



WFP Ecuador Situation Report #8

Date 24 June 2016

In Numbers

105,000 people assisted in first month

4,900 people received their first cash transfer in June

108,000 people will receive cash transfers over next 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 activated an L2 emergency.
- Ten weeks after the earthquake, WFP's operations remain critically underfunded.

Funding Update

- 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).
- WFP plans to provide assistance to 161,000 people at a value of USD 14.2 million.
- Logistics activities to ensure that food assistance and other non-food humanitarian items arrive to earthquake-affected people were reduced to USD 750,000.

Situation Update

- Government reports indicate 663 people killed, 9 missing, 113 rescued and 560 schools affected.
- The state of exception declared by the Government was extended by a second month in the provinces of Esmeraldas, Santo Domingo, Manabí, Guayas, Los Ríos and Santa Elena.
- The authorities immediately activated emergency protocols and the national Emergency Operations Centre. The military and police are assisting in the response.
- WFP's Emergency Food Security Assessment found that two-thirds of the population affected by the earthquake are in food insecurity. As the earthquake has affected the main income source of the population, families need to limit the number of meals eaten per day, and reduce the quantity and diversity of their food.
- As part of the Ecuador Reconstruction Plan, in order to encourage families to leave shelters and informal camps and start rebuilding their livelihoods, the Government of Ecuador is providing a monthly economic incentive of USD 150 to families hosting people affected by the earthquake. In collaboration with the government, WFP complements this assistance by providing a cash transfer of USD 100.



Ecuador: Earthquake Emergency Response

WFP Response

- For the first time in Latin America, WFP is responding to an emergency with cash transfers through the national social protection platform providing transfers to vulnerable households. WFP and the government are jointly monitoring the provision of assistance.
- Thus far, WFP has distributed food assistance to more than 105,000 people in shelters, hospitals and communities. In addition, 4,900 people have received their first cash transfer in June.



Food Assistance

- WFP signed a memorandum of understanding with the Government of Ecuador to implement the emergency operation providing monthly cash transfers to beneficiaries for three months. Cash transfers boost the local economy and help people rebuild their livelihoods. The first monthly cash transfer of USD 100 was distributed on 4 June.
- WFP is training staff of the Ministry of Social and Economic Inclusion to sensitize families on the best use of the cash transfer for the purchase of nutritious foods, healthy eating and hygiene practices.
- 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 used to support WFP's initial response.



Logistics

- Logistics centres were 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.
- The need for WFP's emergency storage service remains high, especially due to strong aftershocks on 18 May that further damaged infrastructure in the affected areas. However, due to lack of funding, WFP can no longer offer this service free of charge and has shifted to a full-cost recovery model.
- WFP is loaning two mobile warehouses to the government in Portoviejo and Pedernales to support their capacity to respond to the emergency.
- WFP has opened two temporary field offices in Pedernales and Manta and has assigned a team to Portoviejo. WFP's existing field office in Esmeraldas also supports the emergency.
- WFP's strategy on how to transfer SO activities to government authorities by 20 July has been officially received by the Coordinating Ministry of Security. It includes strengthening of stakeholders' capacity to respond in emergencies and transfer of infrastructure and equipment to the government.

Partnerships

- WFP is working in close coordination with the Government of Ecuador. A working group between WFP and the Ministry of Social and Economic Inclusion was established for the coordination of activities.
- Under the coordination of the Humanitarian Country Team, WFP, other UN agencies and NGO partners are participating in the emergency response. WFP leads the logistics sector and co-leads the food security sector with FAO.

Resourcing Update

- Thus far, USD 5.2 million has been secured to support the EMOP and USD 642,000 has been secured for the SO.
- WFP thanks the private sector, CERF, ECHO, USAID, Korea and multilaterals for their contributions and appeals to other donors for support.
- Ten weeks after the earthquake, the EMOP and the SO remain underfunded.

Story from the field

As nine-month pregnant Mayra, her little boy and her husband César walk to BanEcuador bank to collect the cash transferred by WFP, they pass by the debris of what used to be their house.

With the 100 dollars received at the bank, they head for the food store. Today, they will have homemade tuna salad for lunch. While Mayra is preparing for the baby, Cesar is looking at possibilities to receive credit to recuperate his business selling repair parts for computers and mobile phones, the main source of income for the young family.

Contacts:

- Kyungnan Park, Country Director—kyungnan.park@wfp.org
- Gabriela Malo, Communications Officer—gabriela.malo@wfp.org

WFP Operation

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received * (in USD)	Net Funding Requirements (in USD)	People Reached (current distribution cycle)
EMOP 200665	14.2 m	5.2 m	9.0 m (3 months)	105,000 (vouchers) 4,900 (cash transfers)
Special Operation 200972	750,000	642,000	114,000 (3 months)	N/A
Ecuador PRRO 200701	19.3 m	9.1 m	2.1 m (6 months)	94,528

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