



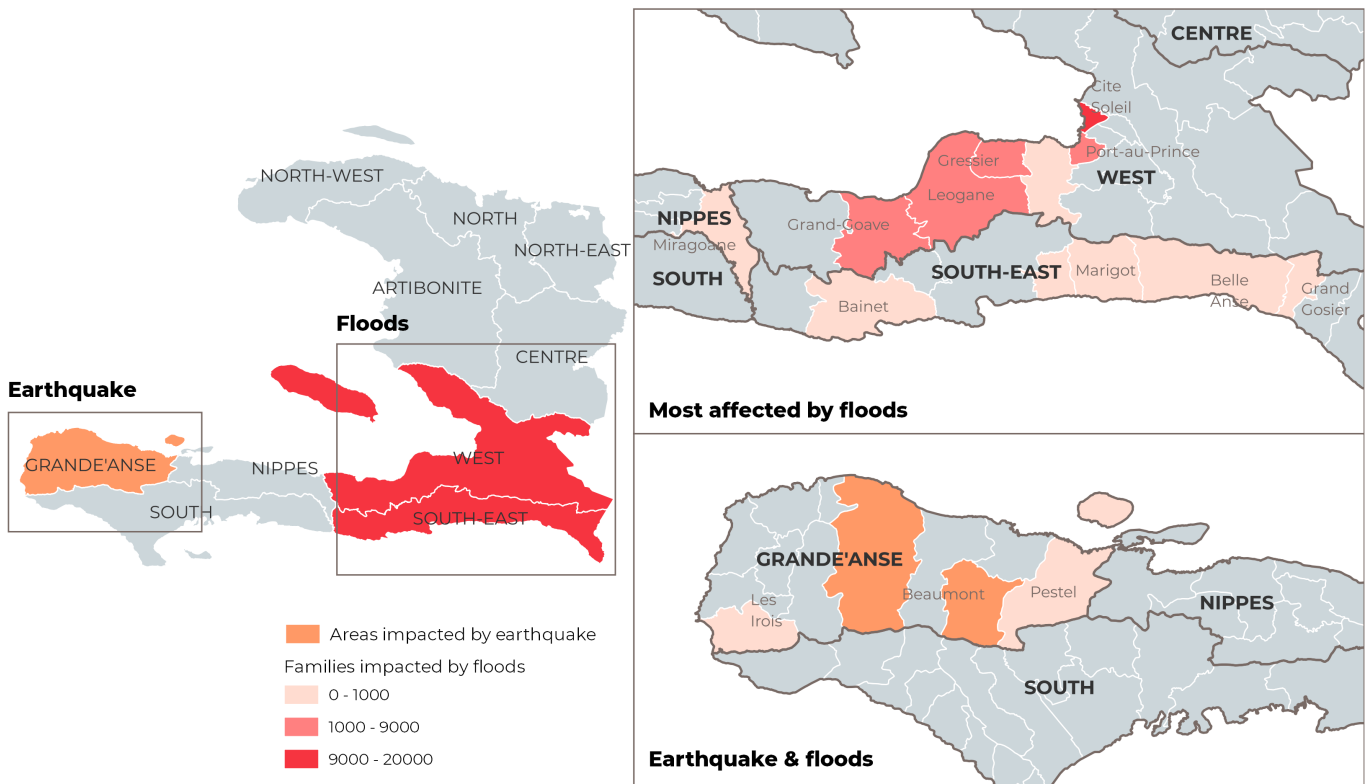
Distribution of household items by HRCS to communities affected by floods in L'Acul, city of Léogane. Source: IFRC.

Appeal: MDRHT020	Total DREF Allocation CHF 394,955	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Flood
Glide Number: FL-2023-00085-HTI	People Affected: 197,290 people	People Targeted: 12,500 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 2023-06-18	New Operational end date: 2023-12-31	Total operating timeframe: 6 months
Additional Allocation Re- quested -	Targeted Areas:	Grand Anse, Ouest	

Description of the Event

Haiti | Floods & Earthquake

Affected areas - June 5th, 2023



Date Produced: 05 June 2023
 The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.
 Produced by IM Team, DCCPRR, Americas Region.
 Sources: Systeme Nationale de gestion des risques de desastre, Haiti. Haitian Red Cross, GADM, IFRC.

