

WFP Dominican Republic Country Brief

Mayo 2025



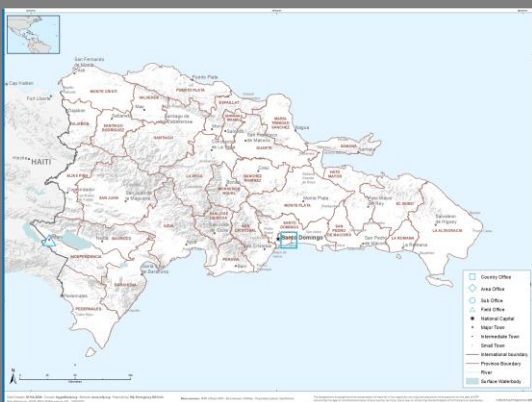
Members of the Interinstitutional Drought Committee hold monthly meeting

Operational Context

The Dominican Republic is a Small Island Developing State increasingly vulnerable to climate change, according to the 2022 Global Climate Risk Index. Approximately 25% of Dominican households are highly vulnerable to extreme weather events according to the Climate Shock Vulnerability Index. Intensifying hurricanes and recurring micro-disasters such as torrential rains and floodings, are not only increasing the humanitarian and economic toll, but also putting pressure on food systems. This crisis is exacerbated by the lingering global food crisis, instability in neighboring Haiti, and tightened immigration policies. Micronutrient deficiencies, overweight, and obesity remain significant concerns, particularly affecting women and children.

These overlapping challenges disproportionately affect those outside the social protection system, as well as undocumented individuals, migrants, smallholder farmers, and informal workers, highlighting the urgent need for inclusive and resilient support mechanisms.

WFP, present since 1969, works to strengthen food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable food systems in the country.



In Numbers

USD 9 m six months May. 2025 – Oct. 2025 net funding requirements, representing 57 percent of total.

Operational Updates

WFP highlighted the role of anticipatory actions and data in emergency situations during the regional meeting of the Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPRENAC), in preparation for the 2025 hurricane season. The hurricane season, which begins on June 1, is forecast to be above average, with 17 named storms and 9 hurricanes expected—highlighting the critical importance of preparedness and early planning. The regional meeting facilitated the exchange of experience and best practices, aimed at strengthening interinstitutional, regional, and international coordination to enhance preparedness, accelerate response and optimize the use of resources, to save lives.

WFP officially handed over the fully renovated Warehouse of the Civil Defense, a strategic facility with the capacity to store non-food items. The new facility, financed by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and the United States Government, and designed according to international standards of efficiency and resilience, was received by the President of the National Emergency Commission (CNE) and Executive Director of the Civil Defense, Juan Salas. This facility will enhance the Civil Defense's operational capacity for emergency response, ensuring the provision of timely technical and logistical support to national response entities. With this initiative the Civil Defense and its international partners reaffirm their commitment to emergency preparedness, prioritizing efficiency and solidarity in the protection of the Dominican population.

WFP Country Office in the Dominican Republic and the Haiti Country Office strengthen collaboration on preparedness, response, and preparatory work on the humanitarian logistics corridor ahead of the hurricane season. The Automated Analysis System for Weather Events and Issuance of Operational Alerts platform (Anacaona) was presented to Haiti CO management and the Regional Director for Latin America and Caribbean, Ms Lola Castro, exploring opportunities for engagement and discussing its potential applicability to support the Office's operations in response to a hurricane during the 2025 season. Discussions also covered potential service support areas from the Dominican Republic to Haiti's country office team.

WFP and DP World reaffirm their partnerships in preparation for the upcoming hurricane season. The 1,200m² logistics space dedicated to prepositioning has been extended through December 2025, ensuring continued support for humanitarian operations. Discussions are ongoing to explore the feasibility of using DP World's barge to reach Cap Haitien, thus improving regional connectivity. In addition, WFP and DP World reaffirm their commitment to strengthening the Port of Caucedo as a strategic hub for humanitarian aid, highlighting its role in integrating port, customs and bonded warehousing services in the Caribbean.

