

This report was issued by OCHA New York. The next report will be issued on or around 24 March 2010.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- WFP and partners have delivered food to over 1.2 million people (over 200,000 families) in the greater Port-au-Prince area as part of a targeted food distribution. WFP reached 3 million people with food distributions in February, and 2.5 million people will be reached in March.
- The Shelter cluster is targeting a total of 1,301,491 people, or 260,298 households, with immediate provision of shelter materials. The distribution of appropriate fixings and toolkits also remains vital.
- FAO is conducting an assessment of livelihood conditions for populations displaced as a result of the earthquake. Approximately 90 percent of displaced families in the Artibonite department are believed to be residing with host families.
- The Education cluster reported that some 302,000 children have been displaced to other departments, with an additional 720,000 children affected by the earthquake but remaining in their home communities. Of this figure, 309,500 children are currently living in spontaneous temporary settlement sites, which lack basic social services.
- The first version of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) references 460 sites (including sub-sites for the largest settlements) with a total population of 1,170,000 individuals in the Port-au-Prince area.

II. Situation Overview

On 12 March, the United States Agency for International Development/Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) and USAID/Haiti staff conducted an assessment of humanitarian conditions for displaced persons and host families in and around Cap-Haitien municipality. The assessment found that the presence of an estimated 40,000 displaced individuals in the area had affected host families' livelihoods, straining limited pre-earthquake household resources. Local officials and residents cited food assistance as the primary remaining need. The Government's Directorate of Civil Protection reports that more than 40,000 displaced persons from earthquake-affected areas are currently residing with host families in the North department.

According to the USAID/DART assessment findings, displaced individuals in Cap-Haitien are residing with host families rather than in spontaneous settlements. The USAID assessment indicated that hosting arrangements have placed considerable economic strain on households in Cap-Haitien. Increased pressure on host family incomes has caused some individuals to cease small business activities due to a loss of monetary resources available for such ventures, according to USAID. As a result, the USAID assessment team recommended the implementation of augmented cash-for-work and other economic recovery and market systems interventions in the Cap-Haitien area to help support displaced and host families.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

The 12 clusters¹ designated in the Flash Appeal are holding regular meetings to coordinate their joint efforts.

Logistics

With an increasing flow of humanitarian relief commodities through the Logistics cluster's common trucking fleet, the integration of 18 international trucks donated by the Clinton foundation has been a timely addition. The common surface fleet and air cargo lifts by helicopters, are now transporting 50MT per day out of Port-au-Prince and Jacmel. The significant increase in surface and air cargo over the past few weeks indicates that demand for storage in the regional areas is also increasing.

¹ The 12 clusters are: Camp Coordination and Camp Management (IOM); Education (UNICEF); Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (IFRC); Food (WFP); Logistics (WFP); Nutrition (UNICEF); Protection (OHCHR with UNICEF for Child Protection and UNFPA for GBV); WASH (UNICEF); Agriculture (FAO); Early Recovery (UNDP); Emergency Telecommunications (WFP); Health (WHO/PAHO).

Temporary warehouse utilisation in Port-au-Prince is at approximately 90 percent capacity. Additional storage has been added in Leogane for inter-agency use. Hands on Disaster Response will manage this facility of 640m². Another storage facility of 240m² in Jacmel is being provided by UNICEF for inter-agency use. The Logistics cluster is facilitating the transfer of some US military assets to humanitarian partners, such as barbed wire and containers.

The movement of relief items by helicopters has scaled up in the last week with more than 200 MT being airlifted out of Port-au-Prince and Jacmel. Since 4 March, some 500 MT has been dispatched from Port-au-Prince and Jacmel.

UNHAS has also transported some 4,200 passengers between Santo Domingo and Port-au-Prince from more than 250 organisations. More than 18,500 m³ of relief commodities and support equipment has been transported from Santo Domingo to various destinations in Haiti for 67 different organisations. In addition, more than 2,100 MT has been dispatched by land or air from Port-au-Prince.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

As of 16 March, the first version of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) references 460 sites (including sub-sites for the largest settlements) with a total population of 1,170,000 individuals in the Port-au-Prince area. Consolidation with other sources is still ongoing and demographic figures will be re-assessed over the coming weeks to provide an accurate picture of the situation. The DTM is being extended to other affected areas.

The DTM shows an increase in the number of large priority settlements (with over 5000 individuals) identified for decompression from a total of 21 to 51 sites. They account for more than half (686,000 individuals) of the overall displaced population referenced in the DTM. Some of these large settlements have been divided into smaller sub-sites in order to facilitate the monitoring of service provision.

