

HIGHLIGHTS

- *An attack on participants attending the reopening of the Haitian State University Hospital (HUEH, per its French acronym), the main hospital in the country closed since February 2024, caused 5 deaths and 10 wounded.*



Figure 1. Location of HUEH and HUP

SUMMARY

On the occasion of the official reopening of activities at the Haitian State University Hospital (HUEH), scheduled for December 24, 2024, as announced by the Minister of Health, several journalists visited the site to cover the event. The HUEH (commonly known as the General Hospital) is the most important public hospital in the country. It has been closed since February 29, 2024, after being attacked by members of the *Viv Ansanm* gang coalition.

According to initial reports, the journalists present to cover the event were targeted in a shooting that resulted in 4 people dead and 10 seriously injured. The gang leader who controls this area released a video on social media claiming responsibility for the attack.

RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- Coordination between PAHO/WHO, La Paix University Hospital (HUP, per its acronym in French), and MSF to prepare for the reception of a massive influx of victims, and with the National Ambulance Center (CAN) for the transfer of victims.
- All the injured were treated free of charge at the HUP.

CHALLENGES

- The transfer of patients from the unsecured "red zone" to HUP, resulting in a delay of over two hours in the care of victims.