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**EMERGENCY RESPONSE**  
**HAITI EARTHQUAKE**  
August 2021 – February 2022

## Situational Overview

On 14 August 2021, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake hit the southwestern region of Haiti severely impacting South, Nippes and Grand'Anse departments. Following the earthquake, the three departments were drenched by Tropical Depression Grace, further disrupting access to water, sanitation, shelter, and other basic services. Latest figures estimate that 800,000 people, including 340,000 children, have been affected by the earthquake which has left more than 2,200 dead and over 12,000 injured.

Assessments are in progress: initial reports show nearly 53,000 homes have been destroyed and more than 77,000 have sustained damages, while 6 health facilities are reportedly destroyed and 53 damaged. Schools have been highly impacted with 308 schools damaged or destroyed (as per initial estimates), leaving 100,000 children at risk of losing their education this year. Early WASH assessments found 55 piped water supply systems severely damaged and more than 1,800 with minor damages. Preliminary findings in Child Protection highlight risks of family separation, unaccompanied and separated children, gender-based violence (GBV), child trafficking and smuggling, and significant needs for psychosocial support. Initial estimations indicate that households' capacity to cover their basic needs is less than 25% of a minimum expenditure basket. Devastating effects on assets and livelihoods, combined with increased needs for recovery, will exacerbate the deprivations already suffered by the most vulnerable families with

### KEY FIGURES:



**2,207** deaths and over **12,000** injured



**650,000** people in need of humanitarian assistance; including **260,000** children



**130,000** houses partially or completely destroyed



**53** health facilities partially damaged and **6** destroyed




**308** schools destroyed or heavily damaged



**55** water supply systems severely damaged. **81,000** people lost access to their drinking water source

children, especially women-headed households. Furthermore, criminal violence and insecurity are also complicating the humanitarian response, as the main road from Port-au-Prince to the affected area is controlled by gangs.

The quake could not have come at worst time for Haiti, which is still reeling from the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse on 7 July and escalating gang violence which has resulted in the internal displacement of around 19,000 people in the metropolitan area, while 4.4 million people were already in need of humanitarian assistance prior to the earthquake in the country, including 2.2 million children. In addition, mounting cases of COVID-19 are adding pressure to an already fragile health system.



On August 18 2021, 7-year-old Farah Figaro, eats a meal in Marceline, near Camp Perrin district. Farah spent 2 hours with her family under the rubble of their house destroyed by the 7.2 magnitude earthquake that hit the southwestern region.

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## UNICEF in Action

UNICEF has been on the frontline of the response since day 1 with the following key interventions undertaken in since the onset of the emergency:

- Health: 6 emergency medical kits containing essentials medicines and supplies to serve 30,000 people for 3 months were delivered to 3 main hospitals: 18 hospitals and health centers were provided with additional medical supplies and tents for the continuity of basic health care services. Additional medical professionals have been deployed to the most affected areas.
- WASH: Over 73,000 people being reached with safe water (through treatment plants,

water storage bladders, water trucking). Over 25,000 people reached with hygiene items.

- Child Protection: Family reunification underway for 14 Unaccompanied and Separated Children. Psychosocial support continuing in recreational spaces, communities and in some health facilities.
- Nutrition: Therapeutic food and milk distributed to health facilities including 31 cartons of therapeutic milk, 1,100 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food and medicine; nutrition surveillance and referrals are being conducted.

For more information, see [UNICEF Situation Reports](#) and media [stories](#).

## UNICEF Response for the next 6 months:

UNICEF will continue to work with the Government and other partners to provide humanitarian assistance and recovery support to the people most affected by the earthquake, while working to ensure the continuity of essential health, nutrition, WASH, education and child protection services and support social protection. Gender equality, Community Engagement, Accountability to Affected

Populations (AAP) and efforts to Protect the population from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse are mainstreamed throughout the response.

UNICEF is actively engaged in needs assessments and is contributing to the humanitarian coordination led by the Government, by co-leading the Nutrition, WASH, Education, Child Protection subsector and contributing to the Health sector.



