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Emergency Operations Center Situation Report #26
Haiti Earthquake

HIGHLIGHTS

- PAHO/WHO, UNICEF and the Haitian Ministry of Health collaborate on a two part train-the-trainer program designed to address treatment of severe malnutrition in hospital settings
- Health partners administer over 800,000 vaccinations as part of the post-disaster vaccination program in Port-au-Prince, the West Department, Léogâne and Jacmel
- The Mental Health sub-cluster develops a three month response plan addressing promotion and delivery of mental health services in Port-au-Prince and the surrounding Departments

A representative of PAHO/WHO meets with Haitian Health officials in Jacmel

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Three months after the January 12 earthquake, Haitian President Rene Preval reminded the international community that the country remains "in constant danger." Even as post-disaster recovery efforts gain momentum, the rainy season threatens to stress a fragile humanitarian situation with outbreaks of vector-borne diseases, mud slides and unhygienic living conditions. The Health Cluster and sub-Clusters have been engaged in contingency planning for the rainy season, and a national plan is being formulated that accounts for available services and stocks from NGOs in all Departments throughout the country.

In an effort to mitigate the consequences of congested and vulnerable spontaneous settlement sites, the Haitian government is undertaking a massive relocation process before flooding occurs in Port-au-Prince and surrounding Departments. The Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) has extended free access to medicines until July 12.

PAHO/WHO continues health actions including mass vaccinations, provisions of medical supplies, sentinel site disease surveillance, and distribution of long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets, while also increasing capacity building initiatives for health services such as rehabilitation, mental health, and nutrition.

COORDINATION

Health Cluster, Port-au-Prince

The Health Cluster continues weekly meetings in Port-au-Prince with increased participation from Haitian NGOs and health partners. A concept paper outlining a system for free access to primary health care services is being developed by cluster leadership. As of April 14, the following Health Cluster sub-clusters are active:

- Mobile Clinics; Hospitals; Disability and Rehabilitation; Health Information Management; Disease Surveillance; Reproductive Health; Mental Health and Psychosocial Support; Two satellite sites: Jacmel and Léogâne

Health Cluster Satellites

PAHO/WHO satellite sites in Léogâne and Jacmel have increased their visibility and added new partners over the last two weeks. Both sub-clusters are actively preparing contingency plans for the rainy season.

Léogâne

Health services in Léogâne, Gressier, Grand Goave, and Petit Goave are being rebuilt after catastrophic devastation.

- Médécins Sans Frontières (MSF) Suisse has established a temporary field hospital with 110 beds
- Reconstruction of a semi-private hospital (Cardinal Leger & Sanatorium de Siguenau) with 186 beds is being planned
- Luxemburg Red Cross is constructing a new hospital in Gressier, and several NGOs are providing health coverage in the interim
- The Haitian-Cuban-Venezuelan hospital in Grand Goave was damaged, but remains operational
- Notre Dame Hospital in Petit Goave is functional again with help from NGOs

Short-term actions related to rainy season contingency plans in Léogâne, Gressier, Petit Goave, and Grand Goave have been identified by PAHO/WHO and Health Cluster partners. Objectives include creation of communication networks, health transportation links, and restoration of main health centers.

Jacmel

In Jacmel, coordination activities are ongoing, with the Health Cluster being co-chaired by the Département Sanitaire du Sud Est (DSSE) and PAHO/WHO. The government has taken full control of coordinating response and recovery activities, ensuring that all incoming partners are registered. The cluster continues to collect information on who, what, where, and a similar form will be used to detail the gaps in mobile clinic coverage.

The Cluster is engaged in long-term strategic planning that emphasizes sustainability as the cornerstone of recovery. The first two weeks of April were focused on developing a contingency plan for the hurricane season. In the plan, the priority objective is to deliver health care services should a department become isolated from other communes due to road flooding. DSSE is investigating strategic locations to preposition supplies in each commune.

Persistent health threats include a lack of sanitation, basic hygiene, and gaps in health care coverage due to a large influx of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). DSSE, whose office was severely damaged during the earthquake, continues to work from a temporary site based in a church.

Fond Parisien (Haiti-Dominican Republic Border)

On the Haiti-Dominican Republic boarder, PAHO/WHO remains active in health response services and coordination. Boarder highlights include rehabilitation activities, vaccinations, and capacity building through training.

To help manage patient needs, the MSPP and PAHO/WHO met in Jimani last week to begin planning for staff training in rehabilitation services along the border. There is also an ongoing needs assessment related to design, fitting, and maintenance of prosthetic limbs. Of the 275 individuals recovering from quake-related injuries in the Love a Child rehabilitation center, 48 underwent amputations.

PAHO/WHO is also partnering with the Ministry of Health to design a training program for waste management in shelters. Finally, a registration system coordinated by MSF and PAHO/WHO is ensuring patients returning to Haiti from the Dominican Republic receive proper follow-up care. The referral system reflects a larger effort throughout Haiti to help recovering patients find appropriate health services.

PAHO/WHO UN CLUSTER PARTICIPATION

PAHO/WHO continues to participate in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster; Nutrition Cluster; Logistics Cluster; and the Gender Based Violence (GBV) sub-Cluster of the Protection Cluster (CCCM).

HEALTH ACTIVITIES

FIGHTING MALNUTRITION

Health partners continue to work throughout Haiti to address malnutrition. PAHO/WHO, UNICEF, and the MSPP partnered for a two part train-the-trainer program designed to address severe acute malnutrition in hospital settings. The program took place on April 6-10 and trained a total of 23 department and national MSPP staff, as well as one nutrition partner. Training certificates, signed by the Minister of Health and the heads of agencies for UNICEF and PAHO/WHO, were distributed by the Director General of MSPP. Training outcomes involve increased capacity throughout Port-au-Prince and regional departments to identify and treat malnutrition among children, pregnant women, and adults.

REHABILITATION

A team of disability and rehabilitation services experts undertook a comprehensive assessment on available resources and underlying needs for persons with disabilities. Destruction of many pre-earthquake rehabilitation facilities, in addition to an increase in individuals now disabled because of the earthquake, underscores the need to build capacity in this health area. The PAHO/WHO team is working to create opportunities to strengthen policy and programs for people with disabilities by facilitating partnerships with important stakeholders like MSPP, NGOs, and individuals with disabilities.

NATIONAL VACCCINATION CAMPAIGN UPDATE

PAHO/WHO, UNICEF, and MSPP continue to work with other heath partners to implement the national post-disaster vaccination program. As of April 14, the program has provided over 800,000 vaccinations. Although it is not reflected in the chart below, the program was scheduled to start in Jacmel on April 5. An assessment of 542 Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) sites shows coverage of 65%, which is an increase of 8% since March 20. For more background information on the post-disaster vaccination program, please review PAHO EOC Situation Report #22 & #25.

AVAILABLE DATA AS OF		9-Apr-2010		NUMBER OF VACCINES			
LOCATION		SITES		1½ -8 mnths	9 mnths-7 yrs	8 years +	Total
DEPARTEMENT	COMMUNE	#	POPULATION				
		542	1,224,962	42,556	162,957	590,510	796,023
Aire Métropolitaine	Carrefour	89	159,935	5,300	16,984	73,587	95,871
	Cité soleil	20	39,350	1,251	9,953	23,810	35,014
	Delmas	106	320,614	6,951	37,356	167,868	212,175
	Pétion-Ville	45	200,100	6,003	24,089	70,781	100,873
	Port-au-Prince	121	351,341	19,140	43,760	159,637	222,537
	Tabarre	5	8,900	205	1,814	6,599	8,618
Ouest	Croix des Bouquets	19	52,055	1,662	7,684	22,253	31,599
	Gressier	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Grand-Goâve	5	6,000	153	870	3,190	4,213
	Léogane	83	31,765	947	4,948	18,145	24,040
	Petit-Goâve	49	54,902	944	15,499	44,640	61,083
Nippes	Miragoane	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sud-Est	Jacmel	0	0	0	0	0	0

Mental Health

Addressing psychosocial needs in Haiti remains a top priority for the health officials in Haiti. PAHO/WHO, UNICEF, and IOM have been working with MSPP to finalize the national plan for mental health and psychosocial support. The draft plan is now being circulated for feedback among other government agencies, health professionals, and partnering institutions. A PAHO/WHO mental health expert is working with other health partners to identify a capacity baseline within Port-au-Prince, and to establish a new department team outside of the capital.

A work plan for the next three months was organized by the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) sub-cluster. The work plan aims to coordinate and promote the launch of the national plan, and establishes systemic relationships for interfacing with the Health, Protection, Education, Nutrition, and CCCM Clusters.

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

The Haitian Internally Displaced Persons Surveillance System (IDPSS) is collecting daily reports from mobile clinics serving IDP settlements. IDPSS, the National Sentinel Surveillance Sites (NSSS), and the Cuban Brigade all report information to MSPP, which is then analyzed by epidemiologists. Acute Respiratory Illness (ARI) continues to be the most commonly reported illness among all age groups. There has been no recorded increase in infectious diseases to cause concern as of April 14, 2010.

Malaria

The country has been subject to many rains over the last two weeks, raising concerns about a rise in malaria cases among IDPs. PAHO/WHO and the CDC were invited by the Ministry of Health Directorate of Epidemiology, National Laboratory and National Malaria Program to jointly design interventions for malaria prone-regions of the country.

HIV/AIDS

PAHO/WHO continues to regularly partner with UNAIDS and MSPP to address spread and treatment of HIV/AIDS in Haiti. Currently, PAHO/WHO is participating in an inter-organization working group responsible for finalizing the national HIV/AIDS plan. The plan, which is scheduled to be finalized on April 14, will guide health responders over the short-term while the national plan for long-term reconstruction of the health sector is finalized.

CONTACTS

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Sub-Cluster Groups:	Mobile Clinics; Hospitals; Disability and Rehabilitation; Health Information Management; Disease Surveillance; Reproductive Health; Mental Health and Pschysocial Support; Two satellite sites: Jacmel and Léogâne

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