

# HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN

HUMANITARIAN  
PROGRAMME CYCLE

2023

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At a glance

HAITI



# Response Plan Overview

PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS (US\$)
<b>5.2M</b>	<b>3.2M</b>	<b>719.9M</b>

## This response focuses on:

Multi-sectoral and integrated assistance to cover vital needs and improve the living conditions of vulnerable people within a protective environment.

Building resilience for the population through crisis preparedness actions

## Planned response by sector

Sector	People in need	People targeted	in need targeted	Financing required (US\$)
<b>Food Security</b>	4.9M	2.4M		\$420M
<b>Water, Sanitation &amp; Hygiene (WASH)</b>	3.3M	1.6M		\$64.4M
<b>Shelter/NFIs</b>	4.2M	405K		\$57.8M
<b>Education</b>	4.0M	1.6M		\$50M
<b>Protection</b>	1.9M	1.2M		\$42.1M
<div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 5px; margin-left: 20px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Protection</li> <li>Child Protection</li> <li>Migrant Protection</li> <li>Gender-Based Violence (GBV)</li> </ul> </div>				
<b>Nutrition</b>	779k	779k		\$31.7M
<b>Health</b>	4.5M	1.8M		\$30.7M
<b>CCCM</b>	201k	108k		\$3.3M
<b>Logistics</b>	-----	-----		\$15.8M
<b>Coordination</b>	-----	-----		\$4.1M

# Context of the crisis, impacts and needs analysis

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Since 2021, gangs have been gradually closing in on Port-au-Prince, where homicides, hostage-taking and rapes are now daily occurrences. Gangs are now extending their influence beyond Port-au-Prince, including in the northern areas considered the country's breadbasket, at a time when almost half the population is going hungry. Growing insecurity continues to push thousands of people from their homes, paralyzing basic services and threatening to reverse the gains made in the fight against the cholera epidemic that was declared on 2 October 2022.

## Political-social-economic context.

Following the July 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, Haiti has been mired in a political and security stalemate amid a third consecutive year of economic recession. Inflation has risen to more than 48 per cent of GDP. Since then, the Haitian Gourde has lost nearly 65 per cent of its value. According to the World Bank, nearly 90 per cent of Haitians live below the poverty line, with nearly a third of them living in extreme poverty (US\$2.15/day). The high cost of living, insecurity, fuel shortages and the Government's mid-September 2022 announcement that it would end fuel subsidies have led to massive, and sometimes violent, demonstrations, as well as gangs blockading Haiti's main oil terminal for several months. This blockade paralysed economic and social activity, limiting basic access to services for the population, hindering aid operations and creating considerable humanitarian access difficulties.

**There are more than 300 gangs in Haiti, including 100 to 150 in the Port-au-Prince Metropolitan Area (ZMPP) alone.** Gangs have been occupying parts of Haiti for over 20 years. There are at least 300 such gangs, with more than half operating in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area (ZMPP), whose actions are fuelled by political, economic and security interests. The gangs' hold has strengthened since 2021, to the point of encircling Port-au-Prince, where they control or influence 80 per cent of the area, according to OCHA, through sophisticated tactics and the emergence of powerful coalitions. Clashes between gangs for territorial control and with the Haitian National Police (PNH) have created a permanent environment of fear. The majority of the capital's population is directly affected by the violence and has seen

their freedom of movement and access to basic services restricted.

**A grave protection crisis.** Sexual violence has reached alarming levels, with gangs using rape as a weapon of terror and subjugation against the population. Gang abuses and criminal activities have reached unprecedented levels; according to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), 1,119 kidnappings took place in 2022, or three kidnappings per day. In the first quarter of 2023, at least 807 people were killed/lynched (up 107 per cent from the last quarter of 2022), 746 injured (up 114 per cent) and 627 kidnapped (up 125 per cent). The Single Health Information System (SISNU) recorded 16,470 incidents of gender-based violence in 2022.

