



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Throughout 2019, Haiti was marked by major natural disasters that add to the effects of those experienced during the past ten years, the cholera epidemic, and the deteriorating socio-political and economic situation. Compounded by the country's structural weaknesses, vulnerable populations continue to have limited access to basic social services and face increased levels of food insecurity.

Objectives

FAO is working with partners in the Food Security Cluster to:

- Protect and restore the livelihoods of the most vulnerable populations.
- Enhance coordination among partners and support effective information management mechanisms.

Activities



Improve agricultural production

climate-resilient seeds and planting material | agricultural tools | nutrition education | creation of seed banks | support for local seed production and seed security | promotion of climate-resilient good agricultural practices | capacity building of women's associations for vegetable and fruit production | urban and peri-urban farming | cash for work and technical support for the rehabilitation of irrigation canals and for sustainable micro-watersheds management



Enhance livestock and fish production

fodder production and conservation | small-scale livestock (goat and poultry) production | mobile veterinary clinics | fishing equipment | capacity building for fishers and agropastoralists | cash for work and technical support for the rehabilitation water retention basins



Strengthen food security coordination

technical support for food security coordination, and early warning and monitoring systems



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Haiti

Humanitarian Response Plan 2019–2020



to assist

1.2 million people



FAO requires

USD 76 million

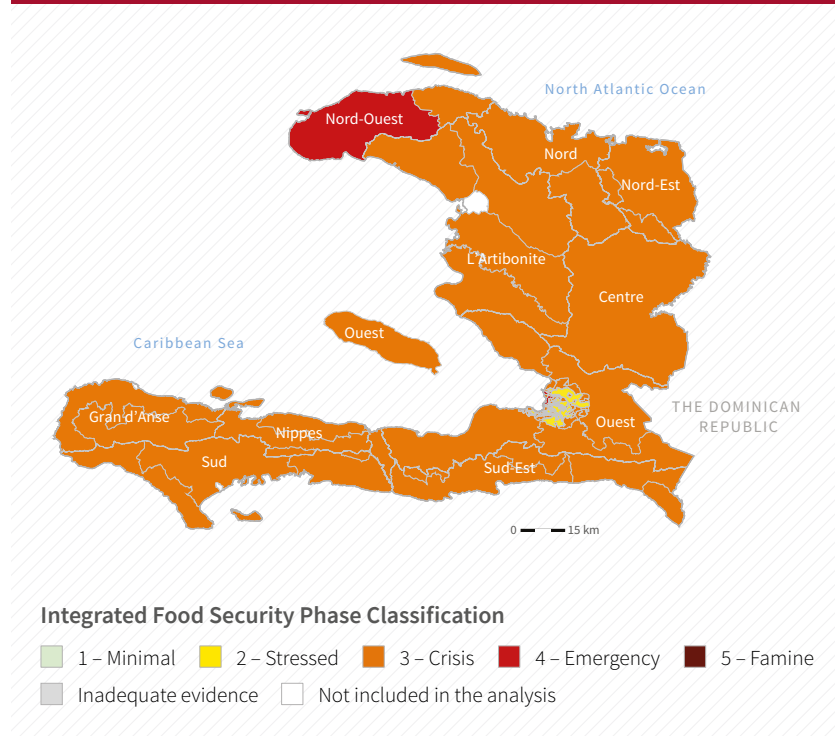


period

January–December 2020

If immediate livelihood assistance is not provided to vulnerable households, particularly during the lean season (March–June 2020) and in time for the preparation of the main agricultural campaign, they are likely to face much worse levels of food insecurity and increased dependency on food aid.

Acute food insecurity situation (October 2019–February 2020)



Source: IPC, October 2019. Map conforms to UN Haiti map, February 2016.

Situation analysis



3.7 million people in severe acute food insecurity



65 530 children under five suffer from acute malnutrition



60% of people in rural areas depend solely on agriculture, livestock and fisheries for their livelihoods



96% of Haitians are exposed to climate shocks

Impact on food security

During the past ten years, Haiti has been affected by two major earthquakes (in 2010 and 2018), three hurricanes (Sandy in 2012, Matthew in 2016 and Irma in 2017) and three severe droughts (in 2014, 2015/16 and 2018), the effects of which are still felt today.

In 2019, Haiti experienced extreme political instability and a considerable deterioration of its economic situation, which was marked by an annual inflation rate of 19.5 percent, the depreciation of the Haitian gourde, a rise in food prices and a decrease in foreign investments. The multiple shocks suffered by Haitians, including epidemics such as cholera, combined with the country's structural weaknesses, and the fragile social, economic and political context, have significantly affected vulnerable populations' ability to meet their basic needs.

In rural areas, recent floods as well as the drought related to the El Niño phenomenon caused a significant drop in agricultural production. The outcome of the spring agricultural season, which usually accounts for more

than half of the country's total production, was limited due to poor harvests of the 2018/19 winter agricultural season and the lack of available seeds. This is likely to affect results of the next agricultural campaigns. Farmers' purchasing power has continued to decline as well as local food availability. Repeated episodes of rainfall deficits have also strongly affected the herds of breeders in the Nord and Nord-Est departments given the early depletion of available pastures and dried-up water points.

According to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis (October 2019), if no actions are taken to strengthen the livelihoods of vulnerable populations, the food security situation is expected to further deteriorate, particularly during next year's lean season (March–June 2020), with 4.1 million people in IPC Phases 3-4 (42 percent of the rural population). It is therefore crucial to enhance vulnerable people's resilience and protect their livelihoods.

Contact

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