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Hurricane Matthew: Haiti lives still at risk

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Document 2

Three weeks after Hurricane Matthew ravaged the island nation of Haiti, many lives are still at risk.

The World Food Programme says more than 800,000 people urgently need food and thousands without homes are sheltering in schools.

5 A cholera outbreak remains a threat - more than 3,400 suspected cases have been reported since the storm.

At least 1,000 people died this month when the category 4 storm hit Haiti.

10 Sean Casey, emergency response team leader for the International Medical Corps, says much of the country's agricultural region in the south was destroyed by the storm, causing a large food crisis.

"We don't have the luxury of focusing on one thing right now," he said. "We have to look at everything - ongoing displacement, access to safe water in the short term, access to health care, and then longer term recovery."

15 Aid efforts have been hampered by destruction left by the hurricane which washed out roads and bridges, cutting off entire towns from assistance. Seasonal rain storms have led to additional flooding, further frustrating relief efforts.

Mr Casey said some of his teams were forced to hike to villages on foot or use canoes to deliver aid to areas that were cut off.

20 Flooding and poor sanitation have contributed to a spike in cholera cases reported after the storm. Mr Casey said displacement, a lack of shelter, and a lack of hygiene have also exacerbated the situation.