

Alert note

Haiti Hurricane Melissa and conflict related displacement

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Forum: ACT Haiti Forum

Types and dates of Emergency:

1. **Rapid-onset natural disaster:** Destruction and displacement caused by *Hurricane Melissa* (Category 3), which made landfall across southern Haiti, **26–30 October 2025**.
2. **Protracted human-induced crisis:** Widespread *armed violence and conflict* leading to severe socio-economic disruption and mass displacement, ongoing since 2021 and sharply deteriorating through **2024–2025**.

Dates of Emergency:

- **Hurricane Melissa:** 26–30 October 2025 (rapid onset)
- **Armed-violence crisis:** Evolving since 2021, with acute escalation and nationwide humanitarian impact during 2024–2025

Funding Survey

If the forum indicates a plan to launch an appeal, we request funding members to please fill out this [survey form](#) which will help the **Emergency Steering Committee** assess the funding environment for this response. Please respond to this survey *within 24 hours of Alert publication*.

1. The nature of the emergency

The humanitarian situation in Haiti represents a compound crisis resulting from the convergence of a rapid-onset natural disaster Hurricane Melissa and a protracted conflict-driven emergency. The impacts of **Hurricane Melissa (Category 3)** have severely intensified existing vulnerabilities created by years of **armed violence, displacement**, and economic collapse. Together, these dual shocks have generated widespread destruction, displacement, and protection risks, straining the capacity of national institutions and humanitarian actors alike.

2. The impact and scale of the emergency

Hurricane Melissa

Hurricane Melissa (26–30 October 2025), a Category 3 tropical cyclone, made landfall over southern Haiti, bringing torrential rainfall exceeding **400 mm**, flash flooding, and coastal surges across seven departments — Ouest, Sud, Grand’Anse, Nippes, Sud-Est, Nord-Ouest and Artibonite.

According to the Direction Générale de la Protection Civile (DGPC), **43 people have died, 13 remain missing**, and over **14 000 people** have been displaced. According to the UN, **1.25 million** people have been affected in Haiti. Approximately **16 000 homes** have been damaged or destroyed, and **10 health facilities** have reported flood-related disruptions.

The Ministry of Agriculture (MARNDR) estimates the loss of around **16 000 hectares of crops**, including plantain, maize, and beans. Widespread flooding and infrastructure damage have hampered access to many communities and triggered secondary displacement in low-lying areas.

The event has been classified as a **national emergency** by DGPC and marks the transition from preparedness to full-scale humanitarian response operations.

Compared to initial post-storm figures, the latest assessments represent an estimated **700 percent increase in reported damage**, confirming the extraordinary severity and rapid escalation of the disaster's impact.

Armed conflict and displacements

Since **2021**, Haiti has faced an escalating wave of **armed conflict and gang violence**, driving widespread displacement, insecurity, and humanitarian need.

An estimated **5,600 people were killed in 2024**, with **over 3,000 additional deaths** recorded in the first half of 2025. The **International Organization for Migration (IOM)** reports that **over 1.4 million people are internally displaced**, many living in overcrowded informal shelters without access to water, sanitation, or protection services.

Armed groups currently **control approximately 85–90% of the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince**, and have expanded their influence along the **southern corridor**, cutting off key supply routes and humanitarian corridors.

Looting of aid convoys, extortion of displaced families, and obstruction of evacuation routes have become frequent, further aggravating the crisis.

The violence is no longer confined to urban centers: it has **spread to multiple departments** including **Ouest, Artibonite, and Centre**, leading to heightened insecurity and new pockets of displacement. The continued deterioration of safety conditions severely undermines humanitarian access, limits the reach of essential services, and erodes social stability across the country

3. Local and national capacity

- The **Government of Haiti**, through the **Direction Générale de la Protection Civile (DGPC)** and the Department of Civil Protection (DPC), continues to lead the national emergency response. DGPC has confirmed the consolidation of **15 605 people (2 399 families)** across **121 evacuation centres** in six departments (Sud, Grand'Anse, Ouest, Nippes, Artibonite and Sud-Est) and is coordinating damage assessment, shelter management and evacuation support. [Haiti ACT Forum_Hurricane Melissa_Sitrep no. 2](#)
- The **World Food Programme (WFP)** activated anticipatory measures before landfall, pre-positioning food stocks in Miragoâne and Port-de-Paix and launching cash assistance for high-risk households. Following the storm, **fuel shortages and blocked transport corridors (Route Nationale #2 and RN72)** have delayed deliveries to isolated communes in Grand'Anse and Nippes. [WFP/News](#); [Fundsforngos.org/News](#)
- **Ten health facilities** in the affected departments have reported service interruptions due to flooding, equipment damage and limited power supply, increasing the risk of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) outbreaks. The **Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)** and **World Health Organization (WHO)** are supporting the Ministry of Public Health with AWD kits and disease-surveillance activities.
- The DGPC coordinates with the **UN Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)** and the existing **Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP 2025)** to guide response prioritisation. Departmental contingency plans have been activated, and search-and-rescue teams continue to

operate in high-risk areas. **OCHA** and the UN-led cluster mechanisms (WASH, Health, Food Security, Shelter/NFI, Logistics and Protection) remain the coordination and funding conduit for scaled humanitarian support.

