



**HAITI:
SITUATION REPORT # 25
Tropical Storm Hanna, Gustav, Ike update
24 October 2008**

OVERVIEW OF THE SITUATION

The United Nations Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, John Holmes, today completed a two-day visit to Haiti. The main purpose of his visit was to review progress in addressing the overall humanitarian situation in the country, as well as in responding to the needs arising from the hurricanes and tropical storms that recently struck Haiti; and finally to appeal for more and faster assistance. Discussions on disaster preparedness are also top on the agenda of his visit.

On 23 October, Mr. Holmes met with the country's leaders including the Prime Minister Michele Pierre-Louis, representatives of the United Nations Stabilisation Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), of UN agencies and of non-governmental organisations working in Haiti. Today 24 October, Mr. Holmes visited the city of Gonaives, one of the areas worst affected by the storms. The visit concluded with a meeting with President Rene Preval.

Update on relief efforts:

Health: As of 24 October, no health epidemic has been identified. On 22 October, WHO organized the distribution of 30,000 mosquito nets in Gonaives purchased for women by IOM. UNFPA has recruited a pool of health care professionals to provide health care for women in Port de Paix and Gonaives. UNFPA is distributing 15 safe delivery kits to 5 maternity units.

Nutrition: In Gonaives, MDM reports a 22.6% increase of cases of moderate malnutrition amongst children between 5 and 59 months of those that were brought for consultations to their mobile clinics over a one-week period. A nutrition survey began on 22 October and will last for 10 days in collaboration with ACF and PSF and with financial support from UNICEF.

Agriculture: The FAO has distributed seeds to farmers in Gonaives and has submitted funding proposals to rehabilitate irrigation systems and provide agricultural inputs.

Food: WFP has distributed over one million food rations to 566,119 direct beneficiaries affected by the disaster in nine departments of the country. WFP continues to airlift food commodities with its three helicopters to beneficiaries in locations inaccessible by road.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH): The WASH Cluster in Gonaives has identified as a priority the expansion of water distribution activities into new areas. As a result, they have increased activities, to try to deliver 10 l/p/day to 100,000 people.

Education: The target date for the start of the official school year in Gonaives is 10 November. Education materials and furniture are required for schools serving as shelters.

Shelter and Non-Food Items: The Emergency Shelter Cluster website has been launched:

<http://groups.google.com/group/emergency-shelter-haiti>

Invitations to access the website are to be requested by e-mail to the Shelter Cluster Coordination Team: clusterabrisanahaiti@gmail.com

Early Recovery: The clean-up programme managed by the Mayor's office started on 23 October and is focusing on Gonaives city centre. Twenty-five thousand people are now employed in cash-for-work programmes in Gonaives, 10,000 on the clean-up operations and 15,000 on anti-erosion watershed management activities.

SITUATION AND RESPONSE BY CLUSTER

WATER, HYGIENE AND SANITATION (WASH)

Post-Disaster Needs Assessment

WASH has worked closely with CEPA, UNDP, SNEP and the World Bank to produce a post-disaster recovery strategy of 18 months for the water, sanitation and hygiene sector. The estimated budget for losses and the required repairs in the WASH sector was estimated at **27.5 million USD**, excluding the Gonaives clean-up. The national inventory on water systems continues, and will soon be finalized. A second inventory to look at damage to sanitation infrastructure has started. Results to date for water systems are:

	No. Networks	Users	Budget (USD)
Badly Damaged By Hurricanes	158	999,000	3,200,000
Some Damage by Hurricanes	303	2,700,000	4,600,000
Not Affected by Hurricanes	57	357,000	-
Not Functioning before Hurricanes	62	440,000	-
Under Construction	10	62,000	

Water distribution in Gonaives

- The WASH Cluster in Gonaives has identified expansion of water distribution activities into new areas as a priority in the coming weeks, including Trou de Sable and Asifa. MSF and Intermon are now operating in both of these neighborhoods.
- MSF, ACF, Intermon, and Spanish RC are distributing water through bladders and tap stands. MSF-B estimates that only 5 l/p/day are in fact being distributed to communities. As a result, they have increased activities (production/distribution), to try to deliver 10 l/p/day to 100,000 people.
- More resources are required to improve water distribution, including funds for water tankers and rolls of Polyethylene pipe.
- UNICEF and WASH Cluster are working to boost resources for water trucking operations in the short-term. A proposal for funding will be submitted to the ERR Fund.
- Oxfam GB is working with SNEP to reactivate the water-testing laboratory. To date, all water tests have been negative for faecal coliforms.

