

# UNICEF HUMANITARIAN ACTION

# HAITI

## DONOR UPDATE 14 JUNE 2004

- **Additional funds are needed for nutrition, water and sanitation in schools, immunization and psychosocial support.**
- **Immediate humanitarian action needed for responding to the flood victims.**

### Issues for Children

As in most **conflict** situations, children and women continue to bear the brunt of the crisis. A nationwide assessment of Haitian children conducted by UNICEF and four international organizations in March reveals that the political violence has had a severe impact on children, particularly the most vulnerable, such as the 2,000 children living in the streets of the capital, the 120,000 girls who work as domestic servants and the 200,000 children orphaned by AIDS.

With few exceptions, children in most of the country appear to have been affected by fear and insecurity. The study also reveals that the number of child rape victims increased significantly in the urban areas where the violence was most significant.

Routine **immunization** activities were curtailed throughout the country because of insecurity, decreasing vaccine stockpiles and the break down of the cold chain in the most affected areas. A recent immunization campaign conducted last month in the border regions between Haiti and the Dominican Republic revealed that 37 per cent of the children between 0-11 months had never been vaccinated before.

Access to **health care** was considerably reduced due to a shortage of medical staff and the lack of medical supplies. At the height of the crisis, many clinics and hospitals had to close their doors because of the violence, including the main hospital in Port au Prince.



**Water and sanitation** facilities deteriorated further in the capital and the countryside; a sharp increase in diarrhoea and other water-borne diseases was observed. Public sewage and garbage collection have been interrupted in many areas, particularly in Port-au-prince, where piles of garbage are mounting in the streets.

Growing **food insecurity**, caused in large part by a sharp rise in prices, is likely to have a long-term impact on child malnutrition. Children had only one meal per day or less in many parts of the country during the crisis.

The **education** system was practically brought to a halt at the onset of the crisis, and most schools throughout the country remained closed for the duration of the conflict - many for as long as four months. Several schools were looted or destroyed during the crisis, and students and their teachers were also subjected to violence and threats by armed gangs in many areas.

Limited access to certain areas, insecurity, poor road conditions hindered the distribution of humanitarian supplies.

## Health Action

### IMMUNIZATION

Vaccination Week kicked off Haiti's nationwide immunization campaign, which is being held from May to July 2004.

- 1.3 million children under five are being immunized against polio and measles.
- 1.2 million children under five are receiving vitamin A supplement.
- 256,000 women of childbearing age are being vaccinated against tetanus, a disease that kills some 800 children every year.

### NUTRITION

- The provision of 90 MT of Unimix milk, 10 MT (80,000 daily rations) of high protein biscuits and vitamin A supplements is improving the nutritional status of more than 250,000 children.
- UNICEF is supporting community canteens in Gonaïves to benefit 10,000 children under five.
- 100 weighting trousers, 10 infant scales, 100 infant measuring boards and 200 weights for height charts have been procured to conduct a nationwide nutrition assessment that will assess the impact of the crisis on the nutritional status of children as well as identify needs.

### INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF CHILDHOOD DISEASES

- 1000 boxes of oral rehydration salts are currently being distributed to hospitals and health centres for approximately 150,000 children.
- UNICEF is currently supporting a de-worming campaign in primary schools. The campaign began in the Grand'Anse region on 31 May and will be extended to the rest of the country to reach an estimated 1.2 million children.

## Education Action

- UNICEF distributed plastic sheeting to five schools affected by the crisis to enable them to continue their activities.
- Hygiene kits for 3,300 children, 32 education kits, 19 recreational kits and other emergency materials were distributed in 30 schools in Port-au-Prince, Cap Haitian, Gonaives, St. Marc, Perna and Grand Goave for 10,000 children.

- 50 schools are being progressively integrated into the Child-friendly School initiative.
- Latrines and water facilities are being rehabilitated in 10 schools most affected by the crisis.
- UNICEF is currently developing a nationwide project aimed at providing psychosocial support to 15,000 children as well as training to 600 young people to serve as monitors in the regions most affected by the violence.

As part of the project, UNICEF and its partners, including NGOs, the government and the private sector and religious organizations will organize summer camps in 10 schools located in the regions most affected by the conflict during August 2004.

Psychosocial activities will include counseling, sports, cultural, artistic and educational activities: peace building, health and hygiene education, civic instruction and more.

In addition, UNICEF will subsidize the return to school of the children and young people participating in the summer camps.

## Protection Action

### RAPID ASSESSMENT

UNICEF led a nationwide assessment of the impact of the crisis on Haitian children in collaboration with international organizations and local partners. The assessment was conducted in 31 zones throughout the country.

The study has enabled UNICEF to identify problem areas and develop interventions that respond to the most urgent needs of the children and their families.

- The distribution of 50 first aid kits to 15 NGOs and health centres benefited more than 5,000 children.
- 12,000 thousands hygiene kits –including 6,000 donated by USAID– were distributed to internally displaced families, women’s organizations, families affected by HIV/AIDS, and centres for street children.
- Recreation kits distributed to youth centres in the most affected areas supported psychosocial activities for 5,000 street children, children orphaned by AIDS and child domestic servants.
- Psychosocial support, including training of 100 monitors and religious leaders in group counselling and civic responsibilities as well as direct assistance to 5,000 highly vulnerable children.
- Promotion of disarmament, rehabilitation and prevention of violence among young people, in collaboration with UNDP.
- Musical training for 20 street children in Jacmel and circus training for 102 street children in Port au Prince
- Protection of 500 domestic child servants through training and psycho-social support.

## Appeal Requirements and Receipts

The UN Appeal for Haiti, launched in March, asked for US\$ 35 million to respond to the most urgent and immediate needs of the Haitian population and to quickly establish the basis for rehabilitation of social services and economic recovery. UNICEF asked for **US\$8,664,772** to meet the urgent needs of Haitian children in health, education and protection.

<b>Table 1: APPEAL REQUIREMENTS AND RECEIPTS BY SECTOR AS AT 11 JUNE 2004</b>	
<b>Sector</b>	<b>Amount Required (US\$)</b>
Education	1,826,761
Health and Nutrition	5,635,738
Protection	475,000
Water and Sanitation	727,273
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,664,772</b>

The table below shows funds/indications received, by donor:

<b>Table 2: CONTRIBUTIONS / INDICATIONS TO UNICEF APPEAL BY DONOR AS AT 11 JUNE 2004</b>			
<b>Donor</b>	<b>Received (US\$)</b>	<b>Indicated (US\$)</b>	<b>Grand total (US\$)</b>
Canadian Government	447,762		447,762
Canadian Natcom	13,688		13,688
European Commission		764,997	764,997
Finnish Government	243,902		243,902
French Natcom	186,567		186,567
Irish Government	296,208		296,208
Netherlands Natcom	100,000		100,000
Norwegian Government	283,280		283,280
Swedish Government	259,740		259,740
United Kingdom	917,431		917,431
United States		300,000	300,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,748,578</b>	<b>1,064,997</b>	<b>3,813,575</b>

## **An Emergency in an Emergency**

### **RECENT FLOODS**

UNICEF responded quickly to the recent floods that left thousands of families homeless and without access to clean water, food and medical care in the border region and the Southeast.

Within 48 hours of the disaster, UNICEF organized its humanitarian response to help the 20,000 people –including 8,700 children– in urgent need of assistance. UNICEF distributed relief supplies to the most vulnerable families, including plastic sheeting to build shelters, hygiene kits as well as cooking materials.

UNICEF is working together with other UN agencies and international organizations to co-ordinate the distribution of supplies for the longer-term needs of families and children, including education and recreation kits, and tents for temporary schools. UNICEF is supporting local organizations in identifying and reuniting children who have been separated from their family or have lost family members in the tragedy.

In the next few weeks, UNICEF will work with the government to rebuild schools that have been destroyed or damaged and to ensure that they are relocated in safe areas.

A separate appeal for US\$ 688,000 was launched for this specific emergency, and is currently being revised in light of the recent developments in the Southeast.

<b>Supplies</b>	<b>Amount Required (US\$)</b>
<b>Provision of health and nutrition supplies :</b>	<b>40,000</b>
High protein energy biscuits, Oxfam kits for supplementary feeding programme	
<b>Provision of water and sanitation equipment:</b>	<b>155,000</b>
Hygiene kits, water purification sachets, water chlorination tablets, mobile water treatment plant, soap, buckets, jerry cans	
<b>Provision of education/Technical support for design of water supply and sanitation</b>	<b>441,000</b>
Plastic sheeting (4x50), tents (10x72 sq m), emergency education kits, recreational kits, reconstruction of 4 schools in a safe area	
<b>Provision of emergency household supplies</b>	<b>22,000</b>
Blankets, plastic bowls, cooking utensils (saucepans etc..) etc..), Plastic bags, megaphones	
	<b>30,000</b>
<b>Operational/Logistics Support</b>	
<b>Total emergency supplies</b>	<b>688,000</b>

\* The recovery rate is calculated at 12%. The actual recovery rate on individual contributions will be calculated in accordance with the Ex. Board Decision 2003/9 of 5 June 2003.

Details of the UNICEF Haiti Programme can be obtained from:

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