



WFP Guatemala Country Brief

Highlights

- In 2016, WFP Guatemala supported 627,400 food-insecure people of which 90 percent under its protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO). Cash-based transfers (CBT) were provided to 24,000 households.
- In close collaboration with the Government, WFP builds long-term resilience of vulnerable communities affected by natural disasters and climate change.
- Nutrition education, women empowerment and institutional capacity building are integrated into all WFP interventions. WFP promotes the principles of equality, no discrimination, transparency and accountability among its implementing partners.

WFP Assistance

Country Programme	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Guatemala 200641 (Jan.2015-Dec.2019)	22 m	16.7 m (76%)	n.a.

*August-January 2018

Restoring Food Security and Livelihoods for Vulnerable Groups Affected by Recurrent Shocks in CA countries	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Regional PRRO 200490 (Jan.2014-Dec.2017)	63 m	42 m (67%)	n.a.

*August-January 2018

The country programme (CP) has three components: i) to prevent and reduce malnutrition among children aged 6-23 months by providing specialized nutritious foods and nutrition education; ii) to build resilience and reduce vulnerability in disaster-prone communities through food assistance for assets creation; and iii) to build smallholder farmers' capacity to respond to market demands.

CP component 1 prevents malnutrition among children aged 6-23 months through the provision of the specialized nutritious food Super Cereal Plus, known locally as *Mi Comidita*, along with a community nutrition education strategy in support of the "1000 Days Window of Opportunity" interventions of the Health Services.

CP C2 makes livelihood more resistant to climate-related shocks through food assistance for assets, and risk management through technical assistance and the involvement of local government entities. Targeted food insecure households receive food or cash-based transfers (CBT) as an incentive for their participation in asset creation activities.

The Joint Programme (JP) "Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in the Polochic Valley" falls under the CP. It is led by WFP, in collaboration with UN Women, FAO and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The programme aims at increasing the quantity and quality of staple grain production.

PRRO supports the Government's drought response plan and provides food assistance in the form of food and/or CBTs to food insecure populations as an incentive to participate in asset creation and to stimulate the local economy. To facilitate emergency response planning, the Government embraces WFP's food security assessment methodologies, resilience building approach, and conditional food assistance for assets creation. People assisted through this programme include small farmers or seasonal workers without food reserves; households relying on agriculture as their main income; households with more than 50-75 percent of staple grain losses. Households led by women or with a pregnant or nursing mother and/or children under 5 at risk of malnutrition are prioritized for assistance.

In Numbers

(Emergency Food Security Assessment September 2016)

2 m people affected by drought

900,000 people in need of food assistance

566,000

People Assisted

(Jan. - Dec. 2016)



Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Irina Ruano. Mr. Thomas Duffy, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires and Representative to UN Agencies in Rome holding a focus group discussion in the community Corazon de Maiz in Alta Verapaz, regarding the JP on "Economic Empowerment of Rural Women."

Operational Updates

- Within the PRRO 200490, WFP reached 6,000 drought-affected households in the departments of Quiché and Chiquimula. Within the Country Programme, WFP continued supplying specialized nutritious foods to 17,500 children aged 6-23 months for the prevention of stunting, and cash-based transfers to 3,000 households for resilience building.

Capacity Development

- In addition to food assistance, South-South Triangular Cooperation (SSC) between Chile/Guatemala/WFP supports the use of biofortified maize and bean seeds among smallholder farmers in organizations assisted under the Purchase-for-Progress initiative.

Looking Ahead

- WFP Guatemala advocates for Zero Hunger in the context of its ongoing operations and the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2018-2021, fully aligned with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2 and 17, and the UN Development Assistance Framework. WFP supported the Planning Secretariat of the Presidency along the country appropriation process of SDGs which ended with the signature of a National Commitment on 6 July 2017. WFP will also support the implementation of SDGs.
- Following the launching of the National Zero Hunger Strategic Review on 23 June 2017, the Guatemala country office finalized the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) to be submitted for approval to the Executive Board in November 2017.
- WFP will continue to strengthen capacities of government institutions and their technical staff to ensure the sustainability and scaling up of WFP-supported interventions within national strategies, policies and plans.
- WFP food assistance using vouchers will be further developed relying on local retail networks and market fairs.

Partnerships

- WFP closely coordinates policy and operational issues with the Presidential Commission for the Reduction of Chronic Malnutrition; the Food Security and Nutrition Secretariat (SESAN); the ministries of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), Public Health and Social Assistance (MSPAS) and Social Development (MIDES); and the National Coordination Committee for Disaster Reduction (CONRED).
- As part of the UNDAF 2015-2019, WFP participates in the UN inter-agency groups of Sustainable Development and Social Development, and the Task Force on Unaccompanied Migrant Children. WFP leads the UN Technical Emergency Team (UNETE) and the UN Information and Communication Technologies Group.

Country Background & Strategy



Guatemala has the highest stunting rate in Latin America and the Caribbean, and ranks among the five countries with the highest prevalence in the world. Chronic undernutrition is strongly correlated with poverty, poor living conditions, low education levels, and inappropriate nutrition/feeding practices.

Guatemala is one of the 10 countries categorized as most susceptible to climate change, and the fourth most vulnerable to natural disasters in the region. Over the past two years, the prolonged dry spells led to reduced harvests or complete crop failures of maize and beans, which has critically affected subsistence farmers.

WFP's assistance aims: (i) to address the multiple dimensions and underlying causes of food and nutrition insecurity through the integrated approach of its Country Programme, collecting evidence on the impact of interventions under the 1000 Days Window of Opportunity, and promoting national ownership and scale-up of best practices; and (ii) to meet the immediate food needs and reduce acute malnutrition among the most vulnerable food insecure households and communities affected by shocks, and support the restoration of their livelihoods.

WFP has been present in Guatemala since 1974.

Population: **16.34 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
128 out of 188

Income Level: **Middle income**

Chronic malnutrition: **47% among children aged 6-59 months**

Donors

Development: Canada, Chile, European Commission, Norway, Sweden, SDG-F (Spain)

Emergency: Brazil, Canada, European Commission, Germany, Guatemala, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, USA and UN CERF.

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