

# CHILDREN IN HAITI ONE YEAR AFTER

THE LONG ROAD FROM RELIEF TO RECOVERY AND  
THE CRUCIAL DIFFERENCE YOUR SUPPORT MAKES

Anthony Lake speaks with a child being treated for cholera.



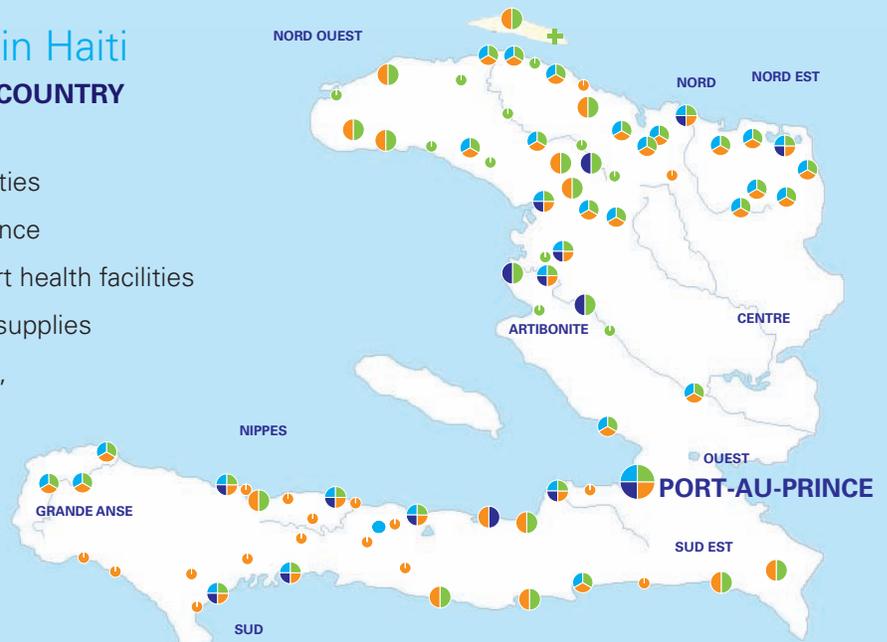
"I have seen first-hand the everyday heroism of Haitian citizens and their supporters who are helping to rebuild Haiti. Today, despite extreme difficulties, evermore children are being immunized, more children are being reunited with their families, and more children are attending school again. This is proof that progress is possible – even in the worst of circumstances – when we all work together."

Anthony Lake, UNICEF Executive Director

## UNICEF's cholera response in Haiti

### HEALTH INTERVENTIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY AS OF DECEMBER 28, 2010

- Tents to set up cholera treatment facilities
- Medical supplies and technical assistance
- + Deployment of medical staff to support health facilities
- Hygiene kits and chlorine disinfection supplies
- Installation of latrines, chemical toilets, water pumps and tanks



## AT A GLANCE: ACHIEVEMENTS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH YOUR SUPPORT

- At the height of earthquake response, UNICEF and other organizations were collectively **reaching 1.2 million people with safe water**. Today, UNICEF is working on sustainable solutions for long-term access to safe water supplies.
- Some 720,000 children are benefitting from a **nationwide UNICEF-supported education campaign in 2,000 schools**, reaching 15,000 teachers with materials and training.
- Nearly 95,000 children now have daily opportunities for sports, recreation and psychosocial care in **369 Child-Friendly Spaces**.
- UNICEF and partners **immunized more than 1.9 million children** from six key vaccine-preventable diseases.
- UNICEF continues to support therapeutic feeding centres that have **treated more than 11,000 children with severe acute malnutrition**. Remarkably, there has been no spike in acute malnutrition levels.
- UNICEF's **cholera response** is supporting 72 cholera treatment facilities, 5,000 schools, 300 nutrition centres and more than 700 residential care centres by distributing soap and water purification tablets and by promoting safe hygiene and child feeding practices.

# INTRODUCTION

A new year begins in Haiti. For children who are returning to rehabilitated homes and new classrooms, it starts with promise and optimism. But for many others, the year begins almost as it did in 2010, with further crises bearing down on communities and threatening collective plans for the future.

