

# HAITI- COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020

MARCH 3, 2020

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**10.9 million**

Population of Haiti  
UN – January 2020

**6.3 million**

Estimated People Affected by the Complex Emergency in Haiti  
UN – January 2020

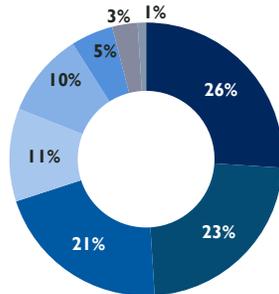
**4.6 million**

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Haiti  
UN – January 2020

**1.3 million**

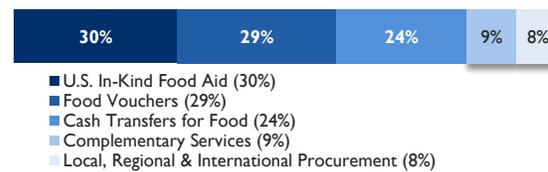
People Targeted for Emergency Food Assistance in the 2020 HRP  
UN – March 2020

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FYs 2019-2020



- Shelter & Settlements (26%)
- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (23%)
- Risk Management, Policy & Practice (21%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (11%)
- Multipurpose Cash Assistance (10%)
- Logistics & Relief Commodities (5%)
- Natural and Technological Risks (3%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (1%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FYs 2019-2020



## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Socio-political unrest in Haiti than began in July 2018 and increased in mid-September 2019 has resulted in insecurity, disrupted humanitarian supply chains, and exacerbated humanitarian needs across the country. Despite relative calm in December 2019 and January 2020, insecurity persists, hindering the ability of Haitians to meet basic needs. The depreciation of the Haitian gourde, fuel shortages, and gang-related roadblocks have limited access to basic services, food, livelihood opportunities, and markets, while impeding humanitarian access to vulnerable populations. The UN estimates that the crisis has impacted approximately 6.3 million people across Haiti and left an estimated 4.6 million people—more than 40 percent of the country’s population—in need of humanitarian assistance in 2020.
- USAID is providing emergency food assistance and supporting humanitarian coordination and logistics efforts in Haiti to ensure relief actors can reach vulnerable populations. Additionally, USAID partners are conducting activities that aim to build resilience and reduce disaster risks; strengthen livelihoods, shelters, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure; and bolster national self-sufficiency in emergency preparedness and management.

<sup>1</sup> USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- UN estimates 4.6 million people in need of humanitarian assistance
- USAID/OFDA provides \$1 million to WFP to support logistics efforts
- USAID/FFP contributes an additional \$6.1 million in emergency food assistance to WFP

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HAITI RESPONSE IN FYs 2019-2020

Agency	Funding
USAID/OFDA	\$10,585,824
USAID/FFP	\$26,089,565
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$36,675,389</b>

## INSECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- Socio-political unrest and socio-economic issues, particularly since September 2019, have resulted in insecurity, the depreciation of the Haiti gourde, and fuel shortages, exacerbating humanitarian needs across Haiti. Insecurity has hindered populations' access to basic services, livelihoods, and markets, affecting an estimated 6.3 million people, according to the UN. Approximately 4.6 million people in Haiti will likely require humanitarian assistance in 2020, representing a significant increase from the 2.6 million people in need in 2019, the UN reports. As a result, the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Haiti requests \$253 million to support relief efforts, a more than 50 percent increase compared to the \$126.2 million requested in 2019.
- Despite a decrease in violence in late 2019 and early 2020, the security situation in Haiti remains precarious and could hinder humanitarian response efforts and prevent relief agencies from reaching vulnerable populations. Increased gang activity along Haiti's major transport routes, compounded with the possible risk of demonstrations linked to socio-political conditions, restrict transit and hinder access to many land and sea points of entry. Ongoing insecurity in Haiti has also affected USAID-supported humanitarian operations, prompting the closure of some service points, and restricting the movement of USAID staff and humanitarian partners.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Fuel shortages, protests, roadblocks, and sporadic security incidents have limited access to essential services and markets in some areas, reduced economic and livelihood opportunities, and increased the cost of food and other basic goods in Haiti. Due to continued political unrest and economic instability, the Haitian gourde depreciated 30 percent between October 2018 and October 2019, reducing household purchasing power and further limiting livelihood activities.
- The Famine Early Warning systems Network (FEWS NET) projects that up to 1 million people may face Crisis—IPC 3—level of acute food insecurity and more than 5 million people could experience Stressed—IPC 2—or Crisis levels combined through August 2020, with the most vulnerable households resorting to negative coping mechanisms, such as selling productive assets or eating crops before the harvest to meet basic food needs.<sup>1</sup> FEWS NET expects that late-2019 drought conditions in Nord and Nord-Est departments and severe winds in Artibonite Department will negatively impact harvest yields, exacerbating food insecurity in the three departments. In response, the HRP plans to reach more than 1.3 million vulnerable Haitians with emergency food assistance in 2020.
- Since FY 2018, USAID/FFP has provided more than \$48.9 million in emergency food assistance for people facing acute food insecurity in Haiti, including the distribution of cash transfers for food and food vouchers, programming to strengthen livelihoods and community health, and nutrition promotion activities. The funds include UN World Food Program (WFP) efforts to support the Government of Haiti (GoH) Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor's information system (SIMAST) to improve the efficiency and accuracy of humanitarian assistance distributions in Haiti.
- With USAID/FFP support, WFP maintains a contingency stockpile of approximately 3,500 metric tons (MT) of food supplies in Haiti sufficient to meet the needs of approximately 300,000 people for one month in the event of a rapid-onset disaster such as a hurricane. In response to increased food insecurity, USAID/FFP released 2,000 MT of the commodities in November 2019 for distribution to vulnerable households in Artibonite and Nord-Ouest departments, as well as Ouest Department's Île de la Gonâve. As of February 2020, WFP had distributed all commodities, with plans to distribute an additional 2,200 MT of USAID/FFP-funded regionally procured food to food insecure households in southern Haiti. Additionally, USAID/FFP recently provided WFP with more than \$6.1 million in FY 2020 funds to support emergency food assistance programs throughout Haiti and replenish the contingency stockpile. WFP also continued to support activities that build community resilience to mitigate, adapt to, and recover from natural disasters or sudden shocks in Sud Department between December 2019 and February 2020.

<sup>1</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

- USAID/FFP supports World Vision to provide food and seed vouchers, which help meet beneficiaries' basic food needs, to nearly 26,000 food-insecure people in urban and rural areas of Île de la Gonâve. World Vision also assists vulnerable people in Centre and Nord-Est departments who continue to experience the negative effects of Hurricane Irma, which struck Haiti in 2017. Further, USAID partner Catholic Relief Services (CRS) provides unconditional cash transfers, electronic food vouchers, nutrition support services, and training on agricultural best practices to an estimated 26,500 food-insecure individuals in Sud.

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## HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION AND LOGISTICS SUPPORT

- USAID/OFDA supports the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to improve humanitarian coordination, on behalf of the GoH, with UN officials, relief organizations, and other stakeholders to enable rapid, effective action in the event of a disaster. OCHA also conducts information management activities and provides analyses of the Haitian humanitarian context, including the country's needs and existing response capacity. Additionally, USAID/OFDA partner the American Red Cross (AmCross) is enhancing the integration of local, regional, and national response systems by training Haitian Red Cross staff and volunteers on contingency plan implementation and conducting workshops to improve coordination between the GoH Department of Civil Protection (DPC) and other Haitian disaster risk management actors.
- USAID/OFDA supports CRS to improve the capacity of Haitian community- and faith-based organizations to coordinate with local government authorities in the event of a disaster. In coordination with the DPC, World Vision, and other response actors, CRS conducts trainings on accountability, coordination, data collection, and transparency in local and national response efforts. CRS also manages a rapid response fund that provides local organizations with small grants to respond to emergencies.
- In FY 2020, USAID/OFDA provided \$1 million to WFP to support the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) and logistics efforts, including providing transportation for relief commodities via air, sea, and road amid ongoing access challenges and insecurity. From November 19 to February 16, WFP and UNHAS transported more than 13 MT of relief commodities throughout Haiti, enabling non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other UN agency partners to reach populations in need. WFP is also conducting humanitarian coordination and information management activities to improve the efficiency of humanitarian operations in the country.
- USAID/OFDA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) manages four warehouses in Haiti storing USAID-provided relief commodities—including hygiene kits and plastic sheeting sufficient to support 10,000 households during crises—and trains warehouse staff, including DPC and NGO personnel, on relief commodity and warehouse management.
- USAID/OFDA supports Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI) to distribute relief commodities, including hygiene kits and water containers, to vulnerable communities in Ouest in the event of a crisis. Through small-scale disaster mitigation projects, disaster preparedness and management trainings, and the creation of public-private partnerships for disaster risk reduction (DRR), COOPI engages community members, local governments, and private sector actors to strengthen disaster preparedness and mitigation.

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## SHELTER AND WASH

- Recurrent natural disasters, including hurricanes, earthquakes, and flooding, combined with poor socio-economic conditions, have negatively impacted shelter conditions in Haiti, particularly in Artibonite, Grand'Anse, Nippes, Nord, Nord-Ouest, Ouest, and Sud departments, according to the UN. Flooding in 2019, the October 2018 earthquake, and Hurricane Matthew in 2016 caused significant structural damage to shelters in informal settlements, rendering already-vulnerable populations at particular risk in the event of a future disaster. Additionally, approximately one-quarter of Haiti's population—more than 2.8 million people—does not have access to safe drinking water, and households often travel long distances to access water. In total, approximately 516,000 people in Haiti are in need of shelter assistance, while an estimated 770,000 people are in need of WASH assistance, the UN reports.

- With USAID/OFDA support, AmCross is conducting emergency shelter and WASH activities, including providing transitional shelter materials, conducting hygiene promotion campaigns, and bolstering sanitation infrastructure in Nord-Ouest, Ouest, and Sud.
  - USAID/OFDA partner the World Concern Development Organization (WCDO) is repairing and rehabilitating evacuation centers in 100 communities across Haiti that are particularly vulnerable to hurricanes and severe flooding. WCDO is also installing WASH facilities in targeted evacuation centers. Further, USAID/OFDA partner Project Concern International is conducting capacity-building trainings with key humanitarian partners and creating a platform for participatory DRR, humanitarian, and recovery programs in high-risk informal settlements.
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## **MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE**

- With USAID/OFDA funding, Mercy Corps is facilitating the adoption of cash transfer quality standards, providing targeted training to humanitarian actors, and reinforcing partnerships between public and private sector organizations to successfully integrate cash into future responses. In response to inflation, Mercy Corps plans to provide multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to nearly 1,500 vulnerable households and micro-grants to 100 small vendors selling essential items in Ouest's Croix-des-Bouquets commune, located near Haiti's capital city of Port-au-Prince.
  - To improve relief actors' capacity to implement immediate cash-based response activities following a disaster, USAID partner CRS is conducting a market system assessment and adapting a set of standardized tools for cash programming in Haiti to identify the appropriate cash transfer amount to provide following a disaster. CRS aims to increase the resilience of disaster-affected communities where markets are functional and capable of meeting local populations' needs. Further, Mercy Corps and WFP co-lead the Cash Working Group, coordinating cash programming and improving cash transfer processes in Haiti.
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## **NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS**

