



© UNICEF Haiti/2025

Reporting Period: 24 October – 24 Nov 2025

Haiti

Hurricane Melissa Flash Update No. 3



Highlights

- Hurricane Melissa caused **severe flooding, landslides and extensive infrastructure damage** in the **Southern departments** (South, South-East, Nippes, Grand'Anse) and the **Palms region (Ouest)** in Haiti.
- According to the General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC), **245,545 people** are directly affected — **50% in the Southern region**. **46 fatalities** (including 7 children and 6 persons aged 60+), **394 injured** and **9 missing** were reported.
- **4,409 schools affected**, including **113 partially damaged** and **19 destroyed**, impacting **127,603 children and over 4,000 teachers**. **253 schools are currently used as temporary shelters**.
- **19,424 homes flooded**, **11,557 homes damaged** and **1,516 destroyed**.
- **13,302 latrines** affected across impacted municipalities.
- **75 communal irrigation canals damaged**, affecting agricultural livelihoods.
- **63 drinking water systems damaged** (17 in the South, 13 in Grand'Anse: 24 in South-East, 9 in Nippes departments).
- **High risk of cholera and acute watery diarrhea (AWD) outbreaks**, particularly in flood-prone areas.

Situation Update

Hurricane Melissa struck Haiti between 21 October and 4 November, with torrential rains and powerful winds that caused extensive flooding and landslides (28-29 November), washing out roads and collapsing bridges. Several municipalities were temporarily isolated, severely restricting humanitarian access. Families were displaced and sought refuge in schools and churches, while healthcare services in Sud, Grand'Anse, and Petit-Goâve were disrupted due to limited access. The contamination of water sources has heightened the risk of waterborne disease outbreaks, including cholera and acute watery diarrhea, and severe agricultural losses are expected to further worsen food insecurity. Rapid assessments are underway, with inter-agency needs evaluations planned by the end of November.

UNICEF Response

WASH

In the South, **2,900 hygiene kits have been prepositioned** to support approximately **14,500 people**. So far, **1,100 kits** have already been **distributed** to the DGPC in Grand'Anse, Nippes, and Petit-Goâve, and an additional 1,000 kits are scheduled for delivery next week in the South and Petit-Goâve. A **WASH and cholera assessment** was carried out in the **South-East** in coordination with local authorities, leading to the launch of a **contingency response**. This response includes the provision of 3 metric tons of calcium hypochlorite (HTH), 1.2 million water purification tablets, 15 pool testers, and 50 DPD1 units, which are reagents used for chlorine testing. Meanwhile, a rapid WASH and cholera assessment is ongoing in **Palms and Petit-Goâve**, where water sources have been contaminated by mudslides.

Health

Medical supplies have been pre-positioned for rapid deployment by Ministry of Public Health and Population (MPSS), complemented by ongoing coordination with the Emergency Medical Team to ensure continuity of health services. The Regional Office is also supporting the provision of AWD and Inter-Agency Emergency Health Kits for primary healthcare facilities, while monitoring the readiness and mobilization of medical teams.

In addition, medical supplies have already been distributed to support the treatment of approximately **5,000 people in Petit-Goâve and Aquin**, strengthening immediate case management capacity at peripheral health facilities. Further interventions include **replenishment of trauma and essential medicines kits**, strategic support to **cholera alert**

verification, deployment of **mobile health teams to underserved communes** in South-East and West departments.

Nutrition

In anticipation of the Hurricane, **6,537 cartons of RUTF and medicines were pre-positioned in 255 health facilities** across Grand'Anse, Nippes, South, South-East, North-West and West (Croix-des-Bouquets and Léogâne) to ensure the **continued treatment of children suffering from acute malnutrition** for 1 to 3 months. From the 3rd to the 14th of November a technical nutrition team was deployed in the four South departments to conduct a **rapid post-hurricane needs assessment** and supported the Health Directorates in **maintaining essential nutrition services** after Hurricane Melissa. A joint statement between UN agencies (UNICEF, FAO, PAHO, WFP) and MSPP was issued to protect and **promote breastfeeding during the emergency**. 5,357 children from 5 to 59 months were screened, with 41 SAM and 214 MAM identified and admitted in the nutrition programme for treatment. Also, 5,300 caregivers were sensitized to key infants and young child feeding practices in Emergency (IYCF-E).

Child Protection

UNICEF provided **technical and logistical support** to the Institute of Social Welfare and Research (IBESR) in the Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment (**DLNA**), the **analysis of specific needs** in Child Protection and the **planning of emergency care services**. Contingency and response partnerships are also being developed in departments of the South and Palmes for the provision of **psychosocial support, case management, Gender Based Violence (GBV) risk mitigation**, strengthening of **foster families** and targeted **cash transfers** for the families of children victims of Hurricane Melissa.

Education

UNICEF supported the post-hurricane response of the Education sector both in terms of **coordination and damage assessment of schools** in the affected departments of the South and Les Palmes. **2,800 school kits were prepositioned** and are ready for distribution pending final clearance of the Departmental Directorates of Education. Funding proposals are currently being prepared for **school rehabilitation and re-equipping of damaged facilities**.

Humanitarian Cash Assistance

7455 households will be supported through **integrated emergency cash** assistance in coordination with the World Food Program (WFP). In line with OCHA standards, **each household will receive USD 192** - USD 100 from WFP and USD 92 from UNICEF.

Communication with Communities

More than **83,000 preventive awareness messages** were disseminated via SMS and WhatsApp, in collaboration with IOM, WFP, OCHA, and DGPC, as well as through the U-Report platform. Coordination efforts are underway to harmonize content and ensure coherent, targeted dissemination.

Humanitarian leadership & coordination

Since October 22, daily high-level coordination has been led by the Humanitarian Coordinator, Direction Générale de la Protection Civile (DGPC), and United Nations lead agencies. UNICEF has taken an active role in **coordinating the clusters for WASH, Health, Nutrition, Education, Child Protection, and Social Protection**. Furthermore, **contingency partnership agreements** have been activated with several organizations, including HEKS-EPER in Grand'Anse, ACCODEP in the South, and Plan Haiti in the South-East. A partnership with AVSI for cash transfer monitoring is set to be launched in the coming days.

Funding requirements

To sustain and scale up the response, UNICEF is engaging partners to secure timely and flexible funding that addresses immediate needs while supporting rapid recovery. The UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has allocated US\$1.2 million for anticipatory actions, including early warning systems, cash assistance, and prepositioning of supplies. In addition, the U.S. Government has contributed US\$2.5 million toward the Multi-sectoral Emergency Response. Complimenting this efforts, private sector fundraising is progressing, while UNICEF Haiti continuous to update needs assessments to mobilize additional resources required to meet evolving priorities and ensure that no child is left behind.

Who to contact for further information:

Geetanjali Narayan
Representative
Haiti Country Office
Tel: +509 3996 4478
Email: gumarayan@unicef.org

Yannig Dussart
Deputy Representative
Haiti Country Office
Tel: +509 4774 0011
Email: ydussart@unicef.org

Boris Matous
Chief Emergency, a.i.
Haiti Country Office
Tel: + 509 4720 2481
Email: bmatous@unicef.org