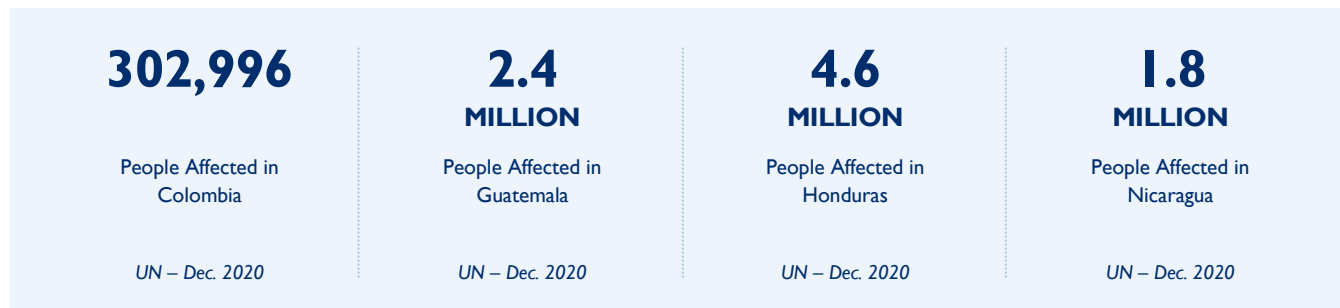


# Latin America – Storms

DECEMBER 30, 2020

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Relief agencies complete assessments of humanitarian needs generated by storms Eta and Iota in Honduras, finding that nearly half of the country's population was adversely affected.
- Humanitarian organizations estimate 1.8 million storm-affected individuals in Guatemala require multi-sector humanitarian assistance.
- USAID/BHA supports several NGO and UN partners in four countries to provide additional logistics, nutrition, protection, shelter, and WASH services.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Latin America Storms Response in FY 2021	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$43,901,188
		DoD <sup>2</sup>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$51,213,361</b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 7*

<sup>1</sup> USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) funding figures reflect committed and obligated funding as of December 30, 2020. Total comprises a subset of the nearly \$53 million in publicly announced USAID/BHA funding to the Latin America storms response.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) funding figures reflect DoD funding as of December 17, 2020.

## TIMELINE

**Nov. 3, 2020**

Eta makes landfall over Nicaragua's northeastern coast as a Category 4 hurricane

**Nov. 4, 2020**

The USG declares a disaster for the effects of Eta in Honduras

**Nov. 6, 2020**

DoD begins providing support to the humanitarian response in Honduras; the USG declares a disaster for the effects of Eta in Guatemala

**Nov. 7, 2020**

DoD initiates response in Guatemala

**Nov. 8, 2020**

The USG declares a disaster for the effects of Eta in Nicaragua

**Nov. 16, 2020**

Hurricane Iota passes over Colombia's San Andrés, Providencia, and Santa Catalina islands, then makes landfall over Nicaragua and passes over Central America

**Nov. 17, 2020**

USAID activates a DART and RMT; the USG declares a disaster for the effects of Iota in Colombia

**Dec. 2, 2020**

DoD completes all missions in Guatemala and Honduras in support of the storms response

**Dec. 11, 2020**

USAID demobilizes the DART and RMT

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Honduras Assessment Outlines Humanitarian Needs Among 4.6 Million People Affected by Storms

Storms Eta and Iota adversely affected 4.6 million people in Honduras, representing nearly half of the country's population of 9.3 million, according to the results of a multi-sector needs assessment conducted by the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team between November 22 and December 3 in nine affected departments. The magnitude and geographic extent of storm-related damage and impacts—reaching 199 of Honduras' 208 municipalities, according to the UN—has challenged existing national capacity to respond, requiring additional international support to respond to urgent humanitarian needs. UNDAC personnel emphasized that the storms exacerbated pre-existing humanitarian needs generated by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the 2019 dengue outbreak, and long-term vulnerabilities due to recurring droughts, poverty, and violence.

Priority needs identified by the UNDAC team are in the water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH); food security; health; camp coordination and camp management; shelter; and protection sectors. Significant damage to water and sanitation systems and related environmental contamination has limited access to potable water and sanitation services and increased the risk of disease spread, while the loss of crops has adversely affected livelihoods and food security among households in Honduras. Approximately 92,000 people remained in official government-managed emergency shelters, and an estimated 200,000 people remained in informal shelters—many without sufficient access to humanitarian assistance—as of December 21, according to the UN. Conditions in many shelters are congested and not conducive to mitigating the spread of COVID-19 and other diseases. In addition, many households will not be able to return to their communities in the near future due to significant loss of assets, damage to homes, and limited access in some areas due to floodwaters and debris. The UNDAC team also warned of the potential for an increase in gender-based violence (GBV), violence against children, and other protection violations in Honduras, with worsened living conditions exacerbating pre-existing protection risks. The team recommended relief actors scale up humanitarian assistance in the identified priority sectors in coordination with municipal and departmental authorities, consider expanding the use of cash transfers, and accelerate processes to support the safe and dignified return of displaced households to their communities.

