

Honduras Assistance Overview

August 2022

CONTEXT

- Honduras is vulnerable to multiple and recurrent climate-related hazards, including droughts, floods, earthquakes, landslides, and storms. These hazards—which continue to intensify due to climate change—frequently damage crops and infrastructure and undermine livelihoods. Populations in the country’s Dry Corridor, which covers much of southern and western Honduras, have faced increasing food insecurity in recent years, due in part to repeated droughts that have reduced agricultural production and incomes.
- Hurricanes Eta and Iota—which made landfall in November 2020 and marked the first time on record that Honduras experienced more than one hurricane in a single storm season—affected more than 4.5 million people, according to the Government of Honduras and the World Bank. The two storms resulted in 99 deaths, prompted the evacuation of more than 1 million people, and significantly damaged crops.
- Frequent droughts in the Dry Corridor, negative socioeconomic impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and continued challenges resulting from severe damages caused by Eta and Iota have contributed to worsening food insecurity and wasting in Honduras. Up to 1 million individuals will likely experience Crisis—Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) 3—levels of food insecurity through January 2023 in the country, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).
- On January 21, 2022, Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., Colleen A. Hoey reissued a disaster declaration for Honduras in response to food insecurity in the country exacerbated by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, and recurrent drought.



ASSISTANCE

- In response to worsening food insecurity, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) supports humanitarian partners to provide emergency food assistance across Honduras. Through the delivery of cash transfers for food and in-kind food assistance, USAID/BHA partners are reducing food consumption gaps to prevent and address acute food insecurity among vulnerable households, particularly during the country’s April—August lean season when food is scarcest. USAID/BHA partners are also providing agricultural support to smallholder farmers to ensure appropriate and timely inputs for planting and growing seasons—such as distributing farming tools, fertilizer, and seeds—to improve food security. Additionally, USAID/BHA partners are training smallholder farmers to implement climate-resilient farming practices, including topics such as diversification of
- Additional information on USAID/BHA's activities can be found at: [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)

crops, drip irrigation, and soil management to increase crop production and better protect against future climate shocks.

- In addition, USAID/BHA partners are helping vulnerable households restore livelihoods, increase financial resilience, and mitigate the impact of future shocks. This assistance includes the creation of community savings and loans groups, the provision of financial literacy courses, and the resumption and expansion of income-generating activities.



USAID/BHA partner the Adventist and Development Relief Agency (ADRA) distributes food in Honduras in June. Photo Credit: U.S. ADRA

- USAID/BHA partners also work with local organizations to mitigate, prevent, and respond to protection concerns in Honduras, particularly child protection risks and the needs of individuals affected by gender-based violence. As part of its integrated approach to protection programming, USAID/BHA partners are delivering case management and psychosocial support services to vulnerable individuals—particularly adolescents, children, LGBTQI+ populations, women, and other at-risk demographics. Implementing partners also provide multi-purpose cash assistance to help affected individuals meet basic needs and start or restore livelihood activities to increase financial independence.
- Following the impact of Eta and Iota during Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, USAID/BHA implementing partners provided agricultural; economic recovery; health; humanitarian coordination; logistics; multipurpose cash; nutrition; protection; shelter; and water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance to 16 departments in Honduras.
- USAID/BHA also supports early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) activities in Honduras that enhance long-term resilience and response capacity of communities against natural disasters. USAID/BHA partners are assisting vulnerable households restore livelihoods, increase financial resilience, and mitigate the impact of future shocks in Cortes, Francisco Morazán, and Yoro departments. This assistance includes establishing early warning and response system; providing local governments with technical assistance to improve operational capacity; and strengthening post-disaster coping and recovery strategies of affected populations. In both Cortes and Yoro departments, USAID/BHA partners are seeking to improve the development of urban settlements in communities by enhancing key socioeconomic systems—including strengthening housing and water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure—increasing community coordination, and preparing local actors to respond to disasters.

USAID/BHA Funding in Honduras ¹			
	Emergency	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2021	\$80,688,452	\$2,110,000	\$82,798,452
FY 2022	\$36,488,661	\$1,500,000	\$37,988,661

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of July 25, 2022. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.