



Haiti – Cholera

Fact Sheet #19, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

February 11, 2011

Note: The last fact sheet was dated February 4, 2011.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) program office staff continue to meet with grantees and other relief agencies, many of whom are taking tentative steps to gradually scale back cholera treatment facilities (CTFs) and cholera-focused activities in the near term, while retaining mechanisms to allow facilities to re-open quickly in the event of a future spike in cases due to upcoming *carnival* celebrations or the rainy season. USAID/OFDA is monitoring the situation closely to ensure that no gaps in coverage emerge.
- USAID/OFDA grantees implementing earthquake-focused projects continue to adapt programs to meet the needs of cholera-affected populations in their areas. For example, Handicap International (HI) is currently implementing a USAID/OFDA-funded project to assist individuals with earthquake-related disabilities in West and Artibonite departments. In response to cholera concerns, HI has incorporated additional activities into the ongoing program that focus on cholera prevention, including training of community health workers (CHWs) in cholera messaging, cholera-related information campaigns, and provision of hygiene kits to vulnerable families.
- USAID/OFDA staff and implementing grantees note that communities are now recognizing cholera at an earlier stage and individuals are seeking treatment more quickly. As a result, the rate of new cholera cases is dropping less rapidly than the rate of severity.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
Overall Cholera Caseload	220,784	MSPP ¹ – February 2, 2011
Hospitalized Cases	121,397	MSPP – February 2, 2011
Deaths Due to Cholera	4,334	MSPP – February 2, 2011
Overall CFR²	1.9 percent	MSPP – February 2, 2011

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE FOR CHOLERA

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Haiti for Cholera.....	\$40,489,916
USAID/OTI ³ Assistance to Haiti for Cholera.....	\$1,679,463
USAID/Haiti Assistance to Haiti for Cholera ⁴	\$2,015,000
Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Haiti for Cholera	\$44,184,379

CONTEXT

- On October 22, U.S. Ambassador Kenneth H. Merten issued a disaster declaration due to the cholera outbreak. On October 26, USAID deployed a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to coordinate USAID/OFDA emergency response efforts with USAID/Haiti, USAID/OTI, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); provide technical assistance to the MSPP; and support relief agencies' response activities. USAID also stood up a Response Management Team (RMT) in Washington, D.C., to support the USAID/DART in Haiti and coordinate with the USAID Haiti Task Team (HTT). The USAID/DART transitioned to a Haiti program office on January 27 and the RMT transitioned to a Latin America and Caribbean expanded regional team on January 28.
- USAID/OFDA's emergency cholera response plan focused on preventing cholera cases, reducing the number of cases requiring hospitalization, and reducing the CFR. The plan included four elements: provision of chlorine to increase availability of safe drinking water; expansion of national hygiene education outreach; provision of sachets of oral rehydration salts (ORS) and medical supplies; and an increase in the number of CTFs, particularly in underserved and rural areas.
- USAID/OFDA recognizes that cholera will likely remain present in Haiti for several years and that the rainy and hurricane seasons may cause additional caseload spikes. USAID/OFDA program office staff remain in Haiti to

¹ Government of Haiti (GoH) Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP)

² Case Fatality Rate (CFR)

³ USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTI)

⁴ USAID/Haiti has pre-existing, long-term health programs that have been an integral part of the cholera response; these programs have also continued normal activities. The USAID/Haiti funding levels represent estimated amounts for one month of FY 2010 resources expended on the cholera response. The funding is based on an estimate of the program spending rate and percentage of resources expended on the cholera response.

monitor the evolving humanitarian situation, enhance coordination, monitor ongoing USAID/OFDA-funded response activities, and adjust programming in response to evolving conditions on the ground. USAID/OFDA is working closely with USAID/Haiti, USAID/OTI, CDC, and the humanitarian community to coordinate efforts and facilitate a smooth transition from emergency relief activities to development programming.

Health

- On February 10, USAID/OFDA staff visited International Medical Corps (IMC)-managed CTFs in San Michele and Verrettes, Artibonite Department, funded by USAID/OFDA. The facilities both reported declining daily caseloads—by more than 50 percent at the San Michele facility since the peak of the outbreak and by more than 75 percent at the Verrettes facility.
- IMC staff noted that the San Michele CTF had seen a slight increase in cases during the last week—recording 195 new cases of cholera from January 30 to February 3, compared to the 155 new cases recorded during the previous week. IMC staff reported that, although the overall patient caseload had slightly increased, the number of severe cases each week has stabilized. The recent increase in cholera caseload pertains to new patients, who often arrive at the facility demonstrating early symptoms of cholera and mild to moderate dehydration—allowing the patients to be quickly and effectively treated and discharged. IMC staff emphasized that the increase in early stage cholera patients, as a percentage of total caseload, likely indicates that community-level cholera messaging has become increasingly more effective and, as a result, individuals come to CTFs as soon as cholera is suspected, rather than waiting until the illness progresses.
- IMC currently employs 307 CHWs in Artibonite Department, more than 65 percent of which work in rural areas. CHWs continue to visit households, schools, and community groups in the area to collect information on suspected cholera cases and deaths, refer suspected cases to a nearby oral rehydration points (ORPs) or CTFs, disseminate cholera information, and conduct hygiene promotion campaigns. IMC’s CHWs also identify cholera “hot spots”, where a spike in new cases is recorded, alerting others in the humanitarian community and allowing IMC to dispatch a rapid response water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) team to the area, if necessary.
- On February 9, USAID/OFDA also visited a USAID/OFDA-funded ORP near Ennery, Artibonite Department. IMC staff noted that the number of patients arriving at the ORP over the last week had decreased to two or three people per day. ORP staff indicated that, even remote population centers such as Ennery have access to alternative household water purification products, such as bleach. Despite a decline in patient caseload, the ORP continues to contract an on-call private driver to transport individuals exhibiting signs of cholera to a nearby CTF for treatment.

