



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Peru Country Brief April 2023



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## Operational Context

The fallout from the pandemic combined with increases in the prices of oil, pulses and cereals pushed inflation to its highest level in 26 years. Although macroeconomic indicators showed a slow recovery, mainly driven by mining production and exports, the crisis has resulted in an estimated ten-year setback in terms of poverty reduction, highlighting Peru's structural inequalities. The pandemic also exposed and deepened gender inequalities and evidenced that rural women lost economic and financial autonomy. This exacerbated food insecurity nationwide. According to the latest national food security assessment, 16 million Peruvians (51 percent) and 740,000 migrants and refugees residing in the country (57 percent) were food insecure. It is estimated that the cost of the double burden of malnutrition in Peru reached 4.6 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) in 2019. Moreover, anaemia has worsened and now affects 42 percent of young children. Chronic malnutrition and acute malnutrition affect 11.5 percent and 0.4 percent of children under 5 years old, respectively.



Population: **33 million**

2021 Human Development Index: **84 out of 191**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

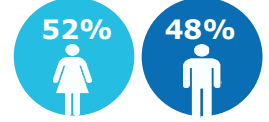
Chronic malnutrition: **11.5% of children between 6-59 months (2021)**

## In Numbers

**USD 1.9 m** delivered as cash-based transfers.

**USD 4.4 m** six months (May-October 2023) net funding requirements, representing 38 percent of total.

**26,175 people** assisted\* in April 2023



\*Preliminary figures

## Operational Updates

- As part of its emergency operations, WFP assists migrants from Venezuela residing in the country and in-transit migrants with cash-based transfers (CBT). WFP provides a monthly transfer for three months adapted to family size (transfer value ranging from USD 102 to USD 358) in six in-land regions on the migration route and assists in-transit migrants in the northern and southern borders and one inland area through a one-off value voucher to improve access to prepared foods and basic hygiene items. In April, WFP assisted 22,428 migrants and 139 Peruvian nationals.
- WFP responded to a request for assistance from the National Institute of Civil Defence to provide assistance to households severely affected by Cyclone Yaku in Piura, Tumbes, La Libertad and Lambayeque that were. Spanning March to April, this operation provided assistance to 3,590 beneficiaries.
- WFP provided humanitarian logistics services nationwide, transporting 731 mt of food and non-food items for nine partners, including national authorities, such as the National Institute of Civil Defence. The services benefited 99,244 people affected by landslides caused by heavy rains in Ancash, Cajamarca, Ica, Lambayeque, Lima, La Libertad, Piura and Tumbes.
- WFP provided technical and logistical assistance to support the response of the Municipality of Lima to the food emergency declared on 31 January. WFP transported 109 mt of unsold food for the Lima Foundation to assist 10,600 households in 581 community soup kitchens known in the country as *ollas comunes*. Additionally, WFP transported 433 mt of food and non-food items for other humanitarian actors, thereby assisting a further 25,600 households.

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
73.8 m	23.5 m	4.4 m

**Strategic Result 1:** People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Crisis-affected populations in Peru are able to meet their urgent food, nutrition and associated essential needs before and during multi-pronged crises and disasters between 2023 and 2026

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activity:**

- Provide assistance to crisis-affected populations before and during emergencies and in early recovery settings and support the Government in doing the same, strengthening social protection in ways that improve emergency preparedness and response.

**Strategic Result 2:** People have better nutrition, health and education outcomes

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Indigenous people and populations most at risk of malnutrition in Peru have improved nutritional status by 2026

**Focus area:** Root causes

**Activity:**

- Support the Government and populations that are vulnerable to malnutrition to improve nutrition, promote integrated school-based interventions, foster healthy food environments, and strengthen nutrition-sensitive social programmes, applying a food systems and gender-sensitive approach to individual and institutional capacity strengthening

**Strategic Result 3:** People have improved and sustainable livelihoods

**Strategic Outcome 3:** By 2026, Indigenous people and other populations that are vulnerable to climate change in Peru are better adapted to climate change, more resilient to climate-related disasters and part of more sustainable, inclusive and equitable food systems.

**Focus area:** Resilience Building

**Activity:**

- Promote interventions that create economic resilience, protect the environment and increase adaptation to climate change, using evidence and good practices to support the Government in implementing related priorities.

**Strategic Result 5:** Humanitarian and development actors are more efficient and effective

**Strategic Outcome 4:** The Government and humanitarian and development actors in Peru are reliably supported by efficient and effective supply chain and other services by 2026

**Focus area:** Crisis response

**Activities:**

- Provide supply chain and other services to government and humanitarian partners.

- WFP facilitated capacity strengthening for government personnel through focused training programmes in the San Martín and Ayacucho regions. In San Martín, 44 personnel were trained via the "Emergency Preparedness Capacity Index Acceleration Plan – EPCI and Anticipatory Actions" workshop. In Ayacucho, 45 government personnel received training on the legal and tax requirements for establishing family farming businesses.

**Challenges**

- In 2023, Peru experienced the first cyclone to hit the Peruvian Pacific in four decades, Cyclone Yaku, which has brought heavy rains since March, causing floods and landslides, particularly affecting the northern and central coastal departments, including Lambayeque, Lima, Piura, and Tumbes. As of 30 April, based on official figures and vulnerability studies, the National Humanitarian Network and the Government's preliminary calculations indicate that 522,200 people urgently need humanitarian assistance (79,552 individuals without homes and 442,648 affected). Current forecasts anticipate that the severe rainfall will persist into May, with the likelihood of an El Niño event also on the rise.
- Peru is facing a prolonged period of political and social instability intensified by the change of government that brought Dina Boluarte to the Presidency.
- Food insecurity is rising as a result of the combined effects of the climate shocks and the political crisis, which is affecting the markets and supply chain. Food insecurity is at the centre of the political agenda and the Government has issued measures that include economic bonuses, food assistance and emergency measures to support the agricultural sector.
- 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, Peru, Switzerland, United States of America (USAID-BHA), multilateral funds and private donors.