



# WASH

## Snapshot of the needs

There are still many people in need of WASH assistance. Sanitation is a major area of concern, and there is a continual need for sewage sludge removal.

## Overview of the response strategy

The cluster main objectives are: Ensure equitable access to safe drinking water for men, women, boys and girls that have been directly or indirectly affected by the earthquake; to Cluster defined standards; Ensure access to adequate and appropriate excreta disposal facilities for displaced communities; Contribute to reducing the risk of WASH related diseases by mobilising communities in spontaneous settlements to protect themselves against threats to public health.

## The response so far

WASH Cluster has reached approximately 1.72 million earthquake affected Haitians through the provision of: safe drinking water, latrines, bathing facilities, WASH-related non-food items (including hygiene kits), removal of solid waste, and drainage. There has been no excess morbidity or mortality due to diarrhoeal disease reported.

*Safe water:* At least five litres of safe water per person per day is being delivered to approximately 1.2 million. This involves daily delivery of 6,000 m<sup>3</sup> of water.

*Sanitation:* The WASH Cluster has almost reached its Phase I objective of constructing 11,000 toilets in extremely challenging circumstances. With a coverage of 135 people per toilet, some 5,500 additional toilets are planned, with many of these already under construction. Evidence suggests that open defecation is low (5-15% - WASH Cluster Survey). Around 30% of displaced persons in spontaneous settlements proximity return home to use their own or neighbours' facilities, while 10% use other means such as plastic bags deposited in solid waste receptacles. Solid waste is therefore a critical part of the excreta disposal strategy.

*Hygiene:* A total of 87,300 hygiene kits (each for a family of 5 over 1 or 3 months) have been distributed by the WASH Cluster, while the Non-Food Items Cluster has distributed another 240,000 kits. Community participation has been a key strategy of all hygiene promotion activities. There are a total of 2,200 Hygiene Promoters and Community Mobilisers against a set target of 2,600. The Hygiene sub-Cluster has carried out 2 Trainings of Trainers in Port-au-Prince and 1 in Leogane. A rainy season hygiene promotion action plan was developed in April, as part of preparedness against diarrheal diseases and malaria.

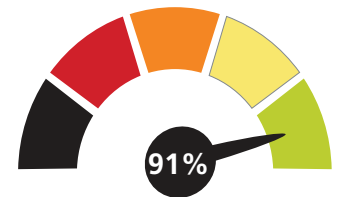
## Gaps and challenges

Need to increase the quantities of safe water delivered per person per day from 5 to 10 litres in a more sustainable way. The Government Office for Water and Sanitation (DINEPA) with the Cluster is examining the possibility of reducing water trucking operations and supplementing them with sustainable medium-term options such as network repairs and borehole drilling.

Challenges in the provision of toilets include: lack of space in dense urban environments; inability to construct pits in concreted-in sites; landowners not allowing construction; and "ghost camps" where the number of residents is unclear. Due to land tenure issues, toilets are largely constructed using sealed above-ground pits. There are few desludging trucks and municipal capacity is low, however, 32 desludging trucks are in the pipeline. There is no treatment facility for sewage although interim measures are underway at Trutier landfill site.

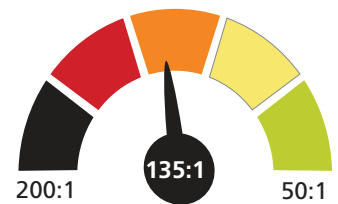
Additional contingency stocks of hygiene kits are needed, including soap.

## FUNDING STATUS



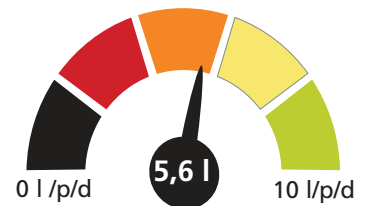
Funds received: \$90,756,829  
Requirements: \$100,116,961

## ACHIEVEMENTS



### LATRINE COVERAGE RATIO

Reached to date: 145:1  
Target: 50:1



### ACCESS TO SAFE WATER

Reached to date: 5,6 litres  
Target: 10 litres/person/day

## CONTACTS

**WASH Cluster Coordinator:**  
James Shepherd-Barron  
jshepherd@unicef.org

**Office Address:**  
WASH Cluster Office,  
UNICEF,  
MINUSTAH Logistics Base,  
Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

**Websites:**  
[groups.google.com/group/wash-response-haiti-2010](http://groups.google.com/group/wash-response-haiti-2010)  
[haiti.onerresponse.info](http://haiti.onerresponse.info)  
[www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)

