

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit of Political Champions:
Haiti is a pilot country for disaster resilience
- Serious concerns about food insecurity in several regions
- Cholera: a new study recommends vigilance during the dry season; response capacity remains inadequate
- A minor reduction in the number of displaced people, but their protection remains a concern

FIGURES

Number of
IDPs in camps. **320,000**
Source: DTM,
March, 2013

Cumulative
cholera cases **18,756**
Source: MSPP,
Jan – Apr 2013

Fatality cases **190**
Source: MSPP,
Jan – Apr 2013

FUNDING

\$144 million (US\$)
requested

23.7 % funded

\$34 million
funded for 2013

Source: Financial Tracking
Service (FTS), April 2013



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[Food Security Snapshot \(annex\)](#)

Building bridges between emergency relief, recovery and sustainable development

More resources needed for disaster risk management in Haiti

Haiti remains one of the most disaster-prone countries on earth, repeatedly battered by hurricanes, floods, landslides, drought and epidemics. The US Hurricane Center predicts up to 18 tropical storms in the Western Caribbean in 2013, half of them hurricane strength. It is expected that the severity of these events may increase with time due to the effects of climate change. Despite significant political support from the Government and international community, emergency preparedness and disaster risk management remains a major challenge in the country.



Valérie Amos, Justine Greening and Helen Clark. Photo: UNDP.

The cumulative impact of repeated small- and medium-scale disasters can be equal or greater than the impact of a single large-scale disaster. In Haiti, recurrent disasters are constantly eroding the gains from recovery and humanitarian response. For example, the January 2010 earthquake caused USD 7.9 billion in damage – 120 per cent of Haiti's GDP!

In 2012, Tropical Storm Isaac and Hurricane Sandy caused over USD 1 billion in damage. A key lesson from addressing the humanitarian needs of the victims of the 2010 earthquake is that short-term humanitarian responses will not solve long-term structural burdens, unless they link up with longer-term mitigation and development efforts. Stronger and sustained engagement is therefore needed in preparing for these hazards and strengthening the resilience of communities and people.

While resilience to disasters is being built, it is even more imperative for donors to continue to fund humanitarian response to the residual needs of the 2010 earthquake and cholera epidemic as well as for mitigating the impact of last year's drought, Tropical Storm Isaac and Hurricane Sandy. Damaged or poor harvests are pushing farmers to negative coping mechanisms, such as the production of charcoal, which then causes further damage to fragile eco-systems and makes communities even more prone to future landslides and floods. Humanitarian funding has declined sharply over the past three years – from USD 1.1 billion in 2010 to USD 62 million in 2012. Yet, 320,000 IDPs still live in camps facing increasingly difficult living conditions and growing threats of forced eviction; 6.7 million people currently face food insecurity, with 1.5 million of these in a severe food insecurity phase; and, cholera remains an emergency with up to 100,000 at risk of being affected in 2013. The United Nations and the humanitarian community

launched a Humanitarian Action Plan for 2013 for USD 144 million, to address the most critical life-saving needs. Only 23.7% of these have been funded as of 30 April.

Government and international partners promote closer links across relief, recovery and development

Several of Haiti's most senior international supporters visited the country this month to promote disaster resilience. UN Humanitarian Chief Valerie Amos was joined on the mission by UNDP's Administrator Helen Clark, the Secretary General of CARICOM, the UK Secretary of State for Development and senior colleagues from the World Bank, the European Commission and USAID. They are members of the Political Champions for Resilience, an informal group formed in 2012 to promote a resilience-based response to climate and natural disaster related crises.



Political Champions and Government officials. Photo: UNDP.

The group visited the Jean-Baptiste area in eastern Port-au-Prince, the original home of a group of earthquake-displaced families. The Government is rehabilitating the area through its 16/6 program, which focuses on relocating families from 16 camps into six rehabilitated neighborhoods. The neighborhood project includes not only the reconstruction of houses but also the reinforcement of riverbanks prone to erosion, as well as the installation of

solar lamps to improve safety.

