

HIGHLIGHTS

- The urgent appeal launched by the Humanitarian Country Team requires a 25 million dollars funding;
- The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund granted \$ 7 million to Haiti to respond to emergencies;
- More than 4,700 families affected following the passage of the last storm Erika;
- The food security situation is likely to worsen in many areas affected by drought particular in the South, the North West, Northern Artibonite, South-East, North-East and West;
- The main humanitarian challenges at the heart of the celebration of the World Humanitarian Day in Haiti.

KEY FIGURES

Number of IDPs in camps	60,801
Source: DTM, June 2015	

Cumulative cholera cases (1st Jan. to 31 July 2015)	19,949
Source : MSPP	

Fatality cases (1 st Jan. to 31 July 2015)	170
Source: MSPP	



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The Humanitarian Country Team in Haiti is appealing for funds to meet the critical humanitarian needs

25 million US dollars are needed to assist the most affected populations by the various crises

In order to respond to the unmet humanitarian needs, the Humanitarian Coordinator in Haiti, Mr. Mourad Wahba, launched on August 17th an appeal to raise \$ 25 million in funds to cover the most critical humanitarian needs by end of the year. The appeal is the result of a joint effort of the Humanitarian Team in Haiti, facilitated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and responds to the deteriorating humanitarian situation since June 2015.

The appeal aims to address the critical humanitarian needs linked to multiple factors such as the cholera epidemic, drought, food insecurity, the risk of natural disasters, migration movements on the border with Dominican Republic, and the presence of 60,000 people who are still living in IDP camps since the 2010 earthquake.

In this sense, the funds mobilized will contribute to ensuring the protection and provision of basic services to the most vulnerable people arrived from the Dominican Republic (US\$6.9 million). It will also help to respond quickly and efficiently to the cholera epidemic (US\$8.8 million), whereas US\$9.1 million will be allocated to food security projects, and US\$500,000 to activities related to disaster preparedness and response.

Mixed migration flows between Haiti and the Dominican Republic constitute an issue of concern within the humanitarian community in Haiti and the United Nations. The objective being supporting the efforts of the Haitian government to identify, track and assist those arriving from the Dominican Republic and ensuring their access to minimum basic services.

The response to the cholera epidemic remains a priority for the humanitarian community in Haiti as the risk factors for the transmission of the disease (particularly poor access to drinking water and the sanitation) persist. Despite the 90 percent reduction in the number of reported cases since the peak of 2011 (from 350,000 in 2011 to 27,800 in 2014), the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) has reported 20,814 cases between January 1st and 8 August 2015.

The appeal aims to reduce the food security and malnutrition levels (aggravated by the drought), currently affecting 30 percent of the Haitian population, i.e. 3 million people. Planned activities include an immediate response for 210,000 Haitians at risk of suffering severe food insecurity, treatment for 7,000 malnourished children, and distribution of nutritional packets to 150,000 pregnant and lactating women. In addition, in collaboration with local communities, 200,000 children will be monitored to allow a rapid detection and response to cases of severe malnutrition.

The operational response has diminished considerably with the departure of humanitarian actors since the earthquake (from 512 in 2010 to 147 in 2015)

Vulnerabilities and threats



Finally, the requested funding will facilitate the replenishment of emergency stocks and increase in-country capacity to respond to natural disasters during this year’s hurricane season.

Sector priorities	Transition Appeal – Humanitarian funding			End-2015
	Requirements	Received ¹	Funding GAP	URGENT
Protection/ assistance ² (Strategic Objective 1)	11,200,000	217,865	10,982,135	6,950,738
Cholera response (S.O. 2)	36,500,000	11,401,892	25,098,108	8,802,717
Food security and nutrition (S.O. 3)	28,500,000	3,378,052	25,121,948	9,178,806
Emergency Preparedness (S.O. 4)	32,800,000	6,573,017	26,226,983	588,500
Total	109,000,000	21,570,826	87,429,174	25,520,761

¹ Source: www.fts.unocha.org.

² This Strategic Objective was not part of the Transitional Appeal launched in early 2015 as this crisis has deepened since June 2015.

The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) grants more than US\$7 million for humanitarian emergencies in Haiti in the second half of 2015

This amount will support the fight against cholera and the emergency response to food insecurity and malnutrition aggravated by drought

The CERF is one of the fastest and most effective ways to support rapid humanitarian response for people affected by natural disasters and armed conflict. CERF receives voluntary contributions year-round to provide immediate funding for life-saving humanitarian action anywhere in the world (<http://www.unocha.org/cerf/about-us/who-we-are>).

On August 25th 2015, the CERF allocated a total of \$ 7.2 million to Haiti for emergency interventions. This amount will help the implementation of six humanitarian projects, i.e. three to cholera and three to the food and nutrition sector.

Organizations	Project title	Approved fund
UNICEF	Support to prevention and rapid response activities to the cholera epidemic at nationwide level.	\$2,366,305
OIM	Ensure rapid and appropriated response to cholera alerts by the health sector in Haiti	\$322,762
OMS	Ensure rapid and appropriated response to cholera alerts by the health sector in Haiti	\$1,456,087
UNICEF	Response to the nutritional emergency in Haiti through the management and prevention of malnutrition among vulnerable groups	\$1,000,022
FAO	Emergency agricultural assistance to family farmers affected by drought in the South-East and North-West Departments	\$945,422
PAM	Emergency assistance to vulnerable households affected by drought in the South-East	\$1,080,323

Despite combined efforts by the Government and humanitarian partners, significant humanitarian needs remain. Today, about 200,000 families live in extreme food insecurity, and the cholera epidemic remains a major concern. The funds granted by the CERF aim to fill some of the operational gaps in relation to the main priorities. The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr. Stephen O'Brien, encourages the UN agencies to rapidly inform their partners of the availability of funds for the implementation of the identified quick projects and hope that these grants will successfully contribute to critical life-saving activities.

Storm Erika: limited damage thanks to the optimal anticipation by actors

More than 4,700 families affected by flooding

After the passage of Erika, authorities recommend to the public to remain vigilant. Preparedness activities should continue till the end of the hurricane season.

According to the Haitian Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC), the passage of Tropical Storm Erika on the night of August 28th to 29th 2015 caused flooding in the West, South and Center departments, affecting more than 4,700 families, leaving 2 injured and 2 deceased, and causing property damage including houses destroyed.

Nevertheless, this is a limited damage given the country's high vulnerability. Indeed, the current national contingency plan has identified 58 municipalities, totaling 2.8 million people, which remain highly vulnerable to natural shocks. The Haitian authorities and their partners estimate that 500,000 people could potentially be affected by disasters in 2015. The West department was particularly affected, recording 4,672 families affected and 4,586 houses flooded. The Haitian government and humanitarian partners evacuated 396 people, including 254 prisoners from the central prison in Gonaives to prisons in Croix-des-Bouquets, St. Marc and Arcahaie.

Coordination mechanisms successfully functioned

Supported by the international community, the anticipation of the government helped reducing the damage of tropical storm Erika. From August 28th, the entire national system of risk and disaster management was mobilized at all levels. Indeed, under the guidance

<http://haiti.humanitarianresponse.info/> | www.unocha.org

of the Civil Protection Directorate (DPC), the national emergency operations center (COUN) and the 10 departmental emergency coordination centers (COUD) were activated.

OCHA's presence at the COUN and MINUSATH's JOC (Joint Operation Center) facilitated the liaison between the government and the humanitarian community, including in terms of information management and operational coordination. To prevent worsening of the humanitarian situation, OCHA has also been monitoring the situation of returnees or deported people from the Dominican Republic (at the borders especially in Anse-à-Pitres) on behalf of the humanitarian community.

Other international partners (UNDP, Cordaid IOM, etc.) were mobilized to provide support to the national risk and disaster management system (SNGRD) both at central level and in some departments in terms of coordination, information management, logistics, pre-positioning and updating of emergency stocks.

Humanitarian aid was provided to affected families

With the support of the humanitarian community, existing coordination structures have enabled the government, to assist families made vulnerable by the storm; including returnees or deported people from the Dominican Republic, especially those located in Anse-à-Pitres.

A situation report published by the DPC on August 31 confirmed distribution of First aid kits and cleaning work carried out in the municipalities mostly affected by the storm, particularly in the South and West departments. The DPC with the support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) distributed on August 30th non-food items (hygiene kits, baby kits, kitchen utensils, mattresses, blankets and jerry cans) to 140 families victims of a landslide in the commune of Arcahaie. In Anse-à-Pitres, with the support of civil society, municipal authorities distributed 250kgs of rice and other items to returnees or deported people spontaneously installed in the sites of Parc Cadeau.

Vigilance and prevention activities to continue

The hurricane season lasts until November 30th and hence the country may still experience further shocks such as hurricanes, tropical storms or heavy rains. In this sense, the Haitian government and the humanitarian community urge all actors to remain vigilant and recommend the continuation of preparedness and prevention activities, including the dissemination of awareness messages to the population, updating contingency plans and replenishing the emergency stocks, particularly in the municipalities at risks.

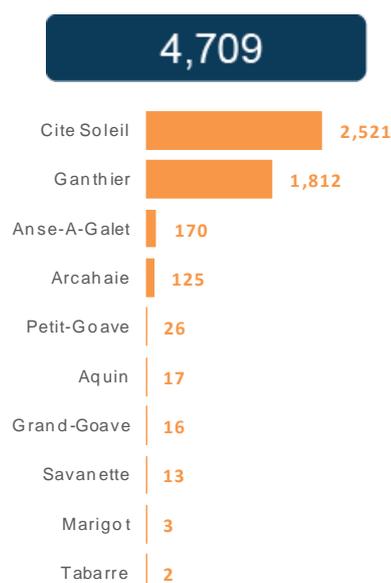
Drought keeps the poorest in food crisis

About 3 million people living in food insecurity

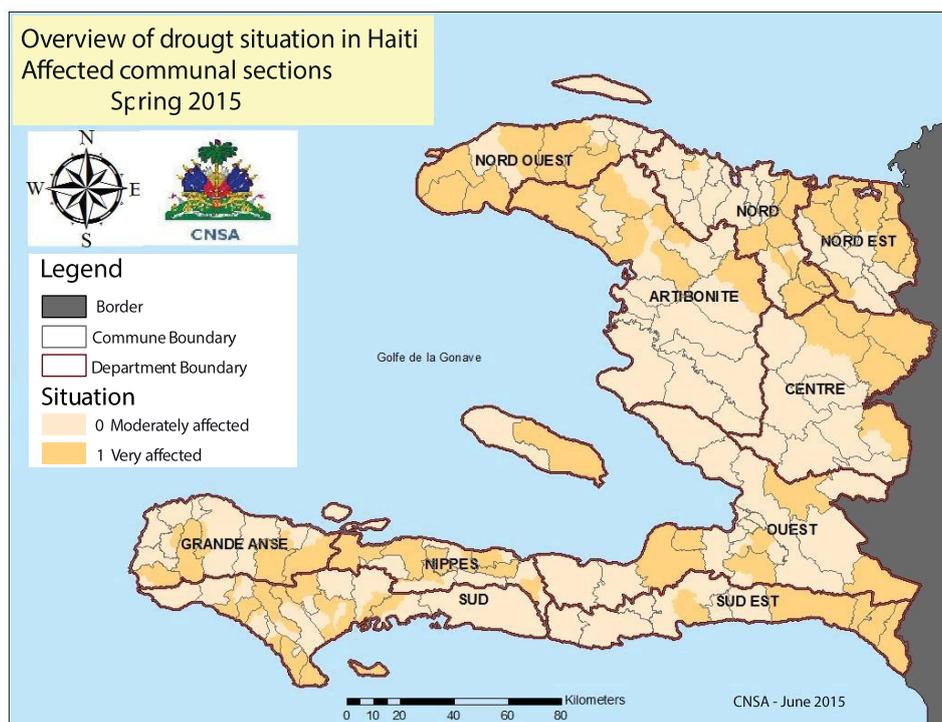
The important crop losses resulted from severe drought affecting the country plunges the poorest population in a highly vulnerable situation. According to the latest bulletin of the National Food Security Coordination (CNSA), from July to December 2015, agricultural production has dropped by 50 percent.

The most heavily hit areas are the South, the North-West, North-East, Northern Artibonite, and South-East. In addition to those Departments already in "crisis" (phase 3) under the Integrated Phase Classification), current forecasts indicate that others will see their situation worsen and reaching either "stress" (phase 2) or "crisis" levels in the coming months.

Families affected



The humanitarian actors are working to seek financing to implement their response plan to the drought situation in Haiti.



A map of the drought situation in Haiti by each affected communal section. Spring 2015
Credit: CNSA

The rainy and hurricane seasons that generally extend from March to November were more erratic throughout the period. They started more than 40 days late in the North East, Artibonite and parts of the Southeast. May, which is typically one of the wettest month, experienced rainfall deficits from 100 to 200mm across almost the entire country. It was registered a deficit of 300mm on average in parts of the departments of the South and Grand Anse, which ordinarily receive over 500 mm of rainfall between May and July, continues the report.

Impact on poorest populations and areas of concern

With crop losses in many areas of the country, the poorest people are engaged in small trade with the use of micro-credit. However, incomes from these activities are rather insignificant since the products are not diversified among merchants. This practice extends product rotation and further reduces income and purchasing power.

