
Haiti: Earthquake

Situation Update #1

As of 15 August, 2021



HIGHLIGHTS

- **Global Call will tentatively be held on Monday 16 August at 09:00 EDT.**
- WFP begins operations to assess the earthquake impacts.
- The Logistics Sector in-country seeks live updates and contributions to begin mapping logistics constraints. Please refer to [Log:ie – Haiti Earthquake 08/21](#) and the [Log:ie “Quick Start Guide for Data Collection”](#).
- National authorities have requested help from local partners to collect data.
- Fast-approaching Tropical Storm Grace is expected to reach Haiti between 16 and 17 August, potentially exposing an already vulnerable population to a double impact in a matter of days.

1. Overview

On Saturday 14 August 2021 at 08:30 EDT, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti. The epicentre was recorded around 12 km (7.5 miles) from the town of Saint-Louis-du-Sud, about 125 km west of the capital, Port-au-Prince. The main tremor was followed by several 4.6 to 5.2 magnitude aftershocks. More are likely to be encountered. There is an immediate need for search and rescue teams, medical assistance, and road access facilitation.

Severe humanitarian access constraints and fragile security situation greatly complicate the humanitarian response in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Prime Minister Ariel Henry declared a one-month national state of emergency. Government, UN partners, and NGOs are working closely to conduct post-impact damage and needs assessments and to activate rapid response mechanisms.

2. Assessments and Actions Update

Casualties

- Haiti’s Civil Protection reports at least 304 deaths and 1,800 injured so far, figures which are expected to rise. ([OCHA](#))
- Reports of casualties and injured in the area of Grand’Anse, South, Nippes and North-West

Public Infrastructures

- Initial reports indicate more than 700 collapsed buildings, including hospitals and schools, at least 3,778 homes destroyed and significant damages to infrastructure and roads. The Sud, Grand'Anse and Nippes departments, particularly the cities of Les Cayes, Jeremie and Anse à Veaux, were hardest hit,

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suffering extensive damage and destruction to buildings and homes. In Petit-Trou-de-Nippes downed phone lines have left the city out of contact. ([OCHA](#))

- Restriction of movement have been reported for departmental road #7 – between Duchity and Fanm Pa Dra (South and Grand’Anse Departments) – and road #2 due to landslides.
- Main bridges in Grand’Anse, Jeremie, and Port a Piment are closed.
- Jeremie’s port reportedly suffered damages.
- Hospitals in Les Cayes and Jeremie are at full capacity with insufficient medical stock and damaged buildings.

Ongoing Assessments

- UNHAS is conducting an aerial assessment over Les Cayes and Jeremie.
- WFP is currently assessing needs.
- Other agencies carrying out assessments are: Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) and UN Disaster Coordination and Assessment (UNDAC) teams and USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART)

Resources

- UNHAS has a helicopter available for the response free of charge for one month. Service opened on August 14 but due to a mandatory rest period they will restart on Wednesday 18th of August. From Monday 16th of August, they will also be providing a transport barge from terminal Varreux Bolloré to Gardes Cotes for a month at no cost to UNHAS group members.
- Several partners are active in the affected area.
- The Global Logistics Cluster is deploying resources to assess the situation and support the Sector coordination.

3. Logistics Sector

- A **Global Call will tentatively be held on Monday 16 August at 09:00 EDT**. To participate, please follow this [link](#). (Password : **392768**)
- An interactive cartography tool ([Log:ie – Haiti Earthquake 08/21](#)) has been set-up for partners to find and share logistics access constraints related information. Please refer to the [Log:ie “Quick Start Guide for Data Collection”](#). Partners are encouraged to share information via the tool or Logistics Cluster focal points.
- Useful information (e.g. LCA, maps) may be found on the [Haiti Logistics Sector webpage](#).

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