



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Honduras Country Brief October 2020

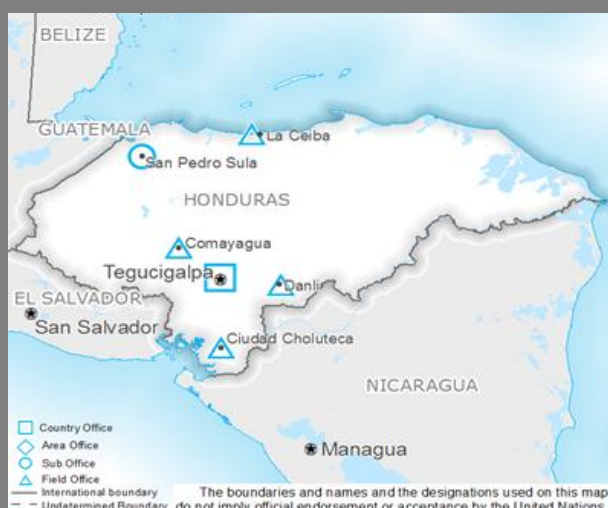


Operational Context

Honduras has a population of 9 million, with a gross domestic product per capita of USD 4,542 (2018). 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 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 through a gender and protection focus. The WFP Country Strategic Plan proposes a significant shift in WFP's support to the Government to attain Zero Hunger by 2030.

WFP has been present in Honduras since 1970.



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

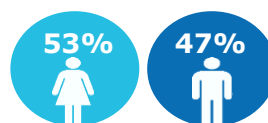
In Numbers

336.37 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 1,5 m cash-based transfers made

USD 188.3 m total requirements

119,905 people assisted



Operational Update

- In a joint effort with the Government of Honduras, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Nutrition Institute for Central America and Panama (INCAP), WFP presented the study on The Cost of the Double Burden of Malnutrition: Social and Economic Impact in Honduras. The objective of the study is to place the importance of reducing all forms of malnutrition on the national public agenda. Likewise, it also aims at supporting the government in decision-making in favour of a comprehensive food security and nutrition policy, identifying the economic costs of social gaps, methodology development, data collection and policy design.
- WFP Vulnerable Groups Programme received an in-kind contribution of 18 TM of sugar from private partner FUNAZUCAR. This contribution is supporting the fourth food assistance cycle for 2020, comprised of Super Cereal +, oil, and sugar. The assistance will reach 5,656 pregnant and lactating women and 10,344 children under two in the Provinces of Choluteca, Valle, El Paraíso, Lempira, Intibucá, Santa Barbara, Francisco Morazán, and La Paz.
- WFP distributed the second cycle of assistance to 17,298 out of the 54,000 vulnerable households targeted countrywide. Distributions were done in the Provinces of Choluteca, Cortes, Francisco Morazán, El Paraíso, Intibucá, La Paz, Santa Barbara, Valle, and Yoro. The intervention consists of commodity vouchers based on an in-kind food basket and a hygiene kit with Supermarket La Colonia.

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Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/honduras

Honduras Strategic Plan (2018-2021)

Total Requirement (USD 116.1 m)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
188.3 m	82.5 m	34.4 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-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 Resilience Programme completed the third cycle of assistance with an In-kind food basket to 3,080 households (15,400 beneficiaries), 65 percent of the participants who received the assistance are women.
- WFP and the German Embassy in Honduras visited two communities in the Province of Valle, where food baskets were delivered to the most vulnerable households. With the support from German funds, assistance was provided to 3,092 households for three consecutive months. During the field visit, the mission could witness the food insecurity that prevails in the area and the work implemented in partnership with local non-governmental organizations.
- As part of resilience activities, WFP and Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO) signed an agreement aimed at improving food security in rural communities with high poverty rates in the Dry Corridor of Honduras. This joint effort will focus on the development of community planning tools and entrepreneurship capacity-building to improve household income, particularly for women-led families. The diagnostic phase is currently on-going with different groups organized at the community level.

Challenges

- WFP has taken preparedness actions for a coronavirus outbreak in Honduras. The Country Office is actively involved in the National Risk Management System (SINAGER). Currently, the country faces a weak and limited public health system. The economic impacts of the COVID-19 will have long term consequences after the crisis, affecting the socio-economic recovery.
- The high level of insecurity, migration, local displacement, and the challenging socio-economic situation, require a strong partnership with national stakeholders, UN and other actors, to support development efforts and particularly progress towards SDG 2.

Donors

Canada, European Union, Germany, Government of Honduras, Italy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United States, Switzerland and private donors.

Additional support has been provided by UN CERF and SRAC funds.