Moreover, it will be difficult for poor households to fill in the level of deficit on harvest, which is up to 80% from the average. The practice of fishing, that remains rudimentary, was reduced because the sea was rough between May and June. Due to lack of equipment, fishermen could not operate, leading to a decrease of income in households that used to have fishing as a source of earnings.

Facing falling revenues and the extension of the inter-harvest period, poor and very poor households saw their consumption deteriorate. In the absence of accurate data, the Ministry of Public Health and Population confirmed the deterioration of the nutritional situation at the conclusion of a survey conducted in order to assess the effects of drought on the nutritional status within poor households, continues the report of the CNSA

Although some projects have been implemented in some areas, efforts are not sufficient to change the situation in these areas of intervention. Response plans have been proposed for the departments of South, South East, Artibonite and North West, but the funds to finance them have not yet been obtained.

It is important to remember that 30% of the Haitian population or three million people live in food insecurity. In this sense, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), together with humanitarian partners, continues to increase advocacy actions to encourage donors and partners to fund projects with the aim to timely provide required humanitarian support to the most vulnerable populations.

Vulnerable populations in the heart of the World Humanitarian Day

The celebration of the World Humanitarian Day was an opportunity to put the humanitarian needs of the world and particularly of Haiti under the spotlight

As part of the celebration of World Humanitarian Day, vulnerable populations, specifically those displaced by the earthquake, were the focus of discussions and activities. Celebrated every 19th of August, the World Humanitarian Day was organized around the theme "Let's create a more human Haiti" aligned with the global campaign "Share Humanity".



Residents of Kano camp, with musicians from Toto B. workshop.
Photo credit: Widlyn Dornevil / OCHA

In this sense, OCHA organized, in conjunction with the DPC and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), a forum theater with displaced people of Kano camp. It was an opportunity for the people that live in the camp to talk about their distress and discuss the prospects to counteract some of their problems. The people of Kano Camp did not hide their joy at the end of the activity because it was a good opportunity to raise their voices and to warn about the problems of food insecurity, cholera, flooding, lack of drinking water and sanitation.

With the support of Haitian media, several actors of the humanitarian community gave interviews on major humanitarian challenges of the moment, including the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. Mourad Wabha. A special program was broadcasted with the assistance of MINUSTAH FM radio. The program counted with the participation of the Jesuit Service for Refugees, the National Food Security Coordination (CNSA), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and focused on internal displacement and food insecurity.

On social networks, this campaign has enabled more people to understand the advocacy OCHA Haiti is currently undertaking to bear to the voiceless. Note that the residents of Kano camp are a typical example of people in need of basic social services including clean water and sanitation. These populations living in unhealthiness deserve special attention and a lasting solution for them to be able to live with dignity.

OCHA took the opportunity to involve Haitian artists including BIC, Bélo, Eud and Jean Roosevelt to support the campaign.

Kano's Cry



Duprano St Preux, a resident of Kano camp.
Photo credit: Widlyn Dornevil / OCHA

believes Duprano St Preux.

Duprano St Preux took refuge in camp Kano after the earthquake of January 2010. He is among the numerous participants of the forum theater organized by the United Nations at this IDP camp, located in the eastern outskirts of Port-au-Prince, as part of the celebration of the World Humanitarian Day, on August 19th, 2015.

OCHA selected a place that hosts a vulnerable community with humanitarian needs to mark the day, around the theme «Let's create a more human Haiti». « This celebration is a good opportunity for people to provide support to IDPs of Kano »,

Initially subject of some attention from certain entities, including the Red Cross, in terms of safe water and sanitation, this camp has been, according to St Preux, abandoned after a while. « As you can see, now the camp situation is critical. The camp is very dirty, people defecate on the floor », indicates Duprano St Preux.

Several other displaced people were able to speak in groups, through skits, about life in the camps, food insecurity, environmental vulnerabilities, their daily miseries and struggles as well as the work of NGOs to mitigate their suffering. More than 60,000 people are still living in IDP camps, against 1.2 million in the aftermath of the disaster of 2010.



M. Enzo di Taranto, Head of office OCHA Haiti during his speech.
Photo credit: Widlyn Dornevil / OCHA

The Head of OCHA Haiti, who intervened in Haitian Creole, paid tribute to the heroic humanitarian workers, who gave their lives to help others. «We take advantage of this celebration of the World Humanitarian Day to remind everyone of the need to continue to support Haiti», said Enzo di Taranto.

Humanitarian situation in Haiti has deteriorated since June 2015 under the effect of converging factors such as the cholera epidemic, which remains alarming, drought affecting several departments, food insecurity

hitting 30% of the population and migrants' movement from the Dominican Republic.

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