

This report was issued by OCHA Haiti. The next report will be issued on or around 7 April 2010.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Prior to the 31 March donor's conference in New York on Haiti, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon talks of a social contract to build Haiti back better.
- According to a survey carried out by Oxfam in Haiti, over 60% of respondents thought the quality and efficiency of aid distribution by international NGOs was positive. Over 70% praised the actions of foreign governments during the post-earthquake relief period.
- Emergency Shelter cluster members have reached over 81% of the known caseload (1.5 million people affected by the earthquake and in need of emergency shelter) with emergency shelter materials.
- WFP is currently feeding an estimated 401,000 children nationwide, out of a targeted 800,000 children for 2010. The figure for Port-au-Prince is expected to increase substantially following the new Government position. Schools in Port-au-Prince are due to re-open on 5 April.
- In Petit Goave and Grand Goave, it was reported that of the 115 pre-primary, basic and secondary schools operational before the earthquake, 102 are now damaged or destroyed (almost 90%).
- On 19 March, President René Prével signed a decree assigning 7,450Ha of land to the north of Port-au-Prince for Temporary Relocation Sites. The first section of this area has been named Corail Cesselesse, divided into four sectors. Preparatory work has already started on the first sector. The decree is available on the CCCM website: www.cccmhaiti.info.
- The WASH cluster emergency needs planning figure is for approximately 1,100,000 people hosted in about 651 spontaneous settlements in Port-au-Prince, Jacmel, Gressier, Leogane, Grand Goave and Petit Goave. So far, about 4,981 latrines have been installed for affected populations.
- Border crossing from the Dominican Republic to Haiti will be closed from 1 to 5 April. The last loading operation in Santo Domingo, for the Logistics cluster common cargo movement (from Santo Domingo to Port-au-Prince) will take place on 30 March in order to enable the trucks to return before the closure. Operations will continue as normal from 6 April.
- The use of an approved broker for Haitian custom clearance has become compulsory in the Dominican Republic for all organizations sending cargo to Haiti. The logistics cluster is facilitating the cross-border customs clearance accordingly.

II. Situation Overview

In a recent press release, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated that on 31 March, world leaders will gather at UN headquarters in New York for a critical donor's conference, a tangible expression of solidarity with the Haitian Government and its people. Haitian President René Prével calls it a "rendez-vous with history," a compact to build what he calls "a new Haiti," a Haiti transformed. The conference is considered to be a mission to offer and deliver hope. He stated that their challenge in New York is not to rebuild but to "build back better," to create a new Haiti. Under the Haiti strategic action plan, an Interim Haiti Reconstruction Commission would channel nearly US\$4 billion into specific projects and programs during the next 18 months. Over the next 10 years, reconstruction needs will total an estimated US \$11.5 billion. This assistance must be well-spent and well-coordinated. It must also provide for continuing emergency relief: food, sanitation and, most urgently at this moment, shelter.

With regards to the shift from emergency aid to longer-term reconstruction, the UN Secretary-General talks of a wholesale national renewal. In partnership with the international community, Haiti's leaders are committing to a new social contract with their people. That means a fully democratic Government, grounded in sound economic and social policies that address extreme poverty and deep-rooted disparities of wealth. This social contract must empower women as heads of households providing for their families, as entrepreneurs developing businesses, as advocates for the vulnerable, with full rights as decision makers in evolving democratic institutions and civic action organizations. It must offer new opportunities for economic

advancement and above all, jobs. The UN cash-for-work program should be a model. Finally, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated that only Haitians can build Haiti back better.

Oxfam America recently published findings of a survey carried out in Haiti prior to the crucial Donors' Conference in New York on 31 March. The survey was conducted by an independent Haitian polling consultant from 9 to 12 March in Leogane and Port-au-Prince including Petion-Ville, Delmas and Carrefour. It was funded by Oxfam. According to the survey of over 1,700 people, the most pressing needs for Haitians are jobs (26%), schools (22%) and homes (10%). With regards to implementation of the reconstruction plan, respondents propose an integrated approach involving the Government and Haitian civil society. These opinions are the result of an extensive one-on-one survey of Haitians of different age groups, socio-economic status, and location. Haitians also expressed their opinions on the relief effort following the 12 January earthquake and the overall performance of agencies on the ground. Over 60% of people surveyed thought the quality and efficiency of aid distribution by international NGOs was positive. Over 70% praised the actions of foreign governments during the post-earthquake relief period. Many people did not give an opinion on the effectiveness of aid distribution, showing the gaps and misunderstandings about such a massive aid operation.

In its report *Haiti: A Once-in-a-Century Chance for Change*, Oxfam calls on Governments and international lenders to urgently prioritize sanitation and shelter needs.

According to findings of a recent consultation (in its report entitled *Anticipating the future: Children and young people's voices in Haiti's Post Disaster Needs Assessment - PDNA*) carried out by Plan International, children and youth represent more than half of the population affected by the Haiti earthquake. Children and youth are on the one hand among the most vulnerable groups affected by the disaster, yet on the other hand many of them have already mobilized to support their communities in the response and taken on strong leadership roles. Despite this, their voices, needs and priorities have yet to be adequately listened to or taken into consideration. For this reason Plan International in partnership with UNICEF initiated a survey with about 1,000 children and youth to hear their ideas and priorities for the country's reconstruction. Their views were gathered with the purpose of feeding into the PDNA document. Local facilitators experienced in working with children and youth conducted 54 focus group consultations in nine Departments (exception of South-West).

Separated and unaccompanied children and those who have lost parents in the disaster are particularly vulnerable to the psychological impact of the disaster, to illness, abduction, trafficking, sexual abuse and violence. Similarly the very young are at particular risk of under-nutrition and prolonged psychosocial problems (particularly as their care-givers have also been profoundly impacted) and there are concerns regarding the long-term impact of the disaster on their integral development. The consultations reveal that children and youth in all nine Departments are experiencing trauma and fear. Most children and youth show signs of being traumatised by witnessing the numerous deaths, injuries and disabilities caused by the earthquake. All children have had their lives disrupted and their daily routine, including their ability to go to school shattered. It is the children, women, the poor and those from rural areas who in the long-term will bear the greatest impact from the earthquake and who will take the longest to recover. It is these same groups who were already living under extremely difficult situations prior to the earthquake.

In its report, Plan International mentions that the preamble to the Haitian Constitution of 29 March 1987 states its objective as: *"To establish a system of Government based on fundamental freedoms and the respect for human rights, social peace, economic equity, dialogue and the participation of all population in major decisions affecting the national life through effective decentralisation"*. Also, while ratifying the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Haitian State committed to undertake every possible measure to ensure the implementation of the right of children to participation, as recognised by Article 12 of the convention. The consultations reveal the willingness of children to participate in any recovery activity related to improving their lives and their future; as stated in the following testimony from a girl (within the 11 to 16 years age group) in Croix des Bouquets: *"I'm sure we'll have a better Haiti with the participation of youth and children. Then, Haiti would become a beautiful country. Haiti cannot be rebuilt without the participation of children and youth, we are Haiti's present, we will be Haiti's future"* (Extract from Plan's report). In conclusion, the following recommendations were made:

- 1) Participation: The right of children and youth to participate in all matters affecting them should be prioritised;
- 2) Education: The highest priority must be given to children's and youth's right to education through the development of a free, inclusive and high quality education system;

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- 3) Protection: Children's right to protection against all forms of violence must be realised by strengthening the capacity of the Haitian State including its child protection institutions;
- 4) Inclusion and Gender Equality: The rights of all Haiti's children should be guaranteed without discrimination and a gender equality approach must be utilized.

With regards to Contingency Planning and Preparedness, Government led efforts are underway to update the National Contingency Plan and put in place emergency preparedness plans at the regional level. Following a Civil Protection Directorate (DPC) led workshop held in Port-au-Prince from 19 to 20 March, regional workshops will be convened this coming week to update the hazards in each of 10 departments and identify populations at risk. From this work, the intent is to both update the contingency plan and prepare regional preparedness plans.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

The 12 clusters¹ designated in the Flash Appeal are holding regular meetings to coordinate their joint efforts.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

On 19 March, President René Prével signed a decree assigning 7,450Ha of land to the north of Port-au-Prince for Temporary Relocation Sites. The first section of this area has been named Corail Cesselesse, divided into four sectors. Preparatory work has already started on the first sector. The decree is available on the CCCM website: www.cccmhaiti.info.

UNOPS has started basic infrastructural works including levelling and drainage in the first sector of the site (space for about 8,000 people). Camp management will be covered by CCCM as a last resort until a partner is identified. OXFAM will provide basic WASH services, and WFP will provide on-site food distribution for 3 months. Initially, 7,500 people will gradually be moved from the Terrain de Golf site. Relocation will be performed by MINUSTAH and CRS among other actors.

In sites where decongestion is ongoing, mitigation efforts can begin for the remaining population by ensuring that they have access to basic services. This would be required for the remainder of the 37,000 people identified as being at-risk within the priority sites for decongestion.

Results of a recent MINUSTAH Risk Assessment reveal the following:

- 1) Of the original 7 sites identified in for flood-risk zones and prioritized for relocation, 8,500 people are at immediate risk and require alternate options before the rains increase.
- 2) An additional 500 people have been identified in two other sites (making a total of 9,000 people in 9 priority sites) as requiring relocation to avoid dangerous flooding and associated hazards.

Engineering works continue on the Temporary Relocation Site of Tabarre Issa, and the site is still on schedule for completion by 9 April. Tents will be erected from 9 to 12 April, ready for inhabitants to move in from 12 to 15 April. Occupants will consist of 2,500 people from the Valley de Bourdon site, which was prioritized as being at immediate risk of flooding. For the practical relocation of populations, MINUSTAH will ensure their logistical movement while the CCCM cluster in collaboration with community members, will organise and coordinate selection, socialization, consultation, mobilization assistance and monitoring of the population before, during and after the movement. This will be done in conjunction with Amurtel, GARR, IRC, UNICEF, and the Scouts.

Over last week, 12,549 families were registered in Adventist University, Coeur Aimant de Jesus, Venus et Environs, Petite Savane, Tapis Rouge and Terrain Accra. This week five more sites are planned for registration. Data from the registered sites is currently being processed. Considering that the process is time-consuming, no detailed results are currently available.

A joint surge operation is underway between the CCCM and WASH Clusters to consolidate information on numbers and locations of sites using motorcycle teams equipped with GPS units. This should be complete by

¹ The 12 clusters are: Camp Coordination and Camp Management (IOM); Education (UNICEF); Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (IFRC); Food (WFP); Logistics (WFP); Nutrition (UNICEF); Protection (OHCHR with UNICEF for Child Protection and UNFPA for GBV); WASH (UNICEF); Agriculture (FAO); Early Recovery (UNDP); Emergency Telecommunications (WFP); Health (WHO/PAHO).

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31 March after which, a second Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) with updated data on site locations and demographics will be released next week. However, preliminary results indicate that there are considerably more sites than initially identified. Current data reveals that only 27% of sites have Camp Management. With the new figures expected to be much higher, this proportion would definitely be less.

Gaps & Constraints: Camp Management agencies are still required for most sites including the new Temporary Relocation Site at Corail. Although the cluster is still offering grants for any interested agencies, the application deadline is 1 April.

Alternatives need to be found based on the 'Strategy for Safer Shelter' (see section on Coordination) for the 9,000 individuals at immediate risk of flooding and associated hazards.

Security is an urgent requirement: To secure the new Temporary Relocation Sites from squatters immediately after work begins and sometimes before. Displaced people have started 'reserving' spaces on the site; To secure sites that are being vacated as part of the decongestion strategy from the influx of other displaced persons.

Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI)

Shelter Cluster partners are working to distribute as much plastic sheeting, tarpaulins and tents as possible so that people can put something waterproof over the top of their shelter to protect themselves and their belongings. To date, over 330,480 tarpaulins have been distributed together with over 43,000 family size tents. Approximately, 85,230 households have been supplied with ropes and fixing materials, while 18,632 tool kits have been distributed. The following key household NFI's have also been distributed: Kitchen Sets (68,837), Hygiene Kits (217,494), Blankets (284,626) and Mosquito Nets (115,691).

Beneficiaries targeted by the shelter cluster are now 1,301,491 individuals, or 260,298 households, in line with data from the DPC. The target for the cluster remains 2 tarpaulins per family by 1 May. This will be achieved through the continuing surge of activity by cluster agencies.

Cluster members have reached over 81% (1.3 million people affected by the earthquake and in need of emergency shelter) with emergency shelter materials.

In the South East Department, over 17,114 families have now received emergency shelter and household NFIs, bringing overall emergency shelter coverage to over 65%.

The immediate provision of emergency shelter remains the priority of responding humanitarian agencies and the distribution of appropriate fixings and toolkits remains vital for the emergency phase. However, it is important that the surge in the supply of emergency shelter continues beyond the 1.3 million target, as prepositioned stocks will be a necessity for immediate coverage of increased needs anticipated as a result of the approaching rains and hurricane season.

With land identified for relocation in Pole Cabaret, Bon-Repos, and Corail Cesselesse, 20km north of Port-au-Prince, focus is on ensuring adequate emergency shelter for those who will be relocated. Considering that the definition of host family support kits is needed to ensure coordinated support for those identified, the Host Family Shelter Response working group are discussing appropriate packages for host family supports.

There is need to define the process for organizations to confirm the beneficiary rights on the land before building the Transitional Shelter. This is necessary to ensure that the process does not cause a bottleneck to the construction. Furthermore, a National Building Code is needed for agencies planning permanent housing solutions. Over 120,000 transitional shelters have been planned by 40 agencies participating in the shelter cluster. Agencies have started working on pilot shelters where land is available.

Discussions are ongoing on the relocation of families from the largest camp in Jacmel (Pinchinat). Five potential sites have been identified for further assessments.

In the South East Department, a monitoring group comprising of the DPC, OCHA, Shelter cluster, Protection cluster and CROSE, has identified 100 families opting to move back to their respective homes.

