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HIGHLIGHTS

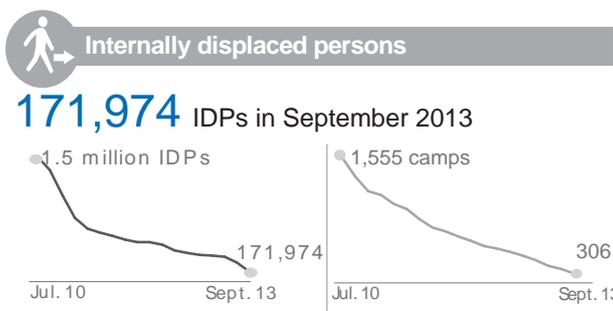
- The situation in the 306 remaining IDP camps, where some 171,974 persons still live, is a cause for concern. Some IDPs are increasingly facing threats of forced eviction, while others grapple with inadequate protection services and health and sanitation conditions.
- Upsurge in new cholera infections, with 5,600 cases reported for the month of September against 5,300 in August.
- Recurrent floods reported in the Artibonite and Centre departments. Over 600 families affected in Grande Saline. They need basic emergency supplies.
- The number of people facing food insecurity drops by up to 50 percent, from 1.5 million in 2012, to 600,000 in 2013.

IDPs still face forced evictions and dire living conditions in the camps

172,000 people still living in camps, despite progress in return and relocation programmes

Almost four years after the earthquake, there are still 171,974 extremely vulnerable people (51 percent women and 49 percent men) in 306 camps for the internally displaced, according to the latest Displacement Tracking Index (DTM), published by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM). This represents a decrease of 89 percent from the peak of 1.5 million IDPs in July 2010. Metropolitan Port-au-Prince hosts the majority of the camps (283 or 92 percent) and most of the displaced population (96 percent or 43,682 households). The remaining IDPs live in Palmes (Gressier, Léogâne, Grand-Goâve and Petit-Goâve), four communes outside metropolitan Port-au-Prince. The report does not include analysis of the situation in the Canaan, Jerusalem and Onaville settlements.

Since 2010, the Government, the Camp Coordination, Camp Management Cluster and their humanitarian partners have implemented a variety of programmes aimed at providing alternative solutions to the internally displaced population, primarily through provision of transitional shelters and rental grants and subsidies.



Between its inception in 2011 and the end of 2013, it is expected that some 60,000 families would have been relocated under the cash grant/rental subsidy programme, according to the CCCM/Shelter Cluster. However, due to the large-scale nature of the post-earthquake displacement situation in Haiti, there is an urgent need to continue providing return solutions to cater for those still in IDP sites. Based on return rates, it is estimated that some 42,000 IDP families will remain in camps and sites at the beginning of 2014.

Threats of forced eviction and insecurity persist in camps

The camp population peaked in July 2010, when 1.5 million people resided in camps and sites for the internally displaced. Since then, the number has declined by 89 percent, to 171,974. The humanitarian community in Haiti estimates that over 16,000 IDP households (in 150 camps) have been affected by forced evictions since July 2010. The most affected communes are Delmas, Carrefour, and Port-au-Prince, as well as Léogâne.

FIGURES

Number of IDPs in camps <small>Source: DTM, September, 2013.</small>	171,974
Cumulative cholera cases <small>(Jan. to Sept. 2013) Source: PAHO</small>	41,701
Fatality cases <small>(Jan. to Sept. 2013) Source: PAHO</small>	360

FUNDING

USD 65 million US funded (42%)

Source : FTS-30 Sept. 2013

Poor health and sanitary conditions and the risk of flooding in IDP camps may contribute to the rapid spread of waterborne diseases, especially cholera.

in the regions. Together, they account for 74 percent of all evictions involving 12,859 households and 131 IDP sites of the 177 closed by forced eviction.

Some of the IDPs are subjected to physical violence and destruction of property due to the violent activities of criminal gangs operating in their neighborhoods. In addition, gender-based violence and inadequate access for victims to medical, psychosocial and legal assistance continue to be an issue of great concern.

Such high levels of vulnerability in IDP camps make it imperative that specific attention be paid to the protection of the most vulnerable persons among the remaining internally displaced population.

Alarming health situation in IDP camps

To compound the foregoing, funding shortfalls and the inexorable withdrawal of humanitarian partners have resulted in alarming living conditions in the IDP camps that expose residents to risks of cholera and other waterborne diseases.

