



World Food Programme  
Programme Alimentaire Mondial  
Programa Mundial de Alimentos  
برنامج الأغذية العالمي

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

## **WFP News Video**

**Shot: 18 Nov20, 11-13 Feb21**

**Locations: Honduras, Italy**

**TRT: 4:14**

### **SHOTLIST:**

**:00-:22**

GVs of destruction caused by Hurricanes Eta and Iota that passed through in rapid succession in November 2020. A WFP team assesses the damage to houses on the banks of the River Ulúa. Communities in Central America have borne the brunt of a climate emergency, where consecutive years of drought and erratic weather have disrupted food production.

**Department of Santa Barbara**

**Honduras**

**Shot: 13Feb21**

**:22-:51**

GVs of Marlene Rosales and her children collecting trash and firewood from a garbage dump site. Marlene and her husband lost their jobs during the pandemic and were forced to find work day to day while supplementing their diet by foraging for wild plants and roots. In November, when the hurricanes passed through, they lost their part time jobs as well. As a last resort they decided to join the migrant caravans, but were blocked in Guatemala and forced to turn back. Now they make a living selling scrap metal and plastic bottles - They make US\$0.08 for every 2 pounds of scrap metal.

**Department of Santa Barbara**

**Honduras**

**Shot: 12Feb21**

**:51-1:18**

**SOT Marlene Rosales (Spanish)**



*“Before the pandemic, we had jobs. But with the pandemic, everything closed. We weren’t allowed to leave. The curfews started. Nobody could leave their home, so we couldn’t work anymore and we couldn’t bring any food home. After that, the hurricanes arrived.”*

**Department of Santa Barbara**  
**Honduras**  
**Shot: 11Feb21**

**1:18-1:44**

GVs of damage and flooding from the River Ulúa, caused by Hurricanes Iota. GV of Honduran Red Cross using boats to evacuate people stranded by the flood.

**Pimienta, Department of Cortés**  
**Honduras**  
**Shot: 18Nov20**

**1:44-2:22**

**SOT Marlene Rosales (Spanish)**

*“Sometimes the children got sick and we didn’t have a cent. This is why we decided to leave. Because we wanted to finish the house, buy the children beds...find a good job, have a whole different life. But when we left, unfortunately, we couldn’t cross over.”*

**Department of Santa Barbara**  
**Honduras**  
**Shot: 11Feb21**

**2:22-3:01**

Marlene collecting herbs. “Yerba Mora” or Black Nightshade is not usually eaten but it is edible and used as a supplement to their diet in times of scarcity. Additional shots of Marlene’s home.

**Department of Santa Barbara**  
**Honduras**  
**Shot: 12Feb21**



**3:01-3:12**

**SOT Marlene Rosales (Spanish)**

*"When there's only enough food for them (children), it's only for them. Even if we don't eat. You know that, as parents, we prefer that children eat rather than us."*

**Department of Santa Barbara**

**Honduras**

**Shot: 11Feb21**

**3:12-3:22**

Marlene and her children unpack WFP food rations. Since November 2020, WFP has provided food assistance to 69,886 families in Honduras affected by Hurricanes Eta and Iota.

**Department of Santa Barbara**

**Honduras**

**Shot: 11Feb21**

**3:22-3:59**

**SOT Miguel Barreto, WFP Regional Director (English)**

*"According to our surveys, now 15% of the people are thinking to migrate. If we compare that figure with 2018; In 2018 it was just 8% and if we compare just one country like Honduras – in Honduras 17% of the people are thinking to migrate because of this crisis. So WFP is ready to continue helping governments. We are planning to reach 2.6 million in 2021, and we need 46 million USD to cover that gap."*

**Rome,**

**Italy**

**Shot: 18Feb21**

**3:59-4:14**

GVs of Marlene's children eating food provided by WFP.

**Department of Santa Barbara**

**Honduras**



**Shot: 12Feb21  
ENDS**

## **WFP News Release**

23 February 2021

### **BATTERED BY CLIMATE SHOCKS AND BRUISED BY ECONOMIC CRISIS MILLIONS MORE IN CENTRAL AMERICA FACE HUNGER**

**ROME** – Hunger in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua has increased almost fourfold over the past two years - from 2.2 million people in 2018 to close to 8 million people in 2021 – a result of the economic crisis caused by COVID-19 and years of extreme climate events. Of this figure, 1.7 million people are in the ‘Emergency’ category of food insecurity and require urgent food assistance.

“Considering the level of destruction and setbacks faced by those affected, we expect this to be a long and slow recovery,” said Miguel Barreto, WFP Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean. “2020 was a year to forget across the world, and even more so for communities in Central America that were dealt a series of blows.”

With homes and farms destroyed, food stocks running low and job opportunities shrinking, nearly 15 percent of people surveyed by WFP in January 2021 said that they were making concrete plans to migrate. In a 2018 post-drought assessment only eight percent of respondents indicated they were planning to migrate.

The record 2020 Atlantic hurricane season dealt a severe blow to millions who were previously relatively untouched by hunger, among them people dependent on the service economy, tourism and informal jobs. Hurricanes Eta and Iota that struck Central America in November 2020 upended the lives of 6.8 million people who lost their homes and livelihoods.



The hurricanes destroyed over 200,000 hectares of staple food and cash crops in the four countries and more than 10,000 hectares of coffee farmland in Honduras and Nicaragua. The hurricanes struck as these communities were already dealing with job losses and a shrinking economy, a fallout of COVID-19.

WFP surveys estimate that food security in Central America nosedived as a result of COVID-19. The number of households that did not have enough to eat during COVID-19 nearly doubled in Guatemala compared to pre-pandemic numbers. In Honduras, it increased by more than 50 percent. An overwhelming majority of households in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador reported income losses or unemployment during the pandemic.

“Urban and rural communities in Central America have hit rock bottom. The COVID-19-induced economic crisis had already put food on the market shelves out of reach for the most vulnerable people when the twin hurricanes Eta and Iota battered them further,” said Barreto. “Many now have nowhere to live and are staying in temporary shelters, surviving on next to nothing”.

Communities in Central America have borne the brunt of a climate emergency, where consecutive years of drought and erratic weather have disrupted food production – especially staples like maize and beans, which depend heavily on regular rainfall.

WFP calls on the international community to support its efforts in Central America to provide urgent humanitarian assistance and to invest in long-term development projects and national social protection programmes that help vulnerable communities withstand recurrent weather extremes and economic shocks.

WFP plans to assist 2.6 million people in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua in 2021 and requires US\$47.3 million over the next six months.

High resolution photos can be found [here](#).



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The United Nations World Food Programme is the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. We are the world's largest humanitarian organization, saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.

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