



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Honduras Country Brief October 2019



## Operational Context

Honduras has a population of 9 million, the gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in 2018 was USD 4,542. It has one of the 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 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**

2018 Human Development Index: **133 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

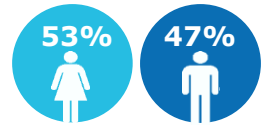
## In Numbers

**172.46 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 144 k** cash-based transfers made

**USD 174.6 m** total requirements

**35,227** people assisted



## Operational Updates

- Under Activity 1, the First Lady of Honduras, Ana García Carias together with the representative of the World Food Programme, Judith Thimke, the Minister of Education (SEDUC), Arnaldo Bueso and the Deputy Minister Development and Social Inclusion (SEDIS), Lissi Matute Cano, received from different regions of the country the top five winners of the National Drawing Contest "Zero Hunger: Why is it important for you to receive a meal at school?". The drawing contest was carried out in public schools. The purpose of this event is to empower the new generations on the importance of achieving SDG 2 Zero Hunger in Honduras and how, from the perspective of a boy or girl, we can achieve it. The winning drawings were selected by renowned national artists such as Carolina Carias and Francisco Pinto Rodezno, along with representatives of SEDUC, SEDIS and WFP. The artworks were sent to Rome, Italy, to participate in WFP World Drawing Contest 2019.
- WFP CO and the National Institute of Forest Conservation (ICF) organized a ceremony to officially certify Declarations of Micro-watersheds and Forest Plantations in Marcala, Province of La Paz. This process is part of the efforts of the Government to implement the national policies, which include social, environmental and economic issues; and international commitments on Climate Change. The WFP CO resilience programme aims to reduce the vulnerability of the affected population to the impacts of climate change and food insecurity.
- WFP Honduras organized a field visit with Canada's Ambassador James K. Hill and Development Cooperation Director Abebech Assefa. The purpose of this mission was for the Ambassador to learn and experience the work done by WFP on issues of resilience, climate change adaptation and women's empowerment in rural contexts. As well, highlight the work and synergies that WFP Field Office and Swiss Contact are developing related to entrepreneurship activities and support to "Cajas Rurales" (Community based Organizations for saving and credit accounts).

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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)
<b>174.6 m</b>	<b>61.1m</b>	<b>22.5 m</b>

**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-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 Honduras and the Government of Canada through its Cooperation Development Programs will continue strengthening alliances and supporting the most vulnerable by working and focusing on areas of interest; through the promotion of sustainable development programs and entrepreneurship to achieve gender equality and improve the livelihoods of families and communities.
- The CO Institutional Strengthening Unit organized a Gender, Masculinities and Nutrition in Emergency Contexts Workshop for field staff of WFP and strategic partners. The purpose of this training is to generate equitable power relations between men and women, with an emphasis on economic empowerment and decision-making, as well as food and nutrition security, to raise awareness and manage these issues in emergency contexts. The Honduras Country Strategic Plan seeks to strengthen the Government's protection policy through the promotion of gender equality and the generation of opportunities to achieve Zero Hunger.
- The Jaremar Group and WFP Honduras celebrated their 8 years of collaboration through the official donation of vegetable oil intended to be used in the National School Feeding Programme. This year's donation (100 mt) will benefit more than 450,000 schoolchildren in the provinces of Atlantida, Colon, Comayagua, Cortes, El Paraíso, Valle, Yoro and Gracias a Dios. An official ceremony was organized in the school "Gracias a Dios" in the Community of El Pajonal, Province of Comayagua. The Jaremar Group / WFP Honduras collaboration has benefited more than 1 million schoolchildren since it started 8 years ago.

## Monitoring

- WFP VAM and The Governments Technical Unit of Food and Nutrition Security (UTSAN) are carrying out an Integrated Phase Classification of Food and Nutrition Security (CIF) in the provinces of the dry corridor of Honduras. For the fifth consecutive year, the prolonged drought affected the dry corridor area; additionally, 3 more provinces (Olancho, Yoro and Comayagua) that provide significant amounts of basic crops nationwide, have been affected by the continuous adverse effects of climate change. Final results will be shared after an analysis workshop held in the city of Tela mid-November.

## Challenges

- The country's current political situation has polarized the Honduran population, which has led to different level intensity demonstrations nationwide.
- The high level of insecurity, migration, local displacement, and the challenging socio-economic situation require a strong partnership with national, UN and other actors to support development efforts and particularly progress towards SDG 2.
- WFP Honduras continues to mobilize resources locally and internationally.