"We are keen on looking at the way we respond to (these) disasters; how best we work with government, civil society and other stakeholders," said Valerie Amos to government officials, representatives of civil society and the private sector, as well as the humanitarian community in Haiti.

The group has identified Haiti as one of its pilot countries, along with Chad, Niger and Nepal. The choice of Haiti is not only because of its exposure to risk but also because of the potential it offers to do things better. In this vein, the Government's Strategic Development Plan offers an opportunity to bring all partners together and enable them to work more effectively together. More details on the visit are available here: <http://bit.ly/126pXOX>.

"We need to get ourselves ahead of the curve by better anticipating, preventing, mitigating, and preparing for disasters as well as reducing vulnerabilities in order to minimize the impact and losses caused by future hazards...Disasters can no longer only be seen as a humanitarian endeavour, they should also be a development one," Valerie Amos stressed.

Potential food emergency calls for action

Delayed rains lead to worsening nutrition and a potential emergency

While a few communes have already faced flooding and destruction because of heavy rains, a food emergency could be in Haiti's immediate future given late rains and poor prospects elsewhere. Climate experts had predicted a normal rainy season from February to June, but the National Coordination for Food Security (CNSA) reports a month-long delay in the spring rains. This delay is already having a negative impact on spring crop yields, and some farmers compounded these effects by delaying land preparation for planting, often for lack of seeds.

According to the CNSA, a significant decline in the number and nutritional value of meals was reported in March. Most people in affected areas cannot afford more than one meal a day and must increasingly buy food on credit. The incidence of timber harvesting for coal

Food insecurity is expected to continue to deteriorate until the next harvest (June-July)

and the sale of livestock is on the rise as families turn to negative coping mechanisms to find enough money for food. Only the combined efforts of the government and the humanitarian community can avoid the worst.

Government plans to deliver food aid to 160,000 families and create 100,000 jobs via a food security programme

The Haitian Government is spearheading a food security programme intended to provide direct food aid, create labour-intensive programmes, and establish strategic food stocks. According to Government estimates, the initiative will distribute food to 160,000 families and create 100,000 jobs. The Economic and Social Assistance Fund will provide the needy with 50,000 emergency vouchers and 50,000 food packets ahead of the start of the hurricane season. In addition, the Government has developed an emergency agricultural rehabilitation strategy that will increase agricultural production in 44 of the most affected communes. The main priorities of this effort will be water conservation, crop production, and improved access to seeds and support for livestock.

France launches two new programmes to improve food security in Haiti

France has launched two major food security programmes as part of its support for the revival of Haitian agriculture. The first will enable the purchase of locally-produced cereals as part of its contribution to the World Food Programme. The second programme will boost the production of eggs, corn and basic Haitian foodstuff in Plaine des Cayes (Sud department).

The main focus of both programmes includes the redevelopment of hills (80 per cent of the territory and 80 per cent of small farms) degraded by intensive deforestation. Equipment for channeling and storing water will be built to increase the amount of water for irrigation, thus increasing crop yields and incomes.

The overall goal is to revitalize the entire local agricultural sector, by supporting mechanized farming in Les Cayes and maintain people in the rural areas which currently are facing stiff competition from urbanization.

Since 2005, France has invested over 47 million Euros, including more than 25 million since 2010, to improve food security in Haiti.

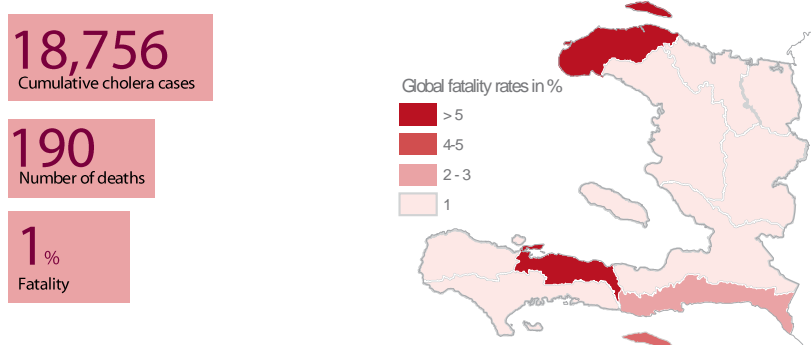
Slight rise in cholera cases as rainy season approaches

