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. In 2021, 25.9 percent of Peruvians live below the poverty line, and 4.1 percent are considered extremely poor. This is associated with one of the highest informality rates in the region (72.5 percent). More than half of the national population is food insecure (51 percent). Food insecurity is also high among the large number of refugees in Peru. 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 to strengthen policies and their implementation. WFP has been present in Peru since 1968.

In Numbers

- **USD 1.7 m** delivered as cash-based transfers
- **USD 5.3 m** six months (September 2022 – February 2023) net funding requirements, representing 28% of total
- **32,185 people** assisted* in August 2022
  - 53% women
  - 47% men

Operational Updates

- As part of its emergency operation, WFP assisted 26,627 established and in-transit migrants in eight regions with food transfers (CBT) through cash via Western Union and vouchers redeemable in select stores for food and personal hygiene articles. WFP plans to expand support to three additional regions, reaching 11 regions.
- Migration flows at the northern and southern borders have increased. Consequently, WFP will target more migrants than planned.
- Since the cost of living is changing due to food inflation, WFP and the International Rescue Committee conducted a joint income and expenditure gap analysis to update the Minimum Expenditure Basket. Results will inform cash-based interventions’ transfer values.
- WFP supported 5,558 beneficiaries of 66 *ollas comunes* (community-led food canteens that temporarily arise in times of crisis) in Lima with CBT to assist with nutritious food purchases.
- WFP provided humanitarian logistics services nationwide to transport 1,602 mt of food and non-food items on behalf of 16 partners, including the Government and the National Institute of Civil Defence, benefiting 359,232 people.
- WFP trained 460 community health workers (47 percent women and 53 percent men) on nutrition practices for reducing anaemia, nutrition counselling and malnutrition screening approaches. Community health workers then conduct home visits to promote healthy food and nutrition practices, measure mid-upper arm circumference of children under 5 to identify malnourished children or at risk who are referred to clinics.
- WFP’s Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean visited Peru and held meetings with WFP staff, government counterparts, UNCT, private sector, international cooperation, and media. The visit highlighted the role of WFP in Peru, providing humanitarian assistance to save lives and working with the Government to advocate for and advise on policies that change them.

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WFP Country Strategy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Result</th>
<th>Strategic Objective</th>
<th>Focus area</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Result 8:</td>
<td>Strengthen partnerships for SDG results</td>
<td>Root causes</td>
<td>Provide assistance to the Government, civil society, private sector and academia to build an alliance to achieve SDG 2, establishing targets and allocating resources and commitments towards zero hunger goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Result 2:</td>
<td>No one suffers from malnutrition</td>
<td>Root causes</td>
<td>Provide capacity strengthening and technical assistance – including through South-south cooperation and technology transfer – to all three levels of government through research, evidence generation and assessments to implement innovative, inclusive nutrition intervention models adapted to the regional/cultural context.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Result 5:</td>
<td>Strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs</td>
<td>Resilience-building</td>
<td>Provide capacity strengthening and technical assistance at the policy and operational levels for national and subnational authorities to improve the integration and efficiency of social protection and disaster risk management programmes geared towards the needs of the most vulnerable populations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Result 1:</td>
<td>Everyone has access to food</td>
<td>Crisis response</td>
<td>Technical assistance, research and assessments, to improve the implementation of programs linked to food security and nutrition. Knowledge management and sharing of best practices and studies, including through South-South cooperation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
<th>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>108.1 m</td>
<td>87.2 m</td>
<td>5.3 m</td>
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</table>

**Capacity building**

- To support Peru’s rice fortification journey, WFP presented the value chain model for fortified rice and research on how to generate demand for fortified rice to 60 local actors, including producers, community leaders and officials.
- WFP provided technical assistance to national and regional institutions to strengthen national capacities for emergency response and shock-responsive social protection.

**Monitoring**

- WFP is providing guidance and technical assistance to the Ministry of Social Inclusion to assess the progress and impact of the national school feeding programme.
- WFP with the Ministry of Social Inclusion are carrying out a nationwide Emergency Food Security Assessment. Results are expected in late November.

**Challenges**

- The country is facing a prolonged period of instability intensified by the ripple effects of the Ukraine crisis. The crisis has disrupted strategic supply chains threatening the trade flows of key products. This has accelerated the global increase in the prices of food commodities, with severe effects on the food security of the vulnerable population in the urban and rural areas. Food insecurity is at the centre of the political agenda, and the Government has put measures that include economic bonuses, food assistance and emergency measures to support the agricultural sector. As a result of the socioeconomic context, social and political tensions are increasing.
- These factors are expected to continue putting pressure on the fragile economies of the most vulnerable households, including migrants and refugees with limited access to national social protection programmes.

**Donors**

Canada, China, ECHO, multilateral funds, Peru, United States of America (USAID-BHA), and private donors.