### Humanitarian Actors Release Action Plan for Storm Response in Guatemala, to Reach 1.8 Million People

UN agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), in coordination with the Government of Guatemala (GoG), have developed an action plan to strengthen humanitarian assistance and early recovery activities in response to the impacts of storms Eta and Iota in Guatemala, particularly in the heavily affected departments of Alta Verapaz and Izabal. The storms

adversely affected 2.4 million people countrywide and resulted in significant infrastructure losses in 16 of Guatemala's 22 departments, including damage to approximately 60,000 houses, as well as bridges, health facilities, roads, schools, and water and sanitation infrastructure, according to the GoG National Coordination for Disaster Management (CONRED). Relief agencies estimate that a total of \$30.6 million is required to respond to the food security, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, and WASH needs of 1.8 million people in Guatemala. Assistance to improve food security among affected populations is the largest identified need; \$20 million of the total funding is required by humanitarian agencies to address food security needs through the provision of hot meals in emergency shelters and delivery of cash assistance and emergency food assistance to affected households.

## **USAID/BHA Provides Additional Funding to Humanitarian Partners in Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua**

To expand the reach of humanitarian assistance in areas impacted by storms Eta and Iota, USAID/BHA is supporting several existing partners with additional funding for response activities, as well as providing funding to new partner organizations. With USAID/BHA support, Global Communities is increasing multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA), shelter, and WASH support in four departments in Guatemala, while Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is delivering MPCA, shelter, and WASH assistance in Guatemala and Honduras. With USAID/BHA funding, the UN World Food Program (WFP) is providing humanitarian logistics services—including air transport of cargo and passengers—in Honduras to support relief organizations to deliver assistance to populations in need. USAID/BHA is also providing additional funding to World Vision in Honduras to support MPCA, protection, and WASH activities in three departments in Honduras. In northern Nicaragua, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) is expanding delivery of nutrition, protection, and WASH services. USAID/BHA is also supporting Malteser International to provide hygiene and shelter items to households in northern Colombia's La Guajira and Magdalena departments, where communities experienced flooding caused by Hurricane Iota.

### KEY FIGURES



**40**

USAID disaster response personnel across Central America at the height of the DART's activity

## **NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL, AND U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**

### **REGIONAL**

Immediately following Hurricane Eta's landfall over Central America, USAID/BHA staff in the region began coordinating response activities with national authorities and USAID/BHA partners. On November 17, USAID activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART)—supported at its height by 40 personnel across seven countries—to assess damages, identify priority needs, and work with partners to provide assistance to affected populations, and a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT) to support the DART. As part of the U.S. Government (USG) response to the effects of Hurricanes Eta and Iota in Guatemala and Honduras, the U.S. Southern Command's Joint Task Force-Bravo (JTF-B) rapidly mobilized to rescue people from isolated areas and evacuate people in need of medical assistance. JTF-B also supported USAID/BHA-validated requests for unique DoD capabilities by conducting aerial damage assessments and transporting food rations and relief items on behalf of host governments and humanitarian organizations; from November 6 to December 2, JTF-B transported a total 257 metric tons (MT) of humanitarian cargo, as well as humanitarian response personnel, in the two

countries. Additionally, through a regional mechanism, USAID/BHA is supporting the local procurement of emergency food items and provision of supplies and emergency relief items for affected populations in Belize, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama.

In response to storm-related humanitarian needs, international donors have mobilized funding for relief organizations across Central America. The European Union has provided nearly \$21.9 million in assistance to Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama, including a recent delivery of humanitarian cargo including COVID-19 tests, kitchen sets, tents, and water containers to Honduras. With \$8.8 million in funding, the Government of Japan is supporting four partners to provide food assistance, relief items, and materials for home repair, and to improve humanitarian coordination and shelter management. The Government of Switzerland is supporting the national Red Cross societies of Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua with approximately \$791,400 to deliver health, shelter, and WASH assistance to affected populations, while the Government of the Republic of Korea has provided \$700,000 to respond to needs generated by Hurricane Iota in Colombia, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is supporting national Red Cross societies to respond to immediate humanitarian needs resulting from Hurricanes Eta and Iota, and had reached more than 102,000 people with emergency assistance in Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama as of November 23. Across the region, UN agencies and NGOs are coordinating to support populations in collective shelters with emergency food assistance, relief items, and other humanitarian assistance, and have provided life-saving assistance to communities isolated by flooding. As of December 22, 64 organizations reported implementing more than 2,800 multi-sector humanitarian activities in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, according to the UN.



