

National Human Rights Defense Network (RNDDH)

Membre de la
fidh

Poverty, insecurity, poor sanitation, overcrowding, and exposure to contagious diseases: The general living conditions in the reception sites are alarming.

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Summary of the Report

From December 6 to 27, 2024, the National Human Rights Defense Network (RNDDH) conducted an investigation in 59 out of 117 displacement reception sites located in the departments of the West and Artibonite. The monitored sites represent 50.5% of the registered sites. The results of this survey reveal that:

- **The displacement reception sites are no longer what they were in the aftermath of the January 12, 2010 earthquake.** Fifteen years later, only 5% of the monitored spaces house earthquake victims, while the remaining 95% shelter people who fled armed gang violence, all of whom have gathered around the terrorist federation Viv Ansanm.
- **The violence by armed gangs against the population in the past two years has been the most severe,** with 54% of the monitored sites established in 2024 and 27% in 2023. Fourteen percent were created in 2021 and 2022, and the remaining 5% were established in 2010.
- **The consequences of this security situation are vast, particularly for the functioning of schools.** Indeed, 39% of the monitored spaces are educational institutions, while 34% are vacant lots and abandoned houses. The remaining 27% of sites are scattered, including churches, political party offices, state institutions, entertainment venues, as well as at least one orphanage, one health center, and one university. None of these spaces were prepared to receive displaced persons.
- **The Haitian state does not invest in the cleaning of the reception sites.** While the efforts of private and non-governmental organizations are commendable, they are insufficient. In fact, 21% of the monitored sites are not cleaned. Only 5% are cleaned by the state, and 20% by private or non-governmental organizations. The remaining 54% are cleaned by camp committees, space owners, or by the displaced persons themselves.
- **With irregular waste collection and management, the reception sites are unsanitary.** This unsanitary condition encourages the proliferation of rodents and various insects. For example, at the sites where waste collection is done, only 20% have daily waste collection, 19% weekly, 3% every 15 days, and 17% sporadically.

- **Twenty-nine percent of the sites lack toilets.** In the remaining 71%, the toilets are often dirty and foul-smelling. Bathing facilities are almost non-existent, and their layout poses a danger to women and girls who cannot use them at night. Moreover, in 5% of the monitored sites, men gather near the showers to harass women and girls who come to use them.
- **Access to drinking water and basic services is inconsistent.** Once again, the state leaves this responsibility to private and non-governmental organizations, whose efforts are still insufficient given the population density to be served.
- **In terms of health, the Haitian state intervenes in only 44% of the monitored sites.** In 41%, private and non-governmental organizations provide healthcare services to the population. In 15%, the population is simply left to fend for itself.
- **The security of displaced persons is not a priority for the state authorities.** However, 73% of the monitored spaces have experienced acts of violence. Fights, assaults, theft, insults, public disturbances, sexual violence, and physical and gender-based violence against women and girls have been reported to RNDDH. Specifically, 10% and 7% of the sites reported sexual violence and physical and gender-based violence against women, respectively.

Based on the above, the RNDDH recommends that state authorities: Take responsibility for all displaced persons and better coordinate humanitarian aid provided by private and non-governmental organizations; Encourage private and non-governmental organizations to work closely with camp committee leaders to assess the real needs of the displaced population; Treat displaced persons with respect for their human dignity and fundamental rights to health, food, education, and a healthy environment; Do everything necessary to ensure the safety of individuals living in displacement reception sites and invite community policing to take control of these spaces; Invest in security by providing law enforcement with the necessary police and military equipment to restore peace and security in the country; End the sharing of intelligence funds and ensure that these amounts are effectively used for intelligence purposes; Restore minimum security conditions to allow the displaced population to return home.

I. Introduction

1. On January 12, 2010, a 7.3 magnitude earthquake struck several communes in the departments of the West, Southeast, and Nippes, resulting in the deaths of 222,517 people and the disappearance of 300,000 others. The material losses were also immense. Hundreds of thousands of homes collapsed, forcing the population to take refuge in the streets, public spaces, schools, churches, or vacant lots.
2. Amid the chaos that ensued in the country, countless reception camps were created, either spontaneously or through state intervention. Relocation sites were also built. However, fifteen years later, the victims of the January 12, 2010 earthquake are now joined by displaced persons fleeing insecurity, who, in the departments of the West and Artibonite, were forced to seek refuge in these reception sites.
3. Today, on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the January 12, 2010 earthquake, the National Human Rights Defense Network (RNDDH) deems it its duty to draw public attention to the general living conditions in the sites housing internally displaced persons.

II. Methodology

4. For this study, conducted from December 6 to 27, 2024, the RNDDH deployed seven (7) field monitors who interviewed camp committee leaders and some residents of fifty-nine (59) sites. These interviews were based on a pre-prepared survey form that focused on:
 - Sanitation
 - Access to water
 - Health conditions in the displacement sites
 - Security arrangements
 - Humanitarian aid distributions
5. Five (5) focus groups were held with site leaders: three (3) in Port-au-Prince, one (1) on the island of Gonâve in the department of the West, and one (1) in Marose, the 4th section of Poteaux in Gonaïves, in the department of Artibonite.

6. The fifty-nine (59) sites included in this survey can be classified as follows:

- One (1) orphanage
- One (1) health center
- One (1) university
- Two (2) political party offices
- Three (3) churches
- Four (4) state institutions
- Four (4) sports and/or entertainment venues
- Twenty (20) miscellaneous spaces
- Twenty-three (23) educational institutions

III. Context

7. The January 12, 2010 earthquake caused significant human and material losses. Several international agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) had to deploy to the country to assist the Haitian population. The department of the West and some communes in the departments of the Southeast and Nippes quickly became veritable "republics of NGOs."
8. While during the emergency phase, interventions by some international agencies and NGOs helped prevent the worst, in the recovery phase, billions of U.S. dollars were spent with very few results. Upon their departure, the human rights situation of the population worsened. The ability of Haitians to escape dependency diminished. Additionally, the promises made by state authorities to rebuild the West department and implement development programs were not kept. Relocation sites, unprepared to accommodate the population, as well as other semi-permanent sites, became true slums. The most notable example remains the Canaan relocation site, for which numerous warnings had been issued to the then state authorities.
9. Without electricity, running water, public transport, and with very little police presence, these spaces, like the Canaan relocation site, quickly turned into "red zones" where insecurity thrived. Furthermore, access to healthcare and education remains a significant concern in these areas.

