



HAITI: FLOODS

DREF Bulletin
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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

In Brief

- This DREF Bulletin is being issued based on the situation described below reflecting the information available at this time.
- CHF 80,000 (USD 64,000 or EUR 50,315) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 30 November 2006 to respond to the needs in this operation.
- The duration of this operation is yet to be defined; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation.
- Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

This operation is aligned with the International Federation's Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

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All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>

Background and current situation

Since 23 November 2006 Haiti has experienced extreme weather in the regions of Grande-Anse and Nippes as well as in the Southern, Western and North-Western regions of the country. The unusually heavy rainfall between 23 and 28 November 2006 has caused serious flooding in Grande-Anse and in the North-West region. According to initial assessments of the Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) 7 people have died, several people have been injured and more than 3,700 families have been directly affected by flooding resulting from these rains. At least 335 families have been evacuated to temporary shelters in Jérémie, Bonbon, Abricots and Chansolme.

The most affected areas to date are:

<i>Region</i>	<i>Communities</i>
Grande Anse	Jérémie, Abricots, Bonbon
North-West	Port-de-Paix, Jean-Rabel, Bord-de-Mer de Jean-Rabel, Chansolme
Nippes	Baradères, Arnaud, Anse-à-Veau, Plaisance

The Mole Saint-Nicolas zone has also been affected.

The floods have also caused landslides, rendered some roads unusable, damaged homes, destroyed water systems and caused the loss of livestock and crops. Consequently, the most affected areas are housing, infrastructure, schools, agriculture and water and sanitation.

Based on assessments current up to 27 November, the situation is as follows:

<i>Interim damage toll Haiti Floods November 2006</i>	
<i>Deaths</i>	7
<i>Missing persons</i>	3
<i>Injured</i>	4
<i>Affected families</i>	3,740
<i>Destroyed homes</i>	38
<i>Damaged homes</i>	140
<i>Damaged Hospitals</i>	2
<i>Affected medical warehouses</i>	2
<i>Damaged water systems</i>	6
<i>Damaged schools</i>	6

Red Cross action

The local Branches of the HNRCS, supported by National Intervention Teams (NITs), “Relais Communautaires” (community volunteers trained by the National Society) and other volunteers have provided initial response to the emergency by supporting activities such as first aid, emergency care, transportation of injured to medical facilities, evacuation of families to shelters and emergency needs assessment.

The Director General and the Director of Disaster Management of the HNRCS participated in the latest United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) coordination meetings with this agency and the Ministry of Internal

Affairs to coordinate the response actions. An agreement in this regard has been reached between the National Society and the Minister of Internal Affairs.

Based on the assessment of the situation, the Haiti National Red Cross Society with the assistance of the Federation and Partner National Societies plans to carry out several actions geared mainly towards the distribution of relief items and the provision of safe water to vulnerable population.

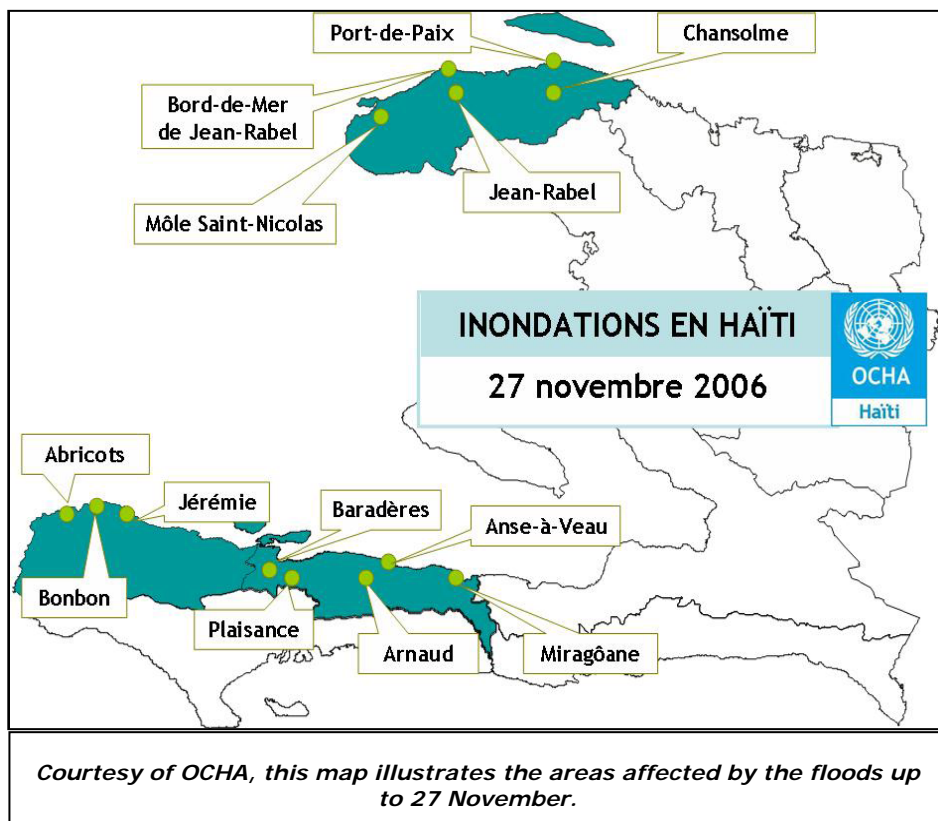
It is estimated that some 3,500 of the most vulnerable families (17,500 persons) will benefit from the distribution of non food items. These families have been selected either on the basis of the significance of their loss or their inability to cope with the situation

These beneficiaries are located mainly in the regions of North West (1,000 families or 5,000 persons) and Grande Anse (2,500 families or 12,500 persons).

Items planned to be distributed include hygiene kits, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, blankets, plastic jerry cans, drinking water, and water purification tablets.

There are also plans to provide water to two hospitals that were affected by the floods in Jérémie and in Port de Paix. Approximately 2,000 persons will benefit from this initiative in each hospital. This is a temporary measure that seeks to guarantee the hospitals' functionality while the government re-establishes the damaged water systems.

In light of the degree of damage caused by these floods, which was made worse due to the pre-existing living conditions of the affected families, an Emergency Appeal is currently being prepared by the Federation to provide funding to the HNRCS and its Plan of Action.



Coordination

The HNRCS/Federation are liaising with the ICRC, as lead agency in Haiti, in particular in the area of security in view of the proposed operation. Furthermore, the HNRCS/Federation are also working in close coordination with the Partner National Societies present in Haiti with regard to the emergency response operation.

Meetings with the Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Ministry of Internal Affairs have taken place to share needs assessments and coordinate response activities. The HNRCS plan of action is based on the response strategy and coordination plan which was generated during the meeting called by the Ministry of Internal Affairs to coordinate the actions of national and international organizations operating within the domain of Disaster Management.

Organizations that have been involved in - and have coordinated - the response to this emergency are: Haitian National Red Cross Society, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme (WFP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), OCHA, the Haitian Direction of Civil Protection (Direction de la Protection

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Civile), Initiative au Développement (ID), Care, OXFAM and Caritas. World Vision has made an in-kind donation with an estimated value of USD 40,000 to the HNRCS initiative.

Since the onset of the disaster, the Haitian National Red Cross Society has been in communication with the Federation's Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and has received support in the definition of the intervention.

An Emergency Appeal will be launched in due course in order to seek funding support for the HNRCS/Federation response to the floods disaster.

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