

5th Situation Report

Project: Earthquake Haiti 14th August 2021

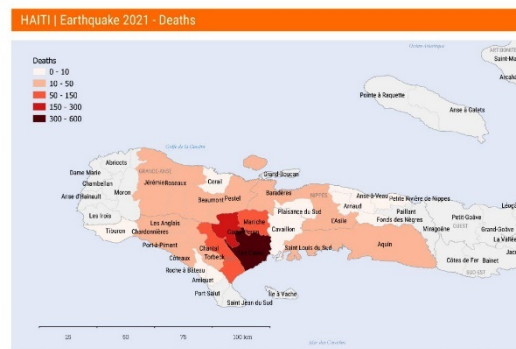
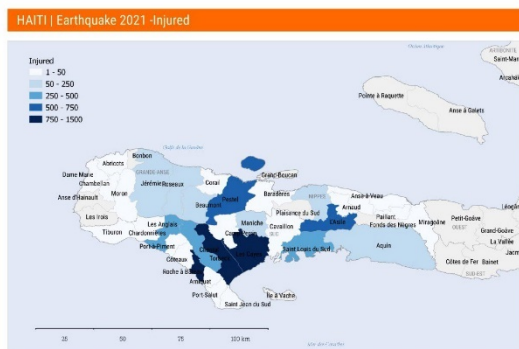
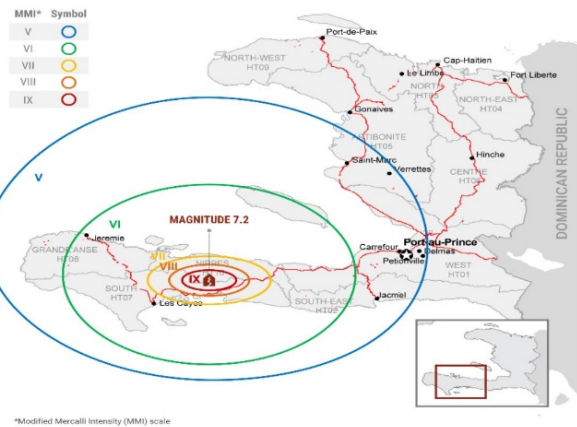
Reporting Period: 18th August 2021

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1. General Situation

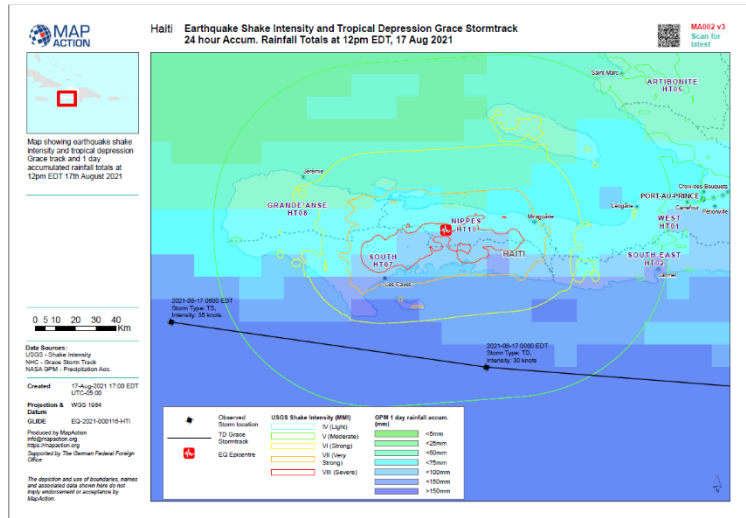
- A major earthquake with magnitude 7.2 occurred on Saturday, August 14th 8:30 a.m. local time close to Petit Trou (13km to the south-south-east) with and depth of 10.0 km. The shock was noted through all the country but the municipalities in the departments South, Nippes and Grand Anse are the ones affected most. The 3 departments comprise 16% of the Haitian population.
- Public infrastructure was affected (hospitals, schools, hotels, churches, water infrastructure, roads and bridges), being damaged or destroyed. The airports in Jeremie and Les Cayes are still functioning.
- Several aftershocks followed and further aftershocks can be expected.
- Numbers of deaths and injured people rose daily. Currently there are close to 2.000 confirmed deaths and close to 10.000 injured. As needs assessments are still ongoing and many rural areas are not easily accessible, these numbers are expected to further increase.



- Assessment data from the national emergency center (COUN) indicates 52.953 destroyed houses and 62.862 damaged houses in the 3 departments. Over 115.000 families are already registered as most hit. Current assessment indicates **over 579.000 people in urgent need of humanitarian assistance**.
- Health centers in affected areas are overwhelmed by injured persons, smaller health centers lack medicine and medical consumables, and hospitals in Miragoane, Fonds des Negres or Petit Goave are overwhelmed with transferals. A request for **EMT (Emergency Medical Teams) support** was sent by the Haitian government August 17th.
- The civil protection DPC took the lead on the assessment and response coordination. The National Centre for Emergency Operations (COUN) and Departmental Centres for Emergency Operations

(COUD) have been activated and rapid response teams were mobilized in the most affected departments. Search and Rescue and Assessments are ongoing, though initially complicated by aftershocks and difficult accessibility of many areas. Roads and bridges that are either damaged by the earthquake or blocked by landslides are being cleared.