10. Thus, enormous sums of money were invested in the country's reconstruction. However, the opportunity presented by the earthquake was not seized. Left to fend for itself, the Haitian population managed to rebuild as best it could. Some were able to rebuild their homes or pay rent and somewhat regain control of their lives, while others remained in shelters and relocation sites that were created and now live in denial of their fundamental rights.
11. A few years prior to the earthquake, in May 2006, the country joined the PetroCaribe program, implemented by Venezuela, which allowed Haiti to procure petroleum products at competitive prices, paying part of the cost at the time of purchase and committing to pay the remaining balance over 25 years. Meanwhile, the proceeds from the sale of these products in the country were supposed to form a development fund, aimed at advancing the country on the path of social justice and the realization of social and economic rights.
12. These funds were squandered by successive governments. In 2018, when the population realized what had happened, thousands of citizens began demanding accountability for the use of the PetroCaribe funds—funds that, if properly managed, could have helped the country recover from the January 12, 2010, earthquake.
13. The state authorities at the time, instead of activating the judicial system to investigate the use of these funds and provide answers to the Haitian people, chose instead to finance armed gangs by providing them with large sums of money, weapons, and ammunition, guaranteeing them impunity. This led to unprecedented waves of violence, first in the underprivileged neighborhoods of Port-au-Prince—areas most vulnerable to large-scale corruption within the state—and later spreading to residential neighborhoods and the Artibonite department.
14. From 2018 to 2024, the RNDDH investigated thirty-four (34) massacres and armed attacks, which resulted in the deaths of thousands of people, including women, children, and the elderly. Hundreds of women and girls were also raped. This outbreak of violence forced thousands¹ of families to flee conflict zones, leaving more than seven hundred thousand (700,000) people homeless. Some sought refuge in the provinces, while others fled to

¹ **The humanitarian crisis worsens in Haiti: Over 700,000 displaced persons, half of them children**
[Source: IOM - International Organization for Migration](#)

public spaces, educational institutions, state buildings, sports and entertainment venues, etc.

15. Thus, in a situation nearly identical to what occurred in the West department following the January 12, 2010, earthquake, much of the Haitian population now finds itself in reception sites. The only difference today, in 2025, is that the victims are fleeing not due to natural disasters, but because the state authorities have failed to ensure their safety and protection from armed gangs.

16. It is the numerous alerts regarding the unsanitary conditions and overcrowding in these sites raised by residents that caught the attention of the RNDDH and prompted it to conduct this investigation, the results of which, alarmingly, are shared in this report.

IV. General Information on the Registered Reception Sites

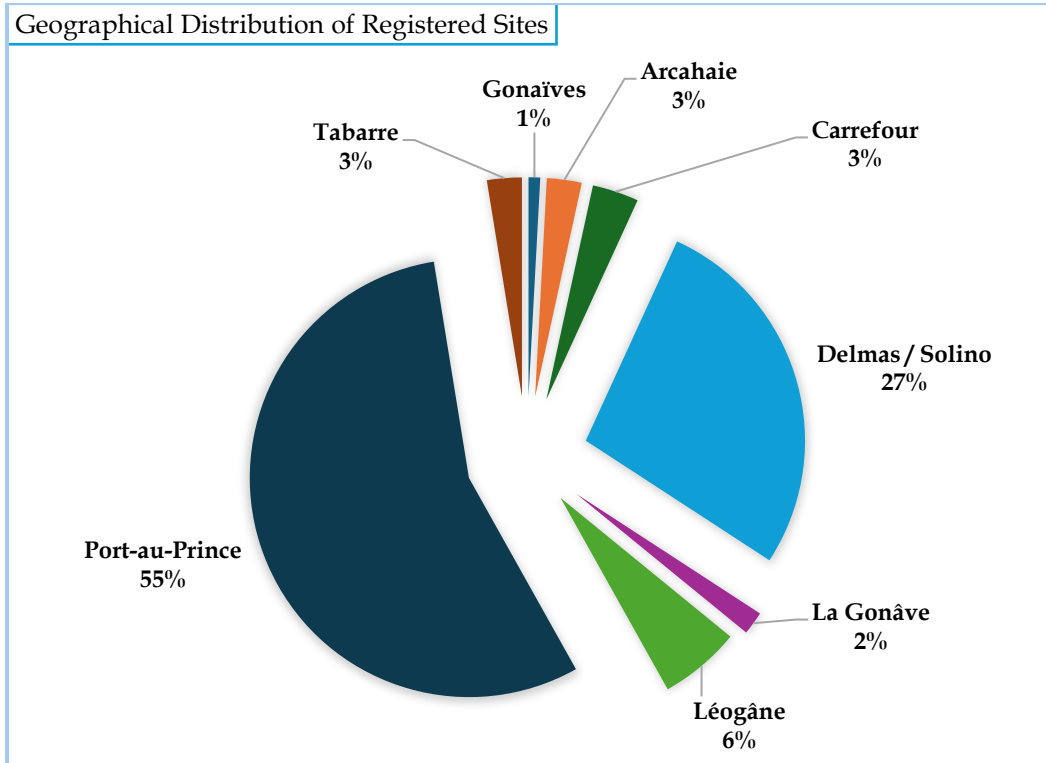
17. According to the combined data from the General Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC) and the RNDDH, the country currently has at least one hundred seventeen (117) reception sites located in eight (8) communes across the departments of the West and Artibonite.

18. These spaces accommodate over one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) people, including twenty-nine thousand nine hundred eighty-eight (29,988) minors, representing 20% of the displaced population; nine thousand two hundred three (9,203) individuals over the age of sixty (60), making up 6%; and one thousand forty-five (1,045) people living with motor, sensory, or cognitive disabilities, who account for 1% of the displaced population.

