

RAPID ASSESSMENT OF FOOD AID NEEDS IN SELECTED MUNICIPALITIES

ASSISTED WITH WFP-FOOD AID

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In coordination with CARE and CRS, WFP has undertaken an assessment, which aimed at identifying tendencies towards the necessity of food aid in the country as far as duration of such assistance and identification of areas in need of such aid are concerned. The study tried to distinguish between structural poverty and related food shortages and food needs that have arisen in the aftermath of MITCH.
2. This study is a very positive first step towards moving from the EMOP to the PRRO on 15 May 1999. However, the report is not a final one: the methodology as such is approximate and the sample of municipalities is not representative. An in-depth review of effects of food aid, food security and other related issues is required to formulate a medium and longer-term strategy.

II. METHODOLOGY

3. Procedures for selection of places for conducting the interviews were agreed upon in meetings held with the other food aid donors: The municipalities were divided in poor and less poor municipalities applying the FHIS (Fondo Hondureno de Inversion Social)-poverty indicator¹. In a second round each group was divided in municipalities more damaged and municipalities less damaged by the hurricane following the recommendations of WFP Food Aid Monitors. In a third step the municipalities with less damaged were ranked according their poverty index, and those at the upper and lower end of the scale were selected for interviews. The same procedure was applied to the municipalities that have been more severely damaged. The final selection of municipalities is shown in Annex 1, their approximate location in Annex 2.
4. The questionnaire was agreed upon between the agencies and is attached in Annex 4. WFP Food Aid Monitors conducted interviews. They contacted key informants in the municipalities, such as priests, extension workers, nurses, medical doctors, teachers, presidents of local committees. Special attention was paid to include female

¹ The following information is used to construct the FHIS poverty index:

- Access to drinking water
- Availability of waste water systems
- Access to health services
- Level of income
- Illiteracy rate

informants who were supposed to better address the situation of women and other vulnerable groups. The answers obtained are tabulated in Annex 3.

III SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Question 1: Sources of Income

5. Traditionally the poorer municipalities depend on individual sources of income such their own farm, their own small-scale commercial activities, whereas the richer municipalities count also with the presence of industry and commercial plantations offering jobs to the population. The hurricane affected sources of income in both groups, the poorer and richer municipalities. Whereas in the damaged poorer municipalities income sources are reported not to be available, richer municipalities indicate sporadic employment and fewer jobs. Salaried work opportunities in the poorer and less damaged communities have not changed after MITCH.
6. As a consequence of the reduced employment opportunities salaries have lowered up to 50% in the poorer more damaged municipalities. In some areas people rely exclusively on Food-for-work. In the richer less damaged municipalities salaries have not changed except for Olancho, which is an area with extensive agriculture. Results suggest that due the damage to cash crops, employment opportunities are reduced and due to the oversupply of unskilled labor wages in the agricultural sector have been reduced.
7. Since poorer municipalities that have been severely affected by the hurricane depend mainly on basic grain production on small land holdings, people inform that in six-month time, i.e. with the next harvest, their source of income will be re-established. The richer, but damaged municipalities revealed a bigger spectrum of answers, which correspond to their more diversified economy: Basic grain producers will dispose of their source of income within the next months, whereas plantation workers need to wait till the plantations are re-established; they assume that rehabilitation will take 12-18 months. As far as work in industrial plants is concerned people were not able to estimate a timeframe.

60-90%
income
drops

Question 2: Sale of Assets

8. Poorer municipalities that were severely hit by MITCH report sale of household assets for the purchase of food. The items include animals, personal effects (clothes) household items, land etc. In the richer more damaged municipalities the sale of animals and real estate is reported in isolated cases.

9. In the richer less damaged municipality sales of animals and real estate occur for the repayment of credits. However, these sales are not likely to be enforced by the effects of the hurricane.

Question 3: Food Prices

10. The severely damaged municipalities of both categories report shortage of food; basic grains seemingly to a little bit lesser extent than fruits and vegetables (especially directly after MITCH). The richer municipalities indicate that food shortages are more severe in rural areas.
11. Poorer municipalities are specific in listing the products, whose prices have gone up; whereas the richer communities talk about a general increase of prices, especially directly after the hurricane had passed.
12. Regarding the people who do not have sufficient financial resources for food purchase, the answers are more precise in the municipalities that have been severely damaged. Among the groups that are mentioned are single women/mothers, the elderly, rural residents without salaries, agricultural workers, and even lower-middle class. The lack of money for the purchase of food in the less damaged municipalities does not seem to be acute problem; replies are vague, which might indicate that lack of these resources is rather a structural than a hurricane-related problem.

Question 4: Production of Fish and Basic Grains

13. All four groups of municipalities indicate crop losses, which are reported to be less severe in the less damaged areas. However, in addition to the crop losses, the severely damaged areas also report losses of arable land and pasture and plantations respectively.
14. The estimated recuperation periods vary accordingly: Answers of the less damaged municipalities suggest that production will reach pre-MITCH levels already with the next harvest. The other groups' answers vary according to the damage between 5 –6 months till 6 – 8 years in cases where land has been covered with sand, was inundated, etc. The less damaged communities require mainly credits for reaching normal production levels. The other groups require all types of technical assistance and financial support to rehabilitate their farmland (rehabilitation of irrigation systems, extension service, seeds, fertilizer, agricultural tools etc.)