The first site for relocation, Santo 17, had its official inauguration on 13 March, providing a transitional solution for 1,400 displaced people. So far, some 200 families have moved into the site.

Gaps & Constraints: The next step for the DTM is to consolidate information on service provision with relevant clusters, cluster partners, camp management agencies, service providers and other stakeholders.

The Tabarre ISSA site is currently being prepared with engineering support from MINUSTAH. The site is expected to be completed by mid-April. There are ongoing consultations with the Protection cluster to finalize criteria for selection of the populations to be relocated. Discussions also focus on the movement plan and monitoring during relocations to ensure that protection concerns are addressed.

Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI)

The Shelter cluster is targeting a total of 1,301,491 people, or 260,298 households, with immediate provision of shelter material. The distribution of appropriate fixings and toolkits also remains vital.

The planned decompression of dense settlements within Port-au-Prince is continuing. Small parcels of land are being made available by the Government. The Shelter cluster is preparing agencies to provide emergency and transitional shelter in these areas.

The needs of people living with host families, including the needs of host families themselves, are being assessed. Cluster members have provided emergency shelter materials to over 70 percent of the targeted 1.3 million people in need of shelter support.

To date, over 290,700 tarpaulins have been distributed together with over 37,500 family-size tents. Approximately, 66,600 households have been supplied with ropes and fixing materials while 11,600 tool kits have been distributed. The following key household NFIs have also been distributed: kitchen sets (47,400 distributed), hygiene kits (175,000 distributed), blankets (214,000 distributed) and mosquito nets (69,000 distributed).

A host family technical working group has been formed to address the assessment needs and material packages for support to host families. The rubble removal task force continues and agencies are now focusing on smaller sites in close proximity to original dwellings.

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In the South East department, at least 15,000 families have now received emergency shelter and household NFIs. Despite more relief items being distributed, the baseline population data in need continues to grow. This information is currently being updated with the Government’s Directorate of Civil Protection to enable a better gap analysis.

In Leogane, including Gressier, Petit Goave and Grand Goave, four agencies have started the house-to-house registration of beneficiaries. The Shelter cluster members engaged in Transitional Shelter projects have decided to proceed with a house-by-house registration in order to identify families and to avoid double registrations in houses and camps.

The recent approval of additional funding is enabling agencies engaged in debris recycling and removal to purchase Debris Recycling & Removal toolkits in line with the Shelter cluster strategy.

Gaps & Constraints: According to the Shelter cluster, an agreement on sufficient land for shelter and the length of tenure for affected populations remain key issues to be clarified. Obtaining accurate data on the actual number of affected people left homeless by the earthquake remains a challenge, as settlements continue to attract occupants from surrounding neighbourhoods and beyond.

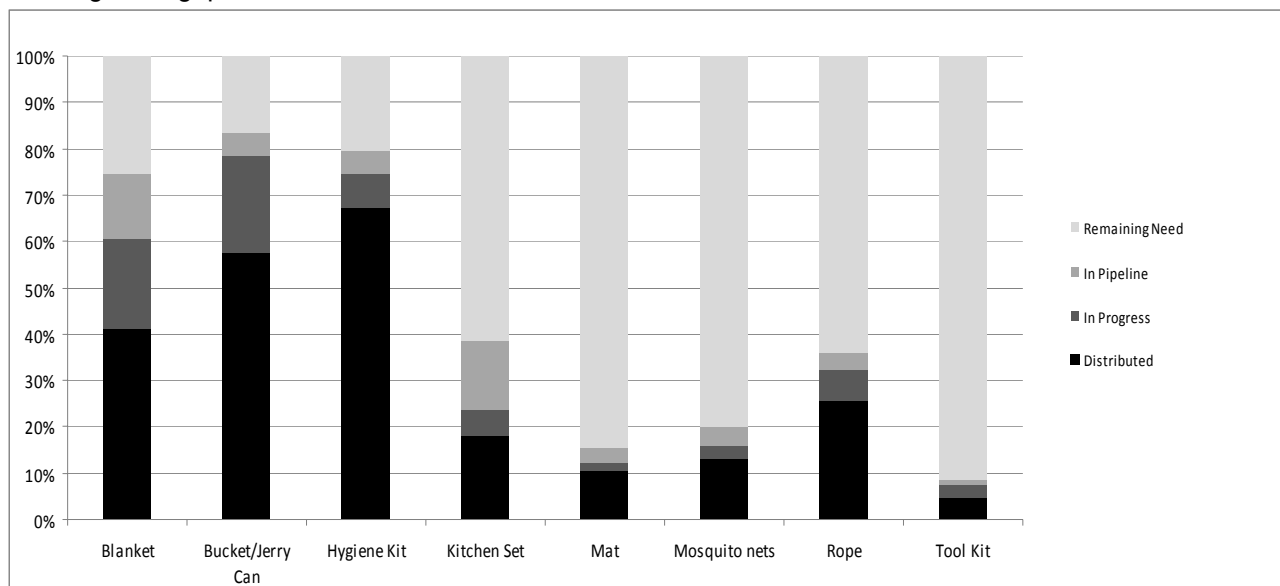
Although all earthquake-affected Communes in Jacmel now have agencies working for emergency shelter and NFI distributions, there are some *Section Communales* where gaps remain. This issue will be further assessed by cluster members.

