

Consortium LIFE-Honduras SITUATION REPORT

emergency
THAT NOBODY
migration
IS LEFT BEHIND
family

COVERAGE PERIOD
OCTOBER 1st TO
OCTOBER 31st, 2023

For more
information
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QR code



EVENT

Irregular migration situation in the departments of El Paraíso and Ocotepeque, Honduras.

LOCALIZATION (COUNTRY, REGION, AREA AFFECTED):

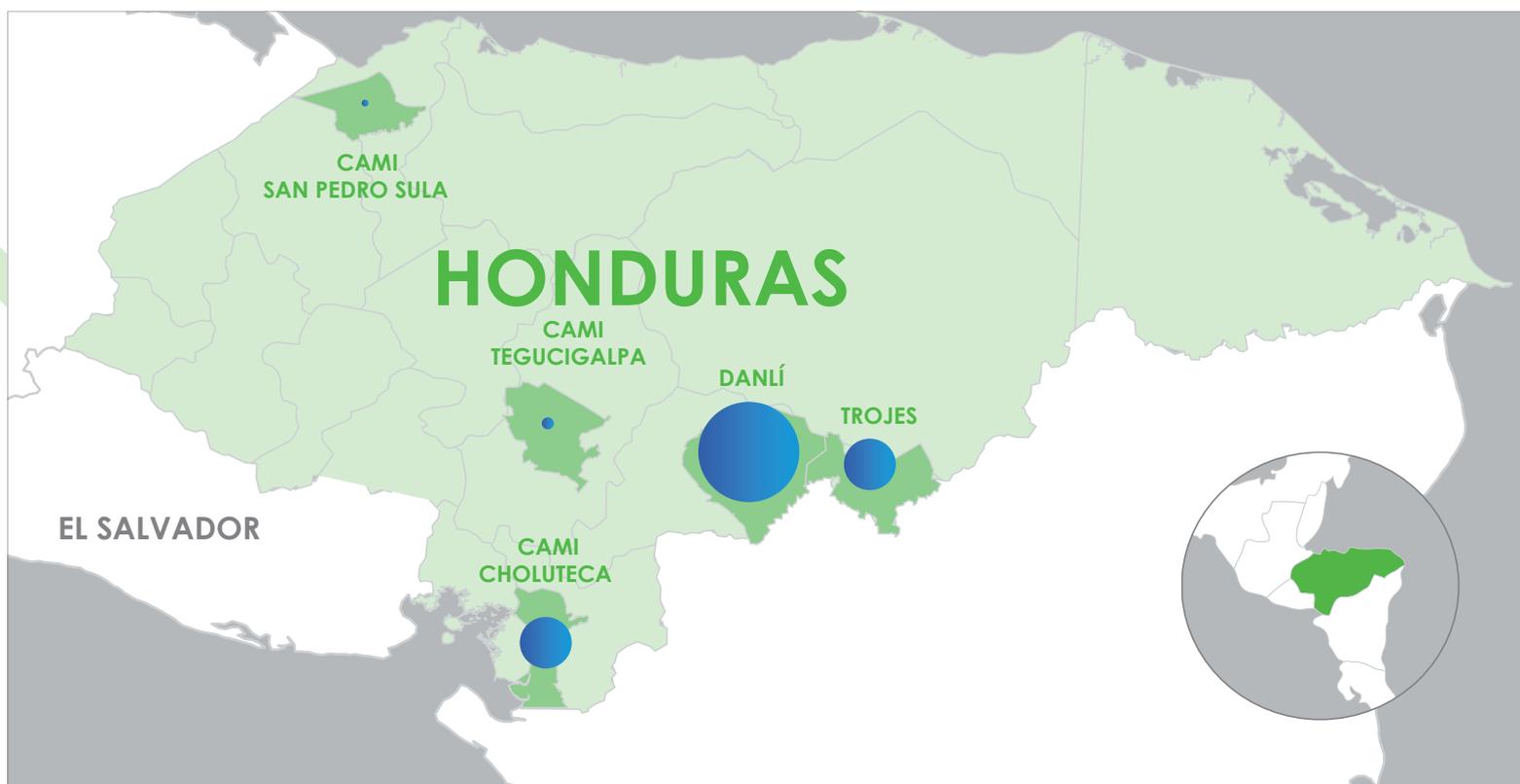
Municipalities of Trojes, Danlí, El Paraíso, in the department of El Paraíso; La Machuca in Santa Fe, department of Ocotepeque.

