



World Food Programme

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# WFP Caribbean Country Brief May 2025



Government officials, partners, and representatives from WFP and CDEMA commemorate the opening of the Caribbean Regional Logistics Hub in Barbados.

## 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**

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## In Numbers

**USD 2.8 million** cash-based transfers made

**USD 3.5 m** six months (June 2025- November 2025) net funding requirements

**30,232 people assisted**  
in July 2024-May 2025

**51%**



**49%**



## Operational Updates

- On 26 May 2025, WFP, in partnership with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), inaugurated the Caribbean Regional Logistics Hub and Centre of Excellence in Barbados. This state-of-the-art facility provides warehousing, training, and transport services to enhance regional emergency response. The hub strengthens the surge capacity of CDEMA and its Participating States by enabling the rapid deployment of prepositioned relief supplies to support vulnerable communities during crises.
- WFP launched a third round of cash assistance in Jamaica to support households affected by Hurricane Beryl, which struck in July 2024. Since the start of the response, a total of 14,226 disaster-affected individuals have received cash assistance to help meet their essential needs.
- In partnership with the Government of Barbados, WFP provided cash assistance to 662 beneficiaries from fishing households whose livelihoods were disrupted by the impact of Hurricane Beryl. This support offered temporary income relief to affected households not covered by formal social protection schemes or existing government programmes.
- WFP continues to support the CDEMA in strengthening disaster management through the rollout of the Supply Chain Assessment Navigator (SCAN)- a self-assessment tool to help countries establish a baseline for the supply chain performance for the CDEMA participating states. This model evaluates key supply chain components, pinpoints weak links, and guides CDEMA and WFP in prioritizing efforts to eliminate bottlenecks and enhance overall performance. The tool was rolled out in Dominica and Belize where findings were presented to the National Disaster Management Offices for the prioritization of key improvement areas and the establishment of timelines for implementation.
- Ahead of the 2025 Atlantic hurricane season, WFP partnered with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to train 30 emergency responders in the deployment and operation of emergency response equipment. In Saint Lucia, WFP worked with the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) and the Ministry of Equity to assess disaster response equipment and protocols, identifying gaps and mapping existing capacities to enhance national preparedness.

Multi-Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
85.3 m	60 m	3.5 m

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

- In May 2025, WFP entered into a funding agreement with the European Union under the Caribbean Resilient Programme, securing USD 2.7 million to bolster regional resilience and emergency preparedness efforts. This partnership aims to strengthen national systems across Caribbean countries by enhancing disaster risk management capacities, supporting climate-resilient food systems, and improving shock-responsive social protection mechanisms.

Donors

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, European Union, Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, Government of Canada, the United States Agency for International Development Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID BHA), the Coca Cola Foundation, United Nations Global Emergency Response Fund, and the United Nations Joint SDG Fund.

Additionally, WFP also supported the government in updating the Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA), originally completed in 2020. The assessment identified critical bottlenecks that could hinder emergency response effectiveness, allowing for improved operational planning and localized contingency strategies. The revised LCA was officially approved on 25 May 2025.

- WFP partnered with the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to assess emergency stock in preparation for the 2025 hurricane season. The exercise ensured timely collection, organization, and presentation of key stock data and correspondence to facilitate coordination among WFP, NEMO, and CDEMA in the event of an emergency to facilitate an efficient response.

Monitoring

In March 2025, the WFP conducted post-distribution monitoring (PDM) in Barbados to assess cash assistance provided to those impacted by Hurricane Beryl in the fishing community. Key findings include:

- 100% of beneficiaries who participated in the PDM indicated that they were satisfied with the overall programme.
- The main benefits of the food assistance were being better able to meet household needs (71%) and improved food consumption (68%).
- 94% showed an acceptable food consumption at the time of the survey, indicating that the assistance they received might have improved their access to food or mitigated negative food consumption patterns.
- Nonetheless, a high proportion of beneficiaries resorted to negative food coping strategies by mainly relying on less preferred/expensive foods and reducing the portion of their meals. One third of beneficiaries adopted either crisis or emergency livelihood coping strategies, indicating a reduced capacity for future productivity that may be irreversible in nature.