

The cholera incidence fell to 0.03% in 2018 and the UN supported Haiti's response with 11,700 interventions



3,786
suspected cholera cases



72%
Downward trend in comparison to 2017



86% received a rapid response (90% in less than 48 hours)



National and local authorities cutting the inaugural ribbon of the new Mina Market in Crête Brulée with Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General Josette Sheeran as part of the support to the communities most affected by cholera. **Photo: UN/Baumann**

Current situation

From 1 January to 29 December 2018, the Haitian Ministry of Health (MSPP) reported 3,786 suspected cholera cases and 41 related deaths, in comparison with the 13,681 suspected cases and 159 related deaths during the same period in 2017, which represents a decrease of 72% and 74% respectively. This downward trend, if maintained, is an opportunity to take in 2019 another big step towards the zero transmission of cholera, in case funding is available and support for the rapid response led by Haitian authorities is accordingly intensified under the umbrella of the National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera 2013/22. However, the country remains extremely vulnerable to cholera, particularly in the West, Centre and Artibonite departments. Therefore, maintaining the support to the surveillance and rapid response led by national authorities is crucial to preserve the hard-fought gains in the battle against cholera and all water-borne diseases.

Maintaining the support to the response led by Haitian authorities remains crucial to seize the opportunity to take a big step towards zero transmission and win the battle against the disease

The initial annual target of registering less than 12,000 suspected cases in 2018 has been largely reached by the MSPP thanks to the intensified rapid response, epidemiological and laboratory surveillance, case management and vaccination. This response allowed reaching the lowest annual number of suspected cases (3,786) since the start of the epidemic, reducing the annual incidence of cases to 0.03% and the fatality rate to 0.55%. As of December 2018, the Haitian authorities (with the support of international and national partners) have succeeded in reducing the suspected cholera cases and fatalities in Haiti by 99% since the highest pick in 2010 (185,351 cases in three months) thanks to a massive community response, improved surveillance, and timely clinical care. In line with the United Nations New Approach against Cholera in Haiti, since 2016, the UN entities (particularly through UNICEF, PAHO/WHO and UNDP) have intensified their activities in support of the cholera response under the leadership of the MSPP and the National Directorate of Potable Water and Sanitation (DINEPA).



11,763
interventions
(rapid response +
prevention)



106,800
Households received
water treatment
products at home



1,244,000
persons were
sensitized

In the medium and longer term, improving access to water, sanitation and health care remains key to address the root causes of all water borne diseases, among them cholera. This will be crucial to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and Haiti's vision of becoming an emergent country by 2030, since the access to water, sanitation and health care is essential to advance in all aspects of development.

Overview of cholera cases between October 2010 and 31 December 2018 (Source: MSPP)

Year	Suspected cholera cases	Total Deaths	Incidence rate per 1,000	Fatality rate in hospitals
2010 (Oct-Dec)	185,351	4,101	18.38	2.43%
2011	352,033	2,927	34.35	1.04%
2012	101,503	908	9.75	0.96%
2013	58,574	587	5.54	1.05%
2014	27,392	297	2.55	1.01%
2015	36,045	322	3.30	0.75%
2016	41,421	447	3.74	0.91%
2017	13,681	159	1.12	0.99%
2018 (1 Jan. to 31 Dec.)	3,786	41	0.30	0.55%
Total 2010-Dec.2018	819,786	9,789	-	-

Summary of key UN actions in support of the Haitian authorities' response (January-December 2018)

