

# Haiti – Complex Emergency

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<b>11.7</b> MILLION	<b>5.2</b> MILLION	<b>3.2</b> MILLION	<b>4.4</b> MILLION	<b>195,000</b>
Estimated Population of Haiti	Estimated Number of People in Need in Haiti	People Targeted for Humanitarian Assistance	Estimated Population Facing Acute Food Insecurity Between August and February	Estimated Number of IDPs in Haiti
<i>UNFPA – September 2023</i>	<i>UN – April 2023</i>	<i>UN – April 2023</i>	<i>IPC – September 2023</i>	<i>IOM – June 2023</i>

- Nearly 4.4 million people are expected to face Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity through February 2024 due to high inflation, low agricultural production, and OCG violence.
- Since August, persistent OCG violence has resulted in mass displacement and a surge in protection violations, including abduction, GBV, and targeted killings, in Haiti’s capital city of Port-au-Prince and Artibonite and Centre departments.
- USAID/BHA partners, including AAH, Concern Worldwide, and Doctors of the World, continue to support cholera prevention activities in Haiti.



### TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the Haiti Response in FY 2023

USAID/BHA<sup>1</sup>

\$112,903,327

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6*

**Total**

**\$112,903,327**

<sup>1</sup> USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

IPC Status August 2023–February 2024	
Phase 5	0 people in Catastrophe
Phase 4	1,401,473 people in Emergency
Phase 3	2,944,664 people in Crisis
Phase 2	2,817,638 people in Stress
Phase 1	2,742,982 people Minimally Food Insecure

### Nearly 4.4 Million People Projected to Face Acute Food Insecurity Through February 2024

Nearly 4.4 million people are projected to experience Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity between August 2023 and February 2024 as a result of low agricultural production, organized criminal group (OCG) violence, and rising inflation, according to a September IPC analysis.<sup>2</sup> Of this total, an estimated 1.4 million people, particularly in Port-au-Prince metropolitan area and Artibonite, Grand’Anse, and Ouest departments, are expected to face Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity conditions through February 2024. Although the number of people facing Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity decreased slightly between March and September, due in part to food assistance, fuel availability, and increased circulation of goods, nearly 45 percent of Haiti’s population continues to experience acute food insecurity.

Climatic shocks—including a delayed rainy season and drought—have negatively affected agricultural production and livelihoods, particularly in Centre, Grande-Anse, Ouest, and Sud-Est departments, exacerbating the need for food assistance. Furthermore, agricultural

production for staple foods such as rice and grains—including maize and sorghum—decreased in 2023 in comparison to average productions over the past five years, while inflation continues to elevate the cost of staple foods in local markets, the IPC reports. Additionally, instability generated by OCG violence continues to drive displacement and market disruptions, particularly in Artibonite—Haiti’s primary agricultural region—and the capital, where more than 45 percent and approximately 50 percent of the populations face acute food insecurity, respectively. Despite operational and access challenges in Haiti, USAID/BHA partners continue to provide emergency food assistance to vulnerable populations in the country, with the UN World Food Program (WFP) reaching more than 138,000 food-insecure people with emergency food assistance in August.

### Escalation in OCG Violence Leads to Widespread Protection Violations Across Haiti

As widespread OCG violence continues to elevate multi-sector needs, particularly food, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) requirements, relief actors have drawn attention to a surge in OCG-generated protection violations, such as acts of abduction, gender-based violence (GBV), and targeted killings, in Artibonite and Port-au-Prince. Amid the continued escalation of OCG violence in Haiti, the humanitarian community had recorded more than 2,500 deaths, approximately 1,000 people wounded, and nearly 1,000 acts of abduction between January and August, according to an August 31 UN report. More recently, OCG violence resulted in at least 71 civilian deaths in Port-au-Prince metropolitan area’s Bel-Air, Canaan, Carrefour Feuilles, Savanne Pistache, and Solino neighborhoods between August 15 and 29 alone. Moreover, an estimated 1.2 million minors are at risk of protection violations in Port-au-Prince metropolitan area alone, according to the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

<sup>2</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity. IPC Phase 5 is referred to as “Catastrophe” when classifying a household and “Famine” when classifying an area. Famine conditions occur when at least 20 percent of the population in a given area face an extreme lack of food; the Global Acute Malnutrition prevalence, measured by weight-for-height z-score, exceeds 30 percent; and the mortality rate exceeds two people per 10,000 individuals per day.

