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**ROADMAP**

**LATIN AMERICA 2026**

**MAY 2026**



**ACTION  
AGAINST  
HUNGER**



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# 1. NEEDS AND CHALLENGES

# NEEDS AND CHALLENGES

Recent global crises, including protracted conflicts, geopolitical tensions, and economic shocks, have disrupted international markets and increased pressure on the prices of food, energy, and agricultural inputs. These impacts disproportionately affect the most vulnerable households, increasing the risk of food insecurity and loss of livelihoods.

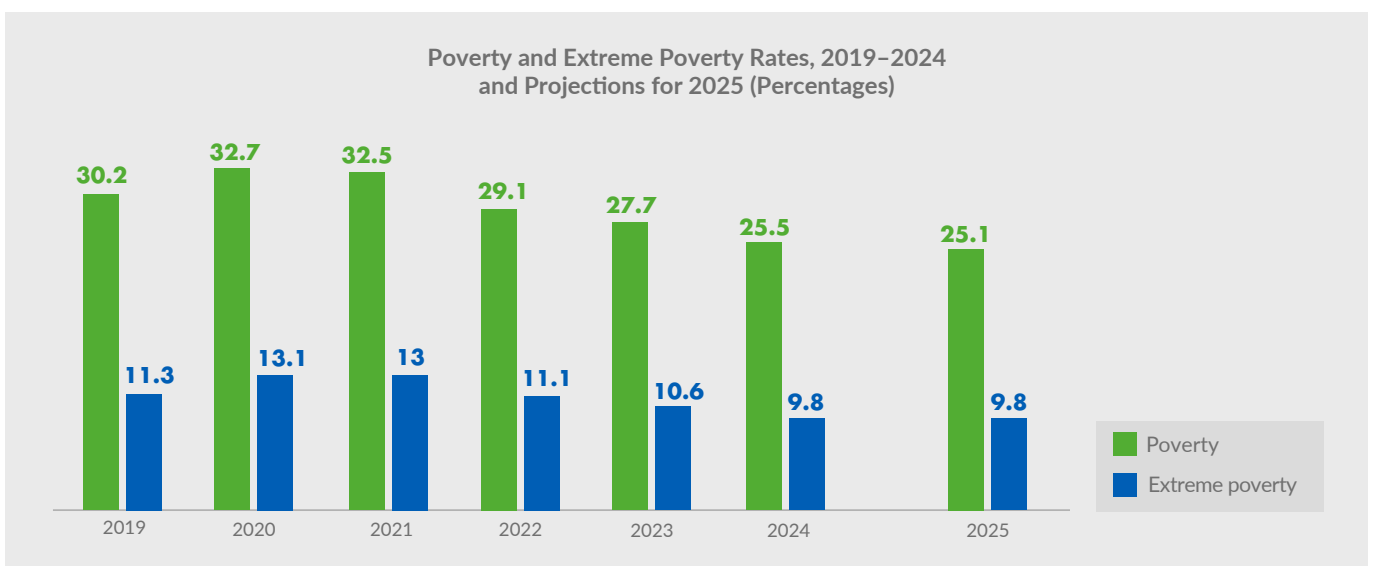
In Latin America, this context is reflected in a diverse and evolving humanitarian landscape. Despite efforts made in recent years to strengthen response and coordination mechanisms, challenges related to violence, displacement, food insecurity, and the impacts of extreme climate events persist. Added to this are reductions in humanitarian funding and growing competition for resources, reinforcing the need for more strategic and sustainable responses to increasingly interconnected challenges, while directing action toward the people and territories with the greatest exposure and least access to essential services.



## POVERTY AND EMPLOYMENT

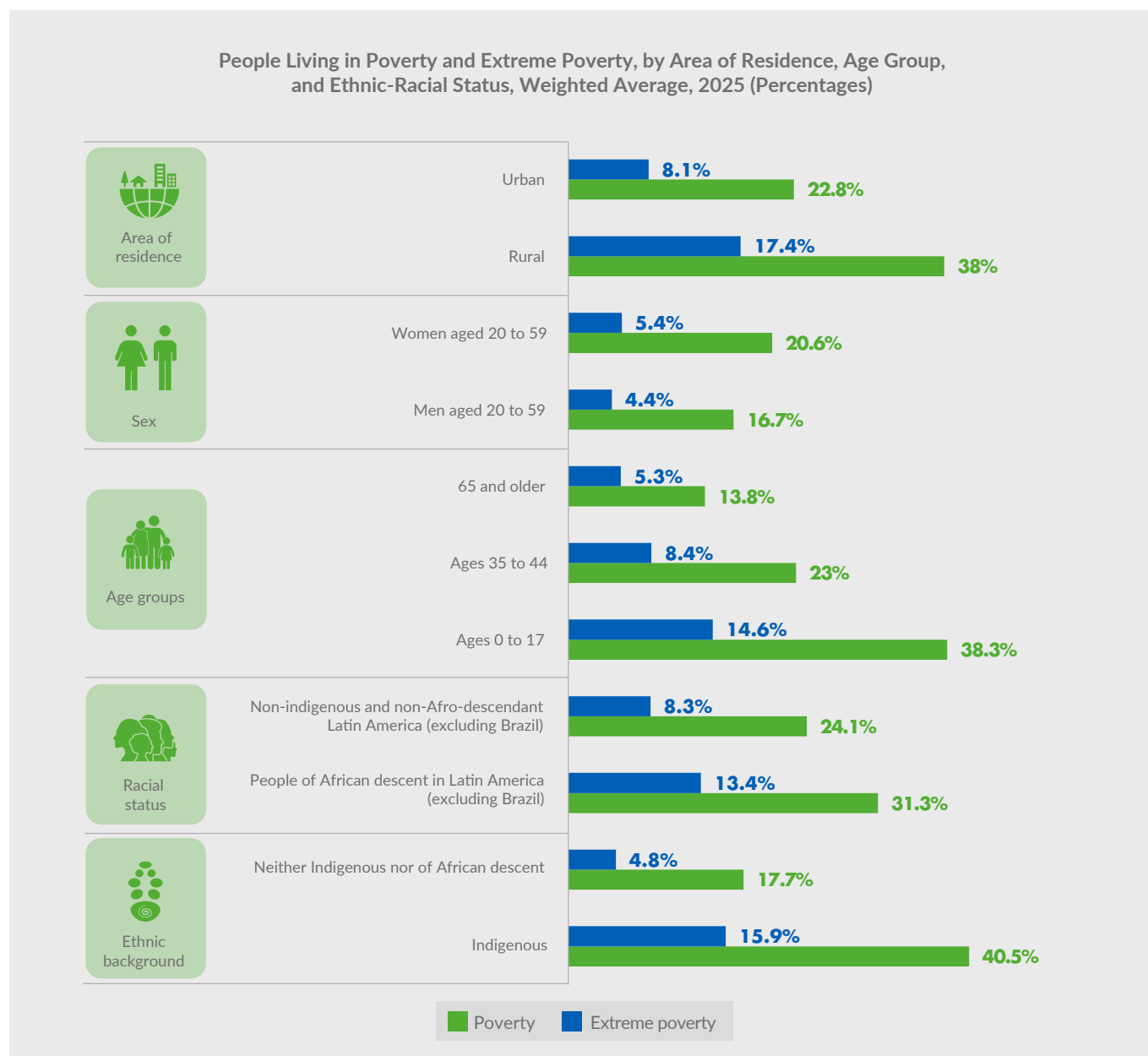
Poverty remains one of the region's main challenges. In 2024, 25.5% of the population (162 million people) lived in income poverty, the lowest level since comparable records began. However, extreme poverty affected 9.8% of the population (62 million people), showing that a significant share of the population is still unable to meet basic food needs.