Artibonite department leads in new reported cases

All cholera indicators rose slightly in the 15th week of 2013 over the previous week. Reported cases rose by 5.47 per cent, hospitalizations by 13.88 per cent, and deaths by 50 per cent. So far this year, the Artibonite department has led the country in reported cases of new cholera infections, followed by Nord, Centre and Ouest departments.

There have been 190 cholera deaths out of 18,756 reported cases since the beginning of 2013 through 21 April. In 2012, there were 117,000 reported cases and 988 deaths from cholera.

Cholera in 2013 (January to April 2013)



Concerns about further cholera outbreaks during the rainy season

New study recommends sustained efforts in treating cholera in the dry season

Findings from a [French medical expert team](#) from Marseille on cholera recommend, among others, that more efforts be concentrated on cholera-eradication during the dry season when infection rates are generally lower. This approach is thought to be much more efficient and cost-effective than the current firefighting approach. Many elements of the proposed response dovetail with the Haiti Humanitarian Action Plan (HAP) 2013 and the emergency aspects of the Government's ten-year eradication plan. OCHA is making contacts with donors as well as with NGOs to put things in place for rapid implementation in the most affected areas where the cholera bacteria remains active during the dry season.

MSF concerned by dwindling number of cholera treatment centers as the rainy season approaches

The serious cholera outbreaks during the 2012 are a potent reminder to all involved in cholera care, including the MSF Holland team in the Carrefour commune in metropolitan Port-au-Prince, to stay alert as the rainy season approaches. During and immediately after Tropical Storm Isaac and Hurricane Sandy new infection rates jumped. The first rains in May 2012 resulted in over 2,000 patients visiting the center in one week alone!



Cholera treatment center, Carrefour. Photo: OCHA.

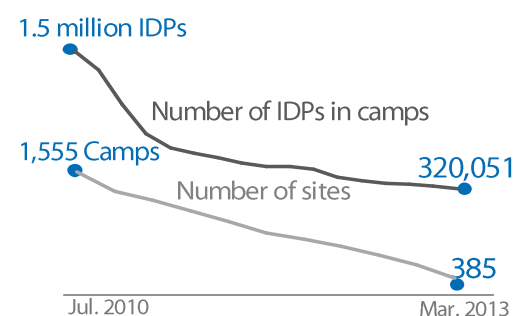
Djoen Besselink, project coordinator for MSF Holland in Carrefour and Delmas, believes the situation this year will be similar to that of 2012. Unfortunately, capacities at cholera treatment facilities have greatly degraded in the past year. The drastic decline in funding has resulted in many humanitarian partners pulling out and closing down treatment centers while the capacity of the Ministry of Health to deal with a new upsurge in cases remains weak.

The MSF CTC in Carrefour has a capacity of 275 beds and an additional 80 at another centre in Delmas. MSF Belgique in Martissant, Port-au-Prince, has another 15 beds and MSF Suisse 80 beds in Léogâne.

"It is very important that centres be readied to reopen as soon as possible. Otherwise, we risk being overwhelmed by too many patients if the epidemic were to resume in the area," says Djoen Besselink.

The MSF Holland CTC is preparing for a possible influx of patients within the next two months. MSF is also advocating with the Ministry of Health and international partners to allow some CTCs left vacant, to be reopened in case of an emergency. It is urging the Ministry of Health to continue to provide cholera care during the dry season.