Fear of stigmatisation or reprisals, as well as the lack of police presence in some neighbourhoods and shortcomings in the judicial system, often prevent victims from obtaining justice. In addition, many survivors do not receive support or care due to the lack of facilities nearby and prohibitive transportation costs. The abrupt deterioration of security, economic and social conditions is particularly affecting children, especially those living in gang-ridden areas, and repatriated children.

**Half the population is suffering from severe food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or worse).** Haiti has some of the highest levels of food insecurity in the world, with nearly half of the population suffering from severe food insecurity. According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) results for March to June 2023, 18 per cent of the analysed population

is classified as IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 31 per cent as IPC Phase 3 (Crisis), representing 49 per cent of the population in need of urgent action to protect lives and save livelihoods. There has been a slight improvement in the Cité Soleil area, which at last count had 5 per cent of its population (nearly 20,000 people) in IPC Phase 5 (Catastrophe). Humanitarian food assistance, which in recent months has reached 30 per cent of the target population of Cité Soleil, has been a significant mitigating factor. While the prevalence of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) is estimated at 2.1 per cent, the situation in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area is particularly alarming, with SAM prevalence approaching 3 per cent.

#### **Access to health services is compromised.**

Access to health care is of particular concern to the Haitian people as the country experiences a resurgence of cholera. After the first two cases were reported in the ZMPP on 2 October 2022, the epidemic spread rapidly across the country, reaching more than 35,000 suspected cases by March 2023. More than half of the cases are among children. Despite logistics challenges related to gang activity, recurring fuel shortages, a lack of trained staff due to a mass exodus of health workers and a lack of supplies affecting 73 per cent of the 22 largest health facilities, the Haitian Government, health workers and their partners have managed to bring down the epidemiological curve.

**A quarter of households in the country use unimproved water sources for drinking.** Access to safe drinking water and basic hygiene and sanitation services in Haiti is severely limited, particularly in rural and peri-urban areas where most Haitians live. Only 55 per cent of households have access to basic drinking water services and 61 per cent of households do not have access to improved latrines. Access to safe water remains a challenge and a major cause of the spread of cholera.

**Violence has forced thousands of people to flee their homes.** Increased violence in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area has displaced nearly 128,000 people from their homes. More than 2,500 people are still displaced in Sud and Grand'Anse following the

August 2021 earthquake. According to the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), 62 per cent of internally displaced people (IDPs) from the urban violence have sought refuge in host communities whose living conditions have also been severely disrupted. By December 2022, gang violence had spread beyond the borders of the ZMPP to the Artibonite department, displacing nearly 8,500 people in the region.

