Humanitarian bulletin Haiti

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HIGHTLIGHTS

- US \$81 million needed to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Haiti
- The cholera epidemic is in net decline thanks to the lack
- · Sanitation is improving in the IDP camps, but potable water continues to be scarce
- · Emergency preparedness activities ongoing; national SIMEX organized
- · Drought affecting many departments in the country not likely to result in food shortages

FIGURES

Number of IDPs in camps Source: DTM, June, 2012.	390, 276
Cumulative cholera cases Source : MSPP, 22 July, 2012.	581, 952
Fatality cases Source : MSPP, 22 July, 2012	7, 455

FUNDING

128 millions requested (en US\$)

37% funded



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Humanitarian financing

Launch of the mid-year review of CAP 2012

The Haitian government and the humanitarian community jointly launched the revised mid-year consolidated appeal process (CAP) 2012 on 24 July in Port-au-Prince. This appeal aims at obtaining US\$81 million in international funding to support populations affected by humanitarian crises in Haiti.

By July 24, only \$47 million had been raised out of a total required budaet of \$231 million. Faced with situation, the budget was revised down to \$128 million. \$81 million is still needed to meet the urgent humanitarian of needs the Haitian population until the end of the year (Cf.: Fig I).

\$128 million Required

37% **Funded**

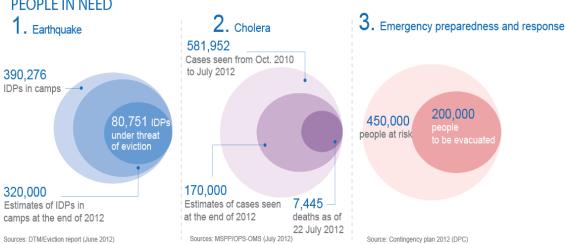
\$47.7 million funded

Fig.I: Funding level

The mid- year review of the CAP for Haiti focuses on the humanitarian community's major priorities: the fight against cholera, the response to needs resulting from the earthquake, and preparedness and response to the hurricane season.

"Once more, therefore, we are sending out a strong appeal for more assistance to allow affected populations to have access to a minimum of basic services, and the possibility of regaining hope to rebuild their lives in dignity as well," said Mr. Nigel Fisher, Humanitarian Coordinator for Haiti (Cf. Graph II and III.).

PEOPLE IN NEED



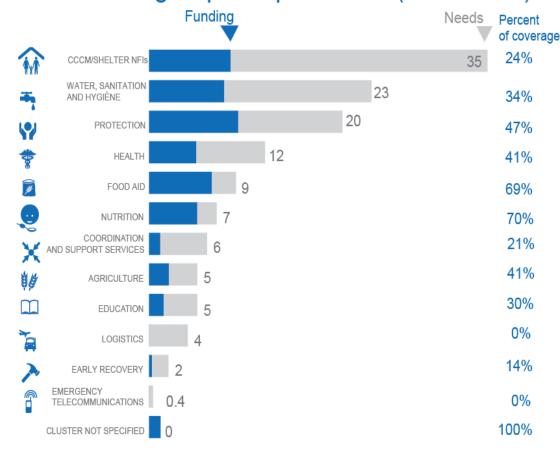
Graph II: Priorities until the end of the year

The mid- year revised CAP amounts to US\$ 128 Million. It places priority on: the fight against cholera, the response to needs resulting from the earthquake, and preparedness and response to the hurricane season.

"With the current level of funding, the humanitarian community will not be able to provide the necessary support to the Haitian government in preparation for the hurricane season and response to cholera and the earthquake," Mr. Fisher, continued.

Mr. Fisher noted the significant progress that has been made in Haiti, especially the decline in population in the camps, which now stands below 400,000, and the decrease in new cases of cholera in the country. According to Mr. Fisher, this delicate progress could be threatened without the ongoing contribution of donors.

2012 Funding required per sector (in million \$)



Graph III: Funding required by sector

Ms. Rose-Anne Auguste, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office responsible for the Promotion of Human Rights and the Fight against Extreme Poverty, stressed the importance that the Haitian government places on the CAP as a tool for mobilizing funds and called on donors to fund the projects included in the CAP 2012.