As OCGs attempt to expand their areas of influence, humanitarian actors have also expressed concern over rising protection violations outside of the capital, particularly in Artibonite and Centre. In late September, a new wave of OCG violence in Centre's Mirebalais and Saut-d'Eau communes resulted in at least 30 civilian deaths, injury to at least 15 individuals, and the displacement of more than 10,000 people, according to the Government of Haiti (GoH) General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). While OCG violence and resultant displacement has consistently worsened across Port-au-Prince, the uptick in OCG attacks in Centre is a new phenomenon and reflects the growing risks civilians face amid increased insecurity outside the capital. Additionally, in Artibonite, OCG violence has led to a surge in protection violations targeting civilians, with nearly half of the estimated 300 acts of kidnappings countrywide recorded between May and June occurring in the department, UNICEF reports. In one incident, OCG actors kidnapped and sexually assaulted 15 women on their way to the local market via public transportation.

OCGs routinely use GBV to exert control over populations in areas under their influence, according to USAID/BHA partner the UN Population Fund (UNFPA). In response to the growing protection needs across Haiti, USAID/BHA has supported relief actors, including UNFPA and GOAL, to implement protection interventions—including the distribution of dignity kits, health care services, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and safe spaces—in areas affected by OCG violence and insecurity. With USAID/BHA support, UNFPA's GBV mobile response team reached more than 400 women and girls with case management, medical referrals, and MHPSS during August. Meanwhile, USAID/BHA partner GOAL continues to lead a consortium of nongovernmental organizations (NGO) focused on meeting multi-sector needs, including protection assistance, such as providing awareness raising sessions and trainings on coping strategies in Port-au-Prince.

### **IDPs Displaced by OCG Violence Face Limited Resources in Informal Sites Across Port-au-Prince**

OCG violence across Port-au-Prince metropolitan area continues to drive mass displacement, resulting in the emergence of informal internally displaced person (IDP) sites—many of which are in public spaces such as churches and schools—with critically limited resources. For example, OCG violence displaced more than 35,000 individuals from Carrefour-Feuilles and Savane Pistache between August 12 and September 8, prompting IDPs to flee to more than 25 informal sites—most of which were newly created due to the violence—with overcrowded conditions and a lack of basic resources such as WASH infrastructure. Such conditions have elevated the risk of spreading infectious diseases, including cholera, and GBV due to the lack of safe spaces, according to relief actors. Notably, many of these informal sites were established in schools, which has disrupted education and affected the reopening of schools in the capital in September. In coordination with DGPC, IOM has discouraged the proliferation of informal sites and has instead focused its response efforts on more sustainable solutions to displacement such as relocation and rental assistance. IDPs remain in urgent need of food, health care, protection assistance, WASH services, and emergency relief supplies, such as blankets and kitchen items, according to the UN. USAID/BHA partners IOM and WFP continue to coordinate with the GoH to provide IDPs with food assistance, hygiene kits, MHPSS services, and safe drinking water.

## KEY FIGURES



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USAID/BHA partners providing food assistance in Haiti



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USAID/BHA partners providing protection services in Haiti



450 MT

Of USAID/BHA-facilitated relief commodities transported to Haiti to respond to the cholera outbreak

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

While security conditions and fuel shortages pose logistical challenges for humanitarian operations, USAID/BHA food security partners continue to overcome access constraints and reach populations in need. USAID/BHA supported 12 partners in FY 2023 to provide emergency food assistance in Haiti, including cash transfers for food, food vouchers, and in-kind food aid. Specifically, USAID/BHA partner WFP reached nearly 26,600 households with cash distributions in Artibonite, Centre, Nord-Ouest, Ouest, and Sud departments during July. USAID/BHA also supports the UN agency to maintain a pre-positioned stock of in-kind food commodities to quickly distribute throughout Haiti in the event of a disaster. With USAID/BHA funding, CARE supported more than 1,400 people in Centre and Nord-Est through temporary employment programs to improve food security.

### PROTECTION

USAID/BHA supported ten partners in FY 2023 to provide critical protection assistance—such as GBV prevention and response, as well as case management, medical referrals, and MHPSS—across Haiti to address heightened protection needs resulting from persistent insecurity. USAID/BHA partner Project Hope continued to provide GBV support, including GBV case management training for social workers, in Grand’Anse, Nippes, and Sud departments during September. The NGO also reached more than 400 women and girls with its mobile response team to provide GBV prevention and response activities during August. With USAID/BHA support, Concern Worldwide had reached nearly 2,900 people with GBV prevention and response services, including GBV sensitization, in Port-au-Prince metropolitan area’s Cité Soleil, Croix-des-Bouquets, and Delmas communes, among other areas, as of July. Additionally, USAID/BHA partner UNFPA provided approximately 1,500 dignity kits to women and girls and 1,200 menstrual hygiene kits to girls between February and August. Moreover, USAID/BHA requires all partners to incorporate protection principles into each supported activity in Haiti while promoting meaningful access, dignity, and safety for all participants.

