



Smallholder farmer from Sharing The Meal project. Cusco-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)

In Numbers

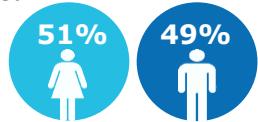
USD 210,270 cash-based transfers made*

USD 4.5 m six months (December 2025 – May 2026) net funding requirements, representing 34 percent of total.

4,825 people directly assisted*

in November 2025

*Preliminary figures



Operational Updates

- In November, WFP assisted 2,036 in-transit migrants and 1,472 settled migrants in border areas such as Tumbes and Tacna, and in Lima with food cards. Additionally, WFP provided 2,645 hot meal rations to 1,317 individuals in Tumbes.
- WFP provided service delivery to the Government, totalling USD 251,800, to implement cash-based transfers for food assistance to 5,254 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's RAM unit presented studies to MIDIS on the use of food vouchers by tuberculosis patients. Results showed that vouchers promote greater food diversity compared to in-kind baskets, and repeated transfers are positively linked to healthier purchases. Among 160 patients who transitioned from baskets to vouchers, 95 percent preferred vouchers, 61 percent used an electronic card for the first time, and 68 percent did not receive all their entitled baskets. These findings will inform improvements to the project design in 2026.
- WFP provided service delivery to the Government, totalling USD 269,600, 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 8,696 students under the national school feeding programme.
- As part of logistics service provision, WFP transported 138 MT of food on behalf of the Lima Foundation and 30 TM from agroindustry for community kitchens serving over 7,300 households in Lima's peri-urban areas.

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
93.3 m	71.7 m	4.5 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, World Bank, European Commission (DG ECHO), Germany, Ireland, Switzerland, United States of America, multilateral funds, Peruvian private sector donors and WFP Changing Lives Transformation Fund.

Partnerships

- WFP signed a regional inter-institutional cooperation agreement with the Andean Community (CAN), renewing the commitment and joint work of both organizations. Facilitated by the WFP Country Office in Peru, this agreement aims to promote and develop initiatives that strengthen food and nutrition security, including in emergency or disaster contexts across CAN member countries.
- WFP formalized a cooperation agreement with the National Authority for Health and Safety in Fisheries and Aquaculture, joining efforts to reinforce the value chain by ensuring the supply of nutritious and safe products and promoting their inclusion in social food programmes.

Capacity Strengthening

- WFP launched specialized seminars on financial mechanisms for disaster risk management in Cusco and Lambayeque, training 70 subnational government officials. The initiative, part of the Financial Access for Disaster Resilience project supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, aims to strengthen capacities and enhance preparedness for emergencies.
- WFP held validation sessions for Anticipatory Action protocols with government officials in Lambayeque and Piura, engaging 30 participants. WFP also contributed to the International Workshop on Lessons Learned in Havana, Cuba, supporting the design of models for drought and flood response and incorporating insights into Peru's Anticipatory Action framework.
- WFP supported the validation of activation protocols for parametric insurance with four prioritized local governments, strengthening disaster response planning and informing the design of CBT mechanisms for rapid assistance. Sixteen municipal and civil defense officials were trained on protocol implementation and early warning integration, enhancing local capacity to activate insurance-based response mechanisms.

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.