



Jesula Gaspard, 30, resident of Cité Soleil, feeds her 2-year old son the therapeutic food received in a mobile medical clinic run by UNICEF.

unicef 
for every child

Humanitarian Action for Children

Haiti

HIGHLIGHTS¹

- The humanitarian situation in Haiti stems from ongoing challenges and recurring crises fueled by prolonged political turmoil, disease outbreaks, natural disasters and escalating armed violence, which have led to chronic and acute humanitarian needs, including hunger, malnutrition, and gender-based violence which have reached unprecedented levels. Three million children need humanitarian and protection assistance, and many more may fall in need if unattended or if new shocks hit the country.
- UNICEF is scaling up its response, in line with the UN system-wide scale-up activation, providing support to the Government, to ensure access to and continuity of basic services for the most vulnerable, while contributing to humanitarian, development/peacebuilding nexus strategies. UNICEF provides water, sanitation, and hygiene, education, health, nutrition, child protection and social protection services, supports cholera rapid-response teams, and maintains work in disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness.
- UNICEF requests US\$245.9 million to meet humanitarian needs in 2023.

KEY PLANNED TARGETS



115,602

children with severe wasting admitted for treatment



205,200

children and parents/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support



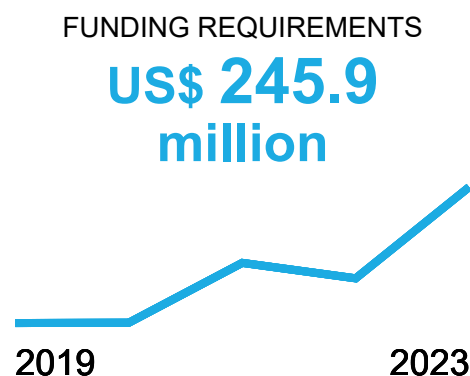
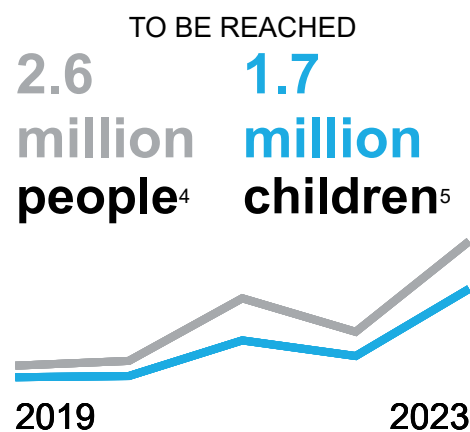
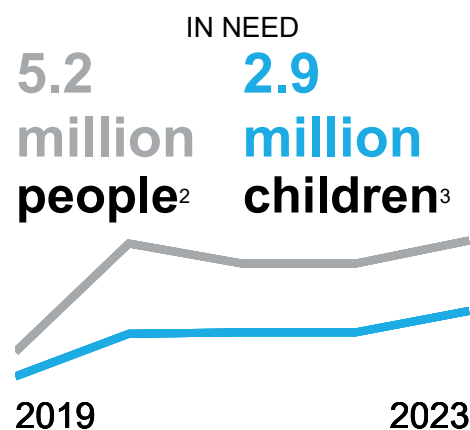
1.1 million

children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning



1.5 million

people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water



HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

The humanitarian situation in Haiti stems from ongoing challenges and recurring crises that lead to chronic and acute humanitarian needs. In 2023, over 5.2 million Haitians,⁶ nearly half of the population, will need humanitarian assistance and protection. Thousands of other highly vulnerable people may fall in need shortly if the situation continues to deteriorate or in case of new shocks. The compounded crises have differentiated impacts on distinct groups and regions: urban populations entrapped by armed violence; families displaced by violence; food insecure and marginalized communities outside the capital; and repatriated migrants. The influence of armed groups has increased, coupled with severe human rights violations. Attacks on medical and educational assets are rising, including a nine-fold increase in armed violence against schools⁷. Access to education and health services for at least 1.5 million people has been restricted⁸, while UN agencies and non-governmental organizations have been targets of violent lootings. In April 2023, a civilian-led vigilante movement emerged, targeting and publicly executing members of armed groups. Children bear the brunt of the deteriorating security, economic and social situation, especially those living in violence-affected areas, and repatriated migrants. At least 128,000 people are internally displaced in the Port-Au-Prince Metropolitan Area⁹, of which 38 per cent live in spontaneous sites and 62 per cent in host communities, including many unaccompanied children exposed to abuse, exploitation and violence.