Stronger push needed on IDP returns, services and security



Over 320,000 people still living in IDP camps three years after the quake

According to the latest [CCCM cluster report](#), some 320,051 people (about 81,349 households) still live in camps on 385 sites three years after the 2010 earthquake. This represents a 77 per cent decrease from

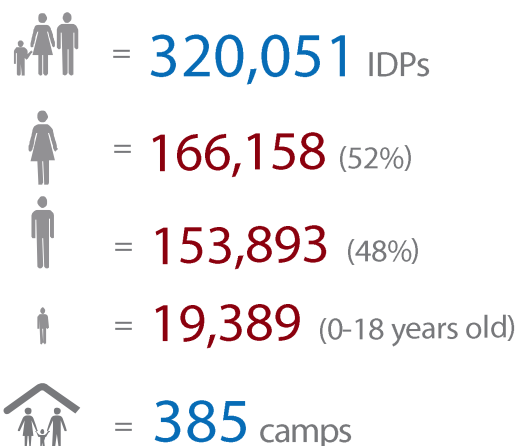
2010, when 1.5 million people were living in camps. The total number of sites has also fallen by 75 per cent.

Since the last IDP tracking matrix of December 2012, the number of people in camps has fallen by 8 per cent, the biggest decrease since June 2012. Despite these encouraging figures, a slight increase in the IDP population was observed in the towns of Carrefour, Léogâne and Tabarre. According to IOM, this is due, on the one hand to forced evictions in other camps and, on the other hand, to regular and uncontrolled migration to the IDP camps.

The CCCM Cluster attributes total decreases to date to rental subsidies (as much as 11 per cent of total decrease) and other return programmes.

Remaining camp populations lack basic services and face safety and security problems

However, families in other IDP camps in metropolitan Port-au-Prince are not optimistic about the possibility of being returned soon. This at a time when the rains are fast approaching and a growing number of camps face threats of forced eviction by impatient land owners.



According to a camp committee official in the Route Pis Camp in Delmas, 1,000 of the 3,500 families there are worried about the ability to survive through the rainy season. Most of their tents are in a very poor state and will be prone to leaks. In addition, the Delmas ravine that runs through the camp is susceptible to overflow and flooding, as during Hurricane Sandy in October 2012.

In addition, the camp lacks hygiene and sanitation services. Only rarely does staff from the Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC) stop by for a visit.

UN Secretary General concerned about the growing incidence of forced evictions

IDP camp residents in metropolitan Port-au-Prince have also witnessed a spate of serious security incidents, especially towards the end of April. One person died on 17 April following a brawl between IDPs in the Golf Course camp in Petion-ville. Similarly, attempts were made to forcibly evict residents from the Accra camp in Delmas 32 and the Accra camp Nord-Sud on 21 and 22 April. Several tents were burned and one person died from the ensuing violence in Accra Nord-Sud.

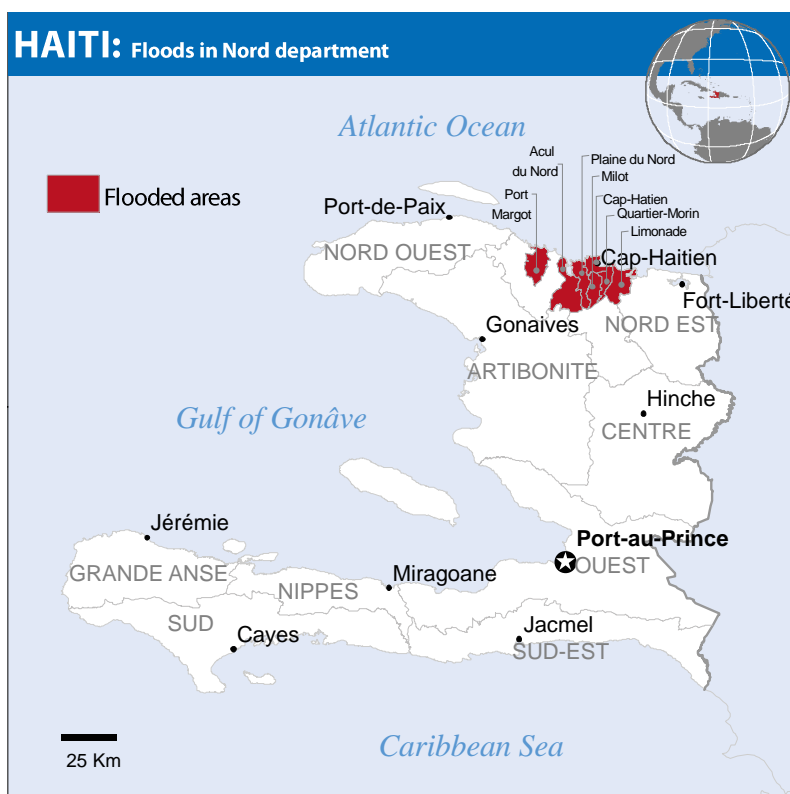
Number of IDPs and camps under threat of eviction