Question 5: Non-traditional Crop Production and Utilization

15. The production of coffee, bananas, sugar cane, cacao, shrimps has been affected: In some areas the entire crop has been lost whereas the less affected areas suffered from a yield reduction of 30 – 50%. Reconstitution will require probably several years.

16. Again the poorer municipalities with severe damages report profound losses of harvest and also the loss of farmland due to landslides, inundation, coverage of soil with mud and sand etc. Cash crop recuperation coincides with the life span of the respective crop.

Question 6: Infrastructure and Transport

17. The less damaged municipalities report destruction of highway and bridges, which are of importance for the overland transport and according to the informants will affect the transport of the harvested products to the markets, especially in case of coffee and vegetable.
18. Replies of the severely damaged municipalities report primarily damage or destruction of community infrastructure such as irrigation systems, waste water systems, secondary roads and bridges, which have a direct influence on agricultural production and its commercialization. The next maize harvest will take place in July at the earliest, beans and rice will be harvested a little bit later. Slight variations are observed depending on the location. In general, cash crops will be harvested at the earliest by end of this year or even only next year.

Question 7: Livestock Production

19. The poorer damaged communities did not mention considerable animal losses, however, the richer severely damaged did mention these losses (It is not clear, whether there has been lots of animals in the poorer municipalities before the disaster.) The less damaged municipalities do report animal losses.
20. The poorer more damaged municipalities mention a reduction in the consumption of animal products, and they also state that animal products are cashed for the purchase of basic grains. In fishermen communities meat is substituted by fish. In general, it seems that the offer of milk, eggs and chicken has decreased. Only the less damaged richer municipalities do not seem to feel these shortages.
21. The poorer and damaged municipalities indicate difficulties in future to re-establish animal husbandry due to the damages of pasture, stables, fences etc. Uniquely, an increase in animal diseases is reported. People believe that animal losses will be recuperated within one to two years time. It is noteworthy that the answers of the most affected poor communities are much more articulate, which might indicate a strong awareness about losses and initiatives to recuperate them.

Question 8: Seed Availability

22. Informants in all areas report seed losses/shortages, in the poorer severely damaged communities up to 100%, and they seem to be well aware of the consequences such as reduced crop production and increase of prices. All informants pointed out that the access to seeds is limited because of the (increased) prices on one hand and the lack of credit for their purchase on the other.

Question 9: Changes in Pattern of Food Intake

23. In the poorer more damaged communities consumption of oil and canned foods has increased per food aid distributions. All families have reduced their food consumption, mainly meat and milk. In some areas mainly rice and beans are consumed, with little complement. In the Mosquitia area, the provision of maize led to an increase in maize consumption. Also rice and beans are consumed less, and banana and yucca are not available for consumption. One report suggests that those left homeless by MITCH have increased the variety of their diet with food aid. The other groups uniquely state that the consumption of animal products (meat, milk, eggs) and vegetables has been reduced, and some traditional food items such as green bananas, yucca, plantains have had to be substituted by tortillas.
24. According to the information gathered in the communities people seem to be well aware that especially single mothers, children, landless and farmers in marginal areas are suffering from food shortages.
25. Regarding the question about complementation of diet with wild food, the answers are very interesting: Poorer damaged communities report an increase in the consumption of such food; in the poor less damaged communities only few people seem to apply this coping mechanism. In the less poor communities it seems people have not thought about this source of food: They state wild types of food are not available.

Question 10: Displacement and Migration

26. Inhabitants of the poorer damaged municipalities have moved out of fear of landslides in the future. Others have moved because of the damage to or loss of their homes. The children of several respondents have left to find work, and there were several reports of migration to the Bay Islands and the United States. Taking into consideration that in the less poor damaged communities industrial plants have been affected, it is reported that mainly unemployed workers migrate to the bigger cities in search of labor.

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Question 11: Food Availability

27. The poorer and the less poor but damaged communities report that food stocks are not available or almost exhausted and if there is still food available it is significantly less than in previous years. The stocks will last not longer than May – July. It is not clear whether this date coincides with the next harvest.
28. The remaining category also seems to have less reserves, however, answers are not uniquely expressing food shortage. Moreover, it seems that the latter category disposes of the financial means to purchase food.