According to local authorities, an estimated 48,000 families are in need of support for Shelter material and NFIs in Leogane and Gressier. So far, coverage in the plains of Leogane and Gressier is high while it remains extremely low or nonexistent in mountainous zones.

A national public campaign is required to address the issue of safe debris removal. In collaboration with the early recovery cluster and CHF International, sites in Leogane have been identified for garbage and house debris disposal. No sites have been identified in Gressier.

In Petit Goave and Grand Goave, Emergency Shelter coverage is very low at only 20%. Moreover, there is no baseline data on the number of families affected in Grande Goave. Humanitarian partners are worried about the low figures and believe it does not reflect the reality in urban and peri-urban areas that is estimated at more than 70%.

CARE organised a meeting on land issues to enable organisations to share experience, concerns and solutions. The working group will now develop a short guideline to harmonise a transparent and equitable NGO approach that can be replicated and used in many different, unique cases and communicated to the public.

IFRC has launched a discussion platform on googlegroup. The topic is on community safe buildings: <http://groups.google.com/group/hurricane-shelters-in-emergencies>

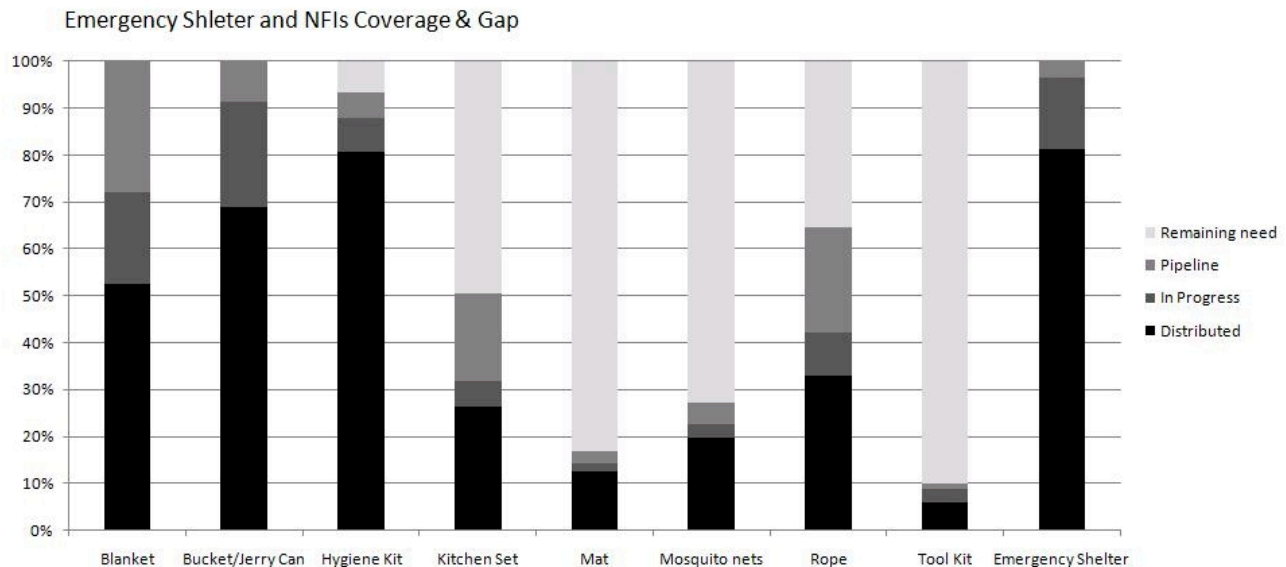
Gaps & Constraints: Accurate data on the actual number of affected persons left homeless by the earthquake is needed for a better view on coverage and effectiveness of the response.

With only 18,632 tool kits distributed and 85,230 households with ropes and fixings provision, this remains a vital gap in the response. A large portion of emergency shelters constructed will require strengthening for the rainy season. Kitchen set coverage is also low despite being prioritised at the onset of the response.

After sites were identified and verified in Carefour, the Cluster realized that the commune needed crucial emergency shelter assistance. They will be working together to assure a better coverage. While emergency shelter materials have been distributed in the plains of Leogane and Gressier, the surrounding mountainous area remains inaccessible. Adequate assessments have not been carried out in these zones. The needs of those living in these hard-to-reach areas should be assessed. See annexed map on Emergency Shelter Gap.

Lack of certainty regarding land tenure, potential length of stay and ultimate ownership continues to be of concern throughout the affected areas: both for relocation of priority sites and for planning of transitional shelters.

The continuing increase in both the number and sizes of existing sites is challenging for humanitarian partners. Anecdotal evidence suggests that a large percentage represents people not directly affected by the earthquake. New occupants may be obliged to move into sites if faced with economic difficulties.