19. Geographical Distribution of Registered Reception Sites by RNDDH and DPC

Department	Communes	Number of Reception Sites
Artibonite	Gonaïves, Route de Gros Morne	1
	Arcahaie	3
West	Carrefour	4
	Delmas / Solino	32
	La Gonâve	2
	Léogâne	7
	Port-au-Prince	65
	Tabarre	3
Total	8 communes	117

Table I



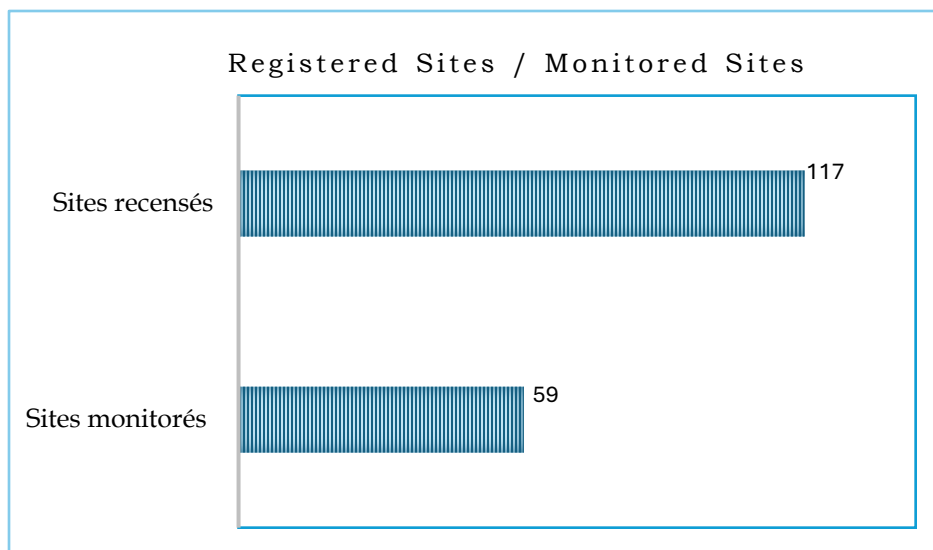
Graph I

V. Information on the Monitored Sites

20. Each respondent was asked to provide details about what was present in the space before the arrival of the displaced persons, the date of the site's establishment, the presence or absence of a site management committee, the categorization of the people living in the site, and the reception capacity of the monitored spaces in comparison to the number of people hosted.

1) General Overview of the Monitored Reception Sites

21. In addition to field visits, the RNDDH interviewed the leaders of fifty-nine (59) reception sites, including forty-five (45) men, representing 77% of the respondents, and fourteen (14) women, representing 23%. These monitored spaces represent 50.5% of the sites registered by the DPC and the RNDDH.



Graph 2

22. Here is the list of monitored spaces for this survey:

- One (1) orphanage: L'Orphelinat Le Bon Berger, Route de Gros Morne
- One (1) health center: Klinik Sen Michèl
- One (1) university: Faculté de Linguistique Appliquée (FLA)

23. Two (2) political party offices:

- Fusion des Sociaux-Démocrates (Fusion)
- Konvansyon Inite Demokratik (KID)

24. Three (3) churches:

- Eglise de Dieu de la Conquête
- Eglise la Providence
- Eglise Troupeau de Jésus Christ

25. Four (4) state institutions:

- Ministère de la Communication (2 sites)
- Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication
- Office de Protection du Citoyen (OPC)
- Vice-délégation Archaie

26. Four (4) sports and/or entertainment venues:

- Airport Ciné
- Festi-Delice

- Gymnasium Vincent
- Rex Théâtre

27. Twenty (20) other spaces:

- Saint Dominique
- Saint-Aude
- Alpha
- Dos ENAF
- Haïtel
- Marécage
- Messenger du Salut
- Terrain Acra
- Tisavann
- Vieux magasin, La Gonâve
- Village de la Grace, Tabarre 52
- Zetwa K22, La Gonâve
- Kavitorin, Léogane, Ti Rivyè
- Kay Tina
- Kay Gwo Jera
- Kay Soraya
- Camp Carradeux/Camp Toto
- Anba Bannann, Sigueneau
- Ancienne Pompe à essence de Bourdon
- Manjwa

28. Twenty-three (23) educational institutions:

- Collège Mixte Moderne de Saintard, Arcahaie
- Collège Antilles
- Collège Classique de Bourdon
- Collège Isidor Jean Louis
- Collège Jean Moreno
- Ecole Nationale Caroline Chauveau
- Ecole Dei Virtus
- Ecole Mixte Vision Nouvelle
- Ecole Nationale Argentine Bellegarde
- Ecole Nationale Colbert Lochard
- Ecole Nationale Colombie
- Ecole Nationale Darius Denis
- Ecole Nationale Equateur
- Collège Saint-Louis Roi de France
- Ecole Nationale Virginie Sampeur
- Institution Entichement du Savoir
- Institution Jean Marie César

- Institution Mixte Frère Anald
- Lycée Anténor Firmin
- Lycée des jeunes filles
- Lycée des jeunes filles (ancien local)
- Lycée Jean Marie Vincent
- Lycée Marie Jeanne

2) Specific Data on Monitored Sites and Their Populations

a) On the Date of Creation of the Monitored Sites

29. Of the fifty-nine (59) reception sites surveyed, three (3) of them, or 5%, were created in 2010, following the January 12 earthquake. Four (4) others, or 7%, were created in 2021, four (4) more, or 7%, in 2022, sixteen (16), or 27%, in 2023, and thirty-two (32) more, or 54%, in 2024.

b) On the Existence of Management Committees and Categorization of Displaced Persons

30. Fifty-eight (58) of the monitored reception sites, representing 98%, have a camp management committee. Only L'Orphelinat Le Bon Berger, or 2%, located in Marose, Gonaïves, does not have one.

31. In fifty-six (56) of the reception sites, representing 95% of the monitored spaces, people affected by insecurity are found. In three (3) others, or 5%, the residents are victims of a natural disaster. These sites include Village de la Grace, located in Tabarre 52, Camp Carradeux / Camp Toto, also in Tabarre 52, and Saint-Aude, located in Delmas.

