

# United States Geological Survey Flood Inundation Data for Central American Municipalities

Following Hurricane Mitch in 1998, USGS began an extensive reconstruction effort in Central America.

Data collection and analysis was extensive, including aerial and satellite imagery, flood hazard mapping, GIS production, and the digitization of approximately 900 sheets of 1:50,000 scale topographic maps. This data serves as a critically-needed base for mapping of landslide and flood risks.

In addition, through an agreement with the University of Texas, USGS acquired very high resolution (~8 inch vertical resolution) maps of flood-plains in 15 high-priority towns in Honduras. Using an airborne laser-ranging technique known as LIDAR, this project produced detailed maps for each town depicting projected high-water levels under various flood conditions.