Catastrophic levels of food insecurity were recorded for the first time in 2022, and a staggering 30 per cent more children are projected to suffer from severe wasting this year, per the 2023 SMART survey. An estimated 115,600 children could be severely wasted in 2023¹⁰, compared to 87,500 in 2022. In addition, nearly one in four children in Haiti suffer from chronic malnutrition (or stunting),¹¹ a condition with long-term developmental and survival consequences.

The crisis is exacerbated by the cholera epidemic that resurfaced in Cité Soleil in October 2022 and has spread across the country. As of May 2023, over 42,350 suspected cases have been reported, almost half of them among children under the age of 14.¹² Access to water is a major challenge and cause of the spread of cholera. As the disease ravages violence-ridden neighbourhoods, cholera and malnutrition pose a double burden that the national health system is unable to address.

Reconstruction efforts following the 2021 earthquake are limited and Haiti remains extremely susceptible to natural hazards.

Addressing the complex needs of affected populations will require a multi-sectoral, country-wide approach that goes beyond immediate relief, towards a more comprehensive response that supports recovery and resilience.

SECTOR NEEDS



4.5 million
people in need of
health assistance¹³



794,000
people in need of
nutrition assistance¹⁴



1.2 million
children in need of
protection services¹⁵



3.3 million
people lack access to
safe water¹⁶

STORY FROM THE FIELD



Haritée Tibreuil, 37, adjusts the bandage on her daughter Virginia's wound after she was hit by a stray bullet in March 2023, in Port-au-Prince.

Virginia Danielle, 13, stayed home from school one day in March 2023 because of clashes taking place near her school. As she studied at home, she was hit by a stray bullet. Virginia is recovering, but is experiencing symptoms that resemble post-traumatic stress disorder.

"When I hear gunshots, I jump up and hit myself. I'm afraid to stay at home. I am scared when my mother leaves me alone," she says.

UNICEF, with local NGOs, runs child-friendly spaces to provide a safe environment where children like Virginia can access the support needed to cope with the impact of armed violence.

[Read more about this story here](#)

HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY¹⁷

In the current context, UNICEF, in collaboration with Government and partners, is scaling up the immediate humanitarian response to save lives, while contributing to build capacities and effective nexus strategies to be sustained over the mid-long term.

UNICEF is scaling up the humanitarian response while tailoring interventions to address the differentiated needs of specific population groups (including those affected by armed violence, IDPs, repatriated migrants, and other affected populations outside of the capital). UNICEF is responding to protection, cholera and malnutrition in areas at risk of systems collapse through increased support to teachers, doctors and health workers. In urban areas affected by violence and displacement, UNICEF is assisting IDPs through mobile teams, supplies, community engagement and social cohesion. To better address the needs of people trapped in areas controlled by armed groups, UNICEF is investing in access capacity.

The cholera response includes case area targeted interventions (CATI), community sensitization and WASH shield response, preventing waterborne and infectious diseases, and support to treatment centres. WASH interventions focus on expanding access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services through trucking, household water treatment, rehabilitation of infrastructure, waste disposal, hygiene promotion and supplies.

UNICEF supports continued access to essential maternal and child health care services, immunization, and will reinforce health supply chain management.

UNICEF is adapting its nutrition response based on the findings of the January 2023 SMART survey by scaling up treatment of severe wasting and infant and young child feeding practices while strengthening monitoring and information management.

UNICEF promotes safe access to learning through school supplies, multiple education pathways, psychosocial support and disaster risk prevention, and cash grants will be provided to families that enroll vulnerable children. Education will be a gateway to strengthen social cohesion and promote peacebuilding.

UNICEF will support the national social protection system to scale up humanitarian cash transfers towards improving access to basic goods and services in hard-to-reach communities entrapped by armed violence. The protection of children exposed to violence, exploitation and family separation, notably IDPs and migrants, is a priority, and specialized services and community-based structures will help identify vulnerable children and provide care and referrals.

Following the declaration of a UN system-wide scale up, UNICEF is supporting the Government and strengthening national coordination by co-leading the Education and Nutrition Clusters, the Child Protection Sub-Cluster and the WASH sector. UNICEF co-leads the cholera response with the Government, the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization.

While working with partners to address immediate needs and prevent that more Haitians fall into humanitarian needs, UNICEF will contribute to advocacy efforts with key stakeholders for coherent and comprehensive actions to address the root causes of Haiti's crisis.

