

### 1. Crisis overview

<b>3.6 / 5</b>	<b>2.8 million</b>	<b>1.3 million</b>	<b>\$203 million</b>	<b>16.7%</b>
INFORM severity index (March 2024)	People in need of humanitarian aid (HNO 2024)	People targeted in the response plan (HRP 2024)	Required to reach the target (HRP 2024)	Of the required funding secured (HRP 2023)
<b>60 MSEK</b>	-	-	<b>60 MSEK</b>	
Initial allocation	Additional allocation	Flexible Funding	Total Sida funding 2024	

Honduras is experiencing a multidimensional crisis, with several compounding factors such as natural shocks and climate change, food insecurity, violence, and human mobility and displacement. The country is situated in the dry corridor of Central America resulting in prolonged droughts, made worse by the El Niño and La Niña phenomena, and it is exposed to multiple climate-oriented and geological natural hazards annually. This, combined with a heavy migration burden of being a country of origin, transit and return, has generated vast food insecurity, chronic poverty, and social unrest.

In a country of 9.6 million people, OCHA has classified 2.8 million in need of humanitarian assistance, of which 62 per cent are women. According to IPC assessments, between June and August 2023, 2.4 million people were found to be in Crisis food insecurity (Phase 3) or worse. On top of this, the violence of armed groups and the state’s militarised response cause death and internal displacement on the scale seen in armed conflicts. This has generated greater humanitarian needs and a fragile protection environment.

### 2. Humanitarian needs & affected population

At a national level, Honduras faces serious challenges like an alarming economic crisis, which is manifested in the slowdown of its economy and high inflation. Distrust in the Government and in the State security forces deepens tensions and manifestations of generalized growing discontent among the population. Additionally, it is expected that the main risks for Honduras in 2024 will be of natural origin. Considering the location of human settlements in areas prone to drought, floods and storms, it is expected that up to 68% of the national population will be affected in the event of a strong geoclimatic phenomenon, with a pronounced impact on those

people already affected by other humanitarian clashes. In 2023, the Secretary of State in the Management Offices of the National Risk and Contingencies (COPECO) declared 140 municipalities on alert for meteorological drought. The agricultural sector has been the most affected, mainly in the municipalities located in the Dry Corridor. Consequently, the number of people with crisis or emergency food insecurity needs have nearly doubled in the past decade. Additionally, there is limited access to basic services across the country with the public system overburdened. Access to WASH services have become increasingly unequal, and education has not yet recovered from COVID-19 closures.

The HRP 2024 estimates that 60% of the population lives on less than \$5.5 a day, a poverty rate that is only surpassed in the region by Haiti. The combination of poverty and climate changes exacerbates the food insecurity of the country. According to the IPC, around 2.4 million people are experiencing food insecurity. Of those, more than 2 million are in a food crisis and 352,000 in an emergency. Rural women who work in agriculture have one of the highest rates of inequality in terms of access to credit and productive resources and the control of these. Additionally, it is estimated that women's income is 35% lower than that of men. Honduras is third among the Central American countries with the greatest gender inequality. In the first half of 2023, the numbers of violent deaths of women increased by 48.7%. The country has the highest rate of femicide in all of Latin America, and the second highest rate of teenage pregnancies and motherhood in the region. A high number of these pregnancies are the result of sexual violence. Sexual rape against women, girls and boys is the third most reported crime in the country, still underreporting of cases of sexual violence is very high.

In 2022, the homicide rate was 38.1 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants, this is the second highest rate in the region. Over 1.3 million individuals with protection requirements reside in an environment marked by widespread violence, various forms of human migration such as forced displacement, refugee and migrant influx, and the repatriation of Honduran nationals. Additionally, prevalent issues include gender-based violence, mental health pandemic, infringement upon the rights of women, LGBTIQ+ individuals, children and adolescents, persons with disabilities, as well as indigenous and Afro-Honduran communities. In November 2022, a national emergency was declared due to the violence, increasing social unrest.

