

# BUSINESS GUIDE

## HURRICANE MATTHEW

### FLASH APPEAL FOR HAITI

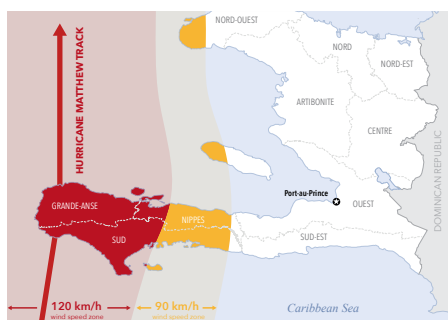
OCTOBER 2016

Photo: Logan Abassi UN/MINUSTAH

# \$119 MILLION

Required to reach 750,000 people with life-saving assistance and protection in the next 3 months

## CRISIS OVERVIEW



After cutting a deadly swath across the Caribbean region, Hurricane Matthew, a Category 4 storm with sustained winds of 235 km/h, violently struck south-western Haiti on 4 October causing widespread damage, flooding and displacement. The poverty level of the population in this area reaches 70 per cent. Hurricane Matthew has resulted in the largest humanitarian crisis in Haiti since the 2010 earthquake at a time when the country is already facing an increase in the number of cholera cases, and severe food insecurity and malnutrition. The UN, the Government of Haiti, and partners have identified urgent needs as outlined here.

## HOW CAN BUSINESSES HELP?



### CONTRIBUTE TO THE HAITI FLASH APPEAL

Businesses can contribute directly to aid organizations participating in the international humanitarian coordination mechanisms identified in the Haiti Flash Appeal. To access the complete appeal, a full list of contacts and information on humanitarian activities included in this plan, as well as information on humanitarian activities throughout the country, please visit: [www.humanitarianresponse.info/haiti](http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/haiti)



### CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has already allocated \$5 million to help kick start life-saving assistance in Haiti. CERF is a fast and effective way to support rapid humanitarian response. It provides immediate funding for life-saving humanitarian action at the onset of emergencies and for crises that have not attracted sufficient funding. Contributions are received year-round. Find out how to donate here: [www.unocha.org/cerf/donate](http://www.unocha.org/cerf/donate)



### IN-KIND AND SERVICE SUPPORT

The United Nations urges donors to make cash rather than in-kind donations, for maximum speed and flexibility, and to ensure the most appropriate aid is delivered effectively to those most in need. Companies that have employees, suppliers, customers in the region, or those with existing agreements with responding humanitarian organizations, should reach out to and provide support to these groups directly. For in-kind donations or pro bono services your company provide, please go to [www.business.un.org/en/disasters/7640](http://www.business.un.org/en/disasters/7640) or write to [pss@un.org](mailto:pss@un.org). Please be as specific as possible in what you are donating including the time-frame for delivery and any conditions. We will then pass your offer to the most appropriate organizations.



### COMMERCIAL OFFERS

If your offer is commercial in nature, please go to [www.ungm.org](http://www.ungm.org) for more information.

# MAIN HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Existing information and field observations suggest that the most immediate threats to life are:



## EMERGENCY SHELTER AND ESSENTIAL NON-FOOD ITEMS

Initial assessments suggest that up to 90 per cent of houses are destroyed in the worst affected areas. Businesses, schools, public buildings and essential services have been destroyed as well. In view of the large scale of destruction in some affected areas, the rehabilitation of damaged houses and emergency shelter structures is a priority, as is the distribution of essential Non-Food Items.



## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Water distribution systems have reportedly collapsed in the main affected cities of the southern area, particularly in Jérémie and Les Cayes. The impact of the hurricane has increased the already high risk of waterborne diseases, particularly cholera. Natural water sources, particularly in the southern departments, have been contaminated by storm water and sewage overflow. While the delivery of drinking water supplies are immediately needed, the focus will also include emergency support to the restoration of water systems and prevention of the spread of water-borne diseases.



## HEALTH

Departmental medical items stocks have been reported as damaged or lost and need to be quickly replaced to ensure that emergency care is delivered at hospital, health centers and mobile clinics level. Cholera treatment centers are reported to be damaged or destroyed in the two most affected departments, while an increase in cholera cases is already reported in the same area. At the same time surveillance systems have been affected. This reduces the capacity to identify the provenance of cholera cases, making cholera outbreaks difficult to control.



## FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION AND EMERGENCY AGRICULTURE

The timing of the hurricane, which struck during the second main harvest season, has compromised food security levels. Large areas of crops have been destroyed, which may lead affected communities to resort to negative coping strategies in the medium-term. Heavy rainfall and landslides have also damaged infrastructure – particularly in the south-west, south, and south-east but also in the north-west – making roads impassable, destroying bridges on critical supply lines and disrupting private-sector food supply chains. Food prices are expected to rise due to high demand, depletion of local supplies, and access constraints. WFP/FAO, national authorities and other humanitarian partners have begun immediate emergency assessments of food security needs (EFSA 72h), as well as a food market availability. Considering the negative impact of the hurricane on food availability and access, and the resulting reliance of the affected population on food relief, a deterioration of the nutritional status of vulnerable groups is anticipated in the short term, particularly for children under five, pregnant

and lactating women. Some parts of the departments hit by the hurricane were just recovering from a drought-induced nutrition crisis. Capacity of the health system for management of malnutrition is inadequate in this part of the country to absorb caseloads increases. To address acute malnutrition and associated morbidity and mortality, a combined approach aiming at treating severe cases and preventing deterioration is required



## DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX (DTM)

As the Government of Haiti, and numerous humanitarian actors, NGOs, UN agencies and other civil society actors are rushing to provide aid to the affected populations, it is imperative to identify, register and establish the needs of the beneficiaries/buildings affected by the disaster and track movements of populations. Disaster Tracking Matrix (DTM) activities and coordination will be established in order to identify, register and monitor displacement as well as the population movements following the hurricane, in particular in the most affected communes in the South Peninsula and the Artibonite and North-West Departments. Based on the DTM database, common priorities will be defined, interventions coordinated amongst all partners, and a common monitoring system of their impacts will be implemented.



## PROTECTION

The areas most affected by Hurricane Matthew are among some of the most vulnerable to Gender-based Violence, family separation and exposure of children to violence, exploitation and abuse. While further assessments are needed, social services in those areas will need support to ensure swift identification of women and children in need of assistance and protection as a result of the hurricane. Grande'Anse is the department in Haiti with the highest rate of child placement in informal foster care (in particular due to child domestic work) or in institutions. Due to the destruction of productive assets and the human, material and economic impact of the hurricane, there is a high risk of family separation harmful to the safety, health and development of children. In Les Cayes, South department, 1112 children (423 girls) are in need of urgent assistance and protection due to destruction of the infrastructures and limited access to basic services. A similar situation is likely to emerge in other parts of the country.



## EDUCATION

Heavy damages to school infrastructure in the Southern Departments (Grand'Anse, Nippes and South) and North West have been reported. According to the Ministry of Education (MoE) preliminary figures, more than 300 schools are severely affected. In the Grand'Anse department, the Ministry stated that nearly 70 per cent of the schools are currently damaged and it will be difficult to resume education on or soon after the 10th of October as per MoE requirements without a rapid response, thus leaving more than 100,000 children without education. Moreover, many children have lost all their belongings, including books, uniforms, and school supplies. Some schools are also being used as shelters and this situation could be

prolonged as many poor families have lost their homes as well as their livelihoods.



### EARLY RECOVERY AND LIVELIHOODS

The Direction de la Protection Civile (DPC) reports up to 90 percent destruction of housing in some areas and heavy damage to harvests and roads in the Southern Departments. Debris, including from collapsed houses, roofs, fallen trees, flooded cemeteries, dead cattle, latrines, constitute a serious threat to lives and public health, and hamper humanitarian access to populations in need, notably in remote areas. Hurricane Matthew has also affected critical socio-economic infrastructure and lifelines, such as farming, fishing and small scale commercial activities.



### LOGISTICS AND EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The main road connecting the southern part of Haiti to the rest of the country has been compromised; it would be the principal route to deliver assistance. Transport by air and by boat are an immediate necessity, both to assess needs, evaluate damages to position human resources, and to transport urgently needed WASH, shelter and food supplies. Phone lines and internet communication have not been re-established for the moment, with national authorities relying on a small number of satellite phones. Equipment and supplies have starting arriving in country, necessitating coordination among the humanitarian actors and a rapid scale-up of warehousing, transportation, and asset tracking capacities both in Port-au-Prince and in the affected departments.



### COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The Ministry of Interior and Local collectivities of Haiti through the Direction de la Protection Civile (DPC) and the National Emergency Operations Center (COUN) is coordinating the overall response. At the departmental level, the Departmental Emergency Operations Centers (COUDs) are the lead coordination entities. To fulfil their role at the fullest extent, the COUN and COUDs will be strengthened with additional capacity.

## CRITICAL REMINDERS

- The UN Secretary-General encourages companies to coordinate their response efforts with the United Nations and the Government of Haiti in order to ensure coherence with priorities set by national authorities and to minimize gaps and duplications with the other responders. All responders are encouraged to source supplies locally in Haiti whenever possible to help stimulate the economy and speed the recovery.
- All response activities should be guided by the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence. Stakeholder engagement is key to corporate engagement in humanitarian response. Relief efforts succeed when they collaboratively mobilize civil society.
- Business contributions to the UN response efforts must comply with the Guidelines on Cooperation between the UN and the Business Sector [www.business.un.org/en/documents/guidelines](http://www.business.un.org/en/documents/guidelines)

## RECOGNIZING YOUR CONTRIBUTION

OCHA manages the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), which records all reported humanitarian contributions (cash, in-kind, multilateral and bilateral) to emergencies. Its aim is to give credit and visibility to donors for their generosity and to show the total amount of funding and resource gaps in humanitarian appeals. (For in-kind donations, please provide as much detail as possible about type, quantities, and dispatch, so that the UN's LogIK system – which receives automatic updates from FTS – can track its physical progress.) Please report your contributions to [fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org) and copy to [pss@un.org](mailto:pss@un.org).

Source (map): UNOSAT

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



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