



World Food Programme

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WFP Honduras Country Brief May 2023



President Xiomara Castro and WFP Honduras Representative Stephanie Hochstetter, at the inauguration of the National School Feeding Program ©WFP Photo

Operational Context

Honduras has a population of 10 million people, with a gross domestic product per capita of USD 2,771.7 (2021). It's a lower-middle-income country that has had sustained economic growth for the last two decades; however, high poverty rates, extensive income inequality and risks such as crime and climate variability threaten peace and humanitarian aid efforts and hinder mid-to-long-term initiatives, affecting development gains and causing human capital drain through migration.

WFP's primary objectives in Honduras are to tackle the root causes of food insecurity, malnutrition, and poverty, contributing to more prosperous and healthier communities where people can thrive and live safely. The WFP Country Strategic Plan is strongly focused on strengthening the capacity of national and local partners, promoting behavior change leading to improved diets, advancing gender equality and healthy masculinity and reducing gender-based violence.

WFP has been present in Honduras since 1970.



Population: **10.2 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **132 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

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

In Numbers

USD 64.1 m six months (June – November 2023) net funding requirements, representing 89 percent of total

Operational Updates

- WFP Honduras representative, Stephanie Hochstetter, accompanied President Xiomara Castro at the inauguration of the National School Feeding Program (PNAE, for its Spanish acronym) at a school in Lepaera (Lempira) one of the 21,000 schools receiving school meals. WFP is a strategic partner of the Government, supplying logistical support to the PNAE.
- WFP conducted training sessions with community health personnel (health promoters and volunteers) in the departments of Choluteca and El Paraíso. These training sessions focused on using Super Cereal and Super Cereal Plus, promoting the cascade effect to reach the participants of the nutritional care programme for vulnerable groups.
- As part of nutritional education planning, WFP delivered 600 recipe books to support the use of fortified complementary foods in two municipalities in the department of La Paz, where malnutrition rates in children under 5 years of age exceed 30 percent.
- WFP participated in the inter-agency meeting of the United Nations system where the EU4SUN initiative, a European program to support the implementation of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) strategy 3, was presented. In previous years, WFP has played an important role in supporting the Technical Unit for Food and Nutrition Security in the search for funding sources to implement strategic plans of the SUN movement, including implementing the Food and Nutrition Security Policy and Strategy.

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Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
634 m	72.8 m	64.1 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis affected populations meet their basic food security and nutrition needs before, during and in the aftermath of emergencies and build resilience to future climatic shocks and other crisis, reducing their vulnerability

Focus area: crisis response

Activities:

- Vulnerable and risk-prone populations and populations affected by shocks, disasters and other crises receive food and social assistance
- Local actors have strengthened emergency planning, preparedness, and response capacity.

Strategic Result 3: Sustainable food system

Strategic Outcome 2: Vulnerable populations in prioritized rural and urban areas, build, and strengthen their livelihoods and generate higher, more reliable, and steadier incomes, improving food security, nutrition, and climate-resilient food systems all year round.

Focus area: resilience building

Activities:

- Provide food and technical assistance to vulnerable rural populations to build and strengthen their livelihoods
- Provide food and technical assistance to vulnerable urban populations to promote employment generation schemes and increase their incomes.

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Result 2: End malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Vulnerable populations in rural and urban areas have stable and adequate access to comprehensive social protection services and programmes that increase their level of food and nutrition security by 2027

Focus area: root causes

Activities:

- Provide nutritious school meals to preschool and school-age girls and boys ensuring their access to social protection
- Provide nutrition and food assistance to the most vulnerable populations and promote behaviour change and capacity strengthening

Strategic Result 4: Partnerships for the goals

Strategic Outcome 4: The Government of Honduras further builds and strengthens its national social protection systems

Focus area: root causes

Activities:

- Strengthen the capacity of social protection systems, policies, and programmes

Strategic Result 5: Global partnership

Strategic Outcome 5: Key partners in Honduras benefit from efficient services all year round.

Focus area: resilience building

Activities:

- Provide on-demand cash transfer services
- Provide on-demand supply chain services

- From 15 to 19 May, WFP hosted the regional training "Journalism without Borders: How to Cover Food and Nutrition Security Issues" as part of the Information Systems Program for Food Security and Nutrition Resilience in the Region of the Central American Integration System (SICA) capacity strengthening project's visibility strategy. The event occurred in Comayagua (Honduras) where staff members from WFP and SICA spoke about food, nutrition security and resilience.

Monitoring

- WFP targeted the project "Improvement of food security and resilience" to identify 1,603 households to improve their food and nutritional security and the resilience of communities affected by the triple crisis in several municipalities of the Department of Choluteca.

Challenges

- The Secretariat of State in the Offices of Risk Management and National Contingencies of Honduras has declared Yellow Alert for 85 municipalities of the Dry Corridor, located in six departments of the country, due to possible drought associated with the El Niño phenomenon, which will intensify in June 2023. It is estimated that around 977,000 people will be affected. Increased support is needed to provide life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable populations. To implement its emergency response and preparedness activities, WFP faces a funding gap of USD 17 million over the next six months (June - November 2023) to respond to the crisis and promote early recovery.

Donors

Canada, European Union, France, Germany, Honduras, Japan, the United States of America and private donors.