Concurrently, the humanitarian crisis in Honduras and neighbouring nations has led to widespread forced displacements, resulting in increased movement of families and children. Honduras now serves as a hub for origin, transit, and return. Annually, nearly half a million individuals traverse Honduras, marking a threefold surge since 2022. Meanwhile, a significant portion of Hondurans are internally displaced, with many compelled to return from other countries in pursuit of migration. Recent studies indicate that nearly 3 percent of the population experiences internal displacement, with women constituting 55 percent and minors 43 percent of this demographic. Approximately 8.4 percent of forced displacements in Honduras stem from the risk of children and adolescents being recruited by criminal factions. As a prominent destination for returnees, Honduras received 88,575 individuals in 2022, including 15,928 children and adolescents, primarily from the United States of America and Mexico. Alarmingly, 29 percent of these minors returned unaccompanied, lacking adult guardianship.

### 3. The humanitarian response

In light of increasing humanitarian and protection needs, the government has acted. In response to the human mobility and displacement crisis the government has signed the Central America Free Movement Agreement to allow safe transit and migration of people in the region, and they are party to the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS). However, despite efforts to respond to the situation, with recurrent crises placing a high demand on the government and its limited resources, they have not been able to minimise all humanitarian impacts.

To assist the government in their effort, since 2010, Honduras has had a Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) that ensures international coordination of humanitarian assistance between national authorities and partners. The HCT includes UN agencies, national and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the private sector and other actors, who collaborate to coordinate disaster preparedness and response activities. The HCT is managed by the Resident Coordinator and the Minister of National Risk and Contingency Management Office (COPECO). Under the leadership of the HCT there are eight clusters; WASH, Protection, Shelter Coordination and Management, Emergency Shelter, Food and Nutrition Security, Health, Education and Early Recovery; and four Areas of Responsibility (AoR) coordinating the assistance. Regionally, there are also Local Coordination Teams established 2022 due to natural disasters.

The HCT publishes appeals and response plans annually, and the HRP for 2024 addresses critical issues related to population health, malnutrition and food insecurity, human mobility and protection risks, provision of and/or access to essential services, and coping mechanisms of affected people. The main sectors targeted are WASH, protection, and food security/nutrition, and health. The HRP for 2023 had a funding gap of 85 percent at the end of the year, and it was one of the most underfunded responses in the world. The objectives of the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) are: 1) Contribute to protecting and saving the lives of people in need or at risk due to the impact of food insecurity, violence, human mobility, the effects of climate change and disasters through support for the exercise of rights and providing intersectoral humanitarian assistance with a focus on protection, age, gender, and diversity; and 2) Contribute to timely and targeted access to rights and livelihoods by promoting the resilience of people in need or at risk, taking into account their gender, age, and diversity, to strengthen the link between humanitarian assistance and development.

### 4. Sida's humanitarian allocation

Considering the multidimensional crisis in Honduras, SEK 60 million has been earmarked to respond to the most urgent humanitarian needs. The support will be aligned with the first objective of the HRP, i.e. “to protect and save the lives of people in need or at risk due to the impact of food insecurity, violence, human mobility, the effects of climate change and disasters through support for the exercise of rights and providing intersectoral humanitarian assistance

with a focus on protection, age, gender, and diversity” and will aim to target the most vulnerable, regardless of status and nationality.

The advised sectoral focus will be on food security, nutrition, WASH, health and protection — including child protection and GBV — with a specific focus on people with intersectional vulnerabilities such as people on the move, children and adolescents, women, LGBTIQ+ persons, indigenous communities and people with disabilities. Within protection projects supported, psychosocial support, case management and legal assistance/access to documentation should be prioritised. Food security and nutrition activities should further, prioritise the use of cash where local markets are functional and basic commodities’ prices are stable. Further, it is important that organisations have strong conflict sensitivity approach and proper gender analysis, and as Honduras is particularly vulnerable to climate change and natural hazards, environmental aspects should also be part of programme design. Through this approach, Sida will promote and ensure compliance with the humanitarian principles and encourage partners to have a greater impact while avoiding spurring on a deteriorating situation.