32. It is important to note that victims of insecurity have also sought refuge in Village de la Grace and Camp Carradeux / Camp Toto, two spaces that previously only housed victims of the January 12, 2010 earthquake.

c) On the Areas of Origin of the Displaced Persons

33. The individuals currently in the monitored insecurity displacement sites come from forty-eight (48) different areas located in the communes of the West department:

34. Arcahaie
35. Bel-Air
36. Bellevue
37. Bercy
38. Cabaret

39. Canaan
40. Caridad
41. Carrefour-Feuilles
42. Centre-ville de Port-au-Prince
43. Christ-Roi
44. Cité neuf
45. Croix-des-Missions
46. Decayette
47. Delmas 5
48. Delmas 7
49. Delmas 9
50. Delmas 11
51. Delmas 13
52. Delmas 17
53. Delmas 24
54. Delmas 30
55. Dumornay
56. Fort-National
57. Grand Rue
58. Gressier
59. Jérusalem
60. Mariani
61. Martissant
62. Nazon
63. Onaville
64. Pernier
65. Poste-Marchand
66. Rue de la Réunion
67. Rue de l'Enterrement
68. Rue du Centre
69. Rue Saint-Honoré
70. Santo
71. Savane Pistache
72. Shada
73. Soisson
74. Solino
75. Source Matelas
76. Tabarre
77. Tabarre Issa
78. Tapage
79. Truittier
80. Vivy Mitchel
81. Williamson

d) On the Reception Capacity of the Displacement Sites

Poverty, insecurity, poor sanitation, overcrowding, and exposure to contagious diseases: The general living conditions in the reception sites are alarming.

34. In general, the displacement sites are housing more victims than their capacity allows. For example, demographic data from twenty (20) monitored sites, or 34% of the sites, shows that: eight (8) sites are housing nearly twice the number of people they were designed for, and nine (9) others are hosting more than twice the number of people. Two (2) sites are hosting more than five (5) times the number of people they can accommodate, and one (1) site is housing more than six (6) times its capacity. The difference between the capacity of the sites and the number of people housed is presented as follows:

Sites	Adresses	Reception Capacity of the Sites	Number of People in the Sites
Village de la Grace Tabarre 52	Tabarre 52	900	1510
Collège Antilles	#146, Ave Christophe	700	1028
Collège Jean Moreno	#32, Rue J. Roumain, Delmas 33	600	850
Eglise de Dieu de la Conquête	Maïs gâté, impasse Dessalines	1000	1482
Ecole Nationale Darius Denis	Lalue (2ème ruelle jéréemie)	1300	1955
Ancien Pompe de Bourdon	Angle 2ème ruelle rivière et Bourdon	350	500
Ministère communication (2)	Bourdon	1500	2000
Institution mixte frère Anald	Martissant 2 B	700	1289
Ecole Nationale Caroline Chauveau	Champs-de-Mars, Rue Piquant #56	1100	2400
Local KID	Bas Bourdon/ Ave John Brown	3000	6600
Local Kay Soraya	Croix-des-prez	300	643
Lycée Jean Marie Vincent	Tabarre 48	1000	2232
Klinik Sen Michel	Fort National	100	260
Ecole mixte Vision Nouvelle	Butte Boyer	155	376
Ecole Nationale Colombie	Bourdon	600	1215
Site Messenger du Salut	2ème avenue Bolosse	350	1016
Kavitorin	kavitorin, Léogane, zone Ti Rivyè	50	147
Institution entichement du savoir	Cité 9, haut Bolosse	200	1090
Eglise Troupeau de Jésus Christ	Martissant 2 A, rue Troupeau	255	1410
Institution Mixte frère Anald	Martissant 2 A, rue Benoit	305	1901

35. It is important to note that twenty-two (22) of the monitored sites, or 37% of them, are hosting victims who were already in reception spaces. They had to seek refuge in another camp due to insecurity. However, twenty-nine (29) other sites, or 49%, still include the people who initially created them. The answer to this question is unavailable for eight (8) monitored sites, representing 14% of the monitored sites.

VI. Specific Information on the Monitored Sites

36. As previously mentioned, the survey conducted by the RNDDH focused on five (5) specific aspects of the lives of displaced persons: sanitation in reception sites, access to water, healthcare services, security arrangements, and humanitarian aid distributions.

37. In this regard, each respondent was asked to provide information on the frequency of site cleaning, waste collection and management, access to latrines, and access to drinking and service water.

38. Subsequently, the respondents were asked about the various health programs implemented in the camps, their accessibility, the organization of security, the entities responsible for security, and the recorded acts of violence. Finally, they were invited to provide details on the organization of humanitarian aid distribution and the different entities involved.

1) Sanitation of the Reception Sites

a) Frequency of Site Cleaning

39. Twelve (12) of the monitored sites, representing 20% of them, are cleaned daily. Thirty-five (35) other monitored sites, or 59%, are cleaned but not regularly. Eleven (11) sites, or 19%, are not cleaned at all. A response to this question was not provided for one (1) camp, or 2%.



Photo 1: National School Republic of Equator

b) Entities Involved in Cleaning the Sites

40. For the forty-seven (47) spaces concerned, in three (3), or 5% of them, cleaning is carried out by the Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC) and the Western Health Department of the Ministry of Public Health and Population (DSO/MSPP). These include the following sites: Ecole Nationale Caroline Chauvreau, the Faculty of Linguistics, and Airport Ciné.

41. NGOs are responsible for cleaning twelve (12) of the monitored sites in this survey, representing 20% of the monitored spaces. In this regard, the RNDDH has identified the following five (5) organizations, listed in this report from most to least frequently cited by respondents:

- Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)
- Humanitarian Aid Outreach Organization (ORRAH)
- International Solidarity
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)

42. In sixteen (16) sites, or 27% of the monitored spaces, cleaning is carried out by camp committees, several of which have established a Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) unit. This unit also helps raise awareness among residents about hygiene and waste management. At the Collège Mixte Moderne de Saintard in Arcahaie, or 2%, the site owner is responsible for cleaning for the residents. In fifteen (15) other sites, or 25% of the monitored spaces, it is the displaced persons themselves who organize the cleaning of the space.

c) Frequency of Waste Collection and Management

43. Respondents from twenty-nine (29) of the monitored sites, or 49%, believe that site cleaning is far from sufficient, compared to six (6), or 10%, who disagree. To support their statements, they base their arguments on the frequency of waste collection and its management.

