WFP Environmental initiatives & best practices

Title of the initiative:	*Venezuela*
Focal point:	
Region:	
Country:	Venezuela
Focus area:	Boscán in the State of Zulia
Year of implementation:	2025
Description of the initiative ***(why, how and who was involved):***	Introduction: ***At VECO*, the Emergency Preparedness and Response teams of the Program Unit (EPR), Supply Chain, and Service Management (MS) have come together to create a pilot project to systematize and soundly manage the waste generated during emergency response operations.** The project was put into practice during two EPR operations, in December 2024 and January 2025, both carried out in the community of Boscán in the State of Zulia, which was affected by an overflow of Lake Maracaibo in Western Venezuela. There, *VECO* served 497 families (1,988 people) with 20.52 MT of direct delivery of food and hygiene kits. Waste estimation: As part of the project, the team systematized the estimated quantities of waste that would be generated during the operation, as well as the quantities that were generated by the community, due to the help received after the emergency (see calculations below). Waste collection at the distribution points: The EPR team has also been tasked to include waste management issues in its emergency response planning process. Packaging waste generated at the distribution point was immediately collected and returned to Valera warehouse using the cooperative partner trucks or WFP trucks traveling back to the warehouse at no cost. In addition, the project raised awareness on sustainability for the community, local authorities and the transportation service provider company. Despite waste generated at the household level was not targeted, participants were informed about the importance of appropriately separating, storing and managing waste and the positive impacts these actions bring to the environment, climate change and livelihoods.

Waste returned to recycling company:
From the Valera warehouse, waste was sent to the HUB El Consejo, through a reverse logistics system at no additional cost, for recycling.

At VECO, in our dedication and effort to provide food assistance to those most in need, saving and changing lives, we also seek with this project to reduce the impact of our operations on the environment, and to raise awareness of sustainability issues in the communities we serve.

Environmental results of the initiative *:*

As a result of this project, 104 kilos of cardboard and 10 kilos of plastic were recycled through a reverse logistics scheme, which recovers materials after their use.

[Optional] Economic results of the initiative:

Transportation from the generation point to the recycling center was done at zero cost using vehicles traveling back empty through reverse logistics schemes.

Multimedia content:

WFP SUSTAINABILITY

THE CHARACTERISATION OF PACKAGING WILL ALLOW US TO KNOW THE QUANTITIES OF LOGISTICAL WASTE THAT WE CAN GENERATE IN OUR OPERATIONS, IN A PREDICTIVE AND ANTICIPATORY MANNER.

Packaging characterisation, primary, secondary and tertiary	
Type of packaging	**Weight per unit (grams)**
Lentils Packaging	6g
D'VITA Sweet Potato Packaging	5g
Maizalito Sweet Potato Packaging	5g
PMA Sweet Potato Packaging	6g
Emerald Salt Packaging 1kg	4g
Emerald Salt Packaging 500g	3g
PMA Salt Packaging	2g
Oil Packaging	9g
Flour Packaging	6g
Micaela Flour Packaging 1kg	5g
Micaela Flour Packaging 1kg Fiorentina Pasta Packaging Capri Pasta Packaging Araurigua Rice Packaging Secondary Packaging Kits (16 units/1 Kg each) of Pasta Fiorentina	4g
Packaging of Pasta Capri	6g
Packaging of Araurigua Rice	5g
Secondary Packaging of Kits (16 units/1 Kg each)	22g
Tertiary Packaging of 4 kits/ 16 units/1 Kg each)	55g
Packaging of Cartons Oils (15 units)	35g
Secondary Packaging of Salt (50 units/0. 500 Kg)	30g

WASTE MANAGEMENT IN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE (EPR). ZULIA STATE, EL BOSCAN COMMUNITY.

1988 affected people were served with 20 MT of food and hygiene kits.

We put into practice the weights obtained in the characterisation of the packaging, so by knowing the amount of food dispatched, we automatically know the amounts of waste we are going to generate, both for immediate and post-care waste.

Tipo de empaque	Peso por unidad del empaque (gramos= gr)	Peso por unidad (Kilos= Kg)	Cantidad entregada en canasta	Cantidad de desechos entregados en un kit (gramos= gr)	Peso (2 KITS) entregado a cada beneficiario (gramos= gr)	Total de familias	Total de kilos (Kg) generados	Empaques secundarios (gramos)
Empaque de Lentejas (1kg)	6	0.006	2	0.012	0.024	497	11.928	0
Empaque de Caraotas	6	0.006	4	0.024	0.048	497	23.856	0
Empaque de Sal	2	0.002	1	0.002	0.004	497	1.988	0
Envase de Aceite	26	0.026	1	0.026	0.052	497	25.844	0
Empaque de Harina	6	0.006	4	0.024	0.048	497	23.856	0
Empaque de Pasta	4	0.004	2	0.008	0.016	497	7.952	0
Empaque de Arroz	6	0.006	4	0.024	0.048	497	23.856	0
Empaque Secudario Kits (16 unidades/1 Kg cada uno)	56	0.056	1	0.056	0.112	497	55.664	0
unidades)	358	0.358	0	0	0	0	0	23.723
Empaque Secudario Sal (50 unidades/0.500 Kg)	30	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0.596

Total entregados	Total retornado	Total usado
174.944	24.320	199.264

Waste management in Emergency preparedness and response (EPR). Zulia State, El Boscan Community.

Overflow of Lake Maracaibo

Scenario 1 Reverse Logistics

EPR colleagues, together with the Supply Chain, Programmes and Fleet teams, have joined forces to manage the operation's waste.

The waste was returned to the Valera warehouse, without cost to the WFP.

Impact

104 kilos carboard
Recycling-oriented

10 kilos of plastic
Recycling-oriented

-CO2 Reduction
Potential reduction of CO2 emissions and other environmental benefits.

Scenario 2 Reverse Logistics

Finally, the waste is sent to the HUB El Consejo, through a reverse logistics system at no additional cost to the WFP, for recycling through the LTA.