



**Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations**

## The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Humanitarian Response  
Plan 2022–2023

In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the socioeconomic crisis continues to drive food insecurity – the most pressing challenge for the population. Devaluation of the national currency and rising food prices have impacted households' purchasing power. Vulnerable populations still have to adopt two or more negative coping mechanisms (e.g. skipping meals and selling productive assets) to cover their food needs. Livelihoods assistance is a vital component of the food security response. Every USD 1 spent on supporting local food production with seed packages triples its value in harvests, providing healthy diets for the whole family.



TO ASSIST  
**175 000 people**






FAO REQUIRES  
**USD 12.75 million**

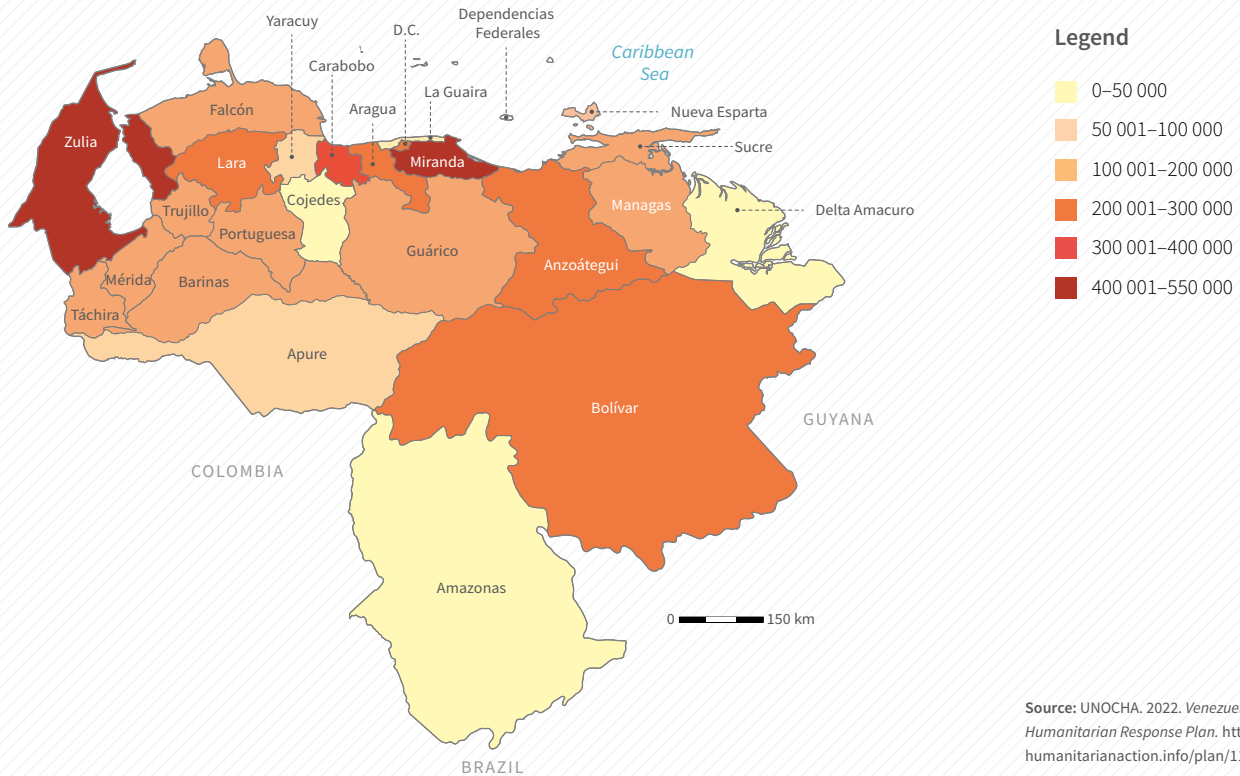


JANUARY–DECEMBER  
**2023**

### What investments in agriculture can achieve

- |                  |   |   |  |   |
|------------------|---|---|--|---|
| <b>USD 150</b> = | With the seeds and tools provided, each household can cultivate 0.3 ha of land and produce an estimated 500 kg of maize and beans, worth USD 750 on the local market.   | = |  | <b>Support a family of 5 to produce staple food for nearly a year</b>   |
| <b>USD 80</b> =  | The rehabilitation of poultry coops and irrigation systems, along with seeds and tools, enables local farmers to restore production at an agricultural school, ensuring eggs and vegetables for school feeding. | = |  | <b>Enable local farmers to generate income and children to access nutritious food for a year</b>                      |
| <b>USD 275</b> = | Through cash for work and training that support food production, Indigenous Peoples can diversify their livelihoods activities and facilitate access to social services.  | = |  | <b>Enable a family to have a healthy diet and to regularly generate an income to cover health and education needs</b> |

