

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The security conditions in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area are worsening, and the Artibonite department, north of the capital, is also increasingly affected by insecurity. Consequently, access to crucial services such as healthcare is becoming restricted.
- The referral system of the National Ambulance Center (CAN, per its acronym in French) is facing challenges as it is becoming increasingly difficult for CAN personnel and ambulances to access gang-controlled areas.
- PAHO continues directing its limited funding towards urgent life-saving needs, by focusing on supporting the continuity of emergency and essential health services in hospitals, especially for pregnant women and internally displaced persons (IDPs). NGOs who receive funding will continue conducting mobile clinics in IDP sites.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW



Figure 1 - Situation of main hospitals in the Ouest department - April 15, 2024

## HOSPITALS

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- The largest hospital in Haiti, the State University Hospital (HUEH as per its French acronym), remains closed due to security issues, although the ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) planned to reopen it on April 1st. Social media reports state it is under gang control; however, there has been no official confirmation of this information.
- La Paix University Hospital (HUP, as per its French acronym) remains operational with PAHO/WHO's support, which includes the provision of medicines and medical supplies, fuel, and other logistical assistance to ensure continued operations. However, due to the closure of HUEH, HUP is facing significant strain due to work overload.

## DISPLACEMENTS

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- As of April 09, 2024, there are 89,000 IDPs<sup>1</sup> in the Metropolitan Area of Port-au-Prince (MAPAP) across 87 active IDPs sites. 36,016 IDPs have taken shelter in the 22 sites monitored by the Ouest Department's Health Directorate (DSO as per its French acronym) with support from PAHO/WHO.
- Following the deterioration in the security situation in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, from March 8 to April 9, 94,821 persons, left the capital (a majority moving to the southern departments) among them 63% were already displaced.

## CHOLERA

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- Suspected cases of cholera continue to be reported in IDPs sites, but the situation appears to be under control.
- The Ouest, Centre and Artibonite departments are the 3 most affected by cholera since the start of the current epidemic.
- In 2024, the Artibonite department recorded more cases of cholera than any other departments. Along with the Centre and the North-East departments, Artibonite is one of the only three departments with multiple active cholera outbreaks over several weeks.

## RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

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- PAHO/WHO and UNFPA are supporting 3 facilities providing maternal health services in the MAPAP to reduce the costs of cesarian sections (c-sections) and other maternity-related costs. On the first week of this initiative, 55 women have already benefitted from this support among them 39 for cesarian sections.
- PAHO/WHO delivered medicines and supplies to four hospitals in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince (Fontaine Hospital in Cité Soleil, Medical and Social Centre of Petite Place Cazeau in Delmas, Dr Raoul Pierre-Louis Hospital in Carrefour, and Eliazar Germain

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<sup>1</sup> IOM, Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), April 09, 2024

- Hospital in Petion Ville) for the care of survivors of gender-based violence and the treatment of childhood illnesses.
- The essential drugs programme (PROMESS as per its French acronym), PAHO/WHO logistical hub in Haiti, has supplied anti-malarial drugs to all 10 departments and reproductive health supplies to 5 health facilities as part of orders placed respectively by UNDP and UNFPA.
  - As part of its support to the Ministry of Public Health and Population, PAHO/WHO has received 38 metric tons of medical supplies from its stockpile in Panama. This operation was made possible thanks to collaboration with WFP, United Nations Humanitarian Depot (UNHRD) with support from ECHO.
  - Nearly 1074 consultations were carried out over the past two weeks, in 5 IDPs sites through mobile clinics conducted by the DSO with the support of PAHO/WHO and UNICEF
  - With the support from PAHO/WHO, 25 multi-functional community health workers (ASCP as per its French acronym) in the Nord-Est department enhanced their skills in delivering psychosocial first aid during an intensive two-day training course last week.
  - PAHO/WHO provided over 14,000 cholera tests, 900 Cary Blair for the transport of cholera samples, and protective equipment to the Directorate of Epidemiology, Laboratory and Research (DELR as per its French acronym) for labo-moto nurses in charge of sampling and transporting cholera samples.
  - With support from PAHO Headquarters, PAHO/WHO procured 120,000 doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13), 100,000 doses of Rotavirus vaccine and 200,000 doses of bivalent Oral polio vaccine (bOPV) to avoid the shortage of these antigens in the country due to the security crisis.
  - 7,407 IDPs, among them 2,629 families, participated in hygiene promotion and sensitization activities. 48 acts of decontamination were carried out and 392 water purification tabs distributed in 22 sites.
  - The Ministry of Health's early detection and rapid response team continues to be deployed throughout IDP sites with the support of PAHO/WHO. The capacity of 30 of its members has been enhanced, through a two-day training session on the use of rapid cholera and covid testing.

## URGENT NEEDS

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Critical funding is needed to maintain and scale up the health emergency response in Haiti in support of the virtually collapsing national health system. PAHO urgently needs \$8 million for the next three months and \$22 million overall for its health emergency operations in Haiti in 2024. PAHO's humanitarian health assistance program in Haiti is severely underfunded (less than 2%) and, even if a humanitarian corridor is established, a catastrophic health scenario can still happen if there is not enough funding.