In Numbers

USD 26.3 million six-month net funding requirements

Operational Context

Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, Peru ranked 89 in the human development index. Despite persistent political uncertainty, its upper middle-income economy showed a steady growth largely driven by mining production and exports. This resulted in significant reductions in hunger and poverty. However, the pandemic unveiled a structural inequality gap that threatens the food security of millions of Peruvians. With one of the highest informality rates in the region (72.5 percent), the strict lockdown measures drastically affected the livelihoods of millions of households that rely on their daily incomes for subsistence.

In this context, WFP Peru adapted its Country Strategic Plan to provide direct food assistance through cash transfers along with logistics support for the national humanitarian supply chain. This is combined with its well-positioned capacity strengthening role that integrates communications, social mobilization and generation of evidence. WFP has been present in Peru since 1968.

Operational Updates

- Regional alert levels and movement restrictions have been extended until 11 July 2021.
- WFP finalized an assessment of cooperating partners to continue with its emergency operation for Venezuelan migrants and refugees and host communities. Cash transfers to beneficiaries will resume in July.
- WFP participated in the “National Food System Summit Dialogues” where representatives from various sectors gathered to discuss a common path to reach “Zero Hunger” in Peru. This event was organized by the Government in partnership with FAO, IFAD and WFP’s technical assistance.
- WFP’s Wiñantsik project finalized the implementation of a biodigester and an animal blood processing centre in San Pedro de Chana district in Ancash. The inauguration was coordinated with the local municipality.
- WFP’s Prosan project installed its first drip irrigation system in the Cristo Nos Valga district in Sechura. This will help improve food security and nutrition by facilitating the production and consumption of nutritious food.
- WFP participated in the webinar “Importance of Nutrition for Childhood Development” organized by the Andean Health Organization - Hipólito Unanue Agreement that brings together policymakers from Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Venezuela and Peru.
- The Regional Government of Lambayeque announced the inclusion of fortified rice as a key policy for the fight against anaemia and malnutrition. This is the result of a sustained advocacy process that WFP has been supporting in the region.
- WFP provided technical support to the Ministry of Social Inclusion and Development to design an emergency response network. This document will support the formulation of a publicly funded project that will strengthen communication when a crisis arises.
Monitoring

- WFP finalized data collection for the endline of its emergency response operation in Ancash which was finalized in April 2021. Results are expected in the next weeks.

Capacity Building

- WFP’s Prosan project trained 133 community agents in Sechura on how to use assertive communication techniques to improve their interaction with participating households.
- WFP’s Wiñantsik project trained 18 community agents from two districts in Ancash on how to implement local strategies to prevent and control anaemia and chronic malnutrition.
- WFP implemented three virtual workshops with key government officers from the regions of Lambayeque, La Libertad, Tumbes and Piura to complement the training provided on Emergency Operational Plans with an overview of Social Protection and Emergency Food Assistance to further strengthen their response in case of emergencies.

Challenges

- Peru is expecting a third wave of COVID-19 for August amidst an increasing socioeconomic crisis and a highly polarized political scenario. In this context, WFP’s emergency response will need to continue along with capacity strengthening to advice government partners.

Donors

Antamina, Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) – Canada, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), FOSPIBAY, German Federal Foreign Office, Multilateral Funds, People’s Republic of China, Repsol Foundation, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) and the Republic of Peru.