



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Honduras Country Brief August 2018



Operational Context

Honduras has a population of 9 million, the gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in 2016 was USD 2,361. It has one of the most unequal distributions of income and resources in the world. More than half of the population lives below the poverty line and is exposed to violence and crime. The country is further characterized by inequitable access to land, insufficient food production, high unemployment and exposure to natural disasters. Food insecurity and malnutrition among the most vulnerable populations have worsened because of droughts in the southern and western regions of the country, known as the Dry Corridor.

WFP's primary objectives in Honduras are to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition and increase human development by improving the health, nutrition and education levels of children and other vulnerable groups. The WFP Country Strategic Plan proposes a significant shift in WFP's support to the Government to attain Zero Hunger by 2030.



Population: **9.012 million**

2017 Human Development Index: **130 out of 188**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **23% of children aged 6-59 months**

In Numbers

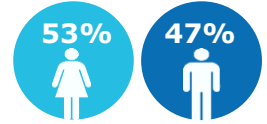
3,459 mt of food assistance distributed

N/A cash based transfers made

USD 115.66 m total requirements

661,500 people assisted

in August 2018



Operational Updates

- As part of the celebration of National School Feeding Day, the first lady of Honduras, Ana de Hernández, received the five winners of the National Drawing Contest "Zero Hunger: Why is school feeding important?". The drawing contest was carried out in public schools part of the National School Feeding Program. The programme is jointly implemented by the Secretary of Development and Social Inclusion, Secretary of Education and WFP in more than 22,000 educational centers, reaching up to 1.3 million school-age children with an annual investment of 800 million Lempiras.
- WFP and the Faculty of Social Sciences of the National Autonomous University of Honduras, in coordination with the Secretary of Development and Social Inclusion, developed a "Gender and Social Protection" course oriented at discussing the problems women face in different areas of their social, cultural and political life. The course will strengthen capacity of staff in strategic positions of different national social development programs and WFP. The participants learn about tools and techniques to analyze the relations of patriarchal power, the relationships of subordination, discrimination and oppression of women and girls in the Honduran context.
- WFP organized a Community-Based Targeting (CBT) workshop. The objective was to build capacity in refining community targeting, to familiarize with an effective process to select food-insecure households with the participation of gender-balanced community committees. More than 30 government, UN agencies and NGOs staff participated in the training.

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Honduras Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

Total Requirement (USD 116.1 m)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
115.66 m	49.31 m	-12.22 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food
Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 1: Preschool- and primary-school-aged children across the country have access to safe and nutritious food year-round by 2021
Focus area: Root Causes

- Activities:**
- Provide daily nutritious school meals, sourced from smallholder farmers, to preschool- and primary school-school-aged children, complemented with health, hygiene and nutrition activities, gender-transformative education and school gardens.
 - Provide capacity strengthening to local authorities, school staff, parents and smallholder farmers, including technical assistance and training in the management of the school meals programme.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 2: The most nutritionally vulnerable groups in targeted areas have reduced levels of stunting and micronutrient deficiencies by 2021.
Focus area: Root Causes

- Activities:**
- Provide capacity strengthening to health institutions at all levels and fortified nutritious foods in targeted areas to girls, pregnant women and lactating women and girls, and children under 2.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes

Strategic Outcome 3: Rural agricultural labourers and smallholder farmers in targeted areas, especially in indigenous communities, are more resilient to shocks and stressors, contributing to their food and nutrition security throughout the year.
Focus area: Resilience Building

- Activities:**
- Provide food assistance for assets to food-insecure households to support the creation and rehabilitation of livelihood assets complemented by capacity strengthening for decentralized government authorities in the management of resilience building and climate change adaptation programmes.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 4: Targeted households affected by rapid- and slow-onset disasters have access to food year-round.
Focus area: Crisis Response

- Activities:**
- Complement government transfers to the most vulnerable households affected by disasters to facilitate relief and early recovery while supporting strengthened institutional emergency response capacities.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome 5: Government authorities and partner organizations at the national and subnational levels, complemented by strategic alliances, have strengthened capacity to achieve the SDGs, particularly SDG 2, by 2021.
Focus area: Resilience Building

- Activities:**
- Provide technical assistance and capacity strengthening in emergency preparedness and response, including linkages to social protection, to institutions at the national and subnational level.
 - Support an advocacy platform and communicate strategically about the 2030 Agenda, with an emphasis on SDG 2, to the general public, the private sector and partners.

- WFP, the Zamorano University and the National Institute of Forestry Sciences, trained 33 community leaders from Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Honduras on agricultural, forestry, and environmental issues. The objective is to develop skills and capacities to understand and manage technical and practical aspects of risk management and adaptation to climate change, with a focus on gender, food security and nutrition.

Monitoring

- During the months of June and July 2018, below-average rainfall and drier than average conditions affected the second half of the main harvest (primera), with a negative impact on maize (nearly 70 percent decrease) and beans production (73 percent decrease). As a result, food reserves were depleted, and the consumption of basic grains decreased. Between December 2017 and August 2018, the weekly consumption of basic grains got reduced by 13 percent in maize and 22 percent in beans. In addition to eating less, households are prioritizing food expenditures over other needs, thus increasing their vulnerability. By August 2018, 80 percent of households were already economically vulnerable, allocating more than 50 percent of total monthly expenditures on food purchases (VAM-Mobile, August 2018).
- WFP and FEWsNet conducted a field tour to assess the impact of the drought in the Dry Corridor of Honduras. During the field mission, the two main border crossing points between the Nicaraguan and Honduran border were visited to assess if there has been an impact on the market. It was observed that the trade has been affected by a drop of 30% on trades from the Honduran side. The owners of various stores told the joint team that the sales of basic grains show a price increase of white maize. Part of the coping strategy chosen by the retailers is to sell yellow maize which is more accessible, but this product is used by the animal food industry which doesn't meet the human food consumption standards.

Challenges

- The high level of insecurity, migration and challenging social situation require intensive partnerships with national, UN and other actors to support development efforts and particularly advancement towards achieving SDG 2.
- WFP Honduras continues to mobilize resources locally and internationally.