The reduction observed is largely explained by the performance of major economies such as Mexico and Brazil, while progress in other countries has been more limited.



Source: Own elaboration based on ECLAC, 2025

Moreover, structural inequalities based on gender, region, and ethnic and racial background persist, as shown in the figure below:



Source: Own elaboration based on ECLAC, 2025

Once again this year, poverty does not affect the population uniformly: women, girls, and boys, as well as people living in rural areas, continue to be disproportionately affected. For every 100 men living in multidimensional poverty, there are **122 women** in the same situation.<sup>1</sup> Women aged 20 to 59 in urban areas experience a poverty rate **1.28 times higher** than that of men in the same age group, and 1.15 times higher in rural areas.<sup>2</sup> Likewise, Indigenous and Afro-descendant populations face more concerning conditions than the rest of the population, with poverty rates of 40.5% and 31.3%, respectively, well above the regional average.<sup>2</sup> Income concentration remains the highest in the world: **the richest 10%**

capture **34.2% of total income**, while the poorest 10% receive only 1.7%.<sup>1</sup>

In the labour sector, the market continues to be characterized by low dynamism, segmentation, and exclusion, with persistent informality affecting **47% of employed people**. Women and young people face greater barriers: **one out of every two women** remains outside the labour market, while youth unemployment is three times higher than that of adults (**11.5% compared to 4.5%**). Labour formalization is strategic: progress toward formal employment could reduce poverty among employed people from 14.9% to 8.6%.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ECLAC, Social Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean 2025.

<sup>2</sup> ECLAC, Statistical Yearbook of Latin America and the Caribbean 2025.

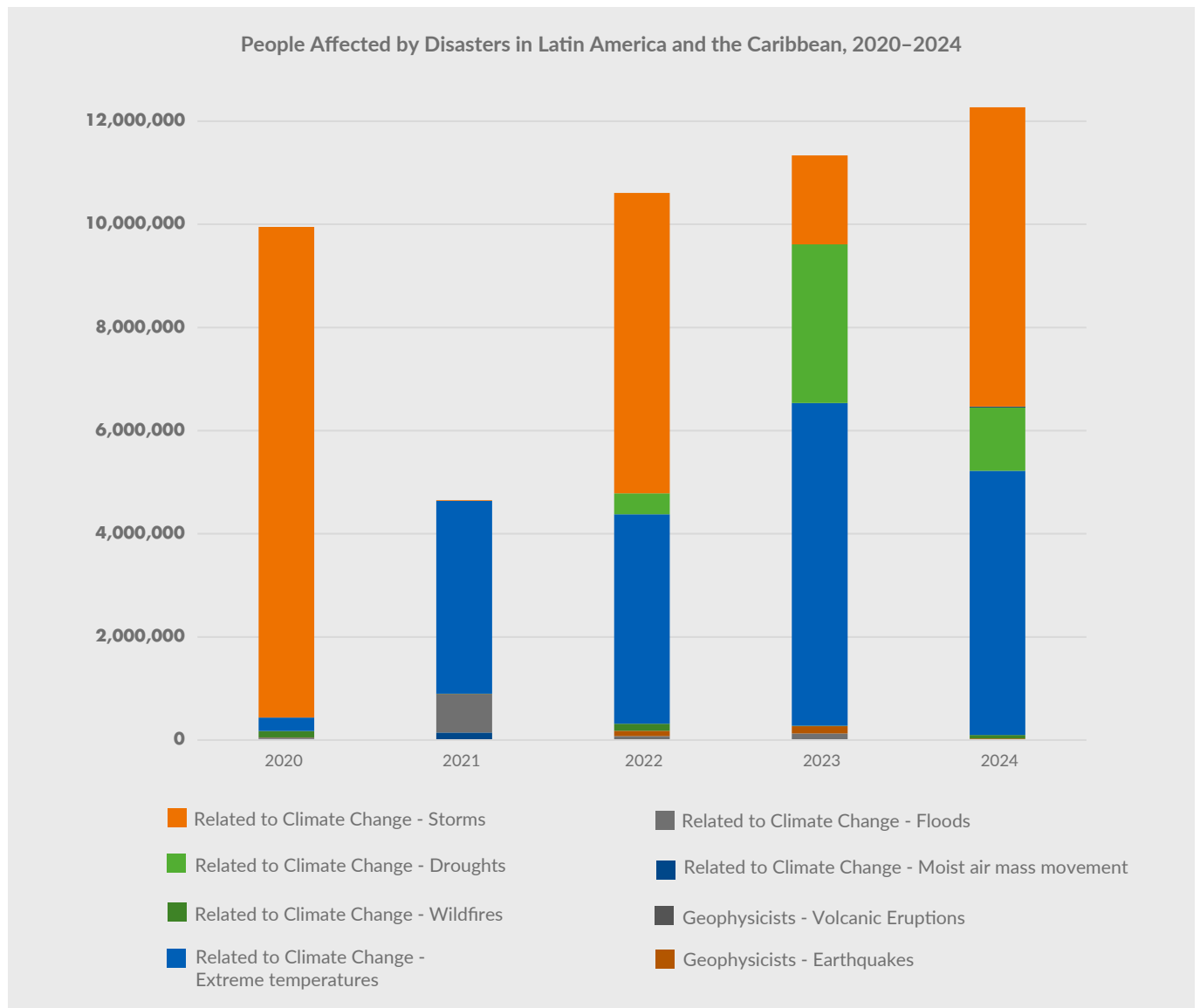


Regarding health services, barriers to access are both financial and territorial. Rural and remote areas continue to be the most underserved, with limited availability or poor-quality services. This deficit contributes to circular migration movements such as those observed along the Venezuela-Colombia border and further exacerbates household vulnerability. Globally, more than **1.6 billion people** fall into poverty every year due to out-of-pocket health expenditures.<sup>2</sup>

## CLIMATE VARIABILITY

In addition to poverty, the region faces the challenges associated with being the second most exposed region in the world to extreme climate events: at least **74% of countries** experience a high frequency of such phenomena, and 59% are particularly vulnerable because such events amplify the impact of climate shocks on food security, according to the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2025 (SOFI).

In 2024, the region recorded its warmest year on record in Central America and the Caribbean, with average temperatures reaching +0.90°C above the 1991-2020 historical average.<sup>3</sup> In that year alone, **82 natural disasters** directly affected **more than 12 million people**, and generated economic losses amounting to USD 21.777 billion.<sup>4</sup> These climate shocks undermine agricultural production, access to water, and the continuity of essential services, thereby increasing the risk of food insecurity.



Source: Own elaboration based on CEPALSTAT DataBank, 2025

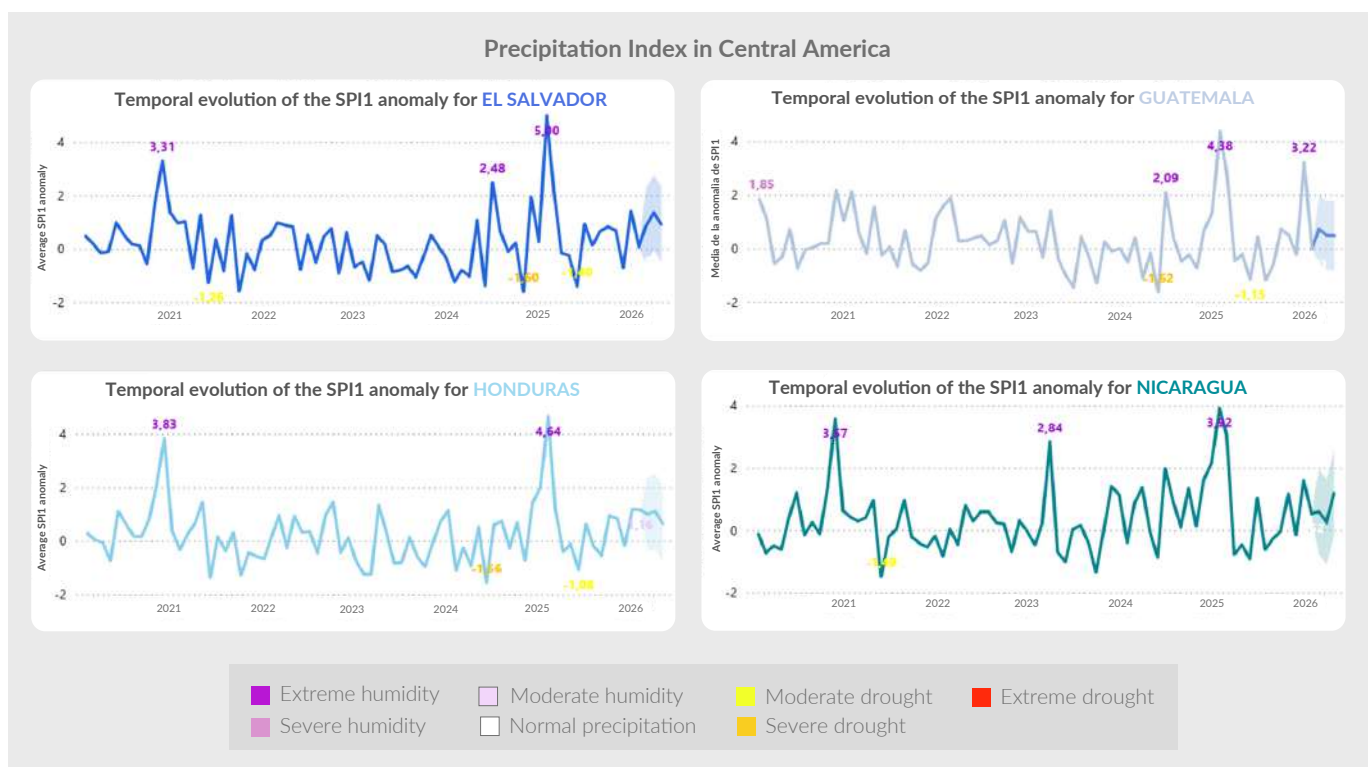
<sup>3</sup> WMO, State of the Climate in Latin America and the Caribbean 2024.