Question 12: Emergency and Development Programs

29. All groups are able to list a huge number of organizations, NGOs, projects etc that work in their respective area. People do not seem to be aware of the timeframe of the cooperation; answers range from “no one knows”, “two month”, to “indefinitely”. Regarding the question whether food aid addresses the needs of the population most answers were affirmative. FFW activities provide effective incentives for community improvement projects. However, it was pointed out that **FFW is only a sporadic source of work and food aid**, which indicates that people are provided with food rather exceptionally and regularly. The need for better distribution systems, more financial support and a better program coverage in FFW were mentioned, but most of the respondents felt that needs were adequately addressed. However, the ration distributed covers only about 50% of their needs and does not take care of clothing, education, medicines, etc. The less poor less damaged communities informed that they did not have a FFW program.
30. Regarding the supplementary feeding programs about 75% of the population feel that these programs respond well to population's need. Some respondents stated that feeding programs have singularly prevented large-scale malnutrition, especially in children. Those who disagreed cited a lack of organization and structure at the local level, targeting that overlooks the elderly, and a concern that when aid stops these groups will be faced with a food crisis.
31. Groups that are even more vulnerable than before include orphans, single mothers, those with irregular income, invalids, drug addicts, alcoholics, very poor, communities with difficult access etc.
32. The lack of answers in the group “less damaged less poor municipalities” suggests that not many supplementary feeding activities are going on in those communities.
33. Most respondents agreed that the methodologies have been adequate and agreed with the FFW and vulnerable group feeding schemes. It is however, suggested that distribution systems be carefully planned and coordinated to ensure timeliness and fairness.

34. Environmental issues are thought to be ignored in existing methods and some respondents mentioned that the provision of condensed or powered milk has caused diarrheal illness in children because of improper preparation. One respondent expressed the concern that programs are creating dependence.

ANNEX 1:
SELECTION OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE ASSESSMENT

POOR MUNICIPALITIES Poverty index: From 45 to 100%, according to FHIS		LESS POOR MUNICIPALITIES Poverty index: Less of 35%, according to FHIS	
MORE DAMAGED MUNICIPALITIES		MORE DAMAGED MUNICIPALITIES	
1. La Libertad, Comayagua	PI: 45.0%	11. La Ceiba, Atlántida	PI: 27.08%
2. Morolica, Choluteca	PI: 54.0%	12. Choluteca, Choluteca	PI: 32.15%
3. El Triunfo, Choluteca	PI: 63.22%	13. Puerto Cortés, Cortés	PI: 28.38%
✓ 4. Ahuas, Gracias a Dios	PI: 57.80%	14. La Lima, Cortés	PI: 16.35%
5. Wampusirpe, Gracias a Dios	PI: 57.60%	15. Progreso, Yoro	PI: 27.24%
LESS DAMAGED MUNICIPALITIES		LESS DAMAGED MUNICIPALITIES	
6. Concepción, Ocotepeque	PI: 66.30%	16. Las Vegas, Santa Bárbara	PI: 34.36%
7. San Jorge, Ocotepeque	PI: 70.21%	17. Santa María del Real	PI: 29.73%
8. Fraternidad, Ocotepeque	PI: 55.59%	18. San Marcos de Ocotepeque	PI: 24.13%
9. Lucerna, Ocotepeque	PI: 49.55%	19. Cane, La Paz	PI: 26.71%
10. Mercedes, Ocotepeque	PI: 46.45%	20. Ocotepeque, Ocotepeque	PI: 28.51%

CRS
CARE

ECAR
ECAR
CARE
ECAR
CARE

ANNEX 11
MAP WITH APPROXIMATE LOCATIONS OF MUNICIPALITIES

HONDURAS



1. La Libertad, Comayagua
2. Morolica, Choluteca
3. El Triunfo, Choluteca
4. Ahuas, Gracias a Dios
5. Wampusirpe, Gracias a Dios
6. Concepción, Ocotepeque
7. San Jorge, Ocotepeque
8. Fraternidad, Ocotepeque
9. Lucerna, Ocotepeque
10. Mercedes, Ocotepeque
11. La Ceiba, Atlántida
12. Choluteca, Choluteca
13. Puerto Cortés, Cortés
14. La Lima, Cortés
15. Progreso, Yoro
16. Las Vegas, Santa Bárbara
17. Santa María del Real
18. San Marcos de Ocotepeque
19. Cane, La Paz
20. Ocotepeque, Ocotepeque

Annex 3: Tabulation of Responses according to Classification

1. SOURCES OF INCOME				
	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. What are the traditional sources of income?	Cultivation of maize, yuca, watermelon; brick factories; beans; sweet potato; coffee; shrimp; fishing; handicrafts. Small-scale commercial activity. Of these only some cultivation and handicrafts are mainly for women.	Cultivation of coffee, onions, beans, rice, maize, tomato, sugar cane; local sale of bread and tamales (women); raising cows and chickens; commercial work (men) and housecleaning (women).	Work in the agricultural sector: rice, maize, beans, melons, yuca, banana, livestock; factory work for men and women, work with banana corporations (75% men, 25% women); fishing; shrimp; government employment; manual labor.	Coffee cultivation, livestock farming, factory and domestic work (women), tobacco, rice and beans (men and women).
2. How has Mitch affected the quantity of income sources?	Raw materials in short supply now. All production was destroyed. About 75% of income sources lost in Triunfo. A greater percent of what is harvested will need to be eaten, not sold. Warehouses were destroyed.	Almost all respondents report that effects were minimal to none.	Many reports of 35-60% losses. Up to 95% of livestock and agriculture industry affected in some way. All employees of banana companies have lost employment.	Coffee and grain crop losses and damages up to 50% in some areas, but most reports do not indicate significant losses.
3. How has Mitch affected the quality of income sources?	Does not apply because no income is available now. Good work is much harder to find now. Most types of commercial work have been maintained because businesses have been re-opened.	Almost all respondents report that effects were minimal to none.	Now many fewer salaried jobs are available. Most income sources are sporadic.	No effects reported for most communities.