## People in need of food security assistance



## Critical importance of agricultural livelihoods assistance

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela continues to face a significant socioeconomic crisis with impacts across the country. Household

purchasing power continues to be affected by a combination of high inflation of food price and services as well as very low incomes. Access to quality and diversified diets is limited due to these high food costs, especially for the most vulnerable people. By the end of 2022, the country was ranked the world's third highest in food inflation and with the lowest official minimal salary. Last year, tropical waves and heavy rains caused flooding and landslides in ten states, severely impacting crops, pasture and the livelihoods of people that depend on them. In 2023, effect of El Nino will also affect negatively the agriculture sector especially in the dryer and semi arid regions. Humanitarian assistance to support agricultural livelihoods is critical to responding to food security needs.

## Coordination

As co-lead of the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) works closely with 64 local and international partners, in collaboration with government counterparts, to ensure a needs-based, coordinated and effective response and support advocacy for protection against sexual exploitation and abuse. Special attention is given to access to food in a dignified manner, avoiding risks related to the adoption of negative coping mechanisms.

## Drivers of food insecurity

- Economic contraction
- Natural hazards
- Low incomes
- Chronic inflation of food prices

## Key facts

Country population: **28.2 million**

**4.3 million** people in need of food security assistance

**15%** increase in the cost of the basic food basket during the first half of 2023 alone

**23.9%** prevalence of undernourishment in 2018-2020 – up from 2.5% in 2010-2012

**110%** food price inflation between September 2021 and September 2022

**+6 million** Venezuelans left the country

In 2022, FAO reached about 50 000 vulnerable people with agricultural livelihoods support. For example, FAO contributed to better food security and nutrition for vulnerable communities through healthy school feeding programmes linked to local family farming. The activity resulted in improved capacities of small farmers to produce fresh food that was introduced into the supply chain of the school feeding programmes. This contributed to diversifying students' diets; and by establishing market linkages between local producers and the schools, it improved the income of small farmers. Overall, 177 000 eggs were produced and distributed to school canteens as well as 290 tonnes of cereals, fruits, pulses and vegetables, benefiting 7 940 children.



## FAO priorities

Priority	Type of assistance to be provided/content of assistance package	Cost per beneficiary household (USD)	Number of beneficiary households	Total cost (USD)	Funds needed by	Planned implementation period
Improve the food security, nutrition and resilience of vulnerable communities	School feeding programmes and family farming; seeds, tools, irrigation system, biofertilizers, poultry-raising package and incubators, along with technical training on production and nutrition	80	40 000	3 200 000	Year-round	Year-round
	Smallholder farming; seeds, tools, irrigation system, biofertilizers and technical support	160	10 000	1 600 000		
	Support to indigenous women: agricultural package (seeds, tools, biofertilizers) and technical training on production and savings and loan schemes	178	8 000	1 424 000		
Strengthen the agricultural livelihoods of vulnerable households	Vocational training, productive kits and establishment of savings and loans schemes	766	5 000	3 830 000		
Reduce disaster risks linked to recurrent flooding affecting vulnerable communities	Technical support and capacity building to set up community-based mitigation measures, including anticipatory actions, and disaster prevention and management protocols	45	60 000	2 700 000		

### REQUIRED CITATION

FAO. 2023. *The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela: Humanitarian Response Plan 2023*. Rome.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the map(s) in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.



Some rights reserved. This work is available under a CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence

## Contact

FAO Representation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela  
FAO-VE@fao.org  
Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Office of Emergencies and Resilience  
OER-Director@fao.org | fao.org/emergencies  
Rome, Italy

Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations