

# HAITI: Hurricane Matthew

## Situation Report No. 14 (21 October 2016)



This report is produced by OCHA Haiti in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA Haiti and covers the period of 19-21 October 2016. The next report will be issued on 24 October.

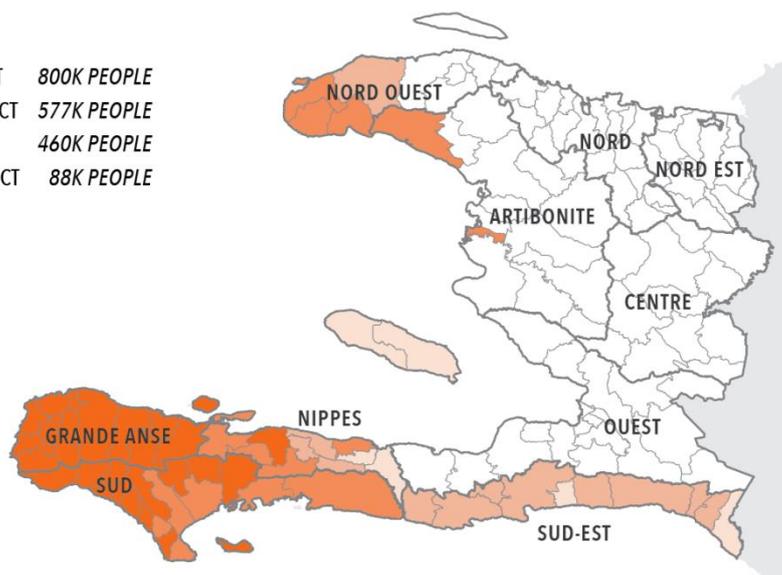
## Highlights

- **894,057 children** are among the **2.1 million** affected people.
- **112,500 children under five** are at risk of **acute malnutrition**.
- **2,271 cholera cases** suspected between 4-19 October alone.
- **806,000 people** need urgent food assistance.
- **36 health facilities** destroyed.

### IMPACT LEVELS OF FOOD INSECURITY

EXTREME IMPACT	800K PEOPLE
VERY HIGH IMPACT	577K PEOPLE
HIGH IMPACT	460K PEOPLE
MODERATE IMPACT	88K PEOPLE

K = 1,000



**2.1 million**  
Affected people

Source: UN and Government

**1.4 million**  
People need aid

Source: UN and Government

**806,000**  
People are food-insecure

Source: UN and Government

**175,500**  
People displaced

Source: UN and Government

## Situation Overview

On 4 October, Hurricane Matthew violently struck Haiti and resulted in the country's largest humanitarian emergency since the 2010 earthquake. It caused extensive flooding and mudslides, damage to road infrastructure and buildings, as well as electricity and water shortages. The latest figures from the governmental Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC) of Haiti have so far confirmed 546 deaths and 438 injured as a result of the hurricane.

Though access continues to be gained to more affected areas, the poor conditions and lack of infrastructure – especially in the rural areas – continue to impede progress to the more remote parts of the country. Humanitarian needs are said to include access to a sufficient supply of quality water, education, shelter, child protection, health, and nutrition. The people in urgent food insecurity are located in areas where over 75 per cent of the population was affected by the hurricane. These include places where livelihood activities related to agriculture, livestock and fishing have been almost completely destroyed, such as crops, farming equipment, stocks, and trade.

Of the 1.4 million people who need humanitarian assistance, more than 40 per cent are children who are mainly in the Grand'Anse and Sud Departments. Another estimated 40 per cent – approximately 546,000 people – are women of reproductive age.

Following the government's announcement to close temporary shelters with no plans to establish camps, there is a growing fear that displaced people will cause overcrowding in the homes of families and friends, or on the streets. UN agencies have also reported migration from rural areas to the towns as people look for food.

[www.unocha.org/hurricane-matthew](http://www.unocha.org/hurricane-matthew)

The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.

**Coordination Saves Lives**

Exacerbating the pre-existing displacement crisis of tens of thousands of Haitians returning from the neighboring Dominican Republic, concerns have increased about the safety of children and families, especially with the increased risk of food insecurity, malnutrition, and vulnerability to violence – including sex- and gender-based violence (SGBV), exploitations, and disease. As of July 2016, an estimated 131,000 people were registered crossing the border towards Haiti, including 34.8 per cent women.



Agencies have expressed serious concerns about the risk of increased violence, exploitation, and abuse against women and girls in Haiti, where a national study on SGBV already showed a significantly high number of SGBV cases prior to the hurricane (*see infographic, data source: UNFPA*).