One year on, children in Haiti are still reeling from the lingering impact of the January 2010 earthquake, which remains the single largest catastrophe to hit the country in centuries. More than 220,000 lives were lost, and 750,000 children were directly affected.

Despite the rubble and the ruin, there was a timid sense of hope in Haiti's capacity to overcome the devastation in the first weeks after the quake. This optimism was spurred on by extraordinary declarations of international solidarity and contributions from generous donors.

Your crucial support has helped drive some extraordinary successes for children over the past year, as detailed in this report. UNICEF and partners are working tirelessly to build on these achievements amid serious setbacks and further crises that have inhibited recovery and reconstruction. Solving complex challenges of space, rubble clearance and land rights has been immensely difficult in Haiti, and has slowed efforts to rebuild communities and resettle the more than 1 million people who remain displaced. A deadly cholera outbreak toward the end of the year affected more than 100,000 people, and political riots following the November elections impeded efforts to save lives and contain the disease. These crises have provided the heart-wrenching reality check that Haitian children continue to face serious challenges.

As a second emergency response for cholera is being mounted, Haitians are not only in danger of losing additional loved ones – they are also in danger of losing that hesitant sense of hope. Through your support, UNICEF remains steadfast in its commitment to sustaining hope and ensuring a brighter future for Haiti's children by building on our accomplishments to date and addressing all that is unfinished in the earthquake response.

As a long-term development partner in Haiti, UNICEF's work in 2011 will continue to strengthen the Haitian government's capacity to rebuild essential systems like health care and water supply through sustainable solutions to benefit generations to come. We also seek to strengthen communities' resilience and help Haiti's women and children lift themselves out of vulnerability. UNICEF pledges to ensure that children's voices are heard, and that children are at the centre of recovery – it is their vision for their country that will be our blueprint to build a Haiti fit for children.

The enclosed report outlines the crucial achievements made in the past 12 months as a direct result of supporters like you. Amid a complex environment with changing needs for children, your donations have enabled UNICEF to respond with urgent aid while working toward long-term initiatives for children.



Although part of her arm was crushed during the quake, Marjorie managed to save her son Herwens. Through your support, UNICEF is reaching displaced families like theirs with essential services.

# WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Before the earthquake, access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene was declining in Haiti. The earthquake threatened to set Haiti further back – especially in Port-au-Prince’s slums. Emergency efforts to bring safe water and sanitation to the displaced saved lives, but the underlying challenge of building sustainable solutions remains and is especially crucial to preventing the spread of diseases like cholera.

- At the height of the emergency, UNICEF was supporting the provision of clean water supplies to close to 680,000 people. UNICEF transitioned its efforts in May to support more sustainable solutions, including repairs and expansions of piped networks. UNICEF is now working with partners to extend water networks in slums to serve more than 130,000 people.
- To ensure that drinking water is safe not only at its source but also at the point of consumption (a pressing need with the outbreak of cholera), UNICEF has been working with partners to provide more than 10 tons of chlorine and over 45 million water purification tablets, benefitting 3 million people.
- To date, through a combination of portable toilets, digging of pit latrines, and UNICEF-supported sanitation supplies and materials, more than 11,300 latrines have been set up, serving over 800,000 people.
- UNICEF is striving to keep camps clean and maintain sanitation standards, working with private companies to de-sludge 600 latrines every day, with safe guidelines and trained partners in place.
- A sustainable sanitation approach for the future is being planned, promoting community ownership in building and managing local solutions for safe sanitation.
- 90,000 hygiene kits have been distributed to displaced families and more than 5,000 trained hygiene promoters have reached hundreds of thousands of people with hygiene messages – a key component in keeping water-borne diseases at bay.
- UNICEF supported 150 schools and 76,000 children by drilling boreholes, installing washrooms and hand washing facilities, and providing hygiene promotion messages.



UNICEF and partners have reached millions with water and sanitation services, and are laying the groundwork for long-term rebuilding.

## UNICEF'S KEY FOCUS AREAS IN 2011:

- Extending sanitation services across displaced and earthquake-affected communities, with a focus on community-driven solutions.
- Investing in more water system repairs and expansions for 200,000 more people.
- Supporting government efforts to provide poor urban and rural communities with the tools and training to manage water and sanitation systems at the community level and to improve hygiene practices.