	SRC	Intermon	MSF	ACF	Total
Distribution (m ³ /d)	250	70	545	465	1,330
Capacity (m ³ /d)	300	80	1,000	400	1,780

- Intermon Oxfam is producing 640m³ of water at Desdunes in the Artibonite department, which is distributed through the SNEP network.

Exit Strategies Gonaives

A meeting to coordinate repairs to the water distribution network took place in Gonaives, with SNEP, ACF, MSF and IOM taking part. Following the meeting, IOM undertook some emergency repairs on the main delivery line. CEPA is visiting Gonaives and checking on progress on a periodic basis.

Well-Cleaning

A meeting was held in Gonaives between the major players for well rehabilitation (MSF, ACF, AMURT, SRC and Oxfam). In the coming week, two PAHO/WHO staff will arrive to assist with the coordination of well cleaning activities. This will be done in close collaboration with DSA. In total, it is planned to clean around 5,000 wells. The strategy is as follows:

- Establishing joint protocols (selection criteria + technical specifications)
- Creation of a joint data collection sheet
- Disinfection (through chlorination)
- Setting up a water monitoring system
- Establishing a work plan for activities

Sanitation & Hygiene in Gonaives

The WASH Cluster in Gonaives assessment of the situation continues to be that the "situation remains critical and that more actors are required on the ground". Sanitary conditions in the majority of temporary shelters are poor.

- Oxfam continues community mobilisation for hygiene in shelters, while ACF and MSF are promoting hygiene at community water points.
- Both ACF and MSF are distributing hygiene kits in neighbourhoods where they work (in total, MSF plans to distribute 20,000 kits, and ACF 10,000 kits).
- In Gonaives the average water distribution of the Spanish Red Cross is 250.000 liters per day and the hygiene promotion campaign continues, placing special emphasis on schools and water distribution points. The campaign is carried out by volunteers of the Haitian Red Cross, and supported with visual images and messages in the Creole language.

Oxfam's progress in building emergency latrines and shower units has stalled. There are concerns that they will be unable to use their budget before the project closing date, and that funding will be lost. Lack of a "shelter in place policy" is to blame.

ACTED has expressed some interest in becoming involved in the rehabilitation of sanitary infrastructure in Gonaives in the near future.

IOM has 1,540 water containers available that they are willing to donate to other agencies for distribution. They have a stock of disinfectant/chlorine that is also available for other agencies. CRS has started cleaning a number of schools and health facilities. A football match was organized on 12 October, close to the large-scale water treatment line near Roche Plat in Gonaives. At the beginning of the soccer match there was a hygiene promotion campaign for the population.

Situation in the South-East

The Spanish Red Cross and the Haitian Red Cross continue to distribute water; in Cote-de-Fer 15,000 litres and in Cayes Jacmel, La Crobat, Marigot and Peredó 30,000 litres. "World Global Washing Day" (October 15) was promoted in Gonaives and the South East by distributing soap in schools and at water distribution points.

Waste Management Clean-Up

UNEP has conducted a study to look at both the physical cleaning of Gonaives as well as using mud from the floods to build a protective embankment on the Quinte river. The planned timeframe for the UNEP plan would be approximately 2 years. IOM has also brought in an environmental expert. Needs for drainage, clean-up activities and the removal of trees from slopes were identified in Marigot and Cote-de-Fer in the South-East. Discussions on ways of tackling these issues, possibly using CFW, are being discussed with WASH partners.

HEALTH

As of 24 October, no health epidemic has been identified (MSPP, WHO, CDC). Epidemiological monitoring continues with all partners on the ground.