<sup>4</sup> ECLAC, Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean 2025.



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At the same time, events such as the El Niño phenomenon continue to have severe consequences across the region. By 2026, this could mean, for example, a higher likelihood of delayed onset of the rainy season in **Central America**, reduced rainfall during the season, and/or more intense dry spells, with foreseeable impacts on staple grain production (particularly maize), crop losses, and an increase in the number of people facing food insecurity. These effects may be further exacerbated by the carryover impacts of 2025.



Source: PREDISAN, Action Against Hunger

**South America** faces differentiated but equally severe climate impacts. In the Amazon region, extreme droughts are fuelling forest fires of unprecedented scale, while the loss of Andean glaciers continues irreversibly. In 2024, the extinction of the Conejeras Glacier in Colombia's Sierra Nevada and the disappearance of Venezuela's last glacier were officially declared, making Venezuela the first South American country to lose all of its glaciers.<sup>5</sup> In Peru, glacier retreat has affected 56% of the total glacier area over the past 60 years: of the 20 existing glacier ranges, 5 have experienced losses of more than 85%, and one of them, Chila, has lost nearly 100% of its area.<sup>5</sup>

The other extreme of the climate crisis is reflected in intense rainfall events. In Colombia, rainfall in January of this year was 64.4% higher than the historical average, triggering more than 256 emergencies across 172 municipalities.<sup>6</sup>

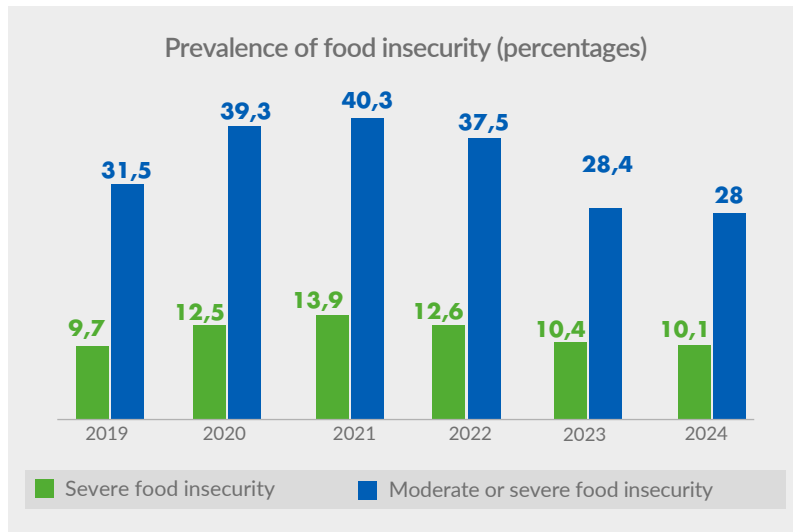


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<sup>5</sup> INAIGEM (National Inventory of Glaciers and Glacial Lakes of Peru), 2023  
<sup>6</sup> UNGRD (National Unit for Disaster Risk Management), Government of Colombia, February 2026.