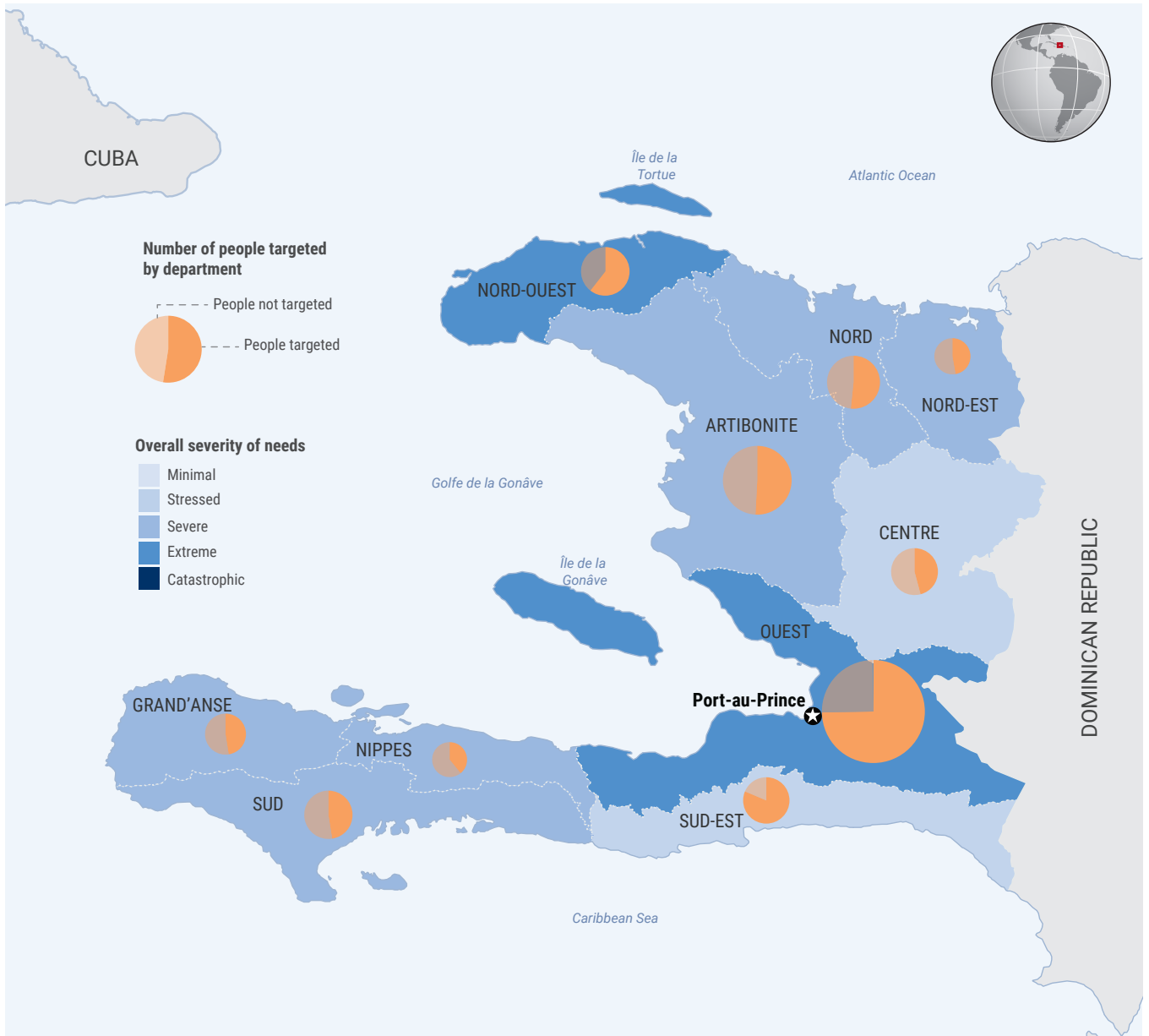
#### **Desperation is driving more and more people to leave the country, while forced repatriations continue.**

According to data from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), by July 2022, the number of returnees by air and sea exceeded the overall number for 2021. Forced returns from the Dominican Republic were particularly high in 2022, with 154,333 people repatriated. Conditions for repatriation were extremely harsh, with little respect for human rights. There were reports of unaccompanied children still wearing their school uniforms and deportations of Haitians who had identity papers and were presumably in compliance with legal migration laws. In September 2022, social unrest and increased gang activity led many countries to halt repatriations as conditions did not allow for a safe and sustainable return to the country.

#### **A nine-fold increase in violence against schools.**

According to UNICEF, shootings, ransacking, looting and abductions of teachers and students have increased ninefold in one year. In the first four months of the school year (October 2022 to February 2023), 72 schools were reportedly targeted, compared to 8 in the same period last year. In the southern departments, logistical difficulties related to gang activity and the fuel crisis have hampered efforts to rebuild the 1,250 schools destroyed in the 14 August 2021 earthquake. The deteriorating economic and security context and social tensions have led to the postponement of the start of the 2022/2023 school year, originally scheduled for September, until November 2022. Schools did not reopen until early 2023, although not all students went back to school (see HNO), which places them at increased risk of use and recruitment into gangs.

# Planned response by department



# Historical trends

Nearly half of Haiti's population will need humanitarian assistance in 2023, a figure that exceeds the record estimate for 2020 by 300,000 people. Since 2010, the year of a cataclysmic earthquake, Haiti has experienced a succession of natural shocks and health emergencies such as Hurricane Matthew in 2016, the COVID-19 crisis in 2020, the Southern Peninsula earthquake in 2021 and the resurgence of cholera in 2022, combined with severe and growing insecurity.