On 22 October, WHO organized the distribution of 30,000 mosquito nets purchased for women by IOM. The operation took place simultaneously in 31 centres throughout the city and mobilized eight lorries, six vehicles and almost 200 people. Another distribution is planned for November.

UNFPA has recruited a pool of health care professionals to provide health care for women in affected areas. A group of five (2 midwives, 2 anaesthesiologists, 1 gynaecologist) has been deployed to

Port de Paix (Hospital Immaculee Conception). Three others (1 anaesthesiologist, 1 gynaecologist and 1 midwife) are in Gonaives and provide health care services to pregnant women. A midwife will be deployed to Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite to reinforce the maternity capacity.

The distribution of 15 safe delivery kits is underway to maternities in Gonaives, Les Cayes, Jacmel, Petion-Ville and Carrefour.

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

The Government of Haiti has announced its plans to reopen schools as of 10 November in Gonaives. Rapid assessments will take place in all schools used as shelters to establish the ability of families to return to their dwellings, provided they receive shelter kits to enable their return in safety and with dignity. Durable solutions away from temporary shelter sites continue to be identified in partnership with authorities for those who will not be able to return.

The shelter cluster emphasizes that moving the displaced to tents in the context of a hurricane season does not present any benefit. The makeshift tent site at Praville initially hosted 145 families and now hosts 190 families. IOM is working to improve conditions with MDM. MDM will establish a mobile clinic in the district and provide services to the community in and around the site. A second site called Ebenezer has formed with 44 tents. Both present acute vulnerability to further natural disasters and all efforts should be made to avoid that such makeshift camps multiply.

In Gonaives, daily population monitoring after the IOM/MAST rapid shelter assessment that took place during the first week of October already allows to distinguish some population movement trends. From 9 October to 22 October the estimated number of families in shelters decreased from 6,619 to 3,393. This considerable decline in the number of emergency shelter residents comes along with noteworthy population movements between shelters. On the one hand, some emergency shelters such as Marché Jubilé, which hosted an estimated number of 695 families is now closed as of 9 October. Families, who took refuge in this newly built structure, voluntarily returned to their homes.

On the other hand, 6 shelters witnessed a significant increase of number of IDPs over the last two weeks; Lycée Bicentenaire, on Avenue de Dattes, being the most telling example. On 9 October, an estimated number of 90 families were living in this shelter. In less than two weeks, the population of this shelter increased more than 188%, or 170 families, to reach, as of 21 October, a total estimated number of 260 families, i.e., approximately 1,300 persons.

Distributions that take place at shelter sites do not appear to be responsible for shelter-to-shelter movements. Rather, it results from the threat of eviction at many private schools, which encourages some families to relocate to public schools where there is a greater sense of housing security. Figures resulting from this week's rapid shelter assessment, meanwhile, show that the majority of those leaving shelters tend to return home or settle with host families. This should lead the cluster to focus its resources on documenting the situation of host families and accompany the returnees with NFI and shelter kit distributions. Mid to long term options need to be identified for the caseload that will remain permanently displaced because of total loss of housing.

To date, ACDI/VOCA, Care, Caritas, Christian Aid, CRS, Concern Worldwide, IOM, Oxfam GB and Intermon, PADF, Samaritan's Purse, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Vision and distributing partners, ACF, ACTED, BND, Concern Project International, MDM, MSH, Terre des Hommes and WHO have covered approximately 26% of NFI needs (based on damage assessments performed by the Civil Protection Unit).

AGRICULTURE

A technical team lead by the FAO Representative visited Gonaives, Gros Morne and Plaisance from 8 to 9 October 2008. FAO distributed 175 Kg of vegetable seeds to 1750 rural families living in the low plain of Gonaives (Bayonnais, Dubédou, La Branle and Mangnan Basin) and 2 MT of bean seeds to farmers.

Currently FAO has submitted:

- A proposal to ECHO for the handing-over operation of 4 irrigation systems and for support in agricultural inputs for 15,000 families.
- Two proposals to CGF (ACDI) for the rehabilitation of 4 other irrigation systems and to provide support in agricultural inputs for 2,500 families.