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 affected a large number of people who were already in a situation of chronic vulnerability. Grand'Anse, Sud'Est, Nippes, Nord'Ouest, Centre, and Ouest were among 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.

While the current conditions have become less turbulent, there is the possibility of additional low-pressure systems approaching, persisting until the official end of the hurricane season, projected for 30 November. In the event of substantial rainfall, the already saturated soil may prove inadequate in preventing additional floods and landslides, potentially resulting in more significant impact. To address this concern, the UMH and the General Directorate of Civil Protection (abbreviated as DGPC in French) have been conducting awareness campaigns, encouraging residents in flood-prone regions to stay vigilant and adopt essential safety measures when heavy rains are expected.

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 people in August 2021.



Unloading kitchen sets and hygiene kits at Swiss RC Base in Léogâne. Source: IFRC.

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 revealed a significant impact on the country. The latest figures indicate that 39,458 households were affected, with 13,400 individuals displaced in Ouest, Sud-Est, Nord-Ouest, Plateau Central, and Nippes. Additionally,



3,586 people were evacuated or provided shelter, and the reported casualties include 51 deaths, 140 injuries, and 18 individuals missing.

In terms of infrastructure, the devastation caused by the floods resulted in 31,591 homes being flooded, with 2,445 structures either destroyed or damaged. Significant damage was 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, experienced the most severe impact, with the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area (ZMPAP) being the hardest hit.

Several thousand families were affected in Léogâne, a municipality located 33 kilometers south of the capital, Port-au-Prince. The Interim Executive Council of Léogâne appealed for assistance to aid the thousands of victims. Only in this municipality, a dozen schools, three hospitals, and three health centers were flooded, while landslides and damage to plantations were also reported. Léogâne experienced severe flooding and significant destruction of infrastructure. A large portion of the affected population 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 also faced 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 were treated. The number of passengers aboard the boat is still unknown, and several were missing. Four bodies, including one woman, were recovered after the wreck. Teams from the Haitian Civil Protection and Red Cross, as well as Semanah, mobilized 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 DGPC 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.

Summary of changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the operational strategy	No
Are you changing the target population of the operation	No



Are you changing the geographical location	No
Are you making changes to the budget	No
Is this a request for a second allocation	No
Has the forecasted event materialize?	No

Please explain the summary of changes and justification

Through this Operations Update No. 1, the Haiti Red Cross Society aims to inform about:

- A no-cost timeframe extension of two additional months, for a total of six months (new end date: 31 December 2023).

For the past few months, Haiti has experienced a worsening security crisis, which has had a profound impact on the functioning of all services and organizations across the country, including the delivery of humanitarian aid. As such, the implementation of this DREF Operation has encountered two major delays:

- In terms of logistics, the first of two shipments, sent to Haiti from Panama and Santo Domingo, were held up in customs for several weeks. The first shipment arrived in Léogane on 12 September, while the second shipment arrived on 22 September.
- On the other hand, in terms of human resources, only three of the eight planned recruitments have been finalized, and the contract for the DREF national coordinator only commenced on 14 August.

The reasons for these major delays, include:

- Dysfunctions within local services and administrations have resulted in substantial delays in local market procurement processes and customs clearance for goods arriving from abroad. In the case of customs clearance, prior to the arrival of goods to Haiti, a port strike further exacerbated these delays.
- Human resources management has faced a scarcity of qualified candidates, primarily due to a combination of insecurity and the US visa policy, leading to skilled professionals seeking opportunities abroad.
- Gangs blocking major land routes have compelled the National Society to develop alternative strategies for transporting goods to distribution points, imposing significant challenges on project execution.
- Limited air transport options have hindered the ability to travel to project sites, further impeding progress.
- The internal operations of the National Society have also been disrupted by the high level of insecurity affecting staff and volunteers.

Current National Society Actions





HRCS staff and volunteers at Canal Lasource in Leogane. Distribution of hygiene kits in Leogane.

