



WFP Caribbean Country Brief August 2024

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Philip Keir received cash assistance provided by WFP in Petite Martinique after Hurricane Beryl

Operational Context

The WFP Caribbean Multi-Country Office covers 22 countries and territories in the English-and Dutch-speaking Caribbean. As a collection of Small Islands Developing States and costal countries (SIDS), climate change, economic and other shocks are significant threats for the region owed 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 2024, WFP estimated that 3 million people or 43 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: 7.1 million

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

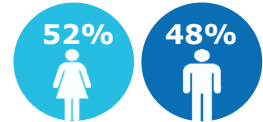
In Numbers

54 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 195,070 cash-based transfers made

USD 15.5 m six months (September 2024-February 2025) net funding requirements,

13,411 people assisted in July- September 2024



Operational Updates

- In July 2024, following the impact of Hurricane Beryl, WFP provided food assistance to 9,928 people in Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines to meet their immediate food and nutrition needs.
- WFP, in partnership with the government of Grenada, provided a top-up to the Public Assistance Programme, reaching 3,483 people on mainland Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique.
- Following the triggering of Grenada and Jamaica's tropical cyclone and excess rain policies under the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility, WFP is providing technical assistance for the design of a longer-term government led cash programmes. Based on the partnership between the WFP and the Caribbean Development Bank via the Canada-CARICOM Climate Change Adaptation Fund, a percentage of the payout will be used to provide cash assistance to affected people.
- Additionally, WFP is collaborating with the governments of Jamaica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines to launch cash assistance programs for populations affected by Hurricane Beryl. In Jamaica, WFP is working with the Ministry of Labor and Social Security to implement a 2-month cash transfer program, distributing funds via Western Union's 235 locations to 3,414 households by the end of August.
- In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, WFP will directly assist 1,600 households, particularly in the southern Grenadines. The WFP is also aiding in data collection and analysis to support household targeting for current and future cash assistance programs.
- Alongside the National Emergency Management Organization, WFP has managed 7,371 emergency reports from the public, detailing their needs and situations. WFP-hired casual labourers have completed data entry, and the information has been analysed and cross-referenced with damage assessments from the Ministry of Transport's physical planning unit to identify gaps and properties still needing evaluation. A pending dataset from the Ministry of Housing will help confirm homes that require further assessments.
- In partnership with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), WFP is strengthening disaster response by enhancing visibility, analytics, and coordination across the supply chain.

Contact info: Jael Browne, Reporting Officer (jael.browne@wfp.org)

Country Director: Brian Bogart

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/caribbean

Photo credit: @ WFP/ Kelvin Christopher

WFP Country Strategy

Multi-Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
85.3 m	43.9m	15.5m

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

Partnerships

- The WFP is working closely with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to drive the digital transformation of social protection in Guyana. These discussions are focused on identifying how IDB's support for the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security can be complemented by WFP's expertise, with the goal of enhancing service delivery, information management, and reporting capabilities through effective implementation and scaling of digital strategies.
- WFP is currently mobilizing private sector and other resources to provide assistance to persons affected by Hurricane Beryl in the fisheries sector, where there was significant impact to livelihoods.
- WFP continues to work along with the wider humanitarian community including with the United Nations Technical Team and donors to provide support to countries impacted by hurricane Beryl.

Challenges

- The multi-country impact of hurricane Beryl presents a challenge for the implementation of WFP's capacity strengthening programme in countries not affected by the hurricane. Human resources are stretched should there be a need to respond to yet another emergency in 2024.

Operational Updates Continued

The establishment of a supply chain control tower has improved oversight of emergency supplies, enabling Saint Vincent & the Grenadines and Grenada to make data-driven decisions on stock requirements, quantities, and distribution points. To date, the control tower has tracked supplies equivalent to 70 twenty-foot shipping containers for 23 partners across 8 delivery locations. This strategy has minimized duplication, streamlined joint shipping, shortened delivery times, and generated significant cost savings for all involved partners.

- Grenada now benefits from the roll out of the CDEMA Logistics System, with increased visibility of logistics, relief and other stocks that can be mobilized in an emergency. A total of 14 participants from government agencies were trained on the system. The CLS enhances the Government's capacities by enabling more effective coordination and management of emergency logistics and relief efforts through improved warehouse stocks.
- Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) were set up in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada to coordinate and store relief items. WFP is supporting the Governments with inventory management and is developing a structured protocol to define roles and responsibilities, ensuring efficient warehouse and inventory operations in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- With WFP's support, the Jamaica Ministry of Labor and Social Security has increased usable storage space at the Central Food Warehouse by 20%. Ongoing assessments are focused on removing non-essential items to further enhance capacity. Additionally, streamlined receipt and dispatch areas are being developed to boost productivity and improve daily logistics for managing emergency resources.
- WFP donated thirty 5-kW mobile generators to the government of Jamaica to provide emergency power supply to frontline staff working in isolated communities.
- The WFP led Emergency Telecommunications Cluster installed internet connectivity in four shelters in Union Island and to government offices in Elizabeth County in Jamaica to enable response capacity.

Donors

[Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints](#), [European Union](#), [Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office](#), [Government of Canada](#), [Government of New Zealand](#), [the United States Agency for International Development](#), [Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance \(USAID BHA\)](#), [UN Joint SDG Fund](#).