Highlights

- On 6 October 2018, a 5.9 magnitude earthquake struck northwestern Haiti (Artibonite, North and North-West departments).

- 18 deaths and 548 injured have been confirmed; 11,134 families have been affected, and an estimated 55,670 people need humanitarian assistance, according to the Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC). In terms of infrastructure, 1,417 houses have been destroyed while 9,717 houses are damaged, as well as at least 70 schools which are destroyed or damaged.

- The Government of Haiti is leading the response through the DPC and the National and Departmental Emergency Operation Centers (COUN/COUD) with support from UN agencies and other humanitarian partners.

- UNICEF deployed five staff within 36 hours following the earthquake, to support the first assessment and response operations. A contingency Programme Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with NGO partner Action Contre la Faim (ACF) has been activated to support the Government in rapid damage assessment and needs analysis, and initiate immediate response activities including the distribution of dignity and hygiene kits, and the installation of water storage bladders in shelter sites, as well as emergency psychosocial support in the affected areas.

- Considering the limited impact of the earthquake and the Government of Haiti’s leadership of the emergency response, UNICEF does not anticipate any additional funding needs. Current stocks of supplies prepositioned with NGO partners and Government are sufficient to meet priority needs.

Date: 18 October 2018

55,670<sup>1</sup>

# of people in need of humanitarian assistance

22,825<sup>2</sup>

# of children in need of humanitarian assistance

70<sup>3</sup>

# of schools damaged or destroyed

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1. Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC)
2. Estimate based on DPC figure on # of people in need of humanitarian assistance
3. Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC)
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Significant damages have been confirmed in 20 municipalities in the three affected departments of Artibonite, North and North-West departments. According to preliminary data from national authorities, 1,417 houses have been destroyed and 9,717 are damaged; the public hospital of Port-de-Paix has been severely damaged, and at least 70 public and private schools have been damaged or destroyed and are not functioning.

Based on ongoing assessments, priority needs requiring urgent humanitarian assistance include WASH, temporary shelter, temporary education and protective spaces, child protection including psychosocial assistance, as well as support to the health system.

Preliminary information points to temporary shelter needs notably in the North-West Department. Population displacement to safer areas have been recorded following continued aftershocks during the first few days. Nine sites (in schools, university and church) hosting more than 875 displaced people are being used as shelter. Additional shelter sites have also been reported in other localities.

In Pilate (North department): the drinking water supply system has been damaged which resulted in a 20 per cent reduction in water supply. However, water trucking is not deemed necessary at this stage. The COUD in the North department has reported 2,900 affected families in need of hygiene kits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Population in Need of Humanitarian Assistance</th>
<th>As of 17 October, 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Start of humanitarian response:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Population in Need</td>
<td>55,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>27,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>28,169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (Under 18)</td>
<td>22,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>11,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>11,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under Five</td>
<td>6,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>3,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 6 to 23 months</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant and lactating women</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

The Government of Haiti is leading the response through the Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC) and the National and Departmental Emergency Operation Centers (COUN/ COUD). Each sector response is coordinated by relevant national authorities, with support from UN agencies or implementing partners as sectoral co-lead.

At the national level, UNICEF co-leads the WASH and Education sectoral groups, supporting the lead of the respective line ministries; UNICEF is an active member of the Health sectoral group, and the national Food Security and Nutrition coordination, and leads the child protection sub-sector. OCHA is leading intersectoral coordination at the national level, in accordance with government thematic groups. Only some of the sectoral groups are active in the field at the departmental level, depending on the previous presence of respective partners.

The UN humanitarian response coordination has been activated and has held several meetings. Coordination meetings among DPC, government partners, UN agencies and other humanitarian partners have been held, both at the political and technical level, with the aim of assessing the needs and priorities and start planning

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1 Information under verification by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MAST).
the response. OCHA is leading the coordination and response planning among UN and other humanitarian partners, and is ensuring the coordination with the DPC at the national level. COUDs have been activated in the three affected departments and are working closely with the humanitarian partners present on the ground.

**Humanitarian Strategy**

UNICEF has activated a contingency Programme Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with NGO partner Action Contre la Faim (ACF) to support the Government in conducting rapid damage assessment and needs analysis, and activate immediate response activities.

Based upon the findings of the needs analysis, UNICEF’s response plan will focus on the following main actions in support to the DPC and sectoral government partners:

1) Ensure access to safe drinking water, adequate hand-washing and sanitation facilities, as well as hygiene supplies and promotion.