The allocation will also take into consideration where the needs are greatest, to ensure a good geographic coverage. The departments with the highest severity of food insecurity are Gracias a Dios, Lempira and La Paz. Cases of violence in turn are the highest in the cities of Tegucigalpa, and San Pedro Sula, and in the department of El Paraíso. Further, the needs of migrants and refugees, are concentrated to their entry point Danlí and Trojees (department of El Paraíso in the east of the country), their transit through Tegucigalpa and surrounding municipalities (department of Francisco Morazán), and their exit through the municipality of Ocotepeque (Department of Ocotepeque).

PARTNER	SECTOR	INITIAL ALLOCATION (SEK)	
		2024	2025
AAH	WASH, Protection, Nutrition	10,000,000	-
IRC	Protection, PSS, MPCA	5,000,000	-
UNICEF	Health, Education, WASH, Protection	20,000,000	-
WFP	Food Security, Nutrition	25,000,000	-
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>60,000,000</b>	<b>-</b>

## 5. Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus

The humanitarian support to Honduras in 2024 will constitute a majority of Swedish aid to the country, as there is no bilateral development cooperation and limited regional support. This in turn will limit the opportunities for nexus programming for Swedish actors, with the exception of the ongoing Strategy for Sweden's Regional Development Cooperation with Latin America

(SEK 187 million in 2023). Honduras may also benefit from Swedish global and thematic aid and core contributions from the Swedish ministry of foreign affairs.

However, there are other avenues for nexus programming in Honduras considering the protracted nature of the crisis and the multidimensional needs. Given the acute humanitarian needs in Honduras, humanitarian support will be dedicated to the first more life-saving objective of the HRP in adherence to the principle of humanitarian impartiality. However, the second objective with support to more chronic needs, sustainable solutions, rights, self-reliance and resilience, is equally important as interlinked climate, migration, economic and protection crises requires longer term solutions and cannot be solved by humanitarian aid alone. Particularly regions with high-severity needs, require development initiatives as well to build resistance to food insecurity/natural shocks, conflict prevention and social protection programmes. This objective could therefore be used as an opportunity for collaboration between multi-mandated organisations.

Programmatic collaboration could include food security monitoring systems with environmental and climate change adaptation programmes in areas highly exposed to floods and droughts. People would be better protected against recurrent natural disasters if more global climate adaptation finances would be directed to this very disaster-prone region. Central America needs climate action to become more localised, people-focused, risk-informed and anticipatory for the benefit of the most at-risk communities. There are also links to be made between humanitarian support to victims of violence, trafficking, conflict and the fight against organised crime in LAC.

By selecting multi-mandated organisations Sida can encourage partners in Honduras to program their development aid in high-severity contexts, strengthen resilience, early warning and action against climate hazards, and ensure conflict sensitive principled aid as per most urgent needs. Sida also promotes HDP smart programming among its humanitarian partners through supporting better aid modalities, such as multipurpose cash programming for food security. This offers more cost-effective, sustainable, versatile and multiplier effects by strengthening local markets, freedom of choice among recipients and easier transition to development-funded social protection programmes. However, in a context such as Honduras HDP actors must caution against substituting for the basic services which should be delivered by the government, always re-confirming that the state has the ultimate responsibility for such services. The international community is merely supporting, as the government is overburdened and lacks the resources needed.

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<sup>i</sup> The 2024 initial allocation of humanitarian funding is based on Sida's humanitarian allocation analysis methodology. The methodology was updated during 2023 to more clearly inform an allocation of funding that is proportional between crises, in line with Humanitarian and Good Humanitarian Donorship principles. Key changes in funding levels between the initial allocations for 2023 and 2024 for specific crises are therefore not only reflecting changes in the humanitarian situation but also changes in the analysis methodology. The analysis reflects the current humanitarian situation across crises and is being updated continuously with the latest available data, thereby allowing future allocations to be informed by how indicators have changed since previous allocations. The information in the HCA is based on reports, data, and information from partner organisations and other entities, as well as observations from field visits and dialogue with partners.