



Haiti Assistance Program

Disaster Response Report 14

January 28, 2010

Background

On January 12, a series of earthquakes ranging from magnitude 6.5 to 7.3 struck Haiti in the highly populated area of Department Ouest, 10 miles southeast of Port-au-Prince.

Key Developments

- At this time, the most pressing needs identified by the Red Cross are shelter, sanitation and hygiene, childcare, food, and hospital bed capacity for post-surgical patients.
- The Red Cross response is expanding into areas outside of Port-au-Prince to Jacmel and Leogane as two Relief Emergency Response Units begin distributing relief supplies in those communities.
- The number of people receiving treatment at Red Cross health facilities on a daily basis is expected to rise to 1,000 people as an additional Red Cross field hospital in Carrefour becomes operational today.
- The Red Cross has obtained a new 5,000 square meter warehouse in Port-au-Prince which is now operational. With all Emergency Response Units on the ground and the additional warehouse space, the amount of relief supplies from the Red Cross pipeline available for distribution is increasing daily.
- In support of the response, the Dominican Red Cross is providing services across the border with logistics support, medical care, Restoring Family Links, and psychosocial support.

Numbers at a Glance

Estimated deaths	112,250	Government of Haiti – 1/24/10
Number injured	194,000	Government of Haiti – 1/24/10
Total population in need of shelter	690,00 to 800,000	International Organization for Migration – 1/24/10

Current Situation

Logistics

- The UN logistics cluster reports that the Port-au-Prince airport continues to receive large quantities of incoming goods and the situation on the tarmac is improving. Goods are now offloaded into a secure humanitarian cargo area. Smaller planes are preferred and larger planes are encouraged to land in Santo Domingo and transport supplies by road to Port-au-Prince. In addition, the main seaport is operational, but limited now to boats with a maximum draft of 20 feet and 100 meters long.
- The Red Cross has obtained a new 5,000 square meter warehouse in Port-au-Prince which is now operational. With all Emergency Response Units (ERUs) on the ground, and the additional warehouse space, the amount of relief supplies from the Red Cross pipeline available for distribution is increasing daily, and some relief items can be sent directly to Port-au-Prince. In addition, another warehouse in Santo Domingo has been obtained to increase logistics capacity for supplies arriving via Dominican Republic.
- The Red Cross Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) in Panama is sending full charter flights of relief items this week to cover the next full week of relief distributions. To date, a total of 49 Red Cross relief flights have landed in Santo Domingo and Haiti. All items for the full 60,000 families (300,000 people) committed to by Red Cross are in the relief supplies pipeline.

Health

- Combined Red Cross health facilities now have a capacity to provide care to 1,000 patients every day as of today, as the additional Red Cross field hospital in Carrefour becomes operational. As new medical staff arrive from partner Red Cross national societies, they are being integrated into existing teams. Medical services include surgeries, psychosocial support, and outpatient care from the field hospitals and the three mobile Basic Healthcare ERUs providing services in locations across Port-au-Prince.
- In support of the response, the Dominican Red Cross is providing services across the border with medical care, Restoring Family Links, and psychosocial support.
- The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is still providing medical supplies and support to the HNRCS for the ten first aid posts it is currently operating.
- The Government of Haiti has defined current health priorities as post operative care, care for infections, wounds and broken bones, and care for those who have lost limbs. In addition the government is also focusing on primary health care, health centers and hospitals.
- Health cluster agencies are reporting that the psychological impact of the disaster is becoming more apparent in patients being treated in clinics. Haitian National Red Cross Society staff and volunteers are providing psychological first aid to hospital staff and patients at Red Cross health facilities. In addition, Red Cross staff at the field hospital at Hopital Universitaire are providing psychosocial support to patients as well as psychological first aid training to volunteers.
- As of January 26, the USNS *Comfort* had treated more than 14,300 patients and performed nearly 180 surgeries. The Government of Haiti's Ministry of Health and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) are working to identify additional sites to relocate treated patients for post-operative care in order to accommodate additional incoming patients. Creole speakers trained by the American Red Cross continue to provide translation services aboard the ship.
- At the request of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the American Red Cross shipped 350 units of blood this week to arrive in Port-au-Prince today.

