



World Food Programme

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LIVES

# WFP Honduras Country Brief January 2021



## Operational Context

Honduras has a population of over 9 million, with a gross domestic product per capita of USD 2,574.9 (2019). 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

**84 mt** of food assistance distributed

**USD 1.59 million** cash-based transfers

**USD 191 million** in total funding requirements

**75 625 people** assisted

53%



47%



## Operational Update

- WFP Honduras continued with a UNHAS air operation to support the most vulnerable households affected by Hurricanes Eta and Iota in January 2021. A total of 84 mt of food was transported to the Province of Gracias a Dios (municipalities of Villeda Morales, Puerto Lempira and Wampusirpi). The assistance included WASH kit supplies to support Medair's emergency team operation in Gracias a Dios. To date, WFP has delivered a total of 270 mt of food to the province.
- The WFP Resilience Programme assisted 2,300 households in January 2021 in the Provinces of Valle (Caridad) and La Paz (Guajiquiro, Mercedes de Oriente, San Antonio del Norte, and Lauterique). The assistance was delivered through a commodity voucher modality.
- Through its Emergency Response Activity, WFP assisted in January 12,825 households in response to the devastation caused by Hurricanes Eta and Iota, in addition to the COVID-19 intervention. The assistance was a combination of CBT and in-kind modality.
- The WFP Vulnerable Group Programme has established a schedule of activities to implement the CBT modality from February to July. Negotiations with private partners continued for the delivery of a food basket to vulnerable populations. The group will carefully monitor the project to compare the nutritional status results with the Ministry of Health's traditional program. The project includes a Social Communication Strategy for Behaviour Change (SBCC), comprised of nutrition and gender awareness topics.

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Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/honduras](http://www.wfp.org/countries/honduras)

Honduras Strategic Plan (2018-2021)		
Total Requirement	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
191 million	94.5 million	24 million
<b>Strategic Result 1:</b> Everyone has access to food <b>Strategic Result 2:</b> No one suffers from malnutrition		
<b>Strategic Outcome 1:</b> Preschool and primary school-aged children across the country have access to safe and nutritious food year-round by 2021 <b>Focus area:</b> Root Causes		
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>		
<b>Strategic Result 2:</b> No one suffers from malnutrition		
<b>Strategic Outcome 2:</b> The most nutritionally vulnerable groups in targeted areas have reduced levels of stunting and micronutrient deficiencies by 2021. <b>Focus area:</b> Root Causes		
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>		
<b>Strategic Result 3:</b> Smallholder productivity and incomes		
<b>Strategic Outcome 3:</b> 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. <b>Focus area:</b> Resilience Building		
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>		
<b>Strategic Result 1:</b> Everyone has access to food		
<b>Strategic Outcome 4:</b> Targeted households affected by rapid- and slow-onset disasters have access to food year-round. <b>Focus area:</b> Crisis Response		
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complement government transfers to the most vulnerable households affected by disasters to facilitate relief and early recovery while supporting strengthened institutional emergency response capacities.</li> </ul>		
<b>Strategic Result 5:</b> Countries strengthened capacities		
<b>Strategic Outcome 5:</b> 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. <b>Focus area:</b> Resilience Building		
<b>Activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide technical assistance and capacity strengthening in emergency preparedness and response, including linkages to social protection, to institutions at the national and subnational level.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>		

- WFP Honduras carries out resource mobilization actions to contribute to the recovery of homes, territories and ecosystems that have been affected by the socioeconomic and environmental impact due to COVID-19 and Climate Change (droughts and floods caused by Eta and Iota).

## Monitoring

- WFP Honduras collaborated on the update of the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) of food insecurity, which was carried out in the 18 provinces of Honduras and including a total of 9.3 million inhabitants, according to the 2020 projections of the National Institute of Statistics (INE, for its Spanish acronym).
- As reported in the IPC analysis, over 2.9 million people in Honduras will face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 'Crisis' or above) until March 2021. In the first projection period of April to June 2021, the population will increase to 3.1 million.
- Between 65 and 75 percent of the households used negative coping strategies that affected their health and between 8 and 10 percent of the homes have exhausted their savings in food expenditures. Also, around 40 percent of smallholder farmers have sold their productive assets.

## Challenges

- Hurricanes Eta and Iota severely impacted the Government's ability to provide critical social protection health, and education services to an already vulnerable population in Honduras.
- Currently, the country faces a weak and limited public health system, further compounded by COVID-19. The economic impacts of the pandemic will have long-term consequences, affecting the socio-economic recovery.
- The high level of insecurity, migration, local displacement and the challenging socio-economic situation requires a strong partnership with national stakeholders, the UN and other actors to support development efforts.

## Donors

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