

Haiti – Earthquake

SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

2,248	12,763	650,000	350,000	2.1 MILLION
Earthquake-Related Deaths Reported	Earthquake-Related Injuries Reported	People Requiring Humanitarian Assistance	People Reached With Humanitarian Assistance	People Exposed to Strong—MMI Level VI—or Above Shaking
<i>GoH – September 2021</i>	<i>GoH – September 2021</i>	<i>UN – August 2021</i>	<i>UN – September 2021</i>	<i>USGS – August 2021</i>

- Relief actors report a significant increase in protection risks following the earthquake, while the USAID DART continues to assess humanitarian needs and monitor distributions and partner activities, identifying persistent shelter and WASH needs in Sud.
- Additional health supplies and relief commodities dispatched from USAID/BHA's Miami warehouse arrive in Haiti for onward distribution by PAHO and IOM.
- Roadblocks in the Port-au-Prince area disrupt humanitarian convoys bound for southwestern Haiti on September 13, 14, and 15, but relief actors continue to devise creative workarounds to keep assistance moving.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Haiti Earthquake Response in FY 2021 ¹	USAID/BHA ²	\$32,101,012
	DoD ³	\$11,800,000
	Total	\$43,901,012

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 7

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.
² USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA). Funding figure reflects publicly announced funding as of September 17, 2021.
³ U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). Funding figure reflects funding as of September 9, 2021.

TIMELINE

August 14, 2021

At 8:29 a.m. local time, a magnitude 7.2 earthquake strikes southwestern Haiti at a depth of 6.2 miles

August 14, 2021

U.S. Ambassador Sison declares a disaster; USAID/BHA activates a DART and RMT

August 15, 2021

USAID/BHA deploys additional DART staff to Haiti, including 65 USAR personnel

August 16, 2021

Tropical Depression Grace makes landfall over southwestern Haiti

August 25, 2021

DART USAR experts demobilize, as DART scales up humanitarian response efforts

August 26, 2021

Administrator Power visits affected areas in Haiti and announces \$32 million in USAID/BHA assistance to respond to earthquake-related needs

September 2, 2021

JTF-Haiti concludes its deployment of air assets in coordination with the DART

September 7, 2021

USAID/BHA delivers 10,000 plastic sheets and 10,000 shelter repair kits for distribution by IOM.

September 13, 2021

USAID/BHA-provided health supplies arrive in Haiti for distribution by PAHO.

September 15, 2021

Additional USAID/BHA-provided shelter supplies arrive in Haiti for distribution by IOM.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Protection Risks Increase in Southwestern Haiti

More than one month following the August 14 earthquake in southwestern Haiti, the Government of Haiti (GoH) and relief actors, including USAID/BHA partners, continue to assess and respond to humanitarian needs among affected populations. Recent assessments indicate unmet needs in rural areas, and relief actors are scaling up efforts to respond in hard-to-reach locations, according to the UN.

In particular, protection risks—including gender-based violence (GBV) and other concerns—have increased in the wake of the earthquake, according to a UN Women and non-governmental organization (NGO) CARE analysis surveying 4,300 people in Grand’Anse, Nippes, and Sud departments from August 25 to September 2. Approximately 75 percent of surveyed youth reported an increase in GBV incidence since the disaster, while 70 percent of surveyed women and men reported that their fear of GBV had increased. Additionally, 32 percent of surveyed individuals noted adverse psychological effects resulting from the earthquake, underscoring the need for psychosocial support (PSS) and GBV prevention services in affected areas. In response to earthquake-related protection needs, USAID/BHA is supporting five partners to provide critical protection services.

DART Monitoring Visits Highlight Continued Needs

The USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) continues to assess needs and monitor aid distributions and USAID/BHA partner activities. On September 10, for instance, members of the DART traveled to Sud’s Chantal and Les Cayes communes to conduct post-distribution monitoring with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In Chantal, DART members observed several houses using USAID/BHA-provided plastic sheeting for shelter, while individuals who had received relief commodities through IOM reported that shelter support remained their primary need. In Les Cayes, DART members visited a displacement site where approximately 730 people were sheltering following the earthquake. While some people at the site had received plastic sheeting and hygiene kits from IOM, others still required shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support. The observations underscore the depth of persistent needs among earthquake-affected populations one month following the disaster despite the continued provision of assistance across southwestern Haiti.

Additional Shipments of USAID/BHA Commodities Arrive in Haiti for Distribution by PAHO and IOM

In response to health, shelter, and WASH needs in southwestern Haiti, USAID/BHA continues to dispatch relief commodities from its warehouse in Miami, Florida, for distribution by partners operating in areas affected by the earthquake. On September 13, USAID/BHA-provided health supplies—including crutches, gauze, medical tape, splints, used needle safety boxes,

and wheelchairs—valued at more than \$312,000 arrived in Haiti for distribution by the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO). The delivery follows a previous USAID/BHA contribution of health kits to PAHO that arrived in Haiti on August 30. In addition, on September 15, a USAID/BHA shipment of relief commodities—including approximately 44,000 water containers; 17,000 blankets; 5,700 kitchen sets; 2,600 rolls of plastic sheeting or plastic sheets for shelter; and 26 hygiene supply kits—arrived in Haiti for distribution by IOM. The shipment follows a previous USAID/BHA in-kind contribution of 10,000 plastic sheets and 10,000 shelter repair kits to IOM in early September. As of September 13, IOM had distributed approximately 144,000 relief items to 61,000 earthquake-affected households in Grande’Anse, Nippes, and Sud, including nearly 65,000 items funded by USAID/BHA.

USAID/BHA Partner WFP Reaches 151,000 People Amid Rise in Food Needs

Emergency food needs in Haiti continue to increase, with the population facing Crisis—IPC 3—outcomes through December 2021 likely to rise by 50 percent compared with projections prior to the earthquake, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).¹ Though approximately 10 percent of the population across Haiti requires food assistance, the greatest levels of need are concentrated in Sud, where the earthquake has exacerbated food insecurity. In addition to destroying crops, food stocks, and livelihood assets, as well as disrupting the upcoming planting season, the earthquake also halted many income-generating opportunities and disrupted trade flows, increasing the price of some food items. As a result, continued large-scale humanitarian food and livelihoods assistance is required to prevent adverse outcomes through at least early 2022, FEWS NET reports.

In response to elevated food needs in southwestern Haiti, USAID/BHA supports the UN World Food Program (WFP) to provide food and cash assistance, as well as logistics support. As of September 14, WFP had provided more than 151,000 earthquake-affected individuals in Grand’Anse, Nippes, and Sud with 1,787 metric tons (MT) of food commodities and approximately \$285,000 in cash-based transfers with USAID/BHA and other donor support. In addition, the UN agency had distributed nearly 131,000 hot meals to patients in hospitals and displaced individuals in temporary shelters in earthquake-affected areas. WFP continues to distribute in-kind food assistance at multiple locations daily in an effort to meet needs in hard-to-reach, rural communities. On September 15, U.S. Ambassador to Haiti Michele J. Sison and DART Leader Tim Callaghan met with WFP Executive Director David Beasley to discuss the ongoing humanitarian response and WFP’s life-saving work.

Port-au-Prince Roadblocks Prompt Cancellation of Three Relief Convoys

Roadblocks in and around Port-au-Prince prompted WFP, in its role as global humanitarian logistics coordinator, to cancel its planned daily humanitarian convoys for three consecutive days from September 13 to 15. The cancellations follow five days of successful convoys from Port-au-Prince to earthquake-affected areas under escort by the Haitian National Police. However, a convoy organized by the UN agency successfully departed Port-au-Prince on September 16, and WFP and relief actors continue to devise creative workarounds, using other transport assets, to get around the roadblocks. USAID/BHA supports WFP to provide humanitarian coordination and logistics support for the earthquake response in Haiti, and the UN agency had facilitated 26 convoys comprising approximately 300 vehicles supporting 45 partners—including NGOs and UN agencies, as well as the GoH Civil Protection General Directorate (DGPC) and donor governments—prior to the recent cancellations. The convoys have transported life-saving food, health, shelter, and WASH supplies, among other items, enabling assistance to reach populations in need in southwestern Haiti. WFP had also transported 1,480 MT of USAID/BHA-funded food commodities via the convoys as of September 13.

¹ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

KEY FIGURES



65

USAR personnel deployed to Haiti with the DART

NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL, AND U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

URBAN SEARCH-AND-RESCUE

Following the August 14 earthquake, the GoH declared a one-month state of emergency in Haiti, activating the National Emergency Operations Center to coordinate assessment and response activities. The GoH also activated DGPC personnel, mobilizing search-and-rescue brigades to earthquake-affected areas.

A USAR team from Fairfax County, Virginia, Fire and Rescue Department—including 65 search-and-rescue personnel and four dogs—subsequently deployed alongside DART members, arriving in Haiti on August 15. The USAR team traveled with 52,000 pounds of specialized tools and medical equipment, with additional supplies arriving on August 17.

USAR teams perform life-saving technical activities, including specialized search-and-rescue operations to recover individuals trapped in damaged or destroyed buildings. USAID/BHA USAR teams consist of 19 functional positions, staffed by experienced emergency managers, construction riggers, hazardous materials technicians, licensed engineers and emergency medicine physicians, logisticians, paramedics, planners, search-and-rescue specialists, and search-and-rescue dogs with handlers.

On August 25, DART USAR staff demobilized and returned to the United States following the completion of rescue efforts in Haiti, while other DART staff remain in country to continue scaling up humanitarian assistance. DART USAR experts reached communities in 15 communes while in Haiti, including Beaumont, Corail, Dame Marie, Jérémie, Pestel, and Roseaux in Grand'Anse; Anse-à-Veau, Baradères, and Petit-Trou-de-Nippes in Nippes; and Camp-Perrin, Île-à-Vache, Les Cayes, Maniche, Port-à-Piment, and Saint-Louis-du-Sud in Sud.

LOGISTICS SUPPORT

On August 16, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) helicopters deployed to Haiti and began transporting DART and USAR personnel to assist assessment and response activities. USAID also requested the unique capabilities of DoD's U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) to support USAID's response efforts with transport of relief commodities, staff, and USAR team members within Haiti, as well as assessment efforts in earthquake-affected areas.



671

Missions completed by JTF-Haiti aircraft supporting relief operations

USSOUTHCOM deployed numerous aircraft to support humanitarian operations and provided aerial imagery to support damage assessments. During its deployment, Joint Task Force (JTF)-Haiti—which included DoD and USCG assets—flew 671 missions, transporting approximately 200 relief staff and 588,000 pounds of emergency relief commodities to affected areas. JTF-Haiti concluded its final missions in support of DART-led humanitarian



588,000

Pounds of relief commodities transported to affected areas by JTF-Haiti

operations in Haiti on September 2.

Meanwhile, USAID/BHA is supporting a WFP barge service to facilitate additional humanitarian transport between Port-au-Prince and coastal areas of southwestern Haiti, as well as the operation of WFP-led humanitarian convoys by road from Port-au-Prince to affected areas.



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Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department staff deployed to assist UNDAC

HCIMA

In response to the earthquake, five members of the Fairfax County, Virginia, Fire and Rescue Department deployed as part of the Americas Support Team (AST) to provide technical support to UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) personnel, assisting with humanitarian coordination, information management, and assessment (HCIMA) efforts. USAID/BHA supports the AST to assist with disaster response operations and coordination efforts between the UN, local emergency management agencies, and other relief actors, including donor governments and NGOs. USAID/BHA is also supporting the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to conduct damage and needs assessments through the Haitian Red Cross, as well as IOM and WFP to bolster HCIMA efforts for the earthquake response.

On August 26, the UN launched a flash funding appeal in response to the Haiti earthquake, requesting more than \$187 million to provide humanitarian assistance to approximately 500,000 people in southwestern Haiti. The European Commission's Department for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations and the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office have announced \$3.5 million and \$1.4 million to support the response, respectively. Meanwhile, the Government of the Republic of Korea announced \$1 million in emergency funding, and Taiwan authorities pledged \$500,000 to support response efforts. In addition, the UN allocated \$8 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund on August 15 to support health, WASH, and other forms of assistance and recently approved a second allocation of \$4 million to support earthquake-related logistics and shelter needs, as well as relocation services for individuals displaced by Haiti's complex emergency.



65,000

Number of USAID/BHA-funded relief commodities distributed by IOM

RELIEF COMMODITIES, SHELTER, AND WASH

USAID/BHA funds IOM to maintain pre-positioned emergency relief supplies—sufficient to support nearly 50,000 individuals—in Haiti for distribution in response to sudden-onset disasters, such as earthquakes and other shocks; IOM distributed supplies from these stockpiles in response to the earthquake. In addition, from September 2 to 7, USAID/BHA transported 10,000 plastic sheets for shelter and 10,000 shelter repair kits from its warehouse in Miami, Florida, to Port-au-Prince for transfer to and distribution by IOM. Furthermore, on September 15, USAID/BHA delivered an additional shipment of relief commodities—including approximately 44,000 water containers and buckets; 17,000 blankets; 5,700 kitchen sets; 2,600 rolls of plastic sheeting or plastic sheets for shelter; and 26 hygiene

supply kits with materials sufficient for 2,600 households—from Miami to Port-au-Prince via ocean freight for distribution by IOM. The UN agency had distributed nearly 65,000 USAID/BHA-funded relief items to affected households as of September 13.

USAID/BHA is also supporting Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE), IFRC, Mercy Corps, and Project Hope to provide critical shelter and WASH interventions, such as distributing relief commodities and conducting hygiene awareness campaigns, to improve shelter conditions and reduce the transmission risk of communicable diseases in affected areas. Separately, a USAID/BHA-funded Global WASH Sector Field Support Team Coordinator arrived in Haiti on August 19 to support coordination of the WASH response through national-level platforms, and USAID/BHA activated a DART shelter advisor to support the provision of shelter assistance in southwestern Haiti.

FOOD SECURITY



1,747

MT of contingency food commodities released by USAID/BHA to WFP for food assistance operations

As of August 31, USAID/BHA had released more than 1,747 MT of food—including beans, rice, and vegetable oil—from its contingency stock managed by WFP, enabling the UN agency to reach 65,000 beneficiaries with monthly food distributions for two months. In addition to conducting food distributions in affected areas, WFP is providing daily meals to thousands of people injured by the earthquake during their hospitalization. WFP plans to further scale up food assistance operations to reach approximately 300,000 people in southwestern Haiti in the coming months.

As of September 13, WFP had reached nearly 63,000 people with 863 MT of USAID/BHA-funded food commodities. The UN agency also distributed more than 11,000 hot meals with USAID/BHA support across Grand'Anse and Sud. In total, with support from USAID/BHA and other donors, WFP had provided reached more than 151,000 earthquake-affected individuals in Grand'Anse, Nippes, and Sud with 1,787 metric tons (MT) of food commodities and approximately \$285,000 in cash-based transfers, as well as distributed nearly 131,000 hot meals, as of September 14.

HEALTH AND PROTECTION



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Medical evacuations conducted via USCG helicopters

On August 15, the USCG deployed helicopters with medical staff and supplies to Haiti. Alongside supporting USAR and logistics efforts, the helicopters also transported injured patients from affected areas to Port-au-Prince. Following the earthquake, the USCG flew 262 sorties, performed medical evacuations for 381 people, and transported relief personnel, including members of the DART, and approximately 34,600 pounds of emergency relief supplies to affected areas.

On August 30, USAID/BHA delivered emergency medical kits—including bandages, examination gloves, gauze, malaria medicine, stethoscopes, syringes, and thermometers—sufficient to meet the urgent medical needs of



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USAID/BHA partners providing critical protection interventions

approximately 20,000 people for three months. Furthermore, on September 13, USAID/BHA delivered a shipment of health supplies—including crutches, gauze, medical tape, splints, used needle safety boxes, and wheelchairs—valued at more than \$312,000 to Port-au-Prince. USAID/BHA is providing the items to PAHO for onward distribution in southwestern Haiti. In addition, USAID/BHA is supporting International Medical Corps (IMC) to provide health assistance via an emergency medical team operating in Sud, as well as to IFRC, Project Hope, and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) to provide primary and other health care interventions in affected areas.

Meanwhile, USAID/BHA is supporting CRS, IFRC, IMC, Project Hope, and UNFPA to provide critical protection services—such as GBV prevention and response and PSS interventions—across Grand’Anse, Nippes, and Sud in response to the heightened protection risks facing vulnerable individuals following the earthquake.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HAITI EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IN FY 2021¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Community Organized Relief Effort	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Grand’Anse, Nippes	\$5,000,000
CRS	Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Nippes, Sud	\$5,000,000
IFRC	HCIMA, Health, Protection, WASH	Sud	\$100,000
IMC	Health, Protection	Sud	\$2,200,000
IOM	HCIMA, Logistics Support, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$3,950,000
Mercy Corps	MPCA, WASH	Nippes	\$2,000,000
Project Hope	Health, Protection, WASH	Grand’Anse, Nippes, Sud	\$2,700,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Grand’Anse, Nippes, Sud	\$2,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers, HCIMA, Logistics Support	Grand’Anse, Nippes, Sud	\$7,472,029
	In-Kind Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$639,530
	Logistics Support	Affected Areas	\$851,200
	Program Support		\$188,253
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$32,101,012
DoD			
	USAID-Validated Logistics Support	Affected Areas	\$11,800,000
TOTAL DoD FUNDING			\$11,800,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HAITI EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IN FY 2021			\$43,901,012

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. USAID/BHA funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 17, 2021, while DoD funding figures reflect funding as of September 9, 2021.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).