Shelter/Relief Items

- At this time, the most pressing needs identified by the Red Cross are for shelter, sanitation and hygiene, childcare, food and hospital bed capacity for post-surgical patients.
- The Red Cross response is expanding into areas outside of Port-au-Prince to Jacmel and Leogane. Leogane is the most damaged area assessed where humanitarian aid has yet to arrive. A Relief ERU will be deployed to Leogane to coordinate Red Cross relief activities.
- Humanitarian aid has arrived in Jacmel, where 40 to 50 percent of buildings are destroyed, and up to 5,000 people in settlements. The Haiti National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) branch in Jacmel is fully operational with 75 staff and volunteers, despite damage to their headquarters. This branch is supported by 50 people from the Dominican Red Cross for the provision of health care, water and sanitation and food distribution.
- The American Red Cross Relief ERU in Port-au-Prince continues to coordinate with the other ERUs, HNRCS and bilateral teams from other partner national societies such as Colombian Red Cross, Mexican Red Cross and Dominican Red Cross, to distribute incoming relief supplies. Since January 19, Red Cross relief supplies such as tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen sets and hygiene kits have been provided to over 31,000 people. The third Relief ERU with members from Finnish and French Red Cross has arrived as well.
- The deep community presence of the Haitian National Red Cross Society has allowed Red Cross teams to distribute aid in an orderly and efficient manner. ERU teams and HNRCS volunteers visit the community in advance to alert them that aid is coming, register beneficiaries and hand out vouchers. They return by the next day to hand out the supplies at a pre-determined location to recipients with vouchers.
- Shelter remains one of the most urgent needs on the ground. In coordination with shelter cluster, the Red Cross is focusing on providing shelter and relief items to the homeless, both in camps and in spontaneous settlements, as well as support to host families that are housing earthquake survivors. Relief items include family-sized tents, and shelter kits with tarps, ropes and tools to construct shelter from available materials. In addition, the Red Cross is assessing needs and developing a strategy to meet long-term housing reconstruction needs.
- The main challenges for the shelter cluster include: the scarcity of open spaces in Port-au-Prince; the uncertainty regarding the security of remaining buildings; the density of the population; and the approaching rainy season. The combination of immediate shelter assistance with more durable settlement solutions also remains a challenge.

Food

- The American Red Cross has sent food to those in need, including 3 million pre-packaged meals and funding for World Food Program (WFP) efforts that will enable them to feed up to 1 million people for a month. This is in addition to the more than \$600,000 provided to International Committee of the Red Cross to provide food at medical hospitals and clinics.
- WFP reports that since January 12, it has delivered food aid to nearly 450,000 people through the distribution of nearly 10 million meals. Once initial food distributions are complete, WFP plans to transition to rations that provide a 60-day supply of dried goods, and initiating food-for-work activities when possible to rehabilitate streets and public buildings.
- UNICEF plans to collaborate with the child protection cluster to coordinate immunizations and distribution of items such as oral rehydration solutions and fortified biscuits in orphanages. Due to high numbers of orphans and mothers who are not able to breastfeed, a sub-cluster has been activated to oversee all aspects of infant feeding and ensure coordination.
- The agricultural cluster is monitoring prices in areas receiving displaced urban populations. The first indications show significant price increases for the main food items.

Water and Sanitation

- Red Cross has increased its distribution of water to more than 500,000 liters per day at 68 settlements to 100,000 people through the two Water and Sanitation ERUs. To date, the Red Cross has distributed close to 3,520,000 liters of water.
- Relief partners in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) cluster, including the Red Cross, are now providing daily water for an estimated 308,000 people at 133 sites in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area. In addition, hygiene promotion activities have begun in coordination with Health, and Water and Sanitation ERUs and the Haitian National Red Cross.
- Both Red Cross Mass Sanitation ERUs are now operational, with one working to construct latrines for 20,000 people in Leogane. In addition, the ICRC has provided latrines in Port-au-Prince and is sponsoring garbage collection in an effort to improve sanitation. Assessments continue to take place by both the Red Cross and the WASH cluster to determine water and sanitation needs.

Migration

- Individuals with relatives in non-affected regions continue to take advantage of the Haitian government's free transport service to leave Port-au-Prince. As of January 27, an estimated 235,000 people had left for outlying departments, according to OCHA.

Education

- All schools remain closed and there is no firm indication of when they will re-open. The education cluster estimates that 90 percent of schools in Port-au-Prince and 60 percent of the schools in the South and West departments have been partially damaged or destroyed, affecting some 500,000 children ages 5 to 14.

Recovery

- A Red Cross Recovery Scoping Team is being deployed to conduct discussions with the Government of Haiti and key development partners including the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and the UN in order to develop a recovery plan for the medium- and long-term. This team is being led by an American Red Cross delegate.
- The UN early recovery cluster is focusing on cash for work programs entailing manual labor clean-up works that traditionally target men. The planned Red Cross cash for work activities target women-led households and are complementary to the cluster programming.

Protection

- UNICEF is continuing to spearhead the establishment of child-friendly spaces for separated/unaccompanied children in the outskirts of Port-au-Prince. It has established three temporary shelters in Port-au-Prince with a capacity of accommodating 900 separated or unaccompanied children.
- The child protection sub-cluster continues rapid assessments in settlement sites, orphanages, and hospitals. The rapid registration of especially vulnerable unaccompanied children has started, including unaccompanied children who are under five and those with mental or physical disabilities, and a database for separated or unaccompanied children is being established.

Restoring Family Links (RFL)

- The ICRC, in partnership with HNRCS, has opened a tracing center at its headquarters in Port-au-Prince to allow survivors to register and make contact with loved ones. Joint ICRC/HNRCS Red Cross teams have been making outreach visits to camps and communities to provide information and registrations for family tracing. To date, they have facilitated 2,200 phone calls between residents in Port-au-Prince and relatives living abroad.
- The ICRC and HNRCS are registering the names of people eager to let their loved ones know that they are alive and well on the ICRC family links website (www.icrc.org/familylinks). To date, the site contains 25,600 names, including more than 3,000 people reporting that they are alive and safe. The ICRC has been able to remove 884 names because the people concerned have been located.