<p>4. Have salaries changed? How?</p>	<p>Most responses indicate changes. Lowered by 50% in some areas. People who lost their jobs after Mitch now only have Food For Work. Government raised Mosquitia teachers' salaries slightly as promised.</p>	<p>Significant salary changes were not reported in this area.</p>	<p>In the few cases where jobs were not lost due to Mitch, salaries have essentially remained steady. In most cases, however, jobs were lost and so salaries no longer exist.</p>	<p>No reports of salary changes since the hurricane for most communities, but parts of Olancho report lower salaries due to economic losses.</p>
<p>5. When will these income sources be available again?</p>	<p>In 6 months when work is recovered. When land is rehabilitated and production normal. Other responses range from estimates of one year to five years.</p>	<p>Does not apply; sources of income were not lost due to the hurricane.</p>	<p>In one and a half to two years. During the next harvest. After development projects are instituted. Income from grain crops will be available after 5 months; 12-18 months for banana and palm. In May of this year. Many respondents foresee availability in 6 months. When businesses are rehabilitated, especially banana companies.</p>	<p>At the next harvest and once access roads are repaired. Until then animal transport and canoes are being used for transport of crops.</p>

2. SALE OF ASSETS

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. Because of problems caused by Mitch, have people sold their household assets to buy food?	All responses indicate the occurrence of sales of household goods to buy food or trade of goods for food.	Only a few respondents indicate this activity has occurred.	Some sales occur, but most people have nothing to sell, or else need what they have in order to try to produce crops.	Most reports do not indicate the sale of household assets to buy food. A few respondents reported occasional cases, but these may not be due to Mitch.
2. What assets or items have been sold?	Chickens; cows; pigs; bicycles; bricks; pots, pans, clothing, plastic items; cars; guns; real estate	Animals	Animal sales were reported. Some real estate sales were reported, and some sales of electrical appliances.	Reports of real estate sales and animals (livestock and pets).

3. FOOD PRICES

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. Are all necessary food items available in the markets? Which are not?	No Vegetables; fruits; basic grains; maize; beans; rice; bananas;	Most responses indicate that necessary food items are available.	Generally all food items are available but banana shortages are reported, and more serious shortages may exist in the most rural aldeas. Fruits and vegetables are harder to find than basic grains.	All food items were reported to be available in local markets.
2. Since the hurricane, have food prices been maintained?	Prices in general have been maintained in a few places. In some areas basic grain prices have remained stable.	Yes, most food prices have been maintained.	Yes, mostly prices have been maintained.	A few respondents suggest that prices have remained steady.
3. Have the prices lowered?	No, nowhere.	No.	Yes, for tomatoes and green peppers.	No.
4. Have the prices raised?	Almost all prices have increased somewhat. 25% increase (Triunfo). Rice and manteca prices have increased. Rice prices are up 2 Lempiras per pound (Mosquitia). Milk prices up.	Yes, price increases have been noted for maize, beans, chicken, rice, and sugar.	Many items have increased in price, especially in aldeas. One informant reported that prices rose 30% following the hurricane but lowered after food aid arrived.	Most reports suggest that prices in general have increased, but the increases have been slight or normal. In Olancho increases may have reached 20%.
5. Since Mitch, do people have enough money to buy sufficient food?	All responses indicate people do not have money to buy sufficient food. Families which had food or money saved up are slightly better off.	The people in the area have always been poor but lack of ability to buy food is not due to the hurricane.	All responses indicate no.	The ability of people to buy food has not been largely compromised by the hurricane.

<p>6. If not, which people do not have enough money?</p>	<p>Manual laborers, teachers and public employees (Triunfo). Most everyone lacks money to buy sufficient food. Single women, single mothers, the elderly, rural residents. Those without salaries. Those who lost their homes to Mitch. Agricultural workers, small-scale coffee producers. Handicapped.</p>	<p>Campesinos and grain farmers are least likely to have enough money for food.</p>	<p>Almost everyone, 60-70% of population. The unemployed, the campesinos. The lower-middle class and lower class. Those who work for less than minimum wage.</p>	<p>The poorest do not have enough money but this is probably not due to the hurricane. Some small-production farms are more vulnerable to food insecurity since Mitch.</p>
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4. PRODUCTION OF FISH AND BASIC GRAINS