Population: **10.7 million**

2022 Human Development Index: **82 out of 193**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **7.1% of children under 5 years**

Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
47.2 m	1 m	9 m

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

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations at risk of food insecurity and malnutrition in the Dominican Republic are able to meet their food and other essential needs at all times.

Focus area: crisis response

Activities:

- Provide humanitarian assistance to affected populations and people most vulnerable to disasters, emergencies and prolonged crises while strengthening social protection systems through a gender and protection approach

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

Strategic Outcome 2: Food- and nutritionally insecure populations in the Dominican Republic have access to diverse diets throughout the life cycle by 2028.

Focus area: Root causes

Activities:

- Provide direct transfers and strengthen the capacity of households and people to improve their access to and consumption of diverse diets, through a gender-transformative and social protection approach

Strategic Result 3: People have improved and sustainable livelihoods

Strategic Outcome 3: Climate-vulnerable populations in the Dominican Republic, including smallholder farmers and other actors in food value chains, are more resilient and benefit from sustainable, healthy and equitable food systems by 2028.

Focus area: Resilience-building.

Activities:

- Provide technical assistance, promote evidence generation and support advocacy strategies for disaster risk management, emergency preparedness and response and climate change adaptation among institutions and vulnerable communities.

Strategic Result 4: National programmes and systems are strengthened

Strategic Outcome 4: Public, private and civil society institutions at the national and local levels in the Dominican Republic have strengthened systems that improve resilience in the face of shocks, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and food and nutrition by 2028.

Focus area: Resilience-building

Activities:

- Provide technical skills and strengthen the capacity of institutions at the national and local levels to enable them to improve policies, strategies and programmes related to food security and nutrition through a gender-transformative, protection and climate resilience approach.

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

Strategic Outcome 5: Government institutions and humanitarian and development actors in the Dominican Republic receive efficient and effective services by 2028.

Focus area: Resilience-building.

Activities:

- Provide supply chain and other services to government institutions and humanitarian and development actors to facilitate their efforts to meet the needs of target populations

WFP participated in the monthly meeting of the Interinstitutional Drought Committee led by the Dominican Institute of Meteorology (INDOMET). In the Dominican Republic the impacts of drought have intensified in recent year due to climate change, putting at risk food security, and highlighting the need for a coordinated action. The meeting brought together key national stakeholders to align efforts in addressing drought risks. A highlight of the session was the presentation of the May-July 2025 Climate Outlook enriched by insights from INDOMET's participation in the 77th Central America Climate Forum held in April. This regional engagement underscores INDOMET's commitment to integrating global expertise into national strategies. The meeting facilitated a review of the annual work plan and commitments, the terms of reference guiding interinstitutional collaboration, and aimed at fostering dialog to enhance coordination.

Monitoring

Members of the National Committee for the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), including WFP, completed their analysis, resulting in the release of the Acute Food Insecurity Situation in the Dominican Republic for Oct. 2024 – Jan. 2025 along with projections for Feb. – May 2025 and Jun. – Sept. 2025. Results show that limited food access, combined with high food prices and climate variability, drives 922,000 people (8 percent of the population) into high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) between February and May 2025. To address food insecurity effectively, a set of recommendations has been drawn including the need for urgent humanitarian food assistance actions for people in the condition of crisis, targeted social protection programs for populations with climate-vulnerable livelihoods, and adoption of strategies aimed at strengthening resilience, reducing risks, and protecting the livelihoods of the population in situations of acute food insecurity.

Challenges

Due to funding shortfalls, WFP is pursuing new resource opportunities by exploring partnerships with the private sector and engaging with government entities to address challenges related to food security. WFP is mobilizing resources to address capacity strengthening needs of the State to respond to possible emergencies, as well as those caused by increased migration flows between the DR and Haiti. Massive deportations since 2022 remain a concern.

Partnerships

The reduction in international funding requires diversifying sources (e.g. from private and national sources) and adopting a nexus approach to maximize the efficient use of available funding. WFP is proactively seeking collaboration with both government and private sector actors. These efforts extend beyond humanitarian response to advance the “changing lives” agenda.

Donors

European Union (DG-ECHO), United States of America Government, Ireland, GFFO, Friends of Japan, and Supérate Social Protection Program (Government of the Dominican Republic).