From 1 January to 30 December 2018, the United Nations Family (particularly through UNICEF, PAHO/OMS and UNDP) continued supporting the Haitian authorities' response to win the battle against cholera under the umbrella of the National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera. Among other actions, as part of the Track 1 of the UN New Approach Against Cholera in Haiti, the UN family supported the Ministry of Health's (MSPP) alert-response mechanism allowing to implement 6,259 rapid interventions and to respond to 3,262 suspected cases (86% of all reported suspected cases), with 90 % of the responses effected in less than 48 hours after the alert. 106,869 persons benefited directly from a rapid response and received water treatment products. As part of this rapid response, 584 chlorination points were installed, and 1,244,873 people were sensitized to reinforce cholera prevention. In addition, 5,504 prevention interventions were conducted. During the same period, the UN did also support the Haitian Ministry of Health (MSPP) to vaccinate 64,184 persons against cholera with two doses in Saint Michel de l'Attalaye (Artibonite department). In addition, a "Labo-moto" system supported by PAHO/WHO permitted a team of nurses to transport 2,446 samples from Treatment Centers for Acute Diarrhea (CTADs) to laboratories to test and confirm suspected cholera cases, increasing the percentage of sampled suspected cholera cases from 75% in the first quarter to 94% in the last quarter. The UN also supported a total of 92 investigations of localized cholera outbreaks in 8 departments and structural renovations in 43 Treatment Centers for Acute Diarrhea (CTADs). Other 75 treatment centers received medical supplies and 271 additional health care workers were financed to work in CTADs, especially during periods of localized outbreaks when their capacity was surpassed.

Five of the most affected communities were consulted and chose their priority projects in Mirebalais

Under the umbrella of the track 2 to support the communities most directly affected by the epidemic declared in Haiti in 2010, UNDP Haiti continued implementing the project "Community assistance to Mirebalais: new UN approach to cholera in

Haiti". As a result, the new Mina market was constructed and launched in the smallest communal section of Mirebalais: Crête Brulée. The community had identified the construction of the Mina market as a priority as a result of a consultation process that started in late 2017. In addition, UNDP constructed a water supply equipment in the Sarazin section in Wany, which was launched in June 2018.

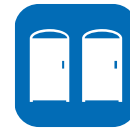
In the first pilot phase of the track 2, five communal sections of Mirebalais were consulted to determine the type of assistance chosen by the community and how to better maximize an available budget of US\$150,000 per communal section. This permitted them to identify their priority initiatives. Whereas Crête Brulée considered the Mina Market as their priority, three other consulted communities (Gascogne, Sarazin et Grand Boucan) opted for potable water infrastructures that will benefit more than 53, 000 persons. Consultations are ongoing in the fifth communal section, which has 98, 000 inhabitants.



584 new
chlorination
points installed in
2018



102,000 persons
benefited from
improved access to
water in 2018



69 communities
certified as open
defecation free
as of December
2018

Key UN actions in support of the Haitian authorities' response against cholera in 2018 per UN actor



- Through its NGO partners, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health's alert-response mechanism with 13 rapid response teams of the Ministry mixed with 57 NGO teams funded by UNICEF. More than half of these 70 teams were maintained in the three most at-risk departments, with 47 teams in the West, Center and Artibonite departments. The 70 teams were able to implement 6,259 rapid interventions and to respond to 3,262 cases (86% of the suspected cases), with 90 % of these responses effected in less than 48 hours after the alert.
- Early 2018, UNICEF organized trainings for 55 chiefs of response teams focused on outbreak investigation, adaptation of the response strategy and strengthening the post-intervention monitoring, ensuring a systematic return of teams on intervention sites one to two week after the initial response to follow-up with communities.
- 106,869 families benefited from a rapid response and received water treatment products.
- As part of the rapid response, 584 chlorination points were installed.
- 1,244,873 people were sensitized to reinforce cholera prevention in 2018.
- DINEPA and NGO partners provided assistance to cholera affected populations by securing chlorination of water networks serving about 102,000 people in the Centre, Artibonite and West departments. In addition, 37,500 users of unimproved water points were provided with household water treatment products through in-kind and vouchers to circumscribe cholera transmission via contaminated water.



8 departments received support in epidemiological surveillance and a “**Labo-moto**” system permitted to analyze **2,446 samples**



75 Treatment Centers for Acute Diarrhea were supported



64,184 persons vaccinated in Saint Michel de l’Attalaye in the Artibonite department

- NGO partners constructed sanitary blocs on markets in five communes to prevent open defecation in crowded areas, benefiting 18,400 people.
- UNICEF continued supporting the National Directorate of Potable Water and Sanitation (DINEPA) as a partner to implement the National Sanitation Campaign, which aims at eliminating open defecation and improving access to water in key priority communes. 69 communities were certified as open defecation free as of December 2018