# EDUCATION

Some of the most troubling images in the aftermath of the quake were those of collapsed schools – with close to 5,000 schools affected. Yet the commitment toward education is strong, and it has become the main avenue for rebuilding Haiti and securing a better future for its children. UNICEF has been working to reach the 50 percent of children who remain out of school, including those in camps who face continuing obstacles in accessing education.

- To get children back to school as quickly as possible, UNICEF and partners supplied 1,600 tents to set up more than 225 temporary learning spaces. Distribution of learning materials and school equipment benefitted more than 325,000 children and 42,000 teachers, ensuring 600 schools reopened on April 5, 2010.
- UNICEF and partners launched a nationwide “All to School” campaign in October, targeting not only children whose schooling was interrupted by the quake, but also children in slums and neglected rural areas who had never before accessed education. Nationwide, UNICEF is reaching 720,000 children, 15,000 teachers and 2,000 schools.
- Challenges with rubble clearance meant school construction plans were constantly adapted to changing circumstances. To date, UNICEF has built 57 semi-permanent schools (with 60 more on the way) using hurricane- and earthquake-resistant designs and including safe water and sanitation facilities, benefitting more than 24,400 children. Plans for a further 200 semi-permanent schools are underway.
- UNICEF continues to coordinate with partners on permanent school construction plans to help restore the 5,000 schools damaged by the quake.
- UNICEF worked with Haiti’s Ministry of Education to train more than 11,000 teachers, many of whom received specialized training in psychosocial care so that classrooms could become healing spaces for children traumatized by the disaster.
- To strengthen early childhood development, UNICEF is currently training preschool staff, and over 53,000 children benefitted from the distribution of Early Childhood Development kits.
- UNICEF trained 154 school inspectors, directors and teachers on disaster risk reduction and education in emergencies.
- With the outbreak of cholera, UNICEF moved swiftly to support 5,000 vulnerable schools with distributions of soap and water purification tablets, benefitting 1.5 million children.



Students from the École République du Brésil school, where your funds have helped provide semi-permanent classrooms to get children back to school.

## UNICEF'S KEY FOCUS AREAS IN 2011:

- Building more schools and training more education staff.
- Strengthening government capacity to lead, plan and coordinate education efforts.
- Advocating for the universal abolition of school fees and for a greater allocation of the national budget for education.



Christie and her classmates back in school.

# Christie's story

## EARTHQUAKE-RESISTANT SCHOOLS BUILD HOPE AND BRIGHTER FUTURES

Christie Lafontant is one of many children in Vision Nouvelle School who is benefitting from eight new semi-permanent classrooms recently constructed by UNICEF.

With Haiti in the eye of storms that regularly sweep across the Caribbean, anti-cyclone and anti-earthquake resistant structures are fundamental to ensuring that Haiti's children feel safe and secure to return to school and resume their education. Treated roofs deflect the sun's intensity and open-air classrooms allow what gentle breeze there is to flow through so that children can learn in more comfortable surroundings.

"The day of the earthquake I was at home," recalls Christie. "It felt like a tractor rumbling through the house. I didn't go to school for three months ... I am happy to be back in this school."

In the old damaged school, which stands opposite the new classroom across the school yard, the lesson plan for the week of January 12, 2010, is still on one of the blackboards. It serves as a powerful reminder of how time stood still in Haiti that day.

New semi-permanent classrooms, new lesson plans, and children like Christie back in school are a testimony that time can move forward for Haiti's children, and that challenges, however unprecedented, can be overcome.

---

**"I feel safe in the new classrooms, and I try and forget what happened. There's a lot of air, and it feels cool inside. I enjoy learning mathematics.**

**I want to be a pediatrician when I grow up because I would like to take care of children."**

**- Christie, student at Vision Nouvelle School**

---

# PROTECTION

Prior to the earthquake, 1.2 million children in Haiti were already deemed extremely vulnerable, with their plight all too often overlooked and their voices unheard. One year on, Haiti's children are still on the brink, but the rally of attention on children's rights holds the promise of transformation.

