HAITI: Displacement in Port-au-Prince

Situation Report No. 1

As of 8 June 2021

This report is produced by OCHA Haiti in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 1st to 8th June 2021 and is based on the information and data available to date. As the situation is fast evolving an updated report will be issued around 11 June.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Widespread incidents of gang violence and the burning of hundreds of houses in the metropolitan area has led to numerous victims, deaths and injuries.
- While exact numbers are still unclear, preliminary estimates suggest that thousands of people have fled their homes and sought shelter with host families or settled in informal shelters.
- This population of newly displaced people requires urgent humanitarian assistance and protection support.
- Sanitation, shelter, access to safe water and food are key priority needs.
- Response efforts are underway via the distribution of hot meals and hygiene kits.
- The Carrefour Sports Centre shelters the largest displaced community with over 1,000 people.

260'000

affected people

2'000

targeted for immediate assistance (provisional)

5'600

internally displaced (provisional)



Vap Sources: ISSR , UNCS, The Times Atlas of the World. The boundaries and names about and the designations used on this map do not imply officiell sodopsessor or acceptance for the United Nations. Man created in Sen 2013.



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Deadly clashes between rival gangs in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area seeking to exert control over populous areas have surged in recent weeks, with a significant upsurge since 1 June, fuelling a widespread sense of insecurity and creating dramatic consequences for the civilian population. These incidents have resulted in numerous deaths and injuries in these neighbourhoods, as well as several fires. People are fleeing to safer areas and many, including children, are sleeping outside on the ground. Most of the displaced are settling in informal sites and need shelter, food, water clothing and other non-food items. Based on currently available data, at least 1,000 people have been reportedly displaced over the last 72 hours only due to serious security incidents, particularly in Martissant, Cité-Soleil and Bel Air. This surge in displacement comes in addition to over 4,000 displaced in the last 12 months due to similar incidents.

On 1 June, armed clashes between gangs in the areas of Martissant, Fontamara, Bas-Delmas led to a number of deaths and injuries as well as the burning of homes and small businesses. Hundreds of families fled following the clashes. Citizen testimonies indicate that people who have fled the violence have found shelter with host families or left to cities in

other provinces.

On the same day, a fire in the "Toussaint Brave" site in the Delmas commune devastated 150 houses, leaving some 200 households homeless. The fire claimed the life of a 2-year old and severely injured another infant. While its origins remain unclear, the fire was nevertheless reminiscent of the March 2021 Tabarre Issa gang-related fires.

This week's displacement adds to the overall number of displaced population that includes more than 1,000 people displaced in August 2020 from the Bel Air neighbourhood, whose homes and businesses were burned by gangs and forced to take refuge in four unsuitable sites, as well as the more recent displacement in March 2021 for nearly 3,000 people that fled their homes in Tabarre Issa due to organized gang attacks. Estimated displacement figures are available in the annex.

The national police is often, during these clashes and attacks, not in a position to provide the necessary security and protection, leaving vulnerable populations to fend for themselves. Armed assailants attacked all three police stations in Cité Soleil on 5 June, killing one police officer and injuring another, while also stealing a number of weapons.

The effects of armed clashes between gangs and spontaneous roadblocks in these areas are affecting the general population and ongoing insecurity is severely limiting movements of people and goods in those neighbourhoods as well as humanitarian aid. Limited transit to and from the city is particularly affecting daily commuters and traders from other provinces.

People fleeing from the recent violence in Martissant have dispersed to formal and makeshift sites such as the Centre Sportif de Carrefour, the Fontamara public square, Diquini 63, the Mont-Carmel church at Bizoton 51 and the Adventiste church in Moriia de Carrefour.

The situation remains very fluid with displaced families being relocated to other secondary sites. For example, on Sunday, 6 June, the church Mont Carme was closed and displaced people transferred to the Carrefour Sports Centre.

While several hundred people (the number is yet to be determined) are reported to be sheltered across numerous sites, it is estimated that a larger number have found shelter in host families and are scattered throughout the city of Port-au-Prince and/or have fled to other provinces. The total number and locations of the displaced are still being evaluated and figures will be updated as new reports come in.

The unprecedented level of violence and subsequent displacements is creating a host of secondary issues, such as the disruption of community-level social functioning, family separation, increased financial burdens on host families, forced school closures, loss of livelihoods and a general fear among the affected populations.

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Displaced individuals and families victims of violence require support. Displaced people from the Bel-Air and Tabarre Issa neighborhoods require support in housing, money, clothing, education and livelihoods and relocation. Recently displaced people from Martissant, Fontamara and Bas-Delmas are in immediate need of assistance. An initial meeting with the Mayor of Carrefour and partners highlighted the following needs.

- Water, toilets
- Food and drinking water
- Mattress, blankets, flashlights, Hygiene kits (included for women and girls), clothing
- Psychosocial support and support for psychological resilience (fear, stress, trauma, family break-ups)

In addition, support is needed for people seeking to relocate from Port-au-Prince to the provinces as part of family reunification services and transportation assistance.

