

DREF OPERATION

Haiti Floods - June 2023

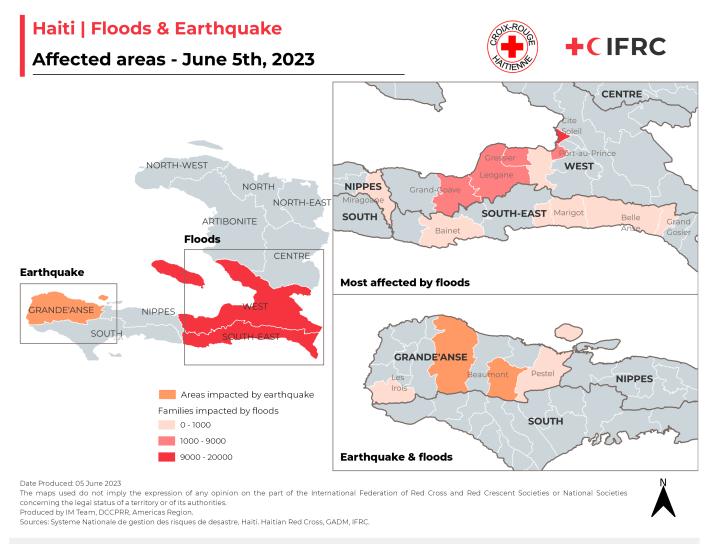


Heavy rains caused destructive flooding across Haiti.

Appeal: MDRHT020	Country: Haiti	Hazard: Flood	Type of DREF Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 394,955	
Glide Number: FL-2023-000085-HTI	People Affected: 197,290 people	People Targeted: 12,500 people	
Operation Start Date:	Operation Timeframe: 4 months	Operation End Date:	DREF Published:
Targeted Areas:	Grand Anse, Ouest		



Description of the Event



Map of provinces affected by floods and earthquake. Source: IFRC

What happened, where and when?

Floods:

On 3 June, Haiti was struck by an exceptionally heavy rainstorm that swept across the entire country. The downpour, accompanied by strong winds and thunderstorms, was caused by a stationary meteorological low-pressure system that formed over Haiti and persisted throughout the day. Although the event was not classified as a cyclone, storm, or tropical downpour, the prolonged and intense rainfall resulted in severe consequences for the nation.

The excessive precipitation caused numerous rivers to overflow, leading to flash floods, widespread flooding, and landslides. The situation was exacerbated by previous heavy rainfall and flooding in areas that had experienced severe weather conditions in the preceding week. With the ground already saturated, it was unable to absorb the additional rainfall. Consequently, this situation is affecting a large number of people who were already in a situation of chronic vulnerability. Grand'Anse, Sud'Est, Nippes, Nord'Ouest, Centre, and Ouest are the most affected departments.

In the department of Grand'Anse, municipalities like Pestel, Beaumont, and Les Irois suffered from extensive flooding, resulting in submerged houses and the evacuation of families due to the strong winds and rain. Agricultural and livestock losses were also reported in Pestel due to the overflowing La Hatte River. Roads were cut off in several



areas, impeding access and relief efforts. The flooding extended to other regions, including Léogâne, Petit Goave, and parts of Port-au-Prince.

Although the situation has relatively calmed about the potential arrival of additional low-pressure systems. Should heavy rainfall occur, the already waterlogged soil will be unable to prevent further flooding and landslides, potentially leading to a higher death toll. The UMH and the General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC, by its acronym in French) are conducting awareness campaigns, urging residents in flood-prone areas to remain vigilant and take necessary safety precautions during heavy rain.

Earthquake:

On 6 June at 5:11 a.m., the inhabitants of Jérémie, the capital of the Grand'Anse department, were awakened by an earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter scale. The epicenter was located 4 km northwest of Abricot (Grand'Anse Dept.), 23 km northwest of Jérémie (Grand'Anse Dept.), 180 km northwest of Léogâne (West Dept.), and 210 km west of Port-au-Prince (West Dept.), at a depth of 10 km. This is the second time that this area has experienced an earthquake in a matter of days (there was a 4.1 earthquake on 4 June). Furthermore, the Grand'Anse department was one of the most affected during the 7.2 magnitude earthquake that affected more than 800,000 Haitians in August 2021.







HRCS volunteers on the field. Source: HRC

HRCS volunteers provide potable water in Leogane.

Scope and Scale

Haiti stands out globally as one of the countries most susceptible to various natural hazards, including hurricanes, floods, and earthquakes. The situation is expected to worsen as the climate crisis intensifies, resulting in more frequent, intense, and devastating extreme weather events. Ranked as the most vulnerable nation in the Caribbean region and 14th worldwide according to the Risk Management Index, Haiti is undeniably a land at high risk, with a significant likelihood of encountering natural disasters.

The extent of the negative impacts generated by the recent flood and earthquake emergency is further described below:

Floods:

According to the General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC, by its acronym in French), as of 6 June, initial assessments reveal a significant impact on the country over the weekend. The latest figures indicate that 39,458 households have been affected, with 13,400 individuals displaced in Ouest, Sud-Est, Nord-Ouest, Plateau Central, and Nippes. Additionally, 3,586 people have been evacuated or provided shelter, and the reported casualties include



51 deaths, 140 injuries, and 18 individuals still missing.

In terms of infrastructure, the devastation caused by the floods has resulted in 31,591 homes being flooded, with 2,445 structures either destroyed or damaged. Significant damage has been observed in various infrastructures, schools, and healthcare facilities across the departments of Ouest, Nippes, Sud-Est, Nord-Ouest, Centre, and Sud. The department of Ouest, particularly the communes of Léogâne (reporting 24 deaths), Gressier, Cité Soleil, and Tabarre, has experienced the most severe impact, with the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area (ZMPAP) being the hardest hit.