Additional priorities include contingency planning, positioning supplies and community mobilization to foster social and behavioural change. Gender equality and accountability to affected populations will be mainstreamed. To help prevent sexual exploitation and abuse, child-friendly awareness-raising material and reporting channels will be disseminated.

Progress against the latest programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/haiti/situation-reports>

2023 PROGRAMME TARGETS¹⁸



Health¹⁹

- **162,400** children vaccinated against measles
- **652,200** children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities²⁰
- **200** new health professionals recruited and deployed in health institutions
- **9,000** suspected cases detected, referred to a cholera treatment center or rehydrated in the community



Nutrition

- **115,602** children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment²¹
- **600,000** children 6-59 months screened for wasting
- **519,000** primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling
- **4,000** suspected with cholera and severe wasting are managed according to the national protocol for the management of cholera cases in children with acute malnutrition



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA²²

- **99,600** women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions
- **1,543,900** people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations
- **205,200** children and parents/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support
- **6,480** unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care or reunified
- **346,571** Children, youth, parents and community leaders sensitized on recruitment and use of children by armed groups²³



Education

- **1,120,000** children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning²⁴
- **382,714** children receiving individual learning materials²⁵
- **382,714** children accessing mental health and psychosocial support in their schools/learning programmes



Water, sanitation and hygiene²⁶

- **1,543,900** people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs
- **118,000** people accessing appropriate sanitation services²⁷
- **1,440,000** people reached with critical WASH supplies²⁸



Social protection

- **33,840** households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers²⁹



Cross-sectoral (SBC, RCCE and AAP)³⁰

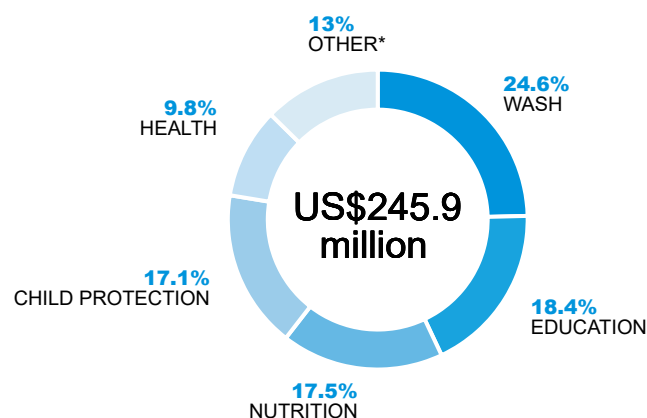
- **4,000,000** people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services³¹
- **30,000** people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms³²

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2023

In 2023, UNICEF is requesting US\$245.9 million to meet the needs of 2.6 million people in Haiti, including 1.7 million children.

In response to growing humanitarian needs resulting from the significant rise in armed violence and social unrest in recent months, an additional \$30.9 million is needed as compared to the beginning of 2023. Increased funding to support the associated costs of operating in such a high cost environment is critical to enable UNICEF to provide life-saving assistance to children and vulnerable populations impacted by the complex emergency gripping Haiti. These resources will allow UNICEF to provide essential primary health and nutrition services and care to the growing number of children suffering from severe wasting, mitigate the effects of scarce access to water and sanitation - including in urban areas - the lack of which has been one of the main causes of the cholera epidemic; care for the growing number of children and women who are victims of violence, separated children and those in the hands of armed groups. Funding will also enable UNICEF to ensure safe access and return to school for children deprived of their right to education.

UNICEF will continue investing in nexus strategies, not only to address the immediate needs of Haitians but also to prevent that the situation of more families and children deteriorate further, and to contribute to the country's resilience efforts.



Appeal sector	Revised 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)
Health ³⁴	23,981,485
Nutrition ³⁵	43,059,989
Child protection ³⁶	42,048,720
Education	45,221,328
WASH ³⁷	60,518,572
Social protection	14,941,584
Cross-sectoral ³⁸	16,160,407
Cholera ³⁹	-
Total	245,932,085

*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Cross-sectoral (6.6%), Social protection (6.1%), Cholera (0.0%).

