

HAITI



4.2M
PEOPLE IN NEED
OF HEALTH
ASSISTANCE



1.8M
PEOPLE
TARGETED



18.5M
FUNDING
REQUIREMENTS
(US\$)

Haiti's multifaceted socioeconomic, political, and humanitarian crisis has further deteriorated in 2024 and reached critical levels with the intensification of gang violence and the near collapse of state institutions.

Damage to critical infrastructure in Port-au-Prince has been extensive, with 450 health facilities, homes, businesses and others vandalized or looted. This situation has forced over a million people to flee their homes and take refuge in sites for internally displaced persons, which often lack essential infrastructure. This marks a threefold increase in displacement within a year, rising from 315,000 in December 2023. Adding to the strain, dozens of thousands of Haitians are being forced to return to Haiti due to the Dominican Republic's resumed deportation program in fall 2024 and the cancelling of the United States's humanitarian visa program, further pressuring already fragile health services at entry points.

In this context, gender-based violence (GBV) remains a critical issue. Between January and May 2024, 3949 GBV cases were reported, with 72% involving sexual violence. Most cases occurred in Ouest (70%) and Artibonite (26%) departments, affecting predominantly women (75%) and girls (20%). Alarming, 61% of survivors were IDPs, and 66% of reported acts were attributed to armed gang members.

Risks of outbreaks of epidemic-prone diseases are high. While the number of reported cholera cases reduced steadily in 2024, active localized outbreaks continue to be detected, and a resurgence of cases has been notified in Port-au-Prince since the beginning of 2025. Measles, diphtheria and other vaccine-preventable diseases are also of concern in a context of low vaccination levels, high rates of malnutrition and reduced epidemiological and laboratory surveillance capacity.

Two in five Haitians urgently need medical care. Yet, the security crisis and displacement have severely compromised access to healthcare, particularly in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince where about 40% of in-patient health structures had to close while 33% are partially functional, and only 42% are operating normally. Health services are further strained by shortages of medicine and supply caused by insecurity and looting. Additionally, the critical loss of human resources (brain drain) compounded with attacks on the health infrastructure and personnel further hinders the health system's capacity to respond to pressing health issues.

"I don't like life here. [...] My child has had a fever for days, and I can't afford to take him to the hospital. I fear he might catch cholera from the conditions here."

Dama, 29 years-old and mother of four, victim of violence living in a IDP site.



PAHO'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Despite incredibly difficult circumstances, Haitian health care workers and authorities continue to provide lifesaving care to the Haitian population and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) remains fully present and operational in country supporting them.

In 2025, PAHO's efforts will focus on restoring essential health services, strengthening health system resilience, and addressing the increasing needs of displaced and vulnerable populations.

» Ensure availability of and access to emergency and life-saving health services:

Support the delivery of emergency health services for the most vulnerable population groups, including pregnant women, children, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees and those injured due to violence.

» Maintain and strengthen disease surveillance and outbreak response mechanisms:

Enhance the capacity for timely detection and rapid response to disease outbreaks of epidemic potential such as cholera, malaria, diphtheria, measles or COVID-19.

» Secure critical supply chain operations:

Ensure a reliable supply of essential medicines and medical equipment amid security challenges.



PAHO's 2025 RESPONSE STRATEGY

PAHO will continue and intensify its efforts in 2025 to enhance early detection and rapid response capacities for epidemics, particularly in vulnerable areas such as internally displaced person (IDP) sites. The 2025 strategy aims to reduce morbidity and mortality from epidemic-prone diseases such as cholera, malaria, and measles while strengthening the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) to respond effectively to health emergencies.

Amidst continued gang violence, instability, and displacement, PAHO will prioritize increasing the availability of essential health services for Haitians, with particular focus on pregnant women, GBV survivors and other vulnerable groups. This includes addressing critical health needs to save lives and alleviate suffering.



In 2024, PAHO supported health authorities in monitoring and responding to the urgent health needs of over 96,270 individuals in 54 IDP sites in Léogâne and the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince with the provision of basic health services, WASH supplies and epidemiological surveillance. PAHO also supported the operations of 58 mobile clinics to bring health services to displaced populations in the capital and two in Artibonite. In 2025, these efforts must be scaled up to meet the increasing health demands of displaced and underserved populations.

In 2025, PAHO will continue collaborating with MSPP and international partners to strengthen epidemic preparedness and early warning systems, particularly in IDP camps and other high-risk areas. These efforts will focus on the timely detection and containment of health threats, with proactive outbreak monitoring and response remaining central to controlling the spread of diseases such as cholera and COVID-19, thereby protecting Haiti's most vulnerable populations.

PAHO will intensify capacity-building initiatives by training additional local health workers in disease surveillance, outbreak response, and emergency care. This aims to empower communities with the skills and resources needed to respond rapidly and effectively to emerging health crises.

To sustain essential lifesaving health services, PAHO will continue providing technical and logistical support to major health facilities, including University Hospital La Paix and the National Blood Transfusion Center. These efforts will prioritize care for pregnant women, survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), and individuals injured by gang violence, ensuring their urgent medical needs are met amidst ongoing challenges.

Additionally, PAHO/WHO will expand direct support to IDP sites, addressing critical health challenges in displacement settings through enhanced disease surveillance, the provision of essential medical supplies, and the deployment of mobile health services to reach those with limited access to care.

This integrated approach seeks to strengthen Haiti's health system resilience, improve emergency response capacity, and deliver targeted interventions to those most affected by the humanitarian crisis.



KEY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES FOR 2025

» Ensure availability of and access to emergency and life-saving health services:

- Strengthen capacities of health institutions and partners for emergency care delivery for vulnerable groups, including pregnant women, children, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and those injured due to violence.
- Secure essential medicines and medical supplies to manage urgent health needs.

» Maintain and strengthen disease surveillance and outbreak response mechanisms:

- Maintain quick-response teams deployed across the country, including Labo-moto nurses to support sampling for epidemic prone diseases, and community-based surveillance.
- Improve data reporting throughout the country.
- Ensure prompt vaccination and health interventions in high-risk areas like IDP camps.

» Secure critical supply chain operations:

- Ensure continuous availability of stocks in the country for medicines and medical supplies, including reagents for the national transfusion center and the national laboratory of public health.
- Explore alternative routes and means for the delivery of medical supplies to ensure uninterrupted health service provision.

“Despite the efforts of PAHO and others, the threats to human health and safety and national security are devastating. Sustained support and collaboration remain critical as the journey to save lives and restore health services continues.”

Dr. Oscar Barreneche, PAHO/WHO representative in Haiti

IMPACT STORIES

Hôpital Universitaire La Paix: A Beacon of resilience in the heart of crisis

The violence crisis in Haiti is impacting an already fragile health system, impeding access to healthcare for millions of Haitians and affecting their livelihood. At the forefront of the health authorities' response to the current emergency, and only public hospital able to manage a large number of gravely wounded patients, the Hôpital Universitaire de La Paix (HUP) receives the support of PAHO.

The Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) estimates that 39 % of in-patient health facilities have closed in the past months due to insecurity or looting in the Port-au-Prince Metropolitan Area. Among them, the Hôpital Universitaire d'Etat d'Haiti (HUEH), the country's main public hospital, has been unable to reopen its doors due to frequent clashes in its vicinity. This left HUP as the only public hospital with the capacity to manage a mass casualty event. On the front line of emergency response, Dr Paul Junior Fontilus, its director, had to swiftly activate the Hospital's contingency plan to cope with the influx of wounded patients.

To support its operation, PAHO supplied the health structure with several tons of medicines and medical supplies, enough to ensure the provision of emergency medical care, free of charge, to over 20,000 patients and to support the continued operation of other critical services.

While the HUP's care delivery capacity has been reinforced, it still faces many challenges, not least ensuring the continuity and accessibility of services. "The HUP must continue to be able to serve the pregnant women who come here to give birth or the malnourished children who are brought to us. Our ability to provide health for all is put to the test every day," indicated Dr. Fontilus.

Read the full story [here](#).



"We face many challenges, not least ensuring the continuity and accessibility of our services. Our ability to provide health for all is put to the test every day."

Dr. Fontilus, Director, Hôpital Universitaire La Paix

IMPACT STORIES

Supporting internally displaced women survivors of violence in Haiti

"My house was burnt down, the bandits raped me and my daughter, and I was infected with HIV," explains Patricia, 57, mother of 6 and a survivor of GBV for whom life turned upside down when her neighborhood was invaded by armed men.

Like Patricia, a growing number of women and girls are collateral victims of the escalating violence which, since 2022, has led to massive displacement and an alarming increase in cases of GBV. To help these women in situations of physical, psychological and economic distress, PAHO/WHO is collaborating with the TOYA Foundation, an NGO specializing in psychosocial support and the defense of women's rights, implemented an assistance program for over 200 displaced women in two sites in the Port-au-Prince Metropolitan Area.

"Since my aggression, I've been able to receive psychosocial help to start rebuilding my life," explains Patricia, who, like over 200 other women and girls, has benefited from psychosocial support in the form of individual sessions and discussion groups. Facilitated by MSPP mental health professionals, these sessions are designed to help survivors overcome the trauma and anxiety caused by the violence they have suffered. A toll-free "Alo TOYA" telephone line has also been set up to facilitate communication between GBV survivors and mental health specialists.

Food and hygiene kits were also distributed to meet the most immediate needs of these women and more than a hundred women also received support to launch income-generating activities.

Violence against women - in particular intimate partner violence and sexual violence - is a major public health problem in Haiti and a violation of women's human rights.

Read the full story [here](#).





FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR 2025

Critical funding is needed to maintain and scale up the health emergency response in Haiti. PAHO has called for \$18.5 million in funding to sustain its operations and continue supporting the provision of lifesaving essential health services in 2025.

PILLAR	AMOUNT (USD)
P1. Emergency leadership, coordination, planning, M&E	\$1,783,000.00
P2. Risk Communication and Community Engagement	\$500,000.00
P3. Collaborative surveillance, case investigation and contact tracing	\$1,821,000.00
P4. Community protection, travel PoE	\$300,000.00
P5. Collaborative surveillance, labs and diagnostics	\$542,000.00
P6. Infection Prevention and Control	\$700,000.00
P7. Safe and scalable care and therapeutics	\$3,700,000.00
P8. Access to countermeasures, operations support and logistics	\$3,128,000.00
P9. Safe and scalable care and essential health systems	\$3,500,000.00
P10. Vaccination	\$2,500,000.00
TOTAL	\$18,474,000.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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HOW TO SUPPORT THIS APPEAL

Generous donations from the international community allow PAHO to deliver its technical cooperation and deploy its operational and logistics support to address existing and emerging public health challenges impacting the countries and territories of the Americas.

The financial requirements outlined in this appeal are pivotal to providing lifesaving health assistance and protective services to communities affected by emergencies without leaving anyone behind. PAHO ensures it will distribute funding most efficiently and where needed, in coordination with public health authorities, United Nations agencies, civil society organizations, and other humanitarian partners.

Here are some ways private or public organizations and individuals can contribute to this donor appeal.



DONATING DIRECTLY TO THIS APPEAL

Financial contributions from governmental aid agencies, multilateral institutions, foundations and philanthropic organizations, and other public and private sector partners are among the most valuable and effective forms of support for health emergency response. The main characteristic of a financial donation is its flexibility to support an agile response. The resources obtained can be used quickly and efficiently, responding to the most acute needs and ensuring that the funded actions fully align with the local priority public health actions.

Donating organizations are invited to contribute cash to support one, several, or all priority actions highlighted in this appeal. To donate to PAHO, please contact Julie Mauvernay (mauvernj@paho.org).

Individual donations can also make a difference and help save lives by supporting the delivery of essential supplies and critical assistance to people in need. Individuals can contribute to PAHO's Health Emergency Appeal by mailing checks to PAHO, 525 23rd St NW, Washington, D.C., 20037.



DONATING IN-KIND RESOURCES AND SERVICES

PAHO encourages the private and public sectors to align response efforts to this Appeal's priority lines of action. Donations from corporations must comply with PAHO's guidelines and roadmap for engagement with the private sector.

To make an in-kind donation of goods and services, please contact Julie Mauvernay (mauvernj@paho.org) or donate@paho.org to guarantee coherent priorities, minimize gaps and duplication in the health response, and ensure quality assurance of the goods offered.

PAHO appreciates and thanks in advance its donors for their generous contributions to support the delivery of its humanitarian health assistance throughout the Region. PAHO will report contributions to this Appeal on its webpage to acknowledge and give visibility to donors' generosity, report on funding received, and identify remaining financial gaps.

Help us provide lifesaving health assistance and protective services to communities affected by emergencies, without leaving anyone behind.



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