- UNICEF and partners worked to identify, register and reunite lost or separated children with parents and caregivers. To date, nearly 5,000 children have been registered and more than 1,200 have been reunited.
- A hotline set up by UNICEF and Save the Children continues to refer cases of separated children to mobile teams, who work throughout the country to help reunite children with their families.
- One month after the earthquake, 33 Child-Friendly Spaces were benefitting 7,425 children. Twelve months on, Child-Friendly Spaces have expanded more than ten-fold, offering close to 95,000 children daily opportunities to engage in recreational activities, access psychosocial support and reclaim their childhood.
- To develop a network of trained social workers and to professionalize social work overall, UNICEF supported the training of 140 social workers and deployed them throughout the country.
- UNICEF is supporting government efforts to upgrade its legal frameworks on adoption, with improved safeguards to ensure inter-country adoptions are done in the best interests of children and as a last resort when family-based solutions for care are not feasible.
- UNICEF has worked with government partners in Haiti and the Dominican Republic to reinforce legal frameworks against child trafficking and child labour, especially children used as domestic servants, whose numbers are feared to have increased over the past year.
- Some 100 police officers and 225 staff from local government organizations were trained to strengthen referrals of cases of sexual abuse against children.
- UNICEF has mobilized and advocated the Haitian government to establish an integrated social protection system to help rapidly expand basic social services to the most vulnerable families.

## Did you know?

Close to 40 percent of unaccompanied children registered so far were separated before the earthquake, underlining how deep-seated child protection challenges are in Haiti.

## UNICEF'S KEY FOCUS AREAS IN 2011:

- Reaching another 150,000 children through more Child-Friendly Spaces and establishing 350 Child Protection Committees.
- Advancing civil registration for children in residential care centres and in camps throughout Haiti.
- Training more social workers, improving standards of care and advancing legal and judicial reforms to strengthen adoption frameworks and curb child trafficking and child labour.

UNICEF will be helping to construct a new facility for juveniles in conflict with the law, like 13-year-old Samson (name changed), pictured here at a detention centre.

# Joseph and Marie's story

## A FAMILY REUNIFIED AND BACK ON THEIR FEET

Joseph and Marie (not their real names) and their three daughters lost nearly everything to the earthquake. With their home completely flattened, the family was left with no shelter. Joseph's modest income earned as a rice farmer and Marie's small business selling produce was suddenly stripped.

With no means of meeting their children's basic needs, like food, water and shelter, Joseph and Marie made the heart-wrenching decision to put them in a residential care centre. "I was embarrassed and ashamed," says Marie. "It was the most difficult thing I have ever had to face."

"We felt we had failed in our duty as parents," adds Joseph.

Through donor support, UNICEF has been working with partners on a reunification project that provides long-term,

sustainable solutions for parents like Joseph and Marie, who were forced to give up their children due to economic pressure.

Joseph and Marie met with social workers who assessed their viability for restarting their businesses and explored other income-generating options.

Joseph is now tending his rice fields once again and has been able to employ staff. The project also helped Joseph and Marie move into a newly constructed home, set up a bank account and budget for future needs like food and school supplies.

After several months apart, Joseph and Marie were reunited with their daughters. The excited looks as the girls rushed to greet their mother at the doorstep of their small home says it all: they are once again a family.



Joseph and Marie were reunited with their daughters (pictured here) thanks to the UNICEF-supported reunification project.

# HEALTH

Preventing any serious epidemic outbreak in the months after the quake – despite the near total collapse of the entire health system – was perhaps the single largest measure of success of the relief effort. Twelve months on, however, cholera has dramatically changed the landscape and is without a doubt the biggest challenge ahead. Today UNICEF is responding with a renewed sense of urgency in health, looking at efforts to save lives today and build systems to preserve them for tomorrow.