Several thousand families have been affected in Léogane, a municipality located 33 kilometers south of the capital, Port-au-Prince. The Interim Executive Council of Léogane has appealed for assistance to aid the thousands of victims. Only in this municipality, a dozen schools, three hospitals, and three health centers have been flooded, while landslides and damage to plantations have been reported. Léogane has experienced severe flooding and significant destruction of infrastructure. A large portion of the affected population has lost their sources of income, including personal belongings, properties, fields, and livestock, further exacerbating their economic hardships amidst high inflation. Host families accommodating displaced individuals are also facing an increased strain on their livelihoods and are likely to encounter economic difficulties. Moreover, flooded areas like Cité Soleil pose a risk of cholera spread, which resurfaced in Haiti in October 2022.

In the southeast, a boat linking Anse-à-Pitres and Marigot sank off Côte-de-Fer on the morning of 3 June. Fourteen survivors recovered. Two survivors, in serious condition, were evacuated to the department's referral hospital, where they are being treated. The number of passengers aboard the boat is still unknown, and several are still missing. Four bodies, including one woman, were recovered after the wreck. Teams from the Haitian Civil Protection and Red Cross, as well as Semanah, have been mobilized since Saturday to carry out rescue operations in search of other survivors.

Earthquake:

The tremor caused panic among the population. According to an initial DGPC assessment, four people were found dead and 28 others were injured. The injured were rushed to Saint Antoine Hospital for treatment. In addition, 2 houses were destroyed in St-Helene (Morne Fort), and there was a landslide on national road #7, bringing traffic to a standstill. The search for survivors continues. The DGPC has already mobilized teams on the ground to support the victims.

Historic information:

Haiti has experienced severe consequences due to recent floods, leading to loss of life, displacement of communities, infrastructure damage, and significant socioeconomic implications. In November 2016, Hurricane Matthew wreaked havoc, causing catastrophic flooding, infrastructure destruction, and community displacement. Additionally, in October 2019, torrential rains triggered flash floods and landslides in the Nord and Nord-Ouest departments, resulting in casualties and infrastructure damage. Notable flood events also occurred in June 2021, with heavy rainfall leading to widespread flooding and landslides in the Artibonite and West departments. These incidents underscore the susceptibility of Haiti to extreme weather events and emphasize the importance of effective disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation measures.

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	Yes
Did it affect the same population groups?	No



Did the National Society respond?	Yes
Did the National Society request funding from DREF for that event(s)?	No
If yes, please specify which operations	MDRHT018

Lessons learned

The current Emergency Appeal being implemented in Haiti as well as previous DREF operations have generated multiple lessons learned for future interventions of the Haitian Red Cross (HRCS). These lessons learned have been considered to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of this emergency response, while minimizing the risks and challenges.

One of the important learnings considered as part of the preparedness, and to respond quickly to the floods/disasters, is the use of prepositioned relief items available in warehouses at the branches. This allows the National Society to quickly respond to emergencies. In fact, minutes after the floods around the country, the HRCS mobilized its logistics staff and the inventory proved that they could support 1,000 families with hygiene kits.

Another lesson learned worth highlighting is the close coordination with local authorities (e.g. DGPC) and its different regional branches which facilitates HRCS to mobilize its volunteer's network and get quick information and permissions to access the affected areas and to respond quickly. The HRCS closely coordinates with relevant stakeholders at national and local levels to identify the needs/gaps and avoid duplication of efforts and resources.

Current National Society Actions

Activation Of Contingency Plans	The Haiti Red Cross Society is a member of all committees of the National Disaster and Risk Management System (SNGRD, by its acronym in French). The SNGRD is headed by the Prime Minister, his ministers, and the HRCS president. The HRCS president maintains high-level contact with national authorities and coordinates the capacities of the National Society and the IFRC network.
Other	The Haitian Red Cross Society, in collaboration with partners, is actively responding to the cholera epidemic in Haiti through the ongoing Emergency Appeal. They prioritize actions such as raising public awareness, facilitating referrals to health centers, promoting hygiene practices and access to clean water, community involvement, surveillance and monitoring, and improving knowledge of water disinfection and sanitation. HRCS ambulance teams transport infected patients to health centers, and they have expanded their institutional access for SMS messages on cholera awareness. Surveys on perception and assessments of WASH infrastructure have been conducted. It is worth highlighting that the planned intervention under the DREF Application will not take place in the same locations where the cholera activities are being conducted. Therefore, there will be no duplication of efforts and activities.
	National Society staff and volunteers are monitoring units at the central level and in all regions, participating in damage assessments and supporting the necessary information for this DREF application. The HRCS mobilized its volunteers to reinforce civil protection teams to carry out awareness-raising



have also been mobilized to carry out damage assessments in more than a dozen communes in the Nord-Ouest, Ouest, Grand'Anse, and Sud'Est departments. **National Society Readiness** Assessments are continuing in the Ouest, Grand'Anse, and Sud'Est departments. The Haitian Red Cross has stock available for 300 families in Grand'Anse, which will be used to provide an initial response. A total of 20 volunteers trained in Risk and Disaster Management were mobilized to launch the awareness campaign to reinforce and continue the dissemination of disaster risk prevention messages in the Jérémie and Marfranc neighborhoods, with the support of the Dutch Red Cross. A total of 2,409 families were made aware of the issue, and around 279 flyers with key messages were distributed. Reduction, Climate The HRCS started the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) cycle in 2019. **Adaptation And Recovery** It is currently in the Action and Accountability phase. As PER has multiple components, those related to DRR will be combined in this operation, so the HRCS is supported to strengthen and expand its multi-hazard preparedness capacities. The HRCS has installed capacity in DRR, which has received support from several partner National Societies, that can be leveraged to integrate preparedness actions moving forward. Capacity-building activities will also be launched at the community level on multi-hazard preparedness, this entails Early Warning/ Early Action and community/ family preparedness. The Haitian Red Cross Society, with the support of the IFRC teams in the country, organized a meeting with the Red Cross Movement partners in Haiti on 3 June, immediately after the floods. The NS participated in the country's extraordinary meeting for the floods with other humanitarian actors in the country. Disaster management technical focal points from the Haitian Red Cross and IFRC Delegation in Haiti are working together and have set up an internal coordination mechanism; maintain constant communication with the Red Cross Movement partners to identify the needs and response actions to assist the people affected by floods and earthquakes. Sectoral coordination is taking place via the established Humanitarian Country Team working groups and mechanisms at the national level in Coordination Port-au-Prince and at the departmental level. This participation enables coordination with State institutions, non-State actors and other humanitarian partners. In each of the affected department there is a weekly meeting per cluster plus a general coordination meeting with all clusters. HRCS maintains a coordinated response with local, provincial, and national authorities and other humanitarian organizations. It participates in all coordination forums with other humanitarian actors at the country level. The activities planned under this response will not occur in the same locations where teams are working on cholera interventions. The activities related to the floods in Haiti will be implemented and synergistic strategies will be adopted by the different teams of the National Society

activities in the communes of Léogane, Port-de-Paix, and Tabarre. Volunteers



	to provide an integrated response to the various victims and/or vulnerable persons, and measures will be put in place to avoid duplication with current cholera related interventions.
Assessment	The Haitian Red Cross Society is supporting civil protection structures to carry out evaluations in the Sud'Est, Grand'Anse, Nord'Ouest, and Ouest departments. The HRCS is part of the Emergency Operations Center in every department of the country. As soon as the needs are identified, the HRCS deploys volunteers trained in needs assessment to collect information. Questionnaires are used to collect this information which is then used to inform decision-making.
Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	The planned response under this DREF Application will support the distribution of Non-Food Items (NFIs) since other PNSs are also responding (for example supplying potable water), such as the Spanish Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, and Swiss Red Cross. The Swiss Red Cross is supporting the Local Committee of Léogane, Ouest Department. More specifically in two localities (Dampus and Cite Calebre), in the western department, in activities to assess and raise awareness of the Local Committee of Léogâne on risk management and cholera. The Swiss Red Cross is supporting the HRCS by helping 330 families through the distribution of NFIs such as mattresses, shovels, rakes, plastic sheeting, sanitary towels, toilet soap, laundry soap, toothbrushes, water treatment bottles (Gadyen dlo), hygiene kits and kitchen sets.
Community Engagement And Accountability	The Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) approach is cross-sectoral to encompass the assessments, identification of target populations, implementation of actions, and post-distribution monitoring. CEA tools and products (in Haitian Creole), with technical support from the Americas Regional Office, were provided to the HRCS and the IFRC team in the field.
Health	HRCS has coordinated the response with its network of branches and partners, supporting the DGPC in the rapid assessment of damage and immediate needs in affected areas of flooding and recent earthquake; search, rescue, and first aid activities, emergency health care, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS). In response to the damage caused by the rains and the earthquake in the Grand'Anse region, the Haitian Red Cross Society immediately mobilized twenty-five volunteer rescue workers through its Regional Committee to evacuate people injured. The HRCS crisis units and emergency plans were activated at both central and regional/departmental levels. Three teams of first aiders were mobilized as part of the response: a permanent team at the Saint Antoine de Jérémie hospital to support the hospital's medical team, an ambulance unit deployed in the field to provide first aid to victims and evacuate people injured to health facilities, and a third team at the regional committee office to take over from there. In the Grand'Anse region alone, 9 people (7 men and 2 women) received first aid and were quickly transported to the nearest health facility by the ambulance service. Following the earthquake on 6 June 2023, joint teams from the Communal Civil Protection committees and the Haitian Red Cross were deployed to carry



	out a damage assessment and needs analysis (EDAB). At the end of this assessment, a partial report was presented by the Jérémie town hall, indicating that 60 families had been affected in the Morne Fort/St Hélène and Industriel neighborhoods.
National Society EOC	The Haitian Red Cross Society (HRCS) has been sharing information with branches in all regions with a focus on the West, North-West, and South-East. Also, the National Society is integrated into the National Emergency Operations Centre (COUN, by its acronym in French), activated Departmental Emergency Operations Center (COUD, by its acronym in French) and Communal Emergency Operations Center (COUC, by its acronym in French), and maintains constant information sharing with COUNs. The Haitian Red Cross Society technical and management focal points are participating in the OCHA virtual meetings.

Movement Partners Actions Related To The Current Event

IFRC	The IFRC Delegation in Haiti maintains close contact and coordination with the Haitian Red Cross (HRCS). Additionally, the Health, Disaster, Climate and Crisis Department of the IFRC Americas regional office in Panama maintains constant communication with the Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) and provides technical support to the HRC. To ensure effective response and support, the IFRC team in Haiti has facilitated exchanges with the technical team of the National Society's disaster management unit. This collaboration aims to establish an internal coordination mechanism and maintain ongoing communication with the wider Red Cross Movement. Regular meetings will be conducted, and communication and coordination channels will remain open to facilitate information sharing and discuss operational activities pertinent to the current emergency.
ICRC	The ICRC continues to support the HRCS in the operationalization of the fundamental principles of the Movement to achieve safer access to different communities. It participates in the humanitarian coordination mechanism, together with the HRCS and the IFRC, contributing to the profile of the Movement's role and response to emergency situations, and remains ready to facilitate required interventions in sensitive areas. The ICRC monitors potential ad hoc needs and displays a focused response in armed violence-affected communities.
Participating National Societies	The Swiss Red Cross supports the Leogane Local Committee's assessment and awareness-raising activities on Risk Management and Cholera. The Swiss Red Cross supports HRC in assisting 330 families with materials such as mattresses, shovels, rakes, plastic sheeting, sanitary towels, toilet soap, laundry soap, toothbrushes, water treatment bottles (Gadyen dlo), hygiene kits, kitchen sets, in the town of Leogane and in Bino Lester. The Netherland RC and the Spanish RC are also supporting the wider response with logistics support, assessments, relief items, and deployment of the Watsan Team (from Jacmel).



