

SitRep

Haiti – No. 17/2010

Geneva, 29 June 2010

Country situation overview (based on OCHA Humanitarian Bulletin 5, 19 June 2010 and information reported by ACT member organisations from their respective project sites):

The Haitian Interim Reconstruction Commission, jointly chaired by former US President Bill Clinton and Haitian Prime Minister Jean-Max Bellerive, met for the first time on June 17 in Port-au-Prince. The aim of the Commission is to ensure coordinated, effective planning and implementation of Haiti's recovery and reconstruction efforts following the 12 January earthquake. The Commission will function for an 18 month period. A steering committee is currently being formed for NGO representation at the Commission.

The Host Family Working Group (Early Recovery Cluster) is finalizing guidelines for the provision of support to IDPs. Early assessments demonstrate that with the right support many displaced people would like to remain in their respective host communities.

Discussions continue with Government, mayors offices and churches to find durable alternatives for people living in camps, such as sites to construct temporary shelters that are more hurricane-resistant than the tents and makeshift shelters currently used.

In face of the current hurricane season, officials are examining the possibility of building large warehouse-type emergency shelters on camp sites as well as in severely affected communities where most school buildings previously used as emergency shelters were destroyed.

Early warning and contingency planning is led by the Department of Civil Protection within the Government of Haiti. Four logistics hubs are being established around the country, with prepositioning of 2 million emergency rations by WFP, and emergency shelter and NFI by the Shelter Cluster.

ACT Coordination:

Coordinator Geneviève Cyvoct is completing her three month mandate. The Lutheran World Federation, as lead agency of the ACT forum in 2010, will ensure coordination until the coordinator position is filled again, most likely from September. Announcement of the opening of the coordinator position will be communicated to the Alliance shortly.

The ACT monitoring visit that took place from 7 June to 11 June concluded successfully, with a feedback session on 11 June. A final report has been delivered, highlighting good practices and

existing synergies across ACT members. Key recommendations include: more systematic follow-up of how accountability is addressed within projects, the need for the ACT forum to move toward strategic decisions and common methodologies, and a better dissemination of what the ACT Alliance is and its principles and procedures. As a consequence, the revision of current appeal HTI101 has been postponed to July 15 to better highlight synergies among ACT members' activities in Haiti.

A contingency planning discussion took place on June 23 to identify available damage and needs assessment expertise within ACT member organisations. A table of existing emergency stocks including tents, tarpaulins, first aid and hygiene kits, blankets, mosquito nets, water buckets and aquatabs is being put together to identify existing resources and to address gaps. The coordination process was also looked at to ensure common understanding of how to react in the likelihood of another emergency.

Communications and advocacy

The drafts of the ACT Haiti Forum communications and advocacy plans have been sent for comments to forum members and communications/advocacy people in HQs. The deadline for the advocacy plan is June 22 and the communications plan, June 30. Comments are to be sent to Communications and Advocacy officer Maria Halava by the given deadlines.

ACT Secretariat has sent Church World Service journalist Chris Herlinger and photographer Catianne Tijerina to Haiti to cover the six month anniversary of the earthquake. They will start work this week..A background paper on ACT Alliance's work as well as key messages are also being prepared for the six month anniversary of the earthquake, which is 12 July 2010.

The WCC General Secretary visited Haiti with an ecumenical delegation consisting of six church leaders from different parts of the world in mid-June. The purpose of their visit was to express solidarity with the victims of the earthquake, offer pastoral accompaniment and reflect on the challenges the churches face as they try to serve the Haitian people. The delegation visited ACT projects. Articles from the visit are to be found on the WCC website:

<http://www.oikoumene.org/en/news/news-management/eng/a/article/1634/ecumenical-delegation-exp.html>

<http://www.oikoumene.org/en/news/news-management/eng/a/article/1634/haitians-rebuild-their-ch.html>

<http://www.oikoumene.org/en/news/news-management/eng/a/article/1634/haiti-urgent-needs-requir.html>

<http://www.oikoumene.org/en/news/news-management/eng/a/article/1634/open-letter-from-wcc-gene.html>

Maria will be leaving for holidays on July 15, but will be back to Haiti for another three months starting by mid August 2010.

ACT members' reports:

Christian Aid (CA)

At Christian Aid request, a team conducted a Real Time Evaluation to assess timeliness and effectiveness of the response by CA and partners and to understand the general context in which response is given. Haiti Survie, GARR, APROSIFA, RNDDH and KORAL were among selected partners for evaluation. Government officials, grassroots organisations and beneficiaries of Central Plateau and Carrefour-Feuilles were met. The draft final report will be shared with ACT members.

Christian Aid's partners have been active, as follows:

Haiti Survie made two food distributions and a distribution of NFIs between May 18 and 29. A total of 344 families have received hygiene kits and food. In addition, 17,000kgs of rice, 3050kgs of beans, 3053kgs of sardines, 1635 kgs of oil, 360kgs of iodised salt were distributed. During May, HS erected 22 additional new tents. HS is also involved in public awareness of waste management and of advocacy to encourage people to take gender into consideration in the Haiti reconstruction.

KORAL: KORAL began a three-month cash distribution project in March reaching 1000 families in the south of the country, and continued livelihoods activities in the same area. The third cash distribution occurred in May. KORAL was also involved in public awareness before launching its recovery and rehabilitation programme. In the northwest, KORAL is working on a livelihood project. Projects to date include: the building of an artificial lake (in progress), the building of 10 water tanks for 10 families, and organisation of 10 training sessions for 110 members of community-based organisations related to chicken rearing.

RNDDH: During May, RNDDH distributed 400 tokens in its cash distribution programme. A total of 400 families benefited. Eleven field visits were carried out to plan cash distribution and one field visit with CA RTE team was carried out.

GARR: More than 600 families have benefited from food, hygiene kits and non food items. More than 400 children and 300 adults have received psychosocial support, and more than 3000 children have benefited from having their school fees met. A total of 500 adults have been trained on human rights issues, 200 farmers have received agricultural tools and grants to purchase seeds and another 200 famers have received grants to purchase and raise livestock.

POZ: CA is involved with POZ in a PROMARK project funded by USAID. In May, POZ provided six training sessions on HIV/family planning and child survival (33 child survival sessions with 1669 people attending). In HIV and AIDS work, 61 awareness training sessions on behaviour change were held, with 2877 people attending.

GRAMIR: Distributed maize and yam for 500 households in May.

APROSIFA: Hot meal distributions are going well, with the model being replicated by Oxfam in another location. Cash grants are continuing.

Christian Reformed World Relief Committee

Community Relations

- Community-based organisations continue working closely with CRWRC staff and an advisory group of representatives from each community that gives leadership to the direction of CRWRC projects.
- A CRWRC staff member attended a second HAP training and is applying what he learned.

Non Food Items and Emergency Shelter

- Rubble-clearing tools have been distributed to a fifth community, Croix des Peres, for removal of rubble as well as clearing of ditches and other drainage areas. Croix des Peres is responsible for circulating the tools.

Food distributions

- Distributions of rice, beans and oil were held in the communities of Macombe and Croix des Peres.

Grievance Procedures

- The complaint and appeal procedures are being used by the communities. Several appeals have been processed, in a timely fashion.

Shelter – Transitional Housing and Housing Assessments

- 83 transitional houses were erected in Masson by five teams consisting of two ICTA students and two community members under the supervision of CRWRC staff.
- Staff are working with the community advisory group to address issues surrounding tenants and owners in the transitional housing programme.
- The houses that are currently provided are occupied by the owners.
- Houses will be clad with plywood as soon as possible.
- A form to document local knowledge of land tenure is being considered for creation.

Water and Sanitation

- Wells continue to be drilled and more contracts are in place.

Psychosocial Support

- Two community meetings were well received with interest in continuing these meetings,

Church World Service

People with Disabilities Programme: Implementing partner Service Chretien d'Haiti has coordinated (with the Government of Haiti) the secondment of two social workers from the Department of State for the Inclusion of Disabled Persons. These social workers will provide case management and counselling services to beneficiaries. After just two months of monthly cash distributions, many beneficiaries report using the funds received to start small businesses and pay for education. The programme serves 600 people with disabilities and their families. A total of more than 2700 people have been served.

Agricultural Cooperatives: CWS is strengthening agricultural coops in the northwest and Artibonite regions where more than 200,000 people fled after the earthquake. For the coops to support these new arrivals, implementing partner SKDE is providing additional resources such as micro-credit, allowing the coops to feed more families, and allowing those who fled the earthquake to stay in their native region rather than returning to Port-au-Prince.

Children's Services: Local partner FOPJ completed purchase of a new educational centre in Carrefour Feuilles. This larger centre allows FOPJ to provide schooling to more children in the neighbourhood where schools are still closed.

International Orthodox Christian Charities

IOCC has delivered more than \$2.7 million in immediate relief to Haitians since the earthquake. Medicines, medical equipment, an ambulance, water purification and sanitation equipment, tents, hygiene kits, shelter materials, fuel, food, blankets, jerry cans for water and mattresses have been shipped and distributed, in cooperation with Orthodox Christian partners, ACT Alliance members and other partners.

Continuing to work closely with ACT Alliance members, IOCC is considering or has given preliminary approval of financial support to projects with lasting sustainable impact, including:

NCA – support for biogas digesters pilot project.