<p>National Society EOC</p>	<p>The Haiti Red Cross Society (HRCS) shares 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 Haiti Red Cross Society technical and management focal points also participate in the OCHA virtual meetings.</p>
<p>Activation Of Contingency Plans</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Other</p>	<p>The Haiti Red Cross Society, in collaboration with partners, responds 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.</p> <p>It is worth highlighting that the planned intervention under the DREF Application is not taking place in the same locations where the cholera activities are being conducted. Therefore, there will be no duplication of efforts and activities.</p>
<p>National Society Readiness</p>	<p>National Society staff and volunteers at the central level and in all regions participate in the NFI distributions and planned activities.</p>
	<p>The HRCS started the Preparedness for Effective Response (PER) cycle in 2019. It is currently in the Action and Accountability phase. As PER has multiple</p>



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery	<p>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 are conducted at the community level on multi-hazard preparedness, this entails Early Warning/ Early Action and community/ family preparedness.</p>
Coordination	<p>The Haiti Red Cross Society, with the support of the IFRC teams in the country have a constant communication and coordination for the implementation of all the activities in the field. With the support of Swiss Red Cross, once the NFIs arrived in Leogane it was possible to store them in the Swiss Red Cross warehouse, facilitating the process for the National Society.</p> <p>Sectoral coordination takes place via the established Humanitarian Country Team working groups and mechanisms at the national level in Port-au-Prince and at the departmental level. This participation enables coordination with State institutions, non-State actors and other humanitarian partners.</p>
Assessment	<p>The Haiti Red Cross Society supported 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.</p>
Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	<p>The planned response under this DREF Application 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.</p> <p>The Swiss Red Cross supports 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 supports 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.</p>
Community Engagement And Accountability	<p>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.</p>
Health	<p>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.</p> <p>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</p>



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.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

<p>Secretariat</p>	<p>The IFRC Delegation in Haiti maintains close contact and coordination with the Haiti Red Cross Society (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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Participating National Societies</p>	<p>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 to assist 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.</p> <p>The Netherland RC and the Spanish RC also support the wider response with logistics support, assessments, relief items, and deployment of the Watsan Team (from Jacmel).</p> <p>The Canadian Red Cross Society is also in constant communication with the IFRC Americas Regional Office and Country Cluster Delegation to support.</p>

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

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.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

<p>Government has requested international assistance</p>	<p>No</p>
	<p>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)</p>



<p>National authorities</p>	<p>COU stepped up its actions online and via territorial structures to inform the population of the situation and remind them of safety instructions.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Economic and Social Assistance Fund (FAES) has made 1,000 food kits available to COUN for distribution in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area.</p>
<p>UN or other actors</p>	<p>Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has farming equipment pre-positioned in the South-East, which was 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.</p> <p>UN agencies confirmed the availability of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20,756 ready-to-eat prepared meals in Port-au-Prince ; - 350,000 hot meals (prepared by a network of local restaurants) - 30-day dry rations consisting of 50 kg of rice, 12.5 kg peas and 3.68 litres of oil. <p>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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The WFP announced the distribution of 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.</p>



CONCERN Worldwide provided 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 also mobilized through the AGERCA (Alliance pour la gestion des risques et la continuité des activités - AGERCA) network.

The Barbancourt Foundation and a chef 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 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



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, the highest level 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 were 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 were flooded, while landslides and damage to plantations were reported.

The government urged individuals to seek refuge with relatives in safe areas, particularly as the situation deteriorated as days passed. The houses that were destroyed were already in a fragile and dilapidated state, while homes submerged under water for an extended period were at high risk of collapsing. As a result, people were evacuated to schools and churches, while many others sought shelter with their neighbors.

The widespread destruction of thousands of homes and the evacuation of those in vulnerable locations resulted in numerous families becoming homeless. This 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.



Health

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 was 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.

The flood of June 3, 2023, with the descent of the Rouyonne and its load of waste, considerably aggravated the vulnerable situation in which the spring Lasous already found itself. The canal that drains off the wastewater was completely clogged with sediment from the flood and poorly managed solid waste in the area.

Given the flow rate of this spring and its usefulness to the population, this water point is an essential asset to the town and will need to be cleaned up for the good of the community.



Haiti Red Cross Society, supported by the Swiss Red Cross, has installed a water treatment unit on this large spring to meet the population's water needs.

To reduce the risk, the Red Cross carried out some preliminary work, including:

- Rehabilitation of the source environment (cleaning, evacuation and painting of the area).
- The first part of the canal was also cleaned.
- 246 m³ of sediment were removed from the canal



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 protection 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>

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

Through this DREF operation, the Haiti 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 National Society 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 National Society to assist the affected population.

