



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Honduras

## Country Brief

June 2024



©WFP Photo | A participant in the Nutritional Assistance to Vulnerable Groups program receiving fortified complementary food at a health center in Juan Francisco Bulnes, Gracias a Dios.

### Operational Context

Honduras has a population of almost 10 million people, with a gross domestic product per capita of USD 2,771.7 (2023). 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, climate change and poverty, contributing to a stronger social protection system, 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**

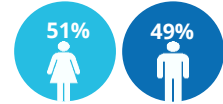
Chronic malnutrition: **23% of children between 6-59 months**

### In Numbers

**11,898 MT** of food assistance distributed

**USD 66.2 m** six months (July to December 2024) net funding requirements, representing 26 percent of total

**29,760 people** assisted



### Operational Updates

- WFP continues supporting the Government in the implementation of the National School Feeding Programme that reach **1.2 million children** in 17 departments of Honduras.
- WFP, with local private partner *Fundación Kielsa's*, visited a health facility in San José Colinas, Santa Bárbara. The objective of the visit was to understand the process of nutritional surveillance, food distribution and food preparation demonstrations under the Nutritional Assistance to Vulnerable Groups program. Through *Fundación Kielsa's* funding, WFP assisted **650 beneficiaries**, including children from six month until five and pregnant or breastfeeding women, in maintaining and enhancing their health and nutrition.
- WFP, with support from the 2023 French Food Aid Program (*Aide Alimentaire Programmée*), provides nutritional assistance in Juan Francisco Bulnes, Gracias a Dios. **Over 300 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children from six months under two** have benefited from fortified complementary foods. For the first time, the Nutritional Assistance to Vulnerable Groups program is being implemented in Gracias a Dios. This initiative is crucial for the well-being of these vulnerable groups, providing essential nutrients that are vital for early development and maternal health. By addressing malnutrition and promoting healthy growth during these critical stages, the programme aims to improve long-term health outcomes. Additionally, the programme enhances the capabilities of both volunteer and institutional health personnel and equips health facilities with anthropometric tools to support nutritional surveillance conducted by the Ministry of Health. In total, under the Nutritional Assistance to Vulnerable Groups program, **29,760 pregnant and lactating women and children from six months to 2 years of age** were assisted in 12 departments of Honduras.
- WFP participated in reviewing and updating the **Hurricane Contingency Plan** in collaboration with the Ministry for Contingency and Risk Management and other partners. By leveraging its extensive experience in emergency response, WFP contributed to developing comprehensive strategies that ensure timely and effective assistance to affected populations. Moreover, WFP provided technical expertise in emergency preparedness, logistics, and supply chain management.

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## Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)

Total Requirement (In USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
<b>634 m</b>	<b>51 m</b>	<b>66.2 m</b>

### 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 June 24 to 28, 2024, WFP held consultation and validation workshops in seven municipalities as part of the "**Parametric Microinsurance for Development**" project. These workshops aimed to gather and validate key information for developing a parametric microinsurance product. Small-scale farmers of basic grains, coffee, and vegetables identified climate risks impacting their livelihoods, planting periods, severity of extreme events like droughts and tropical cyclones, and data on income, expenses, and financial services access in their communities through focus groups.
- WFP conducted a workshop on creating inter-institutional protocols for **Shock-Responsive Social Protection to establish the foundations for a government-led Framework in Honduras**. The workshop focused on developing inter-institutional protocols to respond to emergencies effectively through existing social protection programs. The Ministry of Social Development (SEDESOL), the Adaptive Social Protection Unit (UPSA), and the Ministry for Contingency and Risk Management (COPECO) participated in the workshop, highlighting a collaborative effort to strengthen resilience and ensure effective support for vulnerable communities during crises.

## Monitoring

- WFP continued to monitor food prices in local markets across 10 departments in Honduras, including corner stores, grocery stores, local markets, and supermarkets. This monitoring provides insights into price variations for necessary programme adjustments. With rising commodity prices and reduced purchasing power, food insecurity may worsen for vulnerable families, making this data crucial for effective intervention strategies. As preliminary findings, supply shortages and stable prices of basic grains may impact food security in Honduran population.

## Challenges

- The preliminary outlook for the 2024 hurricane season predicts a highly active period with a 60% chance of 23 storm events, including at least two severe tropical storms or hurricanes. This is expected to worsen food insecurity for 800,000 people across rural and urban areas. With 80 percent of the country likely to be affected, immediate funding is crucial for WFP to assist **150,000 highly vulnerable individuals (30,000 households)** in flood-prone areas. Without urgent funding, WFP will be unable to provide emergency food and nutrition assistance to 85 percent of the 195,000 people targeted, leaving **161,500 people without food assistance**.

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