Appeal sector	Original 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)	Revised 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)	Funds available (US\$)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health ⁴⁰	20,182,941	23,981,485	2,910,542	21,070,943	87.9%
Nutrition ⁴¹	31,969,890	43,059,989	5,964,469	37,095,520	86.1%
Child protection ⁴²	32,933,520	42,048,720	1,470,773	40,577,947	96.5%
Education	30,000,000	45,221,328	2,122,895	43,098,433	95.3%
WASH ⁴³	44,473,285	60,518,572	12,285,737	48,232,835	79.7%
Social protection	10,797,155	14,941,584	-	14,941,584	100.0%
Cross-sectoral ⁴⁴	16,471,223	16,160,407	3,168,999	12,991,408	80.4%
Cholera ⁴⁵	23,500,000	-	4,445,446	-4,445,446	0%
Total	210,328,014	245,932,085	32,368,861	213,563,224	86.8%

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ENDNOTES

1. UNICEF activated its Corporate Emergency Level 3 Scale-up Procedure for Haiti on 20 April 2023 until 14 July 2023, in line with the three-month IASC system-wide scale-up activation. UNICEF Emergency Procedures are activated to ensure a timely and effective response to all crises. The emergency procedures provide a tailored package of mandatory actions and simplifications required for all offices responding to Level 3, Level 2 and Level 1 humanitarian situations.
2. Based on the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview for Haiti in different programmatic sectors, calculated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and humanitarian partners, including UNICEF. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
3. In May 2023 UNICEF revised the children in need figure based on the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview for Haiti, where children make up 55 per cent of the total people in need. The previous figure (4,000,000) was the Education Sector need which was calculated during school closures and captured the totality of school-aged children, not taking into account the vulnerability of children (in need) due to lack of evidence.
4. Based on the single largest sector targets for different age groups: nutrition (600,000 children 6-59 months screened for wasting); education (1,120,000 school-aged children and adolescents >5 years); and WASH (849,145 persons, only the proportion of the targeted adults population - 55% of the total target)
5. Based on the single largest sector targets for different age groups, namely nutrition (600,000 children 6-59 months screened for wasting)) and education (1,120,000 school-aged children and adolescents >5 years).
6. OCHA, Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023.
7. OCHA, Haiti Humanitarian Response Plan 2023.
8. OCHA, Haiti Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023.
9. IOM, DTM: Dashboard on Displacement in the Port-au-Prince Metropolitan Area — Round 3 (14 February — 16 March 2023).
10. SMART Survey, May 2023
11. OCHA, Haiti Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023.
12. Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) situation report number 218, 15 May 2023. Suspected cases: 42,351 (46% under 14 years old). Confirmed cases: 2,678 (43% under 14 years old)
13. This figure represents the needs of the Health sector according to the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview.
14. According to the SMART survey, published in May 2023.
15. This figure represents the needs of the Child Protection sub-sector according to the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview
16. This figure represents the needs of the WASH sector according to the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview
17. This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action. UNICEF is committed to supporting the leadership and coordination of humanitarian response through its leadership or co-leadership of cluster and sector coordination for WASH, Nutrition and Education and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility. All cluster and sector coordinator costs are included into programme budgets. UNICEF is committed to empowering local responders in humanitarian crises in a variety of ways. The revised Core Commitments made investing in strengthening the capacities of local actors in the humanitarian response a mandatory benchmark for UNICEF action. A more localized response will improve humanitarian action and is fundamental to achieving better accountability to affected populations.
18. The programme targets for 2023 are based on the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview/Humanitarian Response Plan updates. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
19. The target for the child and maternal health subsector has been agreed within the health sector coordination (led by PAHO and WHO) in the framework of the Humanitarian Needs Overview/Humanitarian Response Plan process. The calculation is based on the sector needs of children under age 5 plus pregnant and breastfeeding women, corresponding to around 40 per cent of the total health sector figure. It also takes into account the anticipated operational capacity of UNICEF in 2023. To be noted, in addition to three southern departments affected by the 2021 earthquake, the health sector also targets the vulnerable populations in the communes of the metropolitan area prone to urban violence, including internally displaced people in various sites.
20. The targets for the 2023 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal for Haiti have been increased from 2022 due to the deteriorating conditions and additional health needs to be addressed in the communes of the metropolitan area prone to urban violence and cholera. The target includes support to internally displaced people in the various displacement sites and host communities.
21. Target is aligned with HNO/HRP 2023 and SMART survey published in May 2023.
22. This target was revised in May 2023 to reflect 30% of the 2023 HRP GBV target. The additional 41,600 people targeted will be reached with prevention and risk mitigation interventions.
23. This target is specific to Port-au-Prince and Artibonite geographic areas.
24. This target includes people targeted by UNICEF's education sector earthquake response, responses for internally displaced people and migrants and other humanitarian response modalities, including cash transfers.
25. This target has been adjusted in the May 2023 revision to reflect 60 per cent of the sectoral target according to HNO/HRP 2023.