- From January to October, UNICEF and partners immunized more than 1,900,000 children against vaccine-preventable diseases (including measles, DTP, rubella and polio), while providing Vitamin A supplementation.
- Today, UNICEF is helping to re-establish routine immunization services nationwide, especially in 20 communes where the fewest children are vaccinated, through planning, equipment and training for technicians.
- UNICEF is supporting the rehabilitation of basic emergency obstetric care facilities in 10 locations across the country.
- Some 7,000 adolescents and youth directly benefitted from HIV prevention services, including training of peer educators, voluntary counselling and testing services, and treatment of sexually transmitted infections in youth-friendly health centres.
- More than 163,000 households benefitted from the mass distribution of over 360,000 anti-malarial bed nets.
- When cholera broke out in October, UNICEF responded with the utmost urgency, deploying staff and sending supplies within 24 hours to kick-start life-saving efforts and to train health workers. Here is a highlight of the results:
  - By the end of December, UNICEF and partners were supporting 24 cholera treatment centres and 48 smaller cholera treatment units.
  - More than 2.6 million sachets of life-saving oral rehydration salts have been distributed, as well as diarrhea kits to treat tens of thousands.
  - Over 250 tents were distributed to set up cholera treatment facilities that provide space for 2,200 beds.
  - UNICEF deployed emergency health specialists to help ensure services extend to children in even in the most remote and hard-to-reach areas.
  - UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health in defining and disseminating messages on cholera response and prevention.



Eleven-month-old Davidson sleeps under a protective bed net. More than 163,000 households benefitted from UNICEF's mass distribution of nets.

## UNICEF'S KEY FOCUS AREAS IN 2011:

- Improving access to health care for more than 1.7 million people in the most vulnerable communities.
- Strengthening the capacity of health staff and facilities to respond to cholera, especially community health workers, nurses and doctors.
- Setting up 3,000 sites nationwide to ensure quick access to oral rehydration therapy and rapid referrals for cholera patients.

# NUTRITION

The fact that malnutrition levels among children in Haiti have not declined since the earthquake is a powerful testament to the impact of relief operations. But the earthquake underlined chronic nutritional challenges facing Haiti's children. Large gaps in access to services remain for children in remote rural areas and those living in urban slums. UNICEF has been working with partners to strengthen services to reach all children.

- Relief efforts to prevent malnutrition, including blanket feeding and large-scale distribution of deworming tablets and micronutrients, helped halt a spike in malnutrition levels after the earthquake. One year after, UNICEF continues to support 159 therapeutic feeding centres and 28 stabilization centres that treated more than 12,000 severely acutely malnourished children.
- Over the past 12 months, UNICEF has helped Haiti's Ministry of Health develop a national protocol and implement a model to manage severe acute malnutrition. Eighty health staff across Haiti were trained on the protocol to care for children at both medical facilities and at the community level.
- In response to cholera, UNICEF worked with the World Health Organization to develop a treatment protocol for undernourished children and has been training medical staff across the country.
- To date, more than 100,000 infants and over 48,000 mothers vulnerable to malnutrition have received nutritional care, advice and counselling at UNICEF-supported baby-friendly spaces set up in temporary tents as well as in permanent health facilities to strengthen local capacity to manage malnutrition.



A boy drinks a diarrhea and dehydration-fighting solution of oral rehydration salts at a tent clinic operated by a UNICEF-supported Haitian NGO.

## UNICEF'S KEY FOCUS AREAS IN 2011:

- Treating 10,000 severely malnourished children, expanding counselling on infant feeding for 250,000 mothers, and deworming 253,000 children.
- Working with partners to reach 160,000 babies and 668,000 women with iodine supplementation, especially in hard-to-reach areas.
- Adapting cholera treatment protocols for malnourished children.



Lucienne smiles, holding a healthy and happy baby Sebastian.

## Lucienne's story

### A MOTHER LEARNS TO KEEP HER BABY HEALTHY AND CHOLERA-FREE

In the cramped conditions of Mais Gate, a camp for Haitians displaced by last January's earthquake, baby Sebastian brings a sparkle to his mother Lucienne's eyes.

At eight months and a whopping 11 kg, Sebastian is alert, sitting up, clambering over his mother and almost standing on his own. He is an example to the young mothers of a well-nourished, breastfed baby.

Lucienne gives credit for Sebastian's good health and growth to the nurses at the UNICEF-supported mother-baby tent, where she learned healthy practices for caring for Sebastian.

"Before the earthquake, I had no idea about how to handle a baby, how to even hold a baby, and certainly I knew nothing about breastfeeding," she recalls.

