

This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA Haiti. The next report will be issued on 26 August 2012 .

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- The red alert has been lifted by the GoH but the risk of flooding and landslides remains high.
- NFI and food rations were distributed to several thousand people today.
- Thousands of evacuees are being assisted to return to their homes.
- Multi-sectoral assessments ongoing throughout the country.
- Reports of damage to the agriculture sector have increased.
- Thirteen deaths reported so far.

II. Situation Overview

The situation in Haiti in the aftermath of Tropical storm Isaac, which hit Haiti early Friday morning, is gradually normalizing.

The *Système Permanent de Gestion des Risques et des Désastres* (SPGRD) today lifted the red alert. However, SPGRD warns of persistence of storms with heavy rains and the risk of flooding. The GoH advises residents in vulnerable areas to remain vigilant.

The current number of deaths attributable to Tropical Storm Isaac stands at 13 with 27 wounded.

People in temporary evacuation shelters have started returning home, and distribution of food and NFIs has started.

Rapid assessments with multi-sectoral teams (DPC, MARNDR, MTPTC, OCHA, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, IOM, WHO, INGOs and Haitian Red Cross) have been conducted across the country, especially in the two most affected departments - Ouest and Sud-est. More than thirty assessments were carried out all over the country today.

IFRC conducted assessments of the area near route 9 (Commune of Croix- des-Bouquets) and in "*Fondation zanmi ti moun*" IDP camp in the commune of Cité Soleil. About 1600 households were affected by floods along the Route 9 and 250 households in the "*Fondation zanmi ti moun*" IDP camp.

The Red Cross will distribute hygiene, cleaning and shelter kits and aquatabs to these families and sensitizes on the use of aquatabs. IFRC and the HRC will also distribute cleaning kits to about 500 most vulnerable households of the 1600 who have been particularly affected.

Three MINUSTAH reconnaissance flights with humanitarian partners and the SNGRD were undertaken over Port-au-Prince and to the northern and southern departments.

Beyond the immediate humanitarian needs that are being addressed by the Government of Haiti and its partners, there remain concerns for cholera prevention and food security associated with crop losses due to the recent drought and now Tropical Storm Isaac.



Damage in Jacques et Pitini camp - Pétion Ville (Credit: Solidarités international)



Damage in Bellevue extension camp – Port-au-Prince (Credit: Solidarités international)

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response



AGRICULTURE/ FOOD SECURITY

WFP monitors participated in the joint rapid assessment organized by the Civil Protection in conjunction with UN agencies, local authorities and NGOs to establish needs of the most affected people. A joint assessment is scheduled tomorrow by FAO and the departmental directorate of agriculture (DDA).

Emergency rations for 2193 affected families were delivered today in the Ouest and Sud-Est departments, and IOM also handed out food rations to 2,645 families in 23 sites in the Ouest department.

A coordination meeting between the Director of the National Coordination for Food Security (CNSA) and an emergency food security group was held today to prepare for tomorrow's meeting of the Technical Food Security National Group (GTSAN).



ESHELTER / COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

IOM and twenty NGO partners have conducted initial field assessments in IDP camps in the West department and have identified specific shelter needs for more than 6000 families. Distributions of NFIs have taken place today and will continue tomorrow.

Relevant government agencies (DPC) with the Haitian Red Cross, along with the Haitian National Police and IOM, began closing evacuation shelters in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area and are assisting the evacuees to return.

Returning evacuees were provided with a kit of two tarpaulins, hygiene supplies, aquatabs and additional high-energy biscuits.

IFRC has conducted multi sectorial rapid need assessments in 51 IDP camps. The Red Cross information line has received about 38000 calls from 23 to 26 August, and the Red Cross sent out 280,000 SMS messages focusing on prevention.



NFIs Distributions in camps (Credit: Leonard Doyle/ IOM)



NFIs Distributions in camps (Credit: Leonard Doyle/ IOM)



EDUCATION

According to the DPC, 29 schools have been used as emergency centres for 4929 people. The evacuees are in the process of being returned home as the situation returns to normal.

With schools closed for summer holidays, there is no immediate impact on the children's education. However, education partners are closely monitoring the situation to limit damage to infrastructure and material damage, especially in schools serving as emergency centres. The Ministry of Education is currently gathering information on possible damages.



EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

WFP continued to facilitate radio and communication for all UN agencies and NGOs. Four telecommunication "fly-away" kits have been pre-positioned in order to provide emergency data and voice connectivity in affected areas.



HEALTH

Following the passage of Isaac, there is a heightened risk of an upsurge in cholera. Nineteen new cases in Les Cayes and for in Delmas (Port-au-Prince metropolitan area) have been reported.

Health partners remain vigilant. Monitoring of possible outbreaks and prevention activities are being conducted within the Ministry of Health framework, and Oxfam GB will be providing additional funds for cholera prevention.



LOGISTICS

Several minor roads are cut off by fallen trees or mud, thus isolating some areas, but no major damage to main roads is reported. Repairs are underway for the few damaged stretches. The road to the Dominican Republic opens.

Port-au-Prince airport is open, but flights are at the discretion of the airlines.

MINUSTAH military contingents are currently patrolling their Area of Responsibilities (AOR) to assess bridge and road conditions, with information being consolidated by OCHA and WFP Liaison officers located in the EJOC and submitted to the EJOINT.

UNPOL IDP Camp Units are patrolling camps which do not have static units, and MINUSTAH Military Engineering Units are continuing to assist assessments.



PROTECTION

Protection activities are being coordinated by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Work (MAST), IBESR and the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MCFDF), working in close collaboration with the DPC, and UN partners and the Red Cross Movement. .

During the last two days, IBERS, BPM and Kofaviv call centers received over 1371 calls with questions ranging from how to prepare the storm/hurricane safe shelter to dealing with cases of separated children in need of help and emergency deliveries. Referrals were made to shelters, psycho-social and medical centres, and to WFP, the WASH cluster and IOM.

A Children's residential centre with 85 children was affected by the storm in Gantier. Part of the roof was damaged and water problems were reported. UNICEF is following up on the issue.

A seven-year old child was electrocuted. Protection cluster has scheduled visits to Delmas 3 and Tomazeau tomorrow after reported protection support.

KOFAVIV has been providing support to 10 pregnant women who lost their shelters while in labour.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

The Red Cross supports DINEPA for the repositioning of water trucks to be repositioned respectively in the North, South, Centre and West OREPA

IV. Coordination

The COUN and most departmental and commune levels remain active. The MINUSTAH-led EJOE and OCHA-led humanitarian coordination center, EJOINT, are fully operational.

For further information, please contact:

George Ngwa, Chief, Communication section, ngwaanuongong@un.org, Tél. (509) 3702 5192

Rachelle Elien, information officer, elien@un.org, Tel. (509) 3702 5177

Widlyn Dornevil, reporting officer, dornevil@un.org, Tel. (509) 3702 5182

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