The summary of the intervention is 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 National Society 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, stainless steel, with handles and lid
- 1x cooking pot, 7L, stainless steel, with handles
- 5x cup, stainless steel, with handle, 300ml
- 5x plate, deep, stainless steel, diam. 22 cm, 0.75L
- 1x scouring pad
- 1x ladle, 100ml, stainless steel
- 1x serving spoon, stainless steel, 35 ml

HEALTH

The Haiti 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 Haiti 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 cleanliness 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 epidemics 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		

Risk and security considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Limited access to the areas with affected population due to the deterioration of the security situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage staff and volunteers to report any potential symptoms promptly and provide access to medical support and treatment when needed.
Worsening weather conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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	<p>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.</p> <p>The possibility to use sea transportation from PaP to the South is feasible and has been used in the past successfully</p>
Monitoring of goods in storage, transit, and distribution	<p>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.</p>
Custom procedures and reception of the goods	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The availability of companies to mobilize the goods from port to the HRC premises also need to be identified.</p>
Security, for the goods in the port, transit to warehouse, during the warehouse, and during transit to distribution points.	<p>The security scenario for the reception of the goods and transit to distribution should be analyzed to ensure the NS has the necessary arrangements to ensure the right management of the goods and the necessary arrangements for them to arrive to beneficiaries.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>



Sexual Abuse and Violations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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, Kidnappings, Robberies, Violent Demonstrations / Manifestations, Lawlessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Per RED Phase there must be a Security Coordinator / Delegate In-Country. - 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 as well as take different routes in-country. - Absolutely no-one will walk in the streets of PaP or 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.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation


The activities being implemented under this DREF Plan of Action continue to take place under the constraints of a security environment that remains highly volatile. The gang activity is escalating in Haiti as previously explained. As a result, all activities 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

	Community Engagement And Accountability	Budget	CHF 10,650
		Targeted Persons	12500
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of article using Social Media about NS actions	10	0	
# of community discussion held during the intervention with local leaders and representative per districts	10	0	
% of community feedback received that have been treated	80	0	
Progress Towards Outcome			
CEA activities are expected to begin during the second week of October.			

	National Society Strengthening	Budget	CHF 85,253
		Targeted Persons	200
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of volunteers insured	200	0	
# of volunteers who have received support in terms of reinforcement (training, visibility equipment, etc.)	100	45	
Progress Towards Outcome			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The insurance for volunteers is being processed although it has experienced delays. - 45 volunteers have been trained and also received visibility and personal protection equipment. - The status of hiring of personnel by HRCS includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * National DREF Coordinator began working with HRCS during mid-August. * Regional Coordinator (GranAnse) and Accountant (Port-au-Prince) began working with HRCS in July. <p>Finally, the other positions have not been filled despite efforts of the HRCS.</p>			

		Budget	CHF 59,960
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	Shelter Housing And Settlements	Targeted Persons		5000
		Indicators	Target	Actual
	# of families reached with household items for shelter assistance	1000	1000	
	% of Households who report that the assistance provided to them was timely, relevant, and met their relevant immediate needs	80		


Progress Towards Outcome

The HRCS and IFRC teams advanced the distribution of household items. However, significant delays were experienced in the arrival of containers to the distribution areas of Leogane.

The first containers with household items arrived in Haiti on 28 July (Kitchen sets, hygiene kits, etc.) but the processing time for customs was delayed and cumbersome. HRCS received clearance on 8 September.

The different teams worked as best as possible achieving delivery of the items to Leogane on 12 September and distribution began as soon as possible.

All household items have been distributed as of 6 October in Leogane.

	Health	Budget		CHF 84,135
		Targeted Persons		12500
Indicators	Target	Actual		
	# of people reached through awareness-raising sessions on health promotion and epidemic control in the community	11300	7000	
	# of people reached with MHPSS services	1000	0	
	# of people transferred via ambulance services	200	60	

Progress Towards Outcome


36 HRCS branch volunteers were trained in Safe Access (21) and Disaster Risk Reduction (15) in Jeremie.

24 HRCS branch volunteers were trained in Leogane in epidemic control and hygiene promotion on 15 and 16 September.

60 people have been provided with HRCS ambulance services in Jeremie from July to October.



