In Guatemala, the **most vulnerable populations are subsistence farming families** who were severely affected by Hurricanes Eta and Iota in late 2020 and still have not recovered. The effects of COVID-19 and related restrictions further worsened the situation. In most departments, **1 in 5 households adopt negative coping mechanisms**, such as selling farm assets and livestock, to cover their immediate food needs. The 2022 *primera* and *postrera* cropping seasons are an indispensable opportunity to **help these vulnerable farmers with inputs to secure a good harvest** and the means to get back on their feet.

**What humanitarian investment in agriculture can achieve**

**USD 198**

With the seeds provided, each household can cultivate 0.7 ha of land and produce approximately 1.5 tonnes of maize, worth USD 584 on the local market.

**Support a family of 6 to produce more than a year’s supply of maize to consume and sell**

**USD 105.60**

With 30 fingerlings and feed, a household can catch around 12 kg of fish in 4 months, worth USD 60 on the local market.

**Provide a family with a source of income and the means to access nutritious food for up to a year**

**USD 4.60**

Vaccinating and deworming a pig protects a vital asset that would cost USD 100 to replace if the animal died.

**Protect a family’s savings; by selling a pig, a family can buy food, clothing and medicine**
Urgency of humanitarian agricultural assistance

The current humanitarian situation in Guatemala requires urgent action. Already affected by multidimensional poverty, the record-breaking Atlantic hurricane season in 2020 and heightened volcanic activity have severely impacted the country. Productive assets and infrastructure were destroyed, communities were displaced and human lives lost in some areas of the country. In addition, the effects of the pandemic have led to difficulties in accessing markets for over half of the population, mainly due to households’ low purchasing power, depletion of food stocks and increased food prices. As a result, families are forced to sell whatever assets they have left to feed themselves.

Implementing cash for work, for instance, provides monthly cash transfers to households to cover immediate needs, while restoring damaged cropland and repairing small infrastructure washed away by hurricanes. This enables families to improve food production for the wider community. Restoring the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people through the provision of essential inputs such as seeds and repairing key productive assets for fishing, livestock and agricultural production, can save their lives.

Coordination

While Guatemala does not have an activated Food Security Cluster, the Food and Agriculture Organizations of the United Nations (FAO) coordinates its interventions closely with a wide range of food security partners in country, including government counterparts, local and international non-governmental organizations and other United Nations agencies.
## FAO priorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priorities</th>
<th>Type of assistance provided/ contents of assistance package</th>
<th>Cost per beneficiary (USD)</th>
<th>Number of beneficiaries (people)*</th>
<th>Total cost (USD)</th>
<th>Calendar of funding deadlines and implementation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ensure farmers are able to harvest maize and beans for consumption and to generate income by restoring flooded and sand-soaked cropland, replacing farming tools and developing soil moisture conservation techniques.</td>
<td>Household kit: 1 litre of fertilizer for beans, 11.36 kg of maize seed and four tools (shovel, hoes, etc.)</td>
<td>16.70</td>
<td>257 915</td>
<td>4 307 180</td>
<td>Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allow vulnerable households to immediately access nutritious food through the production of local vegetable varieties, livestock restocking, implementation of prophylactic plans for large and small livestock, and income-generating activities</td>
<td>Household kit: 0.6 kg of seeds (amaranth, chipilin, coriander, radish and tomato) 4 laying hens, 23.4 kg of feed concentrate, vaccines, dewormers and antibiotics for backyard poultry 4 350 households (mainly headed by women) to also benefit from support to set up income-generating activities (selling basic grains, vegetable production and marketing, etc.)</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>49 780</td>
<td>1 742 300</td>
<td>Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restore/set up productive infrastructure for the production of vegetables and fruit trees for household consumption and marketing, through rehabilitation/ set up of drip irrigation systems, repair/ replacement/ set up of fish ponds, repair/ rehabilitate protected agriculture structures, implement rain harvesting systems for household consumption and agricultural use.</td>
<td>• 133 households to benefit from irrigation systems and vegetable seeds.  • 320 households to benefit from 32 community drip irrigation systems.  • 3 245 households to benefit from family rainwater harvesters, lined with geomembrane, with a capacity of 16 000 litres each, including a 50-m² drip irrigation system, along with 30 fingerlings per harvester, and technical assistance and training</td>
<td>111.70</td>
<td>19 179</td>
<td>2 142 294</td>
<td>Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve immediate access to food through cash-based transfers</td>
<td>USD 129.50/household through cash for work</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>60 048</td>
<td>1 495 195</td>
<td>Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen the capacities of national actors to prepare for and respond to climate-related shocks</td>
<td>Supplies and material to set up workshops and for training</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>541 064</td>
<td>Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Certain people will benefit from multiple types of activities.

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