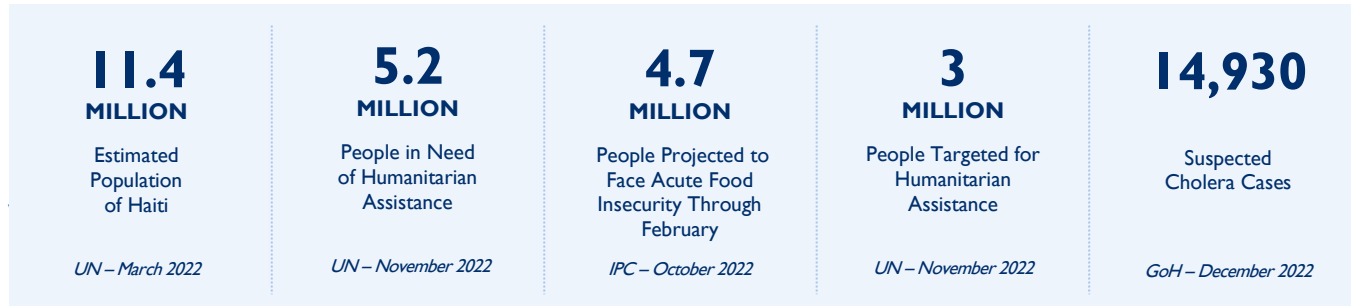


Haiti – Complex Emergency

DECEMBER 16, 2022

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- The HNP recaptured Varreux Terminal on November 3, ending a nearly two-month blockade of the country’s largest fuel importation site by armed groups.
- The GoH had reported approximately 14,930 suspected cholera cases—including nearly 1,300 confirmed cases—and 300 related deaths, as of December 13.
- In response to Haiti’s cholera epidemic, USAID/BHA has facilitated the transport of 278 MT of critical relief commodities to Port-au-Prince since October to support the humanitarian response in the country.
- The UN released its 2022–2023 Haiti Cholera+ Flash Appeal on November 15, requesting \$145.6 million to reach 1.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance countrywide through mid-April 2023.



¹ FY 2023 funding for the Haiti Complex Emergency will be included in future products when committed/obligated. For information on the U.S. Government’s (USG) funding toward the response in FY 2022, refer to Haiti Complex Emergency Fact Sheet #7 released on September 30, 2022, available on the USAID website <https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/haiti/haiti-archive>

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

HNP Recaptures Varreux Terminal, Fuel Shortages and Insecurity Persist

The Haitian National Police (HNP) recaptured Varreux Terminal—Haiti’s main site of fuel importation near the capital city of Port-au-Prince—from armed groups on November 3, according to the Government of Haiti (GoH). The self-described G9 alliance of armed groups had prevented access to the terminal and its fuel stores via blockade since September 14. Following heavy fighting between the HNP and armed groups along roads in Port-au-Prince leading to Varreux, G9 leadership announced an end to the group’s obstruction of the terminal on November 6, international media report.

Despite continued insecurity in the area, intermittent transport of fuel from Varreux began on November 8, with the departure of approximately 45 tanker trucks carrying nearly 340,000 gallons of diesel fuel and gasoline intended for delivery to support hospitals, public services, and other essential industries, according to international media. GoH officials reported that trucks would resupply fuel stations and that stations would begin reopening by mid-November, however, fuel remained either scarce and prohibitively expensive or completely unavailable outside of central Port-au-Prince, as of mid-December, international media report. Regardless of the change in effective control at Varreux, widespread insecurity—including fighting between and roadblocks imposed by armed groups—continues to impede the transportation of commodities from the terminal to other areas of Haiti, resulting in shortages of food, fuel, and other essential goods throughout the country, relief actors report.