"The Haitian government is working closely with the humanitarian community on initiatives required to implement this transitional phase of actions. These would enable them to continue to invest in the development of government capacities in humanitarian coordination and reduce the risk of disasters," concluded the Minister.

There is great concern about a possible upsurge in cholera due to contamination of water sources during heavy rains in enclaved areas.

Cholera response

Cholera: Decline in new infections

There has been a net decline in new cholera infections since the beginning of July, according to the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP). The latest data from MSPP show the number of daily reported cases fell from 1292 in June to 241 in July. The national cumulative deaths rate has remained at 1.3 percent since the beginning of the year.

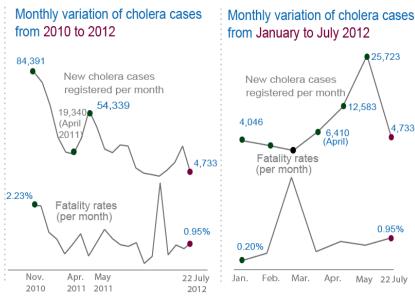
The MSPP attributes the decline to the dry weather the country is currently experiencing. However, MSPP expects an upsurge in new cholera cases with the onset of the second half of the rainy and cyclone seasons, which run from September to November.

The Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) had predicted that up to 170,000 people may be infected in 2012. As of 22 July, the MSPP reported that 581,952 infections. 7,455 people have died since the outbreak of the cholera epidemic in 2010. (See graph below).

581,952

Cumulative cholera cases since Oct. 2010

7,455
Fatality cases since Oct. 2010



Although Haiti experienced a general decline in new cholera cases during July, several alerts were reported in the West, South and Artibonite Departments. The commune of Carrefour in the West department was particularly affected, with up to 100 cases reported on average during a three-day period in the second week of July. The upsurge in infections was attributable to contamination of water sources in the area. There is a felt need for renewed sensitization on good sanitation practices in those communities where access to potable water remains a challenge.

PAHO points out that the epidemiological alert system had reported 80 alerts nationwide since January 2012.

Significant progress has been made in Haiti, especially in the surveillance and reporting of the epidemic as well as in the integration of cholera care in the national healthcare system. However, national capacity to respond to potential outbreaks, especially during the rainy season, remains very weak. The country has only 468 beds for cholera admissions, with 233 of these already occupied. At the height of the epidemic in June 2011, 2500 beds were available.

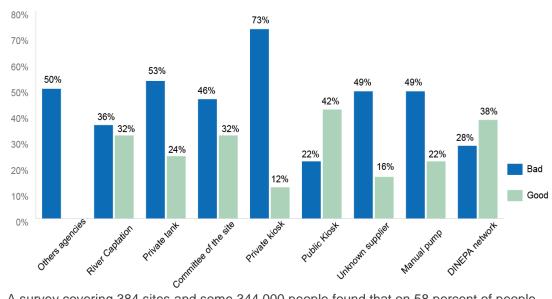
The strike by and insufficient number of health workers in the *Centres et Unités de traitement de choléra* (CTC/UTC), as well as the contamination of water sources in enclaved areas during heavy rains are a cause for concern. In the short term, it is imperative to rehabilitate the potable water system, reinforce the monitoring and warning system, increase the number of oral rehydration centres in outlying areas and to contain the progress of cholera in Haiti.

Camp management

Decline in the quality of water in the camps

The drainage of toilets has greatly improved sanitation in the camps, but the quality of available water remains questionable.

The latest report from the National Directorate for Potable Water and Sanitation (DINEPA) and the WASH cluster have noted a critical reduction in the quality of drinking water in IDP camps in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince and in communes in the West department.



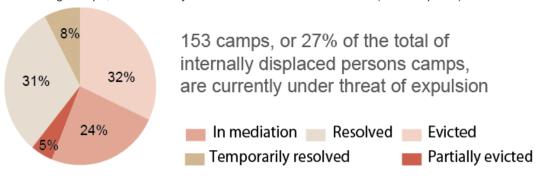
A survey covering 384 sites and some 344,000 people found that on 58 percent of people living in camps had access to potable water in June, compared to 61 percent in April. The findings show that in that the situation was even worse in Delmas commune, which has a rate of 78 percent of outlets which are non-chlorinated and of poor quality water. Delmas commune houses the largest number of sites in the Port au Prince metropolitan area. Delmas was followed by Pétionville with 71 percent, Tabarre with 57 percent and Cité Soleil with 45 percent of people in camps without access to potable water.