FOOD

Since the beginning of the emergency response, WFP has distributed over one million food rations to 566,119 direct beneficiaries affected by the disaster in nine departments of the country. WFP continues to airlift food commodities with its three helicopters to beneficiaries in locations inaccessible by road.

The isolated island of Ile de la Tortue, in the North-West department, received food aid on 23 October. Some 28 metric tons of food were delivered by WFP helicopter for distributions to beneficiaries by Caritas. WFP programme staff were on site to discuss coordination of distributions with partner and local authorities. These deliveries are part of WFP/UNHAS emergency air operations to inaccessible areas of the country.

On 23 October, 150 metric tons of food delivered by the WFP-contracted vessel CITA II were offloaded in Miragoane, for further deliveries by Caritas in Nippes. On 22 October, in the South-East department, 8 metric tons of WFP food assistance was distributed to 1,000 beneficiaries in Port a Piment, in collaboration with Caritas. In addition, in the Nippes department, needs of 3,400 new beneficiaries in Petite Riviere de Nippes and of 10,000 in Trou de Nippes were covered.

On 22 October, WFP delivered by helicopter some 28 metric tons of food to Passe Catabois in the North-West department.

In the South-East department, WFP has been delivering food assistance along the coast with a special landing craft able to stop and deliver food to isolated coastal communities. A third WFP 6x6 truck was deployed to the area on 21 October in order to reinforce the road transport capacity to isolated communities off the coast. New beneficiaries were reached in Nippes on 21 October: 200 beneficiaries in Fonds des Negres and 6,375 in Anse a Veau.

Gonaives

To date, WFP has distributed some 3,687MT of food assistance to Gonaives, which corresponds to 707,086 fortnightly rations distributed to 266,670 beneficiaries. Daily food deliveries of an average 200 metric tons by road are ongoing and will continue until the contracted MV Grace vessel becomes available for steady supplies. Food rations were distributed in Bassin Magnan and Declin to some 10,780 beneficiaries participating in the joint WFP/ILO food-for-work land rehabilitation activities.

The rapid family census exercise in Gonaives was completed on 22 October. Data entry will be completed over the coming days and the number of beneficiaries will be defined in all sectors for large-scale food distributions. Each family will receive a WFP ration card.

PROTECTION: Gonaives

The Protection Cluster is planning to establish a "who does what where" to establish the capacity of the different partners in Gonaives. A protection monitoring form will be developed with regards to reporting/response to violations in shelters and against other vulnerable populations. If forced evictions were to take place from the temporary shelters, Protection Cluster members will attempt to carry out onsite monitoring of potential human rights violations. The information will be used to respond to violations as well as to work on prevention.

The Protection Cluster closely interacts with the Shelter and other clusters in raising protection issues related to provision of assistance. There are increasing reports of violence within the displaced and affected communities.

As part of the shelter assessment, the Protection Cluster will attempt to verify reports that many people have lost their identity documents and subsequently see how the process of re-obtaining documentation can be facilitated.

LOGISTICS/EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Logistics Cluster is entering a new phase with exit strategies being set up to delegate the services to WFP and official bodies within a month.

There is a consistent drop of items moved. Cargo movement is no longer the main focus. Priority is given for cargo to inaccessible areas.

Although some security incidents with convoys are reported; the security situation remains calm in spite of non-violent demonstrations in various parts of the country (3 or 4 per day).

Air transport

On 21 October, medical equipment has been carried to Fort Liberte for WHO as well as ICT items for UNDP.

The UNHAS daily rotations to Gonaives have allowed the transport of logistics and ICT items for IOM and WFP.

Several rotations to the inaccessible area of Tifon were conducted on 17 October for the Haitian Red Cross delivering household items.

Road transport

The deployment of an inter-agency fleet of trucks is being set up for the coming weeks and could be delegated to HI/Atlas in 5 areas: Les Cayes, PAP, Gonaives, Cap Haitian and Jacmel. The trucks available would be 6 wheel drive M620 trucks with a capacity of 3.5 MT to remote areas.