- **ACT Forum members** – including Christian Aid, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH), World Renew (WR), the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and Church World Service (CWS) – are mobilising pre-positioned stocks, conducting joint needs assessments, and coordinating rapid WASH, shelter, cash and protection interventions. UNICEF has deployed WASH and nutrition kits, and rapid alerts have been triggered for child protection and shelter needs. This collective effort reinforces ACT Forum’s role as a key implementing and coordination partner within the national response architecture. [Unicef/Media](#); [Unicefusa.org](#); [PAHO](#).

4. Key needs and gaps

The combined effects of **Hurricane Melissa** and the ongoing **armed-violence crisis** have generated a multidimensional humanitarian emergency of national scale.

Hurricane Melissa (26–30 October 2025) caused widespread flooding, infrastructure damage, and livelihood disruption across seven departments. Updated DGPC figures confirm **43 fatalities, 13 people missing**, and more than **16 000 homes damaged or destroyed**, while around **14 000 people** remain displaced in formal and informal sites. The **World Food Programme (WFP)** estimates that **190 000 people** require immediate food assistance. Agricultural losses are extensive, with about **16 000 hectares of crops destroyed** and livestock losses still being assessed.

Compared to initial DGPC estimates, these numbers represent an approximately **700 percent increase** in recorded damage and confirm the scale and urgency of the crisis. Flooding and mudslides have also disrupted ten health facilities, intensified acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) risks, and cut off key transport routes including **Route Nationale #2** and **RN72**, limiting humanitarian access.

The disaster has placed extraordinary pressure on already overstretched national systems and community coping mechanisms, further compounded by the armed-violence crisis that continues to restrict mobility and threaten humanitarian operations.

Key sectoral gaps relative to Sphere standards include:

- Lack of safe potable water and adequate latrines for displaced and host populations;
- Limited access to life-saving health and nutrition services;
- Severe disruption of food security and agricultural livelihoods;
- Unmet needs for emergency and transitional shelter and household kits;
- Heightened protection risks in collective shelters, including GBV exposure; and
- Persistent access and logistics constraints hindering timely delivery.

These gaps are being addressed jointly by the Government of Haiti (DGPC/DPC), UN clusters (OCHA, PAHO/WHO, WFP, FAO, UNICEF), and ACT Forum members through coordinated water-trucking, food and cash distribution, WASH/health kit deployment, and emergency shelter response.

Continued assessment and data verification are under way across the most-affected departments to inform the forthcoming ACT Appeal and humanitarian coordination plans.

Please indicate whether you are considering:

	Indicate your intention with an X below
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Rapid Response Fund (<i>intended for small and medium scale emergencies</i>)	
Appeal (<i>intended for large scale emergencies</i>) <i>The scope, geographic spread, and urgent life-saving needs resulting from Hurricane Melissa and the armed-violence crisis exceed the RRF ceiling. The combined impacts necessitate an ACT Appeal to ensure sustained, coordinated, and multi-sectoral humanitarian engagement across affected departments.</i>	X

5. Forum Capacity and members intention to respond

ACT Member	Geographical focus	Sectors of expertise and experience
Christian Aid	Sud, Sud-est, Ouest, Centre, Nord-est	Shelter, WASH, Cash Programming, Food Security, Protection, DRR
Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe	Grand-Anse, Sud, Sud-est, Ouest, Nord-ouest.	Shelter/NFI, WASH, Cash Programming, Food Security, Protection, DRR.
World Renew	Grand-Anse, Nippes, Nord	Food Security, Protection
Church World Service	Grand-Anse, Nord-ouest	Shelter, WASH, Food Security, Protection, Mental Health
Lutheran World Federation	Grand-Anse, Sud, Ouest	Shelter, WASH, Cash Programming, Food Security, Protection

6. Potential responses

The ACT Haiti Forum plans a phased and integrated response combining immediate life-saving assistance with early recovery interventions.

In the first days, priority actions will focus on:

- Delivering safe water and hygiene supplies to affected and displaced communities;
- Supporting health facilities in the treatment of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) and other waterborne diseases;
- Providing hot meals and emergency food assistance;
- Distributing emergency shelter and NFI kits; and
- Mobilising heavy machinery to clear debris, reopen blocked roads, and restore critical access routes.

Over the following weeks, Forum members will expand activities to include:

- Multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to restore dignity and purchasing power;
- Resilient shelter repair and reconstruction support;
- Agricultural input distribution (seeds, banana cuttings, tools) to rehabilitate livelihoods; and
- Cash-for-work activities for debris removal and community rehabilitation.

Forum members will require immediate flexible funding, access to pre-positioned stocks, equipment and fuel support, and logistics/warehousing capacity to enable timely distributions. Technical surge capacity is also needed in WASH, Health, Protection, and Information Management, alongside funding for assessments, coordination, and security measures.

Collaboration with UN agencies and ACT Alliance mechanisms (Appeal) will be essential to mobilise the additional financial and technical resources required for a coordinated, multi-sector humanitarian response.