

Honduras,
Guatemala,
Nicaragua, and
El Salvador

Hurricane Mitch

survivors
need your
help

The Need

Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and El Salvador have been devastated by flooding, landslides, and other damage caused by Mitch, which made landfall on 28 October 1998, and stalled over land for days. The toll in human suffering is simply overwhelming—an estimated 14,000 dead, another 14,000 reported missing, more than 3 million homeless and/or evacuated.

Honduras and Nicaragua appear to have been the hardest hit. However, all four countries have experienced significant damage or destruction of homes, roads, bridges, schools, agriculture, and industry. These losses are hampering the nations' immediate search, rescue, and clean-up efforts. Furthermore, the magnitude of these infrastructure and economic losses will affect the long-term ability of the people to rebuild their lives.

Most people are fairly healthy right now. However, the floodwaters are receding. Standing pools threaten to breed illness, and the extra moisture provides a ready environment for infection and fungal disease. These conditions, combined with damaged sewer systems and potable water supplies, make outbreaks of diarrhea, respiratory infections, cholera, dengue fever, and malaria major health concerns in the weeks ahead.

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how can you help

Our staff is on the ground assessing damage of the hardest-hit areas and has begun initial emergency relief efforts. The loss of life, homes, infrastructure, crops, and personal belongings are sure to have far-reaching consequences for the thousands of survivors already living in desperate poverty.

World Vision is committed to raising \$5 million in cash and gifts-in-kind to assist people in this disaster. A donation of any size is welcome and will not only help meet today's urgent needs, but will help rebuild homes and schools, repair farmland, provide agricultural assistance, rebuild roads, and assist people in regaining their independence.

A gift of:

- \$25 will help distribute donated relief supplies such as food, clothing, and medicine in the disaster area.
- \$50 will provide one family of four in Honduras with food and supplies such as corn flour, beans, powdered milk, a blanket, candles, and chlorine (for water purification) for one week.
- \$77 will provide one family in any of the four affected countries with food and medicines for one week, along with a tent.
- \$160 will provide an El Salvadoran family of six with food and medicines for one month and bedding.

To make a donation or for additional information call (800) 531-7777, or in Spanish (800) 432-4200. Thank you for your generosity.

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