



**World Food
Programme**

**Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial**

**Programa
Mundial de
Alimentos**

**برنامج الأغذية
العالمي**

WFP News Video: El Nino, Haiti and Hunger

Location: Haiti, South Department

Shot: 14-15 April 2016

TRT: 02:10

Shotlist:

:00-:09

Shot: 14 April 2016

Flamands, South Department

Aerials dry river bed(mute)

:09-:27

Gayak

Shot: 15 April 2016

Three years of drought have pushed people further into poverty and hunger. Many households have experienced several consecutive poor harvests.

Roseline, a farmer and mother of five, cooking for the family

:27-:34

Gayak

Shot: 15 April 2016

SOT (Creole) Roseline, mother of five children.

“This is a tough zone to live in. All of our animals died. We used to be able to work, but now we can’t because it hasn’t rained.”

:34-:44

Gayak

Shot: 15 April 2016

Roseline eating

:44-:54

Pastwalèt

Shot : 14 April 2016

As a result of poor harvest, farmers like Belony Elismé, are running out of resources. He, his wife, Edna and daughter Marie Ange are struggling to feed themselves.

Belony’s family outside their house.

:54-01:09

Pastwalèt

Shot: 14 April 2016

SOT (Creole) Belony Elismé

“This child has had nothing to eat since yesterday, the neighbour eventually give her something to eat, but we ourselves can’t.”

01:09-01:13

Pastwalèt

Shot : 14 April 2016

Ertharin Cousin, WFP’s Executive Director, visiting community in Pastwalèt

01:13-01:38

Pastwalèt

Shot : 14 April 2016

SOT (English) Ertharin Cousin, WFP Executive Director

“The world has forgotten Haiti. This country has suffered through 3 years of drought, 2 years that were climate related, now El Niño drought.

I’m with a family who is representative of what is happening to the most vulnerable people here in Haiti. Because of lack of water, lack of rain and the agriculture is rain-fed that means that charcoal is the only way for a family to earn a living.”

01:38-01:42

Gayak

Shot : 15 April 2016

Deforestation is still among the leading threats to the environment, with the proportion of natural forests estimated at 2.6% of the territory in 2010, compared with 5.5% in 1956. The significant increase in forest planting is not yet sufficient to reverse the trend, especially as 92.7% of Haitian households use wood or charcoal for cooking. When it does rain, floods occur washing agricultural fields into the sea, destroying roads and infrastructure.

Like many other farmers Kesnel is now chopping wood to make charcoal, the only source of income to feed his family.

01:42-01:59

Gayak

Shot : 15 April 2016

SOT (Creole) Kesnel Alizor

“If we had water we could plant a garden, plant banana trees, etc.

But all we have left are our trees, which we cut down for firewood and charcoal.”

01:59-02:04

Shot : 15 April 2016

Gayak

Charcoal ready to be sold

END

WFP News Release

18 April 2016

WFP WILL ASSIST 1 MILLION HUNGRY HAITIANS HIT BY THREE-YEAR DROUGHT

PORT-AU-PRINCE – The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) will launch an emergency operation to assist 1 million people devastated by three years of prolonged drought exacerbated by the El Niño weather phenomenon.

An estimated 3.6 million people, or one-third of Haiti’s population, face food insecurity. This number includes more than 1.5 million who are severely food insecure and do not know where their next meal is coming from, according to an assessment by WFP and the National Coordination for Food Security.

“We must immediately help hungry Haitians. Drought and poverty should not force a child to go to bed hungry,” said WFP Executive Director Ertharin Cousin, ending a three-day visit to Haiti where she met communities hit by drought and El Niño.

The assessment found that the main 2015 spring harvest was below average, with almost three-quarters of farmers reporting they had lost more than 82 percent of production. For the 2016 spring season, 65 percent of families said they could not plant due to a lack of agricultural inputs. A scarcity of locally produced food has led to price hikes of up to 60 percent.

“We can help save lives and livelihoods now. We must work with the government, local communities and other partners, on longer-term asset development and climate smart agriculture programmes,” Cousin said. “Poor Haitian farmers living in vulnerable places must have the capacity to endure future climate-related disasters. Working together we will begin building a future with zero hunger.”

WFP initially responded with food distributions in Haiti for a two-month period to 120,000 people. With the new emergency operation this week, WFP will assist the 1 million people as Haiti enters the lean season from March to June when food stocks from the previous year run out.

Some 700,000 people in Haiti will receive cash transfers, which will provide the poorest and most vulnerable with the ability to purchase food while at the same time strengthening local economies. Another 300,000 people will be given a mix of cash transfers and food.

In a second phase, 200,000 people will receive food to work on watershed management and soil conservation projects, creating assets to help communities to plant small vegetable gardens. WFP plans to assist pregnant and breastfeeding women and young children with a specialized blended cereal fortified with vitamins and minerals to prevent malnutrition.

While addressing the drought, WFP also aims to maintain the level of assistance to a school meals programme that today represents the country's largest food-based safety net. WFP school meals support government efforts to establish a Haitian-owned programme by 2030.

In coordination with the National School Meals Programme, WFP delivers daily hot meals to 485,000 schoolchildren in over 1,700 schools in nine of Haiti's 10 departments until the end of April. Unless new donations are received, the programme will only reach 320,000 children as of May.

However, WFP cannot perform any of this work in Haiti without additional contributions. WFP needs US\$72 million for its drought-relief emergency operation from April to September as well as US\$7 million to maintain the level of school meals until the end of the next school year.

WFP is grateful so far for a confirmed contribution to the new Haiti emergency operation from the European Commission and a pledged contribution from the United States.

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in around 80 countries.

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A selection of photographs from Haiti are available for download at this [link](#)

For more information please contact (email address: firstname.lastname@wfp.org):

Alejandro Lopez-Chicheri, WFP/Latin America and the Caribbean, Mob. +507 66715355

Jane Howard, WFP/Rome, Tel. +39 06 65132321, Mob. +39 346 7600521

Gregory Barrow, WFP/London, Tel. +44 20 72409001, Mob. +44 7968 008474

Bettina Luescher, WFP/Geneva, Tel. +41 22 917 8564, Mob. + 41-79-842-8057

Gerald Bourke, WFP/New York, Tel. +1-646-5566909, Mob. +1-646 525 9982