Source: Emergency Shelter and NFIs Cluster

Agriculture

The Agriculture cluster partners have committed to distributing 1,429 tonnes of leguminous, 7.5 tonnes of vegetable seeds, 1,056 tonnes of cereals and 75,885 tools in support of the spring planting season.

So far, FAO has distributed a total of 4,000 pick-axes, 2,800 hoes and 4,000 machetes, 95 tonnes of bean seeds, 30 tonnes of cow peas, 47 tonnes of maize seeds and 1.75 tonnes of vegetable seeds to over 9 000 farm families cultivating the earthquake affected communes of Leogane, Petit Goave, Grand Goave, Gressier, Jacmel, Cayes Jacmel et Marigot. Next week FAO will distribute an additional 30 tonnes of bean seeds in all the communes of the Nord-East Department.

FAO will continue to distribute seeds and tools to earthquake affected farmers until mid-April. FAO plans to deliver an additional 19,920 hoes, 16,000 machetes, 8,000 pick-axes, 568 tonnes of beans, 200 tonnes of maize, 20 tonnes of cow peas and 1.5 tonnes of pigeon peas throughout the affected Communes.

FAO mobilized a senior staff member to lay the groundwork for its Urban Agriculture project. The Emergency Relief Response Fund (ERRF) funded project will assist 15,000 displaced families based in settlement sites and in peri-urban areas. The project will support the families with self contained EarthBoxes and training to provide displaced families with an opportunity to improve their nutrition and living conditions.

Earthboxes are well suited to the post-earthquake phase since they require minimum space, do not require fertile ground, are transportable, and can be moved with users if re-location is required. The boxes require very little water, fertilizer and labour inputs than normal gardens (water 60% less, fertilizer 50% less, labour 90% less) and provide high yields, even in "counter-seasons".

Food

WFP has been requested to increase coverage of meals to school-aged children in Port-au-Prince and peripheries. This followed a Government meeting on 26 March, chaired by the Minister of Agriculture. The modalities and coverage are still to be clarified, but it was made clear that the Government intends to expand the feeding programme to school children and children out-of-school as a safety net when the General Food Distribution (GFD) ends.

WFP is currently feeding an estimated 401,000 children nationwide, out of a targeted 800,000 children for 2010. The figure for Port-au-Prince is expected to increase substantially following the new Government position. Schools in Port-au-Prince are due to re-open on 5 April.

Discussions on the fuel-efficient stove project using biomass are ongoing between WFP and its partners. Twenty school stoves and one pelletizer for biomass pellet production are in the process of being procured.

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The project will be conducted with WorldStove and International Lifeline Fund. UNEP has also shown interest in formally becoming partner.

The second round of blanket supplementary feeding will commence in Port-au-Prince this week, to over 395,680 children between 6 to 59 months and 158,272 pregnant and lactating women when WFP scales up the program. WFP is still having discussions regarding a nationwide nutrition survey.

WFP is still verifying orphanage and hospital beneficiary numbers for another round of rations to institutions in Port-au-Prince. Food deliveries will recommence this week for institutions that were verified last week.

Nutrition

A training of trainers has been completed for 25 trainers from the Ministry of Health which included information on infant and young child feeding counselling to prevent malnutrition and how to provide technical support for discharged children.

The referral pathway for abandoned babies through the Child Protection cluster and the Government of Haiti Office for Child Protection (IBERS) was utilized to address two cases of infants in need of ready-to-use therapeutic milk (RUIF) in Leogane and Petit Goave.

About US\$ 30,000 worth of information technology equipment was delivered to the Ministry of Health. Albendazole was dispatched to 3 partners for utilization under the blanket feeding and vaccination campaigns.

In the Dominican Republic, a Nutrition assessment focusing on children under the age of 5 was undertaken in Ganthier, Fond Parisien, and Fond Verrettes between 24 February and 7 March. It was coordinated by UNICEF with the participation of WFP and World Vision. During this assessment, about 2,320 children were evaluated according to their Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC). Findings revealed that:

- 8.6% of the population are displaced children;
- 9.3% of the children were assessed as being at risk (MUAC values between 12.5cm and 13.4cm);
- 2.3% of the children suffer from moderate malnutrition (MUAC values between 11.5cm and 12.4cm);
- 0.5% of the children are severely malnourished (MUAC values below 11.5cm).

World Vision based in Jimaní, and supported by UNICEF, will follow up the identified cases of malnutrition in Ganthier, Fond Parisien and Fond Verrettes.

Health

From 28 February to 20 March, 17 malaria cases, 12 dengue fever cases and 4 tuberculosis cases have been recorded within the zone of intervention which has 25 first aid units and 3 hospitals. Over last week, 3 new cases of malaria have been detected in Fond Parisien and the cases of dengue continue to rise.