The Humanitarian Coordinator/a.i., Ms Sophie de Caen raised the issue of forced evictions with Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe. Also, the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon expressed concern about the situation to Mr. Lamothe during a meeting in Washington, DC, on 17 April.

Flooding in Nord damages over 3,000 homes, leaving many homeless

Heavy rainfall from 6 to 7 April in the Nord department caused a lot of property damage. According to assessments in the Cap-Haïtien, l'Acul du Nord, Milot, Quartier Morin, Port Margot, Plaine du Nord and Limonade communes, up to 3,322 homes were damaged and families left homeless. Local authorities, humanitarian partners, firefighters and volunteers moved quickly to provide support to the affected families, including evacuations, food and WASH items. Vorbe et Fils, a private company, helped release dam water suspected to be causing the flooding.



There was also some flooding in Petit Goâve on 20 and 21 April. A person died attempting to cross a swollen river.

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OCHA humanitarian bulletins are available at haiti.humanitarianresponse.info | www.unocha.org | www.reliefweb.int



15% (1.52 million people) in 2012 against **8%** (800,000 people) in 2011 face severe food insecurity at national level. **5.1%** of children under five face acute malnutrition.

Key Figures



= **6.7 million** people face food insecurity in Haiti

5.2 million people face moderate food insecurity in Haiti

1.5 million people face severe food insecurity in Haiti

Disaggregated data:

= **792,568** (52%)

= **731,601** (48%)

Rural: **4.1 million**

Urban: **2.6 million**

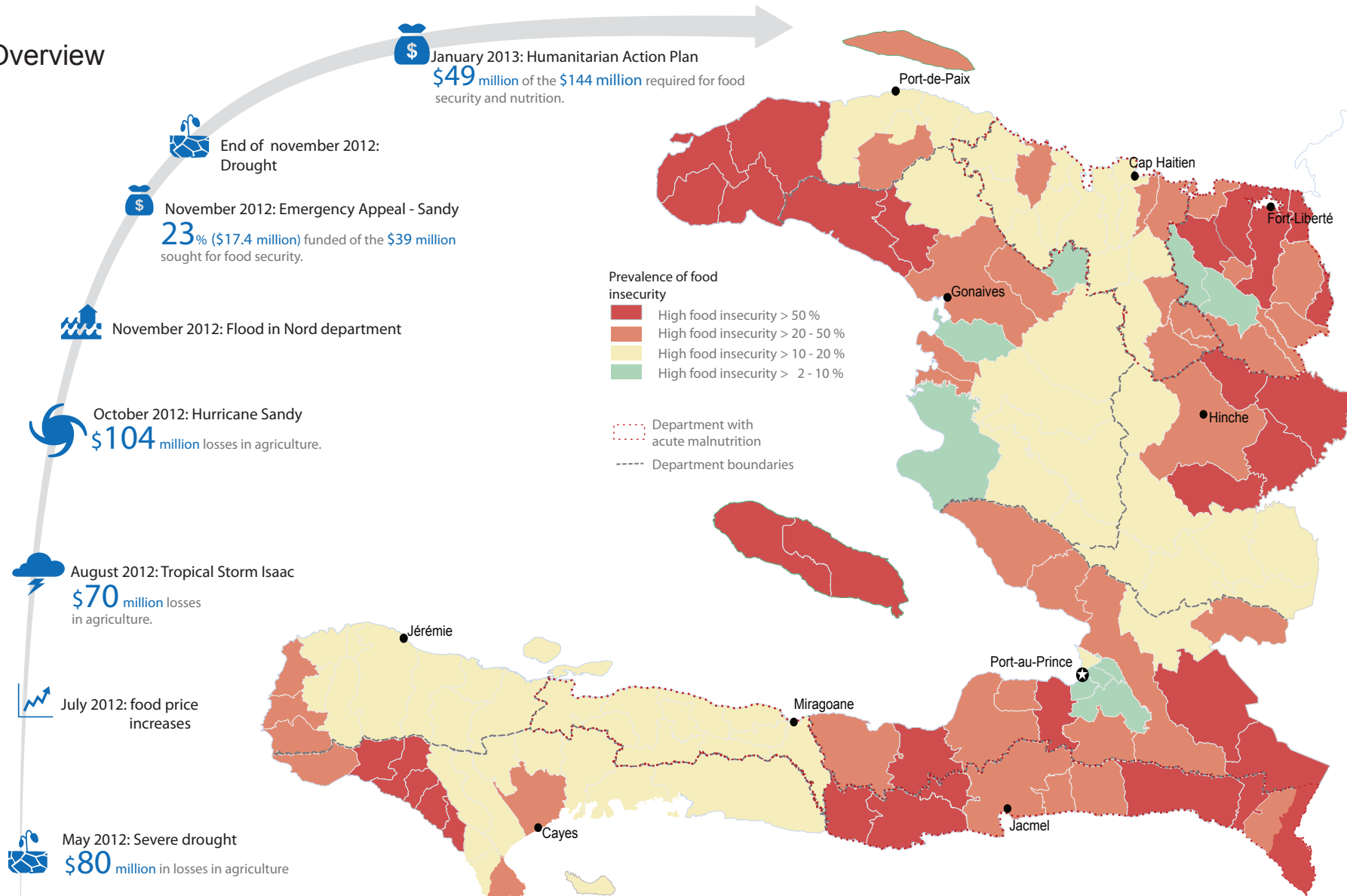


= **81,600** Children under five with acute malnutrition

61,200 (4%) Children under five with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)

20,400 (1.1%) Children under five with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)

Overview





Key Figures

700,000 beneficiaries reached through post Sandy response.

800,000 people still in need.