Despite efforts by humanitarian actors to continue sludge removal and repair of broken toilets, 15 percent of the camp population (45,000 people) does not have latrines, while less than 5 percent of the camps have access to waste management services. Findings from a UNICEF survey of 65 sites in September indicate that the ratio of IDPs per latrine is between 100 and 500 in 34 percent of the camps. In addition, there are health risks associated with the partial desludging of latrines, lack of systematic disinfection of latrines and the phenomenon of open defecation identified in 58 percent of the displacement sites.

If these problems are not solved as soon as possible, up to 50 percent of the remaining IDPs may be infected by cholera, requiring hospital stay, UNICEF warns.

Human Rights expert decries living conditions in the camps

The situation of 172,000 IDPs still living in camps was at the centre of the concerns of the new United Nations Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti. Following his maiden visit, from 23 September to 01 October, Gustavo Gallon welcomed the significant decline in the number of IDPs in camps following the 2010 earthquake, but described living conditions in the camps as "inhumane". Mr. Gustavo Gallon stressed the need to ensure access to education and justice and denounced the situation of persons deprived of their liberty and the human rights situation. His report and recommendations will be presented to the United Nations Human Rights Council in March 2014.

16/6 project performs beyond expectations

More than 11,000 families (44,000 people) have been returned from IDP camps to their home districts, thanks to the 16/6 project, according to statistics released in September 2013. This figure far exceeds the original target of 5,000 families to be returned set at the inception of the project.

Launched on 30 September 2011 by the Government of Haiti and piloted by *l'Unité de construction de Logements et de bâtiments publics* with the technical support of UNDP, IOM, ILO, UNOPS, the 16/6 project has helped to close 50 camps – way above the six it was expected to close. Funded by the GoH's Fund for the Reconstruction of Haiti and the Canadian government, the 16/6 project also seeks to improve living conditions in 16 districts by addressing urgent needs in infrastructure and social services. Plazas, walkways, retaining walls and culverts have been built and water kiosks set up. In addition, the 16/6 project has trained 115 workers in earthquake-resistant construction techniques and created more than 4,500 jobs.

New programme to protect displaced persons

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has launched a new programme aimed at protecting some 2,000 vulnerable IDPs living in camps under threat of eviction, and facing high crime rates and sexual violence. The USD 2 million programme, funded by

the Swedish Agency for International Development Cooperation (SIDA), will provide grants and relocation assistance to the most vulnerable.

IOM will also facilitate access to national identification services for those who do not have identity documents. Recipients will participate in a six-month training programme in masonry, plumbing, sewing, computer science, aesthetics, cosmetics and cookery. At the end of their training, they will receive supplies to help them create their own businesses.

Local authorities, IOM and HelpAge assist the elderly to relocate



An IOM staff registering and elderly IDP in preparation for relocation/return Photo: OCHA.

As part of a relocation project, the NGO HelpAge and IOM are working with local authorities to identify and assist elderly IDPs, aged at least 50, in five camps in Port-au-Prince (Jean Marie Vincent, Acra 2, Cinéas, Trazeli and Christopher) to relocate. The ECHO-funded project, implemented since July 2013, provides the elderly IDPs and their families with USD 950 grants each, to enable them find decent housing.

Humanitarian community concerned cholera upsurge in several localities following heavy rains

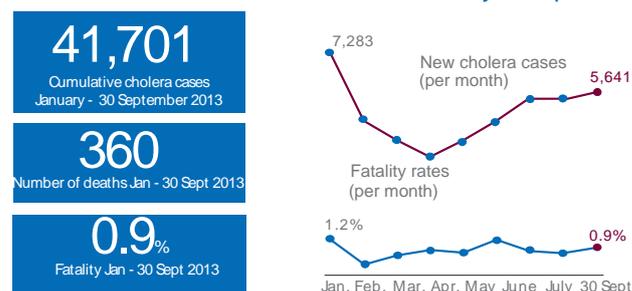
Infections on the rise

Since the onset of the 2013 rainy season in April and the hurricane season in June, an upsurge in new infections is being reported in a number of areas. 5,600 cases were reported in September alone. This brings the total number of suspected cholera cases recorded between October 2010 to September 2013 to 680,820 and the number of deaths to 8,307, according to the Government of the Haiti (GoH). Of these, 41,701 cases and 360 fatalities were recorded from January to 30 September 2013.

On the whole, infection rates have fallen by 46 per cent, from an average of 8,500 cases per month in 2012 to an average of 4,600 cases monthly in 2013. Similarly, the fatality rate have decreased from an average of 0.98 percent in September 2012 to an average of 0.95 per cent in September 2013.