The last week of September HRCS volunteers were able providing health promotion and sensibilization activities on epidemic control in the most affected and vulnerable communities after the floods.

	Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Budget	CHF 110,227
		Targeted Persons	12500
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of people reached by hygiene promotion activities	12500	7000	
# of families reached with essentials hygiene items and household items	1000	500	

Progress Towards Outcome

The HRCS and IFRC teams advanced the distribution of household items. However, significant delays were experience in the arrival of containers to the distribution areas of Leogane.

The first containers with household items arrived in Haiti on 28 July (Kitchen sets, hygiene kits, etc.) but the processing time for customs was delayed and cumbersome. HRCS received clearance on 8 September.

The different teams worked as best as possible achieving delivery of the items to Leogane on 12 September and distribution began as soon as possible.

All household items have been distributed as of 6 October in Leogane.

The remaining activities are planned and being coordinated for implementation as best as possible.

	Secretariat Services	Budget	CHF 44,730
		Targeted Persons	0
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of surge personnel deployed	2	2	

Progress Towards Outcome

IFRC Surge personnel have been deployed to Haiti.

Operations Manager arrived in Haiti on 31 July and has been closely working with the HRCS and PNSs in Haiti (Netherlands RC, Spanish RC and Swiss RC) with an original end date of 19 September.

Due to the challenges in implementation, this deployment has been extended from 20 September to 19 October.

Three security delegate rotations (July, September and October) have taken place to support the HRCS and IFRC



staff.

1 Security delegate for one months was deployed through the IFRC Surge mechanism.



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 HRCS Operations Manager

1x DREF Coordinator for 3 months: This person is coordinating and overseeing the overall implementation of the DREF-funded activities on GrandAnse and Ouest since mid-August. This person is actively working and supporting the different regions while traveling between the intervention areas as well as overcoming challenges in access and transportation.

Due to the lack of human resources and unfilled positions that would have been funded by the DREF, the National Coordinator has assumed additional responsibilities.

1x Driver for 3 months: A driver has not yet been hired as planned. The IFRC and PNSs (Swiss, Spanish and Netherlands RC) have been supporting the transportation of DREF team. The HRCS branch presidents have also supported the transportation of volunteers and staff.

1x PMER Officer for 3 months: This officer was supposed to be responsible for planning, monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on the progress and impact of the response activities. The HRCS has published the position in two different occasions without any successful response or candidate. Currently, the HRCS Operations Manager has identified a potential candidate. The remaining implementation timeframe does not allow for a third publication of this vacancy although this position is very important for the DREF.

2x Regional Coordinators - 1x Grand'Anse and 1x Ouest: The Regional Coordinator for GrandAnse was hired and is working closely with DREF National Coordinator to oversee the implementation of training and ambulance services. The Regional Coordinator for Jeremie was not hired also due to lack of response to the vacancy announcement made.

2x Field Officers, one for each region - 1x Grand'Anse and 1x Ouest: The field officers positions were also not possible to be filled. They were scheduled to be involved in the hands-on implementation of the response activities in the field. Also, they were scheduled to 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 is working since July with the HRCS based in PaP for 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

As of October, both positions have been filled through the IFRC Surge Mechanism. The Operations Manager remains in Haiti.



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

The IFRC logistics unit in Panama have been providing support to the National Society in the procurement of the kitchen sets and their delivery to Haiti. Most NFIs were sent from the Dominican Republic.

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 monitoring for this DREF has been filled by the Operations Manager and National DREF Coordinator in the absence of a PMER Officer.

The HRCS CEA strategy is being 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 Country Cluster Delegation PMER is supporting the Surge Operations Manager with the necessary monitoring and reporting tools for implementation tracking.

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 have the appropriate visibility, by wearing vests and/or jerseys at distribution/activity sites, as well as including visibility material/logos, etc.

During the distribution of household items branch volunteers and focal points along with IFRC and PNSs personnel take photos and videos of their activities and share within the DREF and Red Cross teams via WhatsApp.

Contact Information

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

- **National Society contact:**

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- **IFRC Project Manager:** Nicolas Segura, Coordinator, Disaster Risk Management, nicolas.segura@ifrc.org

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