Head nurse Mauvette, who lectured at a nursing school prior to the earthquake, has seen over 450 women like Lucienne through the mother-baby tent in Mais Gate.

Since the cholera outbreak that began in October, Mauvette has been keeping extra busy, vigilantly monitoring hygiene practices to ensure children are protected and healthy.

Anyone entering the tent must wash their hands thoroughly with chlorine-treated water and soap. Hand washing demonstrations and lectures on preventing cholera are also provided.

Lucienne and other mothers have been receiving life-saving cholera-prevention supplies, including soap, water purification tablets and oral rehydration salts to treat diarrheal dehydration.

---

**"The baby tents are ... a vital lifeline to information that mothers and fathers need in order to keep their families healthy and safe from the spread of disease."**

**-Mauvette, head nurse, Mais Gate mother-baby tent**

---

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The global rally of support for children in Haiti by donors like you drives UNICEF's continued commitment to improve the lives of the most vulnerable.

In total, UNICEF received US \$309.5 million from donors (including more than \$14 million from Canadian donors). Expenditures in 2010 amounted to US \$186.7 million, of which US \$62.2 million is supporting activities and supplies to be delivered and used in the coming weeks. The balance of funds will support ongoing recovery efforts in education, water and sanitation, health and nutrition, and child protection.

Over two-thirds of funds were provided as un-earmarked contributions that allowed UNICEF to target resources where they were needed most, ensuring quicker and more flexible responses. For example, thanks to flexible contributions made at the start of the earthquake response, UNICEF was able to reprogram US \$15.9 million of available un-earmarked funds to mount an immediate cholera response.

Urgent humanitarian needs for children remain in the next year, including maintaining life-saving services and supporting ongoing relocation and sustainable shelter solutions for displaced communities. UNICEF's total humanitarian requirements for 2011 amount to US \$157 million (including US \$47.4 million to tackle increasing cholera needs).

## Total UNICEF donations – \$186.7 million – (committed or spent) by program area as of December, 2010



Note: Coordination costs relate to support provided by UNICEF's regional office and headquarters. Cross-sectoral costs relate to cross-cutting issues in programming (such as gender, HIV and AIDS and social protection) as well as critical operational support functions. Totals in the graph are rounded.

## Procurement facts at a glance

### BOOSTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY

- UNICEF Haiti procured US \$56.5 million of essential supplies for children, including life-saving cholera response supplies. Over 41 percent of procurement was done locally.
- UNICEF awarded Haitian firms and contractors US \$15.6 million in contracts for semi-permanent school construction, which will support investment and recovery in the local economy.



# Thank you to our supporters

The year 2010 was probably the worst year in living memory for most Haitian adults and, through our donors, UNICEF is working hard to make sure that Haitian children will never have to bear a harder year.

Haiti's children are vulnerable to the deep institutional and systemic issues that predated the earthquake and that require more than emergency response to resolve. It requires rebuilding – in some cases from scratch – systems for child protection, health and education to ensure that every child's rights are met.

Nutrition, education and protection remain UNICEF's priorities and are the key to the transformation of the nation and of children's lives. Facilitating durable solutions for the return of displaced people – the majority of whom were among the poorest of the poor before the earthquake – is

also key. Protecting children and families against the impact of cholera remains a full organization-wide priority as we begin 2011.

Since UNICEF will remain a partner in Haiti for the long run, we are committed to helping strengthen and expand systems and services that protect the rights and well-being of children in the long term. With sustained support and a collective vision, we can ensure that children born today not only survive, but thrive in a Haiti fit for children.

**Thank you for investing in a brighter future for Haiti's children. Your generous contribution helps empower UNICEF's relief, recovery and transformational programs to benefit the most vulnerable children and families in Haiti amid the most difficult circumstances.**



Ludnie plays a clapping game with other girls at a UNICEF-supported centre for children without parental care.

© UNICEF/NYHQ2010-2626/LeMoyne

For more information about UNICEF Canada call 1 800 567 4483 or email [info@unicef.ca](mailto:info@unicef.ca). Visit our website at [unicef.ca](http://unicef.ca).

unicef   
canada