**35**

USAID-funded flights transporting GoC-provided relief supplies

## **COLOMBIA**

USAID/BHA provided immediate funding to the American Red Cross (AmCross) to support the distribution of urgently needed relief commodities on Colombia's San Andrés and Providencia islands. In late November, USAID/BHA also supported the delivery of approximately 100 MT of Government of Colombia (GoC) relief supplies, including communications equipment, generators, food, medical supplies, and potable water, from Colombia's capital city of Bogotá to San Andrés. In addition, USAID/BHA established a humanitarian air bridge between San Andrés and Providencia, through which a commercial airline had completed 35 flights transporting emergency relief supplies as of December 29. USAID/BHA also provided 88 tool kits, including hammers, handsaws and screwdrivers; nearly 1 MT of nails; and 80,000 roof tiles to help remove debris and repair roofs on San Andrés. Between December 1 and 5, a DoD vessel also transported nearly 197 MT of GoC-provided heavy duty equipment from Colombia's

Cartagena city to Providencia to assist with GoC debris management and initial early recovery efforts. USAID/BHA is also supporting Malteser International to provide hygiene and shelter items to households in northern Colombia's flood-affected La Guajira and Magdalena departments.

Additionally, the GoC has delivered food, tents, critical household items, and safe drinking water to affected households in Providencia via boat, and the Colombian Red Cross provided a water treatment unit that can process 175,000 liters of water per day, sufficient to cover all water needs on the island. The GoC National Disaster Risk Management Unit also allocated nearly \$600,000 to support local authorities' relief efforts to rebuild houses and repair damaged WASH infrastructure on the affected islands.



**64,600**

People in Guatemala  
USAID partners aim to  
reach with MPCA

## GUATEMALA

With USAID/BHA funding, CRS is providing food assistance, hygiene kits, and shelter support to affected households in Alta Verapaz and Izabal, and aims to reach 25,000 storm-affected individuals with MPCA and WASH support in the two departments. USAID/BHA partner Save the Children Federation (SCF) is providing MPCA to households in Quiché Department for the purchase of food and WASH items and distributing hygiene kits, while Project Concern International (PCI) is providing MPCA for the purchase of food, as well as relief commodities to improve shelter and WASH conditions, to households in Huehuetenango Department. Additionally, with USAID/BHA support, IFRC is providing hygiene items, delivering hygiene promotion messaging, supporting improved access to safe drinking water, and providing support for child protection and prevention of GBV.

The GoG, through CONRED, had delivered nearly 1,340 MT of relief commodities and food assistance across the country as of December 4. The UN deployed a UNDAC team to assist with response coordination and information management. At least 29 relief organizations are conducting response activities across the country, and humanitarian partners had delivered more than 324,800 liters of safe drinking water to affected people as of December 7, the UN reports.



**20,000**

Households in Honduras  
receiving emergency  
food assistance from  
WFP

## HONDURAS

USAID/BHA partner WFP is delivering emergency food assistance to an initial 20,000 households and providing humanitarian logistics services, including air transport of cargo and passengers. To meet immediate health needs, IFRC is providing health services, including first aid, psychosocial support, and technical assistance for community-based surveillance for diseases. UNICEF is also providing services to prevent GBV and violence against children, as well as to meet other protection needs. With USAID/BHA funding, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), CRS, Global Communities, GOAL, UNICEF, and World Vision are providing WASH support to people in shelters and affected communities in Honduras. USAID/BHA NGO partners are also providing shelter items, technical

assistance in emergency shelter management, support for shelter repair, and MPCA to storm-affected households. In addition, Global Communities, which has been implementing COVID-19 prevention and response activities in Honduras since July, is undertaking COVID-19 mitigation interventions in 59 shelters across Cortés Department.

In response to the storms, the Government of Honduras (GoH) deployed more than 50,000 first response staff and volunteers to conduct search and rescue operations and provide immediate relief assistance to affected populations, and the GoH National Emergency Commission worked with WFP to deliver pre-positioned emergency food assistance to the most affected communities on the coast of Honduras. Through December 9, an UNDAC team supported coordination and assessment efforts in Honduras, with assistance from the USAID/BHA-supported Americas Support Team, a group of urban search and rescue technical advisors from the Fairfax County, Virginia, Fire and Rescue Department. At least 29 humanitarian organizations are conducting multi-sector response activities across the country and had reached nearly 337,700 people with WASH assistance and more than 257,700 people with food security and nutrition assistance as of December 2, according to the UN.