DELIVERY DATE

**November
14th, 2023**

MAP

IRREGULAR MIGRATION TRANSIT BY DISTRICT



442.619

IRREGULAR MIGRANTS
FROM 01.01.2023 TO 31.10.2023



1.455

MIGRANTS PER DAY

4

MUNICIPALITIES



140

NATIONALITIES



54%

MEN



26%

WOMEN



20%

BOYS AND
GIRLS





CONTEXT

Central America and Mexico are facing a growing migratory flow that has prompted the convening of a special Summit in Palenque, State of Chiapas, Mexico, on October 22, 2023, in which 12 countries addressed the situation with the idea of presenting a common regional position to U.S. President Joe Biden in November.

At the meeting, the participants agreed to "request destination countries to expand regular, orderly and safe migration channels with special emphasis on labor mobility and to promote the reintegration and return of temporary workers".

They also agreed to "develop an action plan" to promote decent employment, food self-sufficiency, environmental protection, energy security, trade, investment and the fight against organized crime in order to reduce the migration flow.

Those attending the meeting argue, however, that "**selective**" measures encourage irregular migration, referring to U.S. policies that provide asylum for applicants from countries such as Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela, but look at the immediate deportation of the rest.

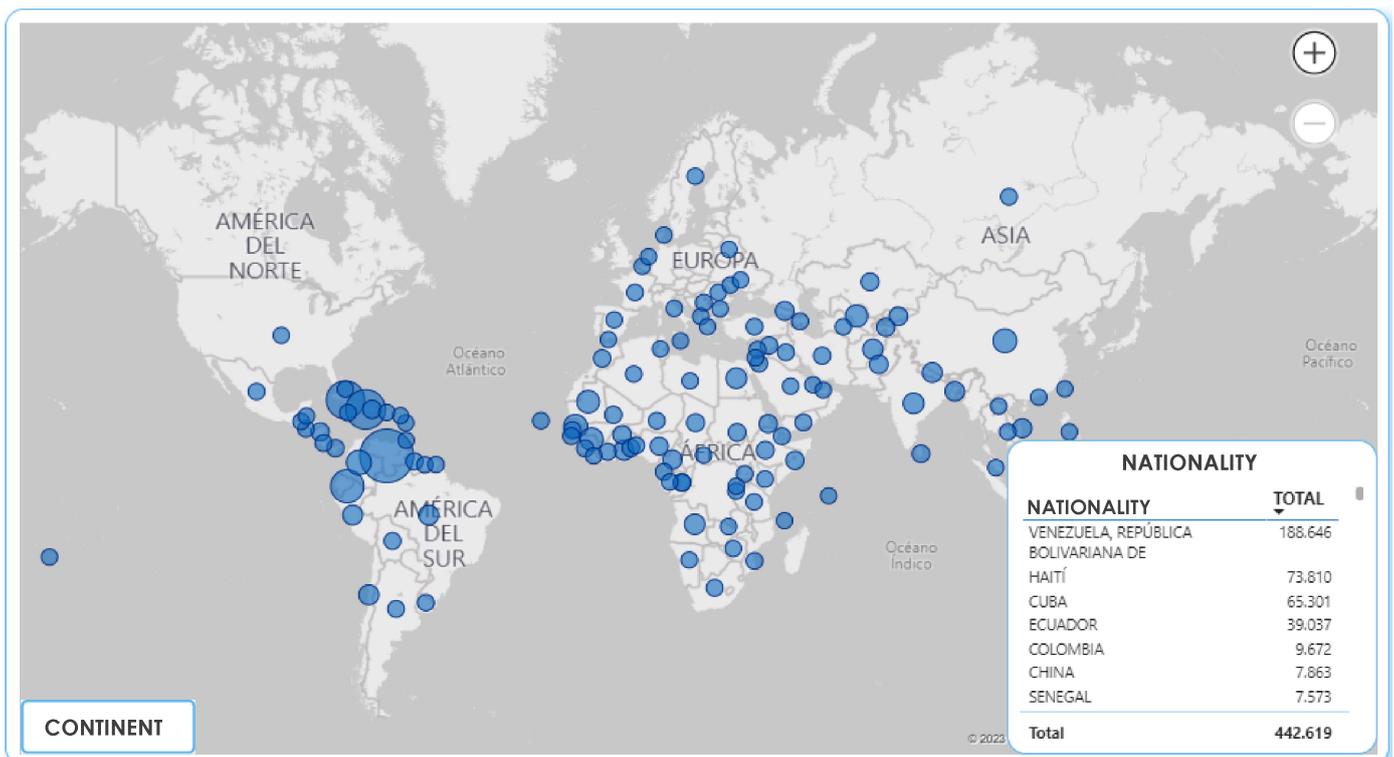
On October 30, 2023, one week after this meeting, Haiti suspended flights from Port-au-Prince to Managua. However, Haitian authorities clarified that this was a