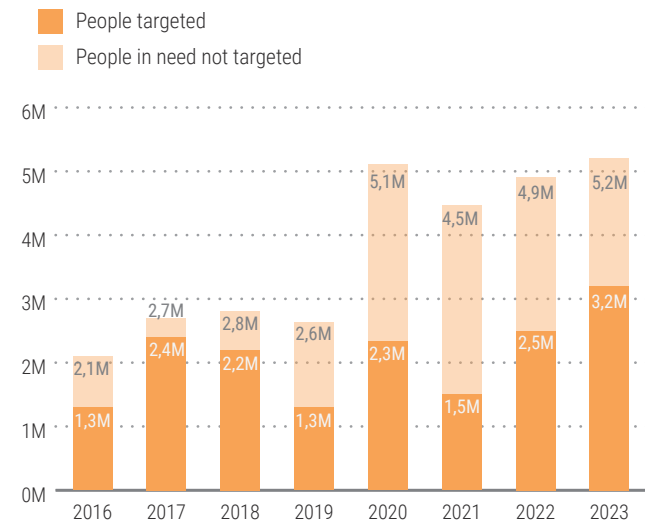
The gradual takeover of Port-au-Prince by gangs and the daily clashes for territorial control, including in the agricultural regions of the north and even in the south of the country, have led the country into a spiral of violence, resulting in a deterioration of humanitarian indicators. The number of internally displaced people in the ZMPP due to urban violence has doubled between 2021 and 2022 from 68,000 to more than 155,000 people. The number of severely food-insecure people has increased from 4.7 million in the September 2022 analysis to 4.9 million in the March-June 2023 projection period. The number of malnourished children is estimated to be 260,000 in 2023, 21 per cent higher than in 2022. All these indicators point to a continuing deterioration in the humanitarian situation.

The response. The average funding for the HRP did not exceed 30 per cent during 2018-2022.

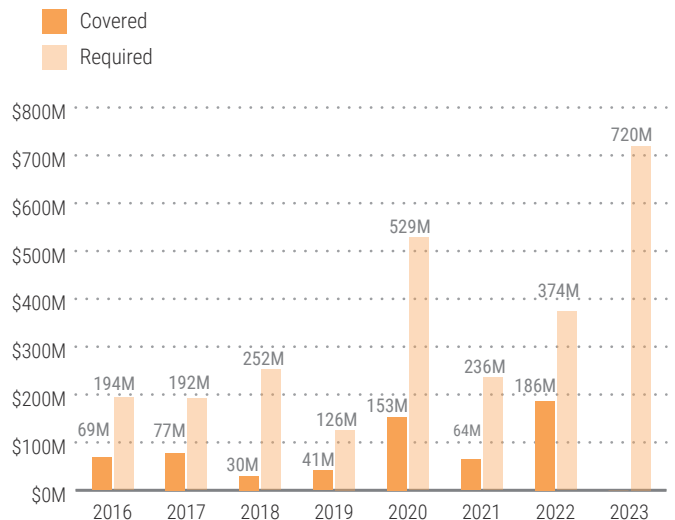
In 2023, funding needs for the HRP are estimated at nearly US\$720 million, almost double the funding required in 2022, the highest amount since the 2010 earthquake. This significant increase is explained by several factors, namely the exacerbation of needs, the explosion of operational costs mainly as a result of insecurity and access constraints and the global impact of the war in Ukraine on price inflation in general and humanitarian supplies in particular, which has not spared Haiti. In 2023, the average humanitarian cost per person in Haiti increased by 53 per cent, from US\$149.00 to US\$229.00 per beneficiary.