**40,200**

People UNICEF aims to reach with nutrition services in Nicaragua

## NICARAGUA

USAID/BHA is supporting UNICEF and NGO sub-partners to provide emergency WASH assistance and services to populations in heavily affected areas of the North Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region and Jinotega, Matagalpa, and Nueva Segovia departments. UNICEF and NGO sub-partners also aim to support populations in need with protection services—including psychosocial support, child-friendly spaces, and technical assistance to local authorities to address risks of GBV and violence against children—and 40,200 people with nutrition services.

Following Hurricane Eta's landfall, the Government of Nicaragua (GoN) mobilized military personnel, fire brigades, and Nicaraguan Red Cross teams to evacuate populations, provide medical care, deliver emergency assistance, and remove debris from blocked transportation routes. As of November 27, the GoN had distributed nearly 350,600 sheets of zinc roofing material in the North Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region to assist communities with emergency shelter. The Nicaraguan Red Cross also provided food assistance, hygiene kits, and two water treatment plants and deployed a team to provide psychosocial support to affected populations in the region. Additionally, public health brigades had reached 120,000 people in affected areas with medical assistance as of November 23, the UN reports.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LATIN AMERICA STORMS RESPONSE IN FY 2021<sup>1</sup>**

<b>IMPLEMENTING PARTNER</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>FUNDING IN COLOMBIA FOR THE STORMS RESPONSE</b>			
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
AmCross	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	San Andrés and Providencia	\$100,000
Malteser International	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	La Guajira, Magdalena	\$250,000
	Logistics Support to Transport Relief Commodities to Affected Islands and for Humanitarian Air Bridge Between Affected Islands		\$523,885
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE COLOMBIA RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$873,885</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE COLOMBIA RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$873,885</b>
<b>FUNDING IN GUATEMALA FOR THE STORMS RESPONSE</b>			
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
CRS	Food Assistance, MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Alta Verapaz, Izabal	\$6,100,000
IFRC	Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$500,000
PCI	MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Huehuetenango	\$5,000,000
SCF	MPCA, WASH	Quiché	\$4,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE GUATEMALA RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$15,600,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE GUATEMALA RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$15,600,000</b>
<b>FUNDING IN HONDURAS FOR THE STORMS RESPONSE</b>			
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
ADRA	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, WASH	Atlántida, Colón	\$150,000
CRS	MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cortés, Santa Bárbara, Yoro	\$3,750,000
Global Communities	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cortés, Copán, Ocotepeque, Santa Bárbara, Countrywide	\$4,300,000
GOAL	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Atlántida, Cortés, Yoro	\$1,500,000
IFRC	Health, Protection	Countrywide	\$500,000
UNICEF	Protection, WASH	Atlántida, Cortés, Yoro	\$1,250,000
WFP	Food Assistance	Atlántida, Colón, Gracias a Dios, Yoro	\$4,000,000
	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
World Vision	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, MPCA, Protection, WASH	Copán, Cortés, Yoro	\$4,150,000
	Logistics Support		\$152,836
	Program Support		\$15,017
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE HONDURAS RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$20,767,853</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE HONDURAS RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$20,767,853</b>

FUNDING IN NICARAGUA FOR THE STORMS RESPONSE			
USAID/BHA			
UNICEF	Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Jinotega, Matagalpa, North Caribbean Coast Autonomous Region, Nueva Segovia	\$6,600,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE NICARAGUA RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$6,600,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE NICARAGUA RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$6,600,000</b>
FUNDING IN LATIN AMERICA FOR THE STORMS RESPONSE			
USAID/BHA			
	Program Support		\$59,450
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE REGIONAL RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$59,450</b>
DOD			
	Search and Rescue Missions, USAID-Validated Logistics Support		\$7,312,173
<b>TOTAL DOD FUNDING FOR THE REGIONAL RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$7,312,173</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE REGIONAL RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$7,371,623</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE LATIN AMERICA STORMS RESPONSE IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$43,901,188</b>
<b>TOTAL DOD FUNDING FOR THE LATIN AMERICA STORMS RESPONSE IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$7,312,173</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LATIN AMERICA STORMS RESPONSE IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$51,213,361</b>

<sup>1</sup>Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. USAID/BHA funding figures reflect committed and obligated funding as of December 30, 2020. Total comprises a subset of the nearly \$53 million in publicly announced USAID/BHA funding to the Latin America storms response. DoD funding figures reflect funding through December 17, 2020.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)