## Funding

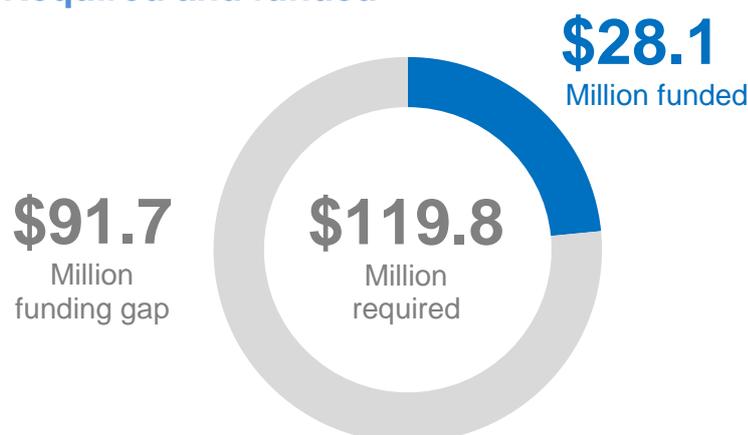
The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in Haiti, in coordination with the Government and other partners, launched on 10 October 2016 a Flash Appeal seeking **US\$119.8 million** in emergency funding to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs of 750,000 people, including 315,000 children, for the following three months. Member States and donor agencies are slowly responding to the appeal but the needs are becoming increasingly urgent. Targeting vulnerable groups in identified priority sectors, the appeal takes into account the capacities of the national level and humanitarian partners on the ground. Partners are developing individual projects to support sector activities and financial requirements identified in the appeal while adapting their response to the results of the most recent assessments undertaken.

In-kind contributions have also been made to extend support to the Government of Haiti in response to the humanitarian emergency. These contributions have included the supply of helicopters to facilitate assessment by air in hard-to-reach areas, and the provision of food and NFIs.

Almost immediately after Hurricane Matthew, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) released \$6.6 million to address the most urgent needs of the affected people. CERF also released a loan of \$8 million to UNICEF to scale up response to the worsening cholera epidemic. A limited number of Member States, agencies, and institutions have so far contributed, or pledged to contribute, to the collective response to the humanitarian crisis.

### Flash Appeal: Required and funded

Source: FTS



Humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS) (<http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by emailing [fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org). Inquiries from the private sector for offers of in-kind and pro-bono services can be directed to [pss@un.org](mailto:pss@un.org). Commercial offers are invited to visit <http://www.ungm.org> for more information.

## Humanitarian Needs/Response



### Food Security

#### Needs:

- More than 806,000 people are at extreme food insecurity in the affected areas.

#### Response:

- On 19 October, the Government announced it is stepping up efforts to help the affected people in seven departments. In addition to \$775,000 from the disbursed emergency funds transferred directly to communities, the Government has also shipped more than 468.54MT of food, including 165 tons of rice and 130,000 of water. The two shipments which left Port-au-Prince on 18 and 19 October to the affected areas were accompanied by staff from the DPC to oversee the distributions.
- During the week ending on 19 October, approximately 100 families in Jérémie received 1,450 food parcels, which included 12.5kg rice, 3kg sugar, 2.5L oil, 2kg spaghetti, 5 sardine tins, 5 tomato paste sachets, and 5 milk tins. In cooperation with the Government, the NGO also distributed coupons to families without shelter as a priority. These distributions took place at the police station, were 25 armed police secured the process. Around 100 families in Miragoâne also received food parcels.
- From 8 to 20 October, WFP reached 173,100 people with 1,150MT of food.

#### Gaps and Constraints:

- There still remain areas that are inaccessible by car for distributions, especially due to the weather conditions and the damaged infrastructure.



### Health and Nutrition

#### Needs:

- An estimated 900,000 people are expected to need vaccinations in the most affected areas.
- Nearly 112,500 children under age five are at risk of acute malnutrition.
- Around 2,271 suspected cases of cholera reported between 4-19 October alone.

#### Response:

- UNICEF is working with Ministry of Health and the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) to organize vaccination for 900,000 people in the most affected areas.

#### Gaps and Constraints:

- There are concerns that unsolicited donations of breast-milk substitutes could jeopardize breast-feeding practices and increase the risk of illness due to contamination when using unsafe water preparing the formula.
- An estimated \$5.8 million for health and \$1.2 million for nutrition are needed to cover immediate life-saving needs in the two sectors.
- Restoring basic health and nutrition services particularly for women and children remains a priority.
- Cholera remains a major threat, with an increased number of suspected cases to be confirmed.



### Education

#### Needs:

- An estimated 116,000 children are out of school. This number is likely to rise as schools continue being used as shelters. In Catiche, the only building standing is a school that was built in 2013.

#### Response:

- Since 18 October, 20 schools have so far reopened in Les Cayes and Sud.

#### Gaps and Constraints:

- An estimated \$2.2 million is required to meet immediate education needs of the affected children.



### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

#### Needs:

- An estimated 36,900 people in Grand'Anse and Sud are targeted for health and WASH services, including 3,410 children in institutions who require WASH and nutrition assistance.

**Response:**

- Access is improving to essential WASH services and infrastructure in temporary shelters and health facilities, and the availability of essential health care with integrated sexual and reproductive health services. WASH stakeholders are being supported in identifying and addressing gaps in the public water supply system.
- As of 20 October, water purification modules have purified 255,000L of water that was distributed in 11 points in Jérémie.
- Approximately 38,000 households, or 190,000 people, for one month are expected to receive water purification tablets to meet their water treatment needs.