In 2022, the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was funded at 50 per cent, largely due to the cholera

## NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED VS. PEOPLE TARGETED



## FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS (US\$)



# What if we don't respond?

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## Shelter/NFI

Without adequate support, more than 400,000 people will not have access to adequate shelter and essential items. This will expose vulnerable people, particularly women, children, people with disabilities and the elderly, to undignified living conditions and extreme protection risks, including Gender-Based Violence. Furthermore, in the absence of adequate housing, family disputes and pressures are likely to increase, which, together with the lack of privacy for men and women, can lead to further frustration and violence against family members.

## Camp Coordination & Camp Management

If priority humanitarian interventions in the CCCM sector are not implemented, the precarious living conditions of IDPs will go from difficult to catastrophic. Only the few accessible IDP sites will be able to continue receiving partial assistance. Living conditions in these sites will further deteriorate and protection issues inherent to the sites will not be addressed. People with disabilities will be left behind.

## Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

In the absence of a response, affected populations will experience major life-threatening consequences through the onset and/or aggravation of diseases related to lack of water, sanitation and hygiene, including cholera. This will lead to increased morbidity and mortality.

## Education

If neither access to quality education nor a favourable protection and security context are provided, and if the sector is unable to mobilise funds and effectively coordinate short- and long-term resources to respond to identified needs, then it will be impossible to reverse the trend in humanitarian assistance needs in the country.

Moreover, in Haiti's current context, it is the school that sets the tone; when schools, particularly those in violent and hard-to-reach areas, are functioning, a whole range of economic activities are also functioning: public transport, small traders, etc. Schools are the only thing that keep a semblance of life today in complex areas. The issues are not simply the lost school days, but the trauma and the violence experienced by children, young people, parents, and teachers.

## Food Security

With the food basket rising by 88 per cent in February 2023 (annual rate), vulnerable families' access to food would remain at risk in 2023 without stakeholder intervention. Various economic shocks have led to an erosion in families' purchasing power, resulting in a decline in their ability to cover their food expenses. According to the results of the ENSSAN 2022 report, 39 and 38 per cent of respondents, respectively, identified the lack of supervision and the high cost of supplies as factors limiting agricultural performance. Without timely support for the spring season, farmers will lose opportunities for income and food from the harvest.

Within the context of Haiti's deep crisis, combined humanitarian and development action should prevent, mitigate and build resilience to shocks, providing more sustainable solutions to prolonged food insecurity.

## Health

The Haitian health system is on the verge of collapse amid a fragile revenue base due to the depth and duration of the security and economic crisis. Absent an adequate response, particularly a financial one, the impact of the crisis on excess mortality, especially among vulnerable groups such as pregnant and lactating women and children, will be catastrophic.

## Nutrition

Severe wasting is the most deadly form of acute malnutrition, as children suffering from severe wasting are 12 times more likely to die than a well-nourished child (reference: <https://www.unicef.fr/article/la-malnutrition-aigue-menace-la-vie-de-millions-denfants-vulnerables/>). Therefore, if children

who are suffering from severe acute malnutrition do not receive timely and high-quality care, there will be a high mortality among these children. As such, these interventions are directly linked to the survival of thousands of children and must be accessible everywhere, at all times and without discrimination.

## How to contribute

### Contribute to the Humanitarian Response Plan

To view the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), as well as the Response Monitoring Reports (RMP), and to contribute to the funding of this plan by supporting the organisations involved in its implementation, please visit:

<https://response.reliefweb.int/haiti>

<https://reliefweb.int/country/hti>

[fts.unocha.org](https://fts.unocha.org)

### Contribute via the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

The CERF is a humanitarian funding instrument that offers three kinds of funding opportunities. First, the CERF provides initial and rapid funding for new humanitarian crises and emergencies. Second, the CERF can provide funding for underfunded or forgotten humanitarian operations and crises. A third window, still in the testing stage, allows for anticipating events and shocks. The CERF, which is a single pooled fund managed by OCHA, only considers urgent and life-saving humanitarian actions. The fund receives contributions mainly from governments, but also from foundations, private companies, charities and individuals.

For more information on the CERF and how it works, and to contribute, please visit the CERF website:

<https://cerf.un.org/>