



IN NUMBERS



1.4 million people
in need of humanitarian
assistance



90 percent
of crops damaged



75 percent of the
population affected in the
hardest-hit areas



USD 34.1 million
still needed to support
600 000 people

KEY POINTS

- **The various post-disaster assessments** conducted by FAO, WFP and the National Commission on Food Security (CNSA) indicate that local production and **livelihoods** were strongly affected by the Hurricane and **almost destroyed** in Grand'Anse and Sud departments. In Sud all food crops (bean, yam, corn, cassava and millet) are irreversibly affected, and 90 percent of fruit and forest trees are affected. With much of the country relying on subsistence production to meet their food needs, restoring agriculture- and fishery-based livelihoods is critical to avoid dependency on food aid in the coming months.
- **Damages to agricultural sector are estimated at USD 580 million.**
- **FAO has started** supporting affected families through the distribution of seeds and tools for the implementation of the **winter staple crop season** and short-cycle horticultural crops. FAO has targeted **25 050 households in the most affected departments**, including 5 400 in Grand'Anse, 15 150 in Sud, 2 000 in Nord-Ouest, 1 500 in the Artibonite, 500 in Sud-Est and 500 in Ouest. FAO will also distribute fishing equipment to fishers who have lost their livelihoods.
- Of the USD 9 million required by FAO under **the Flash Appeal, USD 5.6 million is still missing** to provide immediate crop, livestock and fisheries support to **300 000 hurricane-affected people**. To cover the short- to medium-term recovery costs, FAO has developed a 12-month response plan requesting **USD 30 million** to support **600 000 severely food insecure people and so far has received USD 1.5 million.**

MAP

Impact of Hurricane Matthew on food security
(Source: USAI)



BACKGROUND

On 3 and 4 October 2016, Category 4 Hurricane Matthew, the strongest in the Atlantic since Felix in 2007, cut a path of destruction across Haiti, carrying devastating winds, heavy rainfall and widespread damage in the southwest of the country: the most affected departments are Grande-Anse, Sud, Sud-Est and Nippes. The death toll from Hurricane Matthew in Haiti is rising to least 546 and cholera is spreading. An estimated 2.1 million Haitians (more than 20 percent of the population) were affected and 1.4 million is in need of assistance.

CHALLENGES FACING FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Damages to crops, livestock and fisheries as well as rural infrastructure, particularly marketplaces and water-irrigated perimeters, are extensive. In the most affected areas, up to 100 percent of crops were damaged or destroyed and pastures to feed livestock have also been affected. The death of small livestock has diminished vital sources of animal protein, and sheds and fences will need repairing.

Subsistence agriculture – a primary food source for most Haitians – was especially hit. A large portion of Haiti’s rural population engages in agriculture, relying on their own production to meet their food needs. Some cyclone-hit areas saw the total destruction of fruit-bearing and other trees, as well as backyard vegetable gardens.

Affected families need urgent support to avoid food shortages and quickly replant fast-growing crops. With many subsistence crops ruined and community markets either damaged or inaccessible, the availability of meat and fresh produce is increasingly limited. Farming and fishing families risk becoming dependent on food aid in the coming weeks if they are not supported to restore their livelihoods.

The Hurricane has aggravated the effects of El Niño-related events, including a drought which has already diminished food production and access to fresh water over the past year. The combined effects will further reduce peoples’ capacity to purchase food to feed their families, or agricultural inputs in order to resume production.

FAO

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES



Crops (beans and Lima bean seeds; sweet potato cuttings; planting materials; rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure)



Livestock (veterinary treatments; small livestock restocking; fodder production)



Fisheries (fish feed; repair/replacement of lost/damaged vessels; engines and fishing gear)

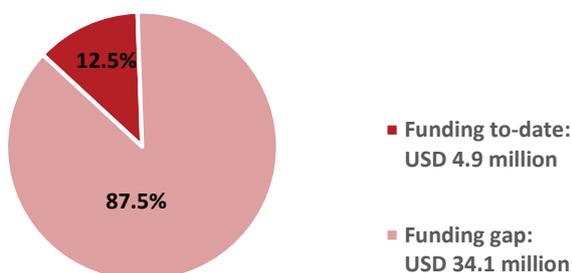


Food security coordination, information, assessment and analysis.

ACTIONS TAKEN TO-DATE

- ✓ FAO has surged capacity in support of the country office and mobilized internal emergency resources to kick start immediate interventions; the country office in Haiti is actively involved in the United Nations Country Team meetings and procedures for national preparedness and response coordination activities.
- ✓ The emergency food security assessment (EFSA) was released, as well as the rapid agricultural needs assessment.
- ✓ Results of the post-disaster needs assessment (PDNA) undertaken by FAO and partners upon the Government’s request will be release in the coming days.
- ✓ A three-month response plan has been prepared, as well as a one year plan.
- ✓ Procurement of seeds achieved: beans, Lima beans and sweet potato cuttings.

FUNDING



FAO requires
USD 39 million

To assist
600 000 people

Resource partners: the Government of Belgium, CERF, SFERA-AIRC and FAO resources

ASSESSMENTS

The EFSA conducted by FAO, WFP and CNSA indicate that 1.4 million are in need of humanitarian assistance of which 806 000 in need of urgent food aid.

The rapid impact assessment on agricultural damages conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Inter-American Bank, World Bank and FAO showed global losses of USD 604 million.

Preliminary results of the PDNA (coordinated by the Ministry for Planning and External Cooperation) estimate damages to agricultural sector at USD 580 million and total costs of the recovery of the sector are estimated to USD 343 million .

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