

UNDP Results

Honduras



Approach

Over the past 10 years, Honduras has experienced real progress in terms of economic growth and progress in some human development indicators. But with poverty rates still high—59 percent of Hondurans live below the poverty line and 36 percent below the extreme poverty line—and with the constant threat of hurricanes, droughts and floods, these achievements risk the possibility of stagnation or reversal. UNDP has made poverty reduction its top priority in Honduras, working with the Government to sustain and build on the achievements of the last decade and to remain on track to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Along with our partners, we have accomplished key results in the area of governance—in terms of deepening democracy and promoting citizen participation, disaster risk management and improving the quality of life for the most vulnerable population.

RESULTS

Fighting poverty

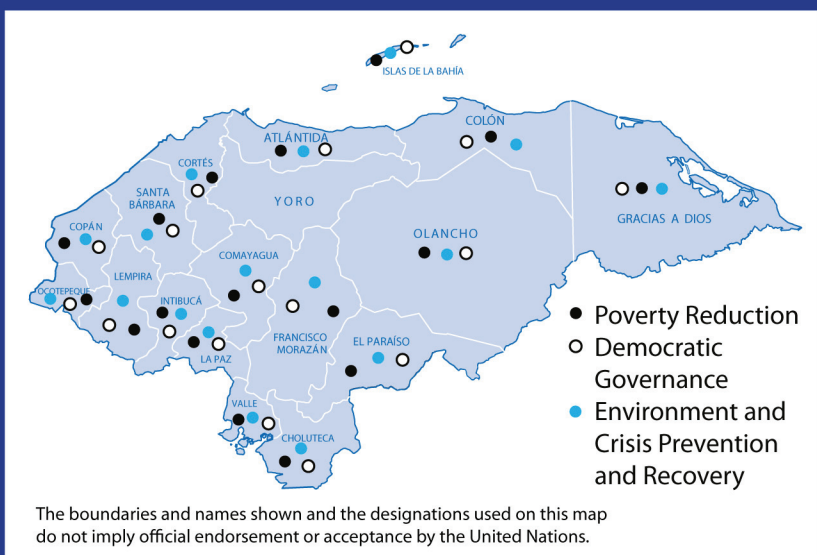
UNDP is helping the Government of Honduras alleviate poverty and address the huge wealth gap.

- UNDP supported a national credit plan to allocate financial and technical services to the rural communities of Honduras. To date, over 400,000 people have benefited from this plan, investing in small businesses and gaining access education to make those enterprises success.
- UNDP funded a microcredit programme—composed of 77 local investment projects—that spurred entrepreneurship in 26 municipalities in the provinces of Comayagua and Copán.
- UNDP helped restore a crucial bridge in the remote countryside—the Rus Rus Bridge—to connect isolated communities to each other and to market centres. This bridge is the only available means for the indigenous communities of the Honduran Mosquitia to transport and sell their harvests.
- To address high rates of maternal mortality—108 per 100,000

live births—and child malnutrition which is at 25 percent, UNDP restored 13 infant-maternity clinics and four hospitals in different regions of the country. Additionally, we provided 18 child and maternal primary health care units with ambulances and medical equipment so that pregnant women in the isolated communities receive the proper care and medical services they need.

- Working with the National Water and Sanitation Council, UNDP designed policies to extend water and sanitation services to the most secluded communities of Honduras. Additionally, we assisted, both technically and financially, in the installation of two irrigation subsystems in Comayagua, which will improve agricultural productivity in almost 809 hectares and create over 4,000 jobs.

HONDURAS



UNDP Activities in Honduras: 2008

Theme	Funders	Total Amount US\$ Millions*
Poverty Reduction and MDGs	Italy, Japan, Spain, Central American Bank For Economic Integration, International Fund for Agricultural Development, Government of Honduras, UNDP	18.9
Democratic Governance	Finland, Japan, Spain, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, UNDP	5.8
Crisis Prevention and Recovery	Japan, UNDP	0.2
Environment and Sustainable Development	GEF, Inter-American Development Bank, Montreal Protocol, UNDP	3.3
HIV and AIDS	Global Fund	4.4
Other	Government of Honduras	20.4
Total		\$53.0

Source: UNDP Honduras

Building democracy

To enhance civic participation and deepen democracy, UNDP is working to increase women's participation in national and local politics and promote gender equality through:

- Assisting the Government of Honduras in the development, ratification and implementation of the Second National Plan of Gender Equality and Equity, as well as the Manual for Political Participation of Women.
- Training public servants as well as political party and civil society leaders on reforming and reinforcing public policies and laws to boost the status of women in government.
- Training 30 women leaders from five political parties and 50 women leaders from rural communities on women's rights, in addition to building their capacity to include gender agendas in their respective parties and local development plans. These women have then gone on to train others in their political parties and respective communities.

Additionally,

- UNDP assisted local governments to conduct MDG mappings and produce 50 municipal-level MDG reports. The mappings and reports are being used by local authorities in the design of their development plans.
- In collaboration with the National Autonomous University of

Honduras, UNDP created the 'Violence Monitor' to keep track of and report delinquency and violent behaviour in the country. The Monitor has become Honduras' main source of information on the status of crime and is used by municipal authorities to develop their local security plans.

- UNDP has also trained over 19,000 people in 70 educational facilities around the country on how to prevent violence in schools and within families.
- Working with the Ministry of Education, UNDP incorporated human rights courses in university curricula. We also extended the training to over 150 indigenous community leaders.

Environmental protection

In response to the multiple earthquakes, tropical storms and floods that have hit the country over the past years, UNDP has responded by:

- Supporting the development and endorsement of the National System of Risk Management;
- Organizing 38 local and municipal emergency committees, training them on how to prepare and respond to emergencies caused by floods, slides and earthquakes;
- Establishing two anti-flood and two anti-slide early alert systems;
- Constructing shelters and houses with local earthquake-resistant materials;
- Installing two swing-bridges constructed as part of evacuation routes in the secluded municipalities of Marale and Yoritó.

In addition, to combat the effects of climate change, UNDP supported a wide range of eco-friendly projects in the most vulnerable communities. To date, these projects have generated more than 100,000 jobs.

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