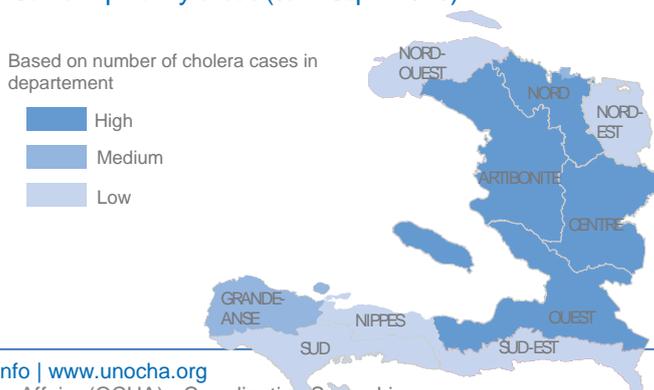
Artibonite, Ouest, Grande Anse and the Nord are still the most affected departments. But while the trend is on the decline in the Nord department, the Grande Anse has seen a sharp increase in cases from 218 in August to 889 in September. It also reported the highest number of fatalities in September. In contrast, the

Current information on cholera from January to September 2013



The UN and its NGO partners continue to assist the Haitian government in preventing and responding to the cholera epidemic, including strengthening the early warning system, epidemiological surveillance, rapid response to alerts, rehabilitation of treatment structures integrated into hospitals and training medical staff to improve the quality of patient care and public awareness to good hygiene practices.

Current priority areas (Jan.-Sept. 2013)



highest overall fatality rates are in the Nippes, Sud-est, Est, Nord-est, where cholera response capacities are limited.

As a whole, infection and fatality rates have fallen sharply in 2013 compared to previous years, thanks largely to the efforts of the government and the humanitarian community to limit the impact of the epidemic.

Concerted Response

Following a serious alert in Saut d'Eau (Ouest department) in early September, concerning over 100 cases in a few days, the UN and four NGOs promptly responded in support of the GoH to effectively contain the outbreak. No new cases were reported by the end of the month.

In September in Grande Anse, UN-partner NGO ACTED provided support to partners in the department, supplied some 3,000 litres of Ringer Lactate and set up Oral Rehydration points in areas where there were outbreaks.



Responding to a cholera alert in Saut d'Eau CTU, Ouest department. Photo : PAHO/WHO.

UNICEF provided a further 4,000 litres of Ringer, tents and plastic sheeting as well as funding to CARE for sensitization through community outreach. IOM and other non-governmental organizations such as ACF intervened in the Verettes commune in Artibonite, which faced a high number of infections in September, by deploying mobile teams for two weeks to conduct an intensive sensitization campaign, distribute supplies and assess water and sanitation facilities. An alert in Mole Saint Nicolas in the Nord-ouest department was followed up with a consolidated response by the health department, water authorities and ACF. Ninety households were decontaminated and 10,000 aquatabs and 600 bags of ORS were distributed. An evaluation of WASH facilities in the area was also conducted.

Strengthening infrastructure for cholera care

The rehabilitation/construction of cholera treatment facilities and water and sanitation points in five departmental hospitals, as well as 14 cholera treatment facilities, is ongoing. The UN and NGOs are helping the Ministry of Public Health (MSPP) construct dozens of oral rehydration points in isolated areas and distribute thousands of packets of oral rehydration salts. MINUSTAH and IOM are building four cholera treatment centres in support of the MSPP. By the end of September, MINUSTAH had completed 75 per cent of four new cholera treatment centres in Marchand Dessalines, l'Estere and Desdunes and 50 per cent of the Gros Morne centre that would provide 400,000 people in the area with improved access to the cholera treatment facility.

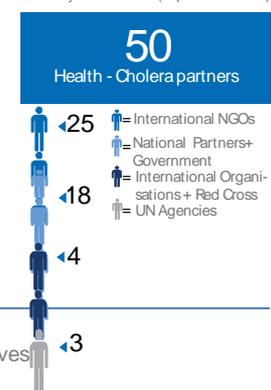
The United Nations and its partners continue to train medical staff to improve the quality of patient care and to support national and local authorities in strengthening the early warning system and epidemiological surveillance.

Solidarités International and DINEPA implement essential WASH activities to contain cholera in Port-au-Prince and Nippes

Three-and-a-half years after the earthquake, the health situation in IDP camps is a major cause for concern in Port-au-Prince. High population density and overcrowding make access to acceptable levels of sanitation extremely difficult for vulnerable populations. Functioning sanitation facilities and access to drinking water are desperately needed while waterborne diseases, including cholera, find fertile ground to

Partners in cholera response in 2013

(Partners registered with OCHA and the cluster system in Haiti (September 2013))



grow. Of the 140 camps in which Solidarités International works, the ratio of people per functional latrine is up to 370/1!

