



WFP Paraguay Country Brief

Highlights

- On 22–25 July, a DIPECHO’s mission from the Regional Bureau in Latin America and the Caribbean visited the municipality of Concepción.
- All activities under the project “Strengthening human security in the central municipalities of the Paraguayan Chaco” have now been concluded.

WFP Assistance

Paraguay protects, promotes and facilitates effective implementation of the right to food security and nutrition 10024973 (Jun 15 - Jul 18)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)
	300,000	150,000 (50%)

Strengthening of institutional and community preparedness and coordination capacities for disaster risk reduction in Paraguay 200986 (Apr 16 - Sep 17)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)
	108,394	51,106 (50%)

This interagency project, funded by the Sustainable Development Goals Fund, integrates the efforts of FAO, WHO, UNICEF and WFP, who promote local food production, with an emphasis on risk management among indigenous populations.

This project is funded by the Disaster Preparedness programme of ECHO (DIPECHO) and is implemented in close collaboration with UNDP, Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI) and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). WFP is in charge of improving the local logistics and emergency response capacities of the Municipality of Concepción as part of the assistance delivered to the *Secretaría de Emergencia Nacional* (SEN, National Emergency Secretariat).

Paraguay protects, promotes and facilitates effective implementation of the right to food security and nutrition 200782 (Oct 14 - June 17)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)
	444,049	444,049 (100%)

Funded by the UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS), this project enables UNDP, WFP, and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) to facilitate the creation of a coordination platform for the territorial development of the Paraguayan Chaco region, promoting multi-sectorial efforts to improve human security with social equity in four municipalities.

WFP improves the food security of indigenous families through the promotion and protection of livelihoods, an increased supply of local foods to the national school feeding program and the introduction of a fortified cereal mix to improve the nutrition of pregnant and lactating women. The Government’s Comprehensive Nutritional Food Program (PANI) addresses malnourishment in children under the age of 5.



Credit: WFP/
Caption: A warehouse-shelter in use during the flood season, in the village of Bañado Norte.

Operational Updates

- A mission from DIPECHO's Regional Bureau visited the municipality of Concepción to assess the impact of the Disaster Preparedness project. It became evident that WFP had contributed to enhancing the capacity of the SEN, as proven during the emergency in Ñeembucú last April.
- Under the program "Paraguay protects, promotes and facilitates effective implementation of the right to food security and nutrition", budgetary planning was finalised and activities will be adjusted accordingly, also in line with requirements made by the Government of Paraguay. A Field Level Agreement is under negotiation with the NGO Alter Vida to carry out resilience-related activities.
- Following the completion of all activities under the project "Strengthening human security in the central municipalities of the Paraguayan Chaco", partners will coordinate final reporting activities. The closing report will be submitted at the end of September.

Challenges

- WFP does not have enough operational capacity in the country to fully manage ongoing projects. Technical and budgetary support is provided from Bolivia.

Partnerships

- WFP closely coordinates all activities with the Government and UN agencies. According to the objectives and the geographic targeting of the projects, WFP works with the Government's National Emergency Secretariat (SEN), the *Instituto Nacional de Alimentación y Nutrición* (INAN, National Food and Nutrition Institute), the Ministry of Agriculture (MAG), the Technical Planning Secretariat (STP), the Ministry of Education (MoE) and the UN agencies UNDP, PAHO/WHO, FAO, UNICEF and UN Women. The design, planning and implementation of all projects are the results of joint efforts.

Country Background & Strategy



Paraguay is a low middle income country with a per capita gross national income (GNI) of USD 4,010 (World Bank, 2014). According to the 2015 SOFI (State of Food Insecurity in the World), Paraguay was on its way to reach the MDG 1 target of halving the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. Currently 10.4% are malnourished, a reduction of 46.6% since 1990: if current trends persist, Paraguay will achieve the target by 2020.

WFP formulated a draft County Strategy Document (CSD) for Paraguay where potential support areas were identified and prioritized, including (i) vulnerability analysis mapping and targeting, (ii) improvement of national food-based safety-nets such as school feeding and complementary feeding, and (iii) emergency preparedness and response. WFP does not have a country office in Paraguay. To implement its projects, WFP established an antenna office in Asuncion, managed by the Bolivia Country Office. The Government has expressed interest in reopening a WFP country office in Paraguay to implement longer-term support. However, a specific commitment of the Government towards the reopening of the office has not yet been formalized. WFP has been active in Paraguay since 2012.

Population: **6.7 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
111 out of 188

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **17% of children under 5**