temporary measure to reorganize the departure of Haitians to the Central American country. From Haiti, between 10 and 23 daily flights operated between Port-au-Prince and Managua. The reorganization would reduce this frequency to 4 daily flights. Nicaraguan media have reported that between August and October **of this year, 31.475 passengers have entered the country on 268 flights.**

A considerable number of daily flights from Cuba also land at Managua International Airport. Airport authorities have admitted that landings have **increased by 150%. There are currently between 42 and 46** daily flights operating at the terminal, mostly from Cuba and Haiti. This has reinforced the human trafficking networks.

Independent press reports state that migrants arrive in Nicaragua, where they have already mapped out a network of owners of small hostels who lodge them and carriers who transport them, as well as people who help them cross through unauthorized points into Honduras.

Between January 1st and October 31th, an average of 1,455 people entered Honduras daily through unauthorized points, totaling 442,619 people from 140 countries. Of the total number of people in transit through Honduras, 54% are men, 26% are women and 20% are children.





Venezuela continues to lead with the highest number of entries (188,646, followed by Haiti (73,810, Cuba (65,301, Ecuador (39,037, Colombia (9,672, and then China (7,863, Senegal (7,573, Guinea (6,201, Mauritania (5,700 and Uzbekistan (4,761.

Honduras has had a migration amnesty in effect since August 4, 2022, which suspends a payment as an administrative sanction for irregular entry into the national territory, as established in the Migration and Alien Law.

In the period of this report, there is a notable daily increase in the irregular entry of people into Honduras. From October 1 to 31, a total of 102,008 people entered Honduras through irregular channels, at a rate of 3,290 people per day, representing an increase of 112% compared to the previous month and an increase of 331% compared to the same period in 2022.

As highlighted in previous reports, a significant number of people arrive in the country without appearing in official migration statistics, making it difficult to obtain a full understanding of the true scale of the people flow phenomenon.

Although the United States has designed mechanisms (**humanitarian parole**) for the regular migration of Venezuelans, Cubans and Haitians, among others, the latter lead the statistics of the National Institute of Migration (35,529, Venezuela (34,547, Cuba (17,513, Ecuador (3,581 and Guinea (2,304). They are followed by Colombia (2,021), Senegal (1,235), China (1,006), Peru (541) and Chile (489).