- The government requested specific international support for Search and Rescue. USAID deployed a 65-member search and rescue team.
- On August 17th Tropical Storm Grace hit Haiti, impacting most heavily the areas already most hit by the earthquake. The tropical storm brought 35mph winds and heavy rains with a rate of up to 50mm (2in) an hour, causing landslides and flooding in some areas.
- Communication remains spotty in parts of the affected area.



General Needs Overview

- **Health:** Several hospitals have been damaged or destroyed. Those operating are completely overwhelmed and lack medical supplies. Displacement and overcrowded temporary accommodations increase the risks for Covid-19 in a context of very low vaccination rates.
- **Shelter, Food and Non-Food Items** are the most pressing immediate needs. Sectors that were already urgent humanitarian gaps and needs prior to the earthquake given the current food crisis with 4.4 million people acutely food-insecure. The **ongoing food crisis** must not be forgotten.
- **WASH:** many water systems are damaged, need for WASH NFIs.
- **Psycho-social support and mainstreaming protection and gender** should be integrated early on. Given the fragile security situation the risks for sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as gender-based violence is high.

MI Needs Assessment and first response

- The needs assessment is carried out in Nippes and Sud jointly with AHAAMES and ASB since Sunday August 15th. The MI country coordinator Yolette Etienne joined the assessment team August 17th, travelling by car to transport additional relief items and equipment for rubble removal.
- The **needs assessment is combined with first response measures**.
- The rapid response focuses on **Nippes: Petit Trou, Baradères, L'Asile** with medical kits for health institutions, food and drinking water for people who lost their homes (targeting 1,000 people), plastic sheets for protection against expected heavy rains (targeting 100 families).
- A **rapid market assessment** is ongoing in Miragoane and Les Cayes to get a clear vision on which materials can be purchased in the region and which need to be transported.

Initial assessment data:

- Commune Arnaud: assessment carried out downtown and the communal sections 1,2,3: overall app. 2.000 houses destroyed, 800 damaged, health center damaged, 25 people injured, 3 dead. People are displaced mainly staying in their parcels, needing cash and food.
- L'Asile very strongly affected: 60 % of houses destroyed, 35 % damaged, 100 people dead, 600 injured, hospital damaged receiving patients in tents.

- Communal Sections are strongly affected, lots of houses are damaged or collapsed and people are on the streets. People have nothing. L'Asile is most affected. Baradères has not been reached yet by any actor.
- Assessment in Petit Trou ongoing. Findings so far: water system damaged, 100 houses collapsed, 200 houses damaged, water systems are destroyed.
- Assessment ongoing in Plaisance, which has been heavily affected, too.
 - A more detailed assessment report will be consolidated within the next days once the team has completed the assessment and has access to a stable internet connection again.

Initial Response:

- 144 baches distributed for rubble removal (60 in Baradères, 40 in Petit Trou, 20 in L'Asile, 4 remain with the team)
- Unconditional multi-purpose cash distributions have been made following vulnerability criteria in Baradères, Petit Trou, and L'Asile. Focus: female-headed HH, persons with disability and elderly. Beneficiary selection is done in close coordination with established community structures.
- Medical kits as support to the Health Centers in Petit Trou, Baradères and the HCR in L'Asile.

2. Security Issues

- The security situation has been and remains very complex and volatile. Gangs are controlling strategic access routes (in particular in Martissant) from Port-au-Prince to the province already for months, posing serious challenges for humanitarian access and complicating aid logistics.

3. External Meetings / Contacts

- Close coordination with the Haitian authorities is ongoing (DPC, UCAONG, local authorities in affected areas)
- The assessment is being carried out jointly with our national implementing partner AHAAMES and the German NGO ASB in Nippes and Sud.
- There is close contact with the German ambassador, as well as GFFO, sharing information and assessment data.
- Contact to USAID/BHA was established.
- Close coordination with entities of the Order of Malta.
- Coordination with ADH is ongoing which started fundraising in Germany.

4. Further response planning/ project proposals

- **Health:** continue support to health institutions with medicine and medical consumables as well as PPE. Integrate COVID-19 prevention in all measures.
- **WASH:** support reconstruction or rehabilitation of damaged WASH infrastructure.
- **Multi-purpose Cash:** distribution if market assessment confirms availability of items. Otherwise, distribution of hygiene kits and provision of water and food for displaced persons.
- Support **early reconstruction** with tools, material and expertise.
- Ensure **psycho-social support** and ensure **gender and protection mainstreaming**.

5. Staff Matters/ Human Resource

- MI staff (24 national staff) and partner staff are reported safe.
- The guest house shows some damages but is structurally safe to accommodate the assessment team.
- A team of 3 emergency experts will support relief efforts of MI in Nippes.

6. Logistics

- Affected areas can be reached by helicopter, but many rural areas continue to be hard to reach or are still fully cut off. Damaged roads, landslides and a collapsed bridge (hindering access to Jeremie), as well as the heavy rains linked to tropical storm Grace pose serious challenges for the delivery of immediate relief supplies, as well as needs assessments.
- Ports and airports are functional.
- MI assessment staff has travelled to the affected region by car from Port-au-Prince successfully. Baradères continues to be hard to reach. The assessment is carried out by our local community mobilizers with remote guidance.

7. Annexes

All pictures annexed have been taken on August 17th in the highly affected community of L'Asile



