



In Guatemala, the **most vulnerable populations are subsistence farming families** who were severely affected by Hurricanes Eta and Iota in late 2020 and still have not recovered. The effects of COVID-19 and related restrictions further worsened the situation. In most departments, **1 in 5 households adopt negative coping mechanisms**, such as selling farm assets and livestock, to cover their immediate food needs. The 2022 *primera* and *postrera* cropping seasons are an indispensable opportunity to **help these vulnerable farmers with inputs to secure a good harvest** and the means to get back on their feet.



TO ASSIST
257 915 people



FAO REQUIRES
USD 14.9 million



JANUARY–DECEMBER
2022

What humanitarian investment in agriculture can achieve

USD 198



With the seeds provided, each household can cultivate 0.7 ha of land and produce approximately 1.5 tonnes of maize, worth USD 584 on the local market.



Support a family of 6 to produce more than a year's supply of maize to consume and sell

USD 105.60 =

With 30 fingerlings and feed, a household can catch around 12 kg of fish in 4 months, worth USD 60 on the local market.



Provide a family with a source of income and the means to access nutritious food for up to a year

USD 4.60

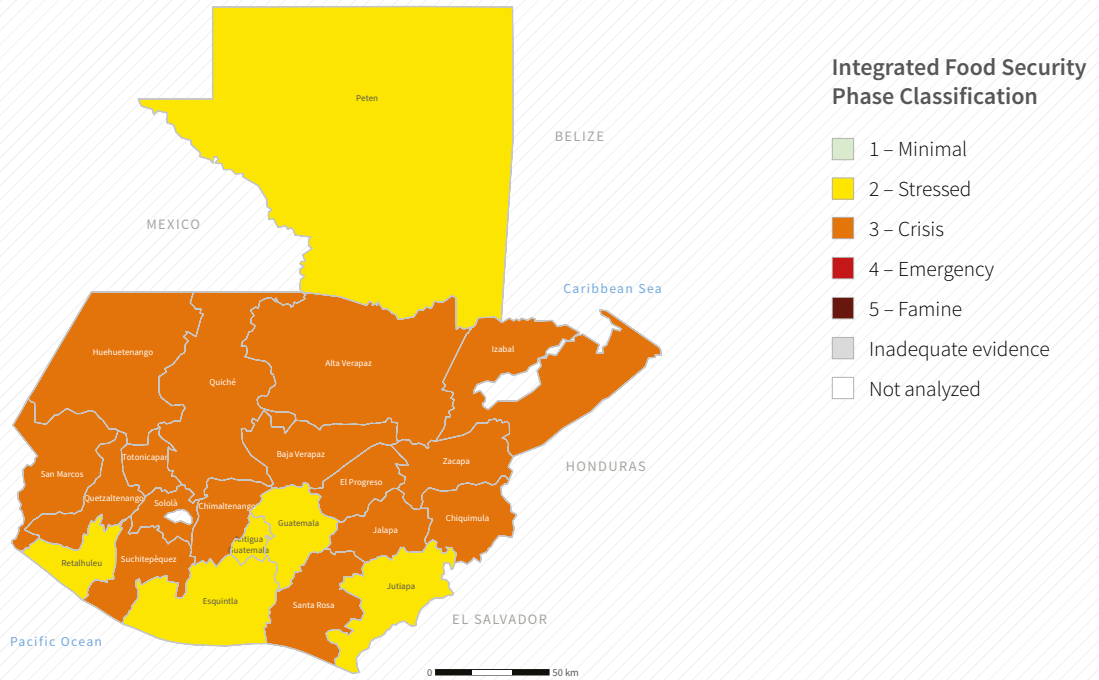


Vaccinating and deworming a pig protects a vital asset that would cost USD 100 to replace if the animal died.



Protect a family's savings; by selling a pig, a family can buy food, clothing and medicine

Projected acute food insecurity situation (September 2021–January 2022)



Source: IPC. 2021. Guatemala: Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Snapshot, May 2021–January 2022. [online]. Rome, Italy. [Cited 14 February 2022].

https://www.ipcinfo.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ipcinfo/docs/IPC_Guatemala_AcuteFoodInsecurity_2021May2022Jan_Snapshot_English.pdf. Map conforms to United Nations Geospatial Guatemala map, 2004.

