



SITUATION REPORT:

HAITI EARTHQUAKE

September 23, 2021 | No. 3

BY THE NUMBERS

800,000 affected people

650,000 need immediate help

754,200 acutely food insecure people in the three quake-affected departments

2,246 people dead

137,500+ damaged and destroyed homes

Sources: UN System in Haiti, Government of Haiti, WPF

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The 7.2 magnitude earthquake that struck southwestern Haiti on August 14 has devastated communities in Grand'Anse, Nippes, and Sud Departments, leaving hundreds of thousands of people in dire need of food, water, basic sanitation and shelter. The suffering left in the wake of the earthquake was compounded by the heavy rains from Tropical Depression Grace on August 17, which triggered flooding and mudslides in some localities. All of this comes on top of the assassination of Haiti's president on July 7, which has thrown the country into political chaos.

The region most affected by the earthquake is made up of agricultural communities that will need food assistance to supplement declining stocks until October's planting season can produce crops. The rate of hunger is expected to surpass the combined reach of assistance organizations, putting the food security of more than 250,000 people at risk.



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(Allison Shelley for Corus)

Health remains a critical concern, with more than 200,000 having lost access to safe water supplies as a result of the quake. Dozens of health facilities have sustained damage, in some cases the damage is so severe that the facilities cannot operate.

Instability and security concerns have complicated humanitarian aid delivery. Transportation of supplies and workers to affected areas remains a challenge, due to massive devastation to Southwestern Haiti's roads and bridges. The damage is expected to impact the region's large agricultural community in the coming months, as concerns about even more hunger, access to medical care, and livelihoods grow, while mobility remains restricted.

IMA WORLD HEALTH AND LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF RESPONSE

To date, we've distributed 1,000 tarps for temporary shelter and 4,000 water purification tablets to households in the Grand'Anse department and in towns to the west and east of Jeremie.

We've completed a comprehensive assessment of 82 damaged or destroyed health facilities. This assessment is guiding the next phase of our response, which is aimed at repairing or improving access to water, sanitation and hygiene access; repairing damage; and replacing stocks and supplies at health facilities.

In the coming weeks, we will be distributing LWR Quilts, Personal Care Kits and Baby Care Kits to affected families. We will also be delivering medical supplies to clinics in need, including syringes, goggles, masks, gloves and personal protective equipment to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

We plan to help health workers and community leaders share information on hygiene practices, COVID-19 prevention, safe water chlorination, and other important behaviors to minimize local infectious diseases outbreaks, identify proper referrals, and support access to essential health services.

Pending additional funding, we are exploring expanding our response to include cash assistance or other interventions to address issues of food insecurity.



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