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. How has the hurricane affected basic grain and fish production?	Arable land has been reduced so production is lower. The damages was so complete that production has been nearly 100% stopped. Reduced by nearly 80%. Crops that were planted at time of Mitch were washed away, next planting failed.	Some losses of maize and coffee crops were reported. A greater percentage of crops may be consumed, not sold, in those areas where losses occurred.	90% of crops were destroyed. Losses of land that can be used for farming. Severe destruction of banana crops.	The amount of rain that fell affected part of the maize crop. Damages were minimal in almost all communities. In parts of Olancho losses may have reached 50%, in parts of La Paz severe crop damage was noted.
2. When do you expect production to return to normal levels?	After one year (about half of responses indicate this estimate). After 5 to 8 years. After three years in Mosquitia. In one or two years if rains are good.	Next year; the following winter.	In October crops should return to normal levels. In about six or seven months. In one year for yuca and banana, three years for cacao and coffee. In August or September if the winter is good.	Does not apply; production is currently at normal levels in most communities. In affected areas of Olancho, two years may be required, in La Paz crop recovery is anticipated at the next harvest.
3. What is needed to return production to normal levels?	Seeds must be purchased and irrigation systems restored. Good weather through winter. Reforestation projects. Irrigation wells need to be created. Seeds, fertilizer and tools. Financial assistance and technical support from development institutions. Credit and loans.	Nearly all responses listed financial assistance as the only need; one respondent listed fertilizer; two listed seeds.	Good soil for planting, a good winter and rainy season, financial assistance, technical support. Help from development institutions. Plans for economic help to purchase seeds, equipment and wages to pay laborers. Tools and fertilizers.	Does not apply to most. Technical assistance and credit would assist in affected areas.

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5. NON-TRADITIONAL CROP PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. How has the hurricane affected the production of non-traditional crops?	Nutrients were removed from the soil by the floods, fields were covered with sand and mud so crops were destroyed. Cacao losses in Mosquitia were very high; this was the only cash crop in the area. Machines used in shrimp industry were damaged. Coffee crops were lost in Libertad. Avalanches also destroyed coffee yields and the land. Entire coffee farms were lost, and prices received for products are lower.	Production losses reported in coffee, sugar cane, and vegetable crops. Coffee crops have been affected by disease "ojo de gallo."	Sugarcane losses and damages were substantial. About 75% of many crops were lost. African palm and banana loss was also significant. In some areas, coffee, and cacao damage is estimated at above 95%.	Some estimates place coffee losses in certain areas at 30-50% and note losses of watermelon, tobacco and tomato. In most areas no damages to cash crops were reported.
2. When do you expect that normal levels of production will resume?	In two years or more. Between 2 and 3 years. Several respondents indicated return to normal production in one year was expected.	In 2-3 years. After the next harvest. In at least a year. Next December-January	In 1-2 years. Within the next year. Some estimates are as low as 3 months. Other reports expect recovery in May and June.	Coffee production is expected to return to normal levels within a year or with the next harvest, in September in most areas, and within 2-3 years in affected zones. Other crop recoveries are expected with the rainy season.

6. INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. What is the degree of damage to roads, irrigation systems, etc.?	Around 60% destroyed (Triunfo). Bridges, roads, and highways destroyed. Almost all infrastructure damaged. 95% damaged. Rivers in Gracias a Dios have changed making overseas transport harder.	Several highways were badly damaged, some roads as well.	Severe damage to transport systems, especially roads and bridges. Damage estimates are between 80 and 100%. 50% of potable water systems were reportedly affected, and damages to irrigation systems were similar. School and railway damages ranging from mild to very severe also occurred in this area.	Bridges and highways were significantly affected in some areas, as were water systems. Other areas did not report damages.
2. When do you expect farmers to work under normal conditions?	In one to two years (Triunfo). Within five years (Triunfo). In six months, at least (Mosquitia).	Within the next year. In two years. Some experienced very little damage and already operate normally.	Within one year. Between one and two years. October of this year. When communication systems are repaired.	Within the year, when the rainy season arrives. When access roads are repaired.
3. When is the next harvest and what will be harvested?	Still unable to predict. In August consumption crops will be harvested if winter is good. In July, maize and beans. In September, rice. Coffee in February.	Coffee season is from Oct-Feb. Maize, beans and rice in October. One respondent also reported harvests planned for December-January.	Between July and August, maize (also in June). Between August and September, beans and rice. In May, basic grains. Yuca in September and banana in April of the year 2000.	In October the next harvest of beans and rice is expected. Coffee harvest will be in December.

<p>4. What will be the impact of the damaged infrastructure on the harvest?</p>	<p>The impact will be completely negative. The impact will be serious since some bridges are still out; will use animals to transport products. The product prices will increase.</p>	<p>Transport of commodities will be more difficult and more expensive.</p>	<p>The impact will be negative...Transport costs will increase by 30-45%. Production costs will also rise, and harvest yields may decrease by more than half. Infrastructure improvements are underway in some areas to prevent negative effects on harvests. If contaminated water is used on crops health may be negatively affected. Local economy will suffer from transport problems and low crop yields.</p>	<p>Reduced access will result, especially if infrastructure improvements are not complete before the arrival of the rains (which worsen the state of roads, in particular).</p>
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7. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. Did the hurricane cause animal losses? Which animals?	Animal losses were reported but by most accounts were not substantial. Reports mentioned pigs, chickens and cows.	About 40% indicated animal losses, mostly bulls/cows. All those indicating losses maintained that they were slight.	-90% of the cattle got lost -Chickens and pigs -goats -The hurricane brought diseases that killed the animals -Fish	No: 1 -Looses in catle -5% livestock looses such as cattle, horses, chikens. -Looses of animals were low -Catle, horses, porcine
2. Has the importance of livestock production changed intake of products of animal origin?	Most reports indicate a reduction in consumption of animal products, especially meat. Some respondents are selling what animal products they produce in order to purchase basic grains.	Only two respondents reported a change in animal product intake, one mentioned reducing milk consumption, the other has reduced meat consumption.	Yes: 1,2,3,4,5 No: 1,2,3 -The supply of milk by products, eggs and meat is lower	No: 1,2,3 Yes: 1,2,3
3. How will the animal losses affect food availability?	All reports indicate reduced use of animal products, but in areas of Mosquitia some families are relying more on fish than before because grains are so hard to come by.	In some cases families will have reduced access to these products, especially cow's milk and beef. Effects on food availability will not be substantial.	-The supply of milk products, eggs and chickens has been impacted by Mitch -Price increase -In the country side this will affect tremendoulsy, within the city these products come from the outside -There are not food choices -The avallability will be much less	No: 1,2,3 Yes: -The effect is not significant -The availability of food will be much lesser because of the lost of fowls and pasture -Will affect the owners of those animals