These growing numbers of irregular migrants crossing the southeastern border of Honduras are generating an increased demand for humanitarian attention, posing

significant challenges for organizations in the humanitarian sector.

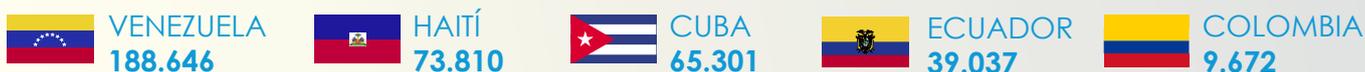
This new location has been operational since October 7th and is expected to operate for approximately one year, until permanent facilities are ready at the CAMI "Francisco Paz" in 2024.

Adjacent to the new Interior Control Center, the INM has rented an 800-square-meter plot of land for organizations to provide humanitarian assistance using their mobile teams. This is done through the coordination of the Local Southern Border Team, of which the organizations of the Consortium LIFE-Honduras are part.

The change of location of the INM has presented operational challenges for the humanitarian response, but in the first month, a consensus has been reached on the distribution of spaces for each organization and type of assistance.

In addition, a detailed itinerary has been established for organizations providing medical and protection services. This avoids duplication of efforts and ensures orderly and efficient assistance, which is offered both in the mornings and afternoons, and even on weekends.

140 nationalities, income is dominated by:



1. <https://efe.com/mundo/2023-10-22/cumbre-migratoria-de-mexico-y-otros-11-paises-latinoamericanos/>
 2. <https://www.laprensani.com/2023/10/31/nacionales/3230378-vuelos-de-haiti-a-nicaragua-se-reanudaran-en-los-proximos-dias>
 3. <https://100noticias.com.ni/nacionales/127545-aumento-vuelos-aeropuerto-cuba-haiti-nicaragua/>
 4. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2023/04/28/hoja-informativa-el-gobierno-de-ee-uu-anuncia-nuevas-medidas-contundentes-para>



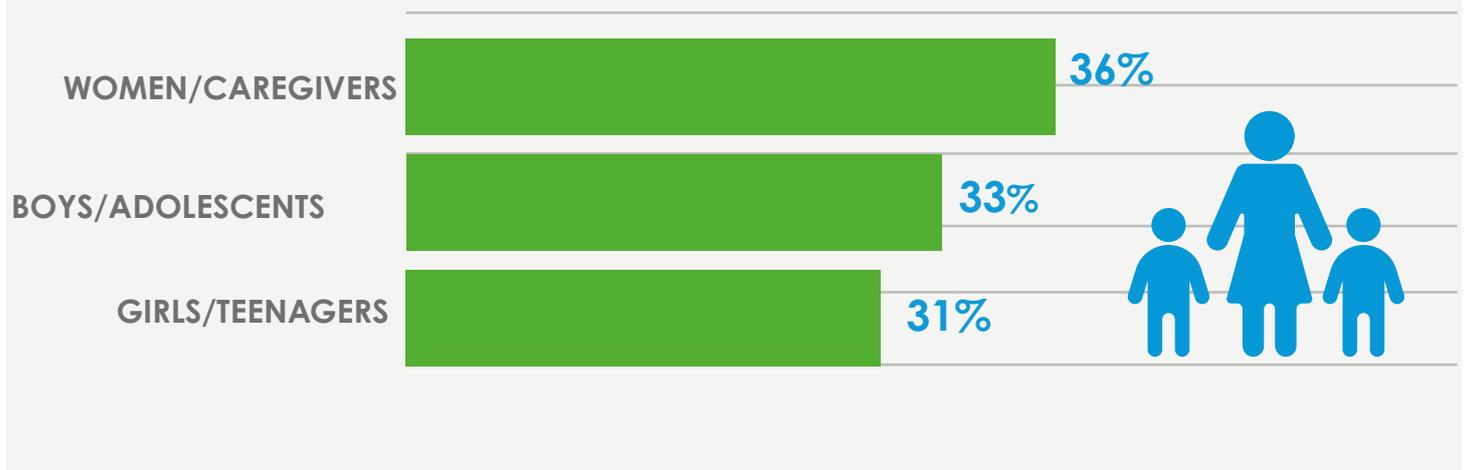


MEDICAL CARE PROVIDED TO THE MIGRANT POPULATION IN TRANSIT IN OCTOBER 2023

During October, we have provided medical care to 1,249 people on the south-east border, of which 31% are girls, 33% boys, 36% are adult women, including 6 pregnant women, one of whom was referred for specialized care.

