

CHILDREN OF HAITI

Milestones and looking forward at six months

unite for children



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Milestones and Looking Forward at Six Months

Words fail to describe the scale of the devastation caused by the earthquake that struck Haiti six months ago. The earthquake provoked a unique emergency, striking its most densely populated centre, claiming more than 220,000 lives and forcing 1.6 million into displacement. It flattened the seats of power, and it also was the single deadliest disaster for the United Nations, who lost over 100 staff.

More expressive than the facts and figures of damages and losses incurred however, is the potent imagery of children who still talk superstitiously of *le grand serpent*—the great snake—that slithered angrily underground, bumping up against their homes and schools, reducing them to dust and rubble. Even now streets remain littered with the debris of destroyed buildings, making it difficult for children to find a visual escape from their memories of disaster.

UNICEF was blessed none of its staff were among the victims, but all were directly affected, as many lost close family members or someone they knew or loved. We owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude and I am humbled by their exemplary dedication to the cause of children in Haiti, as they spared no effort to get relief organised from the very first days—when often they were themselves sleeping in the streets, in tents, in cars and among the displaced.

We are also in debt for the unparalleled show of support UNICEF received from its partners, donors and supporters. Millions of people responded and sent contributions to help us help the children and women of Haiti. This global wave of solidarity also testifies to the strong confidence UNICEF inspires through its mission for children and its readiness to deliver in the face of daunting challenges. It also underlines the obligation we have to direct these resources towards those children that need it the most.

With this responsibility in mind, UNICEF's response continues to be distinctly global and unified in nature. Headquarters, regional offices and country offices around the world have contributed staff, expertise and resources – and together, we are taking stock of our efforts to meet immediate needs of children, and ensure the seeds of recovery are planted in fertile soil.

Some of the milestones at six months are truly remarkable. So far no increase in malnutrition has been recorded and we have also not seen any major disease outbreaks despite huge challenges in health and sanitation. A lot of these results were possible thanks to the strong sense of common purpose and partnership uniting the Government of Haiti, the United Nations, the international community and the people of Haiti themselves, as first responders.

At the same time, the earthquake exposed the divides within society and the deep-seated vulnerabilities of those who for so long had been invisible and were on the brink of being forgotten. Indeed, *le grand serpent* not only cracked the window, it shattered the walls that separated society, bringing darker issues and vulnerabilities to light. Beyond the bond of shared experience therefore, the earthquake led Haitians to confront deeper issues and inspired a common aspiration for change.

What has emerged is a strong sense of momentum that we need to carry forward. One example is the nationwide movement for learning, which is reflected in the Government's plan for recovery. Also, while the earthquake certainly exacerbated challenges in child protection, it shed a new light on the plight of children, rallying people to renew efforts to remove them from harm's way and give them a chance to grow up in dignity and with hope for the future.

With this new momentum there is ground to be optimistic, but our optimism must be guarded, as for many the situation remains more than precarious. Children still need our undivided attention and efforts must continue with the same sense of urgency. Too many children and women are still living in unacceptable conditions, with too little water and no access to proper sanitation. Too many infants and children under-five remain exposed to vaccine-preventable diseases. Too many children are out of school and vulnerable to physical and sexual violence, exploitation and child trafficking. Too many youth and adolescents are seeing opportunities and livelihoods pass them by.

One thing is certain however, not only are Haitians resilient, they are also proud and hopeful. Surrounded by rubble, people are standing up—women, mothers, fathers, children—and UNICEF's role will be to help Haitians stand up together, to turn their hopes into reality, and to ensure that children grow up with access to the full range of services they need to survive and thrive, reaching their full potential to contribute meaningfully to the development of their nation.

As we stood among the victims of the earthquake on 12 January, we stand alongside the Haitian people today, with renewed commitment to realising their dream of a Haiti fit for Children.

Françoise Gruloos-Ackermans Representative UNICEF Haiti

Overview

Six months on, the dramatic destruction caused by the 12 January 2010 earthquake in Haiti is still synonymous with unbelievable stress for over three million people¹, including 1.6 million living in 1,342 spontaneous settlements, of which 800,000 are estimated to be children. Over 220,000 people lost their lives, 300,000 were injured and 4,000 lost a limb after being caught in the rubble of what had once been a home, a school, a place for work, or a spot for the community to gather together.

Overall, the number of the displaced nearly matches the total population of Manhattan and people have been displaced in neighbourhoods that are as densely populated as Calcutta. In a country where nearly 46 per cent of the population is under eighteen, the earthquake also triggered an unprecedented emergency for children. The number of children who died in the earthquake will probably never be known and today some remain affected while many more are at risk.

Since day one, UNICEF mobilised its resources to deliver on its Core Commitments for Children, speed up provision of life-saving assistance and support the government in coordinating the response and initiating early recovery efforts. Today UNICEF is providing safe water to 333,000 people, 62,800 children are benefiting from recreational activities and psychosocial support, and more than 185,000 children have received educational materials.

While this report focuses on UNICEF's efforts, partnerships under the Cluster Approach have also been instrumental to further build on these results, and UNICEF has worked in close collaboration with the Government of Haiti, with our sister UN agencies, and with numerous international and national NGOs and civil society partners that have all worked tirelessly to provide support in bringing services to children — by helping set-up schools, latrines, water-points and helping protect children and keep them healthy.

Despite the persistence of large scale internal displacement, there has not been a deterioration of the humanitarian situation, with no epidemics or disease outbreaks and no increase in malnutrition. There has also not been a high influx of population movements across the border to the Dominican Republic. However, living conditions remain extremely precarious and challenges remain daunting. Sanitation is a major concern, with only one latrine for 145 people in spontaneous sites and potentially dire consequences for the spread of disease. Access to education is another concern as schools in affected areas have registered sharp drops in enrolment. Finally, the earthquake propelled a pre-existing and protracted protection crisis into a child protection emergency never before seen.

The six-month mark also coincides with the start of the hurricane season. Preparedness has been among the priorities and UNICEF has pre-positioned emergency supplies in high risk areas to prevent a second disaster. Part of the effort is also to help people exposed to floods and landslides to move to safer ground—but it has proven extremely difficult to find land and relocation will be a lengthy and complex process. A further cross-cutting priority is decentralising UNICEF's presence. Today we are present in Léogane and Jacmel, and roving response teams are being deployed in Gonaïve, Jérémie, Les Cayes and Hinche.

While emergency operations will likely continue for the next eighteen months, UNICEF is simultaneously supporting the Government's Action Plan for National Recovery and Development for the next three years, after having played an active role in the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). The Government's capacity, which was weak before the quake, has been dealt a crippling blow—an estimated 18,000 civil servants were among the victims—and capacity development efforts will ensure a smooth transition from early recovery to development.

As we cross the six-months mark, immediate support for earthquake affected people remains the priority. Reaching the hardest to reach, the poorest of the poor, and the most vulnerable both in earthquake affected areas and in every district is the medium-term goal. UNICEF plans to deliver on its commitments and ensure children everywhere in Haiti can realise their rights to survival, education and protection, remain shielded against economic, environmental and social shocks, and grow up with dignity and hope in the future.

¹Numbers based on revised estimates from the Government of Haiti and from the Displacement Tracking Matrix, information as of 9 June.

Facts at a Glance



- The political situation remains fragile. Presidential elections have been scheduled for November but there is potential for delay, which may cause civil unrest.
- The security situation remains calm. There is however a reported increase in crime, including gender based violence in some camps.
- Although communities are resilient, increased levels of unemployment, loss of property and savings and rising costs of living have put the population and the economy under added stress.

Humanitarian Situation

- ◆ Three million people affected.
- 1.6 million people living in 1,342 spontaneous sites, of which 800,000 are estimated to be children.
- ♦ 661,000 displaced outside of Port-au-Prince, of which 330,000 are estimated to be children.

Huge Needs for Children

- 500,000 children have been deemed extremely vulnerable and require child protection assistance.
- 90 per cent of schools in earthquake-affected areas were affected, representing 23 per cent of all schools in the country, while over 1,500 education personnel died in the earthquake.
- Only one latrine for 145 people on average in spontaneous sites.

UNICEF Milestones at Six Months

- ◆ 333,000 people reached daily with safe water.
- More than 275,000 children immunised against major vaccinepreventable diseases.
- 126 outpatient therapeutic feeding programmes and 28 stabilisation provide life-saving care to malnourished children.
- 185,000 children reached with basic education materials and 1,297 school tents for 155,000 learners.
- 62,800 children benefiting from 225 UNICEF-supported Child-Friendly Spaces.
- UNICEF continues to coordinate the Clusters in Nutrition, Education (co-lead with Save the Children Alliance), Water Sanitation and Hygiene, and the Child Protection Sub-Cluster, co-leading with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in the Gender-Based Violence Working Group and with the International Organization for Migration in the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Group.

Foreshadowing Risks to Come

- Spontaneous settlements may become new urban slums if the situation is left to linger.
- The current hurricane season is predicted to be severe. In 2008 hurricanes and tropical storms affected more than 800,000 people.
- 101,000 persons in 84 assessed sites in Port-au-Prince are estimated to be vulnerable to rain related hazards such as floods and landslides. To date, only 7,000 have been moved to safer ground.¹

¹OCHA Humanitarian Bulletin, Issue #5, 19 June 2010.

Some key lessons at six months

UNICEF strives to continually innovate, integrate learning and adapt its response to changing contexts. By its very nature the earthquake in Haiti has also presented us with a unique emergency, with new and unique challenges as disaster struck at the centre of a country's capital, collapsed an entire administrative system and hit all segments of the population as well as the entire country. This has required sensitivity to cultural practices and an adapted strategy for delivery in a dense urban setting, with at the same time careful attention on the push and pull factors of displacement and movement of displaced persons between the city and the countryside.

On the ground, challenges in the provision of safe water underlined the importance of early attention to longer-term recovery, especially around the resettlement strategy for the displaced—finding sustainable alternatives to water trucking, such as drilling boreholes, indeed requires confirmation of the location of new settlements. Drilling in current locations could inadvertently stabilise communities in areas unsuitable for longterm habitation and presents a risk of locking in populations in a unsafe, unsanitary or simply unsustainable situation.

Striking a balance between life-saving humanitarian assistance and the need for urgent and sometimes basic capacity development of technical counterparts remains a challenge. Despite pre-existing weak capacity, it was important to ensure the Government of Haiti had the basic means to serve its people and lead coordination of the overall humanitarian response has therefore been priority. Securing the necessary technical, financial and supply inputs sometimes just providing prefab offices for Ministries, as UNICEF did for its counterparts in Education— has been a priority to plug critical gaps and build the Government's capacity for leadership and coordination.

Working with the non-public sector has also been critical to bringing interventions to scale. However, provision of free humanitarian services has, in some cases, disrupted delivery of routine services and endangered the solvency of pre-existing health facilities. To support local jobs and economic recovery UNICEF has maximised opportunities for local procurement.

This emergency also highlighted the importance of maintaining readiness and ensuring that disaster protocols can be triggered immediately after a major disaster. Ensuring that emergency response teams maintain readiness for deployment within 24 hours and for a minimum of three months is essential to ensuring capacity and providing continuity. Stand-by partners have been critical in this regard, helping both in fulfilling our Core Commitments to Children and in the build-up of coordination capacity in UNICEF-coordinated Clusters.

Staff welfare is also absolutely critical to an effective response. Taking immediate steps to ensure a functional office and adequate accommodation for staff should not be underestimated – nor should the need for special kinds of support to individual staff members. In the case of Haiti, this challenge was considerable, since staff were directly and in some cases, severely affected, losing both loved ones and physical or financial assets.

Partnerships

Six months on UNICEF continues to work on a daily basis to bring together Ministries, UN agencies, national and international NGOs and civil society to ensure children's and women's needs can be met.

In line with its Inter-Agency Standing **Committee Cluster coordination** responsibilities, UNICEF in Haiti is coordinating partners in the Education Cluster (co-lead with Save the Children Alliance), in the Nutrition Cluster, and in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster. UNICEF is also leading the Child Protection Sub-Cluster. co-leading the Gender-Based Violence Working Group with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and co-chairing the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Group with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). UNICEF also supports activities in the Health Cluster, led by the World Health Organization, and is supporting efforts in other key Clusters including Early Recovery, led by the United Nations Development Programme.

UNICEF meanwhile works closely with the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) and plays an active role in the Humanitarian Country Team. UNICEF is also working directly with over fifty-five international and national NGO and civil society implementing partners.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

When water is scarce and sanitation is disrupted, lacking or non-existent, children are at tremendous risk of lifethreatening diseases, including diarrhoea, cholera, and respiratory infections. Sadly these risks were a day-to-day reality for 40 per cent of children in Haiti even before the quake. While no surge in disease has been reported so far, the threat remains acute due to overcrowded living conditions and hazards of the rainy season. Expanding access to safe water and sanitation is a matter of urgency for child survival and preservation of public health.

Milestones at Six Months

The Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster supports the Government's agency for water and sanitation, the *Direction Nationale de l'Eau Potable et de l'Assainissement* (DINEPA) with implementation of the emergency response primarily targeting 1.6 million displaced persons in spontaneous settlements in affected areas. As Cluster lead, UNICEF coordinates efforts and provides financial, technical and supply assistance to reduce public health risks and ensure child survival in the midst of the emergency.

Today, some 333,000 people are being provided with at least five litres of safe water a day through UNICEF and partners' water supply operation, which represents 25 per cent of the overall delivery effort reaching 1.2 million people. Ensuring a child gets at least five litres per day means UNICEF and partners are delivering an amount of water every day—1.66 million litres—that would be the equivalent of running the faucet for twenty-two consecutive weeks.

Pre-earthquake situation

- More than four out of ten children-1.7 million-with no access to proper sanitation.
- One in five children 861,000 with no access to safe water.
- Urban/rural divide: 71 per cent of urban residents and only 55 per cent of rural residents had access to safe water.

Post earthquake snapshot

- 437 spontaneous settlements lack adequate sanitation, exacerbating pre-existing risks to public health.
- Displaced persons remain dependent on water trucking, receiving only five litres of water per person per day.

UNICEF and implementing partners have also accelerated latrine construction, installing over 9,000 latrines to date out of the total 11,000 installed by the WASH Cluster. These have helped improve sanitation for approximately 1.6 million people, meaning one latrine for every 145 persons, with however stark variations between sites as some 61 per cent of camps—most of them small—still lack adequate sanitation facilities. Overall, an additional 5,500 toilets are required to bring the ratio closer to 100:1, a Cluster-agreed standard given the dense urban environment. UNICEF has pledged to directly support completion of 4,000 of this number over the next six months.

At the same time UNICEF has supported training on promotion of key hygiene practices, such as hand washing with soap, for some 2,200 hygiene promoters and community mobilisers who will in turn disseminate these messages through neighbourhoods, sites and villages across affected areas. Some 213,240 persons have also benefited from UNICEF's distribution of personal hygiene kits—which provide for the basics including soap, sanitary towels, toothpaste and toothbrushes, detergent, and toilet paper, among others.

UNICEF and partners have also been equipping schools with handwashing points, latrines, water tanks and soaps—so children can put key messages on hygiene to practice. Some 20,500 children are currently benefiting from UNICEF's support in 18 schools, and plans are underway to reach 30 schools by August, and a total 600 others by the end of the year, with a simultaneous focus on child-friendly spaces.

Looking forward

The goal through the remainder of the year is to increase the volume of water from five to at least 7.5 litres per day—and to ensure more equitable access between sites. Increasing options for safe sanitation is also critical to restore dignity and prevent an upsurge in water-borne diseases. Reaching the cluster-wide target of 16,500 latrines will be important—but an even greater challenge is systematic "de-sludging" and maintenance of existing facilities. Leveraging private sector resources will be essential to reach scale and UNICEF will continue to support the operating costs for fifteen de-sludging trucks, while procuring two trucks for the Government's own fleet.

UNICEF's commitment to increase access to proper sanitation and hygiene in schools throughout the country is another important step. Ensuring safe water, as well as gender-segregated and age-appropriate sanitation facilities in schools will also help support the nationwide movement for learning, along with partnerships with the World Food Programme (WFP) for school feeding.

Given the multiplicity of actors, building capacity of the Government to expand, coordinate and regulate the sector remains a cross-cutting priority at both central and decentralised levels. DINEPA

is being supported with six embedded staff (two national, four international) working to coordinate the WASH Cluster and enhance information management. This technical assistance, as well as financial and supply assistance, will continue to expand for humanitarian and recovery needs.

EXPANDING THE RESPONSE



NOTE: Numbers reflect results from all partners in the Cluster. Latrine per person ratio evolved following expansion of interventions to more sites, and due to dynamic population movements in the neighbourhood of sites.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



Indicator	UNICEF and partners	Cluster	
Earthquake affected people with access to emergency safe water supply (5 litres per person per day)	333,000	1.2 million	
Latrines installed for people living in spontaneous sites	9,000	11,000	
Hygiene kits distributed	42,449 adult kits	87,300 adult kits	
Children with access to WASH facilities in schools	20,500 children (UNICEF programme)		

Challenges

Meeting water and sanitation needs of this scale in overcrowded urban environments and affected rural areas is truly a unique challenge requiring a flexible approach. Low output and coverage of existing urban water supply networks means that repair and urban planning for extension will be a priority for years to come. Many sites are also just not suitable for borehole drilling, making water trucking the only viable option for now. Land tenure issues also complicate the process of digging wells and pit latrines, as clearance must be secured with owners.

Land rights issues also underline the fact that sustainable options are almost entirely dependent on the implementation of a sound resettlement strategy, currently being confirmed by the Government and humanitarian partners. Without a durable solution for displaced communities, humanitarian actors risk facilitating the entrenchment of new urban slums.

Reaching scale, sustaining progress—and addressing pre-existing disparities in coverage for non-earthquake affected communities can only be achieved with strong government capacity. Striking the right balance between urgent service delivery and the technical and financial assistance required to build the capacity of DINEPA (especially at decentralised levels) remains a challenge.

