Situation Report

Haiti: Displacement from Hurricane Melissa and escalation in gang violence

1 January - 31 March 2026

Highlights

- The Artibonite, Centre departments as well as the Metropolitan zone of Port-au-Prince continue to be significantly impacted by gang violence. Houses have been burned and there is an increase in kidnappings and robberies. Some 1.4 million people have been forced to flee their homes and thousands more have died.
- Despite the security constraints, UNFPA and its implementing partners continue to provide sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) services. In the first three months of 2026, UNFPA reached 7,470 people with SRH services and 5,580 people with GBV prevention and response activities. A total of 2,792 dignity kits were also distributed to displaced women and adolescent girls, as well as 100 inter-agency reproductive health (IARH) kits provided to health facilities and NGOs to meet the needs of 5,489 people.
- On 23 March 2026, UNFPA, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Women's Status and Rights, launched the GBV Working Group in the South Department to ensure a harmonized and coordinated GBV prevention activities and response.

6.4 million
Total people affected[1]

1.7 million
Women of reproductive age[2]

154,287
Estimated pregnant women[3]

209,862
People targeted w/ SRH services

528,391
People targeted w/ GBV programmes

[1] OCHA. Haiti: Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, 2026.
[2] Estimated figures are based on the Minimum Initial Services Package (MISP) for Sexual and Reproductive Health in Humanitarian Settings calculator.

Situation Overview

Since January 2026, gang violence has intensified in several areas of the Metropolitan Zone of Port-au-Prince as well as in Artibonite and Centre departments. Armed groups continue to terrorize the population through killings, kidnappings, child trafficking, demands for payment at illegal checkpoints, extorting money from local businesses, and the destruction and looting of both public and private properties.[3]

On 25 March 2026, armed attacks in the municipalities of Verrettes and Petite Rivière in the Artibonite department caused the displacement of 2,010 individuals from 470 households. The vast majority (96%) found refuge with host families, while the remaining 4% relocated to a new displacement site that was established following the incidents.[4]

In the Centre department, violence in Boucan-Carré displaced approximately 4,761 people from 1,035 households. Just over half (54%) settled across 12 newly established sites, while the remainder found refuge with host families.

UNFPA and its implementing partners have mobilized to respond to the urgent SRH and GBV needs of the population in these affected areas. However, humanitarian access and logistical constraints continue to hinder rapid response efforts and the delivery of supplies beyond Port-au-Prince. Expanding gang control over key road and maritime routes has further delayed project implementation and response activities.

During a field mission to Haiti from 18 to 24 March 2026, Edem Wosornu, Director of Operations and Advocacy at OCHA, visited an SRH and GBV centre managed by UNFPA, as well as UNFPA-supported women's and girls' safe space within the EFACAP displacement site in Hinche. She called for increased financial support from donors, emphasizing that sustained, collective investment is vital to maintain essential community health services and save lives.

UNFPA Response

Despite ongoing insecurity in Haiti, UNFPA and its implementing partners continue to deliver life-saving support by providing SRH and GBV services through integrated mobile clinics, health centres, women and girls' safe spaces, and a dedicated hotline.

Sexual and Reproductive Health:

- **100 IARH kits were distributed to support the needs of 5,489 people**. UNFPA distributed the kits to 13 health facilities and NGOs across Haiti. This included 74 kits in the West department to service the needs of 4,361 people, 4 kits in the Centre department to service 133 people, 11 kits in the Southeast to service 519 people, 4 kits in the South to service 238 people, and 4 kits in the Grand'Anse to service the needs of 238 people.
- **8 mobile clinics provided medical assistance to 1,981 internally displaced persons**. Mobile clinics have been held in Jean Marie Cesar, DGPNH, ISBACOM 2, DDO, Claire Heureuse, Communication and EFACAP displacement sites.

[3] UN. Haitian gangs expand reach as police are accused of 'summary executions'. 24 March 2026
[4] IOM. Haiti — Emergency Tracking Tool 87 — Displacement following armed attacks in the municipality of Verrettes and Petite Rivière de l'Artibonite (25 - 27 March 2026)

- **Deployment of essential supplies and human resources to 16 health facilities**. UNFPA deployed midwives, nurses, and obstetrician to strengthen Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (CEmONC) services and the CMR services. This included 5 health facilities in the Centre department, 5 in Artibonite department, and 6 facilities in the West department, including Petit-Goave Hospital which was recently affected by Hurricane Melissa.

Gender-Based Violence:

- **4 temporary women and girls' safe spaces (WGSSs) established**. Since January 2026, UNFPA established WGSSs in Toussaint Louverture, EFACAP, Immaculée Conception displaced sites in Hinche in the Centre department. **A total of 1,453 women and girls benefited from psychosocial support and 62 of these were also referred to additional services, including medical assistance**.
- **116 calls were made to the GBV hotline**. The hotline, supported by UNFPA and operated through implementing partners, continued to deliver psychosocial support, facilitate referrals to specialized GBV services, document cases, and provide GBV-related information to callers.
- **60 local GBV actors trained on GBV coordination mechanism, GBV guidelines, and their role and responsibilities**. The training took place in the South department following the launching of the GBV Working Group in the same location.
- **2,792 displaced women and adolescent girls received dignity kits**. UNFPA, in collaboration with partners, distributed kits at the Toussaint Louverture, EFACAP, and Immaculée Conception displacement sites in Hinche, Centre department. The kits included essential items to support women's health and hygiene, along with information on GBV to facilitate access to services.
- **1,159 people were reached with awareness-raising activities**. Topics covered included GBV prevention, referral pathways, and available support services.
- **Rapid needs assessment in new displacement sites**. Following the recent gangs attack in the Centre department, UNFPA's implementing partner, Organisation des Citoyenne pour une Nouvelle Haiti (OCNH), conducted a rapid needs assessment in two new displaced sites in the Boucan-Carre commune[5] to ensure that women and girls' protection needs are central to the programming response. Immediate and spiraling needs remain health and protection, hygiene supplies, clothes, shelter, food, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