So far, in 2023, we have interviewed more than 3,000 people in transit. More than 43% of those surveyed reported getting sick in the last week, mainly from diarrhea and colds after passing through the Darien jungle. Of all the people who had some type of illness, 91% were children who had some type of gastrointestinal illness.

FIGURE 01. MEDICAL ATTENTION BY AGE GROUP AND SEX



Diarrhea with or without vomiting continues to be the main reason for medical consultations, both for the pediatric and adult population. This is related to the rains, lack of hygiene and lack of access to sanitation and drinking water.

In addition, the common cold has increased significantly due to overcrowding, lack of use of masks and climatic variations, which becomes a public health problem as it increases the incidence of cases of pneumonia and bronchial problems. Statistically speaking, diarrhea, with or without blood, represents 42% of the causes of medical consultation, followed by the common cold at 37%, postural edema at 12%, viral pharyngotonsillitis at 5% and acute otitis at 1%.

Postural edema: It manifests as a swelling of the soft tissues due to the accumulation of fluid in legs and other parts of the body, by maintaining the same posture.
Acute Otitis: A bacterial or viral infection of the middle ear, which generally accompanies an upper respiratory tract infection.





In the pediatric population, the most frequently attended age group is 0 to 4 years, with acute diarrhea being the main reason for consultation with 49%. The common cold accounts for 31% of consultations, while other reasons, such as trauma, mycosis, and skin and urinary tract infections, account for 16% of consultations.

