



World Food Programme

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LIVES

# WFP Peru

## Country Brief

March 2025



Schoolfeeding programme in Ayacucho, Peru. WFP

## 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 (2023), 17.5 million Peruvians (51.7 percent) and 894,000 migrants and refugees residing in the country (53.8 percent) are 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 43.1 percent of young children. Chronic malnutrition and acute malnutrition affect 11.5 percent and 0.4 percent of children under 5 years old, respectively (ENDES 2023).



Population: **33 million**

2023 Human Development Index: **87 out of 192**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **11.5% of children between 6-59 months (2023)**

## In Numbers

**USD 0.058 m** cash-based transfers made\*

**USD 8.4 m** six months (April - September 2025) net funding requirements, representing 51 percent of total.

**1,958 people assisted\*** in March 2025



\*Preliminary figures, T1

## Operational Updates

- In March, WFP launched a new phase of assistance for refugees and migrants, providing food support through hot meals and food cards in Tumbes and food cards in Tacna. Drawing on its experience and contextual knowledge in Tumbes, WFP transitioned to a direct assistance model for the food card component, no longer operating through a cooperating partner.
- WFP assisted 911 in-transit migrants at the northern and southern borders with a one-off cash-based transfer to improve their access to food and basic hygiene items, covering a 14-day period. Additionally, WFP provided 1,936 hot meal rations to 1,046 individuals.
- WFP provided service delivery to the Government, totaling USD 86,000, to implement cash-based transfers for food assistance to 1,404 beneficiaries of the Food and Nutrition Programme for Tuberculosis Patients. This assistance also included technical support for nutrition education and a communication strategy focused on the appropriate use of the assistance, in alignment with national guidelines.
- WFP provided service delivery to the Government, totaling USD 169,000, to implement cash-based transfers for food assistance to parents' associations, enabling them to purchase and prepare fresh and nutritious food. This assistance covered 35 schools, providing hot meals to 8,693 students under the national school feeding programme.
- In March, the Feedback and Complaints Mechanism (CFM), successfully handled 135 requests from individuals supported across all WFP Peru operations, providing guidance and solutions. Additionally, 257 follow-up calls were made to participants in support of service delivery operations.
- As part of logistics service provision, WFP transported 103 mt of food on behalf of the Lima Foundation for community kitchens serving over 19,800 households in Lima's peri-urban areas.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2023-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
85 m	70 m	8.4 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.

## Capacity Strengthening

- In support of the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion (MIDIS), WFP facilitated technical workshops on “New Regulatory Frameworks for Disaster Risk Management and Adaptive Social Protection in Emergencies”. The workshops aimed to raise awareness of recent regulations and strengthen the capacity of MIDIS personnel to implement necessary adjustments during emergencies. Held in Chachapoyas (March 17) and Bagua (March 18), the sessions trained a total of 34 officials (19 men and 15 women).
- In support of MIDIS, WFP organized technical workshops on “Capacity Building for the Use and Accountability of Economic Subsidies for Community Kitchens”. The objective was to strengthen the capacities of local governments and community kitchen users to ensure the efficient use of transferred subsidies. These workshops were held in Condorcanqui (March 18), Moyobamba (March 20), Bagua Grande (March 19), and Tarapoto (March 21), training a total of 80 community kitchen users—all of them women.
- On March 27, a technical workshop was held in Moyobamba, focusing on “Identifying Lessons Learned and Good Practices in the Activation of Anticipatory Actions in Atumplaya”. The workshop brought together 15 officials (8 women, 7 men) from local governments and MIDIS teams. The event presented the results of the intervention and identified key lessons and good practices from the anticipatory action process.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

- In March, the “Comunidades de Hierro” project in Ventanilla concluded. Endline data revealed a 5.9 percentage point reduction in anemia among children under 3 years of age, decreasing from 17.1% to 11.2%. The impact was even more pronounced among children under 1 year old, with anemia rates falling from 33.1% to 19.5%. The intervention centered on capacity strengthening and family support, delivered primarily through home visits by trained community health agents.

## Challenges

- Prolonged political and social instability, compounded by food insecurity from ongoing crises and climate shocks, continues to disrupt Peru’s markets and supply chains. Despite the Government’s economic bonuses, food assistance, and emergency measures for the agricultural sector, these challenges persist. WFP anticipates that these factors will further strain the fragile economies of vulnerable households, including migrants and refugees, who face limited access to national social protection programmes.

## Donors

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