26. WASH sectoral targets are heavily impacted by the current growing urban violence. They have been reviewed based on data obtained through sectoral needs assessments within the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview/Humanitarian Response Plan process.
27. This target has been adjusted in the May 2023 revision to align with the HRP target, which focuses on the provision of access to latrines in IDPs sites, instead of the estimated target related to the open defecation at community level. The latter will be addressed by development interventions on ACAT (CLTS).
28. Includes people assisted with cholera kits through rapid response teams benefitting from "cordon sanitaire" and community response; as well support with hygiene kits in emergency response
29. In partnership with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, UNICEF provides three months of cash assistance (until June 2023) in Haiti. Assistance is provided in coordination with education, nutrition and child protection interventions, to ensure a holistic approach for children and their families. In addition, 3,600 households will be supported through an education sector cash transfer programme, where the most vulnerable households will be selected through enrolment of school-aged children affected by the different emergency situations, including displaced victims of urban gang violence. The estimate is based on a social protection sectoral analysis, considering additional humanitarian cash transfers including, child protection and WASH sector cash transfers.
30. Cross-sectoral target includes accountability to affected populations and social and behavioural change activities and indicators.
31. This target includes all social and behavioural change activities carried out in by different sectors (WASH, child protection, health and nutrition).
32. An accountability to affected populations survey in the field (covering 12 municipalities in the three earthquake-affected departments) is planned before the end of 2023, results will be combined with results from other feedback and accountability mechanisms established for UNICEF response around the country. Additionally, through the U-Report platform, periodic surveys are being carried out to engage with adolescents and youth on accountability issues.
33. Humanitarian needs have been assessed with additional and more detailed information collected in the field and corresponding response planning. All sectoral budgets include a portion of the operational costs (operations, communications and monitoring and evaluation/reporting).
34. The budget and target for the maternal and child health sub-sector have been agreed within the health sector coordination (led by PAHO and WHO) as part of the Overview/Humanitarian Response Plan process. The 2023 budget and target are increasing due to the social and economic situation in the country and Overview/Humanitarian Response Plan process. The calculation is based on the sectoral needs of children under five and pregnant and lactating women, which corresponds to approximately 40% of the total health sector figure. The Health budget also includes US\$1,743,768 for cholera response.
35. The nutrition budget and target have been adjusted to the overall sectoral planning agreed in the framework of the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview/Humanitarian Response Plan process. The 2023 budget, compared with 2022, includes additional requirements for the response in the metropolitan area, procurement of supplies for the management of severe wasting and sector coordination.
36. The child protection budget includes: 1) US\$1 million for prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse; 2) US\$9,037,500 for gender-based violence efforts including full-service provision of prevention, risk mitigation and response to gender-based violence survivors (legal and medical services plus psychosocial support, estimated at US\$300 per beneficiary). Fifty-five per cent of survivors need the full package of services and 45 per cent benefit from prevention and sensitization sessions only.
37. The WASH budget includes US\$14,749,790 for cholera response.
38. The cross-sectoral budget includes costs related to social and behavioural change, risk communication and community engagement, accountability to affected populations and the Humanitarian Country Team. The cross-sectoral budget includes US\$1,632,500 for cholera response.
39. In the May 2023 revision, the Cholera response budget was integrated into the WASH (US\$14.7M); Health (US\$7.3M) and Cross-sectoral (US\$1.6M) budgets.
40. Figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency planning documents. Humanitarian needs have been assessed with additional and more detailed information collected in the field and corresponding response planning. All sectoral budgets include a portion of the operational costs (operations, communications and monitoring and evaluation/reporting).
41. The budget and target for the child and maternal health subsector has been agreed within the health sector coordination (led by PAHO and WHO) in the framework of the Humanitarian Needs Overview/Humanitarian Response Plan process (preliminary figures for 2023). The calculation is based on the sector needs of children under age 5 plus pregnant and breastfeeding women, corresponding to around 40 per cent of the total health sector figure.
42. The nutrition budget and target have been adjusted to the overall sectoral planning agreed in the framework of the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview/Humanitarian Response Plan process. The 2023 budget, compared with 2022, includes additional requirements for the response in the metropolitan area, procurement of supplies for the management of severe wasting and sector coordination.
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44. The cross-sectoral budget includes costs related to social and behavioural change, risk communication and community engagement, accountability to affected populations and the Humanitarian Country Team.
45. The cholera budget is based on reaching an average of 100 cases per day with WASH and health services, as well as more than 2 million people with messages, based on UNICEF estimates. This ask includes a proportion of the funding requirements included in the November 2022 Cholera Flash Appeal.