FIGURE 02. MOST FREQUENT DIAGNOSES IN ADULTS

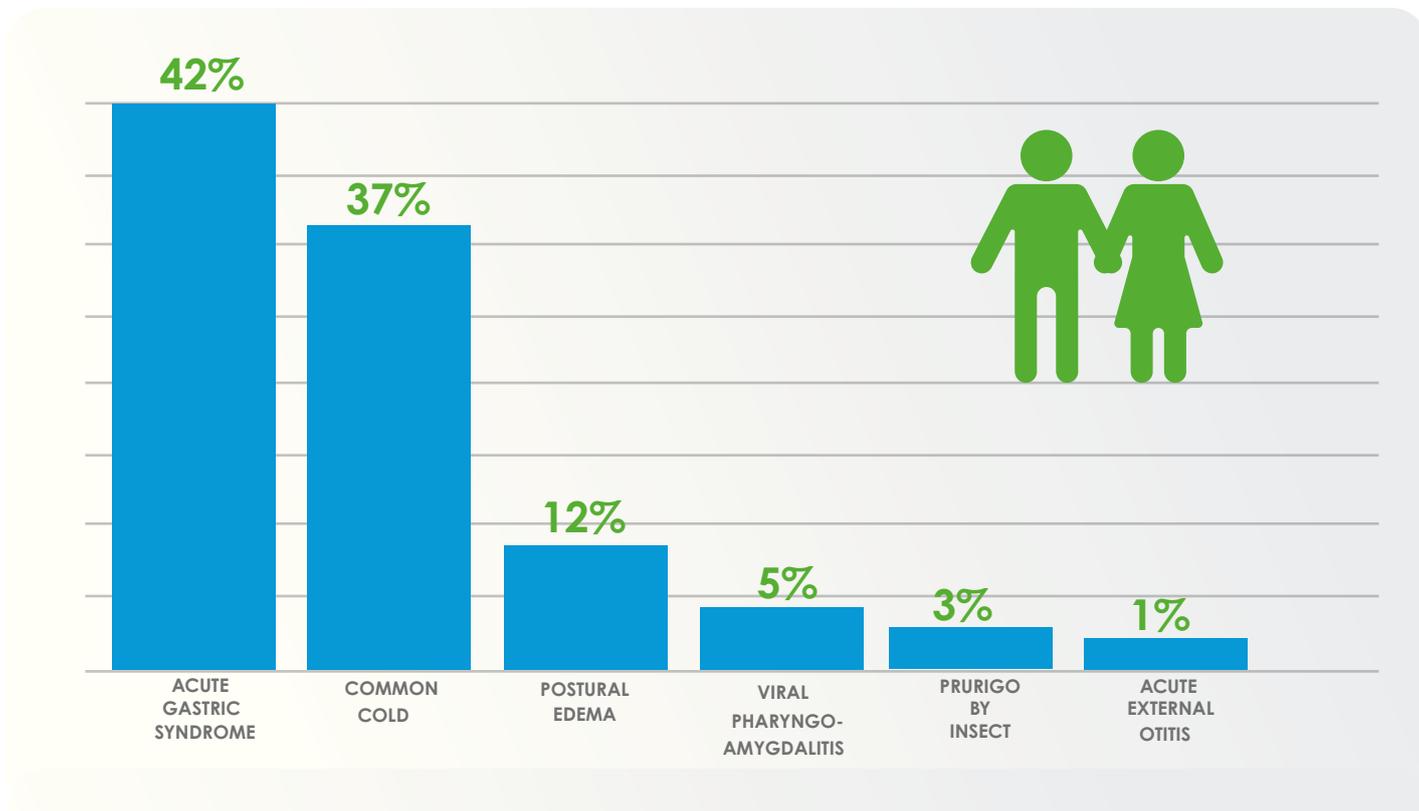


FIGURE 03. MOST FREQUENT DIAGNOSES IN CHILDREN 0-4 YEARS OLD



Insect Prurigo: Lesions, welts or scabs on the lumbar region, and the outer sides of arms and legs, caused by bites of bedbugs and other insects.

CONSORTIUM RESPONSE

The Consortium **LIFE-Honduras** formed by the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef), Action Against Hunger, Pure Water for the World, ChildFund, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and Fundación Alivio del Sufrimiento (FAS) continues its emergency response to people in mobility in Danlí, Trojes, El Paraíso, and La Machuca, in Ocotepeque, focusing on the sectors of child protection, nutrition, health, water, sanitation and hygiene, education in emergencies, and social protection through Multipurpose Cash Transfers (TMM).



In October 2023, we have maintained constant multisectoral attention to the population in mobility in the Temporary Rest Center (CDT) Alivio del Sufrimiento, located in El Paraíso and in the CDT for Migrant Families "Las Carpas" in Trojes, **guaranteeing attention to more than 7. 500 people** through temporary housing, food, free internet connection to communicate with their loved ones in their countries of origin, access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), clothing, nutritional, educational, medical, psychosocial care and transportation service on the route Las Manos - El Paraíso - Danlí.

The child-friendly spaces allow an analysis of some cases that require priority due to various reasons, which allows us to identify families in vulnerability and allow them to access humanitarian cash transfers. In this same month, we have **benefited 146 highly vulnerable migrant families, reaching 567 people**, with Multipurpose Cash Transfers with funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).



In October, health care was provided to **more than 1.500 people, including women and children, on the south-east and west border**. In addition, health promotion has continued to be provided through talks and awareness raising on disease prevention, healthy lifestyle habits, breastfeeding, and maternal and child care.



