



# WFP Ecuador Country Brief

## Highlights

- Ecuador Country Office is ready to start its operation within the framework of its new Country Strategic Plan. Staff members have received training and the new CSP will officially start on 01 April.
- During the "Social Development Report 2007-2017" event, WFP Country Director, Kyungnan Park, emphasized the importance of international cooperation for the articulation and development of social public policies in the past 10 years.
- WFP Ecuador with WFP Peru facilitated the exchange of technical assistance between the Governments of Ecuador and Peru to support the emergency response after heavy rains.

## WFP Assistance

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
<b>Integration of Refugees and Persons Affected by Conflict in Colombia</b>			
PRRO 200701 (Jan 15 – Dec 17)	19.3 m	13.4 m (69%)	2.1 m (72%)
<b>Enhancing Resilience to the Adverse Effects of Climate Change</b>			
Trust Fund 200357 (Nov 11 – May 18)	7.4 m	6.7 m (91%)	N/A

\*April – September 2017

**PRRO 200701:** The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation aims to promote healthier, more balanced diets for Colombian refugees residing in Ecuador. WFP supports school feeding activities, women empowerment and the strengthening of protection networks for women. As Colombian refugees and Ecuadorian host communities share similar needs and poor food consumption patterns, activities are carried out in both communities to promote integration and reduce tensions. WFP provides cash based transfers (CBT) to improve the food and nutrition security of targeted populations with an emphasis on families with young children.

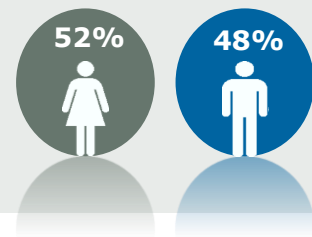
**Trust Fund 200357:** WFP started the Trust Fund (FORECCSA project) in 2011 upon the request of the Ministry of Environment. The project targets 15,000 families and seeks to address the food security impact of climate-related disasters. The overall goal is to reduce food insecurity and vulnerability linked to the adverse effects of climate change in the most affected communities and ecosystems with an emphasis on women’s empowerment. The project is implemented in partnership with the ministries of Environment and Agriculture, the Jubones River Basin Public Consortium and the Provincial Government of Pichincha.

**Country Strategic Plan 2017-2021:** Starting on April 1st, following the approval of the Executive Board, the Country Strategic Plan for Ecuador will position WFP as a strategic and public policy partner. WFP will support the Government’s efforts to achieve SDGs 2 and 17 through four outcomes based on its Strategic Results Framework related to: access to food, smallholder productivity, sustainable food systems, and capacity strengthening. Each strategic outcome includes activities corresponding to government priorities and WFP’s experience and expertise. The five-year strategy envisages a decrease in WFP’s direct implementation of programmes and the progressive hand-over of activities to the Government.

## In Numbers

**25,400**  
People Assisted

March 2017



## Operational Updates

- Country Director, Kyungnan Park, shared with HQ her insights on the Integrated Road Map (IRM) as Ecuador is one of the eight countries with Country Strategic Plans approved during the last Executive Board.
- Country Director met with the US Ambassador to provide further details related to the implementation of the approved Country Strategic Plan 2017-2021.
- Country Director met with KOICA to agree on the transition process of the Korean contribution into the new Country Strategic Plan.
- The National Steering Committee of the FORECCSA project met to analyse and approve the 2017 annual plan on climate change and food security.
- The Undersecretary for Climate Change, María Victoria Chiriboga, visited the adaptation measures of the FORECCSA project that benefit 1,800 families in the provinces of Azuay and Loja. During her visit, an agreement for inter-institutional cooperation for the implementation of an adaptation measure was signed in Victoria del Portete Parish.
- WFP participated in the launch event of the "Social Development Report 2007-2017" organized by the Coordinating Ministry of Social Development. This report documents public social policies implemented during the last decade. The event also presented the Integrated System of Knowledge and Social Statistics (SiCES), an interactive tool containing updated information on the social sector and results of policies, programs and social services in Ecuador.
- Given the declaration of the state of emergency due to heavy rains, WFP Ecuador and WFP Peru arranged a teleconference with the relevant Social Ministries of both countries to provide insight on Ecuador's emergency assistance model using a government social protection platform.
- The article "Small-holder farmers support school meals in Ecuador" was published in WFP's Exposure platform. This article shows how small-holder farmers are linked to school meals programmes in Ecuador.

## Challenges

- WFP Country Office is preparing to start the implementation of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) in April 2017.
- Ecuador is facing polarization and demonstrations from both government supporters and the opposition running up to the second round for Presidential Elections to be held on 02 April.
- WFP continues to discuss with the Ecuadorian Central Bank the feasibility of developing a pilot project to use e-money to deliver food assistance.

## Country Background & Strategy



Ecuador is an upper middle-income country; 63 percent of the Ecuadorian population live in urban areas. Income inequality is high as evidenced by a Gini coefficient of 0.48 (National Institute of Statistics and Census – INEC 2015). Gender Based Violence affects six out of ten women (2015). The influx of refugees from Colombia has added to the demographic mix and has exacerbated social tensions. The northern border area is designated as Security Level 3 while the rest of the country is designated as Level 2.

The country is prone to natural disasters, including droughts, floods, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. Average temperatures increased by 1°C over the last 30 years. On 16 April 2016, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck the northern coast of Ecuador affecting Manabí and Esmeraldas Provinces. The Government reported 663 casualties and thousands of affected people.

WFP's goal in Ecuador is to be an innovative partner, supporting government policies and priorities as well as contributing to food sovereignty, food security and nutrition of vulnerable people, and gender equality.

WFP has been present in Ecuador since 1964.

Population: **14.5 million**

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

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **23.9% of children under five**

## Donors

United States of America, Republic of Korea, Adaptation Fund, ECHO, Private donors, Multilateral.