<p>4. After the hurricane is there any capacity to take care of the livestock appropriately?</p>	<p>Capacity to care for livestock has been reduced in all reporting areas. The most commonly mentioned difficulties were lack of feed and increased incidence of illnesses such as porcine cholera.</p>	<p>Several respondents reported the loss of fences; others mentioned that incidence of water-borne and water-related diseases in animals has increased. More than half of respondents felt that capacity had not been compromised.</p>	<p>Yes: 1,2 No: 1,2,3,4</p> <p>-Lack of pasture, fences destroyed and there are not diseases -The capacity is very low</p>	<p>Yes: 1,2,3 No: 1</p> <p>-However, the animals have always been affected by diseases. -Due to contamination many animals are getting sick with Porcine Colera and New Castle -Lack of feed</p>
<p>5. When will animal losses be recovered?</p>	<p>Most respondents indicate that losses will be recovered in one to two years. One respondent believes five years will be required. Reports also indicate that losses will be recovered when production capacity is normalized, when fenced lands are obtained, and when the next successful harvest is sown.</p>	<p>One respondent who reported animal losses felt that recovery would occur when recovery in other sectors was begun. The other respondents gave no response or reported not knowing.</p>	<p>-One year -Five year minimum -Within one or two years -While there is not a reactivation of the agricultural production, the peasants economy will not be able to recovered his lost. -Two years -End of '99 -Two to three years</p>	<p>Yes: 1</p> <p>-In a year, we have recuperated some of the losses -In the case of poultry after 10 months -Will depend on the capacity of each owner</p>

8. SEED AVAILABILITY

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. Did the hurricane cause much seed loss?	By nearly all reports, crop and seed loss approached 100%.	Half of respondents had lost seeds. All losses were reportedly coffee. Most respondents contended that losses were minor.	Yes: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	Yes: 1,2 No: 1,2 There are seeds for basic grains, there is a lack of seeds for vegetables sowing, and a lack of an irrigation system to ensure the production of vegetables during the summer, which is the best season to grow.
2. If there were losses, how will agricultural production be affected?	The production is incapacitated. The lands are damaged. Consumption will be reduced and prices will go up. Reliance on food aid is very high.	Production rates may decrease, which will negatively affect the area's economy.	-There is a need for credit and technical assistance. -There is a big need for seed and money for purchasing -Will be affected in a 60% in its annual production -If there is acces for credit we could produce -The effect is in a minimum scale -Will be highly affected -People are doing their best to get credit and start producing	-Will not affect production -There will be a low capacity for purchasing seeds and agricultural equipment -The effect is significant
3. Is there easy access to seeds for planting?	No, there is no access to seeds. They cannot be purchased locally.	Seed prices have risen considerably, hindering access to these products.	No: 1,2,3,4,5,6 Yes: 1,2,3 -There is a need for accessing credit	Yes: 1,2 No: 1,2,3 Even if there is acces to seeds, there is not access to credit

9. Changes in Patterns of Food Intake

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. Since Mitch have people been consuming different amounts or quantities of foods?	About half of reports indicate changes in consumption.	No reduction in quantity of food consumed was reported. Most uphold that consumption by types of foods has not changed.	Yes: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 -The food consumption is less - They eat more the food donated	Yes: 1 No: 1,2,3 -The difference is little, there is not cassava(yuca) and only live on the food donated
2. What types of food are being consumed more or less?	Consumption of oil and canned foods has increased per food aid distribution. Overall, families have reduced consumption of meat and milk. In some areas mainly rice and beans are consumed, with little complement. In Mosquitia the provision of maize meal has meant an increase in maize consumption. Also, rice and beans are consumed less and no bananas or yuca are available for consumption. One report suggests that those left homeless by Mitch have increased variety of their diet with food aid.	Several respondents note a reduction in the consumption of meat products and vegetables.	-The consumption is higher in tortilla, however culturally the normal consumption is plantain and green bananas -Culturally people consume just plantains, however they are eating more corn products because of donations -Canned food -Beans and corn of a variety that is not consume in the country, also people are eating canned food coming from other countries -More canned fish, flour and pasta. Less meat -More corn, beans and rice. Less meat, chicken, seafood -Less vegetables	-The same -The basic products are being consumed more and the donated food are consumed less -The consumption of the basic grains increase, on the other hand the consumption of eggs, meat, milk, vegetables and beans decrease

