



WFP DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

COUNTRY BRIEF

May 2026



Key highlights

- WFP strengthened adaptive social protection by convening key partners, integrating new institutions, and advancing tools such as the Emergency Cash Transfer and FIBE. It supported government-led response to the severe April floods, providing technical and operational assistance for multisectoral assessments and data-driven decision-making.
- WFP also advanced strategic partnerships and technical capacities in climate resilience, early warning systems, and spatial data, while contributing to regional dialogue on nutrition and evidence-based policymaking.



USD 3.9M required in the next six months
(May– October 2026)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- The Dominican Republic, like other Small Island Developing States in the Caribbean, is highly exposed to severe weather events such as hurricanes, flooding, and droughts, which disrupt livelihoods, damage infrastructure, and strain food systems. Ecosystem degradation further reduces natural protection against extreme events. Around 25% of households are highly vulnerable to climate shocks, disproportionately affecting poor and hazard-prone communities. Territorial inequalities leave rural and border provinces with fewer opportunities and higher poverty rates, while 53.4% of employment is informal. Global food price volatility, dependence on remittances, and localized migration pressures compound these risks, intersecting with persistent micronutrient deficiencies and the double burden of malnutrition disproportionately affecting women, children, and excluded groups. These vulnerabilities are exacerbated by global market instability linked to the Middle East crisis, driving food price volatility, energy cost increases, and supply chain disruption, raising concern for national food security and household resilience.
- WFP's strategy links national planning with local action to address recurrent shocks systemically. Evidence and data guide interventions, building government capacity so central decisions translate into community protection. Climate services and risk management tools are embedded in social protection through local networks, enabling anticipatory action. Pre-positioning, disaster risk finance, and logistics corridors ensure rapid response when systems are strained. Platforms such as ANACAONA and the DR–Haiti corridor exemplify collective resilience.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Adaptative Social Protection

- WFP played a central convening and technical support role during the April meeting of the Adaptive Social Protection Working Group, helping to advance coordinated action and strengthen system-wide response capacities. The meeting was marked by the incorporation of new institutions, including the National Council on Disability (CONADIS) and the Ministry of Environment, strengthening inter-institutional coordination for emergency social response. The agenda focused on participation in the regional launch of the Inter-American Development Bank's Adaptive Social Protection Maturity Study; the presentation of results from workshops and simulation exercises conducted under the EIPSA processes, with active facilitation by WFP; and the sharing of lessons learned and results from the social protection system's response to emergencies in February and April. Key measures highlighted included the activation of the Emergency Cash Transfer (Bono de Emergencia) and the deployment of the Basic Emergency Assessment Form (FIBE), both of which WFP has supported as critical tools for targeting and evidence-based decision-making.

Disaster Risk Management

- WFP provided critical technical, operational, and coordination support to the national social protection system following the severe flooding events registered in April 2026, which occurred in a context of exceptional rainfall, 172% above national averages, and led to widespread impacts, particularly in Puerto Plata, Santo Domingo Oeste, and Pedro Brand. These conditions resulted in localized humanitarian crises and significant multi-sector needs affecting tens of thousands of people, including heightened vulnerabilities among migrant populations.
- In response, WFP supported a timely and adaptive emergency operation. Through its engagement with the Social Policy Coordination Cabinet, WFP strengthened inter-institutional coordination and promoted evidence-based decision-making. It also supported Supérate in drafting the resolution to activate the Emergency Cash Transfer (Bono de Emergencia), contributing to the definition of

activation criteria and the structuring of the response process, marking the first time this mechanism was deployed within just five days of the shock. In parallel, WFP assisted SIUBEN in rolling out the Basic Emergency Assessment Form (FIBE), enabling the rapid identification of affected households and improved targeting.

- Under the UNETE framework, WFP further contributed to multisectoral damage and needs assessments, conducted in Puerto Plata (Montellano) and the Santo Domingo areas, helping to generate a comprehensive understanding of needs across sectors, including food security, WASH, housing, health, education, and protection. WFP also supported overall coordination efforts, including the prioritization of affected areas and the use of ANACAONA for real-time information management, ensuring a more coherent, inclusive, and evidence-based response across government and humanitarian actors.