Mental health activities have started in the American Refugee Committee (ARC) camp in Fond Parisien.

Protection

In Leogane, the lack of information on assistance available to persons willing to return to their houses and the unavailability of assistance for reconstruction hinders some displaced people from leaving emergency sites. In Jacmel, some displaced persons are planning to return to Port au Prince.

In Fort Liberte, assessments conducted by the Protection cluster indicate that the influx of displaced people has resulted in overcrowding of existing structures creating a favourable environment for numerous protection concerns. Among the cases identified by the Protection cluster, families are forced to split in order to find accommodation. The municipality has identified plots of land and rendered them available for construction of housings for the displaced populations. Unfortunately, no assistance has also been provided.

Reports are being received of elderly persons being abandoned in settlement sites or hospitals in Port-au-Prince. Their vulnerability has increased following the announcement that from 12 April, the provision of medical services will no longer be free. This could result in the discharge of such patients from hospitals. There is need to promote the set up of functioning support services.

In Artibonite, the Protection cluster is monitoring the situation of 250 children in the Saint Marc reception centre that have not yet been enrolled in schools. The line Ministry has established the closure date of 5 April for enrolment of displaced children. The cluster is actively engaging with the municipal administration and the line Ministry to address the situation of displaced children who are unable to afford school fees. Concerns

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related to access to education are also being raised in the North-East, where distance to secondary education institutions and transport fees hinder access to school.

In Saint Marc, the Protection cluster has identified focal points to monitor the situation of displaced persons, children and persons with disabilities.

In Jacmel, the Protection cluster is concerned about the poor level of security in Pinchinat camp, where reports of theft, physical aggression and other acts are often received. The Protection cluster is working with partners to establish a regular presence in the camp and to facilitate a sensitization and violence reduction campaign.

The Protection cluster remains actively involved in all discussions relating to the evacuation and decongestion of sites in Port-au-Prince and the relocation of displaced persons. The cluster aims to ensure that the human rights standards and protection principles are adhered to. The cluster has developed a targeted strategy that identifies assessment, advocacy and capacity building needs to prevent and respond to protection concerns.

The imminent evacuation and relocation of displaced people from prioritized sites for decongestion requires targeted strategies to ensure that groups with diverse and support needs such as persons the elder and people with disabilities exercise their right to chose one of the five options mentioned in the Safer Shelter Strategy (see section on Coordination) on an equal basis with others. The Protection cluster is working with partners to promote accessibility of information and support for informed choice.

UNHCR is mapping temporary shelters in Santo Domingo. So far 7 shelters and 2 health centres have been identified in which at least 70 patients are recuperating accompanied by their family members who are assisting them. There are several cases of unaccompanied minors and adolescents, as well as several persons who will need additional surgical and/or rehabilitation interventions, requiring a prolonged stay in the Dominican Republic. Preoccupations exists regarding the lack of documentation of the accompanying family members, who have voiced their needs to travel between Haiti and the Dominican Republic in order to assist family members in Haiti as well.

On 18 March, UNHCR, PAHO/WHO, and UNDP assessed the situation in Thiote in the South Eastern border area of Haiti, close to Jimaní. The community received about 6,000 displaced persons who had been affected by the earthquake. PAHO/WHO distributed medical and sanitation assistance. Interviews were also held with the mayor and vulnerable groups.

On 22 March, UNHCR launched the first Quick Impact Project (QIP) in Fond Verrettes (which has received at least 8,000 displaced persons) in the Haitian border area close to Jimaní. UNHCR together with the Women's Solidarity Organization of Fond Verrettes decided to implement integrative activities for a group of displaced women. As part of this initiative, mechanical sewing machines and money for the purchase of material was also distributed. The Women's Solidarity Organization is planning courses for 141 displaced women, mainly in the area of agriculture and business, as well as annual sewing courses for 26 women of Fonds Verrettes; including 15 displaced women, who will not be charged for the course. UNHCR is planning to conduct more of such integrative activities.

NFIs have been distributed in Ganthier (Marre-Roseau, Galette-Chambon, Pays-Pourri, Balan) UNHCR, IOM, and PAHO/WHO distributed 400 solar lamps, 100 conventional lamps, 500 kitchen and hygiene kits, as well as chlorine and diapers.

UNHCR accompanied the first family reunification of a non-accompanied minor undertaken on the basis of the Protocol for the Protection of vulnerable Haitian children and adolescents who relocated to the Dominican Republic as a result of the earthquake. This protocol was approved last week.

The Dominican Republic Red Cross and other institutions are following up on cases of non-accompanied children, adolescents and their families. So far 11 family reunions have been achieved. The National Council for Childhood and Adolescence is monitoring the cases and supports NGOs who are taking care of unaccompanied minors and assisting in looking for family members.