- The Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) continued supporting the Ministry of Health to strengthening the epidemiological surveillance and laboratory capacity to detect and test the suspected cholera cases to contain the transmission of the disease. As part of this assistance, PAHO/WHO supported 92 investigations of localized cholera outbreaks in collaboration with the Haitian Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) and NGOs (ACF, ACTED, SI) in eight departments.
- A “Labo-moto” system supported by PAHO/WHO permitted a team of nurses to transport 2,446 samples from Treatment Centers for Acute Diarrhea (CTADs) to laboratories to test and confirm suspected cholera cases. This increased the percentage of sampled suspected cholera cases from 75% in the first quarter to 94% in the last quarter. Additionally, these nurses provided training for sampling and ensured a sufficient stock of supplies for fecal sampling.
- PAHO/WHO, in collaboration with partners (CRF and MDM), supported structural renovations on 43 Treatment Centers for Acute Diarrhea (CTADs) to ensure that high quality case management could be delivered to cholera patients. Additionally, 75 CTADs received medical supplies, evaluations and supervisions. A total of 271 additional health care workers were financed to work in CTADs, especially during periods of localized outbreaks when their capacity was surpassed.
- PAHO/WHO provided support to the Haitian Ministry of Health (MSPP) to vaccinate 64,184 persons against cholera with two doses in Saint Michel de l’Attalaye (Artibonite department).



US\$ 63,2 M mobilized by the UN and partners between the announcement of the new UN Approach Against Cholera in August 2016 and December 2018.



Since 2016, 41 Member States of the UN have already contributed with US\$ 9,7 M to the UN's Haiti Cholera Multi-Partner Trust Fund.



• UNDP Haiti continued implementing the project "Community assistance to Mirebalais: new UN approach to cholera in Haiti" under the umbrella of the first pilot phase of the track 2 of the United Nations' new approach to fight cholera and to support the communities most directly affected by the epidemic declared in Haiti in 2010. As a result, the new Mina market was constructed and launched in the smallest communal section of Mirebalais: Crête Brulée. The community had identified the construction of the Mina market as a priority as a result of a consultation process that started in late 2017. In addition, UNDP constructed a water supply equipment in the Sarazin section in Wany, which was launched in June 2018.

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Vaccination campaign led by the Ministry of Health MSPP and supported by the UN in Haiti. L. Abassi/UN

Funding overview

Since the outbreak of cholera in October of 2010, the International community has spent over US\$ 704 million to fight cholera in support of the Government's National Plan. This includes more than US\$63.2 million mobilized between the announcement of the UN's New Approach to Cholera in August 2016 and 31 December 2018, including US\$9.7 M through the UN's Haiti Cholera Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF). This was achieved in part through the contributions of 41 Member States which responded to the United Nations Secretary General's invitation to voluntarily waiving the return of the 2015/16 unencumbered balances and credits from MINUSTAH, or to provide fresh contributions to the MPTF. For 2018, the UN agencies supporting the cholera response in Haiti mobilized a total of \$19.4 M.

New UN approach to combat cholera and support the affected communities

In 2016, the UN and the Secretary General apologized and recognized the moral responsibility for not having done enough to fight the cholera epidemic in Haiti, and intensified its support to Haiti with a new approach with two tracks in support of the National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera 2013/22.

- Track 1 offers support to the Haitian Government for its National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera, which is based on two pillars: A) Coordination, treatment and prevention of the transmission (Including surveillance, rapid response, health assistance and vaccinations) and B) Improving access to water and sanitation and health care to address the root causes of the epidemic.
- Track 2 is providing collective support to the most directly affected communities to reinforce their resilience by addressing their development priorities. The initial period of implementation of this track is 2 years, and the starting point will depend on the consultations with the communities.

The UN response to cholera in 2016, 2017 and 2018 (as of June) has been supported through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund by Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, France, Grenada, Guyana, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, the Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Senegal, Republic of Korea, Slovak Republic, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Sudan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguay and Venezuela. The cholera response for this period was also funded through different mechanisms by other partners such as the World Bank, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), ECHO, DFID; USAID, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Japan, and the German and French UNICEF national committees. In terms of implementation of programs in support to the Haitian authorities, the UN has collaborated with many implementing partners, including the Red Cross, CEDUCC, Foundation Zanmi Timoun, Acted, Action contre la Faim, Oxfam and Solidarités International, among others.