<p>3. Which population groups have changed their food intake patterns?</p>	<p>The Miskito and Tawahka populations in La Mosquitia have increased maize consumption and decreased consumption of beans, rice, bananas and yuca. In most areas those who have reduced their food intakes are single mothers, the landless, and those in marginal/ rural areas.</p>	<p>The very poor, children, and campesinos in the aldeas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The poorest -The people who live in public shelters, the edge zones and the ones who lost their houses -People living in shelters and the ones living in the city surroundings, also the peasants and the banana farm workers -The ones that have the lowest salaries -Children -Middle class -The vulnerable groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The same -The working class was the most affected, where they just get two meals a day -Every one
<p>4. Since Mitch are people complementing their diets more with wild foods?</p>	<p>Yes, reports indicate an increase in consumption of fish and wild fruits. About 10% of respondents uphold that wild foods are not available because of environmental destruction from Mitch.</p>	<p>A few respondents indicate this; most do not. Foods mentioned included herbs and rabbit.</p>	<p>Yes: 1,2 No: 1,2,3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -There are not that many wild animals or wild types of food (2) -We are consuming the Madriado flower, Hizote flower and Pacaya -Iguanas -Not very often 	<p>Yes: 1 No: 1,2,3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wild animals are less now -Iguanas, rabbits and cusucos

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10. DISPLACEMENT AND MIGRATION

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. Has there been displacement or migration since the hurricane? Who?	Yes, some have moved out of fear of landslides in the future. Others have moved because of damage to or loss of their homes. The children of several respondents left to find work, and there were several reports of migration to the Bay Islands and the United States.	Yes, some, especially among those who lost their homes. The only location mentioned (by one respondent) was Copan.	No: 1,2 -The unemployed are migrating to the main cities -Little migration -The peasants that lost their house and agricultural land migrated -People looking for safer places to live in.	Yes: 1,2,3,4 No: 1,2 -3 or 4 percent has migrated
2. Is the migration temporary or permanent?	About half of the respondents believe the migration to be permanent; the other half believe it temporary.	Responses were mixed. Most did not offer a response, two suggested the migrations were permanent, and one suggested temporary	-Both -Temporary -Permanent	-Permanent(2) -There is migration to the municipio

11. FOOD AVAILABILITY.

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. Is food from the last harvest still available?	All respondents indicate that no food is available from the previous harvest.	Just under half of respondents reported food available from the previous harvest.	No: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 -Just a little -2%	Yes: 1,2,3,4 No:1,2 -Under the normality
2. Is the available quantity similar, more, or less than normal for this time of year?	By all accounts the quantity is significantly less than in previous years.	Responses were evenly split between similar and less.	-There is not food -Much less	Less: 1,2,3,4 Similar: 1 No: 1
3. Until when will this food be available?	Does not apply; there is none available at this time.	For the next two months. Until Junc. Until the next harvest (two responses). Until June-July (two responses). Until May.	-There is not food -August 1,999 -One to two years	-Hasta que salga la cosecha -One month, but the harvest is on September -June or July -Because there is not a reservt, wc are buying food in the market of La Paz -No one knows

12. EMERGENCY AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

	Poorer Communities		Less Poor Communities	
	More Damaged	Less Damaged	More Damaged	Less Damaged
1. Do programs other than CARE/CRS/PMA exist in the area?	About 60% of respondents are aware of programs operating in their areas; these include Oikos, Tiocaire, GBC, MOPAWI, ECHO, Aldea Global, Ayuda en Accion, Accion Evangelica Alemania, brigadas medicas, FUNHCAFE, U.S. Peace Corps, PRODIN, Proyecto el Cajon	Adevas (credit), Community Development Project, APROCAFE (credit), FHIS, INCAP, CODEPO, APS, World Vision, CCD, Plandero, FINCAH, Project Trifinio. Over 80% of respondents reported program operations in their communities.	Yes: 1,2,3 No: 1,2 -CARITAS (Belgium), Partners of The Americas, COPECO -ASONOG, Iglesia Episcopal -World Vision -COSPE and TRANSFORMA	Yes: No:1 -CCD, Menonitas, Hermandad, ADEVAS, Cruz Roja, IHCAFE, PRR(bilts houses and give credit for vegetable sowing.) -Churches -International Plann -APS-CODEPO -There is not any type of institutional presence
2. Until when will these programs be in operation?	Most respondents who were aware of programs in their communities indicated that the programs would be terminated before June. One respondent indicated program termination would be in one year.	Most respondents reported not knowing until when the projects would operate. Some responded that they would operate "indefinitely."	-No one knows -It depends, maybe in a year -Two years -2002 -July or December	Indefenently(3) -No one knows -One month

