

Haiti: Nation Vulnerable to Climate Change Due to Physical Exposure; Instability and Socioeconomic Conditions Limit Recovery

The western hemisphere's poorest nation endures repeated natural disasters and severe climate events. Political instability and perpetual socioeconomic crises magnify the physical impacts of climate change and hamper Haiti's ability to recover.



More than **96%** of the population is exposed to natural disasters - many of them poor as the poverty rate is at **52.3%** (2021).



Over **60%** of the total population lacks basic sanitation services, nearly **75%** lack basic hygiene services, and over **30%** lack basic drinking water services.



1,250 of schools remain closed from previous disasters. **1,700** more are closed under pressure from armed gangs.



Three major earthquakes since 2010

222,250+ Fatalities

312,000+ Persons Injured

423,000+ Houses Damaged/Destroyed



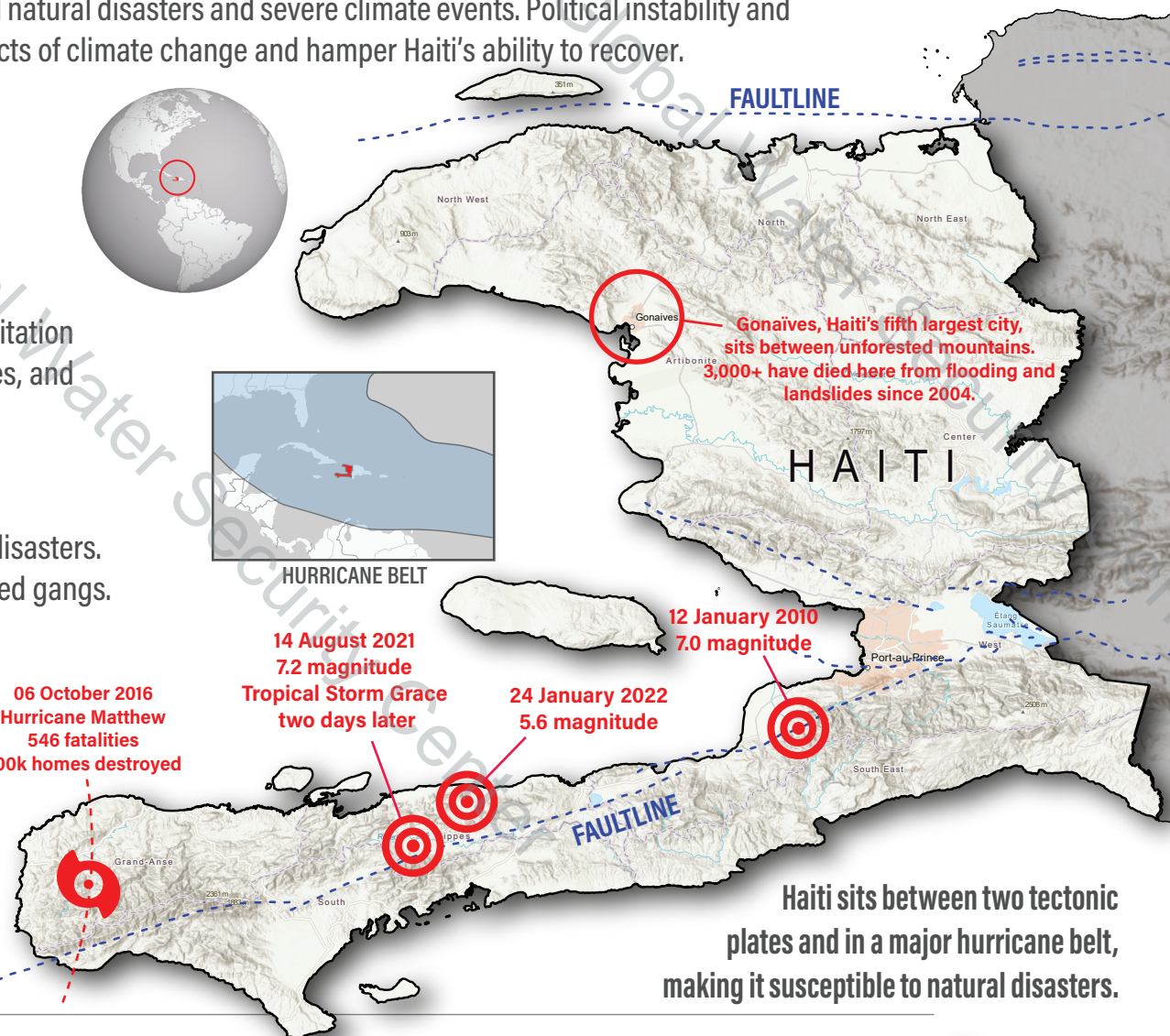
HURRICANE BELT

06 October 2016
Hurricane Matthew
546 fatalities
200k homes destroyed

14 August 2021
Tropical Storm Grace
7.2 magnitude
two days later

24 January 2022
5.6 magnitude

12 January 2010
7.0 magnitude



Haiti sits between two tectonic plates and in a major hurricane belt, making it susceptible to natural disasters.

Pathway to Impact

Since 2002, there have been 11 hurricanes, multiple tropical storms, eight floods, and three earthquakes in Haiti, leaving hundreds of thousands dead or missing and many more displaced.

The Caribbean islands are facing significant impacts from climate change to include rising air and sea surface temperatures, increased storm intensities, variable precipitation, sea level rise, erosion, and drought.

Effects of climate change are exacerbated by political instability, gang violence, urban centers in alluvial plains, and deforestation from Haiti's heavy reliance on wood-based fuels.

Sources:

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Basemap Source:

Esri, USGS, NOAA [Vector tile layer]. Scale Not Given. "World Terrain Base". May 27, 2020. https://server.arcgisonline.com/ArcGIS/rest/services/World_Terrain_Base/MapServer. (October 28, 2022).

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