



# WFP Dominican Republic Country Brief

## October 2021

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



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### Operational Context

The Dominican Republic has experienced economic growth and stability during the past decades. However, the food security situation has been affected by inequalities in income distribution, poverty, and lack of dietary diversity. Persistent micronutrient deficiencies and increasing overweight and obesity remain major concerns. The country suffers from recurrent natural shocks, which affect food systems. The country's food security priorities are clearly highlighted in numerous national policies.

The country's socioeconomic landscape has been severely impacted by COVID-19 containment measures. The Government declared a state of emergency in March 2020 and continued to extend it throughout the year. WFP's assessment on the food security situation estimates that some 287,000 people (2.7 percent of the population) are severely food insecure as of end 2020, while 3.7 million people (35.5 percent) are in moderate food insecurity.

WFP work in the Dominican Republic focuses on strengthening capacities to achieve food security, improve nutrition, promote sustainable food systems, as well as increasing capacities, preparedness, and programme focus areas on crisis response.

WFP has been present in Dominican Republic since 1969.



Population: **10.5 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **88 out of 189**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

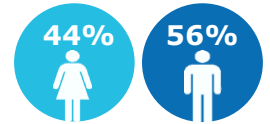
Chronic malnutrition: **7.1% of children under 5**

### In Numbers

**USD 150,159** cash-based transfers made

**USD 3 m** six months (November 2021-April 2022) net funding requirements, representing 35% of total

**33,222 people assisted** in OCTOBER 2021



### Operational Updates

- Together with the Dominican Red Cross, WFP inaugurated a warehouse supporting the Humanitarian Logistics Corridor to respond to climate shocks and emergencies in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and other neighbouring countries. The event was attended by senior government officials, humanitarian partners and donors.
- The Vice-President of the Dominican Republic received a visit from WFP's Country Director. Discussion revolved around national challenges and the need for joint efforts regarding food insecurity, disaster risk reduction, malnutrition, and food systems.
- The Ministry of Health invited WFP to participate in a community-based activity in Monte Cristi, a locality affected by the double burden of malnutrition, as part of the national initiative to promote healthy nutritional habits.
- WFP held a high-level meeting with the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development to discuss WFP's role in food security and nutrition, as well as climate change initiatives to support the country's development and resilience.
- As part of celebrations for World Food Day, WFP Country Director met with congresswoman Soraya Suarez, Coordinator of the Parliamentary Front Against Hunger, to exchange ideas and actions to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 2 – Zero Hunger.
- WFP hosted a meeting with the Director of the National Social Registry (SIUBEN) to support the implementation of the digital agenda, including web mapping and interoperability of data bases.
- WFP received a mission from the Technology Division of the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean to help strengthen national telecommunications capacities of the national Emergency Operations Centre (COE) and assess opportunities for technology innovations in emergencies.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>45.1 m</b>	<b>15.2 m</b>	<b>3 m</b>

**Strategic Result 1:** Strengthen and coordinate public and private institutions.

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Civil society and public and private institutions are strengthened and coordinated and are able to address the zero hunger issues of the most vulnerable populations by 2023.

**Focus area:** *Root causes.*

**Activities:**

- Provide technical assistance to government, civil society, private sector, academic and social entities in order to generate an inclusive and coordinated national alliance, enhance legal frameworks and develop policies, communication strategies and programmes for improving food security and nutrition.

**Strategic Result 2:** Improve the nutritional status of vulnerable populations.

**Strategic Outcome 2:** The most nutritionally vulnerable groups have improved their nutrition status by 2023.

**Focus area:** *Root causes.*

**Activities:**

- Support public health and social protection programmes in implementing comprehensive strategies and systems that follow a rights-based approach to improving the nutrition status of populations who are vulnerable to malnutrition at different stages in the life cycle.

**Strategic Result 3:** Improve resilience to crises, better adapt to climate change and reduce disaster risk.

**Strategic Outcome 3:** National and local systems are strengthened and coordinated, improving resilience to shocks, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction among vulnerable populations by 2023.

**Focus area:** *Resilience-building.*

**Activities:**

- Provide technical assistance, promote evidence generation and support advocacy strategies for disaster risk management, emergency preparedness and response and climate change adaptation among institutions and vulnerable communities.

**Strategic Result 4:** Food systems are sustainable and utilize resilient practices that help maintain ecosystems.

**Strategic Outcome 4:** Crisis-affected populations are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the aftermath of shocks.

**Focus area:** *Resilience-building.*

**Activities:**

- Provide emergency food assistance through cash-based or in-kind transfers to shock affected populations

**Strategic Result 5:** Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology in humanitarian and other situations.

**Strategic Outcome 5:** Humanitarian and development partners have access to reliable services throughout the crisis.

**Focus area:** *Resilience-building.*

**Activities:**

- Provide on-demand services to humanitarian and development partners

## Monitoring

- WFP received a team from the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean for an oversight exercise to identify areas of improvement in the operations carried out by the office. Findings and recommendations will be integrated in the country strategy and implementation of the following years.

## Challenges

- The deteriorating situation of neighbouring country Haiti has alarmed Government, which has focused its attention and efforts to the border situation. WFP has offered its support to the national Government in its humanitarian assistance to Haiti.

## Donors

Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), DSM, Government of the Dominican Republic, Mastercard, National Institute for Comprehensive Care for Early Childhood (INAPI), Social Protection Programme Supérate (former PROSOLI), Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework, USAID's Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA).