

WFP Haiti Country Brief

Highlights

- WFP facilitated the representation of Haiti at the 8th Latin American and Caribbean Regional Seminar on School Feeding held in Mexico with the participation of the Minister of National Education and the Coordinators of Education for All and the National School Canteen Program.
- According to WFP's market monitor, damage from Hurricane Matthew continued to affect food prices, keeping year on-year food inflation at 13 percent.

WFP Assistance

Assistance to the National School Feeding Programme DEV 200150 (2012 - 2017)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	126.1m	95.2 m (75%)	-

*May - October 2017

Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Resilience PRRO 200618 (2014 - 2017)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	211.3 m	96 m (45%)	24.8 m (110%)

*May - October 2017

WFP-Haiti's Development Project assists Haitian school children by providing a nutritious school meal and supports the Government's vision to establish a nationally-owned school meals program linked to local agriculture by 2030. The Development Project started in 2012 and its specific objectives are: i) help ensure that pre and primary school children remain in school to improve their education and nutritional levels; and ii) enhance the capacities of the government to enable a sustainable expansion of its national school meals program.

WFP's school meals programme represents the country's largest food-based safety net. In coordination with the National School Meals Programme (PNCS), WFP aims to deliver daily hot meals to 485,000 school children in 1,700 schools in nine of Haiti's ten departments with an emphasis on primary public schools in rural areas. School children receive hot meals based on a daily ration of 165 grams composed of cereals, pulses, fortified vegetable oil and iodized salt. The daily ration given during a school meal represents approximately 40 percent of the recommended daily intake for school children.

In line with the Government's priority of supporting local economies and agriculture, WFP is linking school meals with local markets and increasing its local purchases every year. WFP also implements a home-grown school feeding pilot in Nippes Department. Relying on locally produced foods, the programme aims to improve dietary diversity of school children. The model also helps strengthen farmers' organizations and cooperatives. For the 2016/2017, 7,000 students receive nutritious and diversified seasonal menu including cereals, pulses, fresh vegetables and root tubers.

Main Photo Credit: WFP/Rose Myriam Origene
Caption: WFP is screening children for malnutrition using Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) in the department of Nippes.

The protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) supports the Government's efforts to respond to the needs of populations affected or at risk and to achieve Zero Hunger through the following activities:

- enhance, through general food assistance, the food consumption and dietary diversity of the most vulnerable and food insecure populations that are affected by natural disasters;
- support the Government's Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) capacity and its interventions to save lives;
- encourage resilience-building efforts by supporting communities to create assets and build their resistance to shocks via food assistance for assets;
- support the food security and resilience of the most food insecure population by developing and institutionalizing a targeting and response system for the national social safety net programme;
- address global acute malnutrition, and treat moderate acute malnutrition in children under five and in pregnant and lactating women;
- assist the permanent reduction in the prevalence of chronic malnutrition by a food-assisted approach focusing on the first 1,000 days.

In Numbers

1.55 m people facing food insecurity (*December 2016 Emergency Food Security Assessment, EFSA*)

280,000 people severely food insecure

924,900 people received food assistance under the Hurricane response since the beginning of the operation

People Assisted



Operational Updates

Recovery interventions in hurricane affected areas:

- As emergency relief has ended with more than 900,000 people reached, WFP has shifted to recovery activities.
- WFP will partner with local and international NGOs and UN agencies to implement Food Assistance for Asset activities, distributing cash-based transfers to 17,000 households in Grande Anse, Nippes and Artibonite. Participants will work on soil conservation, construction of dry walls and road cleaning projects. Households will be registered using WFP's beneficiary identity and benefit management system (SCOPE) creating a more streamlined process from registration to payment, reconciliation and reporting.
- WFP's partners began the targeting exercise for the four-month seasonal food assistance and supplementary nutrition programme in Grande Anse and Nippes. WFP plans to distribute specialized nutritious foods to approximately 27,000 children and 25,000 women, complemented by a family ration benefiting around 126,000 persons.

Kore Lavi:

- Under the leadership of the new administration, the strategic steering committees of Kore Lavi will be relaunched at the MAST (Ministry of Social Affairs) and will be chaired by the Minister or the Director General.

School Feeding:

- WFP facilitated the representation of Haiti at the 8th Latin American and Caribbean Regional Seminar on School Feeding held in Mexico in April. The Minister of National Education, the Education for All Coordinator and the PNCS Coordinator of the National School Canteen Program participated in the seminar. Representatives of Haiti took advantage of this platform to present the orientations of the National Policy and Strategy for School Feeding (PSNAS), focusing on the nutritional health issues of school children to improve educational outcomes and linkages with national agricultural production for strengthening local economies.
- A decrease in school attendance in Grande Anse, the department most affected by the hurricane, was observed between September 2016 and March 2017 in the schools participating in WFP's school meals programme. Seven schools out of 110 are still closed, and attendance in re-opened schools is as low as 15 percent. WFP is coordinating with local partners to ensure that severely damaged schools are being rebuilt.

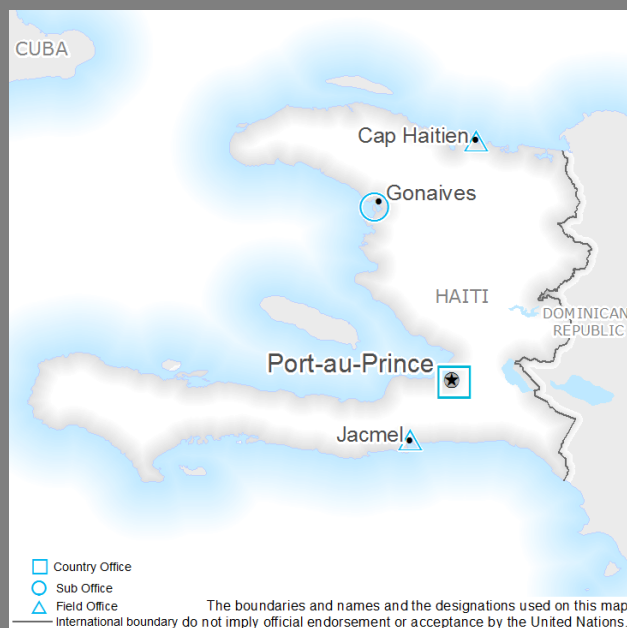
Assessment

- According to WFP's market monitor, the local currency depreciation slowed down after the peaceful conclusion of political elections in January but the damage from Hurricane Matthew is still impacting food prices. Year-on-year food inflation is at 13 percent.

Impact of limited funding

- The number of school children receiving support in the 2017/18 school year will have to be reduced by more than 25% and preparedness activities for the next hurricane season will not be implemented.

Country Background & Strategy



Haiti is the only Low-Income Country in the Americas and its economy has been repeatedly affected by political crises and a series of devastating natural disasters over the last two decades. 59 percent of Haitians live in poverty and close to 25 percent in extreme poverty. Agriculture provides 50 percent of jobs in the country and accounts for 25 percent of the GDP, but Haiti fails to produce enough food for its population's needs.

In 2016, Haiti experienced its third consecutive year of drought, exacerbated by the global El Niño weather phenomenon and was hit by a category 4 Hurricane, the worst registered in the last 10 years.

Poverty, depletion of environmental resources and limited national capacity to respond to crises make Haiti highly vulnerable to natural shocks. Even in the case of moderate shocks, there is often the need for WFP to respond. In light of environmental and economic vulnerability, the main pillars of WFP's country strategy are emergency preparedness and response, food and nutrition safety nets, and augmentation of national capacity. In 2016, WFP Haiti sharpened its focus on developing government capacity, local purchase from smallholder farmers and the use of cash and voucher transfers.

WFP has been present in Haiti since 1969.

Population: **11 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
163 out of 188

Food Imports: **over 50% of national requirements**

2014 Maplecroft Index: **6th most vulnerable country to climate change**

Donors

Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Private Donors, Switzerland, Sweden, UN CERF and USA.

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