



WFP Bolivia Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Bolivia Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
CP 200381 (Jan 13 – Dec 17)	12.9 m	1.2 m (9%)	-

*December 2017 - May 2018

The Country Programme (CP) was designed in consultation with the Bolivian Government. It is in line with the Country Strategy Document (2011), the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2013-2017, Bolivia's National Development Plan and the new Political Constitution.

The overall objective of the CP is to strengthen local and national capacities to break the intergenerational cycle of hunger. Specifically, WFP aims to:

- enhance food and nutrition security by improving education, nutrition and health throughout the life cycle;
- strengthen communities' resilience by mitigating shocks and adapting to climate change;
- link the demand of local food-based assistance programmes to small farmers, thereby transforming food and nutrition assistance into productive investments in local communities; and
- strengthen Government capacity to design, manage and implement tools, policies and programmes for assessing and reducing hunger.

These objectives are to be reached through the three components of the CP:

1. sustainable and productive school feeding;
2. strengthening of government nutrition programmes; and
3. livelihood development and disaster risk reduction.

All components include capacity development and augmentation activities to support the Government to manage its own food based programmes and strengthen the implementation of food security and sovereignty policies.

Main Photo Credit: WFP/José Velasco
Caption: A boy paints a wall on the occasion of the 16 Days of activism against gender-based violence, in La Paz.

Highlights

- WFP works on its Country Strategic Plan for the period 2018–2022. Since Bolivia is a middle income country, WFP will progressively move away from direct food assistance to achieving zero hunger by providing technical support.
- Partnerships will be at the heart of WFP's assistance in Bolivia: the agency will enhance North-South and South-South cooperation by supporting national plans to eradicate hunger and fight malnutrition.

Operational Updates

- A mission to the department of Tarija assessed the impact of the home-grown school meals pilot project. Some 30 schools were visited and interviews were held with all relevant stakeholders. Results show appropriation and commitment from municipal authorities to continue delivering locally produced foods under their school feeding programme.
- WFP built the capacity of local authorities from 17 municipalities in the department of Oruro so that they are able to buy food from local producers, in the framework of their social protection programmes. At the same time, local producers exhibited their transformed foods and shared experiences.
- On the occasion of the 16 Days of activism against gender-based violence (25 November–10 December), the CO organized workshops at schools and wall-painting activities with the support of a local artist.
- WFP continues to work on the first Vulnerability Assessment Mapping focused on urban areas in Bolivia.



Credit: WFP/Morelia Erostequi
Caption: WFP Country Director, Elisabeth Faure, dances with a local representative of Pampa Aullagas (Department of Oruro) during the partner mission on 16 November.

Challenges

Severe funding shortfalls currently jeopardise WFP activities in Bolivia. The Country Office works on expanding its donor base targeting non-traditional donors, focusing on South-South cooperation and participating in UN joint initiatives.

WFP held a comprehensive process of consultations and workshops with government entities and development partners in order to identify common grounds and cooperation opportunities.

Partnerships

WFP invited several development partners to visit its home-grown school meals project in Oruro. This provided them with first-hand understanding of how smallholder farmers sell their produce to public protection programmes. WFP is gradually shifting towards this more sustainable, farmer-to-market approach.

The UN Human Security Trust Fund shortlisted the proposal submitted by UNICEF, UNFPA, UN WOMEN and WFP. The programme "Improving the human security of women, young girls and children in the Northern Bolivian Amazon" seeks to promote alternative livelihood opportunities in a region that is largely dependent on Brazil nut harvesting. Should funding become available, indigenous people – mostly women and children – will benefit from this programme.

Impact of Limited Funding

Funding shortfalls resulted in the halt of all nutrition and livelihood activities in April 2016. Only school meals activities continue, reaching 30,800 children out of the 40,000 planned.



Credit: WFP/José Velasco

Caption: All programme staff and field monitors participated in a training on SCOPE, a cloud-based solution used for beneficiary registration, intervention setup, distribution planning, entitlement transfers and distribution reporting.

Country Background & Strategy



Despite the encouraging progress on the social and macroeconomic front, the Plurinational State of Bolivia still faces major development challenges. 39 percent of the population live below the poverty line (UDAPE 2015). The level of undernourishment is 15.9 percent, the highest in South America (SOFI, 2015). On the Global Hunger Index, Bolivia scores 16.9, the highest score in South America and third in the LAC region after Haiti and Guatemala.

WFP's support in the country is designed around three main objectives: i) the strengthening of food and nutrition interventions throughout the life cycle, particularly for the most food insecure populations; ii) humanitarian assistance, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation; and iii) the promotion of diversified food production, dietary diversity and marketing conditions favourable to smallholder farmers. WFP also supports key government social protection strategies such as the Complementary School Feeding Law to enhance education and the local economy, and the Bono Juana Azurduy programme to support the health and nutrition of pregnant women and infants.

WFP's programmes are in line with the recently approved national Five-Year Development Plan 2020 that emphasizes the need for the social development of vulnerable populations.

WFP has been present in Bolivia since 1963.

Population: **11.4 million**

2016 Human Development Index:
118 out of 188

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **16% of children under 5**