44. For the forty-seven (47) spaces concerned with cleaning, waste is collected daily in twelve (12) sites, or 20% of them. These sites include:

- Institut Jean Marie César
- Collège Isidor Jean Louis
- Ecole Saint Louis Roi de France
- Kay Gwo Jera
- Ecole Virginie Sampeur
- Ministère Communication (2 sites)
- Institution Entichement du Savoir
- Institution Mixte Frère Anald
- Anba Bannan, Sigueneau
- Kavitorin, Léogane
- Collège Saintard, CMMS, Arcahaie
- Orphelinat Le Bon Berger, Gonaïves

45. Waste is collected weekly in eleven (11) of the monitored sites, or 19%; it is collected every fifteen (15) days in seven (7) sites, or 3%; it is collected sporadically in fifteen (15) other monitored sites, or 17%; and it is never collected in two (2) of the monitored reception sites, or 5%. These two sites are Ecole Nationale République de l'Equateur and Site Terrain Acra.

46. The management of the collected waste is also a major concern. For example:

- Often, the waste collected at Airport Ciné, located near the offices of the Central Directorate of Road Police (DCPR), is thrown into a canal near the site.
- At Collège Jean Moreno, located in Delmas 33, the waste is simply burned.
- In other camps, residents, together with the committee leaders, arrange to stack the waste and pay for its removal.

d) Access to Latrines

47. Of the fifty-nine (59) monitored sites, forty-two (42), or 71%, are equipped with latrines and/or toilets. In twenty-two (22) of them, the toilets and latrines are clean, which is not the case in the remaining twenty (20) sites.

48. In these twenty (20) sites, the toilets are dirty and foul-smelling. In some cases, the pits are full, and the evacuation of urine and feces is impossible. As a result, these toilets become breeding grounds for germs for the residents who use them. Consequently, in some sites, despite having toilets or latrines, residents prefer to find alternative solutions rather than use them.



Photo 2: Toilets in two different sites

49. On the other hand, seventeen (17) of the monitored sites, or 29%, do not have either toilets or latrines. These sites include:

- Gymnasium Vincent
- Konvansyon Inite Demokratik (KID)
- Camp Carradeux/Camp Toto
- Saint-Aude
- Tisavann Site
- Ecole Nationale Equateur
- Manjwa
- Local Kay Soraya
- Ecole Mixte Vision Nouvelle
- Dos ENAF Site
- Haïtel Site
- Vieux magasin (La Gonave)
- Festi-Delice
- Rex Théâtre
- Terrain Acra Site
- Eglise Troupeau de Jésus Christ
- Vice-délégation de l'Archaie

50. Some of the displaced persons relieve themselves in the canals and ravines located near the sites, or at the homes of people living in the area, who often charge between ten (10) to twenty-five (25) gourdes in exchange for allowing use of their toilet or latrine. Others use market latrines, defecate in the sea, on the ground in the sites, in bags, or on vacant lots adjacent to the sites.

e) Access to Showers

52. Thirty-four (34) of the monitored sites, or 58%, have spaces for bathing and ablutions, while twenty-two (22) others, or 37%, do not. The answer to this question was not provided for three (3) sites, or 5%.



Photo3: Showers – Ecole Nationale République d'Equateur

2) Access to Water

53. In thirty-five (35) of the monitored sites, or 59%, residents have access to drinking water, while in twenty-three (23) sites, representing 39%, the situation is not the same. Information was not provided for one (1) monitored reception site, or 2%.

54. Similarly, residents of thirty-seven (37) of the monitored sites, or 63%, have access to service water, while twenty-one (21) others, or 35%, do not. Information is unavailable for one (1) of the monitored sites, or 2% of them.

55. Some sites are supplied with water by state institutions, such as the DSO/MSPP, while others are supplied by non-governmental organizations like the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), the Humanitarian Aid Outreach Organization (ORRAH), the Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA), the Haitian Red Cross, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Solidarity, and Haiti Survives. Often, the water provided is stored by the residents. In this regard, four (4) of the monitored sites, or 7%, are equipped with reservoirs. These include Ecole Caroline Chauveau, Village de la Grâce, Kavitorin in Léogane, and Saint Dominique.

56. It was also reported to the RNDDH that:

- Some institutions provide water to residents of several sites. For example, ORRAH provides service water every eight (8) days to residents at the reception sites of Collège Dei Virtus, Lycée des Jeunes Filles, Lycée Firmin, Ecole Nationale Colbert Lochard, etc.;
- Several organizations may intervene in water distribution at the same site. For example, at Lycée Anténor Firmin, ORRAH supplies service water, and IOM handles the potable water.

57. At the Office of Citizen Protection (OPC), the political party Engagés pour le Développement (EDE) buys water tankers for the residents.

58. However, respondents unanimously agree that the water provided is far from sufficient, which forces residents to find other ways to obtain it:

- Some residents collect water for free or purchase it from people living in adjacent neighborhoods;
- Others travel long distances to reach a water source. This is the case for displaced persons from Ti Savann in Haut Duprez, who must walk for hours to collect water from a nearby source;
- Some even monitor the distribution of water by DINEPA through pipes adjacent to their sites.

3) Health in the Reception Sites

59. In twenty-six (26) sites, representing 44% of the monitored spaces, health programs are implemented by state institutions. These services are provided either by the Department of Health of the West Ministry of Public Health and Population (DSO/MSPP), as reported. In twenty-four (24) other sites, or 41%, where state institutions are absent, it is private or non-governmental organizations that provide the care. In the remaining nine (9) sites, no health program is available. These represent 15% of the monitored sites.