OPEN ROUTE SERVICE will be launched on Monday and the map/road condition services will be taken over by the National Center of Geo Spatial Information (CNIGS Haiti). The link to this service will soon be available on the cluster's website.

Roads conditions update

- The road from Port Salut / Les Anglais is passable by light vehicles only;
- Miragoane is passable although some delays are recorded due to blocked trucks;
- Miragoane-Cote de Fer : accessible only by 4x4 vehicles;
- Very bad road conditions between Gris-Gris and Petit-Goave;
- The road from Marigot towards the DR is inaccessible;
- Road between PAP and Jimany flooded at Malpasse, but the shuttle bus PAP-DR is passing;
- Road between Cap Haitian and Pignon, passable as well as the by-pass.

Information Communication Technologies:

Latest updates relating to ICT in Haiti are now published on Logistics Cluster website with a special folder for the Inter-Agency Emergency Telecommunications (IAET). The link is:

<http://www.logcluster.org/ht08a/iaet-telecom>

The ICT cluster inter-agency cyber cafe remains in the MINUSTAH compound and will be open for the next three months, at least up to mid-January 2009. WFP strongly recommends NGOs and agencies to start identifying options for their connectivity beyond January 2009 as, for example, the option of a V-Sat might take several weeks or months to be installed.

The inter-agency radio room is temporarily installed at the WFP office in the MINUSTAH compound but will be relocated to the port.

II. COORDINATION / ASSESSMENTS

Water and Sanitation Needs Assessments

ACF has completed their needs assessment visit to Mamon, where food security, nutrition and water were identified as key priorities. UNICEF will support an integrated ACF response to this area. A project proposal will be prepared for OCHA for ERR funds to buy ceramic water filters for these villages, where diarrhoea rates are extremely high.

ACTED has just completed needs assessments in Bas-Artibonite, and has identified a number of activities, including: Rehabilitation of infrastructure (roads & river embankments); food security (CFW); and WASH. ACTED has recently recruited a GIS expert and is willing to assist the WASH Cluster with GIS mapping. Assessment details to be shared with WASH Cluster in the coming week.

There is possible need for a water treatment plant in St Michel de l'Attalaye. Discussions are taking place with CRS/Caritas and an assessment will take place next week.

World Lutheran Federation (LWF) has completed assessments in Bodarie, St. Julien, Bas-Pichon and Mapou (4-networks) in the South-East. Funds for rehabilitation works are available, but further funding may be required. A proposal will be submitted to UNICEF.

A joint OCHA/UNICEF field visit took place in the South-East (Jacmel, Cayes-Jacmel, Marigot and Cote-de-Fer). The findings were that there are still communal sections in the hills behind Cayes-Jacmel and Marigot, which remain inaccessible. Cash-for-Work activities are required to clean-up/improve drainage in Marigot as in Cote-de-Fer. Water distribution is adequate, and UNDP has started some repair work on water systems. Repair of the Cote-de-Fer water system is a priority.

There are reports of water distribution problems in the area surrounding Leogane in the West department. A needs assessment for the area will be organised with Service Œcuménique d'Entraide next week.

Oxfam GB is planning activities in Nippes and in Miragoane. One activity being considered is water distribution from a Bomberos Sin Fronteiras plant at Miragoane hospital. A proposal for funding is being submitted to UNICEF. Activities include CFW in Miragoane and rehabilitation of 3-water networks. Cleaning of irrigation canals, using CFW will also be undertaken in a number of locations.

Immediate needs have been identified for drinking water in Tiburon in the South department. A proposal for the rehabilitation of water systems has been submitted to UNICEF by CRS/Caritas. A solution to address immediate needs will be discussed with CRS/Caritas, and the WASH Cluster will try to assist through mobilizing resources.

Inputs for the situation report can be sent to:

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Reports and maps about the situation in Haiti can be found on <http://ochaonline.un.org/haiti>
http://www.mapaction.org/component/option,com_docman/task,cat_view/gid,164/Itemid,53/

Regular updates on Road transport, Road Conditions as well as Road Condition Matrix can be found at <http://www.logcluster.org/ht08a/road-transport/roads-condition-map>