Nearly half of the population in Haiti doesn’t have enough to eat, including for the first time ever 19,200 people in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). With 76 percent of people in high acute food insecurity living in rural areas, restoring livelihoods is fundamental to the humanitarian response. A USD 125 market gardening seed package can produce 20 times its value in vegetables in just 10-12 weeks, enabling a family to quickly access food and generate income by selling part of the production obtained.

What investments in agriculture can achieve

**USD 5**

Vaccinating a cow against a fatal disease protects a vital food asset worth USD 1,000 that provides a family with a nearly 3.8 litres of milk per day. = Keep a productive animal alive and feeding families

**USD 413**

Through the provision of crop seeds, a household can cultivate 0.24 ha of land and produce an estimated 0.66 tonnes of bean, cassava and rice, worth USD 1,350 on the local market. = Support a family of 5 with staple food up to 6 months

**USD 600**

With a poultry-raising package (one rooster, ten hens and material to build chicken coops), a household can produce around 35 eggs per week, worth USD 20-25 on the local market, to consume and sell throughout the year. = Enable a family to regularly consume protein and sell eggs throughout the year
Urgency of humanitarian agricultural assistance

Haiti has one of the highest levels of food insecurity in the world, with nearly half of the population in high acute food insecurity, including for the first time some 19,200 people in Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5). Over the past three years, the percentage of people in Emergency (IPC Phase 4) has continuously increased (from 7 percent in 2019 to 18 percent in 2022), while the percentage of people in Minimal (IPC Phase 1) fell from 41 to 24 percent, indicating a gradual worsening of the situation. Even the number of areas classified in Emergency has increased in just one year, from five in September 2021 to 15 in September 2022. The level of hunger is expected to worsen in Haiti as the war in Ukraine continues to impact global food supply and rising gang violence restricts the movement of goods into the country.

Haiti is facing unprecedented levels of violence perpetrated by armed groups. Clashes between gangs for territorial control in the Port-au-Prince area are displacing thousands of people and many are trapped in the conflict without access to medical care. Compounding the situation are rising inflation, high food and fuel costs and political instability. Previous marginal gains in poverty reduction have been undone by successive crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic.

Haiti remains one of the most vulnerable countries to natural disasters – mainly hurricanes, floods and earthquakes. The effects of climate change are expected to increase their frequency and, while some progress has been made, the country still lacks adequate preparedness and resilience building mechanisms. In October 2022, heavy rains in the southern part of the country triggered landslides that caused extensive material damage and loss of life.

Furthermore, functioning and access to essential services, health and education have been disrupted across the country, disproportionately affecting the most vulnerable populations. After three years without a single case of cholera, the Ministry of Public Health and Population confirmed the first two new cases in October 2022, and there are currently more than 32,140 suspected cases.
In 2022, FAO reached nearly 16 000 households (80 000 people) through agricultural livelihoods support. For example, 1,500 households were provided with crop production assistance through the provision of 15 tonnes of bean seed and 7.5 tonnes of maize seed, enabling beneficiaries to produce around 255 tonnes of food which can cover their food needs for up to six months.

Coordination

Under the overall lead of the Coordination nationale de la sécurité alimentaire, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as co-lead of the Food Security Sector in Haiti together with the World Food Programme, works closely with 54 local and international partners, including the IPC Global Support Unit, to ensure a needs-based, coordinated and effective response.

FAO priorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Type of assistance to be provided/content of assistance package</th>
<th>Cost per beneficiary household (USD)</th>
<th>Number of beneficiary households</th>
<th>Total cost (USD)</th>
<th>Funds needed by</th>
<th>Planned implementation period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improve staple food and vegetable production (spring and winter 2023 seasons)</td>
<td>10 kg of bean seed, 5 kg rice seed and 300 cassava cuttings</td>
<td>412.50</td>
<td>60 000</td>
<td>24 750 000</td>
<td>February</td>
<td>February–March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect livestock assets and restore production</td>
<td>100 g of certified vegetable seed (aubergine, cabbage, carrot, chili, leek, okra, onion, pepper, spinach and tomato) and 50 kg of fertilizers</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>40 000</td>
<td>5 000 000</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve staple food and vegetable production (spring and winter 2023 seasons)</td>
<td>Provision of poultry and material for building chicken coops</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>20 000</td>
<td>12 000 000</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>April–December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect livestock assets and restore production</td>
<td>Provision of goats</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>20 000</td>
<td>8 000 000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect livestock assets and restore production</td>
<td>Treatment (e.g. deworming) and vaccination</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>40 000</td>
<td>12 000 000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REQUIRED CITATION

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the map(s) in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Contact

FAO Representation in Haiti
FAO-HT@fao.org | fao.org/haiti
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

FAO Office of Emergencies and Resilience
OER-Director@fao.org | fao.org/emergencies
Rome, Italy

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Some rights reserved. This work is available under a CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence