Humanitarian Highlights

- Efforts in support of contingency planning and disaster preparedness are being accelerated by the Department of Civil Protection (DPC) and the humanitarian community
- 685 displaced people relocated from Fleurieux Camp to Corail Camp with further movements pending
- Agriculture cluster partners conduct a food security mission and assessments
- SMS based early warning system for cyclone/hurricane season piloted by IFRC

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Contingency Planning

As the peak of the hurricane season approaches, all actors in Haiti are stepping up contingency planning and disaster preparedness efforts. A series of meetings between the humanitarian leadership and the Department Protection Civile (DPC) which leads on disaster response in Haiti have been held in the past two weeks, including specific discussions on the particularly vulnerable camp populations. Other key areas of discussion have included early warning systems, provision of emergency hurricane shelter and ensuring effective public information and communication at all stages of any potential response.

The DPC and Ministry of the Interior have held meetings in the seven communes of the West department and are undertaking a simulation exercise on 29-30 July. National and departmental contingency plans are being finalized. An information campaign has begun in collaboration with local authorities to help local populations. Evacuation locations have been identified in Cite Soleil, Croix-des-Bouquets, Gressier, Carrefour, Delmas, Port-au-Prince and in Léogane.

Key areas of work on the humanitarian side include providing all necessary support to DPC in preparedness, early warning and response phases, ensuring sufficient prepositioning of all emergency supplies and mapping all existing stocks to ensure gaps are identified, ensuring sufficient additional support is in place to manage contingency planning and response for those in camps and working to ensure logistical capacity in place as well as testing all such systems through practical simulation exercises. Assessment of camp vulnerability continues, alongside ongoing mitigation work in camps already assessed.

Simulation in Gonaives

On 20 and 21 July international actors together with the DPC carried out a simulation exercise in Gonaives in order to identify gaps in the contingency plan for disaster preparedness in the region.

Humanitarian Overview

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<tr>
<th>INFORMATION</th>
<th>FIGURES</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
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<tr>
<td>EQ affected population</td>
<td>Over 2 Million people affected</td>
<td>GoH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Destroyed or partially damaged houses</td>
<td>188,383 houses</td>
<td>GoH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessed Buildings</td>
<td>212,482 buildings, including 186,766 residences have been assessed by the Ministry of Public Works. 49% (104,681) Green 27% (58,418) Yellow 23% (49,383) Red</td>
<td>Ministry of Public Works (UNOPS) 26 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Displaced people in settlement sites</td>
<td>1.5 Million people</td>
<td>GoH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People migrating from West Department</td>
<td>661,000 people (majority living in host families)</td>
<td>GoH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spontaneous settlement sites</td>
<td>1,368 sites</td>
<td>DTM Analysis, 28 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp management</td>
<td>Sites registered: 373 across affected area Number of households:190,518</td>
<td>IOM 12 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp assessment and mitigation</td>
<td>146 sites have been assessed for vulnerability to storms and flooding. The target is now 250. 71 have committed agencies to carry out mitigation.</td>
<td>IOM 28 July</td>
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<td>Transitional shelter construction</td>
<td>6,868 transitional shelters constructed, housing more than 34,000 people. An additional 16,100 transitional shelters are already in country.</td>
<td>Shelter cluster 26 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flash Appeal Funding</td>
<td>67 % funded</td>
<td>Financial Tracking Service (FTS)</td>
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The key areas of focus for this were identified as the following:
• Information flow between reporting partners, as well as operations centres, key decision makers, local media and beneficiaries.
• Decision triggers for activation of regional and national DPC operations centre, the Regional Joint Command Centre (RJOC)
• Roles and responsibilities of actors involved

This exercise was key in understanding and building consensus on the procedural requirements of DPC, MINUSTAH, UNSEC and UN Police planned response phases to natural disaster. Gaps were revealed in areas such as WASH, logistics, shelter and search-and-rescue capacity. Strengths include regional coordination, the understanding of individual roles and responsibilities, and strong level of commitment to effective working partnerships between all actors.

Relocations

Efforts to assist vulnerable populations in leaving camps continue. A total of 244 families were moved from Camp Fleurieux to Corail Camp sector 3 following several assessments made by the Ministry of Health, the Health Unit of IOM and the CCCM. Flooding and the presence of sewage from blocked latrines and from the city sewage system had rendered the living conditions at the camp unacceptable, prompting the Government of Haiti (GoH) to identify the need to move the camps’ inhabitants.

The operation was led and coordinated by the Camp Management Operations (CMO) of IOM. IOM used community mobilization to explain why Fleurieux Camp inhabitants should consider relocating to Corail, facilitated meetings between representatives from Fleurieux and those presently living in Corail in an effort to facilitate IDP integration and ensure informed decision making.

The operation received help from specialist protection teams from UNICEF, UNCHR and IOM who had identified about 200 vulnerable people for priority movement on the first day of the operation.

Activities in Corail will be monitored by IOM and Corail camp management agency American Refugee Council (ARC), and other partners and reported on at the following blog: www.cmohaiti.wordpress.com.

IOM has also identified a further six camps whose populations are regarded as being at sufficiently serious risk to warrant camp closure, and are currently in discussions with the relevant authorities regarding relocation.

HUMANITARIAN UPDATES: REGIONAL

Gonaives

On 23 and 26 July, OCHA facilitated inter-institution field missions to assess the situation of flood-affected populations following rainfalls during the last two weeks. Teams composed of DPC, FAO, WFP, MINUSTAH and OCHA visited the communes of Grande Saline, L’estere, Petite Riviere and Verrettes. About 4,500 families in the affected areas reportedly left their flooded houses, seeking temporary refuge with relatives or in public buildings. Following the assessment, the WFP began emergency food aid distribution for the affected families. This is the first time that a general food distribution has been approved since its suspension countrywide by the Haitian government in March. In an effort to support food security, food distribution will continue in Grande Saline and Verrettes.

In total, 690 quake-affected IDPs (138 households) remain in Artibonite in 11 camps. The US Marine ship Nouvel Horizon is currently conducting a 10-day tour of mobile health clinics in collaboration with the Health Department of Artibonite (DSA).

WFP has prepositioned about 900 tons of food and NFIs with partners throughout Artibonite Department. Seeds, tools as well as hygiene and kitchen kits have been stockpiled. Cash and Food-for-Work projects supported by WFP, as well as the construction of permanent houses, drainage clearing and agricultural activities by humanitarian partners in the region continue.

Léogane

Torrential rain on 20 July led to flooding in several areas around Léogane, affecting some 1,140 people, including IDPs in Bas Bineau. A joint mission with the DPC, MINUSTAH, UN Agencies, IOM and IFRC and NGOs was conducted, carrying
out an assessment of humanitarian needs with respect to WASH, Food, Shelter/NFIs and Heath. Flooding also affected the Mission Reach School and temporarily prohibited access to the school compound.

To analyse the status of the existing contingency plan and to identify gaps, efforts to enhance communication and early warning systems, the pre-positioning of food stocks and local authorities’ allocation of relocation sites are underway in the area. A simulation exercise is scheduled to take place 2 – 3 August and include both the GoH and the international community.

Jacmel

More than 40 000 persons have received healthcare services through mobile clinics since the earthquake. Many are transitioning from mobile units into fixed clinics and strengthening the pre-existing health structures. All health cluster meetings are chaired by the Ministry of Health (MSPP).

Site preparation continues for the Mayard relocation site, where work on the drainage system is currently underway. CCCM Cluster partners have agreed that relocation activities will commence in early August. For this relocation approximately 200 individuals are planned to be moved from Pinchinat to Mayard.

A mitigation assessment was conducted by members of the Multi-cluster Mitigation Task Force. During the evaluation, 5 sites (Pinchinat, Wolf 1, Wolf 3, Saint Helene, and Portail Léogâne) were identified as mitigation risks. Assessments for habitability are also being carried out in the region.

Petit Goave

CCCM Cluster partners continue to carry out the process of registration in Petit Goâve, but have finished in Grand Goave.

A medical assessment was carried out in Haut Cupidon, Petit-Goâve, by Samaritan’s Purse in order to evaluate the most common health problems of the IDPs. Officials from the DPC continue to participate in training sessions carried out by the CCCM. Three more sessions are planned for the upcoming weeks.

HUMANITARIAN UPDATES: BY CLUSTER

Shelter/non-food items (NFIs)

To date 6,868 transitional shelters have been constructed, housing more than 34,000 people with a safer place to live. Shelter Cluster agencies are planning to complete 135,000 transitional shelters by summer 2011. An additional 16,100 transitional shelters are already in country. Furthermore, replacement tents and tarpaulins are being distributed, with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) alone planning to reach 500,000 people with new emergency shelter materials.

Shelter agencies are scaling up their contingency stock.

Gaps & Challenges

The greatest challenge at present is to pass from the emergency phase to transition. Issues that require resolution include those of land ownership, support for renters, and debris removal.

Camp coordination/camp management (CCCM)

Following several weeks of preparations and after numerous assessments, the relocation of 685 IDPs from Camp Fleurieux to Camp Corail Sector 3 took place from 22 June to 24 June. Subsequent relocations of IDPs from vulnerable camps are planned.

CCCM continues to provide weekly training to NGOs, officials from the GoH/DPC as well as camp committee members. In preparation for the hurricane season, flyers with crucial information on storm preparedness are being distributed to the camp committees and to camp management partners. In the camp of Santo 17 in Croix-des-Bouquets, the installation of lighting points and solar panels was completed last week in cooperation with the NGO Electriciens Sans Frontiers.

Education

The use of schools as shelters has both long-term and cost implications which are problematic according to Education cluster members. At a
meeting organized by the DPC, cluster partners highlighted this and the need for a clearly defined exit strategy when choosing schools as emergency shelters. The DPC agreed that schools will be the "last" choice destination for emergency evacuation.

Health

To ensure that current health coverage continues, a minimum package of health services has been developed and agencies working in camps were requested to work in a complementary way in order to ensure that all aspects are covered.

The Ministry of Health (MSPP) has recommend that all mobile health clinics work in collaboration with fixed healthcare facilities within their area to ensure the transition from humanitarian assistance to sustainable provision of care, regardless of whether the facility is public, private or NGO managed. The MSPP created a mechanism in which referred patients from mobile clinics, children under five and pregnant women can access health services free of charge at 27 designated healthcare facilities across the country for the next few months, representing a capacity of approximately 2500 beds.

The MSPP announced on July 20th, their national malaria rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) policy in an effort to standardise diagnostic procedures across the country. The MSPP is planning several training activities across the country to promote quality assurance and adherence to this new policy. For maternal and neonatal care, 43 institutions are now providing free obstetrical services and more institutions (32 candidacies) are expected to provide similar care during the second phase, which began on July 1st.

For rehabilitation services, the MSSP and partners continue to support seven orthopedic workshops for the fabrication and adaption of prosthesis to support 1500 amputees. Handicap International has 12 satellite sites providing rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities. In addition, the Cuban brigade is working with 20 hospitals to provide rehabilitation services. In July psychiatrists and psychologists conducted a workshop for mental health professionals focusing on a culturally sensitive approach for psychological care.

It is important to highlight the fact that there has been no significant change in the trend of the transmission of infectious diseases, largely due to the continuing work of the MSPP and Health Cluster members. MSPP and collaborators continue to strengthen the national surveillance system and laboratory.

Agriculture

FAO participated in a multi-agency rapid assessment mission to evaluate the damage incurred by the flooding last week in Artibonite, affecting agricultural land in Grande Saline, l’Estere, Dessalines, Verrettes and Petite Riviere de l’Artibonite. The mission discovered that 50 hectares of agricultural land was flooded and 600 families displaced as a result of the flooding of the river damaging dykes, caused by the heavy rains and exacerbated by the opening of the Pelique Dam security valves. There remains a risk of additional dykes breaking and flooding more homes and a larger area of agricultural land.