## FOOD INSECURITY

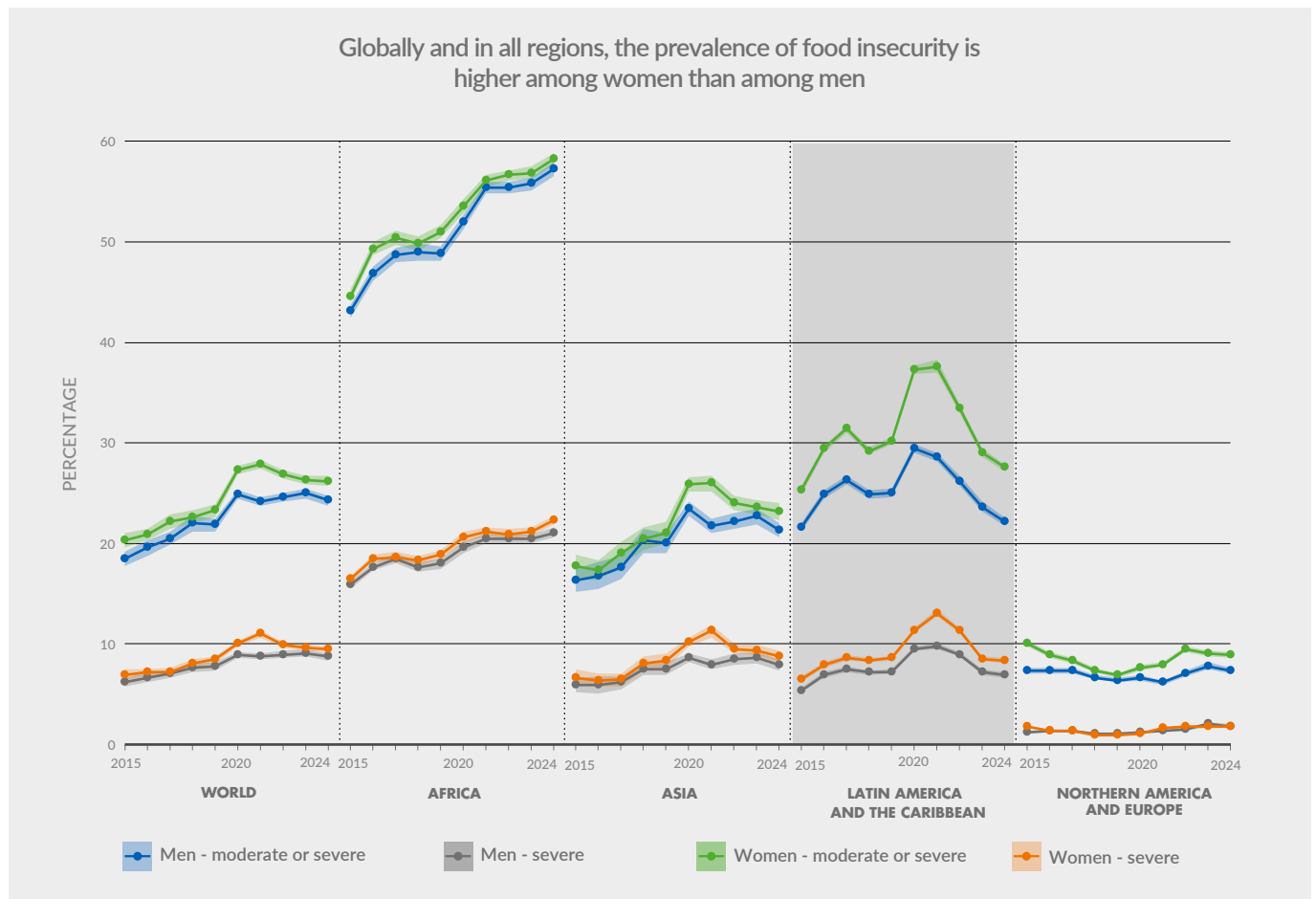


Source: Own elaboration based on SOFI 2025.

Food insecurity in Latin America and the Caribbean has declined for the fourth consecutive year, making it the only region in the world showing this positive trend. In 2024, the number of people experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity stood at 167 million, nearly 9 million fewer than the previous year. Despite this progress, nearly **52 million people** continue to suffer from severe food insecurity, and these improvements remain uneven and fragile in the face of climate, economic, and social shocks.

In addition, humanitarian funding for food security has been particularly affected by reductions in international funding (in 2024, funding from the United States accounted for more than 80% of sector financing in countries such as Colombia, Venezuela, and Guatemala).

Once again, Latin America is the region with the greatest disparities in food insecurity rates between men and women: **5.3 percentage points** at the moderate or severe level, and 1.3 percentage points in severe food insecurity.<sup>7</sup> This gap showed little change between 2023 and 2024, demonstrating that regional progress has not reached all groups equally.



Source: Own elaboration based on SOFI 2025.

<sup>7</sup> FAO, SOFI 2025.



### ACUTE FOOD INSECURITY

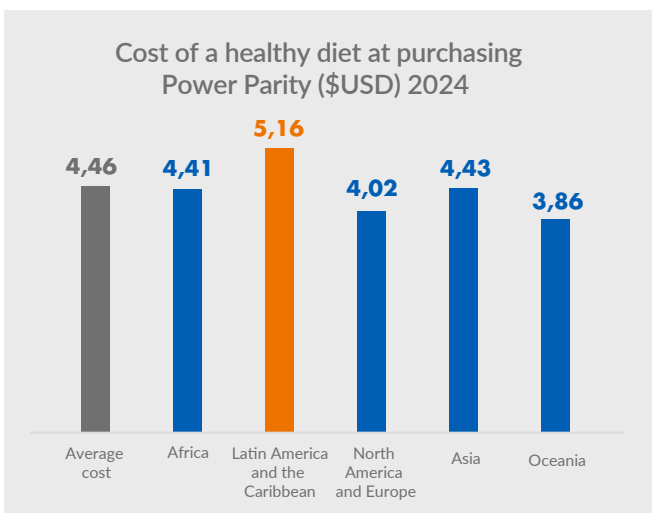
This level of insecurity poses a threat to people's lives and livelihoods.

Access to a **healthy diet** remains the region's primary challenge: the cost of a healthy diet increased by **3.8%** in 2024 to **USD 5.16 per person per day**, the highest level in the world (at purchasing power parity).

Rising food prices must be understood within a broader context. Between mid-2022 and mid-2023, food price inflation reached 30% in the region's low-income countries (SOFI, 2025). Although inflationary pressures began to ease, the regional average for food inflation fell to 2.8% in September 2025, less than half the peak recorded between 2022 and 2023 (ECLAC, 2025). However, accumulated prices remain extremely high, and the most vulnerable households continue to face severe affordability challenges (SOFI, 2025).

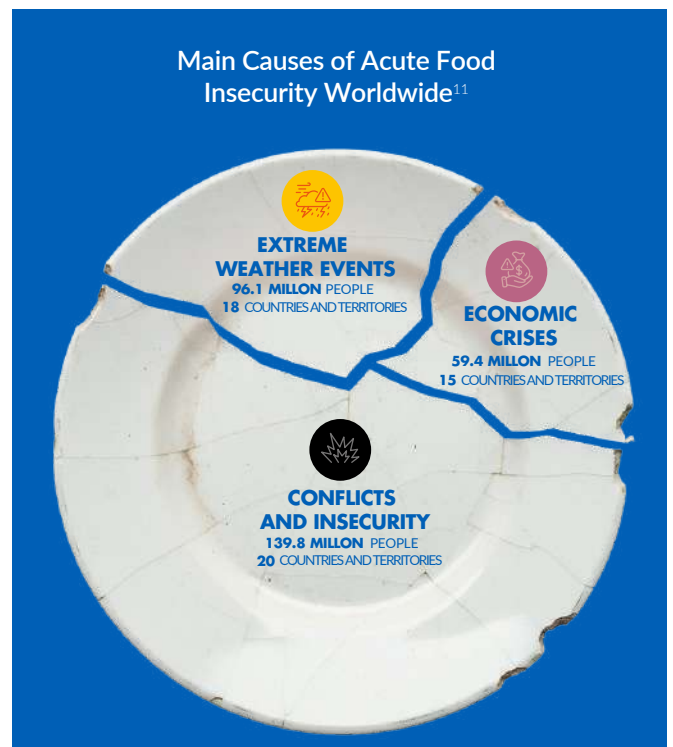
health indicator; it perpetuates the cycle of poverty by affecting cognitive development, school retention, and future productivity, with an estimated annual cost to Guatemala of more than **USD 3 billion**.<sup>9</sup>

In addition to climate-related and economic factors, violence is the factor that has the greatest impact on food insecurity. In territories controlled by gangs or non-state armed groups, access to food, basic services, and livelihoods is conditioned by criminal presence. The relationship between conflict and hunger is not incidental: all famines declared over the past decade have occurred in countries at war, and **6 out of 10 people suffering from hunger live in contexts of active conflict**. Over the past year, this trend has intensified: the number of people on the brink of famine has reached 1.9 million,<sup>10</sup> reflecting the direct and systematic impact of violence on food security.



