



Even before the earthquake, the health situation in Haiti was already one of the most fragile in the region. However, significant progress was made in several areas, including nutrition and HIV/AIDS prevention.

In 2013, the Ministry of Health continued to receive support to ensure increased accessibility to quality healthcare. For instance, with the technical assistance of the UN and its partners, through the multi-sectorial governmental platform 'Aba Grangou', a law on food fortification was drafted and transmitted to the Haitian Parliament for approval.

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

MATERNAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

28 emergency obstetrics and neonatal centers equipped in 9 departments and 35 providers trained in KMC (Kangaroo mother care). (1)

Four maternity clinics are operational in Port-au-Prince, as well as in Artibonite and South-East departments, providing emergency neo-natal obstetrics care, family planning and prevention of mother-to-child transmission services. Such services are also available in 9 additional health facilities, covering more than 18,300 pregnant women. (2)

To date, 40,000 beneficiaries have been sensitized on reproductive health issues in an effort to decrease maternal mortality. (1) (2)

A National Institute of Higher Education of Midwives is operational. A total of 80 students are being trained in this first year, including 39 nurses and 41 direct-entry midwives. (2)

177,924 pregnant women received iron supplements.

In 2013, 1,520,872 women of childbearing age received the first dose of the tetanus vaccine and 973,043 received the second dose. (1)

80,000 young people were educated about reproductive health, HIV prevention, family planning and social relations through the network of youth centers operated by civil society organizations. (2)

FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS

HIV prevalence among general population aged 15-49 has been stable since 2005 at a rate of 2,2% (2,7% among women and 1,7% among men).

Prevalence among young people aged 15-24 is 0,9 % (1,3% among young women and 0,4% among young men).

58.7% of women and 73.8% of men aged 15-24 use condoms. (4)

67% of HIV-positive pregnant women are receiving HIV treatment. (1)

The number of people on antiretroviral drugs (ARV) increased from 29.180 in 2010 to 34.927 in 2011. (4)

2,837 adolescents were counseled and tested for HIV and 62,717 condoms were distributed. (1)

Nutrition assistance was provided to 12,000 Haitians living with HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis and their families (total of 60,000 beneficiaries) to encourage adherence to treatment. (3)

NUTRITION

In partnership with 30 national and international organizations, 123,500 people across 7 departments of the country, received targeted supplementary feeding assistance, among them 75,000 children aged 6-59 months and 48,500 pregnant and breastfeeding women. (3)

439 health workers trained in the management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). (1)

672,850 children aged 6-59 months supplemented with Vitamin A (63.34% of the target).

387,327 children aged 12-59 months were dewormed (40.43% of the target).

1 plant was provided to the Ministry of Health to produce iodized salt. (1)

The Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) was re-launched to improve breastfeeding practices. 1 hospital was certified with the BFHI and another one is pending. (1)

Efforts were made to further integrate highly vulnerable groups (children with TB, HIV/AIDS, and living with disabilities) in the nutrition programmes through strengthened capacities of hospital staff and community health workers. (1)

CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES

A new HIV National Strategic Plan (NSP) covering 2014-2018 is being developed, under leadership of the Ministry of Plan and Ministry of Health with the support of partners, including the UN. A budget to implement the new NSP will also be implemented after a process of prioritization. (5)

The reinforcement of vaccine management will be a priority, notably to reinforce the chain logistics to start new vaccination campaigns and complete the 3 rounds of Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus vaccination in the whole country.

Efforts are currently underway for the introduction of the vaccine against rotavirus in 2014 and the preparation of the introduction of the vaccine against pneumococcal disease.

In 2014, the UN will focus on supporting community health workers initiatives to promote an effective health management and monitoring system.

While use of family planning methods is on the rise by an average 1% per year, the unmet needs for family planning remain high at 35%. More efforts are underway to ensure universal access.



VOICES

In Haiti, emergency clinics help reduce maternal and neonatal deaths

Clinics providing emergency obstetrics and care to the newborns are working to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality.

According to the findings of a 2012 nationwide survey on mortality, morbidity and use of services, less than 36% of births take place in the country's health facilities.

Now, four pilot clinics across Haiti are working to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality by providing basic emergency or obstetric care, or SONUB (an acronym for the French Soins obstétricaux et néonataux d'urgence de base).

These clinics have been created through a partnership between the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP), the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).