Results Snapshot

7,470
People reached with SRH services
76% female, 24% male

16
Health facilities supported

5,580
People reached with GBV prevention, mitigation and response activities
85% female, 15% male

4
Safe spaces for women and girls supported

[5] OCHN. Rapport de Visite de Terrain. 20 March 2026

2,792	Dignity kits distributed to women and adolescent girls	8	Mobile health teams supported
100	Reproductive health kits provided to service delivery points to meet the needs of 5,489 people	1,453	Women and girls benefited from psychosocial support

Coordination Mechanisms

Gender-Based Violence:

- UNFPA continues to lead the coordination of the GBV Sub-Cluster at both national and regional levels, ensuring that coordination mechanisms are effectively contextualized and localized. In the South department, UNFPA established the GBV Working Group to strengthen local coordination of the GBV response. The launch workshop brought together 60 participants, including both international and local NGOs, UN agencies and local authorities.
- On 19 February 2026, the Ministry for the Status of Women and Women's Rights (MCFDF) convened a three-day inter-institutional workshop in Pétion-Ville, Haiti, focused on strengthening coordinated responses for survivors of gender-based violence. The workshop aimed to enhance collaboration among stakeholders engaged in combating violence against women and girls, while also promoting the harmonization and operational effectiveness of support mechanisms.
- Under the leadership of the MCFDF, a multi-sectoral workshop was held from 4-5 March 2026 on the revision of Haiti's National Plan for Gender Equality. Through this strategic framework, Haiti reaffirms its commitment to placing gender equality at the heart of public policies and to creating the conditions necessary for women to fully exercise their rights and participate equally in the country's political, economic, social, cultural and environmental development.
- The celebration of International Women's Day on 6 March 2026, was held in Haiti under the national theme: *"Women and girls must enjoy their rights and equitable justice."* Marking the occasion, the MCFDF called for accelerated action to ensure that women and girls are guaranteed equal rights, protected from all forms of violence, provided with access to economic opportunities, and fully included in decision-making processes that shape the country's future.

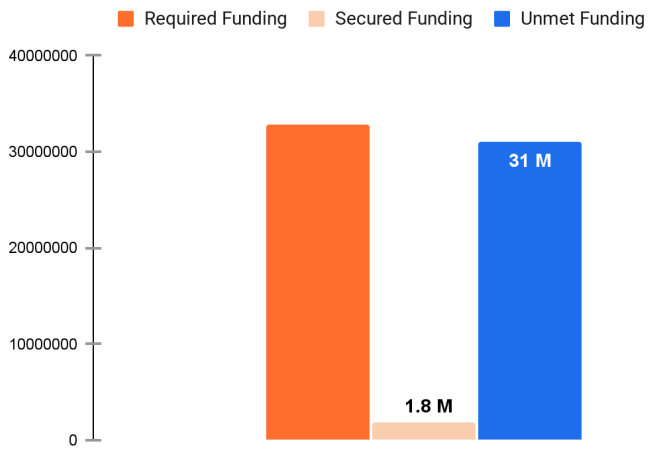
Sexual and Reproductive Health:

- The national MISP/SRH Sub-Working Group met in March under the leadership of the Ministry of Health, PAHO/WHO and UNFPA. This Working Group coordinates the implementation of the Minimum initial services package (MISP), strengthens service delivery in hard-to-reach areas, aligns technical guidance, fundraising efforts, and supports joint supply planning for life-saving supplies.
- In January 2026, UNFPA recruited and deployed a dedicated staff to support the SRH coordination mechanism including an SRH emergency Specialist and SRH/GBV Information Management Specialist. These meetings allowed the development of an annual action plan aimed at improving referral mechanisms for women with complicated pregnancies, facilitating access to medical care for survivors of sexual violence, and strengthening the capacities of local partners to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality.

Funding Status

UNFPA is appealing for US$32.8 million to strengthen and expand access to lifesaving SRH and GBV services in Haiti in 2026. As of March 2026, the total amount received was US$1.8 million, representing only 5.5% of the required funding. With needs escalating in Haiti, additional funding is urgently required to ensure critical health and protection services for women and girls.

UNFPA thanks our donors for the significant financial support that has ensured the continuation of critical SRH and GBV programmes since January 2026.



Disclaimer: Funding available is based on cash received during the current year as well as funding rolled over from previous years, and transfers from/to other UNFPA departments. It does not include funds from agreements that have been signed but not yet received.

"UNFPA, alongside national organizations, are fully supporting sexual and reproductive health. An essential initiative that restores hope and dignity to the most vulnerable, ensuring inclusive and sustainable health."

- Programme Coordinator of FADHRIS

Current Donors

- Humanitarian Thematic Fund
- UNFPA Emergency Fund
- Swiss Cooperation
- Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)
- European Commission-European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)

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