Source: Own elaboration based on SOFI 2025

In addition to these gaps, there is a structural problem that particularly affects children: chronic malnutrition. Guatemala ranks **first in Latin America** and sixth worldwide in the prevalence of chronic child malnutrition. The Fifth National Height Census 2024 recorded a prevalence rate of 37.6% among children aged 6 to 9 in public schools nationwide, with departments such as Quiché (68%) and Huehuetenango (67%) facing critical conditions.<sup>8</sup> Chronic malnutrition is not only a



Source: Own elaboration based on the SOFI 2025 and GRFC 2025

<sup>8</sup> SIINSAN Guatemala - Fifth Height Survey 2024.

<sup>9</sup> UNICEF Guatemala - Comprehensive Strategy to Combat Chronic Malnutrition in Guatemala 2022.

<sup>10</sup> Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC) 2025

<sup>11</sup> Number of people suffering from water-related food insecurity, by the primary cause in each region



## 2. OUR APPROACH

# OUR APPROACH

Inequality and the other challenges that persist in the region require us to maintain a strong response capacity to address the most urgent needs of affected people, while also driving us to work more deeply on transforming local dynamics so that families and communities are better prepared to face new shocks and the possible deterioration of their conditions.

## FOCUSING ACTION

We aim to focus on people facing multiple forms of exclusion and barriers to access, including **children, women, Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities, as well as informal urban workers and smallholder farmers**. To sustain the emerging improvements in indicators such as food security and prevent setbacks among the most vulnerable households, it is essential to promote initiatives that reduce inequalities and expand effective access to services and opportunities.

At the programmatic level, our priority is to **fight hunger while also promoting and supporting deeper changes aimed at addressing its structural causes**. At Action Against Hunger, we have led the development of multisectoral solutions to combat hunger for the past 40 years, combining medical treatment for malnutrition with sexual and reproductive health programmes, maternal and child health initiatives, public health promotion

campaigns, and investments in infrastructure to reduce water, sanitation, and hygiene-related challenges. We also facilitate access to and availability of food through the engagement of families, communities, and local governments.

We design integrated health, water, sanitation, food security, and nutrition projects in areas facing the highest prevalence of malnutrition and food insecurity, where limited access to food, livelihoods, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, and poor hygiene practices are known underlying causes of poor nutritional status.

## MAIN OBJECTIVE

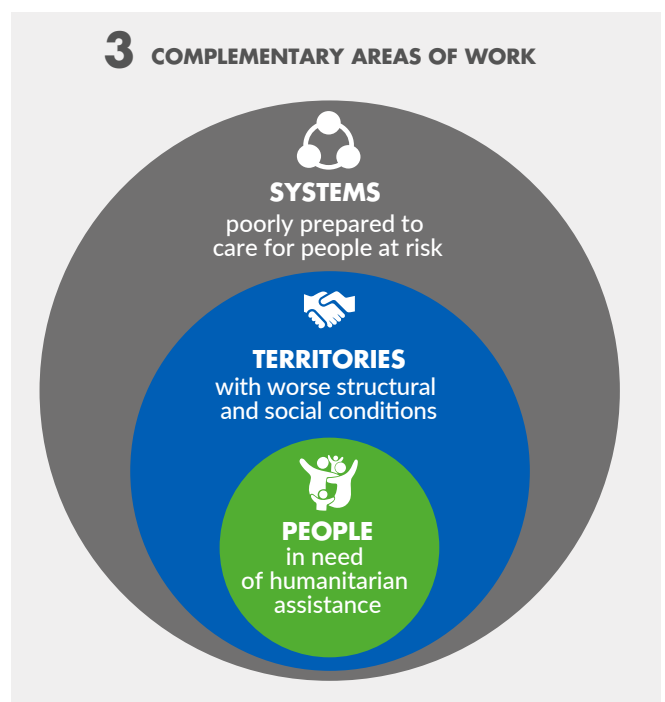
The objective of our interventions is to **respond to immediate essential needs and strengthen local capacities in order to reduce the exclusion and exposure of the groups most affected by social, climate, or economic shocks through integrated interventions**.

To achieve this, we promote change at the individual, organizational, and institutional levels: we facilitate effective access to essential goods and services for those facing multiple forms of exclusion and, complementarily, strengthen the capacities of local and national institutions to consolidate progress and improve the sustainability of basic services in the territories where we work.

Our response is structured around three complementary pillars: People, Territories, and Systems, each with differentiated scopes and specific methodologies.