2) Ensure protection for children from violence, exploitation and abuse in shelters and public spaces of temporary refuge, as well as providing safe spaces and psychosocial support; through working closely with the national agency in charge of child protection - Institut du Bien-Être Social et de la Recherche (IBESR);

3) Promote educational continuity for children by advocating and supporting the Ministry of Education, and supporting an early return to school.

C4D activities are planned to engage affected communities on key issues and a specific Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) related activity is envisaged as part of the response.

**Summary Analysis of Programme Response**

**WASH**

**Water**

• ACF and the National Directorate for Potable Water and Sanitation - Direction Nationale de l’Eau Potable et de l’Assainissement (DINEPA) installed three water storage bladders from UNICEF’s pre-positioned stock in three shelter sites in Port-de-Paix. At the request of ACF, planning is underway to install three additional bladders in affected areas.

• With UNICEF support, DINEPA installed a bladder in Gros Morne (Artibonite department) and in Bassin Bleu (Nord-West department). Water trucks will supply the bladder for a one month period.

• Planning is underway with DINEPA to supply water to the hospitals of Bassin Bleu and Immaculate Conception of Port-de-Paix.

**Sanitation**

• UNICEF supported DINEPA and ACF to ensure adequate sanitation and hygiene in three shelters in Port-de-Paix for displaced people, through initial cleaning and disinfection of toilets. A desludging truck of DINEPA will ensure regular service for a one month period and six additional portable toilets are planned in the coming days, through UNICEF support. ACF is planning to respond to an additional request for toilets rehabilitation in the shelter sites.

**Hygiene**

• Through ACF, UNICEF has distributed 53 dignity kits and 77 hygiene kits to 166 affected families in the city of Jean Rabel in the North-West department. Further distributions are planned in other areas, in coordination with other WASH actors (Red Cross, World Vision).
In addition to UNICEF’s support, other sectoral partners have engaged in the response: World Vision has already distributed 300 hygiene kits to 300 families; IOM distributed 1,425 hygiene kits in Gros Morne and has planned to distribute an additional 5,000 hygiene kits through DPC. The Haitian Red Cross has distributed 300 hygiene kits in Port-de-Paix and Saint Luis du Nord and is planning additional distributions. 200 hygiene kits donated by OXFAM have been distributed by DPC in Gros-Morne. UNFPA has mobilized 200 dignity kits in coordination with the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) (100 in Port-de-Paix, 100 in Gonaïves).

Shelter

- In the Shelter sector: IOM has distributed 425 tarpaulins and 425 shelter kits in Gros Morne and confirmed the availability of 2,000 additional tarpaulins and 2,000 shelter kits. The distribution is being planned in coordination with DPC.

Education

- UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Education to get children back to their regular school programme, through the installation of temporary learning spaces and the distribution of basic school supplies to children, initially in two schools.\(^2\)
- UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Education in setting up sensitization and psychosocial activities for children in schools, in the three most affected municipalities (Port-de-Paix, Plaisance and Pilate).
- Part of the 20,000 school kits currently available for the regular programme in the Northern region, could be used to respond to the immediate needs of children affected, based on the needs that are being verified in coordination with the Ministry of Education.

Child Protection

- UNICEF response is focused on supporting separated or unaccompanied children and orphans; mitigating risks associated with diverse forms of violence in shelters; and providing psychosocial assistance to children and adolescents.
- 861 students in three schools in Port-de-Paix are receiving psychosocial support, in collaboration with the Haitian House of Psychology (MAHPSY) which has sent six psychologists since 14 October. An additional 12 schools will receive similar support in Port-de-Paix.
- To build local capacities to respond to psychosocial distress in children and adolescents, UNICEF is planning to support training of local protection actors, social workers and education personnel on psychological first aid in the three most affected communes (Gros-Morne, Pilate and Port-de-Paix).

Health

- UNICEF is planning to distribute 500 mosquito nets to the hospitals of Bassin Bleu, Immaculate Conception of Port-de-Paix and Beraca of La Pointe.
- In addition, Médecins du Monde has started the installation of a temporary delivery room at the Immaculate Conception Hospital. PAHO-WHO in partnership with the MSPP has delivered 14 medical kits and 96 bottles of ‘Ringer Lactate’ in North West, Artibonite and North department hospitals located in affected communes.

\(^2\) This figure may increase as the final information on affected schools will be released by the Ministry of Education.
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