In response to the challenge, Solidarités International is assisting DINEPA, the national water and sanitation authority, to implement its “*Bouclier et coup de poing*” (Shield and Fist) strategy to fight cholera. The strategy combines emergency activities during the rainy season and prevention activities in the dry season, in 140 camps in metropolitan Port-au-Prince that are yet to be selected for relocation.

The project, which is funded by ECHO (European Union), comprises emergency distribution of hygiene kits, interventions on water points and decontamination in the affected areas in collaboration with the DINEPA. During lulls in cholera outbreaks, Solidarités International conducts prevention activities in the camps through awareness campaigns on hygiene and sanitation practices, training in detection and reporting of cases to community leaders, and rehabilitation of latrines.

In the Nippes department, Solidarités has helped to strengthen coordination between Health Department and DINEPA’s Emergency Response Department. With the support of UNICEF, the organization assists the Nippes department’s technical services in the implementation of a contingency plan finalized in 2012.

Flooding in Artibonite and Centre departments

Nearly 900 families affected

The heavy rains of 04, 06 and 11 September in the Artibonite and the Centre departments affected 852 families, caused the loss of livestock and destroyed vegetable farms. Grande Saline in the Artibonite department was particularly hard hit, with 650 families affected, and followed by Marchand Dessalines, where 102 families were affected. Two communes in the Centre department - Boucan Carré and Mirebalais - were also flooded.

During and in the wake of the floods, government and humanitarian partners in Artibonite department promptly deployed to distribute non-food items and hygiene kits to the affected. Save the Children, ACF and DINEPA organized activities to reinforce cholera awareness and care and disinfected wells and houses.

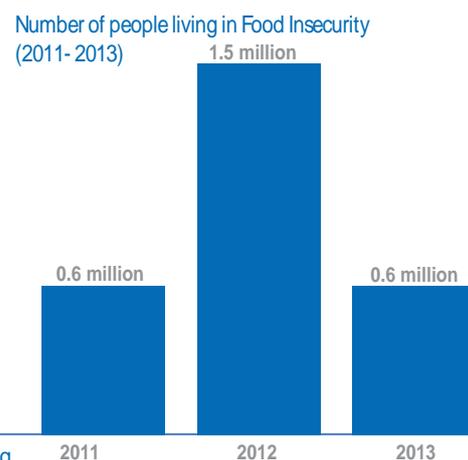
Artibonite and the Centre departments are particularly prone to natural disasters due to extensive deforestation and landslides. Sixty-five percent of the municipalities in Artibonite are at risk of flooding and 50 per cent of them are threatened by landslides. Eighty percent of risk mitigation projects were suspended in 2012 due to lack of funding.

The number of people facing food insecurity drops from 1.5 million to 600,000.

Findings from a recent national survey on food security and nutrition indicate a considerable decline in the number of people suffering from high food insecurity in Haiti. The number of Haitians now facing severe food insecurity stands at 600,000, down from 1.5 million in 2012. The total number of food insecure people has decreased for the same period from 5.2 million to 2.4 million. The Nord, Nord-ouest, Nord-est and the Sud-est departments are most affected by food insecurity.

The improved situation is attributable to several factors, including improved agricultural production in 2013, the decline in food prices and the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance programmes that target areas affected by Hurricane Sandy.

CNSA, the National Coordination for Food Security, revealed that 700,000 people received



Recurrent floods highlight the need to strengthen mitigation activities in areas most at risk.

The food security situation in the country has improved dramatically thanks to the assistance provided to 700,000 people after Hurricane Sandy. However, concerns persist in those areas affected by the TS Isaac in August 2012 and the drought in early 2012 that have not received the same level of assistance

humanitarian aid following Hurricane Sandy in October 2012. The situation is reported to have improved significantly in areas that received assistance.

However, the situation did not show the same level of improvement in areas affected by Tropical Storm Isaac in August 2012 and by the drought earlier that year. These areas did not receive the same level of attention and support. Some areas in the Nord and Nord-est, which suffered serious crop losses due to the drought, continue to face food insecurity, characterized by low access of poor households to food.

Consultations between the CNSA and all relevant partners are underway to determine the most appropriate strategies to target 600,000 people still suffering from severe food insecurity and malnutrition.

