



IOM provides assistance in an IDP site in Port-au-Prince.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Internal displacements in Haiti continued in July. Gang violence displaced nearly 4,000 people in Ganthier, east of Port-au-Prince. In the north of the country, at least 40 migrants died, and several others were injured after a boat they were travelling in caught fire off the coast of Cap Haitien. Forty-one surviving migrants were rescued by the Haitian Coast Guard and received medical care, food, water, and psychosocial support provided by IOM.

More than 17,300 migrants have been forcibly returned to Haiti by neighboring countries in July. IOM is concerned about the high number of forced returns of Haitians during this current period of civil unrest and uncertainty. IOM continued to provide tailor-made assistance upon arrival, including food and water, unconditional and multi-purpose cash assistance, hygiene kits with dignity items for women and girls, and specific kits for babies.

KEY FIGURES



internally displaced persons



displacements due to violence



IDPs receiving IOM assistance



migrants forcibly returned

Water, sanitation and hygiene



Health and psychosocial



Family reunification



Displacement tracking matrix



Cash-based interventions



Non-food items



Camp management



Disaster preparedness and risk reduction



Community stabilization



Immigration and border governance



Accountability to affected people



Chela Tilus: hopeful horizons thanks to humanitarian aid



Chela Tilus | IOM 2024

IOM provides multisectoral assistance to meet the primary needs of IDP in the sites, including medical care, sanitation, and psychosocial support. However, due to the precarious situation and vulnerability of Chela's family, IOM was able to provide also rental allowance, which permitted Chela to live in a more dignified place.

The rent assistance provided by IOM enables displaced families to find housing in safer areas. This support allows them to live in more stable and dignified conditions while they work to find long-term solutions.

The conditions for receiving rental assistance typically include a verification of displacement status an assessment of the family's specific needs and vulnerabilities. For instance, vulnerable groups may include pregnant or lactating women, elderly individuals, and those living with disabilities.

“We are extremely grateful for IOM’s help, which allows us to have a new home. It gives us a bit of stability during this hard time,” her husband testifies with joy.

Chela’s husband is the family's main source of support and strength. Despite the difficulties, he still dreams for the future. He hopes to be able to afford therapy sessions for Chela, in the hope that she may one day become healthy again.

“My wish is to see Chela walking and speaking again. With a lot of work and little luck, I believe that it’s possible. I also want to open a small business so that we can be self-sufficient and offer a better future for our two daughters.”

Chela’s husband's devotion to her shows that humanitarian aid is more than just numbers, it's fundamentally about compassion and personal commitment.

IOM, thanks to support of donors, continues to work to offer each Haitian in need the opportunity to build a better future, guided by the belief that every life matters.

Gang violence in Haiti has displaced nearly 580,000 people, including Chela Tilus and her family, who, already struggling with her severe health issues, faced additional hardship from their forced displacement. IOM's rental assistance helped them secure a more suitable home and is bringing them hope for the future.

Chela lived in the lower part of Port-au-Prince with her husband and two children, when their lives were suddenly disrupted. A stroke attack left Chela paraplegic and with significant difficulty in speaking. This devastating event transformed their daily life into a constant struggle.

“When Chela had her stroke, everything changed. She lost the use of her legs and her ability to speak fully. Our life became a daily battle, but we found the strength to carry on”, discloses her husband, her unwavering support.

As if this situation was not challenging enough, Chela’s family was forced to flee their home due to gang violence. Their displacement exacerbated the challenges they were already facing, making their lives even more precarious.

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