USAID/BHA and Relief Actors Respond to Cholera Epidemic

Haiti’s cholera epidemic continues to spread; the GoH Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) confirmed approximately 1,280 out of more than 14,930 suspected cholera cases and 300 related deaths countrywide from October 4 to December 13, with a case fatality rate (CFR) of approximately 2 percent—exceeding the UN World Health Organization (WHO) emergency CFR threshold of 1 percent. Children ages nine years or younger are particularly affected by the spread of the disease, accounting for nearly 34 percent of suspected cases, while male individuals account for the majority—approximately 59 percent—of suspected cases, the MSPP reports. Nearly 92 percent of all suspected cholera cases are concentrated in Ouest Department, where Port-au-Prince is located, although cases had been reported in all of Haiti’s ten departments as of December 13.

Humanitarian actors, including USAID/BHA partners, are working to slow the spread of cholera by coordinating with the GoH to support cholera treatment centers (CTCs) and oral rehydration points (ORPs) as well as provide critical WASH supplies to vulnerable communities. Twenty-two CTCs in Ouest were operational as of December 10, with a total capacity of nearly 1,090 beds in Ouest, according to the Ouest Health Directorate (DSO). Separately, eight ORPs were operational in Ouest’s Port-au-Prince commune, seven ORPs were operational in Carrefour commune, one ORP was operational in Tabarre commune, and no ORPs were operational in Cité Soleil commune as of December 12, according to DSO. International non-governmental organization (INGO) Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is operating seven of the CTCs in support of the MSPP, using supplies provided by USAID/BHA partner IOM, who has also contributed equipment to WHO and PAHO to support the cholera response.

USAID/BHA partner the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) conducted several interventions to combat the spread of cholera in Ouest and Sud departments during November, training nearly 90 volunteer community mobilizers—including Haitian Red Cross volunteers and members of the Community Civil Protection Response Teams—to provide cholera interventions in

neighborhoods experiencing or at risk of cholera outbreaks. The volunteers and community mobilizers also conducted mass awareness-raising and door-to-door outreach activities in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area as well as Ouest's Cabaret commune during November, educating community members on oral rehydration techniques for individuals infected with cholera and other cholera prevention and response activities. Additionally, IFRC had procured 20,000 water disinfection tablets, 50 water storage containers, and 850 bars of handwashing and laundry soap as of November 15 to support hygiene promotion and WASH activities in Ouest and Sud. IFRC had also procured 70 megaphones and produced approximately 15,000 leaflets and other hygiene promotion materials to raise public awareness of cholera among affected communities as of the same date. These interventions have enabled the Haitian Red Cross to enhance the MSPP's response to the cholera epidemic, according to IFRC.

USAID/BHA Facilitates Transport of Supplies for Humanitarian Response

In response to the cholera epidemic in Haiti, USAID/BHA has leveraged its logistics and coordination capabilities to facilitate the transport of approximately 278 metric tons (MT) of critical relief commodities—including cholera treatment supplies, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) items, and logistics cargo—to Haiti from October through mid-December. The relief commodities were delivered to Port-au-Prince's Toussaint Louverture International Airport for onward distribution to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the UN World Food Program (WFP), and other relief organizations working in Haiti to support the prevention and treatment of cholera in Haiti.

Protection and GBV Risks Increase in Haiti Amid Generalized Insecurity

Armed groups in Port-au-Prince have systematically committed gender-based violence (GBV)—including sexual assault and other forms of GBV—to exert control over territory, subjugate and punish local populations, and attack rival groups, resulting in widespread displacement and protection violations, international media report. At one MSF clinic in the city, health staff reportedly treat 130 GBV survivors on average each month. However, cases of GBV in Port-au-Prince are likely significantly underreported, as fear of retribution by armed groups discourages survivors from reporting incidents of sexual violence, according to MSF and other relief actors. Moreover, the pervasive insecurity throughout Haiti has prompted the closure of and limited access to GBV reporting avenues for survivors, such as hospitals, police stations, and women's centers. Simultaneously, fuel shortages since mid-September and insecurity have degraded the capacity of local NGOs in Haiti to provide adequate assistance to GBV survivors. The risk of GBV in Haiti is compounded by a lack of adequate, safe shelter for people displaced by armed group violence, according to international media. The GoH Directorate-General for Civil Protection and IOM had recorded an estimated 87,900 people displaced by violence in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area as of August 31, including nearly 21,700 people living in 36 displacement sites. However, no new formal displacement sites have been opened in response to the violence as of late November, and existing informal sites frequently lack sufficient assistance and safety measures, contributing to increased GBV risks. A Haitian legal group assisting GBV survivors has reported dozens of instances of sexual assault against women and girls in 33 displacement sites in recent months, international media report.

