Fighting Water Borne Diseases

Cholera Response Fact Sheet May

2016 (DATA FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 28 May)



- The United Nations interventions against cholera in May 2016 reached more than 150,000 Haitians
- Funds are urgently needed for the rapid response while 16,822 cases have been registered in 2016

Current situation

The Ministry of Public Health and Population in Haiti (MSPP) has reported 16,822 suspected cholera cases and 168 cholera related deaths from 1st January to 28 May 2016, maintaining a similar pattern to that seen in 2015 (16,336 cases as per 23 May). In this regard, the UN Secretary-General has made eliminating cholera a key UN priority, and the UN system in Haiti continues to support the National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera (2013-2022) and the rapid response to cholera.

Haitian and international efforts have succeeded in drastically reducing the cholera cases and fatalities in Haiti by almost 90% since the peak in 2011 (350,000 cases in 2011 down to 36,000 suspected cholera cases last year). However, funds are urgently needed to maintain the rapid response and the long-term response, so that gains are not reversed.

The United Nations in Haiti strongly encourages all parties to remain vigilant, since extreme vulnerability to cholera persists



The UN Secretary General visiting Los Palmas in 2014. L. ABASSI

30,000 HAITIANS BENEFIT FROM WATER IN LOS PALMAS DUE TO A PROJECT PROMISED BY BAN-KI MOON DURING HIS VISIT TO HAITI IN 2014

in many areas of the country. The heavy rains of May, combined with a reduced number of response teams due to funding shortage, have resulted in a sudden upsurge in the Centre and West departments. Political instability may also hinder local response and reduce Government capacity to respond to cholera outbreaks.

The rapid response has proved successful saving lives; it is urgent to maintain it

The UN alerts about the the fact that the current rapid response mechanism is only adequately funded until September, having a gap of USD 11 million. This rapid response has proved successful in cutting the transmission and saving lives, and reducing the teams would increase the risk of new cases during the rainy season, usually a critical period.

Evolution of suspected cholera cases between October 2010 and 28 May 2016

Year	Suspected cholera cases	Total Deaths	Incidence rate (per 1.000)	Fatality rate in hospitals
2010 (Oct-Dec)	185,351	3,951	18.36	2.43%
2011	351,839	2,918	34.33	1.04%
2012	101,503	908	9.73	0.96%
2013	58,574	581	5.57	1.05%
2014	29,078	297	2.71	1.01%
2015	36,045	322	3.9	0.75%
2016 (1 Jan-28 May)	16.822	168	1.52	0.93%
Total	779,212	9,145		

Source: DELR/ UADS Ministry of Public Health and Population, Haiti

Global overview of the funding situation for the cholera rapid response and the long-term response in Haiti (as per 31 May 2016)

USD	National Plan (2013-2022)	Surveillance-rapid response 2016
Total requirement	2,220,192,500	20,300,000
Disbursement against requirement	307,618,760 (13.8%)	8,700,000 (42%)

The UN response to cholera between 2010 and 2016

- -Between 2010 and May 2016, the UN family in Haiti has directly mobilized more than \$59 million to implement 291 initiatives (projects and programs) for both rapid response and longer term response to address the root causes of the epidemic; strengthening water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructures, quality accessible health services, and capacity development. This is a priority for the Sustainable Development Goals agenda.
- -The UN has also supported the Haitian Government to mobilize \$307 million for the National Plan for the Cholera Elimination (the previously mentioned \$59 million are included) to address the root causes of the cholera epidemic and of all water borne diseases. This plan still needs 86% of the \$2, 2 billion requested.

The UN response to cholera in May 2016



- -UNICEF and partners have implemented together with the Ministry of Health 680 rapid responses to cholera alerts in all 10 departments, benefiting about 6,000 households and responding to 1,100 cases (providing health treatment, sanitation, water and prevention kits).
 - -As part of the National Sanitation Campaign, UNICEF continued working with Haitian authorities (DINEPA) in 6 of the 16 cholera high-priority communes, finalizing a rural water system in Mirebalais commune reaching 2,677 persons; as well as improving the water, sanitation and hygiene conditions of two health centers and 6 schools (with 1,500 children).



- -PAHO/WHO has supported the Ministry of Health in supplying medical and WASH items (water, sanitation and hygiene) in all 10 departments for an estimated coverage of 1,700 cases.
- -PAHO/WHO supported the implementation of the 2nd round of the 2016 cholera vaccination campaign in the municipality of Arcahaie, reaching 118.000 people. The campaign targets 400.000 persons in 2016 and UNICEF is complementing it with WASH interventions.
- -PAHO/WHO continued to reinforce water quality surveillance in 20 health institutions throughout the country, including the Metropolitan area of Port au Prince. In addition, assisted health institutions to stablishing standards to guide water, sanitation, and hygiene and waste interventions. PAHO/WHO also supported the Water Safety Plans methodology in Port de Paix.





-The IOM has supported 20 Health Structures of the Ministry of Health in global monitoring and with the management of 128 suspected cholera cases in upper Artibonite (73 Cases) and South-East Department (57 Cases).



-MINUSTAH continued working on 22 projects to improve access to drinking water, sanitation and health services. They represent a total outlay of USD 1, 1 million reaching some 329,772 direct and indirect beneficiaries in 7 of the country's ten Departments. Two of these projects were officially completed in May. As a result, more than 30,000 people from Los Palmas, Guébo and Jacob in the Central Department now benefit from water supplied through a project promised by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, following a request from the town of Los Palmas during his visit to Haiti in 2014.

The UN response to cholera in May has been supported by ECHO, DFID; Norway, Canada and Japan Government; German and French UNICEF national committees and OFID.