

A LONG ROAD TO RECOVERY

COUNTRY: HONDURAS

AREA OF IMPACT: DISASTER RESPONSE



PLEASE PRAY:

Lord, we pray for your protection in the aftermath of these hurricanes as Hondurans face hunger, displacement, and the threat of further spread of COVID-19.

After an unprecedented hurricane season, Honduras is still rebuilding and recovering. Two powerful hurricanes, Eta and Iota, struck Central America within a period of just two weeks. Communities already struggling to recover from Eta were dealt another devastating blow when Iota slammed into its northwestern and Atlantic shores.

Thousands of families in the most vulnerable areas are without essential items like food, hygiene items such as soap and sanitizer, and shelter. In response, World Renew has so far distributed food packages and hygiene kits to 788 families through its networks of churches and partner organizations in Honduras to meet these families' most immediate needs.

But for many communities, the damage from these storms will be long-lasting -- crops ready to be harvested are now destroyed, plunging the region into a long-term food crisis. Damaged infrastructure and homes will take many months -- even years -- to rebuild.

"The devastation from the hurricanes is widespread, but the strength of our local communities and churches is a daily source of hope," says Byron Zuniga Rosales from World Renew Honduras. "We are thankful for the support from donors and churches in the US and Canada who care so deeply about our communities. We know the road to recovery is a long one but the Lord is our strength."

COUNTRY UPDATES

Hurricanes Eta and Iota are the most severe natural hazards that have hit Honduras in more than 20 years. In Honduras alone, 4.6 million people have been severely affected by these hurricanes, facing loss of crops and livestock, damage in houses and roads, and other problems.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, the percentage of Hondurans that can't afford a healthy diet has increased by 40%. Furthermore, the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWSNET) has reported that Hurricanes Eta and Iota will elevate food assistance needs in Central America through mid-2021. It is estimated that many of the households in the urban and rural areas of Honduras that were directly impacted by hurricanes Eta and Iota will be in Crisis (Acute Food Insecurity Phase 3), at least until May 2021 due to limited access and availability of food due to the loss of harvests and lower demand for labor.

In Honduras there are 131,963 cumulative confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 and 3,335 cumulative deaths. A considerable increase of new cases were detected as a direct cause of the storms, mostly because so many people had to stay in large groups together in shelters.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- We need wisdom in our general response to the emergencies in Honduras. Please pray with us for that.
- Ask God to protect the health and safety of our team and partner staff, while doing their work in the communities, and for their families.
- As we continue to implement projects, we pray for guidance and wisdom from God.
- Finally, World Renew is in the process of a Core Humanitarian Standards audit to receive certification. Honduras has been chosen as one of the countries of focus, so please pray that the audit process goes well. We believe that receiving this certification will increase World Renew's credibility and open new opportunities. May God be praised by all that we do!

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

We are so grateful for your prayerful support and your continued generosity, especially the outpouring of support following these devastating hurricanes. May God bless you and keep you as we all continue to weather this pandemic storm.

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING HOPE!

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