1 DTM, Factsheet N.2, IOM, 10 April 2021

Given the resurgence of COVID-19 cases in the country, shelters require containment measures and COVID-19 kits that include facemasks and hand washing facilities.

The caseload includes displacement of 3'500 people that have lost their homes in fires in Tabarre Issa and Delmas 75. Those families will also require long-term relocation support.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Sector partners held an intersectoral coordination meeting on 7 June to plan current and upcoming response activities, with sector leads providing updates on ongoing activities. Participants agreed to re-activate the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) sector. IOM is therefore the dedicated intersectoral response lead. Current access limitations brought about by the heightened insecurity calls for a well-coordinated and streamlined logistical response from partners, including the consolidation of cargo to limit the number of deliveries required and, possibly, plan to limit the number of deliveries.

While the response has been primarily focused on people sheltered at the Carrefour Sports Centre - currently the largest shelter site - partners nevertheless recognize the importance of response coverage for all sites and host families, and are concerned with the wider implications of the current situation. In particular, UNICEF is highlighting limitations in education access for thousands of children across the affected neighbourhoods.

Sector partners also stressed the importance of considering the needs of the most vulnerable people, including those with disabilities, women and girls at risk or victims of GBV, as well as children. To this end, cross-sectoral assessments will be conducted in order to identify the most urgent needs as well as the specific needs of these most at-risk populations.

Response Overview by Site

Site 1: Carrefour - Sports Centre

Following an initial coordination meeting on 6 June, the Carrefour Municipaly, with support from Civil Protection (DGPC) and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), are leading overall response coordination. Under this coordination structure, DGPC, UNICEF, ADRA, DINEPA, APRONHA, la ligue des pasteurs de Fontamara, the Haitian Red Cross and OCHA adopted a five-day action plan for providing 3,000 meals a day, hygiene kits and sufficient water on-site, as well as installing mobile latrines. The next coordination meeting is set for 8 June. Responsibilities have been delegated as follows:

Response coordination: City Hall, DGPC, Partners

Humanitarian community coordination: OCHA

Shelter organization and management: City Hall, DGPC, Haitian Red Cross

On-site feeding: City Hall (cooking) and various partners (food provision)

Distribution of food kits: ADRA

Distribution of hygiene kits:
 Distribution of mattresses and blankets:
 DGPC, UNICEF

Installation of mobile toilets:
 Management of mobile toilets:
 DINEPA
 Distribution of clothing:

Psychosocial support: DGPC, UNICEF

The Municipality has agreed to make several kitchens available to cook meals for the displaced while partners continue to provide food.

An inter-agency evaluation mission planned for 8 June is set to assess the situation at the Carrefour Sports Centre. The mission will include the Humanitarian Coordinator, heads of UN agencies, funds and programmes and select partners. The UN and partners are also mobilising response stocks from depots in Jacmel and Les Cayes in southern Haiti, given that Port-au-Prince stocks remain inaccessible for security concerns.

Site 2: Carrefour - Fontamara Square

The Carrefour City Council, the Church Family Tabernacle of Praise and ADRA distributed more than 1,000 hot meals to displaced people in the Fontamara Square between 5 and 6 June. Additionally, the FTL distributed 100 hygiene kits to displaced people in the Mont Carmel church.

The Municipality is providing cash assistance to pay for transportation for people seeking to relocate elsewhere.

Site 3: Displaced from Toussaint Brave

DGPC and IOM launched the registration for people at the Toussaint Brave square in Delmas 75 on 5 June. At present, there are 413 people from 107 households registered, of which 45.9 per cent are female and 54.1 per cent are male. Delmas City Hall organized a relief distribution on 6 June.

CASELOAD (ESTIMATED PRELIMINARY DATA)

LOCATION	DISPLACED FROM MARTISSANT & FONTAMARA TO CARREFOUR SPORT CENTER	DISPLACED FROM TOUSSAINT BRAVE TO DELMAS 75 SITES	DISPLACED FROM TABARRE ISSA TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS (VALLÉE DE BOURDON, DJOBEL, TABARRE, TORCEL AND PERNIER)	DISPLACED FROM BEL- AIR TO VARIOUS SITES (POSTE MARCHAND, PARC CELTIQUE, (PÈRE SOLINO), LAKOU MOUZEN, FORT NATIONAL (ARMÉE DU SALUT)
IDPs (TOTAL)*	1'120	413	AROUND 3'000	1'014
FEMALE	54%	46%	54%	53%
MALE	46%	54%	46%	47%
CHILDREN 0-17	32%		47%	28%

^{*}UPCOMING ASSESSMENTS WILL CONSIDER VULNERABLE PEOPLE (PREGNANT AND BREASTFEEDING WOMEN, CHRONICALLY ILL, DISABILITY, INJURED AND BURNED)