

The Global Food Crisis in Haiti

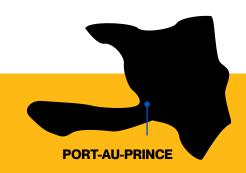




### Haiti

Haiti became the first independent Caribbean state when it ousted its French colonial rulers and abolished slavery in the early 19th century. The local people are known for their resilience in the face of great adversities, such as hurricanes, earthquakes and gang violence.

**Haiti is currently the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere**, with more than half the population living in poverty. Malnutrition and child labour are widespread.



1968
PARTNERSHIP WITH COMPASSION BEGAN

Over 350
LOCAL CHURCH PARTNERS

Over 134,000 CHILDREN SUPPORTED

**Primary Diet** 

**INCLUDES RICE, WHEAT, SWEET POTATOES AND BANANAS** 



Haiti is facing severe food insecurity and malnutrition in local children is worsening.



# **Comparing countries**





**Australia** 



**0.7% OF POPULATION** cannot afford a healthy diet

2% OF CHILDREN under 5 have stunted growth\*

**642,500 PEOPLE** facing undernourishment

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Haiti



**85.9% OF POPULATION** cannot afford a healthy diet

20% OF CHILDREN under 5 have stunted growth\*

**5.2 MILLION PEOPLE** facing severe food insecurity

\*Stunting, based on a child's height and age, is a measure of chronic nutritional deficiency.

Source: Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), 2022







### **Not losing faith**

In Picot, Haiti, Acelie and her two children face a perfect storm of disasters: the lingering effects of COVID-19; an earthquake that devastated infrastructure and homes; ongoing political unrest and rampant inflation. Each severe in their own right, the combination of these adversities has created a humanitarian crisis in Haiti unlike any other.

Both Acelie's legs were broken during the 7.2 magnitude earthquake in August 2021. Not long after, her husband left for the city in search of better opportunities to provide for the family. Acelie now takes care of the children alone amid a food crisis that is unprecedented in a generation. The cost of basic food items is quickly becoming out of reach for her family.

"I was contemplating sending my children to an orphanage," says Acelie. "It broke my heart to see them suffer while I couldn't provide what they needed."

Thankfully, her local church is standing by Acelie and her children. In partnership with Compassion, the church offers the family all the support they can, including emergency food packs. When neighbouring children come to Acelie and ask for help, she cannot refuse them. So she shares her food packs, knowing so many others like her are in desperate situations.

"The church helps me keep faith in God, because sometimes I feel like giving up," says Acelie.

"They give me hope to know that God doesn't ever give up on us."



### **How is Compassion responding?**

Compassion is leading a local-first response to the global food crisis through partnerships with over 8,500 local churches across four continents.

Our church partners are responding in two ways:





#### **SHORT-TERM AID**

Meeting vulnerable families' immediate nutritional needs through the delivery of food packages.

#### **LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS**

Equipping families with seeds, fertiliser, livestock and agricultural training to stop ongoing hunger.



The local church has decades of established community trust and is best positioned to assist in this crisis—it has been there before, will be there during and will remain long after the crisis.



## **Answer hunger with hope**

You can help ensure children and families in poverty have food to eat during the global food crisis.



GIVE TODAY

Your tax-deductible donation will help provide short-term aid and long-term solutions.

To give, visit **cmpsn.co/stophunger** or scan the QR code.



**EXPLORE MORE** 

Deepen your understanding of the global food crisis through our interactive website.

To learn more, visit **cmpsn.co/explore** or scan the QR code.



GET INVOLVED

Take on the 345 Challenge to fundraise for children facing severe food insecurity.

To sign-up, visit **cmpsn.co/challenge** or scan the QR code.







SEARCH FOR COMPASSIONAU

#### **COMPASSION AUSTRALIA**

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Christ-centred | Child-focused | Church-based

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