**Gaps and Constraints:**

- An estimated \$3.5 million is required to meet the immediate water and sanitation needs of the people.
- Anticipated rains in the affected areas are expected to further deteriorate the sanitation conditions.

**Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)****Needs:**

- More than 175,000 people are living in 307 temporary shelters, requiring emergency shelter and NFI.

**Response:**

- Today, a convoy of 13 trucks with shelter and NFI items is being sent to Les Cayes and Jérémie while distributions are ongoing in multiple locations around the four affected departments.
- On 19 October, the Government announced it is stepping up efforts to help the affected people in seven departments. In addition to \$775,000 from the disbursed emergency funds transferred directly to communities, the Government has shipped 120MT of supplies accompanied by staff from DPC to oversee distributions in the affected areas.

**Gaps and Constraints:**

- Security issues remain a challenge during distributions and finding emergency safe shelter for the displaced is a key priority.
- Emergency and safe shelter and NFI remain a critical need in the affected areas.

**Protection****Needs:**

- Close to 600,000 children are in need of some type of assistance in four Departments: Grand'Anse, South, Nippes, and North-West.
- An estimated 350,000 children need protection services against violence, exploitation and abuse.

**Response:**

- An estimated 1,000 people are being provided unconditional cash grants to meet their food, health, and other critical needs.
- The International Medical Corps (IMC) is mitigating the risks of SGBV resulting from hurricane-related displacement by improving the availability of basic support services to vulnerable women, girls, and survivors of SGBV in Grand'Anse and Sud. It also plans to create designated safe spaces for women and girls in temporary shelters and strengthen existing psychosocial and SGBV programs.

**Gaps and Constraints:**

- Due to the ongoing challenges facing its people of concern, UNICEF declared on 19 October a Level-2 emergency in the country.
- Many people including children have lost their birth certificates, preventing access to basic services including education. Addressing this is a priority for protection partners.

**Early Recovery****Response:**

- The Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation has activated the Early Recovery working group to better orient international response to the hurricane and in accordance with the recommendations of the World Humanitarian Summit of Istanbul in May 2016.
- Over 10 national and international experts, including four women, are currently supporting the DPC at national and departmental level in preparing, coordinating and planning ongoing response efforts.

- Around 512 “brigadiers” who are trained civil protection volunteers in first response have been mobilized and are currently supporting recovery efforts in the four most affected regions: Grand’Anse, Sud, Nippes, and Nord-Ouest.

#### Gaps and Constraints:

- The planting season in Haiti begins in early November. However, due to the enormous amounts of damage the hurricane has caused farming lands endanger the livelihood of hundreds of thousands of the affected people.



#### Logistics

#### Gaps and Constraints:

- There are still areas flooded and mudslides continue to hamper access, but more areas are reached each day. The two islands off the coast of Haiti, Ile des Cayemites, and parts of the central peninsula of Haiti still have not been reached.

## General Coordination

In support of national authorities and humanitarian partners and through the UN Disaster Assessment Team (UNDAC), OCHA has enhanced cooperation with the National Emergency Operations Centre (COUN), and the DPC, both at the national level in Port-au-Prince and at the department level in Sud (Les Cayes) and Grand’Anse (Jérémie). Relief is reaching the affected population and several distributions of relief items have been carried out the last couple of days. UN agencies and NGOs continue to conduct assessments in the field to identify the needs and the resources in place to provide the best coordinated response possible. Coordination mechanisms are established in Sud and Grand’Anse led by COUD/DPC and supported by UNDAC/OCHA.

Agreed procedures for requests for escorts and security for transportations and distributions are put in place. The site [haiti.humanitarianresponse.info](http://haiti.humanitarianresponse.info) is being used by humanitarian partners to share information about the response activities, sector meetings and all other relevant information. Regular coordination meetings are being scheduled in a number of sectors to facilitate humanitarian response, both in the capital and at the field level in Sud and Grand’Anse. Sectors have started to track response activities, and all incoming and some of the previously present humanitarian responders are asked to register on [www.humanitarian.id](http://www.humanitarian.id) and check into ‘Haiti’ on the website.

### Background on the crisis

Hurricane Matthew, a Category 4 storm with sustained winds of 235 km/h, violently struck Haiti on 4 October at 07h00 local time, causing widespread damage, flooding, and displacement. Causing the largest humanitarian crisis in Haiti since the 2010 earthquake, Hurricane Matthew coincides with the already increasing number of cholera cases, severe food insecurity and malnutrition in the country. The most affected departments are Grand’Anse, South, Nippes and South East. The West and North West departments were also affected.

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To be added to the OCHA Haiti Situation Report mailing list, please email: [ocha.haiti.IM@gmail.com](mailto:ocha.haiti.IM@gmail.com). UNDP has established an online donation platform where private contributions to Haiti can be made: [bit.ly/supportundphaiti](http://bit.ly/supportundphaiti). Donations will be directed to quick-start recovery efforts to support poor families in disaster-affected communities.