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# LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	RESULTS	ACTIVITIES
<p><b>PEOPLE</b></p> <p>People and population groups excluded and particularly affected by the succession of crises, have their most urgent needs met.</p>	<b>R1.1 People with urgent humanitarian needs have access to food and cash assistance</b>	A1.1.1 Identifying households and risk groups
		A1.1.2 Cash transfers
		A1.1.3 Food delivery
	<b>R1.2 People in urgent humanitarian need have access to health services and treatment for malnutrition</b>	A1.2.1 Provision of psychosocial support and sexual and reproductive health services, maternal, neonatal and child health
		A1.2.2 Strengthening the technical and operational capabilities of the first level of health care
		A1.2.3 Active search-identification- treatment and follow-up of anemia and malnutrition cases
	<b>R1.3 Highly vulnerable groups are provided with essential inputs for disease prevention</b>	A1.3.1 Delivery of supplies to ensure hygiene, menstrual hygiene, prevention of vector-borne diseases
		A1.3.2 Emergency water provision (in homes and shelters)
		A1.3.3 Delivery of water treatment supplies to households and shelters
		A1.3.4 Delivery of shelter equipment
<p><b>TERRITORIES</b></p> <p>Territories improve the management of their resources, generate greater opportunities for inclusive socioeconomic development and become more resilient.</p>	<b>R2.1 The prioritized groups in each territory participate in productive reactivation, employment and entrepreneurship initiatives</b>	A2.1.1 Promoting employment and entrepreneurship - in urban and rural environments
		A2.1.2 Supporting small agricultural producers and protecting livelihoods
		A2.1.3 Promotion of cooperativism and associativism, including the creation and strengthening of savings groups
	<b>R2.2 Local actors have greater capacity to promote access to water, sanitation and hygiene</b>	A2.2.1 Construction-rehabilitation and improvement of water and sanitation points and systems
		A2.2.2 Hygiene promotion
		A2.2.3 Creation, technical assistance and support for committees, boards, local boards and municipal services
	<b>R2.3 Local actors have greater capacity to manage territorial resources and risks (natural disaster risk management and water resource management)</b>	A2.3.1 Promoting sustainable and resilient agri-food systems
		A2.3.2 Training on risk assessment methodology and agroecological practices for adapting to climate variability and change
		A2.3.3 Promotion of initiatives for the sustainable management of natural resources
		A2.3.4 Mechanisms for prevention, early warning and response to natural and anthropogenic disasters
	<b>R2.4 Behavioral changes and individual and collective learning are promoted as a preventive strategy to mitigate the impacts of the crisis and fight hunger</b>	A2.4.1 Promotion of good maternal and child care practices and proper feeding of newborns and infants
		A2.4.2 Promotion of good hygiene practices
		A2.4.3. Promotion of the production and consumption of high value products at home
		A2.4.4 Encouraging the involvement and co-responsibility of local stakeholders
<p><b>SYSTEMS</b></p> <p>Local systems have better tools and knowledge to protect the population at risk</p>	<b>R3.1 The actors involved in humanitarian action have access to the information and analysis that we develop in our projects and that may be relevant for decision making</b>	A3.1.1 Food and nutrition security monitoring and forecasting systems
		A3.1.2 Production of alerts
		A3.1.3 Active participation in humanitarian coordination forums
		A3.1.4 Production and Dissemination of Information and Knowledge Products
	<b>R3.2 Local actors have better capacities and support to meet the needs of each territory</b>	A3.2.1 Emergency response training for local stakeholders
		A3.2.2 Training and support in humanitarian action for local NGO partners
		A3.2.3 Creation and/or strengthening of community-user and civil society organizations
	<b>R3.3 Mitigate risks and promote the protection of women and the population on the move</b>	A3.3.1 Active collaboration with services for gender-based violence cases
		A3.3.2 Dissemination of prevention campaigns against gender-based violence
		A3.3.3 Conducting multisectoral gender and protection analyses
		A3.3.4 Supporting the migrant/refugee population in accessing programs and services
		A3.3.5 Dissemination of campaigns to promote good coexistence between refugee/migrant and host populations

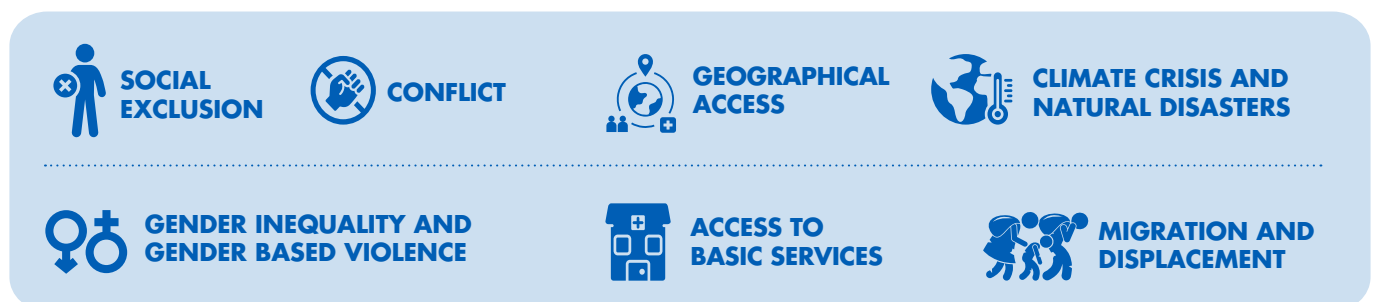
# VALUE PROPOSITION

As part of updating our international strategy,<sup>12</sup> we at Action Against Hunger have reflected on our contribution in the sector based on what our key stakeholders expect from us (defined as the "Value Model") and what we consider to be the greatest "Drivers of Vulnerability" in relation to hunger:

## VALUE MODEL




## DRIVERS OF VULNERABILITY



<sup>12</sup> [www.actionagainsthunger.org.uk/publications-and-reports/international-strategic-plan-2021-2025](http://www.actionagainsthunger.org.uk/publications-and-reports/international-strategic-plan-2021-2025)




By cross-referencing this information, we have identified our cross-cutting priorities, which we have consolidated into the following elements:




**1. HARD TO REACH POPULATION**

We serve the **most vulnerable** and excluded population by reestablishing their basic needs, protecting their resources and providing a space of opportunity to develop.



**2. TECHNICAL EXPERTISE**

We lead positions and specific **technical solutions** related to hunger, from basic needs, promoting local capacities and transforming systems.




**3. PEOPLE CENTRAL**

We always put **people central** in our work, by empowering and protecting them, and ensuring their participation in every process.