A total of 1,137 girls and boys received didactic sessions in friendly spaces where they carried out playful activities that allowed them to create connections, as well as generate openness and trust. During October 2023, the number of Children and Adolescents (NNA) who were in the digital stations with the Learning Passport Platform "I Travel and Learn" increased, in which 239 adolescents registered in this study campus to access this educational tool, promoting reading as a fundamental part of their integral development.



We have provided nutritional care to 761 children in the different areas where Consorcio Life operates. In October, 66 children were diagnosed with moderate acute malnutrition and 4 with severe acute malnutrition. These children were provided with therapeutic food according to the established protocols for the management of malnutrition, and were also referred to the consortium's health centers for medical evaluation.



Safe bottled water continues to be provided at hydration points, reaching almost 30,000 people under this type of assistance. In addition, we have continued to support safe sanitation facilities, benefiting more than 11,000 people. Hygiene supplies were also delivered to more than 2,000 people who spent the night in temporary rest centers.



TESTIMONIAL

Wendy Yadira Vargas: "I gave birth in the middle of the Darien jungle"

Due to the economic crisis in Ecuador, 19-year-old Wendy Vargas made the bold decision to seek a better life in the United States, 7 months pregnant and accompanied by her daughter, partner and siblings. Her migratory odyssey led her to give birth to her baby in the Darien jungle one night with the assistance of her siblings.

At her young age, she crossed the Darien with her two children in tow, and despite her exhaustion, she persists in her journey towards an uncertain future. The flooding of the river at Bajo Chiquito only added more obstacles to her journey.

"I gave birth to my baby in the middle of the Darien jungle, at 8 o'clock at night, with the help of my siblings who supported me in this process, I had a diet for only a few days to be able to walk", she says.

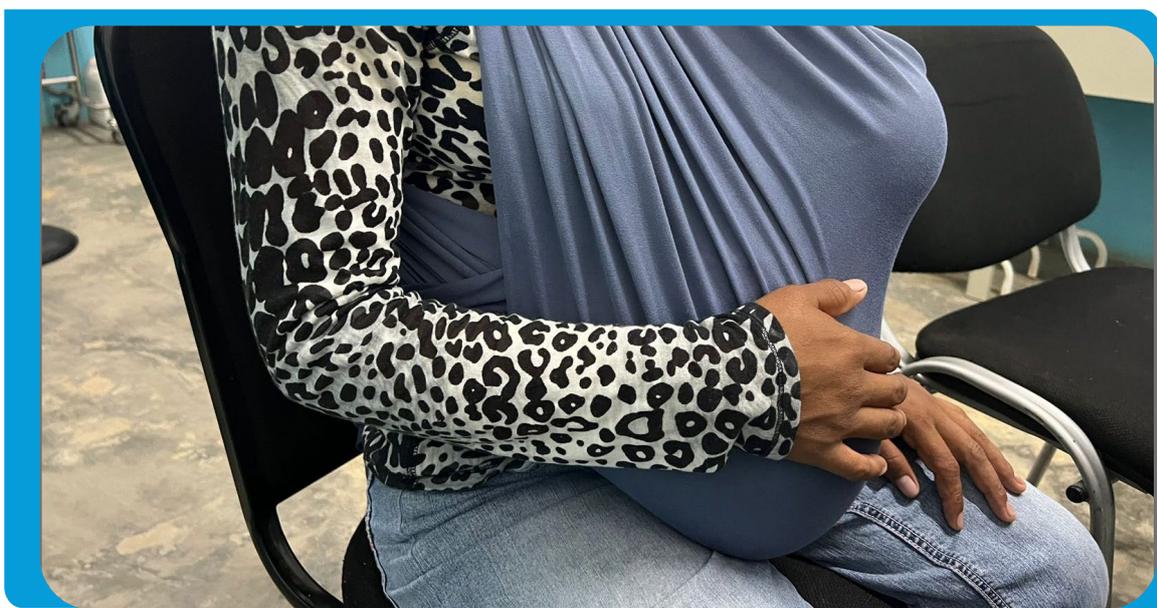
Halfway through the journey, she was left completely alone, as her partner abandoned her along the way, and she was able to continue with the support of her family, who were relatively close by. "The diarrhea was killing us; my daughter

no longer wanted to eat because of this disease that was affecting her, and for several days we had nothing to eat, and when we managed to get something to eat it was only once during the journey", Wendy explains.