Creation of eight protected marine areas

Integrated coastal zone management enhances resilience

The "South Seas" project, launched in 2011, entered its second phase in August 2013 with the promulgation of a decree establishing, for the first time in Haiti's history, eight protected marine areas in the Sud department. This marks the first step towards the protection of southern coastal areas and islands from the impact of climate change. The project is also expected to boost the resilience of fishermen during natural disasters.

Supported by UNEP, South Seas is part of the South Coast Initiative, a UN coalition (UNEP, UNDP, UNOPS) aimed at assisting the Government of Haiti to better protect its



Pêcheurs en activité à proximité d'un dispositif DPC . Credit photo: OCHA.

marine ecosystems and strengthen integrated coastal management.

With 52,000 fishermen nationwide, fishing is a vital sector for the Haitian economy. However, the lack of regulation on fishing, coupled with the mismanagement of beaches and islands, pose a growing threat every year. This has been compounded by the dramatic consequences of hurricanes such as Gustav in 2008 and Sandy in 2012.

Boué Island may disappear in a few years

Following Hurricane Sandy in October 2012, Boué Island was virtually submerged leaving 200 people stranded for several days. The sea level continues to rise monthly, thus making it virtually certain that the island would disappear in a few years if drastic measures are not taken immediately. During Hurricane Gustav in 2008, the peninsula facing Port Salut was submerged. Port Salut's beaches have been receding for several years now, due to a building frenzy and the introduction of alien flora that has resulted in soil degradation in the coastal area.

Furthermore, according to Mr. Prado, Coordinator of the UNEP project, "due to the large presence of herbivorous fish (parrot fish), some corals are now endangered because of the excessive development of algae which prevents coral growth."

Creation of the first large fish farm in the Sud department

Significant progress has been made in addressing some of the challenges facing the fishing sector in the department, such as the impact of Hurricane Sandy in October 2012 on fishing communities. With Cuban technical assistance, the first large fish farm was created in the Sud department in 2012. Priority has also been given to the development of risk reduction activities through the provision of fishing equipment and strong technical support. A new strategy dubbed *Dispositif de Concentration du Poisson*, now allows

fishermen to fish farther offshore to avoid overfishing of small herbivorous species. The strategy is expected to re-create a natural habitat resulting in a micro marine food chain that eases the work of fishermen.

"The idea is to focus as much as possible on the resilience of fishermen in the event of a major disaster. This is called the integrated management of coastal areas," says Mr Prado. For example, the project must equip fishermen's associations with efficient freezers, using solar energy. This would preserve especially large fish longer and thus ensure that the price of fish does not fluctuate."

Isaac, a fisherman from Port Salut for over forty years, expressed satisfaction with the progress made: "since last year, with the technical assistance received, we can, in the space one morning, catch 3 to 4 marlins. Before, we would sometimes return to the village with only small fish. For us, fishing is vital. It involves the whole community."

In brief

The United Nations Coordinator for cholera in Haïti

The new United Nations Coordinator for Cholera in Haiti, Pedro Medrano, made a maiden official to the country from 04 to 11 September. During the visit, Mr. Medrano met with government authorities, national and international humanitarian actors and donors. He also made a field trip to the Artibonite department which has experienced an upsurge in new cholera cases.

The Coordinator's mandate is to optimize the UN's resources and activities in support of the national initiative for the elimination of cholera in Haiti. He will also identify additional resources, both short and long term, for speeding up the implementation of the national cholera elimination plan, as well as forge new regional and global partnerships in support of the GoH's efforts in fighting the epidemic.

Repair works on five evacuation centres launched

On 20 September, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) launched rehabilitation works on five evacuation centres in areas prone to floods and natural disasters. The USD 1 million project, which will last a year, is funded by the Haitian Government through the Economic and Social Assistance Fund (FAES). The first phase will focus on identifying areas for building the centres or structures that may be converted into evacuation centres. Since 2010, IOM has provided assistance to the Haitian government for the construction and/or rehabilitation of more than 30 evacuation centres.

OCHA organizes training to strengthen the government's CIMCoord capacity

The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) will organize from 09 - 12 December, the first training in civil-military coordination (CMCoord) in Port-au-Prince. The initiative targets mainly representatives of the Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC) and members of civil and military organizations working in emergency contexts, UN agencies, inter-governmental agencies and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement. The training is part of the Haiti transition process. Its aim is to progressively transfer OCHA's civil-military coordination functions to the DPC.

Civil-military coordination facilitates dialogue and interaction between the government, humanitarian actors and military/police during response to natural disasters. It also plays a role in non-emergency situations when direct or indirect military/police support is needed. More information on the training is available at: <http://haiti.humanitarianresponse.info/Default.aspx?tabid=238&language=en-US>

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