The Canadian Red Cross is also in constant communication with the IFRC Americas Regional Office and Country Cluster Delegation to support once the DREF is launched.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	In the wake of the meteorological warning issued by the Hydrometeorological Unit of Haiti (UHM, by its acronym in French), the Public Information Area of the Directorate General of Civil Protection (DGPC, by its acronym in French) COU stepped up its actions online and via territorial structures to inform the population of the situation and remind them of safety instructions. The National Risk and Disaster Management Committee (Comité Nationale de Gestion des Risques et des Désastres) held a meeting on 3 June, activating the Emergency Operations Center (Centre d'Opération d'urgence national) of Grand'Anse, Nord'Ouest, and Sud'Est to coordinate and monitor operations being carried out on the ground by state and non-state sectors and institutions, with the support of international humanitarian partners. Regular working sessions were held at the emergency operations center with the participation of the various sectors to assess the situation and propose a response plan. The Prime Minister, Dr. Ariel Henry, visited COUN twice in less than 24 hours to assess the situation and push forward urgent interventions to help the stricken population. The government held two press conferences chaired by the Prime Minister to inform the population. Communication actions are being continued as the situation evolves. The Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP, by its acronym in French) is providing hospital facilities in the communes of Petit-Goave and Grand-Goave with inputs until the hospital in Léogane is operational. Tents will be installed to facilitate temporary operations.
	Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has farming equipment pre-positioned in the South-East, which will be made available to committees in the worst-affected communes to help clean hard-to-reach areas. Cash transfer activities targeting the commune of Léogâne are awaiting confirmation of market availability. UN agencies have confirmed the availability of: o 20,756 ready-to-eat prepared meals in Port-au-Prince; o 350,000 hot meals (prepared by a network of local restaurants) o 30-day dry rations consisting of 50 kg of rice, 12.5 peas and 3.68 oils. On 5 June, emergency managers from IOM, UNICEF, WFP, and OCHA, as well as coordinators of the access and logistics working groups, worked with the



DGPC to put in place a multi-sectoral rapid response plan (dry rations, hot meals, repair kits, hygiene kits, drinking water, mobile clinic) for the most affected communes (Léogâne, Gressier, Cité Soleil and Tabarre).

In view of the insecurity in several localities and districts of Port-au-Prince and the damage to road infrastructure, ways of delivering aid to these priority areas are being explored to identify the optimum approach for assisting the affected populations, with the potential use of sea transport.

The WFP has already announced that it will be able to distribute 20,756 Meal-Ready-to-Eat meals, 350,000 hot meals prepared by a network of local restaurateurs, as well as dry rations providing 30 days' worth of food, rice, peas, and oil - 268 rations (17.7 MT) available now, and 3,200 more by the end of next week.

UN or other actors

CONCERN Worldwide is also providing an emergency response in Cité Soleil, through the distribution of hygiene kits, as well as cleaning up and other street clearing and drainage work. The private sector has also been mobilized through the AGERCA (Alliance pour la gestion des risques et la continuité des activités - AGERCA) network.

The Barbancourt Foundation and a chef have distributed 300 hot meals to women and children affected by the bad weather, while telephone operator Digicel is also planning to provide communication minutes for emergency managers working in the field.

The AGERCA network has mobilized a 6,000-gallon water truck, as well as light transport solutions by sea and air. The network set up eight collection points in cooperation with HERO, a company specializing in ambulance and paramedical services, to collect food and hygiene kits, water treatment products, and tents.

Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?

On the afternoon of 3 June, the DGPC announced the activation of the National Emergency Operations Center (COUN). The national institution in charge of the response, OCHA, as well as UN agency heads, coordinators, and information officers from humanitarian sectors and clusters, have been working there since 4 June to support the DGPC in terms of priority needs analysis and emergency response coordination. Priority activities include the provision of shelters, food kits, hygiene kits, and drinking water.



Needs (Gaps) Identified



The floods have had a direct impact on 63,895 individuals, exposing families, especially those who are homeless, to various risks and vulnerabilities. Women and children under five are particularly susceptible to infections in this hazardous situation. The ongoing cholera crisis, coupled with the flooding, has heightened the vulnerabilities of the entire population, especially the most marginalized.

Limited access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, and adequate food has made the population highly vulnerable and has facilitated the spread of cholera. Immediate medical attention is required for the injuries sustained by individuals, while ongoing psychosocial support is crucial to address the emotional trauma experienced by the affected population. Given the prolonged pandemic and national crisis, mental health and psychosocial support play vital roles in the response efforts. These events have a particularly devastating impact on individuals and households already living in extremely challenging conditions, such as those experiencing extreme poverty, the elderly, people with disabilities, and pregnant or lactating women.

Prior to the disaster, Haiti's healthcare system was already severely limited and faced numerous challenges. Insecurity, road blockades during demonstrations, and fuel shortages hinder the functioning of health facilities. The economic disruption in the country worsens poverty and hinders access to basic healthcare services. Even when vulnerable groups manage to access healthcare, they often encounter facilities lacking essential equipment and medicines, a shortage of qualified medical staff, and limited access to emergency services. Accessing healthcare services for both caregivers and patients remains extremely difficult.

The Haiti Humanitarian Needs Report, published in early 2023, highlighted that over 4.5 million people would require assistance to meet their basic health needs. The humanitarian needs related to healthcare have been increasing each year, affecting approximately 23% of the population in 2021, 32% in 2022, and expected to reach 37% in 2023.

All the determining factors present in 2022 will continue to persist in 2023, including diphtheria, malaria, COVID-19, and other diseases with epidemic potential. These factors contribute to increasing humanitarian health needs, requiring resources and efforts from partners to address them. Adding to these challenges is the ongoing cholera epidemic, putting over 1,500,000 people at risk.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Essential tasks must be carried out to address the aftermath of the disaster, including water pumping and cleaning of flooded houses, clearing roads, and unclogging drains, drainage channels, and sewers in urban areas. However, these efforts are hindered by the damage caused by landslides and sediment deposits, especially in the South-East department, where road infrastructure was already in a precarious state. Furthermore, the DGPC has reported fuel shortages and communication difficulties (particularly in Sud-Est and Grand'Anse), which further complicate the analysis of needs and the timely delivery of initial humanitarian assistance to affected areas.

Access to clean drinking water, basic hygiene, and sanitation services in Haiti is severely lacking, particularly in rural and peri-urban areas, where the majority of the country's population resides. The statistics indicate that only 55% of households have access to basic water services, with rates of 48% in rural areas and 68% in urban areas, according to SIEPA/DINEPA data from June 2022. Moreover, 61% of households in rural areas do not have



access to improved latrines or engage in open defecation, while the figure stands at 33% for urban areas.

The insufficient availability of drinking water, along with inadequate sanitation and hygiene services, significantly impact the living conditions of the Haitian population, particularly those residing in disadvantaged areas. As a result, the population affected by floods may face challenges in accessing essential resources such as clean drinking water, exacerbating the already difficult circumstances they face.

The flooding has caused significant damage to several water systems, resulting in an increased risk of water-borne diseases like diarrhea and cholera due to the subsequent use of unsafe water sources. The loss of essential hygiene and household equipment, such as buckets, jerry cans, and soap, further compounds this situation, especially for households already facing precarious conditions. It is crucial to pay special attention to women and girls, as their personal hygiene is particularly affected by the consequences of flooding.

In the face of these multiple crises, the population's resilience and level of emergency preparedness still needs to be improved, particularly in terms of water, sanitation, and hygiene.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

The accumulation of political shocks and natural disasters has not only worsened the economic and social situation of vulnerable populations but has also had serious consequences for the protection of the Haitian population, in an already fragile country with economic stagnation, lack of income, and employment opportunities, structural deficiencies in public services, natural disasters, and epidemics.

Situations of crisis, natural disaster, and heightened insecurity, unfortunately, create fertile ground for the resurgence of cases of GBV and sexual abuse and exploitation, making them one of the greatest protections challenges that individuals and communities can face. Numerous studies highlight the increase in sexual and gender-based violence following disasters, and national rates in normal times are also worrying.

In terms of sexual violence faced by women in the country, it is estimated that at least 30 per cent of Haitian women between the ages of 15 and 30 years old have been the victims of sexual abuse or violence. Gangs use sexual violence to instill fear. The needs and gaps in this area include access to adequate medical and psychosocial care to prevent further physical and psychological harm (1)

Source:

(1) https://data.unwomen.org/features/rapid-gender-analysis-haiti-reveals-earthquake-related-impacts-women-and-girls



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

According to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis, a record 4.7 million people are currently facing acute hunger (IPC 3 and above), including 1.8 million people in the Emergency phase (IPC 4) and, for the first time ever in Haiti, 19,000 people are in Catastrophe phase, phase 5 Hunger has reached a catastrophic level - the highest level 5, on the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification index, or IPC) - in the capital's Cité Soleil neighborhood. This means that households face large food consumption gaps resulting in high acute malnutrition and excess mortality, or are forced to adopt negative coping mechanisms to cover food needs, such as selling off assets or eating seeds instead of planting them, increasing their vulnerability (1).



With 75 percent of Haiti's population living in rural areas, urgent measures are needed to save lives and quickly restore the agricultural livelihoods of vulnerable farmers.

Sources:

(1) https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/10/1129537



Community Engagement And Accountability

To effectively respond to this emergency and provide the necessary support, the CEA approach will contribute to identifying and addressing needs or gaps in these affected communities.

Accountability and transparency should be upheld, providing regular updates on progress, and involving the affected communities in resource allocation decisions. Capacity building for response volunteers on basic CEA tools is important, equipping them with the necessary skills to engage effectively. Building trust and collaboration through open communication, commitment fulfillment, and valuing local expertise will strengthen the response efforts in the affected communities.

It is crucial to actively listen to the needs and concerns of the community, valuing their feedback to ensure interventions meet their actual objectives. Improving communication channels and information-sharing mechanisms is essential, addressing language barriers and providing clear and timely information about the response activities. Similarly, promoting community participation and representation in decision-making processes is necessary, involving diverse voices and ensuring their perspectives are heard.

Finally, implementing reliable feedback mechanisms allows for community input and continuous improvement of interventions based on their preferences and priorities.



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

Haiti was hit by a particularly intense rainstorm, causing uninterrupted downpours across the country. The heavy rainfall caused numerous streams and rivers to overflow their banks, as well as landslides and landslides in riverside communities. The hardest-hit departments are in the hurricane- and tropical storm-prone, flood- and earthquake-prone regions of Haiti.

Initial reports from the affected communes and departments indicate that several gardens have been devastated, and stretches of road damaged or cut off, in the Grand Sud and Nord-Ouest departments. A temporary bridge, erected after the partial destruction of the Pont Dumarsais Estimé during the earthquake of 14 August 2021, was momentarily submerged by the flooding of the GrandAnse River.

Haiti is experiencing a high level of environmental degradation, mainly due to demographic pressure, with 98% of its forests cleared for heating. The climate crisis is also having an impact on the country's mainly rain-fed agricultural production.



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Lack of urban planning, ephemeral housing conditions, and poor-quality housing construction mainly affect the most vulnerable populations across the country, especially in the most remote areas.

The torrential rains of 3 June, caused great damage in terms of infrastructure. The devastation caused by the floods has resulted in 31,591 homes being flooded, with 2,445 structures either destroyed or damaged. Only in Léogane, a dozen schools, three hospitals, and three health centers have been flooded, while landslides and damage to plantations have been reported.

The government is urging individuals to seek refuge with relatives in safe areas, particularly as the situation may deteriorate in the coming days. The houses that have been destroyed were already in a fragile and dilapidated state, and there is a risk that homes submerged under water for an extended period could also collapse. Currently, people are being evacuated to schools and churches, while many others are finding shelter with their neighbors.

