### C.7 Honduras - 1998 - Hurricane Mitch

**Case study:** Transitional shelter

**Project type:**
Transitional shelter construction

**Disaster:**
Hurricane Mitch, 1998

**Number of houses damaged:**
Across Honduras, the storm destroyed 33,000 houses and damaged 50,000 others

**Project target population:**
3,000 families or 15,000 beneficiaries

**Occupancy rate on handover:**
Very high.

**Shelter size**
11.1 m²
(The shelter was targeted at a family of four to five members, two adults and up to three children; Larger families were offered more than one shelter).

**Project timeline**
- 6 weeks – Project start date
- 5 months – Project conclusion
- December 1998 – Hurricane

**Summary**
The program provided materials and technical assistance for construction of a 3.05m x 3.65m wooden framed shelter in central and southern Honduras for victims of hurricane Mitch. The roof was made of galvanized roof sheets that were reused when the families re-built their houses with more durable materials. Sides were made of reinforced good quality woven plastic sheeting. The shelter included a door and two windows with nets to provide both privacy and ventilation.

Although the preferred option was to build shelters on people's own land, in some cases it was necessary to build shelters on a temporary relocation site.

*Photo: Milton Funes*