

Mr. Jaime Vallaura
Deputy Regional Director and Representative in Panama
Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean- World Food
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Since August 2009, Mr. Jaime Vallaura is the Deputy Regional Director of the United Nations World Food Programme's (WFP) Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, located in Panama. WFP is the UN's food assistance agency and the largest humanitarian organization in the world. In 2009, WFP plans to assist 108 million people in 74 countries.

It focuses on bringing food to the victims of natural disasters and conflict, refugees, families affected by HIV/AIDS, pregnant women, nursing mothers and young children. Mr. Vallaura studied in Spain and France. He majored in Economics at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain).

In 1979 he started a career with the Spanish Ministry of Commerce, as expert in development projects funded through ODA mechanisms. He traveled extensively to Africa and the Caribbean countries for more than 16 years, negotiating bilateral cooperation agreements with local governments. He served 4 years in Morocco and 3 years in Mexico as head of the Spanish Cooperation office.

In 1997 he joined WFP as Senior Resource Mobilization Officer in REE/REA, Rome. He managed contributions from Spain, Portugal and Latin American donors. In 1998/1999 he actively participated in the resource mobilization efforts earmarked to the Hurricane Mitch emergency in Central America.

He moved to the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Bureau (formerly in Nicaragua) in March 2000, as Senior Programme Officer. He specialized in long-term food-based operations, School Feeding, and Mother and Child programmes.

He served as WFP Country Representative in El Salvador (2002-2006) and in Honduras (2006-2009),

Mr. Vallaura was born on 25 July 1953. He is a Spanish national, and fluently speaks English, French and Italian.