



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Peru

Country Brief

September 2023



Mercado Mayorista, Lima, Peru
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Operational Context

The fallout from the pandemic combined with increases in the prices for 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 country faces an estimated ten-year setback in terms of poverty reduction, highlighting Peru's structural inequalities.

According to the latest national food security assessment (2021), 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: **11.7% of children between 6-59 months (2022)**

In Numbers

USD 0.636 m cash-based transfers made*

USD 4.8 m six months (October 2023-March 2024) net funding requirements, representing 40 percent of total.

10,492 people assisted*
in September 2023



*Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- In September, WFP assisted more than 1,600 migrants residing in the country and Peruvians through cash-based transfers (CBT) as part of its migrant crisis operation. Migrants residing in the country received a monthly transfer for three months adapted to family size (transfer value from USD 100 to USD 350).
- WFP also assists 3,830 in-transit migrants in the northern and southern borders and one inland area with a one-off value voucher to improve access to prepared food and basic hygiene items, covering a seven-day period.
- WFP maintained its emergency operation to provide support to households in Piura, Tumbes, La Libertad and Lambayeque, which have been severely impacted by heavy rains. Since the commencement of this operation in March 2023, WFP assisted 14,521 individuals, with an additional 4,976 people receiving assistance in September alone. This continued effort underscores WFP's commitment to assisting people affected by natural disasters.
- WFP provided logistics services nationwide to transport 166 mt of food and non-food items on behalf of the Government and the National Institute of Civil Defence to preposition humanitarian assistance for potential emergencies related to the El Niño phenomenon.
- WFP provides technical and logistical assistance for food rescue operations in Lima, Piura and Cajamarca. WFP transported 94 mt of food to assist 11,000 households making use of 507 *allas comunas* in peri-urban areas. In addition, WFP also transported 290 mt of food and non-food items for other humanitarian partners from the agroindustry to assist 24,000 households.

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Country Strategic Plan (2023-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
73.8 m	35.7 m	4.8 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.

Donors

Canada, China, European Union (DG ECHO), Peru, Switzerland, United States of America (USAID's BHA), multilateral funds, private donors, CERF and WFP Changing Lives Transformation Fund.

Partnerships

- WFP took part in PERUMIN, Peru's foremost mining event, featuring over 200 exhibitors and over 800 participating companies and organizations. Collaborating with ALAC, WFP shared insights into their collaborative efforts within the pilot project "Ellas Pueden." This initiative focuses on the transformation, economic empowerment, and financial inclusion of rural women producers in Cajamarca. The engagement at PERUMIN provided a platform to showcase the impactful work being done in partnerships with the private sector.

Capacity Strengthening

- As a result of WFP's technical assistance to the Ministries of Agriculture and Inclusion and Social Development, the annual Food Recovery Forum has been institutionalized as a space for dissemination and coordination. The inaugural event, titled 'I National Food Recovery Forum as a Response to Food Insecurity,' was conducted as part of the activities for the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste. The forum saw the active participation of 140 attendees, comprising government representatives, civil society, academia, grassroots social organizations, and international guests from Mexico, Colombia, and Panama.

Challenges

- The ongoing consequences of the coastal El Niño phenomenon, which began in February 2023, persistently affect individuals living in precarious conditions, especially in the northern regions of the country. Additionally, Peru is expected to face significant repercussions from floods, landslides, and droughts due to the prolonged presence of the Global El Niño phenomenon, forecasted to endure until early 2024. These persistent climatic challenges emphasize the critical need for thorough preparedness and response measures to protect the welfare of populations affected by these adverse conditions.
- Peru is grappling with sustained political and social instability, exacerbated by food insecurity resulting from ongoing crises and climate shocks that disrupt markets and supply chains. In response, the government has initiated economic bonuses, provided food assistance, and implemented emergency measures to bolster the agricultural sector. These circumstances are anticipated to further strain the already fragile economies of vulnerable households, including migrants and refugees, who have limited access to national social protection programs.