



World Food Programme

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WFP Caribbean Multi-Country Office

Country Brief

December 2023



Evangeline, one of the women served by WFP in Dominica. @ WFP/ Paulina Bockowska

Operational Context

The WFP Caribbean Multi-Country Office covers 22 English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean countries and territories. As a collection of Small Islands Developing States and coastal countries (SIDS), climate change, economic and other shocks are significant threats for the region owing to their size, location, and reliance on imports. Already weakened by high indebtedness and limited fiscal space, these compounded impacts have created significant challenges to national economies in protecting people, livelihoods, and infrastructure. The pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis have led to an increase in vulnerability in the Caribbean, negatively affecting food security, livelihoods, and incomes, with the greatest impacts on the poorest populations. In May 2023, WFP estimated that 4.1 million people or 52 percent of the population were moderately or severely food insecure in the sub-region. The pandemic renewed focus on the need for more resilient systems in the sub-region, including the strengthening of food systems to better withstand shocks.

The Multi-Country Office was established in 2018 and assists governments and regional institutions in strengthening their emergency preparedness and resilience capacity in the face of shocks, including through social protection, disaster risk management and food systems.



Population: 7.9 million

Income Level: lower-middle, upper-middle, high-income

In Numbers

USD 5.5 m six months (January 2024- June 2024) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- WFP and the Government of Saint Lucia entered a new agreement to augment the existing Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF SPC) tropical cyclone policy covering the 2023 and 2024 hurricane seasons. If triggered, the policy could pay out up to USD 2.3 million to meet the needs of approximately 17,000 people over a three-month period.
- WFP partnered with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) to roll out the CDEMA Logistics System (CLS) among participating states. The CLS is a digital platform that allows national, regional, and international humanitarian actors to register and track logistics, food, and other assets that can be used in an emergency. The CLS rollout process commenced in Jamaica and Dominica during the reporting period. Specific support focused on helping to improve warehouse management, as a minimum requirement for adopting the CLS.
- Jointly with CDEMA, WFP has been working to increase the current baseline datasets available for participating states such as Jamaica, Dominica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago for the CDEMA Geospatial Caribbean Risk Information System (GeoCRIS), a virtual platform developed to promote risk management and adaptability to climate change. With these inputs, CDEMA and governments can better anticipate the areas that will be impacted and the potential needs of the population, and in turn, help to better plan for and respond to an emergency.
- WFP supported the governments of Belize and Jamaica to strengthen verification and monitoring capacities using digital tools to improve social assistance delivery. Twenty-two professionals benefited from trainings in data and information management including the use and integration of the Kobo tool to facilitate the verification of potential beneficiaries under national social protection systems.

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WFP Country Strategy

Multi-Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
77.7 m	35.3 m	5.5m

Strategic Result 1: Resilience Building

Strategic Outcome 1: National government and regional institutions in the Caribbean have strengthened capacity to prepare for, adapt and respond to shocks and climate change

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance and capacity strengthening to national governments and regional institutions in areas of WFP's expertise.

Strategic Result 2: Crisis Response

Strategic Outcome #2: Crisis affected populations in the Caribbean are able to meet their food, nutrition, and other needs during and in the aftermath of shocks.

Activities:

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

Strategic Result 3: Crisis Response

Strategic Outcome #3: Common services and platforms enable government in the Caribbean to have rapid, effective, and coordinated response to shocks.

Activities:

- Provide support to nationally or regionally led emergency responses

- Phase 1 of the Caribbean Logistics Hub and Centre of Excellence was completed, and the site can now be used for surge capacity. WFP has already received the first batch of prepositioned assets from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for storage and use in an emergency.

Partnerships

- WFP continued to engage with other United Nations agencies to ensure that countries could better leverage support to strengthen areas such as social protection and food systems. WFP partnered with UN Women to deliver a lecture on Food Security and Gender to the University of the West Indies (UWI) students. This lecture was part of the course within the M.Sc. in Food Security.
- WFP received contributions from the Government of New Zealand. The funding will support the ongoing efforts to strengthen capacities of national and regional institutions through human resource development in disaster management.
- WFP received USD 2 million from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints towards the completion of the Regional Logistics Hub and Center of Excellence. The Hub will serve as a regional logistics centre to support air and sea operations, store and manage relief commodities, including pre-positioning and promote and organize regional trainings.

Donors

[Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation](#), [Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints](#), [Government of the Republic of Korea](#), [Government of Canada](#), [European Union](#), [Italian Agency for Development Cooperation](#), [UN Joint SDG Fund](#), [the United States Agency for International Development](#), [Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance \(USAID BHA\)](#).