



Bi-Weekly Press Briefing: Haiti Alert - WFP

12-07-2022 | Edited News

Shotlist

STORY: Haiti Alert – WFP

TRT: 2 mins 36s

SOURCE: UNTV CH

RESTRICTIONS: NONE

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH/NATS

ASPECT RATIO: 16:9

DATELINE: 12 July 2022, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

SHOTLIST

1. Medium shot, UN Geneva flag alley.
2. Wide shot, Press conference room, podium moderator, large TV screens to either side showing broadcast image and external UN WFP speaker.

3. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Jean-Martin Bauer (Zoom from Port-au-Prince), WFP Haiti Country Director: “The situation is spiralling out of control already; large parts of Port-au-Prince are controlled by gangs; the data we have show that the situation over the past 90 days has gotten worse and already based on what is a very vulnerable place, we already had one million people in this city who were acutely food insecure.”**
4. Medium shot, journalist wearing facemask, typing on laptop, journalist to rear and TV lighting panel.
5. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Jean-Martin Bauer (Zoom from Port-au-Prince), WFP Haiti Country Director: “The situation’s getting worse by the day. Since Friday there’s been fighting downtown in the port area, in Cité Soleil, and yesterday in La Saline, places that are very close to the port and also close to where hundreds of thousands of very poor people live.”**
6. Medium shot, journalists, masked, typing on laptop or listening.
7. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Jean-Martin Bauer (Zoom from Port-au-Prince), WFP Haiti Country Director: “Remember, you’ve got 150 to 200 gangs in Haiti, that’s had an impact on food insecurity and it’s continuing and it’s getting worse.”**
8. Close-up, hands typing on laptops.
9. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Jean-Martin Bauer (Zoom from Port-au-Prince), WFP Haiti Country Director: “The context is gang violence, people are not able to work, people are not able to sell their produce and at the same time food prices are increasing, so there’s a few phenomena that compound each other. And Haiti is an import-dependent country, so really at the forefront of what’s going on.”**
10. Medium shot, TV camera lens out of focus in foreground, large TV screen to rear featuring speakers.
11. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Jean-Martin Bauer (Zoom from Port-au-Prince), WFP Haiti Country Director: “Inflation here runs - has been running at 26 per cent - food inflation has been 52 per cent, this is according to the Haitian government and the analysis of the food basket they do here.”**
12. Medium shot, journalists, masked, checking mobile phone and laptop.
13. **SOUNDBITE (ENGLISH): Jean-Martin Bauer (Zoom from Port-au-Prince), WFP Haiti Country Director: “WFP set up a maritime service to bypass the gangs that are around Port-au-Prince, so what we do is we send the trucks to the port, they board a WFP-chartered ferry and that vessel goes either to the south or to the north, to ensure that humanitarian aid continues reaching all Haitians, no matter where they are.”**
14. Medium shot, journalist, masked, in foreground, large TV screen with WFP speaker to rear.
15. Close-up, hands typing on laptop.
16. Medium shot, journalists, masked.

Story

STORYLINE

Gang violence in Port-au-Prince threatens more than a million food-insecure Haitians

Surging and deadly gang violence in the Haitian capital has contributed to runaway food insecurity for at least a million people there, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) said on Tuesday.

“The situation is spiralling out of control already,” said Jean-Martin Bauer, WFP Haiti Country Director. “Large parts of Port-au-Prince are controlled by gangs; the data we have show that the situation over the past 90 days has gotten worse and already based on what is a very vulnerable place, we already had one million people in this city who were acutely food insecure.”

Speaking via Zoom from Port-au-Prince, Mr. Bauer explained that between 150 and 200 gangs operate there, and that things were getting “worse by the day” for Haitians.

“Since Friday there’s been fighting downtown in the port area, in Cité Soleil, and yesterday in La Saline, places that are very close to the port and also close to where hundreds of thousands of very poor people live.”

These included a heavily pregnant woman who had to shelter on the floor of her home for an entire day, for fear of being caught in the crossfire during a prolonged gunfight, the WFP official explained. The next day, just as she was able to leave her house, someone set fire to it. She later gave birth and now lives in a centre for displaced people.

According to two local youth-focused organizations, 13 per cent of the children surveyed in one troubled neighbourhood in Port-au-Prince, had been in contact with members of armed gangs who tried to recruit them.

“The context is gang violence, people are not able to work, people are not able to sell their produce and at the same time food prices are increasing,” Mr. Bauer said. “And Haiti is an import-dependent country so really at the forefront of what’s going on” – a reference to the fact that the Caribbean island imports 70 per cent of its food needs, and as elsewhere, has suffered from the global food and fuel crisis that has been exacerbated by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, on 24 February.

“Inflation here runs, has been running at 26 per cent,” the WFP official said. “Food inflation has been 52 per cent, this is according to the Haitian government and the analysis of the food basket they do here.”

To continue to ensure that the vulnerable Haitians receive assistance outside the capital, WFP has had to resort to using sea routes, rather than target-prone lorries.

“WFP set up a maritime service to bypass the gangs that are around Port-au-Prince, so what we do is we send the trucks to the port, they board a WFP-chartered ferry and that vessel goes either to the south or to the north, to ensure that humanitarian aid continues reaching all Haitians, no matter where they are.”

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