Maps

- [Populations Movements out of Port-au-Prince – OCHA – January 24, 2010](#)
- [Functioning Health Facilities and Priorities – OCHA – January 24, 2010](#)

Global Red Cross and Red Crescent Response to Earthquake in Haiti

American Red Cross Response as of January 28, 2010

SECTOR/LOCATION	CONTRIBUTION
Personnel	Through the global Red Cross network, 400 international personnel, along with thousands of volunteers, are supporting the response in the region.
Haiti	<i>American Red Cross contribution:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 staff from American Red Cross local office • 7-person Relief Emergency Response Unit • 2-person IT/Telecommunications Emergency Response Unit • 1 FACT team delegate • 3 logistics delegates • 1 shelter delegate • 2 communications delegate • 2 finance staff supporting the delegation
USNS <i>Comfort</i> (offshore Haiti)	<i>American Red Cross contribution:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment and training of 69 Creole-speaking volunteers to work as translators • 5 Service to Armed Forces staff providing supervisory support on board
Logistics Hub in Dominican Republic	<i>American Red Cross contribution:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 logistics/administrative delegate
Pan American Disaster Response Unit and Regional Warehouse in Panama	<i>American Red Cross contribution:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 disaster management delegate • 1 reporting delegate • 1 recovery delegate
Relief supplies in the pipeline	The global Red Cross network is providing basic relief items for 300,000 people.
In Haiti, Dominican Republic, en route or under procurement	<i>American Red Cross contribution:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relief supplies for 50,000 people, including family tents, hygiene kits, blankets, tarps and mosquito nets
Healthcare, food, water and sanitation services	The global Red Cross network has launched an operation to meet the emergency needs of 300,000 people.
In Haiti, Dominican Republic, en route or under procurement	<i>American Red Cross contribution:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for World Food Program efforts that will enable them to feed up to 1 million people for a month. • 3 million heater meals provided for distribution to the UN World Food Program • \$600,000 to ICRC to provide food at medical facilities • 1 million water purification sachets and jerry cans to carry water • Financial support for healthcare, water and sanitation services provided by the global Red Cross network

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 562 units of blood for earthquake survivors, provided at the request of the Pan American Health Organization and the U.S. Navy.
Other services	The global Red Cross network is also supporting Haitian communities around the world.
United States and Haiti	<p><i>American Red Cross contribution:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to Haitian-Americans seeking information about family members affected by the earthquake in Haiti • Support by chapters to Haitian-American citizens arriving in the United States, including welcome services and other support for evacuees arriving in Florida. • 450 phones for earthquake survivors in Haiti to connect with their families abroad, provided to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS)

- Support from Haitian National Red Cross Society staff and volunteers is critical to the relief operation, as they work with International Red Cross and Red Crescent teams providing food, water, first aid, translation and other logistical assistance. It is important to recognize that these staff and volunteers have been gravely affected by the disaster themselves having lost homes and loved ones.
- HNRCS facilities were badly affected; the headquarters building was destroyed and the blood transfusion center severely damaged.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation)

- The International Federation has issued a Revised Emergency Appeal for US \$103.3 million to help meet the immediate needs of 300,000 people (60,000 families) over the next three years. As is usual in disasters of this magnitude, this appeal is expected to be increased in dollar amount and scope in the near future. Thousands of Red Cross and Red Crescent workers representing 30 countries are currently assisting with relief efforts in the region.
- In addition to deploying a FACT team, the International Federation has mobilized 21 Emergency Response Units to provide support in logistics, relief and shelter, water and sanitation and healthcare, including field hospitals and basic health care units.
- The International Federation is coordinating the response through its Panama-based Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU), which is providing coordination, logistics and supplies.
- The International Federation is coordinating the global Red Cross network response with the UN and other relief agencies on the ground.

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

- ICRC continues to distribute medical assistance to major hospitals, clinics and smaller facilities by flying in relief supplies and supplying medical kits. They have also been providing water and latrines. In addition, they are providing services in communication and security activities.
- ICRC is coordinating family tracing activities and has set up a tracing center at their headquarters with HNRCS to allow survivors to register that they are alive and well, and contact family members by phone. ICRC is also working on a way to access those who have left Port-au-Prince by creating teams that would go out into different communities.
- ICRC is providing oversight on conditions of prisons and prisoners during the disaster response.
- ICRC is also working with the HNRCS to advise the Haitian authorities on the proper collection of information on the dead and on the dignified handling of bodies. ICRC is also providing body bags.

The information in this report is compiled from a number of sources including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the U.S. Agency for International Development and involved national Red Cross/Red Crescent societies. The American Red Cross strives to provide the most accurate and timely information possible; however, all information should be considered conditional until a final report has been issued.