



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Dominican Republic Country Brief January 2023



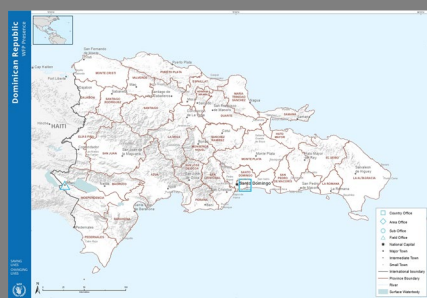
Operational Context

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**

2021 Human Development Index: **80 out of 191**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

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

In Numbers

USD 2.6 m six months (February-July 2023)
net funding requirements, representing 37
percent of total

Operational Updates

- WFP provided technical assistance to the Government to develop the National Plan for Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security 2023 – 2026, which was launched on 26 January and aimed at building sustainable food systems and disaster-resilient communities. WFP, jointly with Food and Agriculture Organization, provided support to the Government in five areas of the national plan, including governance, food availability and access, nutrition, climate change and risk management.
- WFP launched the 2023 National Zero Hunger Movement for social empowerment towards zero hunger. WFP, with the social protection programme *Supérate*, the Ministry of Public Health, the National Council for Food Sovereignty, Food and Nutrition Security (CONASSAN, for its Spanish acronym) and private sector partners, is working on a communication campaign in Santo Domingo to reduce anaemia and address malnutrition by promoting healthier eating habits.
- WFP provided logistics services to support the United Nations Population Funds in assisting Haitian women and girls at the border areas between the Dominican Republic and Haiti. WFP provided humanitarian storage service for 2,000 hygiene kits, wheelchairs and office IT equipment.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/dominican-republic

Country Strategic Plan (2019-2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
45.1 m	25.7 m	2.6 m

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.

Challenges

- The socioeconomic effects of COVID-19 and the impacts of the Ukraine crisis on global supply chains create market supply disruptions resulting in operational delays, compounded by the effects of the crisis in Haiti, causing humanitarian access constraints to guarantee the security and safety of beneficiaries and partners.
- Sources of financing for nutrition activities continue to be limited. However, WFP keeps endeavouring towards new resourcing opportunities to include various international bilateral and multilateral finance groups, private sector and individual donors.

Donors

Dominican Republic, European Union (DG-ECHO), UNAIDS Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework, United States of America (USAID BHA), and private donors.

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