



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Caribbean Country Brief February 2025



Celia Bethel collected the cash assistance that WFP provided after Hurricane Beryl in Grenada.

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 coastal 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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Photo: @ WFP/ Rheanna Chen

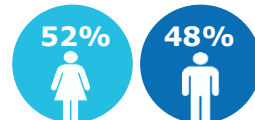
In Numbers

63 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 2 million cash-based transfers made

USD 4.5 m six months (March 2025- August 2025) net funding requirements

27,192 people assisted
in July 2024- February 2025



Operational Updates

- At the request of the Government of Belize, WFP supported damage assessments in the hardest-hit areas. WFP provided critical geospatial analysis to enhance emergency response efforts and improve understanding of the flood's impact following the passage of Tropical Storm Sara in November 2024.
- WFP delivered essential cash assistance to 20,549 people in Grenada, Jamaica, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines following the impact of Hurricane Beryl.
- WFP and the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines have launched an unconditional cash programme to assist 6,300 individuals affected by Hurricane Beryl, providing support to 5,224 people as of February 2025. Additionally, WFP continues to collaborate with the Union Island Environmental Alliance on a clean-up campaign to restore critical infrastructure and strengthen community resilience. The project has cleared public spaces and supported 304 vulnerable individuals by removing debris. Key efforts include clearing the Chatham Bay area on Union Island, particularly the Chatham Bay Rainforest Reserve, which plays a vital ecological role in soil stabilization, erosion prevention, rainfall attraction, and providing a habitat for endangered species.
- In partnership with the Government of Barbados, WFP launched a cash-based transfer programme to support the fisheries sector by providing targeted cash assistance to vulnerable households whose livelihoods and incomes were negatively affected by the impact of Hurricane Beryl. WFP's assistance will provide temporary income support to households who were affected by the Hurricane and are not covered by formal safety nets or existing government interventions. To date, a total of 59 beneficiaries from 12 fishing households have received support with the wider assistance delivered in February 2025.
- The Beryl Relief Income Support Programme (BRISP) started on 4 February 2025, distributing cash assistance to people most affected by Hurricane Beryl. This effort follows the activation of Grenada's Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF) policy, which generated a USD 4.3 million payout. WFP's support was instrumental in helping the Government design and implement the programme.

Multi-Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
85.3 m	54.9 m	4.5 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

- WFP partnered with the Coca-Cola Foundation to support the recovery of Barbados's fisheries sector after the devastating impact of Hurricane Beryl in 2024. Through a \$150,000 grant, the partnership aims to provide targeted assistance to vulnerable households whose livelihoods were disrupted. WFP's intervention focuses on delivering temporary income support to help affected families meet essential needs while facilitating the long-term recovery and resilience of the fisheries sector.
- WFP received USD 200,000 from the Church of Jesus Christ and the Latter-Day Saints to support smallholder farming households in Belize, by providing digital vouchers for post-harvest handling, storage, and transport to maximize income and food security.

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), United Nations Global Emergency Response Fund, and the United Nations Joint SDG Fund.

Operational Updates Continued

- WFP's logistics services in Grenada, Jamaica, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines have come to an end for the Hurricane Beryl response.
- Under its capacity-strengthening programme, at Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency's (CDEMA) request, WFP developed 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 is now being rolled out across the Caribbean, with successful implementations in Belize, Suriname, and Antigua and Barbuda. Based on SCAN findings, Suriname's government is executing a targeted action plan to strengthen key logistical and organizational functions, with similar plans in development for Antigua and Belize.
- In Dominica, efficiency in social protection was strengthened through support to map existing services, develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the Social Services Unit, draft a revised SOP for digitalization, and define a system structure.

Monitoring

In December 2024, the WFP conducted post-distribution monitoring in Jamaica to assess cash assistance provided to those impacted by Hurricane Beryl. Key findings include:

- 97% indicated that they were satisfied with the overall programme.
- The main benefits of the assistance programme were being able to repair house/assets (69%), improved food consumption (51%) and being better able to meet household needs (19%).
- 65% of respondents were unable to access markets in 14 days leading up to the survey due to lack of cash to spend.
- 88% of the interviewees had an acceptable food consumption score at the time of the survey.
- 68% resorted to spending savings, the main reason for adopting livelihood coping strategies being to buy food (89%).
- The main worries/concerns for the future were that of inability to cover essential needs (41%), unemployment/income generation (35%), inability to cover food needs (27%) and inadequate housing (31%).