FAO has finalized its contingency plan for the hurricane season in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture (MARNDR). A plan has been elaborated which entails pre-positioning seed stock in chronically vulnerable areas, and distribution plans have been put in place.
A joint FAO-WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission, visited all departments and areas that produce agricultural products. Participants in the mission discussed with farmers, business owners and NGOs the impact of the earthquake and their views on this growing season and also facilitated a dialogue with the National Centre on Food Security (CNSA). The mission audited all the crop production data in the country and will provide strategic planning information to the MARNDR, WFP, FAO and all cluster partners.

The visits to markets and discussions with local actors throughout the country have helped confirm questions of availability, price and of the role of markets. Except for locally produced beans, prices in markets were found to be lower than the previous year, due in part to successful harvests of rice, corn and tubers. Across Haiti, markets are well stocked with a variety of local products such as tubers, vegetables and fruits. By contrast, rice for sale in markets was found to be predominantly imported, as are many sorts of beans, corn flour and wheat. Despite estimations of productive harvests this year, Haiti’s food security depends largely on international price fluctuations of imported products, the price of fuel as well as exchange rates.

The impact of the earthquake on food security has been serious. Soil preparation was put off in areas directly affected and damage to tools and equipment also posed a problem. The sudden influx of imported food aid also reduced selling prices drastically for both livestock and agricultural products.

Seed and material distributions contribute to the Agriculture Cluster summer planting season campaign where cluster partners plan to provide assistance to families in both earthquake affected zones, and in non-affected zones wherein host communities will be targeted.

Nutrition

The Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) working group began data collection in 34 baby tents with a series of techniques to measure the impact of the use of Ready-to-use infant formula. The first phase was completed and the second phase will begin the week of 23 July. The Cluster has continued monitoring the Points de Conceil en Nutrition Pour Bebe (PCNB). In Léogane and Gheskio, Children’s Nutrition Program Nutrition cluster partners will follow up on the breastfeeding training that was completed by UNICEF and WHO for all department focal points with a psychosocial training of trainers who work on breastfeeding support and counseling.

Acute malnutrition has been treated since the start of the response in January. A total of 3,252 children between six and fifty-nine months have been admitted in outpatient therapeutic feeding centers between January and June. Between January and June 633 children aged six to fifty-nine months have been admitted to inpatient stabilization centers. There has been an increase in admissions into some selective feeding centers reported, though this is likely due to improved reporting, as well as possibly a reflection of increased children at risk of malnutrition, in line with seasonal trends.

Logistics

The 1,500 metric tonne barge chartered by WFP and the Logistics Cluster for an initial three-month-period in June is currently shuttling between Port-au-Prince and Santo Domingo. It is expected that within the next 10-14 days the voyages between the two countries will be completed and the barge will then perform northbound and southbound voyages from Port-au-Prince, depending on cargo movement requirements and in case of road failure.

So far in July 850 metric tonnes of predominantly shelter, food, agriculture and WASH commodities have been dispatched by road across the earthquake affected area. 17 metric tonnes of relief items have been delivered by helicopter to Dufour, Petit Goave, Grande Goave, Hinche, Gonaives, Les Cayes and Jeremie.

Gaps & Challenges

The Logistics Cluster Warehouse No 3 in Croix-des-Bouquets, an open storage compound for organisations to set up and manage their own Mobile Storage Units, is nearly full. The Logistics Cluster will continue to assess the needs and will look into alternate storage options as and if required.

Water and Sanitation (WASH)
WASH and Shelter clusters are developing a common approach concerning the construction of transitional shelters and the integration of WASH facilities where the shelters are being built.

As minimum water supply needs are being met for 1.2 million people, the provision of water will increase to 10 litres per person, per day up from 5 liters per person, per day. WASH cluster partners have also reached the goal of providing enough people with access latrines. With 11,500 latrines constructed and a further 4,500 under construction or in the pipeline, this figure of less than 200 people per latrine is projected to reduce to 100 per latrine by October.