<p>3. Are Food For Work programs responding to the needs of the population?</p>	<p>Responses were mixed, with most being affirmative. FFW programs are providing effective incentives for community improvement projects, but are only sporadic sources of work and food aid. One respondent assigned a 70% effectiveness of response figure to FFW programs.</p>	<p>Needs for better distribution systems, more financial support, and better program coverage in FFW programs were mentioned, but most respondents felt needs were adequately addressed.</p>	<p>Yes: 1,2,3,4,5 No: 1,2</p> <p>-The FFW programs are working very well -FFW does not give a full diet, so people should look for other alternatives to have a complete daily diet and to fulfill other important needs such as clothes, education, medicines, etc. -Just a little because the people do not receive what they need -50% of the necessities</p>	<p>Yes: 1,2 No:1</p> <p>There is not a FFW program (2)</p>
<p>4. Are supplementary feeding programs for vulnerable groups responding to the needs of the population?</p>	<p>About 75% of respondents felt that these programs are responding well to populations' needs. Some respondents stated that feeding programs have singularly prevented large-scale malnutrition, especially in children. Those who disagreed cited a lack of organization and structure at the local level, targeting that overlooks the elderly, and a concern that when aid stops these groups will be faced with a food crisis.</p>	<p>More community participation in these programs is requested. Most survey participants did not respond to this question.</p>	<p>Yes: 1,2,3</p> <p>-Help does not reach to everyone, the poor is even poorer and there is a need for housing projects -Yes, but with a lot of difficulties -Yes, but in the areas where people are not organized -The people have not received supplementary food -Are responding in a 80%</p>	<p>Yes. 1,2</p> <p>-Parcialy</p>

5. Are there any other vulnerable group that became even more vulnerable?	Orpahns; single mothers; those with no regular income; invalids, alcoholics, drug addicts, the very poor.	Almost all respondents felt that there were no vulnerable groups that had not been assisted. One respondent mentioned producers of staple grains.	No: 1 -The children -Housing and health -Yes, but they are covered with other programs -Peasants -People living in communities of difficult access -Communities that do not get any type of help	Yes:1,2 No: 1
6. Are there any other type of damages due to the hurricane that should be considered by the existing programs?	All responses indicated additional needs that should be addressed.	Over half of respondents offered additional ideas for improving/ revising program coverage.	Yes: 1 -Potable water system and sewage system -Housing construction and food for children -River beds -Housing projects -Education and recreation -It's necessary a sychological attention for the affected ones	-Everything is covered -There damages in the bananas trees which serve as shade givers for coffee plants and as a substitute for the tortilla. -The education of the children -Roads and houses
7. Which are the interventions?	Interventions for potable water, Interventions directed at the middle class, small-industry assistance, health programs, home repair projects.	Municipal capacity-building, agriculture irrigation, financial support programs, access road rehabilitation and food aid through the next harvest were mentioned.	-The municipalities and local organizations -People have intervned on the things they need to survive -Construction of educational centers, parks and green areas -Land rehabilitation, road rehabilitation -To develop favorable actitudes for the reconstruction -Support in the environmental and health and programs as well as mental health	-To coordinate programs -Supports the agricultural production -School food breaks -To fix those roads and to rehabilitate the agricultural and productive areas

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<p>8. For how long should the programs continue?</p>	<p>Two years or until crop yields are stabilized/ normalized. Until the end of 1999. For the next two or three years.</p>	<p>Until the next harvest, until roads and bridges are repaired. For two years. Indefinitely (three responses).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Between 1 and 5 - Two years - One year - Year and a half - 10 years - 5 to 6 months - Till we recuperate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Indefinetly (2) -One more year -Should be continous -5 years
<p>9. Are the existing programs using an adequate methodology of FFW. If not what else should the programs do?</p>	<p>Most respondents agreed that the methodologies have been adequate, and agreed with the FFW and vulnerable group feeding schemes. Environmental issues are thought to be ignored in existing methods, however. Fair distribution is not ensured in some areas, however. Some respondents mentioned that provision of condensed or powdered milk has caused diarrheal illness in children because of improper preparation. One respondent expressed concern that the programs are creating dependence.</p>	<p>All respondents who mentioned programs felt that methodologies were generally adequate and acceptable. It is suggested that distribution systems be carefully planned to ensure timeliness and fairness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The distribution of food has been done in an orderly way -Yes, but there is still a lack of food according to the daily food intake -The promised food has not reached the people in the way it was promised. It is difficult to distribute just one product and to pressure the organizations in kipping the daily forms. Is not possible to think that the people will work every day and the whole day to fulfill WFP requirements to receive in change only corn when there are in their families other needs to cover. Food is offer in exchange of a diversity of activities that people could do if they had work tools, technical support and materials to execute those activities, but there is nothing of all of that. -food for work should continue as long as exists a true follow up and monitorins system. In the case of vulnerable grups, there should be a major coberture -There should be a more accurate system for choosing who belongs to a vulnerable group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -There is not FFW(2) -There is a need for a better control to ensure people to work and that the food reaches to the most needed. There is a lack of coordination among Red Cros, Municipality and local organizations -Churches have a better control and less polytical obligations -To start a program of conciousness of the people- -To cover more areas and to have a variety of products -Higher amount of food (higher ration) -Better local administration -Rigorous and constant supervision