



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



HAITI: PARTNERING ON THE GROUND TO BRING DROUGHT RELIEF

UNICEF/Responding to Critical Water Needs for People

Duration: 2015–2017

Challenge

In early 2016, Haiti was suffering from a three-year El Niño-induced drought, along with related food insecurity and malnutrition, and infant morbidity and mortality. In May 2016, heavy rains brought an increase in cholera cases.



Since 2011, USAID has pre-positioned emergency relief supplies in the event of disasters in Haiti such as hygiene kits and water containers. Photo credit: USAID/Haiti

Opportunity

USAID is responding to critical water needs for people at risk of drought-induced hunger—as well as waterborne illness—by providing emergency water for drinking, hygiene, and sanitation, especially in the areas hardest hit by drought. These efforts include assessing and better understanding water availability at the household level; ensuring proper protection and use of water resources, including emergency action plans; and upgrading wastewater treatment systems in two hospitals in alignment with the Government of Haiti’s plan to eliminate cholera in Haiti by 2022. These efforts continue into FY 2017, but the priorities have changed to assist not only those areas most affected by drought, but also those devastated by Hurricane Matthew in October 2016.

USAID provides support to Haiti’s National Water and Sanitation Directorate (DINEPA) to improve access to water services, such as this water point at left, in priority geographic areas of the country. Photo credit: USAID/Haiti