

WFP Honduras

Country Brief May 2022

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

Honduras has a population of almost 10 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 have worsened because of droughts in the southern and western regions of the country, known as the Dry Corridor and in the rest of the country because of the effects of the COVID-19 and the Hurricanes Eta and Iota.

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: 9.9 million

2019 Human Development Index: **132 out of 189**

Income Level: Lower middle

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

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In Numbers

39.277 mt food assistance distributed*

USD 438,707 cash-based transfers*

USD 24.1 million six-months (June 2022 – November 2022) net funding requirements, representing 72% of total

36,342 people assisted * in May 2022

*Preliminary figures





Operational Updates

- WFP, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Social Development and the Pan American Health Organization launched the National Schoolbased Deworming Campaign targeting 1,610 schoolchildren in 22,805 educational establishments. The initiative aims to reduce the prevalence and intensity of intestinal parasites of children attending school through a single oral dose of Mebendazol deworming tablets.
- WFP trained 36 personnel from the Ministry of Education on school feeding standards, WFP's food procurement processes and the National School Feeding Programme's accountability procedures.
- Under the Vulnerable Groups Programme, WFP delivered 252.3 mt of food (Super Cereal, Super Cereal Plus, sugar and vegetable oil) benefitting 10,066 pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG) and 10,153 children aged 24 to 59 months. Moreover, in the department of La Paz, WFP through a pilot initiative, provided food assistance through commodity and value vouchers to 202 PLWG and 435 children aged 24 to 59 months.
- Through the resilience programme, WFP assisted 19,940 smallholder farmers' households through cash-based transfers.
- WFP's Emergency Response Programme assisted 5,905 households affected by drought in the Dry Corridor of Honduras through the provision of commodity vouchers to feed a household of five for 30 days.
- Through its emergency preparedness response programme, WFP trained ten Municipal Emergency Committees and supported the development of ten municipal emergency plans to define the actions to take in case of an emergency and how to focus their efforts on improving their response capacity.

WFP Country Strategy



Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD) Allocated Contributions (in USD)

Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)

265.1 m

146.1 m

24.1 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.

Monitoring

 Under the leadership of the Technical Unit for Food Security and Nutrition, WFP, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and Caritas collected data on food security and nutrition indicators to update the projected number of food-insecure people (IPC 3 and 4) considering the early depletion of food reserves and the increases in prices of fuel and basic food basket.

Challenges

 Since the lean season started in March, the socioeconomic context and gang violence has worsened, migration has increased and the food security situation in Honduras has deteriorated. As a consequence, the number of people using negative coping strategies such as reducing the number of meals per day or the continued reliance on credit has increased by over 40 percent from 1.3 to 1.9 million people (equivalent to 20 percent of the population).

Donors

Canada, European Union, Honduras, Japan, United States of America, Switzerland, and private donors.