Louise sits next to her daughter Chrismaelle, 23 months, outside Immaculee Conception Hospital in Les Cayes, Haiti on 15 August 2021. Chrismaelle is awaiting medical attention for leg injury as a result of the earthquake.

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## Health

UNICEF's priority in infant and maternal health is to support the continuation of Primary Health Care for children and women, in close coordination with the Ministry of Health and WHO.

Over the next 6 months UNICEF will support the provision of essential health care services targeting over 251,000 children and women, including provision of essential supplies to treat common childhood illnesses, expansion of routine immunization coverage (targeting

35,000 children for measles vaccination), and provide maternal, newborn and child care.

UNICEF will also support rehabilitation of 30 damaged hospitals and primary care centers, and strengthen the capacity of health personnel through training of 3,000 healthcare facility staff and community health workers in infection prevention and control (IPC), including the continuation of COVID-19 prevention and provision of personal protective equipment (PPE).

## Nutrition

UNICEF's priority in nutrition is to prevent, identify and treat malnutrition and to improve survival among children under 5 years of age and pregnant and lactating women.

As the co-Lead of the Nutrition sector in Haiti, UNICEF will support the Ministry of Health and partners to scale-up mass nutrition screening of children under 5 years of age to identify children

acutely malnourished with referrals to appropriate treatment and care for those who are found to have moderate and severe acute malnutrition.

UNICEF will support the scale-up of interventions to support infant and young child feeding in children under 2 years old by establishing spaces for breastfeeding and counselling support for over 167,000 primary caregivers.



September 1st 2021, Myrta Silvieul, breastfeeding her 8-month baby girl in Les Cayes, Haiti. Mother of 8, she lost her house and all her belongings during the earthquake. Her 16 year old son broke his foot when the house fell on him, he received care at OFATMA hospital. Myrta received an evaluation visit from IBESR, and they will follow up with kits to help the family along with psychological support. ©UNICEF/Marrion

## WASH

Being the only UN agency engaged in WASH for the affected population with the government, UNICEF's priority is to provide safe water, sanitation facilities, hygiene materials and hygiene promotion to affected families, targeting 500,000 people in the earthquake affected areas.

UNICEF will continue to ensure the provision of safe water and appropriate hygiene and sanitation to the affected communities by combining immediate response solutions and mid-long-term solutions.

As part of immediate solution, UNICEF will continue to provide hygiene supplies, as well as emergency drinking water during the first months

through installation of accessible water bladders and units, as well as water trucking to affected people where necessary. WASH Brigades will be deployed (which consist of a team of skilled plumbers, technicians, engineers, and diggers, equipped with tools, materials and cash in hand) to rehabilitate WASH infrastructure to ensure services become functional quickly.

For the mid to long-term solution, UNICEF has already started, and will continue to support the Directorate of Potable Water and Sanitation (DINEPA) and partners to rehabilitate damaged water systems and will work to rehabilitation/upgrade of water, sanitation and handwashing facilities in health care centers and schools.



With Marceline, near Camp Perrin district, children and their families have access to clean and safe water at one of the four water stations supported by UNICEF in Les Cayes  
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## Education

With schools reopening on 4 October in the three departments most affected by the earthquake (Nippes, Sud, Grand-Anse), UNICEF's priority is to ensure 100,000 children have access to quality education and early learning and to support extremely vulnerable children to stay in school, including children with disabilities.

UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Education to rapidly provide learning spaces (semi-permanent/permanent) for children. These spaces will include water, sanitation and hygiene facilities and supplies, and will roll out activities that support children's and teachers' psychosocial wellbeing. UNICEF will support the rehabilitation of nearly 2,800 damaged classrooms, and will install water

pipes, latrines, and handwashing stations, as per international standards.

UNICEF will also support the implementation of emergency curriculum and catch-up and accelerated learning classes to help children stay in school (ages 3-18) and will distribute early childhood development (ECD) and school kits, school furniture, textbooks, and pedagogical materials. Cash transfers will be provided to the most vulnerable families to support children's continued access to education.