Funding

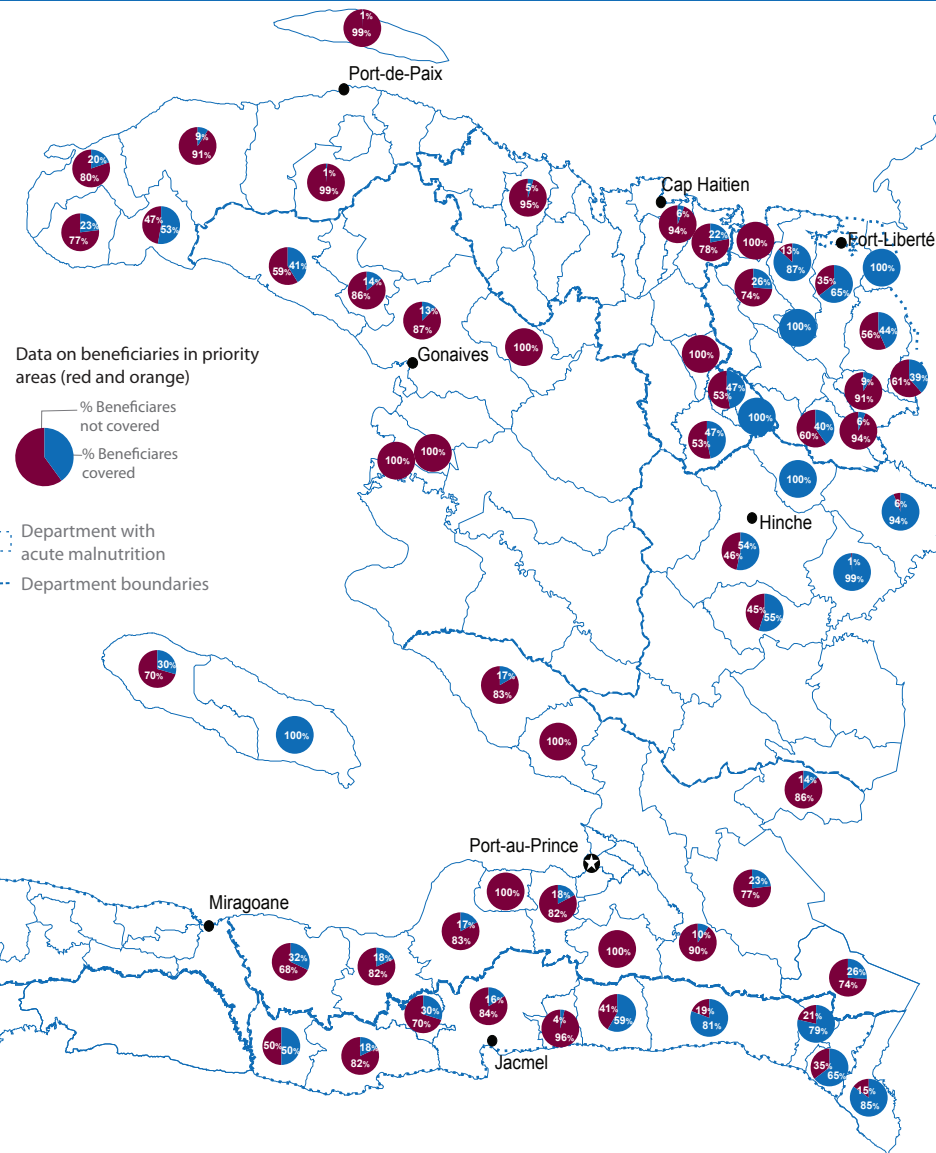
m=million USD

	Requested	Funded
Govt. (FAES+MARNDP)		8,951,953
USAID		15,243,550
ECHO		9,065,000
DFID		5,058,623

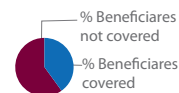
Partners

38
partners

Depart.	#partners
Artibonite	4
Centre	3
Grande-Anse	5
Nippes	3
Nord	6
Nord-Est	4
Nord-Ouest	6
Ouest	16
Sud	10
Sud-Est	9



Data on beneficiaries in priority areas (red and orange)



Department with acute malnutrition
Department boundaries

Activities

	Environment	Cholera prevention/WASH	Food for Work	Cash for Work / voucher for work	Food distribution	NFI Distribution of seeds, farm tools, and fertilizers	Capacity building	Nutrition/health Projects	Construction/rehabilitation	Livelihood	School feeding/ food rations
Artibonite	3	4	1	1	1			1	2	2	1
Centre		2	1		1			2	2	1	2
Grande-Anse	1	3	1		1			2	1	1	
Nippes	1	2	3					1	2	1	1
Nord	4	5	2					2	4	2	1
Nord-Est	1	3	2					1	2	1	1
Nord-Ouest	2	3	2	1	2	1		2	1		1
Ouest	5	8	5	1	1	1	1	5	4	3	1
Sud	5	7	2		1			3	5	3	1
Sud-Est	5	5	5		1			3	7	1	1

Number of partners 1 2 - 5 6 - 10 > 10

Key of activities

Environment	Capacity building
Cholera prevention/WASH	Nutrition/health Projects
Food for Work	Construction/rehabilitation
Cash for Work / voucher for work	Livelihood
Food distribution	School feeding/ food rations
NFI Distribution of seeds, farm tools, and fertilizers	

Agricultural calendar including rainy and hurricane seasons