LWF – support for multi-faceted sustainable livelihoods project in Forêt des Pins and/or Parc Macaya

Christian Aid – support for sustainable livelihoods/rural agriculture projects in the Sud department.

IOCC is also working with some ACT Alliance members to provide supplies to affected schools and communities by distributing school kits, hygiene kits, blankets, wheelchairs, walkers and crutches.

IOCC Haiti partners, the Russian Orthodox Church outside of Russia (ROCOR) Haiti mission and the Greek Orthodox Church (GOC) Haiti mission continued emergency food distributions, funded by IOCC, to its congregations in eight parishes. Three thousand bags of food and hygiene supplies have been distributed to date.

Two badly damaged ROCOR schools and one damaged GOC school have reopened under temporary shelter: Foyer d'Amour d'Haiti School for Mentally Handicapped Children in Fontamara (serving 150 children), Notre Dame des Petits in the Dumorney area of Port-au-Prince (serving 300 children) and École St. Jean de Freres in the Route de Freres neighbourhood of Port-au-Prince. Additional work is being pursued to secure more substantial temporary structures and sanitary facilities that will serve until at least the end of the school term in August, including school tents from FCA and latrines from NCA. Operating funds for all schools have been very difficult to identify. In order to keep schools open and operating, IOCC is providing emergency bridging funds to four schools covering all operating expenses including teachers' and support staff salaries from April 1 to August 31.

GOC is working closely in a spontaneous camp on land it owns in the quartier Bobin, Route de Freres, Port-au-Prince. In addition to providing emergency food and hygiene supplies to the 330 extended families in the camp, GOC is participating in the Logement Working Group to facilitate the movement of these families back to their homes in the adjacent neighbourhood.

Additional shipments of hygiene supplies and children's blankets are expected soon, to be distributed equally among the ROCOR and GOC communities. IOCC is continuing and expanding its Gifts-in-Kind support to the (CRS) Hospital of St. Francois de Salles in Port-au-Prince with deliveries of antibiotics and an anaesthesia machine.

IOCC is continuing to work closely with ACT members and local partners to support the broader recovery and renewal efforts in Haiti.

Norwegian Church Aid

NCA has seven working desks in the ACT office, and permanent staff is gradually coming in to take over from emergency staff. In addition, NCA Haiti will gradually integrate Haitians into the team.

Some elements of the work carried out by NCA Haiti and partners:

- NCA's four partners are working in 21 sites, with a total population of 44,381 people.
- NCA Haiti arranged a HAP seminar for NCA staff and partners on May 25-26. In addition to NCA staff, people from Viva Rio, MISSEH, LWF Haiti and Fondation le Berger attended.
- NCA Haiti has a new partner, Fondation le Berger. NCA plans to work with this organisation in 15 priority camps in Cité Soleil, after completing a pilot project in three of these camps in order to map out further cooperation.
- NCA Haiti has trained 20 people from Fondation le Berger in psychosocial activities, and 12 in hygiene promotion.
- NCA Haiti personnel regularly attend various cluster meetings, including WASH and GBV.
- About 2500 people have received information about psychosocial work in two camps run by Fondation le Berger in Cité Soleil.
- MOFECS has finished constructing six shower cabinets in Camp Rue Germain - two for men and four for women/children.
- MOFECS will also rebuild and install new latrines in Camp Place Fiertè, in addition to building shower cabinets and hand-wash facilities in the same camp.

- NCA and Viva Rio will soon start a feasibility study of a pilot project on 25 biogas digesters, in the perspective of a national programme.
- Viva Rio currently works on 11 priority sites, of which five are still IDP camps.
- Viva Rio has an ongoing project regarding the construction of 18 biogas digesters. It is also working on putting in place assembly plans for the portable cabins received from UNICEF.
- A hygiene promoter from Viva Rio was the trainer during a 2-day course on hygiene promotion, with 16 participants.
- LWF Haiti will provide NCA with 200 mosquito nets, which will be distributed in Camp Rue Germain where there have been complaints about mosquitoes.
- Sewing machines will be distributed in some camps run by MOFECS, MISSEH, Viva Rio and Fondation le Berger.

Please refer to previous sitreps for more information on the entire ACT response, as well as ACT Appeal HTI101.

Updates for Sitrep 18 to be sent by 14 July to ACT Appeal Coordinator Geneviève Cyvoct at act.haiti@yahoo.com

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to Jessie Kgoroadira, ACT Chief Finance Officer (jkg@actalliance.org).

Thank you for your attention.

For further information please contact:

ACT Deputy General Secretary, Jill Hawkey (phone +41 22 791 6069) or (mob +41 79 376 1711)
ACT Regional Program Officer, Michael Zschiegner, (phone +41 22 791 6420 or mob +41 79 608 8133)

ACT Web Site address: <http://www.actalliance.org>