Urgency of humanitarian agricultural assistance

The current humanitarian situation in Guatemala requires urgent action. Already affected by multidimensional poverty, the record-breaking Atlantic hurricane season in 2020 and heightened volcanic activity have severely impacted the country. Productive assets and infrastructure were destroyed, communities were displaced and human lives lost in some areas of the country. In addition, the effects of the pandemic have led to difficulties in accessing markets for over half of the population, mainly due to households' low purchasing power, depletion of food stocks and increased food prices. As a result, families are forced to sell whatever assets they have left to feed themselves.

Implementing cash for work, for instance, provides monthly cash transfers to households to cover immediate needs, while restoring damaged cropland and repairing small infrastructure washed away by hurricanes. This enables families to improve food production for the wider community. Restoring the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people through the provision of essential inputs such as seeds and repairing key productive assets for fishing, livestock and agricultural production, can save their lives.

Coordination

While Guatemala does not have an activated Food Security Cluster, the Food and Agriculture Organizations of the United Nations (FAO) coordinates its interventions closely with a wide range of food security partners in country, including government counterparts, local and international non-governmental organizations and other United Nations agencies.

Drivers of food insecurity

Depletion of basic grain reserves

Increased food prices

COVID-19

Hurricanes

Key facts

Country population: **17.1 million**



2.5 million people projected to be in high acute food insecurity (September 2021–January 2022)



13.7% increase in acute malnutrition among children in 2021 compared with 2020





78.4% of households live in poverty in Guatemala's Dry Corridor









USD 12 out of 100 in food security assistance went to support rural livelihoods (2016–2020)

FAO priorities

 Month by which funding is required for the implementation of priorities

 Planned implementation timeframe for priority activities

Priorities	Type of assistance provided/ contents of assistance package	Cost per beneficiary (USD)	Number of beneficiaries (people)*	Total cost (USD)	Calendar of funding deadlines and implementation													
					Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
Ensure farmers are able to harvest maize and beans for consumption and to generate income by restoring flooded and sand-soaked cropland, replacing farming tools and developing soil moisture conservation techniques.	Household kit: 1 litre of fertilizer for beans, 11.36 kg of maize seed and four tools (shovel, hoes, etc.) 8 650 households to also benefit from supplies and materials to implement 73 community local seed banks technical assistance and training	16.70	257 915	4 307 180														
Allow vulnerable households to immediately access nutritious food through the production of local vegetable varieties, livestock restocking, implementation of prophylactic plans for large and small livestock, and income-generating activities	Household kit: 0.6 kg of seeds (amaranth, chipilín, coriander, radish and tomato)	35	49 780	1 742 300														
	4 laying hens, 23.4 kg of feed concentrate, vaccines, dewormers and antibiotics for backyard poultry	64		3 185 920														
	4 350 households (mainly headed by women) to also benefit from support to set up income-generating activities (selling basic grains, vegetable production and marketing, etc.)	65.30	22 559	1 473 103														
Restore/set up productive infrastructure for the production of vegetables and fruit trees for household consumption and marketing, through rehabilitation/ set up of drip irrigation systems, repair/ replacement/set up of fish ponds, repair/ rehabilitate protected agriculture structures, implement rain harvesting systems for household consumption and agricultural use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 133 households to benefit from irrigation systems and vegetable seeds. 320 households to benefit from 32 community drip irrigation systems. 3 245 households to benefit from family rainwater harvesters, lined with geomembrane, with a capacity of 16 000 litres each, including a 50-m² drip irrigation system, along with 30 fingerlings per harvester, and technical assistance and training 	111.70	19 179	2 142 294														
Improve immediate access to food through cash-based transfers	USD 129.50/household through cash for work	25	60 048	1 495 195														
Strengthen the capacities of national actors to prepare for and respond to climate-related shocks	Supplies and material to set up workshops and for training	-	-	541 064														

*Certain people will benefit from multiple types of activities.

REQUIRED CITATION: FAO. 2022. *Guatemala: Humanitarian Response Plan 2022*. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb9370en>

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