WASH

- USAID/OFDA program office staff continue to monitor WASH activities, which are critical in preventing the spread of cholera. At the USAID/OFDA-supported CTF in San Michele, IMC noted that liquid waste is always sanitized with chlorine at the facility before disposal in waste pits, septic bowls, or latrines at the site. However, staff indicated that CTF-managing organizations continue to experience difficulties in contracting desludging trucks that will service CTFs outside the Port-au-Prince area.
- IMC staff confirmed that both patients and their caretakers receive hygiene education while at the facility, particularly focused on hand washing and proper disinfection of water sources with aquatabs and household cleaners, such as bleach, which is available in local markets. In addition, patients and family members are trained to properly mix ORS, which they mix and administer to each other at the facility, under the guidance of CTF staff. IMC staff noted that all discharged patients receive sufficient ORS for two days treatment.
- In recent months, CTF staff throughout Artibonite Department noted that caretakers and family members often brought homemade food into CTFs, increasing the potential for cross contamination and transmission of cholera. In response, CTF staff doctors have prohibited outside food in the CTFs; instead, patients, caretakers, and health workers receive USAID/OFDA-provided meals ready-to-eat (MREs).
- The U.N. World Food Program is delivering USAID/OFDA-funded MREs to a central location in each commune, often a hospital, from which non-governmental organization staff distribute MREs to CTF’s in the area.

USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI FOR CHOLERA

FY 2011			
<i>Grantee</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Action Contre la Faim (ACF)	WASH	Artibonite, Northwest Departments	\$925,000

American Refugee Committee (ARC)	Health, WASH	West Department	\$1,144,166
CARE	Health, WASH	Grand Anse Department	\$985,481
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Health	Artibonite, Grand Anse, Nippes, North, Northwest, South, West Departments	\$1,417,527
CDC	Health	Affected Areas	\$275,000
Center for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI)	WASH	Artibonite	\$400,096
Concern	WASH	Center, West Departments	\$624,942
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$500,000
IMC	Health, WASH	Artibonite, Center, North, Northeast, Northwest, South, Southeast, West Departments	\$7,285,583
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Artibonite, North, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, West Departments	\$4,600,000
IOM	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$7,800,000
Management Sciences for Health (MSH)	Health	Affected Areas	\$825,617
Mercy Corps	WASH	Center Department	\$925,013
Partners in Health (PIH)	Health, WASH	Artibonite, Center, and West Departments	\$1,500,000
Samaritan's Purse (SP)	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	West Department	\$2,869,431
Save the Children (SC)	Health, WASH	West Department	\$825,000
World Concern Development Organization (WCDO)	Health	West Department	\$364,180
U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
U.N. World Health Organization (WHO)/ PAHO	Health	Affected Areas	\$635,580
	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Affected Areas	\$5,410,544
	Administrative Costs		\$176,756
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$40,489,916
USAID/OTI ASSISTANCE			
Implementing Partners	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH	Affected Areas	1,679,463.00

TOTAL USAID/OTI			\$1,679,463
FY 2010			
<i>Program</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/HAITI ASSISTANCE²			
Community Health and AIDS Mitigation Project (CHAMP)	Community Health Services	Countrywide	\$198,000
Leadership, Management, and Sustainability Program (LMS)	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$185,000
PROMARK	Health, Public Outreach	Countrywide	\$232,000
Supply Chain Management System (SCMS)	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$600,000
Health for the Development and Stability of Haiti (SDSH)	Essential Health Services	Countrywide	\$800,000
TOTAL USAID/HAITI			\$2,015,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO HAITI FOR CHOLERA			\$44,184,379

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of February 11, 2011.

² USAID/Haiti has pre-existing, long-term health programs that have been an integral part of the cholera response; these programs have also continued normal activities. The USAID/Haiti funding levels represent estimated amounts for one month of FY 2010 resources expended on the cholera response. The funding is based on an estimate of the program spending rate and percentage of resources expended on the cholera response.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for cholera efforts in Haiti can be found at www.interaction.org. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Haiti may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/