The widespread destruction of thousands of homes and the evacuation of those in vulnerable locations have resulted in numerous families becoming homeless. This has created an urgent need for secure and suitable housing options. Furthermore, insecurity and violence in certain urban areas have forced hundreds of families to flee their homes, intensifying the demand for basic necessities and adequate housing. These affected families have sought refuge in various makeshift sites and shelters.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

Through this DREF Application, the Haitian Red Cross Society aims to provide immediate assistance to 12,500 people (2,500 families) affected by floods in the Ouest and Grand'Anse regions. Of this number, 5,000 people (1,000 families) will be directly reached through the implementation of activities under Health, WASH, and Shelter. Furthermore, 12,500 people (2,500 families) will be reached through mass awareness-raising sessions on hygiene promotion and health promotion on epidemic control.

Operation strategy rationale

This operational strategy has relied on the initial Damage and Needs Assessment conducted by the National Society. In addition, the NS has used secondary data from government reports, the Emergency Operations Centre and other humanitarian organizations in country. The HRCS will take into consideration other emerging needs assessments from organizations composing the National risk and disaster management system (SNGRD) to adjust the actions planned by the NS to assist the affected population.

Considering that further assessments will be conducted to identify gaps and adjust distribution strategies accordingly, the summary of the intervention will be as follows:

SHELTER



The HRCS will conduct shelter assessments in affected areas via pre-determined questionnaires and checklist created and previously used. The volunteers and technical leads will conduct interviews (focus groups or surveys) in creole. The NS aims to reach a total of 1,000 families (5,000 people) with shelter related activities, including:

- Distribution of 2,000 blankets (2 per family) which serve as a critical items and ensure warmth and comfort, particularly in situations where individuals have been displaced from their homes or face challenging living conditions.
- Distribution of 1,000 kitchen sets (1 per family) to support the affected families with necessary tools to prepare meals and maintain basic food hygiene practices in temporary or emergency shelter situations. The kitchen sets include:

5x BOWL, for food, 1L, stainless steel

5x FORK, table, stainless steel

1x FRYING PAN, 2.5L, used as lid for the 7L cooking pot

1x KNIFE, stainless steel blade 15cm, plastic handle

5x KNIFE, table knife, stainless steel

1x SPOON, wooden, stirring, 30cm

5x SPOON, soup, stainless steel, 10 ml

1x COOKING POT, 5L, s.steel, with handles and lid

1x COOKING POT, 7L, s.steel, with handles

5x CUP, stainless steel, with handle, 300ml

5x PLATE, deep, stainless steel, diam. 22 cm, cap. 0.75L

1x SCOURING PAD

1x LADLE, 100ml, stainless steel

1x SERVING SPOON, stainless steel35 ml

HEALTH

The Haitian Red Cross Society aims to reach a total of 12,500 people with health related activities, including:

- Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS): The HRCS mental health assessments indicate the need for MHPSS to assist individuals who have been affected by floods and may be experiencing psychological distress, trauma, or other mental health issues.
- Reinforcing Capacity of Volunteers on Epidemic Control: To enhance efforts to promote health and prevent diseases with epidemic potential, the HRCS aims to strengthen the skills and capabilities of volunteers through training and education to the volunteers on epidemic control measures, including early detection, surveillance, prevention strategies, and appropriate response protocols. By reinforcing their capacity, the volunteers will play a vital role in promoting effective measures to control and mitigate the spread of epidemics within the affected population.
- Ambulance Services: The HRCS plans to offer ambulance services to assist medical emergencies or urgent healthcare needs. Ambulance services are crucial in ensuring timely and appropriate medical care for those who require immediate attention or specialized treatment and safe transportation services to medical facilities.
- Primary Health Care: As part of the response efforts, the HRCS aims to promote primary health care to address the basic healthcare needs of the affected population, promote overall well-being, and prevent the exacerbation of health issues in the aftermath of the floods.

WASH

The Haitian Red Cross Society aims to reach a total of 12,500 people with WASH related activities, including:

- Distribution of 2,000 jerry cans (2 per family) to ensure that families have access to a safe and convenient means of storing and carrying water, particularly in situations where access to clean water sources may be limited or disrupted due to the emergency.
- Distribution of 1,000 buckets (1 per family) to be used for various purposes, including water storage, sanitation, and hygiene practices. The provision of buckets enables families to collect water, wash clothes, and perform other



essential tasks. Each family will receive one bucket, which can significantly contribute to their overall water and sanitation needs.

- Distribution of 500 hygiene kits (1 per family) to ensure that individuals have the necessary items to maintain clean-liness and prevent the spread of diseases and promote proper hygiene practices among the affected population. Each kit is designed to meet the hygiene needs of a family, providing them with the essential tools for maintaining personal hygiene and sanitation.
- Distribution of Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS) to provide immediate medical support for individuals suffering from dehydration due to waterborne illnesses.
- Distribution of Aqua Tabs to enable the affected population to treat water from potentially contaminated sources, ensuring access to clean and safe drinking water. Aqua Tabs can effectively kill or neutralize harmful pathogens, making water suitable for consumption and reducing the risk of waterborne diseases.
- Mass awareness-raising session on hygiene promotion and epidemi for 12,500 people.

Community, Engagement and Accountability:

The HRCS will use the Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) approach to promote effective participation and feedback from affected communities. This will be structured based on an analysis of the communities' needs and information channels to support the strengthening of their response capacities.

The feedback mechanism will mainly rely on regular reports and consolidated briefs from volunteers on unprompted and captured feedback as well as feedback solicited during community meetings, and possibly quantitative surveys during implementation of specific activities. The CEA training for volunteers will focus on setting up ticketing systems for complaints and requests on activities.

CEA tools and materials such as brochures, flyers and billboards in the preference language (Haitian Creole) were provided to the teams in the field. The corresponding technical support is being provided by the IFRC in country CEA focal point and Americas Regional Office in Panama.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

To target the 1,000 families (5,000 people) directly targeted by this DREF under Health, WASH, and Shelter, the National Society will collaborate with local authorities, community leaders, and relevant stakeholders who have knowledge of the affected areas and populations. They will conduct assessments and evaluations to identify households and communities that require immediate assistance.

Through this operation, the National Society will target the following groups:

- Households with people with disabilities.
- Households with pregnant women.
- Female-headed households.
- Child-headed households.
- Households with elderly people who have received no support.

The logic behind targeting these particular groups is to ensure that assistance reaches those who are most at risk and least able to recover from the disaster on their own. By prioritizing vulnerable households, marginalized communities, and individuals with specific needs, the National Society aims to provide targeted and tailored support, maximizing the impact of the DREF operation and promoting equitable relief efforts.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The above selection criteria will be used, with families meeting 2-3 of the criteria prioritized for assistance. Targeting and selection criteria will be further discussed and updated in consultation with local authorities and affected



communities as necessary. HRCS volunteers will also explain the targeting/selection criteria to the people targeted, communities and how households are selected for assistance.

Total Targeted Population

Women:	4,500	Rural %	Urban %
Girls (under 18):	2,500	60.00 %	40.00 %
Men:	3,500	People with disabilities (estimated %)	
Boys (under 18):	2,000	15.00 %	
Total targeted population:	12,500		

Please indicate about potential operational risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk and security considerations

Risk Mitigation action Security, for the goods in the port, transit to warehouse, The security scenario for the reception of the goods and during the warehouse, and during transit to distribution transit to distribution should be analyzed to ensure the points. NS has the necessary arrangements to ensure the right management of the goods and the necessary arrangements for them to arrive to beneficiaries. The warehouse is the main issue due to the large quantity of goods requested. The security of the HRCS warehouse in Port-au-Prince (PaP) should be guaranteed. Temporary use of commercial warehouse as well as speed reception and distribution could be an option to explore with the operation managers and NS relief team, meaning, no warehouse to be used, but rather send trucks from port to distribution. Sexual Abuse and Violations - Ensure that all personnel travel in pairs or groups. - Avoid areas that are not well-lit or not covered by the security services. - Movement in PaP only in the areas of Mais gate where Hotel and Base Camp are. Indiscriminate Shootings, Murders - Gang Activity, Kid-- Per RED Phase there MUST BE a Security Coordinator / nappings, Robberies, Violent Demonstrations / Manifes-Delegate In-Country. tations, Lawlessness - Constant analysis of the political situation in-country. - Constant coordination with information sources to avoid danger areas. - Coordination with other Members of the movement in the area of security and Duty of Care.



- Drivers must report all incidents and possible incidents

- Absolutely no-one will walk in the streets of PaP or

as well as take different routes in-country.

	another City. All movements in vehicles. - Movement in PaP only in the area of Mais Gate where the hotel and the Base camp are. - HEAT Training for all personnel - Maintain 7 days of food + Water as well as GO Bag. - Safe Room in Base Camp and Hotel - Be ready to Hibernate and/or Relocate - Vehicles are always well-identified as RCRC.
Limited access to the areas with affected population due to the deterioration of the security situation	 NS with the support of IFRC will update its Security Plan and will constantly assess the situation to implement additional security mitigation measures. IFRC trained the NS Security Focal Point to adapt and respond to the current need. Information sharing with ICRC for shared leadership of the response.
Burnout syndrome	 Implement a rotating schedule to distribute workload evenly and prevent volunteers from becoming overwhelmed. Offer psychological support services, including counseling or debriefing sessions, to help volunteers cope with stress and emotional challenges.
Cholera	 Provide comprehensive training to staff and volunteers on cholera prevention, including proper hygiene practices, safe water handling, and sanitation measures. Ensure the availability of personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves and masks, to minimize the risk of infection. Encourage staff and volunteers to report any potential symptoms promptly and provide access to medical support and treatment when needed.
Worsening weather conditions	 Monitor weather forecasts and updates regularly to anticipate potential disruptions. Establish alternative communication channels to ensure continuous coordination among the response team. Develop contingency plans that outline specific actions to be taken in the event of severe weather conditions, such as temporary suspension of operations or evacuation protocols to mitigate potential risks for staff and volunteers.
Possibility to mobilize the goods to the South for distribution	Risk of security in the road, and road conditions itself is an additional risk to assess, as these have been issues faced in the past. The possibility to use sea transportation from PaP to the South is feasible and has been used in the past successfully
Monitoring of goods in storage, transit, and distribution	Depending on the Supply Chain strategy (i.e. storage in PaP, or direct transfer to affected areas and storage or



	directly to distribution) the goods need to be monitored to minimize the risk of loses.
Custom procedures and reception of the goods	One of the main constraints in emergency operations in Haiti has been the release of the goods from the port and customs, as civil unrest often put on hold the operation of port and other governmental institutions. An assessment needs to be done by HRC to see how stable the operation of the governmental institution in charge could be to guarantee the reception of the goods.
	The availability of companies to mobilize the goods from port to the HRC premises also need to be identified.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

The activities to be implemented under this DREF Plan of Action will take place under the constraints of a security environment that remains volatile. As a result, all programs require detailed work plans that can be adapted to different scenarios to respond more effectively to changes in the operating environment.

Despite the events linked to the torrential rains of 3 June, a significant number of humanitarian actors have considerably slowed down their activities, repatriated their staff and sometimes closed their offices due to the prolonged security crisis. Teams, including those of the Red Cross, are operating with reduced staffing levels, and due diligence measures are being taken to ensure their safety.

A risk matrix was prepared in the initial operational plan, covering all potential risks, their impact and associated mitigation measures, and is still valid.



Planned Intervention

	Shelter Housing And Settlements	Budget	CHF 59,960
		Targeted Persons	5000
Indicators		Target	
# of families reached with household items for shelter assistance		1000	
% of Households who report that the assistance provided to them was timely, relevant, and met their relevant immediate needs		80	
Priority Actions:		 Procurement and distribution of 1,000 kitchen kits (1 kitchen kit Type A per family). Procurement and distribution of 2,000 blankets - synthetic, 5x2m, medium thermal (2 blankets per family). Post-distribution survey will be conducted by HRCS in the participating households after the distribution. 	