Safe Water, safe practices Learning life saving hygiene skills

Alcema Wilben, 14 years old lives in Pactes Camp, in Port au Prince. "We lost everything, that's why we are living in this crowded camp."

Today Pactes Camp is home to 1,238 people. Since the 12 January earthquake, the population has become more susceptible to illness from diseases related to inadequate sanitation, limited water supply and poor hygiene. Diarrhoeal disease and infections transmitted by the faeco-oral route are the most common illnesses.

"Before living in the camp I did not know that it was important to wash my hands after using the toilet. One day I saw a woman holding up posters with pictures explaining that it was important to be clean and wash your hands all the time. When the meeting was over, I went to ask the lady what the posters were about. She explained that it was important to be clean otherwise I could get sick. Now I always wash my hands after using the toilet and before eating. I wash my body twice, once in the morning when I wake up and before bed. My mother couldn't understand until I explained it to her, and you know what, now she does the same thing as me."

UNICEF has been improving the health of schoolaged children by highlighting hygiene promotion, life skills development, water, sanitation and handwashing facilities for the affected displaced population.



Alcema and his peers attend a session on safe hygiene practices in Pactes Camp. "Washing your hands is a simple thing that can go a long way," Alcema says.



On the eve of 12 January children in Haiti were already facing tremendous threats of violence, sexual abuse, trafficking, exploitation and abandonment. Now risks have increased manifold as the earthquake exacerbated a preexisting crisis by collapsing an already inadequate and weak system that was failing to protect those most vulnerable. Children in Haiti are now caught in the midst of a child protection emergency of unprecedented magnitude. UNICEF and partners were active in Child Protection before the quake—and are now responding with urgency.

Milestones at Six Months

The needs of some 500,000 vulnerable earthquake-affected children are being addressed, with the immediate objective of restoring a protective and safe environment for children. To this end, partners in the UNICEF-coordinated Child Protection Sub-Cluster have worked closely with government authorities to steadily expand the identification, registration and family tracing process for separated children.

UNICEF is also hosting and providing technical support to a call centre operated by Save the Children that continues to take calls from frontline workers reporting cases of separated children. Cluster partners have more than doubled the number of children registered—from 767 in April to 2,047, of which 337 have been reunited with their families, while others have been supported to find appropriate family-based care options, following a careful assessment.

Pre-earthquake situation

- 1.2 million children vulnerable to violence and abuse.
- 225,000 "restaveks"¹ and 2,000 children trafficked externally through the Dominican Republic every year².
- 50,000 children in some 600 residential care centres.

Post earthquake snapshot

- 1.5 million children affected by the earthquake, including some 500,000 extremely vulnerable children.
- Heightened risks of violence, sexual abuse, exploitation and child trafficking.

At the same time, special vigilance is required to ensure that children being moved across international borders are not being trafficked or exposed to other risks. UNICEF thus encouraged and supported national authorities to increase vigilance along the borders and at the airport. To date more than 6,000 cases of children being moved have been assessed. When assessments confirmed illegal movement, children were reunited with their families or supported through appropriate and safe alternative care solutions.

Essential to this effort were a series of trainings reaching over 100 staff from the *Brigade de Protection des Mineurs* (BPM), the *Institut du Bien Etre Social et de Recherches* (IBESR), and the

¹"Restavek" in Creole means "staying with" and is a term used for children sent to live with other families. The move often lands children in a situation of unpaid domestic service where they are deprived of their most basic rights.

² The number of children internally trafficked has not been well documented.

Ministère des Affaires Sociales et du Travail (MAST) which focused on prevention of child trafficking and other forms of violence, including practical training on case management. The sessions also concentrated on gender-based violence (GBV), which is a concern in camps-especially at night-and UNICEF worked with partners to develop and disseminate practical information for frontline workers to ensure survivors can get the right services at the right time. Some sixty local partners were trained on prevention of genderbased violence in Port-au-Prince, and efforts have been extended in six of the country's ten departments, including border areas where trafficking and sexual exploitation are particularly problematic. There have also been large-scale efforts to raise awareness on the situation of children and women, with special radio messages highlighting risks and appropriate responses broadcast in Creole reaching some three million people.

Another element of the effort is the expansion of the network of child-friendly spaces designed to offer children and adolescents a safe space to participate in recreational activities and where they can receive more targeted psychosocial support. More than 62,800 children and youth, of which 37 per cent are girls, are benefiting from 225 child-friendly spaces supported by UNICEF in and outside of Port-au-Prince. UNICEF is also empowering youths through life skills activities and efforts to promote HIV/AIDS prevention.

Looking forward

Ensuring separated children are registered, linked with family tracing services, and reunited with their families when possible is a shared objective for UNICEF, the Government of Haiti and all stakeholders in Child Protection. The goal remains to strengthen government and community-level child protection mechanisms so that children are better protected against violence, abuse and exploitation, especially in displaced camps. Linking families who have taken in children from close relatives to livelihood opportunities is another priority as coping mechanisms are wearing thin.

The rally of attention on children in Haiti is also a chance to address larger systemic issues affecting children in Haiti, and an opportunity to develop and articulate a comprehensive child protection strategy for the longer term.

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Indicator	UNICEF and partners	Cluster
Separated and/or unaccompanied children registered	2047 (UNICEF and partners)	
Children reunited with their families	337 (UNICEF and partners)	
Children benefiting from Child- Friendly Spaces	62,800 children in 220 spaces	89,375 in 325 spaces
Training on prevention of gender- based violence and referral mechanisms	Development and dissemination of training material on referrals	Over 100 police and IBESR staff trained

¹Based on an average 275 children per Child-Friendly Space

EXPANDING THE RESPONSE



NOTE: Numbers reflect results from all partners in the Cluster.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



Challenges

Families are currently facing tremendous hardships and there is a risk of secondary separation from parents and caregivers, especially for children living in poor and displaced households if the social and economic situation is left to linger. Separation can heighten the risk of exposure to abuse and exploitation that can irrevocably impact their physical, social and cognitive development. The wellbeing of a generation of children, therefore, is at stake.

As humanitarian operations continue to unfold, reaching scale is the main challenge and the absolute priority for the months to come. Increasing coverage where children are most vulnerable is an imperative, with more child-friendly spaces to ensure prevention and protection at the community level. Sustained efforts are needed to expand registration and care for separated children and children already without parental care prior to the earthquake.

Another systems-level challenge is that only 30 per cent of children in Haiti are registered at birth. Lack of a birth certificate is almost always synonymous with barriers for children to have their basic rights recognised. Extending birth registration for all children, including in hard to reach rural areas, is therefore a priority to overcome an age-old challenge that has affected generations of children in Haiti.

Protective Environments A place for children and families

Child-friendly spaces offer safe and protective environments for children in the aftermath of the 12 January earthquake. UNICEF and one of its partners, the Haiti Out-of-School Youth Livelihood Initiative (IDEJEN), have created several havens for children in the Haitian capital.

Yglesias, 5, and his mother Yolette moved to a camp for displaced people in Place St. Pierre on the evening of 12 January, after they lost their home in the earthquake. Yolette is a single mother who had small business selling rice in her old neighbourhood, but now she has no resources to raise her child.

"I cannot afford to buy him a uniform or the school supplies that he needs to attend a regular school," she says. "It was by chance that I met one of the counselors from IDEJEN while he was encouraging parents in the camp to send their children to the childfriendly space, about 200 meters away."

At the centre, Yglesias and the other children receive safe drinking water and one meal a day. "My son is provided with a decent meal. He is taken care of by trained counsellors who help him deal with his recurrent nightmares about the quake. I just like to see him happy and somewhat normal when he is around the other children."



"Yglesias is safe and I feel safe for him", Yolette says as they both pause outside the Child-Friendly Space IDEJEN is running with UNICEF's support.

Focus On Children without Parental Care

Before the Earthquake

Pre-earthquake estimates indicate that 50,000 children were in residential care, some of them with a parent, some with both their parents, and some with no parents. Children were in fact being placed in these institutions for complex socio-economic reasons. UNICEF was working with the Government of Haiti and other partners to improve standards in these centres and ensure that alternative care options were carefully considered in the best interest of the child. The most desirable option is having children reunited with their parents, and we need to support families so they can keep and care for their children. When this is not possible, other family-based solutions within the child's environment (such as staying with other family members or families known by the child) can be considered in the form of legal guardianship or national adoption. When alternative care is not possible, a safe inter-country adoption process may then be the option.

Haiti however is not yet a party to The Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-Operation in Respect of Inter-Country Adoption (Hague Adoption Convention), which seeks to protect children against the risks of illegal, irregular, premature or ill-prepared adoptions abroad. Proper safeguards are therefore not always in place.

After the Earthquake

The earthquake shed a new light on these challenges, and exacerbated them manifold. At the same time weak infrastructure was further weakened as witnessed by the suffering of children in residential care. Under-regulated options for alternate care and permanent care were severely challenged, while under-resourced child protection actors were confronted with tremendous needs.

Seeing the scale of the disaster, people the world over expressed their desire to adopt a Haitian child. When screening for international adoption had been completed before the quake, the benefits to speeding up these children's travel were clear and the process was fast-tracked. When there was doubt on due process, caution was an imperative and corrective actions were taken to return children to their families, to families known by the child or to residential care centres depending on each case.

Still unknown numbers of children have lost one or both parents. Many of them have been taken in by extended family, or by families known by the child. Others are in regulated residential care while tracing and reunification continues. An inter-agency effort supporting the Government helped register and reunite children, while a national civil registration process is also being launched to provide documentation for all children with support from the Organization of American States (OAS). Registration will scale-up in spontaneous settlements to identify children taken in by other family members or families know by the child, in order to formalise their civil status and address risks of secondary separation. Registration will also include all children in residential care centres, with teams that will focus on minimum standards of care and follow up on particular individual cases.

UNICEF is also reinforcing its partnership with the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Haitian National Police to build their child protection capacity, improve standards and procedures, improve conditions in residential care centres and ensure that all alternative care options follow the best interest of the child. Recently, the Government of Haiti also started a first step in an effort to upgrade its child protection and inter-country adoption procedures in order to become party to the Hague Convention. UNICEF will help in every step of this process.

At all times, the best interest of the child must be the priority.



There remains an immense thirst for learning in Haiti, with a strong priority placed on children's education which Haitians say, at the six month mark, is second only to the imperative for them to recovering their livelihoods. However only fifty-five per cent of children went to school before 12 January and even less have returned to the classroom after the earthquake.

Milestones at Six Months

Since January, UNICEF and Save the Children, as Education Cluster lead agencies, have worked with the Ministry of Education and a range of partners to support an estimated 80 per cent of the 4,992¹ schools affected by the earthquake, with a combination of site clearance activities, set-up of temporary learning spaces, distribution of basic materials and support to teachers.

Some 80 per cent of schools in Port-au-Prince and all schools in Petit and Grand Goave and Jacmel have reopened, most of them in temporary structures. The single greatest impediment to the reconstruction of schools is rubble clearance. The Shelter Cluster estimates that total quantity of rubble is 20 million cubic metres the equivalent of eight Great Pyramids—which at the current rate of removal might take up to six years to clear.

Pre-earthquake situation

- 55 per cent of school-aged children out of school.
- 20 per cent of children in public schools, which accounted for only 8 per cent of all schools.
- 22,000 schools throughout the country.

Post earthquake snapshot

- Over 2.5 million children experienced an interruption in their schooling.
- 4,992 schools affected, of which 3,978 were damaged or destroyed.
- 55,793 education personnel alfected.

To date, out of the 3,978 schools damaged or destroyed, some forty per cent have been cleared by communities, while at least 200 have been cleared by Education Cluster partners, including MINUSTAH forces, with the effort focused on large public schools.

Many schools have also registered an alarming drop in enrolment in a context where only four in ten children went to school before the earthquake. In Léogane, one of the hardest hit areas, less than 50 per cent of children have returned to school compared to pre-quake levels. Teachers are also absent as many of them are among the displaced and lack the means to continue their work.

Due to the breakdown of the Ministry's information management systems, overall estimates of the number of children and teachers back in school remains unavailable. A comprehensive assessment

¹An affected school is either damaged, destroyed or experienced a serious impediment to reopening (such as the death of key education personnel).

in affected areas is underway with UNICEF supporting training of inspectors and coordination efforts. A more accurate picture of enrollment should be confirmed within the next weeks.

Since schools across the country shut down after the quake and only started to reopen in April, UNICEF has also helped the Ministry of Education devise an adapted curriculum for a condensed second semester so that children do not have to repeat their studies. UNICEF and partners are training teachers on this curriculum and have added a module to increase teacher's skills in psychosocial support for children. Some 2,300 teachers and 3,000 education personnel have been trained so far and 30,000 more are planned over the rest of the year.

Critical in the effort to re-open schools has been UNICEF's distribution of some 1,297 school tents for 225 temporary learning spaces. The number of tents distributed has increased ten-fold since the one-month mark—and an additional 2,000 are in the pipeline but these still remain interim measures and are not adequate replacements to a durable primary school. With the longer-term in mind, UNICEF is supporting a team of construction engineers to work with government counterparts to accelerate semi-permanent and permanent school construction.

One important component is to make sure schools are equipped with proper water, sanitation and hygiene facilities for children. UNICEF WASH teams have improved facilities in 18 schools to date –and have confirmed an additional 29 schools for completion by August, with the plan to leverage partnerships to reach 600 priority schools over the next school year, including working with the World Food Programme on expanding school feeding.

To encourage enrolment and attendance, some 185,616 school-aged children have been provided with basic educational materials (out of 500,000 learners supported by the Education Cluster)—while 45,520 pre-schoolers received learning and recreational materials through the distribution of Early Childhood Development kits.

Looking forward

The National Reconstruction and Development plan for Haiti places a strong emphasis on education as the key to empowerment, poverty eradication and overall transformation of the country.

Understanding the power of education, UNICEF is committed to supporting the Government,

EXPANDING THE RESPONSE



NOTE: Numbers reflect results from all partners in the Cluster.

SITE CLEARANCE IN SCHOOLS

3,978 schools damaged/destroyed

Approximately 1,600 schools cleared by communities

-200 schools cleared through interagency efforts focused primarily on large public schools.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



Indicator	UNICEF and partners	Cluster
Children provided with learning materials	185,616	500,997
Temporary learning spaces set up	225 (1,297 tents distributed)	1,664 school tents distributed
Children benefiting from early childhood development opportunities	45,520	53,000
Education personnel trained	2,300 teachers and 3,000 education personnel (all UNICEF-supported and focused on psychosocial support, life skills, disaster risk reduction and the adapted curriculum	

civil society groups and communities across the country to achieve the fullest, most inclusive and most far-reaching nationwide movement for learning to date. One of UNICEF's greatest strengths in this respect is its ability to mobilise stakeholders around a common purpose. UNICEF will continue to act as a catalytic convener, bringing partners at all levels (community-level; national and international) together to plan and realise system reconstruction and expansion for Haiti. For example UNICEF is providing technical assistance for the development of the education sector's operational plan, leading strongly in the area of Early Childhood Development (ECD).

It is clear that the only effective way to reach scale and sustain progress is to develop the capacity of the Ministry of Education at all levels to coordinate, regulate and leverage the resources of both public and non-public actors for expansion. UNICEF, UNESCO, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, USAID, the European Commission, Canada and other development partners harmonise their longterm support and capacity development efforts through the Education Sector Working Group. In coordination with stakeholders in this forum, UNICEF is also providing technical assistance to the Ministry and will be embedding staff within government structures in addition to current financial and supply assistance aimed to restore functionality of district offices and the central level Ministry (UNICEF provided eight pre-fabricated offices and a variety of supplies and equipment following the destruction of the Ministry building).

UNICEF will also follow and seek to support the work of the newly created Presidential Commission on Education.

UNICEF's support to the Government and communities will expand over the coming year and will also address the need to alleviate the burden of school fees in a context where ninety per cent of schools are fee-based and non-public. This will also require consolidation and harmonisation of standards and curriculums, as well as effort to improve salaries and incentives for teachers and education personnel.

Challenges

Accelerating site clearance, identifying solutions for relocation of displaced families occupying school grounds, and speeding up school construction to ensure space is available before the next school year are both challenges and priorities.

Information management is another challenge, as the Government's records were lost in the earthquake and systems for data collection have collapsed. Coordination and prioritisation of interventions has been a difficult as a result, and the education system will require development of better information systems, which is why UNICEF is supporting the handover of the Education Cluster database to the Ministry of Education.

These efforts are all dependent on the confirmation of a long-term resettlement strategy for displaced persons however— since rebuilding in the current locations of spontaneous settlements could inadvertently entrench communities in areas unsuitable for long-term habitation and many of the neighbourhoods containing old schools are being re-zoned with the intention of improving the urban planning. Issues of space in the capital - and land tenure in all areas, influence decision-making.



A large crowd of children sing the national anthem before the start of classes, during morning assembly at a host school in the city of Jacmel.



Children's Voices for the Reconstruction

Every child has the right to participate meaningfully in matters that impact their lives and the development of their communities and nation. More than just a right however – participation makes good sense. When children are appreciated as sources of energy, imagination and vision, young people flourish and so their communities.

Recognising the power of youth to inspire and catalyse change, UNICEF and partners organised a week-long process of gathering the views and aspirations of children for the reconstruction and transformation of Haiti. Over 7,000 children contributed to the process. On the eve of the celebrations, the First Lady of Haiti, Madame Elisabeth Préval, came to hear from a group of 100 children on how their concerns, hopes and dreams could be included in the planning process.

Sixteen year old Christanaille from Port-au-Prince best summarised the far-reaching aspirations for today's children in Haiti, saying "I think we need to listen to children because as we say in Creole, "*Timoun jodi a granmoun demen*" [the children of today are the adults of tomorrow]. My dream is the complete change of Haiti..."

Overall, children asserted their right to be heard and emphasised the importance of education, health care and other social services in the new Haiti. More than a simple statements however, children also planned follow-up activities for their clubs, schools, churches, families and communities – thereby acting as true agents of change.

Some proposals also illustrated simple methods for improving security in camps, such as putting lights outside latrines so girls can feel safer at night, and several also provided suggestions on how to encourage children to go to school.

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION Building back better schools for a better future

As the earthquake destroyed or damaged an estimated 3,978 schools, one of UNICEF's priorities is to support the reconstruction. There are three different phases:

Temporary schools: So far UNICEF supported the establishment of 225 temporary learning spaces. On average these schools consists of two large (72m2) and three smaller (42m2) tents for approximately 280 students, which have been placed nearby water and sanitation facilities adapted to children's need. When these were unavailable UNICEF outfitted schools with WASH facilities, and some 18 schools have been supported so far, with more underway.

Semi-permanent: The temporary schools will be transformed into disaster proof semi-permanent structures. These are built on concrete foundations, with steel tubes to strengthen the tent walls and steel roof. Two sample schools will be built by mid July and more will come ahead of the next school year.

Permanent: The child-friendly, permanent disaster proof school buildings will be built on the existing concrete foundation under a partnership bringing together the Ministry of Education, UNICEF and partners. A consultation was held with approximately 30 children to receive inputs on what the kind of school they would like to have, and what their ideal school would look like. The design will also be accordingly to Haitian culture and tradition, and will be collected through the participation of Haitian architects contributing through a competition.



Despite the stress of displacement, the nutrition situation for children remains relatively stable, with levels of global acute malnutrition below emergency thresholds. However the earthquake compounded an already critical situation where one in three children under five was chronically malnourished. Preventing any deterioration remains the priority, alongside efforts to tackle root causes of malnutrition and enhance treatment at the community level.

Milestones at Six Months

Immediately following the earthquake, UNICEF and the World Food Programme (WFP) worked with international and national NGO partners to avert a deterioration of the situation for children by conducting blanket feeding in earthquake-affected areas in and outside of Port-au-Prince. At the six month mark, more than 550,000 children under five and pregnant and lactating women have benefited from ready-to-eat supplementary foods while over 186,000 children aged 9 months to 7 years also received vitamin A supplementation through ongoing immunisation campaigns.

These efforts have contributed to a stabilisation of the situation—but UNICEF and partners estimate that approximately 65,000 acutely malnourished children still require targeted nutritional assistance, of which 15,000 are severely malnourished. To date, some 2,000

Pre-earthquake situation

- Global Acute Malnutrition at 4.5 per cent, Severe Acute Malnutrition at 0.8 per cent.
- Total food insecure population: over 1.8 million people.
- Exclusive breastfeeding for infants under six months at only 41 per cent.

Post earthquake snapshot

- No increase in acute malnutrition rates reported so far, 65,000 children estimated to be in need of nutritional assistance.
- A total of 52 per cent of households were found to be food insecure in earthquake-affected areas.

severely malnourished children under five in affected areas have received treatment. Severely malnourished children with medical complications are taken care of in 28 in-patient "stabilisation centres", where they receive special therapeutic food and medical care. Children with no medical complications are referred to one of the 126 out-patient therapeutic feeding programmes. In both cases UNICEF supports partners with a combination of nutrition supplies, equipment, financial and technical assistance.

Some 23,000 mothers and babies are also being helped through a network of 107 "baby-friendly tents" that provide counselling on proper infant and young child feeding (IYCF), such as exclusive maternal breastfeeding in the first six months. UNICEF and key partners have meanwhile worked closely to identify specific cases of infants with no possibility of being breastfed in order to provide targeted and skilled support for those children. Some 3,000 babies for whom breastfeeding is not possible have been receiving ready-to-use infant formula (RUIF) through the baby-friendly tents, with guidance on proper use and practices.

Overall UNICEF also continues to support the Nutrition Unit of the Ministry of Health as Clusterlead agency and the Nutrition Cluster is targeting a total 1,326,920 children and women directly affected by the earthquake.

Looking forward

To raise government, NGO and community-level capacities to prevent and treat malnutrition. Some 200 health professionals and 300 community workers are being targeted for training on community management of acute malnutrition and infant and young child feeding this year. At least 150 baby-friendly tents should be established in total, targeting some 35,500 mothers and babies. UNICEF is also exploring opportunities to promote Haitian-specific complementary foods for children up to 24 months and will link efforts to the livelihoods and household food security initiatives led by partners.

UNICEF will ensure that infants without parental care continue receiving appropriate support including replacement feeding—and will work in tandem with the Ministry of Health and the Government's Child Protection agency to develop a baby-friendly protection strategy that will take into account these children's specific nutritional needs.

As 61 per cent of children under five and 50 per cent of pregnant women suffered from anaemia before the earthquake, UNICEF will also address micronutrient deficiencies through blanket micronutrient distribution. By the end of the year, vitamin A supplementation is scheduled to reach

at least 253,000 children aged 9 months to 7 years, and will be combined with micronutrient supplementation for up to 356,250 children aged 6 to 59 months and 192,000 pregnant and lactating women.

EXPANDING THE RESPONSE



MOTHER-BABY PAIRS SUPPORTED

NOTE: Numbers reflect results from all partners in the Cluster. Focus in the first three months was on treatment of acute malnutrition. Baby friendly tents were then scaled up for prevention of malnutrition after the immediate ninety day response.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



Indicator	UNICEF and partners	Cluster
Baby-friendly tents	82	107
Non-breastfed infants under 12 months receiving feeding support	3,000 (UNICEF and clus	ter partners)
Children under five and pregnant and lactating women reached through blanket feeding	550,000 (UNICEF and cluster partners)	
Children with severe acute malnutrition receiving treatment in affected areas	2,000 (UNICEF and cluster partners)	



Five-month old Sabrina and her aunt Beatrice in one of the Baby Friendly tents UNICEF supports in Port-au-Prince.

Challenges

Lack of trained staff, lack of facilities and lack of harmonised and well-appropriated treatment protocols remain significant constraints, underlining the importance of capacity development and systems-strengthening in the nutrition sector as a whole.

It is important to realise that once a young child becomes undernourished the damage cannot be undone. Unless high prevalence of malnutrition is addressed children will continue to die unnecessarily or suffer diminished capacity as they grow up. Tackling malnutrition is therefore a matter of survival and development for Haiti's children, and remains one of UNICEF's main priorities. The challenge therefore, is ensuring life-saving support, while at the same time, ensuring ownership and sustainability of programmes through capacity development.

Sabrina gets a healthy start Baby tents friendly tents for healthy mothers babies

In the heat of the morning, babies sleep on mattresses under an open tent. Nutrition workers sing: "We are Haitian women, we bring up healthy babies. We breastfeed them till they are two years old. We do not give them any other food till they are six months old."

The baby tent, run by the NGO Concern with UNICEF support, assists about 300 mothers and babies on a rotating basis; ten of the babies have lost their mothers and come with female relatives.

Sabrina Michel, a lively five-month-old baby, was born shortly after the earthquake. Her mother passed away two days later. She is now being brought up by her maternal aunt, Beatrice Terane, a single mother with a five-year-old son.

Beatrice is thankful that the baby tent provides readily mixed baby formula for Sabrina. Mauviette Raphael, who is responsible for nutrition in the camp, remembers that when she first met Sabrina and her aunt, "she was giving the baby solid food".

Beatrice lost her home in the earthquake. She cannot work because she wants to look after Sabrina. "I cannot think now that I could separate myself from her," she says.



To date epidemic outbreaks have been averted, which is no small victory considering the challenges of sanitation in overcrowded settlements and the damage caused to an already weak health system. Still, risks to children remain acute and expansion of immunisation and preventive health care remains a priority. Humanitarian work today must be coupled with efforts to put the health system back on track for tomorrow.

Milestones at Six Months

As a key partner in the WHOcoordinated Health Cluster UNICEF worked to overcome serious logistical challenges to provide vaccines and cold chain materials in support of emergency immunisations. Sprawling camps with shifting populations made for a complex operation but efforts have now accelerated and over 228,000 children in 727 camps have been immunised and have also received vitamin A supplementation and de-worming. In May the Vaccination Week for the Americas reached a further 47.600 children under five in the border areas and another campaign is being launched in July to increase coverage nationwide.

Health needs for some 1,770,000 people are also being covered through the distribution of 177 emergency kits that contain essential drugs to combat major killers of children such as diarrhoea and pneumonia. One single kit can also

Pre-earthquake situation

- Highest Under-five Mortality Rate in the region at 78 deaths for 1,000 live births.
- Highest Maternal Mortality Rate in the region at 670 deaths per 100,000 live births.
- Only 58 per cent of infants immunised against measles.

Post earthquake snapshot

- 900,000 children face elevated risk of disease associated with displacement.
- 22 per cent of health infrastructure damaged or destroyed, 30 out of 49 hospitals in the three worstaffected regions need to be rebuilt.

help treat malaria in 1,000 children, and UNICEF has started efforts for the distribution of 400,000 long-lasting insecticide treated mosquito nets (LLINs) to 200,000 households for malaria prevention.

Working with implementing partners, UNICEF also focused on emergency health needs for pregnant women, and distributed 24 emergency obstetric kits that help provide life-saving care for mothers who run into complications during labour. Each kit has the necessary drugs and supplies to ensure fifty safe deliveries. Other kits have been distributed to cover the needs for some 11,050 mothers who deliver without complications. Meanwhile, services for Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV/ AIDS (PMTCT) were quickly restored after the earthquake for all women previously receiving treatment. UNICEF also supported the reconstruction of the National Nursing School in Port au Prince, which had been flattened by the earthquake with 80 nursing graduates losing their lives in the collapse of the building. With the installation of five temporary learning spaces and the distribution of furniture and basic equipment the school has now reopened to a new generation of nursing students.

Looking forward

The earthquake literally flattened the Ministry of Health, decimated an already weak health infrastructure, and heavily burdened health professionals in a country were there were only four doctors for 10,000 people. Efforts to reconstruct, expand and decentralise services will therefore be needed for years to come.

Expanding the health sector will require building the capacity of the Ministry of Health to plan, coordinate and regulate both public and non-public actors and extend coverage in hard to reach areas. Some of the key targets include re-establishing routine immunisation activities in partnership with the World Health Organization, and securing a proper coldchain throughout the country.

Another priority is improving maternal health. Up to 80 per cent of women in Haiti deliver at home and without proper care, risking life-threatening complications. Partnerships with the Ministry of Health and the United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) will be critical in the effort to curb maternal mortality and a joint programme is underway to establish at least six clinics in earthquake-affected areas for emergency obstetric and neonatal care.

Strengthening Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS (PMTCT) is a further objective as only 59 per cent of pregnant women were tested for HIV prior to the earthquake, and less than one in five of all HIV positive women actually receive preventative drugs. Supporting the Ministry of Health to reinforce and revise the national protocol for PMTCT and expand access to testing, treatment and paediatric AIDS care will be among

Indicator

neonatal units

8 (DTP)

Vaccination for children under 7

Households with at least two insecticide treated bednets

Hospitals with functioning

(Measles, Rubella, DTP) and over

the many critical steps to keep women and children alive and healthy in Haiti.

EXPANDING THE RESPONSE



NOTE: Numbers reflect results from all partners in the Cluster.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



UNICEF and partners

41,615 children aged 6 weeks - 8 months 186,682 children aged 9 months - 7 years¹

400,000 procured, distribution plan underway

Six sites identified

¹Through Health Cluster coordination by the World Health Organization and the Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP).

Challenges

Overcoming the devastation caused by the earthquake remains the main challenge. Infrastructure still needs to be rehabilitated, and the cold chain requires strengthening and expansion. But the challenge is not just supplies, facilities or equipment. Supporting health workers to go back to work and providing the right incentives and training for them to care for affected mothers and children is also critical. Working at the community level is necessary to fill current gaps, remove bottlenecks and bring services closer to children and women who went without any care even before the quake. Reinforcing the institutional, operational and territorial capacity of the Ministry of Health at all levels is an imperative for today and for tomorrow.

It is also too early to tell what the impact of the earthquake has been on HIV/AIDS, but life in precarious camps and fluid population movements certainly have the potential to escalate risk for women and children. Before the earthquake Haiti had the highest HIV/AIDS prevalence in the Caribbean. Today there must be a new sense of urgency to unite for children and unite against AIDS in Haiti.

New life brings hope to Jeanne Protecting mothers and newborns from HIV and AIDS

Jeanne (not her real name) looks lovingly at her newborn as she carefully covers her cot with a mosquito net. She is sitting in the living room of a relative's home in Port-au-Prince.

For Jeanne, the birth of Marie in May has been an extraordinary event. When the earthquake struck, the 28- year old woman was pregnant and receiving antiretroviral (ARV) treatment at a clinic supported by UNICEF. Jeanne had known for years that she was HIV positive. When she spoke to UNICEF in March, she was living in a tent, mourning the loss of her husband, with no job and no access to treatment.

"My main concern then was what would happen to my baby if I stopped taking the antiretroviral medication. I was anxious. I wanted everything to be fine when my baby was born," she explains. Shortly after the disaster, UNICEF restarted its support to services to prevent the transmission of HIV from mothers to babies and Jeanne continued receiving treatment.

When she gave birth to Marie, a paediatrician immediately gave the newborn prophylaxis treatment to stop the transmission of HIV. Jeanne now wants to get a chance to rebuild her life to give her daughter a better future.



HIV can be transmitted from a mother to her child during pregnancy, at childbirth, and through breastfeeding. But almost all infections in infants can be avoided by timely delivery of known, effective interventions. In Haiti, UNICEF is working to bring these services to mothers and infants so newborns like Marie can be free from HIV.

Life in Camps Daily challenges in the life of earthquake-affected children in Haiti

Up at seven o'clock-but can I go to school?

Sagine lives in the Parc Jean Marie Vincent settlement in Port-au-Prince. "I wake up at seven o'clock. I brush my teeth and wash the dishes. And then, I don't do anything," she says speaking about her daily life in the settlement. "What I most like to do is write. But at night there are no lights, so I can't read or write"





Many children are like Sagine and lack opportunities to go to school

during the day. Many schools have been damaged, many still need debris clearance, and many times school fees are an insurmountable barrier for households who have lost everything in the earthquake.

Some have been able to return to school, but solutions are only temporary. In the early morning this boy in the Pinchinat camp in Jacmel finds a quiet space between two rows of tents to do his homework before leaving for school, which usually starts at 7:30 and lasts until noon.

In the afternoon children at the Parc Jean Marie Vincent

settlement can take part in sports activities at a Child-Friendly Space supported by UNICEF. Some schools also organise a

Challenges to staying healthy



Mitine, 5, smiles as his older brother, 19-year-old Jameson Julienne, braids his hair after giving him a bath, in Parc Jean Marie Vincent. Keeping clean to stay healthy is a daily challenge as water is scarce.

Meanwhile, children gather outside a cooking stand in Pinchinat Camp. In the early days WFP and UNICEF provided a daily hot meal to the people living in the camp to prevent a serious increase in malnutrition. Today food is a little easier to come by, but children remain at risk of becoming malnourished.



Play and sometimes a second chance for school in the afternoon



second shift with classes for more children in the afternoons. But this is only organised in public schools, which account for only 8 per cent of all schools in Haiti.

Camp safety at night

Back in the Pinchinat camp in Jacmel, after sunset adults and children walk in near-darkness to fetch and bring back water for the household.

The water is safe, but at night, safety in the camp can be a problem. A generator provides light, but many areas remain poorly lit—placing children and women at increased risk of gender-based violence.



Joining our efforts for the future of Haiti's children

Wè jodi-a, men sonje denmen-live today, but think of tomorrow.

This one Haitian proverb captures the essence of our challenge if we are to stand by our commitment to children in Haiti for today and for tomorrow. We face an immediate and compelling emergency, but we also need to budget time now to plan for the future, and plant the seeds which will lead to the growth of a "Haiti Fit for Children".

The Government of Haiti, UNICEF and the larger humanitarian community are planting some quick-germinating seeds for the immediate months ahead. One of these seeds is emergency preparedness. UNICEF has worked to mitigate the pressing risk of hurricanes and has supported the interagency efforts to relocate displaced persons from areas that face rain related hazards –but UNICEF has also taken measures to ensure readiness to respond to another potential disaster. UNICEF has pre-positioned critical life-saving supplies to cover the basic needs of approximately 83,000 affected persons for one month, and an emergency field-support team has been set-up and maintains readiness to deploy anywhere in the country within 72 hours. In the medium to longer term, these preparedness efforts will be coupled with support to foster safer, more resilient communities through disaster risk reduction, mitigation and adaptation measures.

The seeds of reconstruction and recovery are also being sown- but some require firmer ground in which to be planted. In order for reconstruction efforts to begin in earnest for example, a strategy for the resettlement of displaced communities must be confirmed and implemented. This will enable urban planning, the construction of more durable infrastructure and the extension of schemes and services. Most importantly, it will contribute to the restoration of certainty and dignity to the lives of displaced persons, many of whom continue to live in areas unsuitable for long-term habitation.

Men anpil, chay pa lou-many hands will make the load lighter.

Building a Haiti fit for children will be no small undertaking, but many hands will make the load lighter. Close partnerships between the Government, the Haitian civil society, the United Nations and the wider international community need to underwrite every step of the reconstruction process, with the Government and the people of Haiti in the driver's seat.

The Government's Action Plan for Recovery and Development serves as the overarching plan, under which partners align and harmonise their support. The United Nations' new Integrated Strategic Framework (ISF) will have pillars that mirror the priorities expressed in the Government's plan (institutional, territorial, social and economic rebuilding). UNICEF, under this effort, will notably be focusing efforts to define and drive the development of a more solid social protection floor – to protect and empower both children and vulnerable communities through the whole of the country.

Also aligning to the Action Plan, the World Bank established the Haiti Reconstruction Fund (HRF) in partnership with the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The work of the HRF will be guided by the priorities of the Interim Reconstruction Commission and both will provide a platform to coordinate, not complicate, and will act as engine for better coherence. The new Interim Haiti Reconstruction Commission, which is co-chaired by the Prime Minister and United Nations Special Envoy President Bill Clinton, has also started its work setting priorities for the longer-term, and will operate based on the paramount principle of national ownership and national leadership of the reconstruction effort.

Capacity Development

Recognising the Government of Haiti as the overarching "duty-bearer" for the protection of children's rights, UNICEF's assistance is anchored firmly in national systems and linked directly to national priorities. UNICEF has thus embedded both national and international technical experts inside relevant technical ministries and directly supplements the cost of some national civil servants. Salaries for key members of the Brigade de Protection de Mineurs for example, are being covered– as well as at least 30 social workers who conduct individual case management for children.

UNICEF has also played a role in rapidly restoring the operational capacity of central level Ministries, including the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, Social Affairs, the Institut du Bien Etre Social et de Recherches (IBESR), the Brigade de Protection des Mineurs (BPM) and the Direction Nationale de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement (DINEPA). The next step will be extending and consolidating their reach within all of Haiti's departments.

Monitoring and Evaluation

UNICEF has also led assessments so that response capacity could be targeted where it was needed most, and notably conducted a multi-cluster rapid assessment in host communities, supporting also a nationwide survey on food security in partnership with WFP that included indicators on WASH, child protection and education.

To develop better data, including genderdisaggregated data which is often lacking, and geographically specific data, UNICEF is also supporting the Government to conduct a nationwide Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), scheduled for the first half of 2011. This effort will be instrumental to better understand the challenges today, and will be critical to plan for the years to come.



Making sure that all the seeds of change have the resources they need to grow will be crucial. The recent World Summit on the Future of Haiti in Punta Cana reiterated the international community's commitment to Haiti, first expressed at the March International Donor's Conference (which closed with pledges of US\$ 5.3 billion for the next eighteen months).

Now it is important to maintain the momentum and ensure that commitment to Haiti is not just to address short-term emergency needs- but meaningful recovery and development, as it was the pervasive and extreme poverty which explain why this quake had such a particularly disastrous impact on communities.

Tan ale, li pa tounen – Time goes but does not come back

The needs are known. The seeds now need to be sown, and they need to be properly tended.

In the water and sanitation sector this means confirming a more sustainable strategy for raising access to safe water -through the extension of water networks, borehole drilling and overall water resource management. In nutrition, it means not just focusing on treatment of severe acute malnutrition but developing the capacity of both government, non-public actors and communities themselves to prevent malnutrition through improved infant and young child feeding. The risk of abuse and exploitation against children remains critical - but unless we address the need for legislative change in country, (including ratification of the Hague Convention on International Adoption, for example), protective services will find they lack a foundation on which to stand. And if we do not work towards raising the capacity of the Ministry of Education to coordinate, regulate and harness the power of the non-public sector, we will lose the opportunity to rapidly scale-up and sustain access to learning opportunities for this generation. Most importantly, all our efforts must be linked to fostering more sustainable livelihoods for both urban and rural communities, to ensure caregivers have a broader range of choices than before-and can put their good knowledge into practice.

Recognising that the "planting season" is now –UNICEF, with its special mandate, will work to ensure that children and youth are empowered to shape their future. Maximising its convening power to bring together national counterparts, civil society partners, community groups, members of the international community - as well as children and youth themselves, UNICEF will help this generation seize the opportunities inherent in the recovery and reconstruction process. Empowering adolescents to participate in larger process will ensure that children are not only at the centre of the transformational agenda, but are the most powerful agents of change within it, carrying forward the momentum as tomorrow's leaders.

Making a Difference with People

Emergency operations are not only about supplies and distributions. Our main asset to reach and support children is the knowledge, skills and vision of our staff. Only with people and the proper expertise can we make sure lifesaving assistance reaches those in need, and only with people can we hope to plant the seeds for the longer term to build a Haiti fit for children.

Christina Torsein, Child Protection Specialist.

"Much of our strength comes from our inter-agency partnerships for example with our programmes on family tracing and reunification.

Our days vary between working on the ground making sure children are provided with the best possible options for care and assistance to also meeting with government counterparts and NGO partners to devise the best strategies to ensure children are protected.

There is a heightened sense of urgency and commitment amongst all partners, we need to maintain the current momentum for children's rights in Haiti."





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Tamara Bélizaire, Transport Unit Manager.

"I started eight days before the quake and from eight drivers and a few cars, I'm now supervising 38 drivers.

My team's role is to get staff where they need to be to serve the children we all work for.

We've all gone through tremendous suffering and grief—one of my drivers for instance lost three of his children—but we are working tirelessly as we feel like this is our way to help in the reconstruction of our country."

John Wigo, Electrician, MSB - UNICEF Standby Partner

"When I was asked if I wanted to go to Haiti as part of MSB's partnership with UNICEF, I said "yes" immediately.

Ten days later I arrived in Port-au-Prince. Basically, I help UNICEF stay functional. I do electrical installations, re-wiring of cables, grounding of systems and preventative maintenance.

It makes me feel good to know I have contributed to making everyone's work a bit easier—and I am optimistic that the children of Haiti will have a better future with the help of the hard-working people in this mission."



Funding Analysis

Global Solidarity for Haiti's Children



TOTAL: \$243.35 million Figures reported are on an interim basis as of 25 June 2010.

Scenes of devastation from Port-au-Prince, Jacmel, Léogane, Carrefour and other affected areas led to a global wave of solidarity for the people Haiti. As the earthquake triggered a unique emergency for children, UNICEF appealed in the early days for a total US\$ 222,757,000 to meet immediate and pressing needs in the first year. There are also additional requirements for early recovery, preparedness, and disaster risk reduction totalling US\$ 127,243,000. Together, these requirements amount to US\$ 350,000,000 for both humanitarian action and recovery over a two-year timeframe.

Thanks to the tremendous generosity of private donors, governments, intergovernmental organisations and other supporters, UNICEF received a total US\$ 243,351,321 from 114 different donor sources, partners and supporters against these two appeals, including funds raised by fifty-two UNICEF Country Offices. UNICEF received more than two thirds of these funds from individuals, foundations and businesses through UNICEF's National Committees.

Top Ten Donors

U.S. Fund for UNICEF	\$58.8 million
Japan Committee for UNICEF	\$15.0 million
Government of Canada	\$14.2 million
Government of the United States	\$11.5 million
UK Committee for UNICEF	\$10.7 million
German Committee for UNICEF	\$10.5 million
Spanish Committee for UNICEF	\$10.5 million
French Committee for UNICEF	\$9.8 million
Belgian Committee for UNICEF	\$9.7 million
Netherlands Committee for UNICEF	\$9.4 million

¹Other sources include intergovernmental donors, inter-organisational arrangements and UNICEF Country Offices.

Allocations, commitments and expenditures by sector (in millions US\$)

	Total Allocation	Commitments	Expenditures	Total (Commitments and Expenditures)
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	46.83	10.20	21.06	31.26
Child Protection	27.68	5.69	7.98	13.67
Education	56.77	7.00	13.79	20.79
Nutrition	37.94	6.31	8.75	15.05
Health	16.59	2.92	2.86	5.78
Coordination	6.38	1.00	0.53	1.53
Cross-sectoral	38.46	12.91	15.52	28.44
Total	230.64	46.03	70.49	116.52

Amounts reported on are on an interim basis as of 25 June 2010. Certified statements will be issued for each contribution where required on an annual basis. Amounts reflect funds available for in-country programming including interventions on the border area with the Dominican Republic. The figures reported are at the programmable level and exclude recovery cost. Commitments represent planned expenditures charged against programme budget allotments before actual payment and for which an obligating document has been issued in accordance with UNICEF's Financial Regulations and Rules. Coordination includes costs related to support provided by the Life Line Haiti operation, and support provided by UNICEF's Regional Office and Headquarters. Cross-sectoral programme components include operations, logistics, administration, planning monitoring and evaluation and communications and external relations. Totals in the table may not be exact due to rounding.



The vast majority of funds were contributed to UNICEF thematically, meaning UNICEF can target resources where they are most needed, allowing for guicker responses and flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances.

Non-Thematic Funds: 28.9 per cent

Costing our Response in Haiti

UNICEF continuously strives to ensure women and children are reached efficiently and that a single dollar goes the longest possible way.

Teams managing the programmes focus on making sure funds are targeted where they will have the greatest impact. Partners are also thoroughly investigated and funding is phased and dependent on monitoring and reporting of progress.

While the six months mark may be too soon to capture the full picture, UNICEF has started an exercise to cost results within the specific Haitian context. This is in order to continuously improve efficiency as efforts are still being brought to scale.

One child living in a spontaneous settlement back in school (cost of tents for temporary learning spaces including installation and Student, Teacher School and Recreational kits)

Immunising one child against six major vaccine-preventable diseases cost of vaccines, medical supplies and immunisation campaign costs)

Cost of emergency sanitation d tor one

(cost of materials and installation of one latrine, based on WASH **Cluster target of 100 persons per latrine ratio**

Note: figures do not reflect technical assistance and cross-sectoral and operational costs.

Operations

Supplies



After one of the walls collapsed and destroyed UNICEF's warehouse in Port-au-Prince, UNICEF's Supply Division in Copenhagen was directly involved in restoring the office's capacity. Surge support arrived on January 17 and new mobile storage units with a total warehouse capacity of 2,400 square metres were installed. Transport capacity was boosted in the early days for large scale distribution operations, and then scaled down as the nature of efforts changed. The total value of supplies is \$35,560,170 as of 25 June and represents 140 shipments (air and sea) and 4,159.2 metric tons.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement by the United Nations. Map produced by OPSCEN. Data Source: Centre de l'Information Géo-Spatiale, Haiti, UNICEF Haiti. UNICEF continues to expand its presence and partnerships throughout the country. Bases are already established in the heavily affected urban areas of Léogane and Jacmel - while mobile, roving programmatic teams are extending UNICEF's reach through rural departments, planning programmes for both earthquake affected communities and those with severe pre-existing vulnerabilities. These "mobile antennas" are comprised of six programmatic specialists and seven operations staff and are managed by a Senior Field Coordinator and three geographically focused **Emergency Specialists.**

Security

Today the whole of Haiti is in UN Security Phase III, essential staff for emergency operations only. The UNICEF Office is operating out of the MINUSTAH LogBase at the Toussaint Louverture International Airport.

Right now, Port-au-Prince is also divided into three zones. A "green zone" covers the east, including the airport and the neighbourhoods of Pétionville and Tabarre. All areas to the West are considered as a "yellow zone", and movement is controlled, with mandatory contact with the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS). There are finally "red zones" which correspond to the neighbourhoods of Belair and Boston. Both require an armed military escort for access.

The most common security incident is occurrences of petty theft, although there have been recent incidents of armed robberies and kidnappings. UNICEF also works closely with UNDSS, MINUSTAH and other agencies, including WFP and UNDP, as security remains a paramount priority for the organisation.

Operation Life Line Haiti and Global and Regional Support

Responding to children's needs in the aftermath of the earthquake was made an organisation-wide priority, and the team in Port-au-Prince received invaluable support from UNICEF New York, our Regional Office in Panama, and from emergency experts from UNICEF Country Offices around the world. Given the destruction of the UNICEF Office in Port-au-Prince, a liaison office for operations, administration, financial management and logistics associated with the relief effort, was immediately established in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Named "Life-Line Haiti" (LLH), the office also coordinated cross-border activities and emergency clusters within the Dominican Republic in the first two months, thereby ensuring a coherent response for Haitians on both sides of the border. In mid-April these "shadow-clusters" were de-activated (due the less than expected numbers of refugees—ranging between 50,000-100,000 persons). LLH also scaled-down its operational support with the gradual scale-up of the capacity of the Haiti Country Office to conduct financial transactions in secure facilities from the MINUSTAH Logistics Base.

Working Conditions

With the collapse of the UNICEF Office in Port-au-Prince, the tents set up at the MINUSTAH LogBase served both as work space and sleeping quarters in the first weeks, as the residences of many staff members were also affected, damaged or destroyed. Within six weeks, with support from UNICEF Supply Division, the first working containers started to arrive and helped improve working conditions. Today UNICEF is consolidating its temporary base at LogBase and looking at options for more durable office space in Port-au-Prince.

Human Resources

When the earthquake struck Haiti, UNICEF responded rapidly to deploy staff specialised in both operations and programme to support the emergency response for children. In total 326 people have deployed to the UNICEF Haiti Country Office and the operational support hub Life-Line Haiti in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Of this amount, 275 were UNICEF staff members, sent on mission from 76 different country offices. There were also 36 deployments from standby-partners.

The diversity of nationalities working together is also high, with 75 different countries represented on the response team. Currently 229 people are on the ground, of which 50 per cent are Haitian, with gender parity ensured as fifty per cent of staff are women.



Region	Staff Deployed
New York Headquarters	59
Latin America and the Caribbean	52
West and Central Africa	44
East and South Africa	26
Middle East and North Africa	19
South Asia	19
Supply Division - Copenhagen	19
East Asia and Pacific	17
Geneva Headquarters	12
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	8
Total	275

Staff figures only. Table does not include consultants, stand-by partners and short term missions.

UNICEF PARTNERS AND COUNTERPARTS

Government of Haiti

Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population, Ministère des Affaires Sociales et du Travail, Ministère de l'Education Nationale, Ministère de la Planification et de la Coopération Externe, Direction Nationale de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement, Institut du Bien Etre Social et de Recherches, Police Nationale d'Haïti - Brigade de Protection des Mineurs, Commission Intérimaire pour la Reconstruction d'Haïti.

United Nations System

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Office of the High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR), Office of the Special Envoy for Haiti (OSE), United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), United Nations Development Operations Coordination Office (UNDOCO), **United Nations Development Programme** (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

International Financial Institutions

World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, International Monetary Fund.

NGOs and Civil Society

Action Contre la Faim, Allied Recovery International, ACTED, American Refugee Committee, Artists for Peace, Association of Volunteers in International Service, Children's Nutrition Programme, Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli, CFM, Comité Olympique Haïtien, Concern, Catholic Medical Mission Board, Croix Rouge Française, CRS, GJARE, Hôpital St. Damien, Fondation Saint Boniface, Fondasyon Limye Lavi, Fondefh FOSREF, Foyer Escale, Gheskio, Haven, Haiti Participative, Heartland Alliance, International Medical Corps, International Rescue Committee, IDEJEN, Inité Jen Katédral, InterAid, Institut Abellard, Love A Child, Lumière pour Haïti, Médecins du Monde-Canada, Médecins du Monde-Suisse, Médecins Sans Frontières-Hollande, Médecins Sans Frontières-Suisse, MIRIP, Mouvement ATD-Quart Monde, OutReach International, Plan Haiti, Pesadev, Pompiers Sans Frontières, Progressio, Relief International, Save the Children, Scouts d'Haiti, Secours Islamique France, Solidarités, Tamise, Tipa Tipa, Tearfund, UNESCAD, Vision Nouvelle, World Vision, War Child Canada, Zanmi Lasanté – Partners in Health.

Surge Capacity Standby Partners

CANADEM, Ericsson, Global WASH Cluster Rapid Response Team - Action Contre la Faim, CARE International, Oxfam GB, Norwegian Refugee Council, RedR Australia, Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), Save the Children, Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC), Télécoms Sans Frontières (TSF), United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID).

Donors

National Committees

United States Fund for UNICEF, Japan National Committee, UK National Committee, German National Committee, Spain National Committee, France National Committee, Belgium National Committee, Netherlands National Committee, Canada National Committee, Denmark National Committee, Italy National Committee, Greece National Committee, Republic of Korea National Committee, Norway National Committee, Sweden National Committee, Australia National Committee, Ireland National Committee, Finland National Committee, Portugal National Committee, Poland National Committee Austria National Committee, Hong Kong National Committee, Slovenia National Committee, Switzerland National Committee, Luxembourg National Committee, Hungary National Committee New Zealand National Committee, Slovakia National Committee, Turkey National Committee, Andorra National Committee, Iceland National Committee, Estonia National Committee, Israel National Committee.

Governments

Canada, United States, Japan, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, France, Finland, Spain Russian Federation, Brazil, Belgium China, Austria, Republic of Korea Luxembourg, Czech Republic Bulgaria, Kuwait, Liechtenstein Benin, Bahamas

Others

United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), UNICEF Global Thematic Humanitarian Funds (allocated by UNICEF HQ), Council of Europe Development Bank, AgFund NYSE Foundation, UN Women's Guild United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan (UNAMA).

UNICEF values of all of its partnerships and works with a wide range of community-based organisations, faith-based organisations, non-public actors and other groups and individuals, and recognizes that many of those could not be mentioned here.

ACRONYMS

Anti-Retro Viral Drugs
Brigade de Protection des Mineurs
National Child Welfare Authority, Dominican Republic
Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action
Child-Friendly Spaces
Direction Nationale de l'Eau Potable et de l'Assainissement
Early Childhood Development
Haitian National Police
Haiti Reconstruction Fund
Institut du Bien Etre Social et de Recherches
Inter-American Development Bank
Integrated Strategy Framework
Infant and Young Child Feeding
Life-Line Haiti (UNICEF Dominican Republic Operations Hub)
Long-Lasting Insecticidal Nets
Monitoring and Evaluation
Ministère des Affaires Sociales et du Travail
Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey
United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti
Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency
Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population
Non-Governmental Organization
Organization of American States
Prevention of Mother-To-Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS
Ready-to-Use Infant Formula
Severe Acute Malnutrition
United Nations Development Group
United Nations Development Programme
United Nations Population Fund
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
World Food Programme
World Health Organization

Back cover photo: ©UNICEF/Marta Ramoneda/2010. **Timoun jodi a grandmoun demen** The children of today are the adults of tomorrow

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