The NGO Coalition Por la Infancia in the Dominican Republic reported on 18 March that Haitian children and adolescents were present in touristic points such as Sosua, Cabarete and Las Terrenas, where prostitution

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exists. Institutions such as Protects are working on identifying these children and adolescents. They will also coordinate the activities of NGOs who aim to protect children from sexual exploitation.

Camp visits by UNICEF between 10 and 18 March identified the need for psychosocial interventions, and child friendly spaces. UNHCR and local partners are undertaking rapid assessments in the border area in order to evaluate the protection status of unaccompanied and separated children and other vulnerable groups. World Vision together with USAID and PAHO/WHO have identified 500 displaced persons in Jimani so far, out of which 77 are separated children and adolescents.

Gaps & Constraints: The Protection cluster in Port-au-Prince is conducting a mapping exercise to assess the actual number of partners and identify their projects locations. In the course of a previous mapping exercise conducted in February, less than 15% of the partners provided the required information. Responses to this second request have so far also been very low.

The mapping of temporary shelters is ongoing in Santo Domingo while data from other possible shelters within the Dominican Republic is being verified, including the locations of affected persons in other medical centres.

Gender (Cross Cutting Issue)

USAID intends to put up lighting in Parc JM Vincent, Delmas 31-33, Parc Chesnier, Petionville Club and Saint Louis de Gonzague. Other sites, identified as vulnerable, are also being considered.

Oxfam has decided, in response to the complaints about inappropriate design of latrines (resulting in one third of them not being used), to start constructing and repairing latrines according to international accepted standards (including separation of latrines for men and women, covered bathing facilities among other aspects).

Initial concerns about the plight of vulnerable persons in the selection of people for relocation to Tabarra Issa have been addressed, now that the community of Bourdon Vallee will be relocated to Tabarra Issa in its entirety.

Ongoing planning within the Shelter and Early Recovery clusters in ensuring that suggested assistance packages to host families (in urban and rural settings, hosting about 600,000 persons who moved out of Port-au-Prince) target vulnerable groups (single-headed households, disabled persons, the elderly) as well.

Training on gender was provided to surveyors of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) on 26 March.

Education

In Petit Goave and Grand Goave, it was reported that of the 115 pre-primary, basic and secondary schools operational before the earthquake, 102 are now damaged or destroyed (almost 90%).

According to the Education Department Director, 90% or 1,000 schools have now reopened in the South-East Department. It has also been reported that some children have been sent home by school directors because their school fees have not been paid by parents. The Director has disseminated a radio message instructing that no child should be refused access to education.

According to the distribution list provided by the Government, 295 educational kits (school-in-a-box) have been distributed to 131 kindergartens, basic and secondary schools serving a total of 41,336 students in Jacmel. About 1,400 school tents have been distributed so far.

The cluster continues to work closely with the CCCM cluster and the inter-cluster working group on the development of minimum standards for the opening of new camp sites around Port-au-Prince. It has been agreed that both formal and informal learning opportunities must be available at all camps.

The first meeting of the Education sub-cluster in Petit Goave (covering Grand Goave) was held early this week. Among the 19 participants were: the Civil Protection Directorate, the Ministry of Education, UN agencies and NGOs. Key priorities discussed include: Relocation of sites for displaced people located in schools, access to education for children living in settlements and transitional sites, debris clearance on school sites, inspection and certification of unaffected schools, and the standardization of activities in temporary learning spaces.

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Gaps & Constraints: The inspection and certification of school buildings safe for re-occupation has been slow. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education has stated that children should not return to unsafe structures. This means that there will likely be a great need for temporary and transitional learning spaces until the certification process can be completed.

Early Recovery

Structural assessments of the University d'Etat d'Haiti Hospital is ongoing. Building Damage assessments are also in progress. The program is now self-sustaining and is being led by the Government of Haiti with support from the UN. Canals are also being cleaned Orphelin among other areas.

Brazilian Engineers and Concern Worldwide continue to work on the Tabarre Issa site. UNOPS has carried out surveys of canals on site.

The Early Recovery framework has been finalized and will be reviewed by UNDP. The main aim of the Early recovery Plan is to support longer term reconstruction by bridging the gap between the end of the relief phase and the recovery and reconstructions phases.

A Working Group on Support to host families in the regions (Host Community Relief and Recovery Group) under the umbrella of the Early Recovery Cluster and the Inter-cluster has been initiated. The main objective of the Working Group is to address the following issues:

1. Assess the number of displaced people in the various Departments;
2. Identify the needs of displaced people;
3. Coordinate support (short, medium and long term) for displaced populations with regards to basic social services including: education, health, employment, urban planning, transportation, telecommunications, agriculture, small industry, governance, border areas, and tourism among other aspects).
4. Provide support to local authorities and civil society actors

UNDP is informing partners that through its Cash for Work (CFW) program, about US\$150,000 is available for use in sites. UNDP has recently been informed that the Golf Course site currently requires funds under the CFW program. Subsequently, UNDP has pledged US\$40'000 for CFW activities on the site.