DINEPA noted a slight improvement of the sanitation situation in camps in the past two months. The number of sites drained rose from 107 to 120 between April and July and the percentage of camps where open-air defecation sites is visible fell from 50 per cent to 38 per cent, thanks to the efforts of UNICEF and the IRC.

The survey highlights the urgency for a strategy geared at sensitization of the people, distribution of chlorine products, so as to prevent waterborne diseases.

80,000 people face threat of expulsion

According to the CCCM/Emergency shelter cluster's latest report, some 80,751 people living in 153 camps, or 21 percent of the present camp population and 27 percent of total remaining camps, are currently threatened with forced eviction (Cf.: Graph VI)



Graph VI: Camps under threat of expulsion

The number of displaced persons living in camps has fallen continuously, but 21 percent of those who still live there face eviction.

The report notes that during the past two months, 65,462 people who lived in 155 camp sites have been expelled. The number of camps which have faced threats of expulsion since July 2010 has reached 420. Since then, the situation in 132 of these camps has been resolved, including 105 which were emptied of their occupants thanks to the return and relocation programmes. 27 of the 132 camps which have had eviction threats resolved, benefited from mediation activities conducted by the CCCM /emergency shelter cluster and its partners.

The report also indicates that those camps housing 95 percent of the population threatened with expulsion are located on private lands, compared to 5 percent on public lands.

The most affected communes are located in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area. Delmas tops the list with 45 camps facing eviction, followed by Tabarre with 15 and Carrefour with 12 cases.

Over 7, 500 people benefit from the Red Cross shelter and recovery programme

With the support of the Red Cross Movement, 7285 people living in 30 camps in Port-au-Prince benefited from a programme of return and relocation to their original neighborhoods on their own initiative in June 2012.

The Red Cross grants each family US\$500 in rental subsidy and two donations totaling a further US\$500, to be used according to their needs.

A survey was conducted one year after the Red Cross awarded the first grants. According to the survey, 56 per cent of families still lived in the same rented house, while 36 per cent had moved. Only 8 per cent of the families could not be contacted. 15 other camps in Port-au-Prince are also targeted for return and relocation programmes by the end of 2012.

Emergency preparedness

Haiti must be more resilient to natural disasters

The Directorate for Civil Protection (DPC) organized a national simulation exercise (SIMEX) on July 9 and 10 to prepare its staff and partners for large-scale natural disasters in the country.

The exercise simulated the approach of Hurricane Roger (See fig. II) on the Republic of Haiti and flood-related damages in several departments in the country, including major impact in five departments.

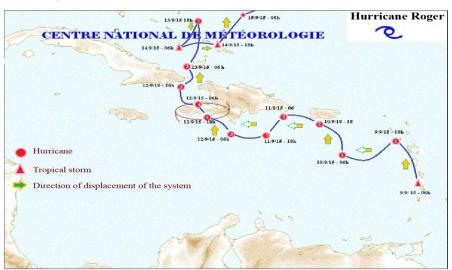


Figure II : Path of the simulated Hurricane Roger Source : Centre national de métérologie (CNM)

The simulation exercise enabled the National Risk and Disaster
Management System
(SNGRD) to assess its capacity to manage future disasters.

The aim of the SIMEX was to test the functional capabilities of the current National Risk and Disaster Management System (SNGRD) in order to assess their capacities to manage critical situations resulting from the passage of a hurricane. The capabilities of national coordination actors, at both central and departmental levels were assessed, along with their interactions with the international humanitarian community, the Red Cross and MINUSTAH.

The exercise also sought to strengthen the capacities of the operational response mechanisms of the SNGRD in emergency situations and to ensure a state of preparedness amongst the main actors in the system.

An evaluation of the exercise determined that communal-level coordination of evacuations to shelters and the deployment of maritime assets in the Cabaret and Arcahaie communes were excellent.

The assessment not only showed changes in coordination between the humanitarian community and the government, but also the need to better define strategic and operational mechanisms for disbursing international humanitarian aid .

Since March 2012, specific support has been provided to strengthen the capacities of departments in dealing with disasters. In addition to a national SIMEX, eight (8) simulation exercises, eight (8) tours and nine (9) training workshops have been organized throughout the departments, aimed at testing the response capabilities of departmental emergency operations centres (COUD).

Miragoâne prepares for the next disaster

The Directorate for Civil Protection (DPC) and the Government of the United States, through the US Southern Command (US SouthCom) in Haiti, laid the cornerstone for the construction of an emergency operations centre, a warehouse for emergency stocks and a fire station in Miragoâne (Nippes) on July 17, 2012.

A communiqué published by the Embassy of the United States of America in Haiti, states that "This gift reflects the will of the American government to strengthen the capacity of the Haitian authorities to protect the population and to better respond to emergencies and natural disasters."

Once completed, the buildings will be handed over to the DPC to strengthen response to emergencies in the Miragoâne region.

The construction, which will cost US\$ 2 million and will be completed in September 2012, falls within the framework of the humanitarian assistance programme of the United States, which aims to build 10 emergency operations centres and warehouses for emergency stocks, eight community accommodation centres and 14 fire stations throughout the country, for a total cost of US\$34 million.

Need for a security perimeter around the cracked areas of Bongars

A report from the Office of Mines and Energy published on June 12, recommends the creation of a security perimeter around the cracked areas of the communal section of Bongars following the landslide which occurred on June 6, 2012. Ten houses were damaged, roads disappeared and gardens were washed away by the landslide.

The investigation found that rains in the area between March and mid-May were the cause of the landslide.



Cracks of the southern end of Landslide. Credit: Bureau des mines et de l'énergie (BME)

The incident could also have been brought about by the tremors of the 2010 earthquake whose epicentre was 25 km away, and which could have re-activated previous landslides..

The report also recommended a ban on new construction in the Kicroix and Sainte Antoine localities until earth movements in these areas are stabilized. In addition, there is a need to assess the depth of and monitor the cracks.



Broadview of the Landslide. Credit: Bureau des mines et de l'énergie (BME)

A delegation from the Directorate for Civil Protection met with families in the affected area on 26 July 2012 and plans for their relocation. It proposes to resettle them close their former community so as not to disrupt their activities. A date is yet to be set for the relocation.

733: Emergency number for information on health and emergency preparedness receives 5,000 calls per day

The Haitian Red Cross, in partnership with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has established an automated telephone line providing practical information on health and emergency preparedness.

Called Telefon Kwawouj in Creole, the line was launched on May 28, 2012 with a toll free number "733" from communication networks Voila and Digicel, and has already received 270,000 calls as of 23 July, a total of 5,000 per day on average - or one call every 19 seconds. The line has provided information to citizens on cholera prevention, disaster preparedness, health issues including sexual health, and other issues.

Callers can also provide data to the Red Cross on a range of subjects through polls, helping improve the services of the Red Cross in Haiti.

July 16 rains leave serious damage in their wake

At least one death and many injuries as well as significant damage to houses, trees and streets were reported by the Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC) after strong winds and heavy rains struck the West, Nippes, Grand Anse and the South-East Departments on July 16, 2012.

About 5,000 people living in 28 camps located in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area were also affected, according to estimates by the CCCM / emergency shelter cluster.

The cluster noted that several hundreds of tents were damaged or flooded. The cluster distributed almost 300 tarpaulins and 17 tents. An assessment on July 16 and 17 July identified needs for water, sanitation and hygiene in the most affected camps, including 24 latrines destroyed which needed to be rehabilitated.

Communes in the Sud, Ouest, Nord-Ouest and Nord-Est departments where there have been great losses in crop harvests due to the drought, may face food shortages in September.

Food security

Changes in the meteorological situation pose minor threat to food security

According to a report from FEWS NET published in June, the drought observed in the Southern peninsula, the western part of the North-West Department, the West Department of the West and some of the communes in the North and North-East Departments, will not have a significant impact on the food situation in Haiti. The report predicts that the June/July harvests will allow households to meet their food needs in July and August. (See figure II).