**Gaps & Challenges**

With free safe water supplies set to phase out by the end of the year, alternative strategies are now being finalised to ensure that the most vulnerable continue to have access to safe drinking water in line with the ‘beyond water trucking’ strategy endorsed by the Cluster in May.

Hydro-geological survey is required in the Léogane area prior to approving the drilling of new boreholes as the aquifers have been affected by the earthquake. Oxfam is in discussion with DINEPA.

WASH cluster partners estimate that latrine construction rates are grossly under-reported and that use is over-estimated, thus the rate of use is already within an acceptable range. Access to bathing facilities and functioning hand washing stations remains too low at an average 417 per facility.

**CROSS CUTTING ISSUES**

**Contingency planning**

As outlined earlier in the Bulletin, contingency planning is a central issue as the peak of the hurricane season approaches. In particular contingency planning coordinators are working to map existing supplies and identify gaps, with Oxfam providing support in mapping INGO assets.

**Gender**

Following assessments carried out from June until 26 July regarding efforts to facilitate a more secure environment for women in camps, 75 solar-powered lights were procured by UNFPA for lighting strategic areas such as latrines and bathing facilities. Partners in the Gender cluster spoke with community groups about their concerns for women in camps, and the installation of lights was the response to this professed need. To date, 72 lights have been allocated for 34 sites in Port-au-Prince, Petit Goave, Grand Goave, Léogane and Jacmel. The placement of the lights is currently ongoing and envisaged to be finalised by mid-September.

**Communication**

After the opening in Corail on July 12, the caravan *Koute Ayiti* (Listening to Haiti) went on tour to Petit Goave, Grand Goave and Jacmel. In an effort to promote dialogue and awareness on key issues such as disaster preparedness and Gender-Based Violence (GBV), the caravan is a platform for communicating with people across Haiti. Representatives from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Gender, Haitian National Police, and NGOs like Oxfam and Samaritan’s Purse took part. International Medical Corps and Merlin sponsored mobile health clinics and information booths. The caravan will stop on 30 July in Saint Marc, 1 August in Léogane and finish at Champ de Mars in Port-au-Prince on 4 August. See this link for more information:


The Haitian Red Cross and the IFRC continue with their weekly radio broadcast every Wednesday at 3pm on Radio One. The last two radio shows focused on a vaccination campaign with the Ministry of Health and on disaster preparedness. IFRC also ran a pilot disaster preparedness SMS/text message campaign targeting 14,000 Voila subscribers and around Port-de-Paix. Over six days they sent out a question by SMS on landslides, flooding and follow up information.

In the last two weeks of July, Action Contre la Faim (ACF) has been facilitating theatre performances on hygiene promotion, breastfeeding and child healthcare in more than 20 sites in Port-au-Prince. Each performance was followed by an open discussion with the local population.

In support of local media, radio equipment was procured to stations in Léogane (Cool FM), Petit Goâve (Radio Men Kontre) and Jacmel (Radio Télédiffusion Jacmelienne and Radio Express) on 24 July. Part of the ongoing OCHA/CDAC Media Assistance program, further media organisations and radio stations are due to benefit from this effort in the way of training and equipment donations.

In an effort to promote gender equality among media professionals UNESCO and REFRAKA (*Rezo Fann Radyo Kominote Ayisyen*) is holding a training of 15 female journalists and radio hosts from different
regions across Haiti. A network of 26 women’s community radio stations, REFRAKA has been incorporated in Haiti since 2001. This three-day training concentrated on production of reports and shows, interviewing techniques, editing of radio reports and included the provision of recording equipment. UNESCO provided further support with the provision of a production studio in Port-au-Prince which will enable the association to produce its own radio programs. A video of this training can be seen at the following link:

http://www.youtube.com/user/UNESCOHaiti#p/a/u/1/TDwW4ZsDKto

FUNDING

Financial Tracking System (FTS)
According to the FTS, the revised Humanitarian Appeal of US$ 1.5 billion is 66.8% funded at US$ 981 million, with another US$ 19,014,697 in uncommitted pledges.

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