Š	Health	Budget	CHF 84,135
		Targeted Persons	12500
Indicators		Target	
# of people reached through aware- ness-raising sessions on health promotion and epidemic control in the community		11300	
# of people reached with MHPSS services		1000	
# of people transferred via ambulance services		200	
Priority Actions:		 Ambulance services to transport patients Training for 100x HRC volunteers on Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV). Health promotion on epidemic control for the community. Primary health care support for the community (reinforcement of first aid kits). Provide psychological support to the population affected by floods and front liners (NS volunteers and staff) 	



6. Conduct a Psychosocial Support (PSS) needs survey for NS staff and volunteers

	Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Budget	CHF 110,228
		Targeted Persons	12500
Indicators		Target	
# of people reached by hygiene promotion activities		12500	
# of families reached with essentials hygiene items and household items		1000	
Priority Actions:		 Procurement and distribution of 2,000 jerry cans (2 per family): JERRYCAN, collapsible, 20L, food grade LDPE, screw cap Procurement and distribution of 1,000 buckets (1 per family): BUCKET, plastic, 14L with clip cover and 50mm outlet Procurement and distribution of 500 hygiene kits (1 per family): HYGIENIC PARCEL for 5 persons/1 month Procurement and distribution of Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS) and aqua tabs. Training for 100x HRCS volunteers on Hygiene promotion. Mass awareness-raising session on hygiene promotion. Distribution of SMS messages through Digicel. 	

	Secretariat Services	Budget	CHF 44,730
		Targeted Persons	
Indicators		Target	
# of surge personnel deployed		2	
	Priority Actions:	Deployment of: 1 x Ops. Manager (3 months) 1 x Security Coordinator (3 month)	

	Community Engage- ment And Account- ability	Budget	CHF 10,650
		Targeted Persons	12500
Indicators		Target	
		10	



# of article using Social Media about NS actions	
# of community discussion held during the intervention with local leaders and representative per districts	10
% of community feedback received that have been treated	80
Priority Actions:	 Communications about HRCS actions Feedback mechanisms Community meetings The CEA approach of the operation will be cross-sectoral to encompass the sector assessments including the identification of target populations, implementation of actions and post-distribution monitoring.

	National Society Strengthening	Budget	CHF 85,253
		Targeted Persons	200
Indicators		Target	
# of volunteers insured		200	
# of volunteers who have received support in terms of reinforcement (training, visibil- ity equipment, etc.)		100	
Priority Actions:		 Insurance for 200 volunteers. Visibility and personal protective equipment for volunteers. Hiring of NS staff to support the implementation of the DREF Operation. Lessons learned workshop 	

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

108 National Society staff and volunteers (8 staff and 100 volunteers) are involved in this response. 200 volunteers will receive insurance support. However, not all 200 volunteers will be mobilized in the field at the same time. A work schedule will be drawn up to enable volunteers to be rotated and mobilized for the various field activities.

In addition, the National Society will hire the following profiles to support the implementation of the DREF:

1x DREF Coordinator for 3 months: This person will take on the responsibility of coordinating and overseeing the overall implementation of the DREF-funded activities. They will likely have experience in emergency response and project management.



1x Driver for 3 months: This role involves providing transportation support, and ensuring the safe and timely movement of staff, volunteers, and resources to different locations as required for the response activities.

1x PMER (Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting) Officer for 3 months: This officer will be responsible for planning, monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on the progress and impact of the response activities. The PMER officer will ensure data is collected, analyzed, and reported accurately to inform decision-making to improve the effectiveness of the response.

2x Regional Coordinators - 1x Grand'Anse and 1x Ouest: This profile will serve to oversee and coordinate the response efforts in those areas. They will likely liaise with local stakeholders, support volunteers, and ensure the smooth implementation of activities within their assigned regions.

2x Field Officers, one for each region - 1x Grand'Anse and 1x Ouest: The field officers will be involved in the hands-on implementation of the response activities in the field. They may assist with tasks such as the distribution of relief items, coordination with local communities, and monitoring the progress of activities at the ground level.

1x Accountant for 3 months will be hired to support the implementation of the DREF.

In general, the staff who work on the DREFs are people with new contracts who work directly on the implementation of the activities. The posts have been detailed in the budget, and the contracts will be shared in the various financial reports.

Will surge personnel be deployed? Please provide the role profile needed.

- 1 X Operations Manager
- 1 X Security Coordinator

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

The IFRC logistics unit in Panama will provide support to the National Society in the procurement of the kitchen sets and their delivery to Haiti.

The procurement of the other items budgeted under the DREF Operation will be done at local level following IFRC standard procurement procedures.

How will this operation be monitored?

The HRCS maintains a joint approach to CEA and planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER) under the area of accountability to beneficiaries. The CEA strategy usually developed by the unit to support HRCS interventions, is articulated around the IFRC's four minimum standards of Information sharing/Transparency, Participation, Complaints and Response Mechanism, and Monitoring and Evaluation with the appropriate tools.

The IFRC team will continue to provide HRCS with the necessary monitoring and reporting support and tools for implementation tracking. IFRC personnel will carry out monitoring visits and wherever possible, post-distribution monitoring (PDM) surveys will be conducted.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation.

To increase the visibility of Haitian Red Cross Society actions in the field, intervention staff and volunteers will carry the appropriate visibility, by wearing vests and/or jerseys at distribution/activity sites, as well as including visibility material/logos, etc.

On distribution materials, including hygiene kits, cooking utensils, etc. Where possible, branch focal points and volunteers will take photos and videos of their activities, which will be published on social media platforms, on the HRCS website, including Facebook and Twitter.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRHT020 - Haiti Red Cross Society Haiti: Floods

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	264.972
Shelter and Basic Household Items	59.960
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	0
Health	84.135
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	110.228
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	10.650
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	129.983
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	44.730
National Society Strengthening	85.253
TOTAL BUDGET	394.955

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

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Contact Information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Click here for the reference