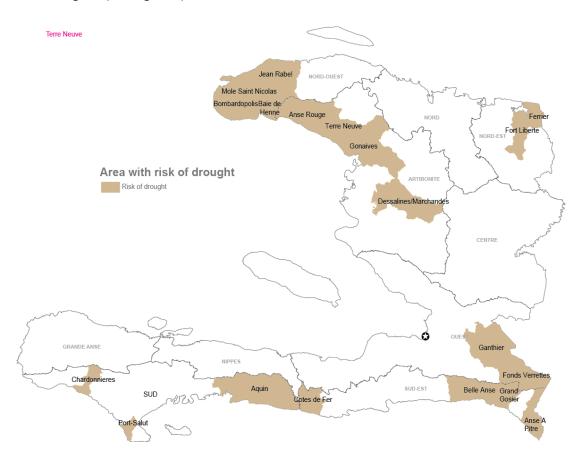


Figure II: Map highlighting drought-affected areas. Source : Direction de la protection civile (DPC), Plan de contingence 2012.

Compared with April 2012, there is a noticeable increase in local products in the markets as a result of the ongoing harvests. The price of locally grown corn in comparison to the average cost is on the decline. The price of imported rice has rising in almost all the markets over the past few years.

However, communes in the Southern peninsula, and in the West, the North-West and North-East departments, where crop losses are high due to the drought, are likely to face food insecurity in September. Communes which were already in difficulty in the West, the Plateau Central and the Northeast could experience worse problems if the drought continues, according to FEWS NET forecasts.

The report also projects that the second rainy season, beginning in August, will offer employment opportunities to the vulnerable communities in the mountains.

In brief

Training in camp management by the CCCM Cluster

A training session in Camp Management and Camp Coordination (CMCC) will be organized by the CCCM-/emergency shelter cluster from 8 to 10 August at the *Parc Historique de la Canne à Sucre*. The aim of the workshop is to strengthen the capacities of the different actors in the sector so that they can contribute effectively to camp-related operations and raise standards.

The training was developed by the global CCCM cluster in order to enhance the knowledge and skills of humanitarian workers and national authorities to ensure an effective sector response.

The CCCM training will also serve as a forum for the exchange of views on potential difficulties and opportunities for coordinated action with a view to providing an effective and adequate response.

Trainings planned to create a skilled workforce for the reconstruction of Haiti

Seven master construction trainers and twenty certified construction trainers have been prepared to give earthquake-resistant construction courses as part of the training programme of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the National Institute for Vocational Training in Haiti (INFP), in partnership with Build Change and the Swiss Cooperation, which took place from 7 May to 8 June in Petit Goâve. The programme aims to train a further 40 certified trainers, beginning on 13 August.

This initiative is an essential step in the 16/6 project, which promotes the rehabilitation of 16 neighborhoods, through the construction of sustainable homes. The training programme will also help to improve the living conditions of the inhabitants, especially through the creation of income-generating opportunities for the people of the neighborhoods.

The programme will train 1,000 workers to rebuild or repair some 1,700 homes in the 16 neighborhoods targeted, by the end of 2013.

Chairman of the board of directors of UN Women in Haiti

The Chairman of the board of directors of UN Women, Ambassador Sook Kim of Korea visited Haiti from 19 to 22 July, during which he met with senior government officials and organizations for the protection of women's rights.

Discussions focused on progress in women's rights and challenges in ensuring wider participation of women in political life and combating violence against women.

Mr. Sook Kim also met with senior government officials, the minister of Women's Affairs, ministers in the Prime Minister's Office, including the Minister in charge of Human Rights and the Fight against Extreme Poverty, and the Minister responsible for the promotion of small-scale farmers.

During the visit, he held discussions with women politicians and activist organisations working to increase involvement of women in politics and civic life. Ambassador Kim also addressed the principle of quotas to ensure the participation of women in public office.

World Population Day celebrated in Haiti

In the run-up to World Population Day celebrations on 11 July, which focuses on the theme of "universal access to reproductive health services", the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) organized a workshop on family planning in Port-au-Prince.

Haiti is experiencing a sharp increase in population due to a lack of family planning. The Haitian population has risen from 3 million in 1950 to 10 million in 2012 and more than one quarter of the population lives in Port-au-Prince, with an income of less than US\$2 per day.

For every 100,000 children born, 630 women die each year due to complications from pregnancy and childbirth. This is the highest rate in the Americas.

The July 11 workshop was an opportunity for dialogue between national and international actors, to reposition family planning at the forefront of public debate in Haiti. It aimed to create a forum for the Government, health actors, politicians and civil society to develop a national strategic plan for reproductive health.

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