Upon arrival in Honduran territory, they were cared for at a Temporary Rest Center where the Consortium LIFE-Honduras provides assistance. During the stay, her daughter underwent a medical evaluation and was diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition. As a result, the girl was referred to a health care center run by the Honduran Health Secretariat (SESAL).

"The girl got sick when she arrived in Honduras, she got skinnier, but they helped us with medicine and took good care of her; they also gave us food to be able to continue", explains the mother.

Not only did the child receive care, but the mother also received nutritional assistance to feed her one-month-old baby. In addition, she was given a cash transfer to help with her basic needs. "I feel very grateful to all of you because my daughter is already better, and you have given me more medicine for anemia, and to be able to be well for my children and to continue forward to cross Mexico and reach the United States", says Wendy.



At only 19 years old, with her son, just 1 month old, and her other daughter, she hopes to join her family in Guatemala.



TESTIMONIAL



Marieliz has managed to reach Honduras with her three children, who have received nutritional and educational care.

Marieliz Alvarado: "Halfway we ran out of food, I wanted to go back".

Marieliz Alvarado, a 24-year-old single mother, joined a group of friends to seek a better future in the United States, never imagining that this journey would become the most difficult experience of her life.

In this regard, she comments: "I was coming with some friends because I agreed to come with them in search of reaching the United States, because I wanted a good future for my children."

In the midst of her journey, Marieliz experienced considerable hardship, especially as a woman and mother of two children. She found herself in a desperate situation when her friends abandoned her. She reflects: "I don't recommend that to anyone; halfway through the trip, I wanted to go back, it was four days and on the second day, we ran out of food".

During the arduous journey through the Darien jungle, Marieliz and her children faced a harsh reality. They could not avoid encountering dead bodies along the way. "We saw two dead people, and later, when the river rose, it took several people with it. I was there with my children, in the middle of the day, without rain or prior warning, the flood suddenly appeared. Fortunately some people who were walking helped us to climb the rock to avoid being swept away by the current".

Upon arrival in Panama, Marieliz and her children were in a critical situation, as the lack of access to food was affecting the health, especially of her daughter, who no longer wanted to eat. "When we ran out of food, I had to ask people, but my daughter did not want to eat, and my other son was already starting to have diarrhea and vomiting. There are many supportive people among the people who travelers, they were the ones who supported me by giving me cookies and little things for my children".

In Panama, they were stranded due to a lack of resources to continue their journey to Costa Rica. Marieliz decided to undertake social work to raise the necessary money and move forward. Once in Costa Rica, they waited five days to be transferred free of charge to Nicaragua, and then travel to Honduran territory through the southern border, where the Consortium LIFE-Honduras is currently located.

In Honduras, Marieliz and her family received care. The little ones began to recover and this has allowed her to be calmer. "I have felt good; we have received support in health issues, nutrition, and they have given us places to spend the night."



While his mother was receiving the benefit of the money transfers, Deivi, her oldest son, was taking advantage of his time at the Digital Station.



A girl receives nutritional care at the Consortium **LIFE-Honduras** tent in El Pescadero, Danlí, Honduras.



A migrant mother in mobility receives nutritional care and a sling to help her carry her baby better and continue her journey more comfortably.



Child after hand washing, instructed in the steps for hand washing in a public restroom in Trojes, built under the Consortium **LIFE-Honduras**.



Delivery of hygiene supplies and water at the station located at the Trojes Rest Center.



Children and adolescents (NNA) in digital station have access to education alternatives through the Learning Passport.



Teenage girl, making the most of the Learning Passport, located in El Pescadero, Danlí,