Data for decision-making

- WFP conducted technical planning workshops with the National Institute of Hydraulic Resources (INDRHI) and the Dominican Institute of Meteorology (INDOMET) to advance a joint cooperation agenda and workplan for 2026–2027, focused on strengthening Early Warning Systems (EWS) and Anticipatory Actions (AA) in the country. Engagement with INDRHI prioritized hydrological capacity building, improved monitoring systems, and the operational use of hydrometeorological data for risk management, while identifying gaps in data interpretation, dissemination, and technical infrastructure. Discussions with INDOMET focused on strengthening the ANACAONA system, validating meteorological data, and enhancing operational products for AA. Key next steps include developing standardized AA bulletins, advancing capacity building in geospatial and climate tools, and progressing institutional agreements. These efforts reinforce WFP's role as a strategic technical partner, supporting improved coordination, data use, and anticipatory approaches at the national level.
- WFP met with representatives of the National Geographic Institute (IGN) as part of its ongoing support to promote the dissemination and adoption of the national spatial data policy. The meeting brought together the Head of the Geography Department and the lead of the Spatial Data

Infrastructure (SDI), focusing on aligning next steps to strengthen institutional uptake of the policy. Discussions centered on the organization of targeted workshops with key institutions to enhance awareness, improve technical capacities, and foster the effective use of geospatial data. This engagement contributes to advancing a more coordinated, data-driven approach to planning and decision-making at the national level.

Resilience & Climate Change

- WFP contributed to a strategic planning session to strengthen the implementation of the USG-funded Cuenca Resiliente and ECHO-funded ANACAONA initiatives, in close collaboration with Plan International and The Nature Conservancy. The workshop fostered joint reflection, analysis, and adaptive planning, aligning partners around priorities and long-term objectives. It also supported the refinement of management, monitoring, and evaluation tools, while integrating key elements to enhance advocacy and communication efforts. This collaborative process reinforced a shared vision and established a stronger foundation to ensure the sustainability, effectiveness, and scalability of these initiatives moving forward.
- WFP participated in the first joint mission to San Juan province under the SDG Fund Joint Programme, "Advancing Food Systems Transformation in the Dominican Republic: The Scalable Yaque del Sur Basin Model," aimed at strengthening institutional coordination ahead of implementation. The mission combined field visits and strategic meetings with key stakeholders, including the Provincial Government, schools, and producers organizations, as well as site visits to degraded areas in the upper basin to better understand territorial challenges and opportunities. It also enabled the identification of local leaders and partners critical for programme rollout. The mission brought together representatives from agencies and institutions such as FAO, WFP, UNEP, and the Ministry of the Presidency (Technical Secretariat for Food and Nutritional Security), fostering a coordinated approach to support food systems transformation.
- WFP met with the Ministry of Environment as part of its strategy to strengthen collaboration with government counterparts on climate resilience and disaster risk management. The engagement aimed

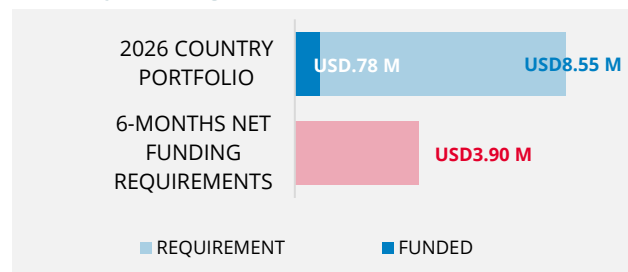
to build a shared agenda for cooperation and provided an opportunity to present the Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA), a programme designed to co-create and scale innovative solutions that enhance climate and social resilience. The initiative will support the country in identifying priority challenges, scouting and testing innovative technologies, generating evidence on their effectiveness, and developing sustainable, scalable solutions that can be integrated into national policies on climate adaptation and risk management.

Nutrition

- WFP participated as a panelist in a regional symposium on data use for decision-making, organized by the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP), with the participation of the Ministry of Public Health (MSP) and the Central American Integration System (SICA). The intervention focused on the role of data in public policy formulation, highlighting the National Micronutrient Survey as a key source of evidence to inform social protection decisions. Particular emphasis was placed on its relevance for strengthening food security and supporting the prevention of anemia and neural tube defects linked to micronutrient deficiencies. The event, held within the framework of the Dominican Republic's Pro Tempore Presidency of INCAP, provided a strategic platform for WFP to contribute to regional dialogue on evidence-based policymaking.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2024-2028)



Note: 2026 funding refers exclusively to contributions received in 2026.

Donors:

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