



HIGHLIGHTS

1,838

Cases verified by UNHCR, including 1,346 families with one or more persons born in the Dominican Republic. The total number of persons in these families is 5,574.

2,603

Verified individuals born in Dominican Republic before January 26, 2010 who need a solution to their nationality problem.

BIMS

UNHCR Haiti is using the Biometric Identity Management System to anchor individual identities.

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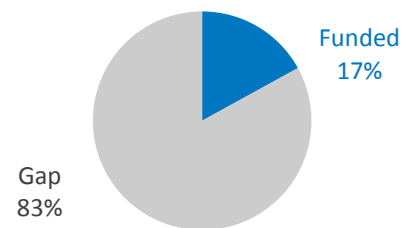
Refugees and asylum-seekers in Haiti from 7 different countries.

Context Information

- UNHCR'S presence in Haiti focuses on the prevention and reduction of statelessness. UNHCR maintains an advisory role in the legal reform process of civil registry and nationality laws and supports the Government in the identification and registration of persons who are stateless or are at risk of statelessness arriving from Dominican Republic.
- Haiti does not have a comprehensive legislative framework for asylum or mechanisms to protect and assist asylum-seekers and refugees. UNHCR conducts refugee status determination under its Mandate.
- UNHCR's Office in Haiti is operationally and financially managed by UNHCR's Regional Office in Washington.
- As of March, UNHCR is funded by the EU until October 2017 to conduct identification and registration activities.

Funding requirements

USD 4.1 million requested



UNHCR presence

Staff:

12 national staff
2 international staff

Offices:

1 National office located in Port-au-Prince



 UNHCR National Office

Map Sources: UNCS, UNHCR
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Printing date: 03 Mar 2017

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works with the Government and the Parliament of Haiti to strengthen and develop law and policy on statelessness and refugees protection.
- UNHCR works closely with the *Service Jesuite pour la Migration* to provide direct material support to refugees and asylum-seekers in Haiti. The support consists of housing, food assistance and medical care.
- UNHCR partners with IOM, UNICEF and other UN and civil society organizations to identify stateless persons and/or persons at risk of statelessness arriving from the Dominican Republic and who were affected by ruling 168-13 of the Dominican Republic Constitutional Court. Through the Border Monitoring Network, the cases of families with one or more persons born in the Dominican Republic crossing the border at the official and informal crossing border points are referred to UNHCR for verification and registration.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Eradication of Statelessness

UNHCR's presence in Haiti focuses on prevention, reduction and identification of statelessness. In Haiti, risks of statelessness can arise due to the non-documented status of people, particularly of those living abroad without any form of documentation. Legal and administrative reforms on civil registration and nationality provisions are necessary to counter the lack of legal safeguards and practices to prevent statelessness in a country where citizenship is acquired based on the principle of *jus sanguinis* and possibly up to 3 million people are estimated as undocumented. Furthermore, many individuals of Haitian descent born in the Dominican Republic became stateless when, in September 2013, the Constitutional Court of the Dominican Republic established in ruling 168-13 that only individuals born in the country to Dominican nationals or legal residents are considered to have Dominican nationality on the basis of birth in the territory. In that sense, UNHCR's activities in Haiti include:

- Advocacy with the Government and the Parliament of Haiti to adopt comprehensive civil registration legislative and administrative reforms and nationality laws as well as to find durable solutions for stateless persons.
- Advocacy with the Government and the Parliament to ratify Statelessness Conventions to ensure the adoption of proper domestic laws relating to the acquisition and loss of nationality and to standards of treatment of stateless persons or persons at risk of statelessness.
- Technical support to the Government on the development of nationality laws.
- Identification, verification interviews and biometric registration of stateless persons and/or at risk of statelessness deported or returned from Dominican Republic to ensure their protection and their access to nationality solutions.

Protection

Haiti does not have regulatory framework for the protection of asylum-seekers and refugees, despite acceding to the Refugee Convention in 1984. UNHCR's activities on refugee protection include:

- Advocacy with the Government of Haiti to adopt refugee legislation and institutionalize asylum procedures.
- Refugee Status Determination under UNHCR's Mandate.
- Assistance of refugees and asylum-seekers to cover basic needs such as housing, food and medical care.
- Resettlement of refugees recognised by UNHCR.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation: [Sweden \(76 M\)](#) | [Netherlands \(52 M\)](#) | [Norway \(41 M\)](#) | [Denmark \(23M\)](#) | [Australia \(19 M\)](#) | [Switzerland \(15M\)](#) | [Germany \(12M\)](#)

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