### LOGISTICS AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

USAID/BHA mobilized supplies to support cholera treatment and response efforts amid ongoing fuel shortages in Haiti. In partnership with the logistics nonprofit Airlink, USAID/BHA established a humanitarian air bridge to deliver critical health and WASH supplies to relief organizations combating cholera in Haiti, transporting nearly 290 metric tons (MT) of assistance to eight humanitarian organizations as of August. USAID/BHA also supports WFP to provide critical transportation and logistics services to support the broader humanitarian response.

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. IOM continues to distribute relief items from its contingency stocks—including critical hygiene kits and cholera prevention supplies—to support approximately 60,000 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

## HEALTH AND WASH

USAID/BHA-supported programming for health and WASH in Haiti is working to prevent and address the spread of cholera and other communicable diseases, as well as provide access to safe drinking water for people in need. In FY 2023, USAID/BHA supported 11 partners implementing WASH activities to disseminate disease prevention messaging, provide hygiene kits and safe drinking water to vulnerable households, repair WASH infrastructure, and conduct awareness campaigns on hygiene best practices to reduce the spread of disease. During July, USAID/BHA partner Concern Worldwide reached 40,500 individuals in Cité Soleil and Delmas with critical WASH support, including WASH sensitization and safe drinking water.



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USAID/BHA partners providing health services in Haiti

USAID/BHA health partners work to strengthen the capacity of health care centers across Haiti, adjusting existing programming to meet emerging cholera response needs, while also working to overcome security-related access constraints. With USAID/BHA support, Project Hope provided critical assistance to support cholera prevention activities through the deployment of medical personnel and the delivery of medicine, health supplies, and WASH items to shock-affected communities in Grand’Anse during September. The NGO also reached 18,300 people with hygiene awareness sessions focused on the importance of safe food handling, handwashing, hygiene, and water sanitation to prevent the spread of cholera in Grand’Anse and Sud in August. Additionally, USAID/BHA partner Doctors of the World reached more than 10,000 people with cholera sensitization activities, installed three oral rehydration points, and provided cholera management and psychosocial support training to nearly 100 community health workers and health care providers in Ouest during August. USAID/BHA partner Fonkoze continues to support community health actors to conduct monthly house visits to identify suspected cholera cases and reinforce messaging on best cholera prevention practices.

## 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 essential commodity shortages, food insecurity, 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 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 Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) on October 14, 2022, 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 in Haiti to lead the U.S. Government’s (USG) humanitarian response efforts. USAID/BHA also activated a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team on October 14, 2022, to support the DART.

### USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HAITI RESPONSE IN FY 2023

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
Action Against Hunger/USA (AAH/USA)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers; WASH	Nord-Ouest	\$3,000,000
Concern Worldwide	ERMS, Food Assistance—Food Vouchers, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Ouest	\$4,000,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	ERMS, Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Nutrition, WASH	Sud-Est	\$3,500,000
	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers; Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA); Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Artibonite, Nippes, Nord, Ouest, Sud, Sud-Est	\$5,000,000
CORE	Agriculture, Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Nippes, Grand’Anse, Sud	\$5,442,453
Doctors of the World	Health, Protection, WASH	Nippes, Nord, Nord-Ouest, Ouest, Sud-Est, Sud	\$3,488,647
GOAL	ERMS, Food Assistance—Cash Vouchers for Food, Protection, WASH	Ouest	\$9,599,558
Humanity and Inclusion	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Health, Protection, WASH	Nord, Nord-Est, Ouest, Sud, Sud-Est	\$1,500,000
IMPACT Initiatives	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
iMMAP	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$249,219
International NGO Safety Organization (INSO)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,200,000

IOM	HCIMA, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Ouest	\$13,000,000
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)	Health	Centre, Ouest	\$2,407,500
Project Hope	Health, Protection, WASH	Artibonite, Grand'Anse, Ouest, Nippes, Sud, Sud-Est	\$6,000,000
Save the Children Federation (SCF)	Nutrition, Protection	Grand'Anse, Sud	\$2,000,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	Protection	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UNFPA	Protection	Ouest	\$2,500,000
UNICEF	Protection	Countrywide	\$500,001
	WASH	Countrywide	\$2,500,120
	Nutrition	Countrywide	\$1,970,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
WFP	ERMS; Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food; Humanitarian Policy, Studies, Analysis, or Applications; Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$21,415,508
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$10,137,147
World Relief International (WRI)	Agriculture, ERMS, Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, WASH	Sud	\$3,500,000
	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$4,515,886
	Program Support		\$277,288
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HAITI RESPONSE IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$112,903,327</b>

<sup>3</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 30, 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Total value of food assistance and associated costs adjusted from estimated to actual values.

## 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](https://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](https://cidi.org).
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)