60. The private and non-governmental organizations that provide healthcare to the displaced persons are listed in order of frequency as cited by respondents, with the most frequently cited listed first:

- Alyans Pou Aksyon Medikal Entènasyon (ALIMA)
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)
- Croix-Rouge Haïtienne
- Femmes en Association pour le Développement d’Haïti et pour le Renforcement de l’Intégration Sociale (FADHRIS)
- Organisation Internationale de la Migration (OIM)
- International Society for Developmental Psychobiology (ISDP)
- Solidarité Internationale
- Groupe Haïtien d’Etudes sur le Sarcome de Kaposi et les Infections Opportunistes (GHESKIO)
- Fondation pour la Santé Reproductrice et l’Education Familiale (FOSREF)
- Hunger Relief International (HRI)
- Samaritan’s Purse
- Association des Homéopathes Haïtiens (AHH)
- La Gonâve en Marche (LAGEM)
- Centre pour l’Education Communautaire et la Culture (CEDUCC)
- Classification Internationale des Maladies (CIM)
- Kore Timoun

61. Generally, healthcare providers, both public and private, organize mobile clinics. This was reported for twenty (20) of the monitored sites, or 34% of them. In at least four (4) sites, including Lycée Marie Jeanne, Ecole Dei Virtus, Lycée des Jeunes Filles, and Saint Dominique, in addition to organizing regular mobile clinics, the MSPP deployed field agents who are regularly present, educate the population on behaviors to avoid, and collect public health information.

62. In the remaining nine (9) sites, or 15% of the monitored spaces, where there is no access to healthcare, when health issues arise, residents pool their resources to allow the sick to go to the hospital. This was the case, for example, in the sites La Providence and Ecole Nationale Colbert Lochard.

a) Common Pathologies in the Sites

63. The question of providing healthcare in reception spaces remains a significant concern. Residents recognize that the care provided is insufficient given the frequency of illnesses and the number of people suffering from various health issues. For example:

- In fifty-five (55) of the monitored reception sites, or 93% of them, numerous people showing signs of physical health problems are recorded. Four (4) sites, or 7%, reported nothing on this matter;
- In twenty-four (24) of the monitored sites, or 41% of them, people showing visible signs of mental health issues are reported. Thirty-five (35) sites reported nothing on this matter, representing 59%.

64. In order of frequency, the most common health conditions in the monitored displacement sites are:

- Fever
- Scabies
- Flu and cough
- Diarrhea
- High blood pressure
- Vaginal infections
- Diabetes
- Migraine
- Nausea and vomiting

65. According to respondents, most of these conditions are contagious. Some are influenced by factors that residents cannot control, such as the quality of water provided to them, the unsanitary conditions of the spaces they inhabit, the lack of maintenance of toilets, irregular waste collection, and more generally, the overcrowded conditions in which they live.

66. It should also be noted that forty-six (46) of the monitored sites, or 78% of them, host at least four hundred twenty-nine (429) people with mobility or sensory impairments. Thirteen (13) sites, or 22%, reported no such cases.

4) Security in the Reception Sites

67. In twenty-eight (28) sites, or 47.5% of the monitored spaces, security is organized by the camp committees. In twelve (12) of these sites, or 20%, the committees have set up brigades specifically dedicated to security. In seven (7) sites, or 12% of the monitored spaces, residents organize the security of their space on their own. In two (2) sites, or 3% of the monitored spaces, security is provided by agents from the Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC). These sites include Marécage and Ecole Caroline Chauveau.

68. At Saint Dominique site, or 2% of the monitored spaces, agents from the Brigade of Surveillance of Protected Areas (BSAP) and the Haitian National Police (PNH) are deployed to ensure the security of the residents.

69. In five (5) other sites, or 8.5%, no measures have been taken for security. These include Eglise La Providence, Lycée Anténor Firmin, and Ecole Nationale République Colombie, as well as Institution Mixte Frère Anald and Eglise Troupeau, where, according to respondents, security cannot be organized due to the lack of lighting at night. The answer to this question was not provided for four (4) of the monitored sites, representing 7% of the total.

70. It should also be noted that in five (5) of the twenty-eight (28) sites mentioned, the population is also involved in securing their space alongside committee members.

a) Acts of Violence in the Sites

71. Acts of violence are recorded in forty-three (43) of the monitored sites, or 73% of them, while in sixteen (16) sites, or 27%, no incidents of violence have been reported so far.

72. Here is the list of crimes generally committed in the monitored reception sites, ranked by frequency as reported by respondents:

- Fights followed by assault and battery
- Theft
- Insults and public disturbances
- Sexual violence

- Physical and gender-based violence against women and girls

73. Six (6) reception sites, or 10%, highlighted the sexual violence committed against women and girls in their spaces. These include:

- Village de la Grâce, Tabarre
- Camp Carradeux / Camp Toto
- Lycée Anténor Firmin
- Local Kay Soraya
- Site Marécage
- Terrain Acra

74. Four (4) reception sites, or 7%, highlighted the physical and gender-based violence committed against women and girls. These include:

- Village de la Grâce, Tabarre
- Camp Carradeux / Camp Toto
- Ecole Nationale Darius Denis
- Rex Théâtre

75. Residents of twenty-six (26) of the monitored sites, or 44%, state that the police do not exercise control either over the sites or their surrounding areas, compared to thirty-three (33) sites, or 56%, where the situation is not the same, according to the respondents.

5) Humanitarian Assistance

76. In twenty-three (23) of the monitored sites, representing 39% of them, residents have no access to humanitarian assistance, while in thirty-two (32) other sites, or 54%, humanitarian distributions are carried out. Information is not available for four (4) of the monitored sites, representing 7%.

77. According to respondents from the thirty-two (32) affected sites, this assistance comes from private organizations in twenty-five (25) sites, or 42%, and from the Economic and Social Assistance Fund (FAES) in seven (7) other sites, or 12%.