An awareness campaign must be launched to avoid the perception that registration in sites is a direct requirement to benefit from support. The campaign must also clarify that the house-by-house registration will be crucial for beneficiary selection for Transitional Shelter projects.

A number of organizations are reporting that customs clearance procedures are holding up materials planned for transitional shelter and NFI distributions.

The continuing increase in both the number of camps and the size of existing camps is proving quite challenging for implementing agencies. Anecdotal evidence suggests that a percentage of these increases are persons not directly affected by the earthquake. New occupants may be coming from existing economically challenged areas as they look for support. Meanwhile, the cluster reports it has insufficient supplies of toolkits and fixings.

Coverage and gaps of household NFIs



Source: Shelter/NFIs Cluster

Agriculture

FAO is conducting an assessment of livelihood conditions for populations displaced as a result of the earthquake. The assessment will feed into a planning exercise, which will develop activities to improve the livelihood options within the agriculture sector. The first assessment mission was conducted in Artibonite, where it was discovered that 60 percent of the displaced families were headed by women. Approximately 90 percent of displaced families were hosted by other households, while the remaining 10 percent were living in collective centres. Local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are making great efforts to support the displaced female-headed households and are considering engaging in agriculture-based interventions in order to reinforce their livelihoods.

FAO is participating in the Cash-for-Work and Food-for-Work (CFW/FFW) Technical Working Group in order to contribute its technical expertise to the process of developing interventions in rural areas. FAO is also collaborating with the Haitian Government, USAID, MINUSTAH, UNDP and WFP in this initiative. Currently, the activities identified include urban cleaning (rubble removal from drainage canals and treatment of material waste), road rehabilitation, watershed management, reforestation and cleaning of irrigation canals.

Food

Between 6 and 17 March, WFP and partners have delivered food to over 1.2 million people (over 200,000 families) in the greater Port-au-Prince area as part of a targeted food distribution.

WFP reached 3 million people with food distributions in February, and another 2.5 million people will be reached in March.

On Cash-for-Work/Food-for-Work (CFW/FFW), a road map is being elaborated on the way forward to implement such projects. A Technical Working Group has been created to screen CFW/FFW proposals and will be the body for any endorsement of these activities. Meetings will be held to reach an agreement on the targeting ratio of cash/food (60/40 on average), and also to agree on the wages (i.e. possibly 200 Haitian Gourdes for 6 hours of work). Depending on the areas of implementation, variations could be considered on the cash/food ratio. The process is decentralized and meetings are taking place in all departments at the Government level (Leogane, PaP, Les Cayes, Jacmel, Gonaives, Hinche, Port de Paix, Jeremie, Miragoane, Fort Liberté, and Cap Haitien). In les Cayes, some proposals for CFW/FFW have already been received and will be submitted to the review committee.

WASH

Sanitation and hygiene remain top priorities, particularly in the spontaneous settlement sites where sanitation facilities remain inadequate.

The number of latrines installed by the UN and partners remains at 4,209 latrines. The cluster aims to install an initial figure of 11,000 latrines based on a preliminary standard of 1 latrine for every 100 people, and will gradually increase the ratio over the course of the year in phases so that eventually there is 1 latrine for every 20 people. Approximately 3,900 latrine slabs, 176 chemical and 43 portable toilets have been delivered by UNICEF to implementing partners this week.

Health

An assessment carried out by IOM's health unit in 21 settlement sites (covering a total population of 242,264 individuals) from 24 February to 4 March revealed that the constructed latrines were only partially used in 57 percent of the sites, while they were not being used at all in 33 percent of the sites due to difficulties in accessing latrines, inappropriate set-ups (i.e. not separated by gender, no sitting facilities, insufficient privacy, etc.) and dirty facilities. Moreover, it was found that 86 percent (18 out of 21) of the sites had regular health provision, 30 percent (6 out of 21) of the sites reported incidents of sexual violence, and 33 percent (7 out of 21) of the sites did not have any latrines.

