



Situation

Haiti continues to face a deteriorating, protection-driven humanitarian crisis driven by escalating armed violence, mass displacement, and rising forced returns. By early 2026, over 1.45 million people had fled their homes as armed groups expanded their control across Port-au-Prince and beyond. Many displaced families now shelter in overcrowded sites with limited access to basic services, face heightened risks of gender-based violence, child recruitment, and exploitation, particularly for women and children.

In March alone, over 22,000 individuals were returned to Haiti, arriving at the border crossings of Ouanaminthe and Belladère, many without documentation, resources, or access to assistance. These groups, often including pregnant women and unaccompanied children, face acute protection risks upon returning to highly insecure areas already under severe strain.

Moreover, during this quarter, Haiti entered a period of political transition, with efforts focused on advancing the electoral process. In February, the Transitional Presidential Council (CPT) stepped down and transferred authority to Prime Minister Alix Didier Fils-Aimé. The Government has since put forward the [National Pact for Stability and the Organization of Elections](#), with broad participation by registered [political parties](#), and elections currently foreseen for the second half of 2026.

Meanwhile, the Kenya-led Multinational Security Support mission began a phased withdrawal as the [UN-authorized Gang Suppression Force \(GSF\)](#) began its [deployment](#), expected to reach some 5,500 personnel with a broader mandate to contain escalating violence.

Highlights

UNHCR strengthened engagement with key national and regional counterparts, including the National Migration Office (ONM), the National Identification Office (ONI), the Office de Protection du Citoyen (OPC), and the Organization of American States (OAS), to advance cooperation on protection responses, civil documentation, legal assistance, and advocacy, with a particular focus on border areas and responding to protection needs arising from forced displacement.

In February, UNHCR supported the signing of a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) between the Organisation des Citoyens pour une Nouvelle Haïti (OCNH) and the Civil Registry Office of Mont-Organisé to strengthen access to civil registration in the North and North-East departments. The agreement aims to facilitate the issuance of birth certificates for returned individuals and residents of border communities.

During the quarter, UNHCR's partner OCNH strengthened access to civil documentation in north-eastern Haiti, conducting a mobile birth-registration campaign in Lamine, while also equipping the Civil Registry Office in Capotille with solar power and essential equipment.

UNHCR supported Haiti's participation in the Cartagena+40 event on statelessness, where authorities highlighted ongoing measures to prevent this matter and advance a national ID system. Particularly in March, the Prime Minister launched the [Kat ou la](#) ("Here's Your ID") campaign, announcing the availability of 500,000 national ID cards, with 250,000 additional cards planned for issuance in Haiti and abroad.

Operational overview

UNHCR supports internally displaced people (IDPs), returned individuals, and those at risk of statelessness in Haiti, with a focus on legal identity, access to rights, and protection. Working with the government, civil society, and UN Agencies, UNHCR contributes to monitoring protection risks, strengthening accountability to affected populations, and improving data gathering, particularly in border and displacement-affected areas. UNHCR plays an active role in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP), supporting coordination under the Protection Cluster.

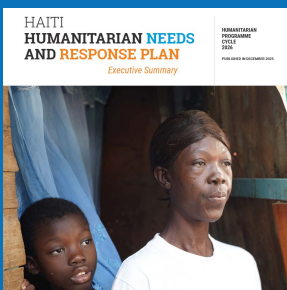
First deployed after the 2010 earthquake, UNHCR reinforced its presence in 2024 in response to escalating displacement. Since September 2025, UNHCR's operations in Haiti have been supported and coordinated by the Agency's Multi-Country Office in Panama, helping strengthen the response through added technical expertise.



Through a mobile campaign in Capotille, more than 100 people were registered and received their birth certificates the same day, an important step toward preventing statelessness in Haiti.



UNHCR works with partner ODELPA, a women-led Haitian NGO, to protect vulnerable women and girls through training, awareness campaigns, and economic empowerment, helping strengthen protection and resilience in areas affected by violence.



Useful links

- Haiti: 2026 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan
- BINUH Haiti – Press Release: The human rights situation remains extremely worrying in the fourth quarter of 2025, with nearly 6,000 deaths and more than 2,700 people injured over the year.

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We thank the contribution of our global national partner, España con ACNUR.

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