78. Some private or non-governmental organizations present in multiple reception sites regularly distribute humanitarian aid to the displaced persons. These include:

- Groupe pour L’Inclusion, la Recherche et l’Appui au Développement d’Haïti (GIRADEL-Haïti)
- Programme Alimentaire Mondial (PAM)
- Centre d’Animation Paysanne et d’Action Communautaire (CAPAC)
- Organisation de Rapprochement d’Aide Humanitaire (ORRAH)
- Organisation Internationale des Migrations (OIM)
- Agence d’Aide à la Coopération Technique et au Développement (ACTED)
- Croix Rouge Haïtienne
- Solidarité Internationale
- Samaritan Purse
- Initiative Citoyenne pour les Droits de l’Homme (ICDH)
- Centre pour l’Education Communautaire et la Culture (CEDUCC)
- Fonds des Nations Unies pour l’Enfance (UNICEF)
- Organisation des Visionnaires Dévoués pour un Développement de Haute Modernisation (OVDDMOH)
- Organisation des Cœurs pour le Changement des Enfants Démunis d’Haïti (OCCED’H)

79. Other organizations have carried out a one-time distribution in certain sites or are present in only one (1) site. These include:

- Atelier des Travaux de Recherches Economiques pour mieux Préparer l’Avenir (ATREPA)
- MUJDDE
- ISPAL
- ICQH
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)
- Femmes en Association pour le Développement d’Haïti et pour le Renforcement de l’Intégration Sociale (FADHRIS)
- MOYOLDE
- Handicap International
- Institut Mobile d’Education Démocratique (IMED)
- Konbit Adok
- Pojè Lakay
- Marijan
- GOAL
- Mission Réformée
- HID
- Groupe Haïtien d’Etudes sur le Sarcome de Kaposi et les Infections Opportunistes (GHESKIO)
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)
- PanAmerican Development Foundation (PADF)

- Mercy Corps
- La Gonave en Marche (LAGEM)
- Fondasyon Kominote Kretyen an Aksyon (FOKA)
- Fonds des Nations Unies pour la Population (UNFPA)
- ONU Femmes
- Initiative pour le Développement des Jeunes (IDEJEN)

80. The strategies adopted for distributions in the thirty-two (32) affected sites vary from site to site. For example:

- In nineteen (19) of the monitored sites, distributions are organized by the camp committees, which set the principles. Several of these committees have established a logistics staff to manage the process. The distribution principles may vary from site to site. For example, in twelve (12) of the monitored sites, distributions are made by head of family, while in seven (7) others, distributions are made by block, room, or tent of displaced persons.
- In nine (9) sites, distributions are managed by the organizations operating on-site. Often, these organizations distribute vouchers to families identified in the spaces, according to their criteria.
- In four (4) sites, no strategy has been established, and distributions are carried out in complete disorder.

81. However, the aid provided is far from sufficient, and often, even when the distributions are well-organized, fights break out between the residents. Furthermore, when distributions take place in sites located near densely populated areas or gang strongholds, unidentified individuals put pressure on committee members to receive humanitarian aid for themselves, their friends, and family members, despite the fact that they do not live in the respective sites. For example, at the Jean Marie César Institution, it was agents of the National Police of Haiti (PNH) who had to intervene during a distribution to prevent the aid from being seized by residents from the area who do not live in the site.

82. The sporadic distribution of hot meals does not have unanimous support among residents of the reception sites. The meals are often insufficient, and the food prepared does not take into account the various dietary needs of the residents, particularly those with cardiovascular diseases.

On the other hand, residents say they prefer to receive cash assistance directly to their phones. This method allows them to address immediate needs based on their specific circumstances.

VII. Comments and Recommendations

83. On the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the January 12, 2010 earthquake, the National Network for the Defense of Human Rights (RNDDH) conducted a survey in fifty-nine (59) of the one hundred seventeen (117) registered reception sites. The monitored spaces, located in the departments of the West and Artibonite, represent 50.5% of the registered sites.

84. The findings of this research reveal that:

- The reception sites for displaced persons are no longer what they were immediately after the January 12, 2010 earthquake.

85. Fifteen (15) years later, while there are still camps hosting victims of the January 12, 2010 earthquake, today, 95% of the registered reception sites house victims of insecurity who had to flee their homes due to attacks by armed individuals, now organized since 2024, under the terrorist group Viv Ansanm. Only 5% house victims of the natural disaster.

86. Of the monitored spaces in this survey, 39% are educational institutions, 34% are abandoned houses, vacant lots, or spaces not occupied by their owners, 7% are sports and recreational spaces, 7% are state institution buildings, 5% are churches, and 3% are political party offices. The remaining three (3) sites, or 5% of the monitored sites, are respectively an orphanage, a health center, and a faculty.

87. 54% of the monitored sites were created in 2024, 27% in 2023, 7% in 2022, 7% in 2021, and only 5% in 2010. Displaced persons currently in these sites come from forty-eight (48) zones in communes of the West department. This information supports the assertion that armed criminals occupy and control more than 90% of the territory in the West department.

88. 34% of the monitored sites receive nearly or more than twice the number of people their capacity can accommodate, while others receive up to six times more than their capacity. For the remaining 66% of sites, although the overcrowding is not as severe, it remains highly concerning.

89. Today, 37% of the monitored sites house victims who were already in reception camps and had to flee a second time due to insecurity. Only 49% of the sites still host the displaced persons who created them. And 14% of the monitored sites did not provide an answer to this question.

- Residents of many reception sites live in unsanitary conditions, with cleaning, waste collection, and management far from meeting the needs of the displaced population.

90. Only 20% of the monitored sites are regularly cleaned, with waste being collected daily. 59% are cleaned irregularly, and 19% are not cleaned at all. The answer to this question is unavailable for 2% of the monitored sites.

- The Haitian state does not invest in cleaning the spaces occupied by displaced persons. The situation exceeds the efforts of both the residents and private or non-governmental organizations attempting to clean the reception sites.

91. Only 5% of the monitored sites are cleaned by state entities, namely the Directorate of Civil Protection (DPC) and the Western Health Department of the Ministry of Public Health and Population (DSO/MSPP). 20% of the monitored sites rely on private organizations and/or non-governmental organizations for cleaning. 27% are cleaned by camp committees, several of which have created a WASH unit. 2% are cleaned by the site owners. In 25% of the monitored sites, the displaced persons themselves handle the cleaning. 21% of the remaining sites are not involved in this aspect of the survey, either because they are not cleaned at all or because they did not provide an answer to this question.