UNICEF plans to reach adolescents (15-18 years) who are out-of-school with non-formal education and build their life skills to give them better opportunities in the future.



On 17 August 2021, UNICEF Representative in Haiti, Bruno Maes, and Minister of Education, Marie Lucie Joseph, assess the damages to College Mazenod in Camp-Perrin, Les Cayes, Haiti.  
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## Child Protection

Building on the pre-earthquake strong coordination with the Government's division in charge of child protection (IBESR) at national and departmental level, UNICEF will focus its interventions on providing inclusive, accessible, safe and appropriate mental health and psychosocial support for 30,000 children and caregivers. UNICEF will support the strengthening of community mechanisms and child protection community-based structures, to identify 20,000 children with specialized needs and refer them to multisectoral services of health, social welfare and justice. Case management will be provided to unaccompanied or separated children and will include family tracing and reunification. Interventions will be

implemented to prevent gender based violence and ensure service provision for survivors of violence, targeting 23,000 children and women.

UNICEF will provide safe and confidential mechanisms to ensure that girls, boys and women access to safe channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse and receive specialized support services.

UNICEF will support community sensitization activities to prevent family separation and ensure the protection of children, and delivery of life-saving information in multiple formats (including Braille, Sign language, simplified language, audio).

## Social Protection

UNICEF's priority in Social Protection is to ensure that response interventions are multi-sectoral and target the most vulnerable children and families. Based on ongoing support to strengthen shock responsive social protection system with Ministry of Social Affairs and

Labour, UNICEF is coordinating and working closely with FAO and WFP; UNICEF is targeting 100,000 households with humanitarian cash transfers to help families meet their most pressing and basic needs and contribute to minimize access barriers to basic services.



Karl, 15 months, sits in a UNICEF-supplied tent in the temporary shelters at Phillippe Guerrier High School in Les Cayes, Haiti on 17 August 2021  
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## Funding Requirements (US\$):

UNICEF requires US\$73,320,040 to address the urgent needs of children and their families in the areas of Health, Nutrition, WASH, Education, Child Protection and Social Protection, as well as sector/cluster coordination and monitoring and evaluation, over the next six months. These needs are also reflected in the revised funding requirements of UNICEF's 2021 Haiti Humanitarian Action for Children which total US\$122 million. While UNICEF has drawn on its own internal resources for the immediate response, ongoing interventions and supplies to cover children and their families' needs on a large-scale require urgent resources.

Requirements US\$	Sector Indicators	Targets
<b>HEALTH</b>		
8,320,040	# children under one vaccinated against measles	35,000
	# pregnant women who attended at least two prenatal visits	37,000
	# healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in IPC and provided with PPE	3,000
	# children and women receiving essential healthcare services in UNICEF supported facilities	251,283
	# health centers supported by UNICEF providing maternal, child and adolescent health services	30
<b>NUTRITION</b>		
6,000,000	# children aged 6-59 months with SAM admitted for treatment	8,100
	# primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving IYCF counselling	167,118
<b>WASH</b>		
21,500,000	# people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene	500,000
	# people accessing appropriately designed and managed latrines	150,000
	# people reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	500,000
	# people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services	500,000
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
31,000,000	# children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	100,000
	# children receiving learning materials	100,000
	# children accessing temporary learning centers for formal or non-formal education, including early learning	2,772
<b>CHILD PROTECTION, GBViE and PSEA</b>		
6,000,000	# children, parents and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support	30,000
	# unaccompanied and separated children reunified with their primary caregiver or provided with family-based care/alternative care services	1,500
	# women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions	23,000
	# children identified as in need of specialized services who are referred to health, social welfare and justice services	20,000
<b>SOCIAL PROTECTION</b>		
---	# households reached with humanitarian cash transfers across sectors	100,000
<b>SECTOR/CLUSTER COORDINATION</b>		
500,000	---	---
<b>Total: 73,320,040</b>		





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