- Many communities in Haiti are vulnerable to natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, and landslides. With nearly \$9.3 million in FY 2019 funding, USAID/OFDA supports vulnerable households in Haiti through DRR and preparedness activities, which aim to bolster community resilience and mitigate risks posed by potential future disasters.
- With USAID/OFDA funding, GOAL is bolstering community resilience in high-risk neighborhoods by conducting resilience assessments and training on assessment tools for government officials and stakeholders to inform future DRR and response programs. GOAL is also conducting a study on scalable solutions to build disaster resilience in Haiti, as well as best practices from across the Latin America and the Caribbean region to adapt to the Haitian context.
- USAID/OFDA partner Miyamoto International is developing a sustainable post-earthquake and post-hurricane damage assessment system by partnering with public and private universities—in coordination with the DPC and other GoH entities—to train and certify engineers and technical specialists on post-disaster building damage and safety assessments. USAID also supports the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to develop earthquake hazard guidance and enhance tsunami awareness and planning for local communities in Haiti.
- USAID/OFDA supports the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to build the capacity of national and departmental disaster management systems, including emergency operations centers, through consultations and workshops that promote the integration of lessons learned from the Hurricane Matthew response into DPC policy and strengthen contingency planning capacity.

## CONTEXT

- Haiti's endemic poverty and civil unrest—combined with recurring shocks from natural disasters, including droughts, earthquakes, floods, and hurricanes—have resulted in food insecurity and other humanitarian needs throughout the country, with an estimated 4.6 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. In response, USAID funds humanitarian programs in Haiti that aim to build resilience, enhance food security, reduce risk to disasters, strengthen livelihoods, and bolster national self-sufficiency in emergency preparedness and management.
- USAID continues to monitor the situation in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in Port-au-Prince and offices in San José, Costa Rica, and Washington, D.C.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HAITI RESPONSE IN FY 2020 <sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM)	Countrywide	\$300,000
WFP/UNHAS	HCIM, Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
	Program Support		\$10,685
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$1,310,685</b>
<b>USAID/FFP</b>			
WFP	2,590 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,997,913
	Local, Regional, and International Procurement	Grand'Anse, Nippes, Ouest	\$2,184,634
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$6,182,547</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HAITI RESPONSE IN FY 2020</b>			<b>\$7,493,232</b>

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HAITI RESPONSE IN FY 2019

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA</b>			
AmCross	Risk Management, Policy, and Practice; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Countrywide	\$370,568
COOPI	HCIM; Natural and Technological Risks; Risk Management, Policy, and Practice; WASH	Countrywide	\$476,193
CRS	MPCA	Countrywide	\$250,000
GOAL	Risk Management, Policy, and Practice	Grand'Anse, Ouest	\$256,365
IOM	Risk Management, Policy, and Practice; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Countrywide	\$1,109,269
Mercy Corps	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, MPCA, Risk Management, Policy, and Practice	Countrywide	\$920,251
Miyamoto International	Risk Management, Policy, and Practice	Countrywide	\$350,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$200,000
USFS	Risk Management, Policy, and Practice	Countrywide	\$360,000
USGS	Natural and Technological Risks	Countrywide	\$182,493
WCDO	Risk Management, Policy, and Practice; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Countrywide	\$4,800,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING</b>			<b>\$9,275,139</b>

USAID/FFP			
CRS	Cash Transfers for Food, Complementary Assistance, Food Vouchers	Sud	\$6,000,000
WFP	2,560 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Assistance, Cash Transfers for Food, Complementary Assistance	Grand'Anse, Nord-Ouest, Sud, Sud-Est	\$7,907,018
World Vision	Food Vouchers, Complementary Assistance	Gonâve	\$6,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$19,907,018</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HAITI RESPONSE IN FY 2019</b>			<b>\$29,182,157</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE HAITI RESPONSE IN FYs 2019–2020</b>			<b>\$36,675,389</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of March 3, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 3, 2020.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

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

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>