for three months to augment its capacity to respond to the emergency.
- WFP has established two new temporary field offices in Pedernales and Manta and assigned a team to Portoviejo. WFP's existing field office in Esmeraldas also supports the emergency.
- Road access maps, meeting minutes, guidelines and other logistics information may be found on the website <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ecu16>.

## Partnerships

- WFP is working in close coordination with the Government of Ecuador.

- Under the coordination of the Humanitarian Country Team, IOM, FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, WHO-PAHO, UNHCR, UNESCO, UN Women, WFP, Red Cross and NGO partners are participating in the emergency response. WFP leads the Food Security and Logistics Sectors of the Humanitarian Country team.

## Resourcing Update

- Thus far, USD 3,300,000 has been secured to support the EMOP. No funds have been confirmed against the SO.
- WFP thanks the private sector, CERF and ECHO for contributing and appeals to other donors to support.
- More than USD 8 million was allocated to the EMOP from WFP's internal financing mechanisms as well as USD 1 million to the SO. While this has allowed the Country Office to respond in a timely manner, these funds need to be revolved.
- One month after the earthquake, the EMOP and SO remain critically underfunded.

### Story from the field

Among those affected was WFP's Jorge Arteaga. After the earthquake, Jorge came to work knowing that his cousin and family were missing. He was assigned to the Emergency Operations Committee, crucial for coordinating WFP's initial response. Jorge said "it is a pleasure to serve those in need and be part of an organization providing humanitarian relief. That is WFP, and only today I truly understand that". The search for his missing family members continued and although work made the time pass quickly, it was a stressful period for Jorge. Unfortunately two days after the earthquake while heading for lunch, Jorge heard the dreadful news that his cousin and family had died. "It was the news I had hoped would never come". WFP is eternally grateful to Jorge for his dedication to his job and supporting those most in need.

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## WFP Operation

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received * (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements (in USD)	People Reached (current distribution cycle)
<b>EMOP 200665</b>	14.2 m	3.3m	10.9m ( 3 months)	105,000
<b>Special Operation 200972</b>	2.0 m	0.0 m	2.0 m (3 months)	N/A
<b>Ecuador PRRO 200701</b>	19.3 m	8.2 m	2.1 m (6 months)	184,000

\*This table does not include funds allocated from WFP's internal financing mechanisms