



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Honduras Country Brief October 2023



Meeting between the President of the Republic of Honduras, the Minister of State for Development of France, WFP Executive Director and WFP Honduras Country Director. WFP Photo.

## Operational Context

Honduras has a population of almost 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 in which 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

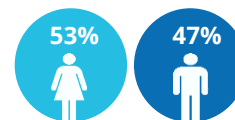
**1,098 mt** of food assistance distributed\*

**USD 558,666** cash-based transfers made\*

**USD 44.4 m** six months (November 2023 – April 2024) net funding requirements, representing 69 percent of total.

**359,718 people assisted\***

in OCTOBER 2023



\*Preliminary figures

## Operational Updates

- On 18 and 19 October, WFP representative in Honduras, Stephanie Hochstetter, accompanied the President of Honduras, H.E. Xiomara Castro, during the First Global Meeting of the School Meals Coalition. This strengthened the collaboration between the Government of Honduras and WFP, consolidating the joint commitment to address child nutrition and improve school feeding programmes in the country.
- In October, WFP distributed the third round of school feeding assistance to 341,003 preschool and primary school children to cover 40 days of classes distributing a total of 1,098 mt of food.
- On 25 and 26 October, WFP, the Honduran Red Cross, and FAO held a workshop on anticipatory actions, bringing together representatives of the Anticipatory Actions Advisory Group as well as new key actors to observe and reflect on the importance of implementing anticipatory action systems. The workshops focused on proactive measures to mitigate the impact of disasters and crises, emphasizing the importance of early intervention in vulnerable regions. Participants strengthened their collaboration, highlighting the collective commitment to advancing anticipatory actions as a critical component of disaster response and humanitarian efforts in Honduras.
- In response to the drought emergency caused by El Niño phenomenon, WFP provided cash-based transfers (USD 558,666) to 3,743 affected households to address their immediate needs and cope with the challenges posed by the drought. The assistance was provided in Copán, Lempira, Cortés, El Paraíso, Intibucá, La Paz and Choluteca.

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### Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirement (In USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
634.6 m	82.4 m	44.4 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 behavior 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

## Challenges

- According to the Honduran Secretariat of Risk Management and Contingencies, the challenges posed by the El Niño phenomenon are expected to persist until February 2024. The prolonged duration of this phenomenon exacerbates issues such as prolonged droughts, water scarcity, and disruptions in agricultural cycles. This situation can lead to food and water shortages, impacting communities, particularly in vulnerable regions.
- The 2023 hurricane season poses a significant threat to food security in Honduras due to its potential to disrupt agricultural activities, damage crops, and compromise the overall food supply chain. Hurricanes bring intense winds and heavy rainfall, leading to soil erosion, flooding, and destruction of crops. Smallholder farmers, a substantial part of the agricultural workforce in Honduras, are particularly vulnerable to these disaster risks.
- WFP is preparing to respond to the crises; however, it is facing a USD 26.6 million funding gap.

## Donors

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Additional support has been provided by the Adaptation Fund.