



WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME HAITI

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

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Haiti is the poorest country in the Western hemisphere.

Three quarters of Haitians live on less than US\$2 per day and half of the population earns less than US\$1 per day. Access to education is low, with illiteracy rates at 49%.

Nationally, 6.7 million people (out of a population of about 10 million) are considered food insecure, and over half of the food consumed is imported - including more than 80% of the rice.

One third of newborn babies are born underweight; 5-10% of children suffer from acute malnutrition; 23.4% of children suffer from chronic malnutrition; and 58 % of women 15-49 and two thirds of children under 5 are affected by anemia.

Seventy-two percent of children aged 6-12 in rural areas also suffer from iodine deficiency and 32 percent of school-age children are infected by intestinal parasites.

OVERVIEW

WFP's work in Haiti entails a multi-pronged strategy to increase food security and strengthen resilience by providing nutritional safety nets for the most vulnerable and supporting local markets across the country. Working with the government, local authorities, UN and NGO partners, WFP is implementing programs to provide food assistance to **1.7 million** Haitians.

WFP's strategy is focused on supporting the Haitian government in finding durable solutions to hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity in the country. For this reason, all WFP operations are accompanied by actions in support of the technical capacity of the institutional partners it works with.

School Meals: WFP is supporting the Government of Haiti and NGO partners to provide a daily meal to 685,000 children until the end of the 2012-13 school year and to set up a universal, national school meals programme. WFP also supports the government's technical capacity by working closely with the National School Meals Programme (PNCS) to improve monitoring systems, set up an institutional framework for the organisation and help

increase their reach in remote areas of the country.

Nutrition: WFP with the Ministry of Health prevents and treats moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) by providing specialized fortified food to pregnant and lactating women and children aged 5-59 months, as well as food assistance to HIV and tuberculosis patients and their families. In 2012, 362,850 Haitians benefited from these programmes.

Through **Cash and Food for Work** projects, WFP provides vulnerable people with income opportunities while engaging them in productive activities. These programmes are particularly useful when responding to natural disasters.

Projects in urban areas are designed to reinforce resilience, provide essential income support, protect the environment and reduce the exposure of vulnerable populations to disasters. In rural areas, projects support a combination of agricultural rehabilitation and watershed protection. In 2012, the program provided employment and improved food security for 20,000 Haitians. As part of the recovery strategy, CFW activities are planned for 225,000 beneficiaries in 2013.



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QUICK FACTS ON WFP HAITI:

1 central office and 4
suboffices – Cap Haitien,
Gonaives, Port au Prince
and Jacmel

309 staff – 92% of them
Haitian

6 warehouses for a
logistics capacity of over
37,400 metric tons

1.7 million beneficiaries
throughout the country

Local procurement

The School Meals Program is increasing the amount of locally produced food used in school meals as way to improve food security and support local farmers. Local purchases are a key action to boost the agricultural sector and, through improved access to quality markets, to increase revenues for small holder farmers.

Logistics and Telecommunications

In coordination with the Department for Civil Protection, WFP provides logistical and telecommunications services to the international humanitarian community and supports the government's capacity to respond to emergencies.

Emergency preparedness

In partnership with the Government of Haiti, WFP pre-positions stockpiles of emergency supplies during the hurricane season. Food, trucks and other lifesaving items are strategically located in warehouses throughout the country, thereby allowing WFP teams reach the most vulnerable rapidly and efficiently.

Emergency Response: the 2012 food security crisis.

Following a series of weather events – a drought before June, tropical storm Isaac in August and hurricane Sandy in

October – the food security situation of Haiti has deteriorated significantly. It is now estimated that 6.7 million people countrywide suffer from some degree of food insecurity. Of these, 1.5 million are severely food insecure. The majority of them live in rural areas, and many are women and children whose nutritional status is at serious risk unless they receive support.

WFP intervened immediately after Isaac and Sandy, assisting a total of over 31,000 people displaced by the storms. Furthermore, 70,000 people whose homes were destroyed by Sandy received a three-week food ration. Take-home rations to share with the families were distributed in December 2012 to school children, reaching 400,000 beneficiaries.

Funding Requirements: Following the food security crisis, WFP urgently needs US\$18 million to support early recovery and nutrition activities. Of these, US\$11 will be used for cash-for-work to support recovery in rural areas and meet the forthcoming planting seasons, and US\$7 million to purchase food. A further US\$3 million is required to sustain the logistics hubs and their transition into Haitian management.

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