Forty-nine Rape Kits have been distributed to partners so far, with each kit covering 50 individuals.

Additional settlements have been identified for inclusion into the ongoing vaccination campaign. To date, over 340,000 children and adults have been vaccinated. Routine childhood vaccinations are being implemented by the National Immunization Program throughout the country.

The epidemiological team, composed of PAHO/WHO, the United States Centre for Disease Control, the Cuban Medical Brigade and the Canadian International Development Agency, continues to train clinical staff in all large Port-au-Prince settlements on how to conduct surveillance for specific diseases.

The Ministry of Health, UNICEF, PAHO/WHO and WFP issued a joint statement on the appropriate use of infant formula, which reiterated the dangers of using formula that requires the addition of water. While breastfeeding is encouraged, ready-to-use formula is available for the small number of infants who need it.

Gaps & Constraints: More health coverage is needed outside Port-au-Prince, including Leogane and the department of Artibonite.

The cluster is encouraging partners to report findings and to register with the Government.

Gender

A one-pager on gender 'Dos and Dont's' in shelter design and allocation was submitted to the Shelter cluster, in view of preparation of the two allocated sites for relocation (Tabarre Issa and Les Orangers), which will be posted on the cluster's website.

A brief presentation was conducted in the Early Recovery cluster on possible ways of mainstreaming gender through income-generating projects for vulnerable groups in household waste management, debris management and in the clearing of canals and drainages.

Gaps & Constraints: Discussions will be held with the WASH cluster on the latrine concerns raised above.

There are concerns that the needs of vulnerable groups (women, children, elderly, persons with disabilities) will not be adequately met in the design and allocation of shelter in the two new allocated sites for relocation of displaced persons (Tabarre Issa and Les Orangers).

Education

The cluster reported that some 302,000 children have been displaced to other departments, with an additional 720,000 children affected by the earthquake but remaining in their home communities. Of this figure, 309,500 children are currently living in spontaneous temporary settlement sites, which lack basic social services. The immediate priority of the Education cluster is to provide temporary learning spaces, trainings, and material packages for children, teachers and parents.

The Education cluster is also working with the CCCM cluster on the design and planning of new flood- and landslide-resistant sites for the relocation of 250,000 displaced people in Port-au-Prince. The cluster will also ensure access to quality education services for children relocated to these sites.

Almost half of the schools in Jacmel officially reopened on 8 March, with 100 percent of schools in Belle-Anse reopening. Thirteen schools in Belle-Anse registered an increase of 981 new students, which indicates a need for targeted assistance in these sites. On 12 March, the Education Departmental Directorate organized a distribution of UNICEF supplies, through which 100 school directors each received a school-in-a-box kit and an Early Childhood Development kit. Twenty-five tents were also distributed to the schools most in need.

Gaps & Constraints: Considering that the inspection and certification of school buildings deemed safe for re-occupation has been slow, the Ministry of Education has stated that children should not return to unsafe structures. This implies that there might be a need for temporary and transitional learning spaces until the certification process is completed.

According to the Ministry of Education, there are still over 100 school sites in Leogane which require debris clearance. Schools that are unable to receive tents due to space constraints will need to be transferred to more suitable areas.

IV. Funding

According to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), the revised Humanitarian Appeal of US\$1.4 billion is 50 percent funded at \$718 million, with another \$36 million in uncommitted pledges.

All companies that wish to make cash and in kind donations are urged to use the new UN/Business Partnership Gateway, at <http://business.un.org>. This function matches offers of support with UN needs.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in kind contributions by sending an email to: fts@reliefweb.int

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Websites and document links:

Government of Haiti website: <http://haitiseisme2010.gouv.ht/>

Haiti coordination website: <http://haiti.oneresponse.info>

For more information on Haiti and other crises, visit: www.reliefweb.int

For information on OCHA: <http://ochaonline.un.org/haiti>

Guide to humanitarian giving for the Haiti Earthquake: <http://ochaonline.un.org/donatetohaiti>

For information on ICRC's family tracing service, go to: <http://www.familylinks.icrc.org/familylinks>.

For the logistics cluster: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a>

For the emergency telecommunications cluster: www.wfp.org/ict-emergency

For the shelter cluster: <http://groups.google.com/group/shelterhaiti2010>

UNHAS flights from SD to PAP: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a/flash-news-17-january-2010-unhas>

Gender ABCs for Haiti: <http://oneresponse.info/crosscutting/gender/>

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