Armed groups killed 195 individuals and abducted another 102 people in Haiti during October, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Haiti Ulrika Richardson reported on November 16. Meanwhile, armed group violence resulted in the deaths of at least 2,760 people in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area during the first 10 months of 2022, according to a Haitian human rights organization. This constitutes approximately six armed group-driven deaths and three abductions per day in Haiti, where armed groups control an estimated 60 percent of the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, according to the UN.

UN Releases 2022–2023 Haiti Cholera+ Flash Appeal

The UN released its 2022–2023 Haiti Cholera+ Flash Appeal on November 15, requesting \$145.6 million to reach 1.4 million out of 1.6 million individuals in need of humanitarian assistance countrywide through mid-April 2023. Specifically, GoH authorities, UN agencies, and partner organizations aim to reach 1.4 million people with WASH assistance; 600,000 people with health assistance; 568,000 people with food security and agriculture activities; 64,000 people with protection services; and 20,000 people with nutrition assistance under the appeal. WASH and health activities related to the cholera epidemic include support for rapid case detection, early case management, and improving access to safe drinking water. The flash appeal’s request also includes \$18.9 million to support the logistical capacities of humanitarian partners, such as airlift operations by the UN Humanitarian Air Service and maritime transportation services by the UN World Food Program (WFP). As armed groups maintain control of several main roads linking Port-au-Prince to the rest of Haiti, humanitarian actors are dependent on costly alternative means of transport to continue providing assistance throughout the country, including air transport and ocean barge.

KEY FIGURES



278 MT

Total weight of USAID/BHA-facilitated relief commodities transported to Haiti to respond to the cholera outbreak

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

USAID/BHA is working with partners within the USG, coordinating with the GoH’s MSPP Task Force, and liaising with relief actors on the ground to control the cholera epidemic and assist with the emergency response. USAID/BHA is also working with existing partners in Haiti to adapt their current humanitarian programming to respond to the cholera epidemic in the country. USAID/BHA partners IFRC, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE), and Fonkoze have already begun to redirect their existing programs in Haiti to help prevent and respond to cholera among affected populations.

LOGISTICS AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

USAID/BHA is mobilizing supplies to support cholera treatment and response efforts amid the fuel shortage in Haiti. On October 13 and 17, USAID/BHA delivered more than \$91,000 worth of urgently needed WASH supplies—including buckets, collapsible water containers, taps, and a 5,000-liter water bladder—from a USAID/BHA warehouse in Miami, Florida, to Port-au-Prince via two cargo flights. Additionally, USAID/BHA provided approximately \$50,000 for relief commodities—including gloves, soap, and water purification tablets—to be purchased locally in Haiti and delivered to the GoH General Directorate for Civil Protection in recent weeks. USAID/BHA also funds IOM to maintain pre-positioned emergency relief supplies—sufficient to support nearly 75,000 individuals—in Haiti for distribution in response to sudden-onset disasters, as well as supports WFP to provide critical transportation and logistics services to support the broader humanitarian response. Since July, IOM has distributed nearly 12,900 relief items out of the contingency stocks—including critical WASH kits—to support people in need throughout Haiti, including individuals affected by the cholera epidemic.



