

# **TROPICAL STORM JULIA** FLOODING

#### SITREP N° 2 - HONDURAS

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EVENT	Tropical Storm Julia / Flooding	
PERIOD	From 20/09 to 10/10 of 2022	
LOCATION (AFFECTED COUNTRY, REGION, AREA)	Cortés Department, Honduras	
DATE	12/10/2022	



19,430 2,202 **AFFECTED FAMILIES** 

**HOUSES DAMAGED** 

**EVACUATED PEOPLE** 

3,355 357

COMMUNITIES AFFECTED

**DEAD PEOPLE** 

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## **1. CONTEXT**

On Saturday, September 24, the Presidency of the Republic declared a State of National Emergency for a period of 90 days due to the heavy rains and tropical storms that triggered floods and landslides with lethal impacts.

Compounding to the devasting effects of of an active rainy season which had left 16 people dead in Honduras, Hurricane Julia made landfall on 9 October on Caribbean Nicaraguan coast as Category 1, and quickly weakened to a tropical storm which passed through Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. While assessments are still in their early stages, it is apparent that Julia's impacts have been quite severe, especially in northern Central America, with reports of significant damage to housing and related displacement, agriculture as well as health and educational infrastructure.

#### SULA VALLEY, CORTÉS DEPARTMENT (HONDURAS)

Action Against Hunger has presence in three municipalities of the Sula Valley (northern Honduras), Villanueva, La Lima, and San Manuel, where we responded to the emergency caused in 2020 by hurricanes ETA and IOTA.

Hydrologically, the area has two of the most important basins in Honduras: the Ulúa River basin and the Chamelecón River basin, in addition to other considerable tributaries that increase the flows of the rivers. The abovementioned municipalities are subject to continuous flooding during the rainy season and are still recovering from the 2020 hurricane season.

### ANALYSIS OF THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION, IMPACT AND EVOLUTION

In Honduras, some 103,960 people have been affected by the passage of Julia, bringing the total population affected by the rainy season to more than 188,300 people (OCHA).

Given that the soils are extremely saturated, the rainy season has not yet ended, and the humanitarian needs exceeded the response capacity of COPECO and local governments, both institutions have requested support from the humanitarian network and international cooperation to be able to attend the most urgent needs, at this stage mainly focused on sheltered people.

Action Against Hunger requires the collaboration of its strategic allies to provide humanitarian assistance in three of the municipalities with the greatest degree of affectation, according to the following sectors and needs:

### **2. COORDINATION**

Since the beginning of the emergency, Action Against Hunger is in close coordination with humanitarian NGOs, national and local authorities, United Nations agencies and international humanitarian agencies.

Coordination efforts primarily seek complementarity between organizations, the generation and



exchange of information on the impact of hurricanes and the first humanitarian needs, as well as the formation of teams to travel to the affected areas. This work will subsequently be transferred to broader coordination spaces both at the national and departmental levels, with the participation of Action Against Hunger specialists in sectoral clusters and field coordination initiatives promoted by local authorities in affected territories, specifically in Villanueva, La Lima and San Manuel.

As we identify providing cash transfers or vouchers to affected people, we are also coordinating with Financial Service Providers and with commercial establishments and/or supermarkets that have a presence and remain operational in the areas most affected by flooding, to ensure that they have sufficient and diverse stock of essential products.

### **3. IDENTIFIED NEEDS**

#### **NUTRITION AND HEALTH**

- Safe spaces in shelters for breastfeeding and nutritional food counseling.
- Distribution of childcare kits for children under 2.
- Complementary food to children under 5 and PLW.

#### WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

- Safe and sufficient water for sheltered people and affected communities
  Hygiene kits disaggregated by sex and age.
- Rehabilitation of WASH infrastructure at shelters.
- Repair **WASH** related **community infrastructure** in a medium-term (approximately 30 days after rains).

#### **FOOD SECURITY**

- Cash transfers/vouchers for food assistance and other NFIs.
- Provision of kitchen equipment and utensils to shelters.

#### PROTECTION

- Improving lighting in shelters.
- •Implementation of **accountability mechanism** to beneficiary populations within the shelters (PQR/PEAS), as well as to facilitate secure **complaint** processes before any abuse or risk of this
- Provision of **mattresses** for sheltered people.

#### STRENGTHENING

• Capacity building for COPECO and CODEMs.





### **4. OUR RESPONSE**

We deployed a multidisciplinary team to gather information on the ground, in Villanueva, San Manuel, and La Lima, in coordination with CODEMs. We focused on analyzing urgent needs of the evacuated and sheltered population, identifying gaps, as well as assessing the damage in the three municipalities.

As a first response, **ongoing humanitarian projects have been adapted** to respond to the emergency seeking to reinforce the dissemination of alerts, publicize places of shelter, as well as prevention measures against floods. **We are mobilizing resources to expand the coverage of our humanitarian response.** 

Moreover, through our alliance with GIS4TECH, **detailed maps of the affected areas have been prepared using GIS and sensing analysis**. These products serve to make decisions about areas to be prioritized in sending teams to the field, as well as in the subsequent distribution of humanitarian aid.





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## **5. CONTACTS**

#### Contacts in HQ's

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#### OUR PARTNERS IN THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE TO THE FLOODS IN HONDURAS





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