

# WFP Peru **Country Brief** August 2025

SAVING **LIVES** CHANGING **LIVES** 



Processing Centre inauguration in Sechura, Peru

# **Operational Context**

Increases in global prices for fuel, food, and fertilizers pushed inflation in Peru to its highest level in 26 years in 2022. Although inflation has since eased and now falls within the Central Reserve Bank's target range, the recovery remains uneven. Economic growth has been primarily driven by mining production and exports, particularly copper. However, poverty remains high at around 29 percent, with rural areas disproportionately affected. This represents an estimated ten-year setback in poverty reduction, highlighting persistent structural inequalities in the country.

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 43.7 percent of young children. Chronic malnutrition and acute malnutrition affect 12.1 percent and 0.4 percent of children under 5 years old, respectively (ENDES 2024).



Population: 34.5 million

2025 Human Development Report. HDI 0.794 (79 out of 193 countries)

Income Level: Upper middle

Chronic malnutrition: 12.1% of children between 6-59 months (2024)

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# **In Numbers**

**USD 88,600** cash-based transfers made\*

USD 4.5 m six months (September 2025 -February 2026) net funding requirements, representing 23 percent of total.

## 3,784 people directly assisted\*

in August 2025

\*Preliminary figures





# **Operational Updates**

- WFP assisted 2,372 in-transit migrants at the northern and southern borders with a one-off cash-based transfer (food card) to improve their access to food and basic hygiene items. Additionally, WFP provided 2,457 hot meal rations to 1.412 individuals in Tumbes.
- WFP is currently present at three strategic points along the migration route: Tumbes, Tacna, and Lima. WFP is cautiously increasing the visibility of its operations to strike a balance between informing migrants about available assistance and ensuring the safety and security of distribution points and staff.
- WFP provided service delivery to the Government, totaling USD 280,000, to implement cash-based transfers for food assistance to 5,969 participants 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 146,000, 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 8,657 students under the national school feeding programme.
- As part of logistics service provision, WFP transported 172 mt of food on behalf of the Lima Foundation for community kitchens serving over 6,797 households in Lima's peri-urban areas.
- In August, the Feedback and Complaints Mechanism (CFM), successfully handled 377 requests from individuals supported across all WFP Peru operations, providing guidance and solutions.

# **WFP Country Strategy**



# Country Strategic Plan (2023-2026) Total Requirement (in USD) Allocated Contributions (in USD) 93.3 m 71.4 m 8.6 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.

### **Donors**

Government of Peru, European Commission (DG ECHO), Germany, Ireland, Switzerland, United States of America, multilateral funds, Peruvian private sector donors and WFP Changing Lives Transformation Fund.

# **Monitoring and Evaluation**

 As part of the pilot initiative for the distribution of food vouchers to patients with tuberculosis, a costeffectiveness study was launched in late August. The study will compare the cost and effectiveness of providing food vouchers—enabling patients to purchase food—versus the distribution of food baskets. Effectiveness will be measured based on the diversity of food group consumption and patients' perceived quality of life. The results of the study are expected to be available by January 2026.

# **Capacity Strengthening**

- The fourth workshop on Anticipatory Actions was held in the cities of Chiclayo, Piura, and Cusco. The purpose of these events was to gather input for the preliminary design of the Anticipatory Actions Protocol, which is currently under development. In Chiclayo and Piura, 23 officials from various public entities participated, while in Cusco, 18 attendees took part in the event.
- Field visits and workshops were conducted with local authorities and communities in La Convención, Cusco for developing the roadmap to implement the parametric insurance pilot project in four district municipalities: Santa Ana, Quellouno, Echarate, and Huayopata.
- In August, WFP supported the establishment of a collection center in Piura for vegetables, greens, and tubers, enabling 81 farmers to offer their products and expand their sales to educational institutions, as well as through fairs and local markets. In Cusco, progress is being made on the implementation of two additional collection centers. These efforts are complemented by training sessions on management, good handling practices, and food safety, which strengthen the capacities of local farmers.

# **Challenges**

 WFP in Peru continues to face a complex operational landscape marked by rising poverty, persistent food insecurity, and increasingly frequent climate-related emergencies. Despite past economic growth, over half of the population remains vulnerable, with chronic malnutrition, anaemia, and obesity affecting children and adolescents. Political instability has emerged as a significant challenge, complicating coordination efforts and the implementation of long-term food security strategy.