- Even for the sites that are cleaned, waste collection is not regular, which makes the spaces even more unsanitary and fosters the spread of rodents and various insects in the sites.

92. In only 20% of the monitored sites is waste collected daily. In 19%, it is collected weekly. In 3%, it is collected every fifteen (15) days. In 17%, the waste is collected sporadically. Other monitored sites were not concerned with this question.

- When waste is not collected, it is burned inside or near the camps, where it was piled. Worse, it may remain there for weeks or even months.

93. Access to clean and secure latrines is not guaranteed for all displaced persons. Similarly, bathing spaces are not available in all camps. In some, their layout poses a danger for women and girls who cannot use them at night.

94. Indeed, 71% of the monitored reception sites have latrines and/or toilets, although their cleanliness remains questionable. 29% do not have any. Residents of these sites defecate in nearby canals or ravines, use market latrines, go to the sea, or do it directly on the ground within the sites or in bags.

95. 58% of the monitored spaces have a place for bathing and ablutions, while 37% do not. 5% did not provide an answer to this question. Furthermore, in 5% of the sites, it was reported that men gather near the bathing spaces and harass women and girls who go there.

- Access to drinking water and service water is concerning. The Haitian state once again shifts this responsibility, and the efforts of private or non-governmental organizations remain insufficient.

96. In 39% of the monitored sites, displaced persons do not have access to drinking water, compared to 59% who can purchase or receive it as a donation. Similarly, displaced persons in 63% of the monitored sites do not have access to domestic service water, compared to 35%. However, regardless of the situation, it is unsatisfactory for residents. Either the water provided is insufficient, or they have to pay for it, or they must walk for hours to obtain it. 2% did not answer these questions.

- Regarding healthcare, the Haitian state has chosen to intervene only in certain reception sites, leaving the others to their fate or to private or non-governmental organizations.

97. Healthcare programs are implemented by the Haitian state in only 44% of the monitored sites. In 41% of the other sites, displaced persons rely on private or non-governmental organizations. In 15% of the monitored sites, there is no healthcare program.

98. However, the issue of physical and mental health remains highly concerning. Indeed: On one hand, in 93% of the monitored sites, respondents stated they recorded individuals showing signs of physical health problems or complaints, compared to 7% who mentioned nothing on this subject. On the other hand, in 41% of the monitored sites, individuals showing signs of mental health problems were also recorded, compared to 59% who reported nothing on this subject.

99. Finally, it is also important to highlight that in 78% of the monitored sites, persons with mobility impairments or sensory disabilities were recorded, compared to 22% of sites where nothing was reported on this issue.

- The safety of displaced persons is not a priority for the state authorities.

100. In 47.5% of the sites, security is provided by committee members. In 20% of the sites, security is organized by brigades specifically created for this purpose. In 12%, it is the displaced persons themselves who ensure their own security. In 3%, security is provided by civil protection agents, and in 2%, it is ensured by BSAP agents with assistance from police officers. 8.5% of the remaining sites are left to their own devices, and 7% of the monitored sites did not provide any answer to this question.

101. Acts of violence, however, have been recorded in 73% of the monitored spaces, while 27% have not experienced any incidents of violence up to this point. The abuses committed are classified by frequency as follows: fights followed by assault and battery, theft, insults, public disturbances, sexual violence, and physical and gender-based violence against women and girls. The last two abuses were recorded in 10% and 7% of the monitored sites, respectively.

102. From a general perspective, the results of this study demonstrate the vulnerability and deprivation in which displaced persons live, their existence marked by the harsh weather that forces them to spend the night without sleep, and by armed gang attacks that often drive them to seek refuge elsewhere. Children, the elderly, pregnant or breastfeeding women, and people with mobility or sensory impairments suffer even more from this situation of vulnerability and deprivation. Unsurprisingly, some committee leaders have highlighted the exposure of youth to recruitment by armed gangs.

103. Humanitarian interventions in the sites do not meet the minimum standards of Humanitarian Accountability and Quality Management. They are not carried out impartially. The displaced persons, kept by the Haitian state in total deprivation and indignity, have not been able to give their informed consent regarding the aid offered, and the interventions are not conducted with due diligence. They are often poorly organized or carried out in chaos due to their insufficiency.

104. However, a minister delegated to the Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs has been appointed. This is a paradox when we understand that what is happening in the reception sites does not adhere to the standards of humanitarian accountability partnerships and when we recall that the ongoing humanitarian crisis in the country is the result of insecurity. Consequently, state authorities should focus on solving the security crisis that has persisted for several years rather than trying to manage the humanitarian situation, which they are handling poorly. The most glaring example is the distribution organized on January 3, 2025, at the Sainte Thérèse Park in Pétiion-Ville by the current Minister for Women's Affairs and Women's Rights, who had decided to assist three hundred (300) women. The distribution, poorly organized, ended in confusion never seen before, and cases of mistreatment of displaced persons.

105. The current government, the one before it, and the Presidential Transition Council (CPT) have yet to spend anything since their installation to acquire police and military equipment aimed at combating armed crime in Haiti. Furthermore, intelligence funds are shared among them and used for purposes other than intelligence.

106. Therefore, based on all the above, the RNDDH recommends that state authorities:

- Take responsibility for all displaced persons and better coordinate the humanitarian aid provided by private and non-governmental organizations;
- Invite private and non-governmental organizations to obligatorily contact camp committee leaders to inquire about the actual needs of the displaced population;
- Treat displaced persons with respect for their human dignity and their fundamental rights to health, food, education, and a healthy environment;
- Take all necessary steps to ensure the safety of people living in reception sites for displaced persons and invite community policing to take control of these spaces;
- Invest in security by providing law enforcement with the materials and police and military equipment they need to restore peace and security in the country;
- End the sharing of intelligence funds and ensure that these funds are used solely for intelligence purposes;
- Restore the minimum security conditions to allow displaced persons to return home.