**4. GENDER EQUALITY**

We will **promote gender equality** to reduce the impact of hunger on women and strengthen their central role in the fight against hunger.




**8. CLIMATE CRISIS**

We address climate change and environmental degradation by incorporating **global and local perspectives** that promote adaptation to climate change, environmental protection, and the identification and mitigation of related risks.




**7. NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATION**

We **innovate and digitalize** new technologies, methodologies, products, services and processes oriented to increase our impact.



**6. LOCALIZATION**


We recognize, respect, and strengthen independence, leadership, and decisionmaking by **local and national actors** in humanitarian action, in order to better address the needs of affected populations.




**5. NEXUS**

We promote the coordination between **Triple Nexus** actors to reinforce the impact on people's needs, facilitating access to basic needs and respecting humanitarian principles and IHL.


# OUR RESPONSE IN 2024 AND 2025



**655,357**  
PEOPLE REACHED




**6**  
COUNTRIES




**+40**  
REGIONS

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR ACTIONS:



**2024 ANNUAL BALANCE**

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**2025 ANNUAL BALANCE**

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# 3. OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2026



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## CENTRAL AMERICA



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In 2026, both Guatemala and Honduras continue to face a context marked by the coexistence of reform opportunities and persistent structural challenges affecting social stability and the living conditions of large segments of the population. Despite some progress, significant gaps remain in access to basic services such as water, healthcare, and nutrition, limiting the full realization of human development.



These limitations are reflected in persistent conditions of vulnerability, particularly in rural and peri-urban areas, where households face difficulties in meeting their basic needs and sustaining their livelihoods.



The impact of these challenges is further intensified by recurrent natural disasters and inflationary pressures, which progressively erode communities' recovery capacities and worsen food and nutrition insecurity.

### 2026 STRATEGY: INTEGRATED RESPONSE

In response to this context, priorities for 2026 will focus on an integrated response that combines the provision of immediate humanitarian assistance with the strengthening of local capacities, aimed at reducing fragility factors, increasing resilience, and improving equitable access to essential services.



Within this framework, the following lines of action will be implemented:



**Strengthening rural livelihoods:**

support for small-scale producers through technical assistance and the promotion of climate-adapted agricultural practices.



**Community-based adaptation and resilience mechanisms:**

promotion of local strategies to address climate, economic, and health-related shocks.



**Protection and recovery of productive assets:**

interventions aimed at restoring the productive capacity of households affected by recurrent crises.



**Access to basic services:**

improving the availability and quality of health, water, sanitation, and nutrition services, with a particular focus on vulnerable populations.



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## COLOMBIA

 [www.accioncontraelhambre.co](http://www.accioncontraelhambre.co)

Colombia continues to face significant security and protection challenges within a context marked by the proliferation and reorganization of non-state armed groups and the consolidation of transnational criminal structures linked to illicit economies.

These dynamics coexist with persistent socioeconomic gaps, including rural poverty, high levels of labour informality, and a significant proportion of households experiencing food insecurity.



### STRATEGY 2026: TRANSITION TO SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

In this context, priorities for 2026 will focus on work in areas that continue to be affected by armed conflict, as well as in territories undergoing transitions toward development through a durable solutions and peacebuilding approach



The main lines of action will include:

#### Strengthening the development agenda:



Linking food security and rural development by contributing to improved market access, technical assistance, the creation of consumption niches, and the strengthening of value chains for producer organizations and worker cooperatives. This work is framed within programmes and projects implemented in protected food-production areas that support the substitution of illicit crops and promote rural cooperativism. From a water security perspective, efforts will focus on strengthening structures that guarantee access to and availability of water, in connection with

food security and health, while also prioritizing actions that reinforce watershed and micro-watershed conservation through territorial planning and nature-based solutions.



#### Private sector partnership agenda:

Fostering partnerships that mobilize private investment toward territories transitioning toward development, with the aim of improving territorial productivity, access to basic services, and both monetary and multidimensional poverty indicators.



#### Emergency response:

Maintaining rapid and effective response capacities for natural and human-induced disasters, including monitoring and preparedness activities carried out through the Information and Knowledge Management Unit (UGI+C), which produces analytical outputs developed from and with communities in order to provide relevant evidence for decision-making and strengthen the response capacities of humanitarian actors.



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# PERU

 [www.accioncontraelhambre.pe](http://www.accioncontraelhambre.pe)

In 2026, Peru finds itself in a context of macroeconomic stability alongside deep territorial inequalities that disproportionately affect the most vulnerable populations.



At the national level, high levels of poverty, food insecurity, and child anemia persist, together with widespread labour informality that limits households' economic resilience.



These conditions are further exacerbated by increasing climate variability and structural gaps in access to basic services, particularly in high Andean regions and the Amazon, where social indicators continue to lag behind.

## STRATEGY 2026: DIFFERENTIATED TERRITORIAL APPROACH

In response to this context, the strategy for 2026 will focus on reducing territorial disparities and strengthening communities' adaptation capacities through a differentiated approach tailored to regional dynamics.



The main lines of action include:



**Resilient productive systems in high Andean areas:** strengthening local production, improving access to financing, and promoting the adoption of climate-adapted technologies.



**Disaster preparedness and response:** reinforcing local capacities to respond to floods, oil spills, forest fires, and other risks.



**Sustainable natural resource management:** protection of watersheds, ecosystem restoration, and conservation of water sources.



**Access to basic services:** reducing gaps in primary healthcare, water, sanitation, food security, and nutrition, particularly among Indigenous populations in the high Andes and the Amazon.



**Interventions in the Amazon region:** improving community-based resource management and strengthening livelihoods.



# ROADMAP LATIN AMERICA 2026

[www.accioncontraelhambrelatinoamerica.org](http://www.accioncontraelhambrelatinoamerica.org)



For more information, please contact us:  
[latam@accioncontraelhambre.org](mailto:latam@accioncontraelhambre.org)