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USAID/BHA-supported partners conducting WASH activities in Haiti

WASH AND HEALTH

USAID/BHA support for WASH and health programming in Haiti serves to prevent and address the spread of cholera and other communicable diseases. USAID/BHA currently supports five WASH partners—including ACTED, CRS, CORE, Doctors of the World, and Mercy Corps—to provide hygiene kits and safe drinking water to vulnerable households, repair WASH infrastructure, disseminate disease prevention messaging, and conduct awareness campaigns on hygiene practices to reduce disease transmission. USAID/BHA also supports the ongoing rehabilitation of 22 water points in Haiti’s Southern Peninsula to improve access to safe drinking water for more than 100,000 people.



4

USAID/BHA partners providing health services in Haiti

USAID/BHA health partners Doctors of the World and PAHO work to strengthen the capacity of health care centers in Haiti’s Artibonite, Centre, Nippes, Nord, and Ouest departments. Elsewhere, along with Doctors of the World and Humanity and Inclusion, USAID/BHA partner the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) supports the operation of 24 health facilities in the Southern Peninsula. Simultaneously, USAID/BHA is working with WASH and health partners across Haiti to adjust current programming to meet emerging cholera response needs, and partners are working to adapt as necessary to overcome security-related access constraints.



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USAID/BHA partners providing food assistance in Haiti

FOOD ASSISTANCE

While security conditions and fuel shortages have posed logistical challenges for humanitarian operations, USAID/BHA food assistance partners continue to overcome access constraints and reach populations in need.

USAID/BHA supports 10 partners—including ACTED, Action Against Hunger (AAH), CARE, CORE, CONCERN, CRS, Fonkoze, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), Mercy Corps, and WFP—to provide emergency food assistance in Haiti, which includes the distribution of cash transfers for food; food vouchers; locally, regionally, and internationally procured food; and U.S. in-kind food assistance to populations experiencing acute food insecurity.

USAID/BHA also supports WFP to maintain a pre-positioned stock of emergency food commodities to quickly distribute throughout Haiti in the event of a disaster. With USAID/BHA support, WFP distributed more than 1,100 MT of food commodities—including cooking oil, peas, and rice—to approximately 126,500 food-insecure individuals in Haiti during October and November.



6

USAID/BHA partners providing protection services in Haiti

PROTECTION

USAID/BHA supports six partners, including CRS, CONCERN, Doctors of the World, Humanity & Inclusion, Save the Children Federation (SCF), and UNFPA, to provide critical protection support—such as GBV prevention and response and psychosocial support (PSS) services—across Grand’Anse, Nippes, and Sud, as well as the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, in

response to the heightened protection needs resulting from increasing insecurity. In addition, USAID/BHA partner Doctors of the World is training health care personnel in Nippes and Ouest on PSS best practices. USAID/BHA requires all partners to incorporate protection principles into each supported intervention in Haiti while promoting meaningful access, dignity, and safety for all beneficiaries.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Civil unrest, disease, economic instability, and insecurity—combined with recurring shocks from natural disasters, including droughts, earthquakes, floods, and hurricanes—have resulted in food insecurity, essential commodity shortages, and other humanitarian needs throughout Haiti in recent years. In response, USAID/BHA funds humanitarian programs in Haiti that aim to save lives, alleviate suffering, build resilience, enhance food security, strengthen livelihoods, and respond to disease outbreaks. USAID/BHA also funds additional programming to reduce disaster risk in Haiti and bolster national self-sufficiency through emergency preparedness and management.
- Amid the continued deterioration of the security situation in Haiti, Chargé d’Affaires, a.i. Eric W. Stromayer issued a redeclaration of humanitarian need on October 8, 2022, in anticipation of continued humanitarian needs in FY 2023.
- In response to the worsening humanitarian crisis and cholera epidemic in Haiti, USAID/BHA activated a DART on October 14 to identify, verify, and address the immediate humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable Haitians, with a particular focus on alleviating food insecurity; addressing acute protection needs; and supporting cholera prevention and response. The DART is actively coordinating with humanitarian partners and the U.S. Embassy on the ground in Haiti to lead the USG’s humanitarian response efforts. USAID/BHA also activated a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team on October 14 to support the DART.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: cidi.org
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at reliefweb.int.