The Early Recovery cluster has been activated in Jacmel and Jimani.

Gaps & Constraints: More stencils and vehicles must be provided to speed up assessments.

Emergency Telecommunications (ETC)

As part of the Haiti contingency plan, the humanitarian community requires a country-wide mechanism for security communications. To date ETC provides VHF coverage over all earthquake affected areas of the country. VHF coverage to the Dominican Republic border with Haiti has become an operational requirement.

The coastal road from Jeremie to Gonaives is well travelled by humanitarian workers yet VHF coverage along parts of the road needed improvement for both operational and security reasons.

A repeater has been installed on Ile de la Gonâve. Coverage is currently being tested. It is however expected to cover a significant portion of the road between Gonaives and Jeremie.

World Vision International (WVI) has formally presented a proposal for a shared mobile data centre for the Humanitarian community. For any queries regarding this proposal WVI invites partners to contact: Brian Carlson, World Vision International's Humanitarian & Emergency Affairs IT Director, by phone: +1-626-675-9599 or by e-mail: brian_carlson@wvi.org.

Gaps & Constraints: ETC will deploy suitably qualified technical personnel to build the country wide VHF network. The procurement of equipment is also in the pipeline.

Logistics

Border crossing from the Dominican Republic to Haiti will be closed from 1 to 5 April. The last loading operation in Santo Domingo, for the Logistics cluster common cargo movement (from Santo Domingo to Port-

au-Prince) will take place on 30 March in order to enable the trucks to return before the closure. Operations will continue as normal from 6 April.

As of 28 March, the importation of goods into Haiti now requires the customs declaration form to be electronically generated, using recognised software by brokers who have registered with Haitian authorities. Given the current situation in Haiti and the increased volumes of goods transiting through the border, the Logistics cluster is having discussions with custom authorities in Port-au-Prince and is urging them to place a computer unit and printer at the border.

Jacmel, Cap Haitien and Port-au-Prince seaports continue to operate as points of entry for humanitarian cargo.

The Logistics cluster is awaiting the outcome of WFP's attempt to discharge containers from a ship at the Gonaives seaport. If they succeed, it will create a precedent and a new entry point for cargo destined for humanitarian response.

The Logistics cluster continues to deploy additional mobile storage units to 10 field offices in anticipation of an increase in the demand for storage at the departmental level.

As of 28 March, 2,530MT of cargo has been dispatched from Port-au-Prince since the beginning of the operation, consisting of 44% shelter items and 32% food. So far, the common transport service has been used by 73 organisations.

In the Dominican Republic, the use of an approved broker for Haitian custom clearance has become compulsory for all organizations sending cargo to Haiti through Jimaní. The logistics cluster is facilitating the cross-border customs clearance accordingly. To date, the Logistics cluster has transported 3,271 m³ of food items and more than 20,000 m³ of non-food items for 74 different organizations, and has facilitated transport for the Protection, Nutrition, Health, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene clusters.

To date, UNHAS has transported 2,700 passengers of 250 different organizations from Santo Domingo to Port-au-Prince.

Coordination

The Safer Shelter Strategy is a comprehensive strategy developed by the Government of Haiti with the support of the international community. Within the strategy, the Government seeks to assist the estimated 1.2 million Haitians displaced by the earthquake and currently living in spontaneous settlements in Port-au-Prince and other affected areas, including Jacmel, Leogane, Petit Goaves, Grand Goaves and Gressier to seek safer and improved living conditions ahead of the upcoming rainy season. The five pronged approach of the Strategy consists of:

- 1) Returning to their homes if they are safe
- 2) Returning to a safe plot (proximity site), from which the debris has been removed
- 3) Staying temporarily with a host family
- 4) Staying temporarily in an existing site where minimum conditions can be met
- 5) For those who do not have another option, temporarily relocating to planned sites identified by the Government.

Plans are rapidly moving ahead to support the five pronged approach of the Safer Shelter Strategy. - Over 14,000 homes have now been assessed 60% of which are certified as "green" structurally sound for occupancy.

- Debris removal is ongoing to clear proximity sites.

- The Humanitarian Country Team is formulating a support package for host families.

- A programme of engineering work is underway in most of the priority red sites to create safer environment and minimize the number of people that will need to be relocated to ensure residents are not in imminent risk of landslides or flooding.

- A communication programme will be commenced in the coming days to promote the different options.

- As a last resort two evacuation sites are being prepared with a basic minimum service provision, which will allow for the emergency relocation of those most at risk and who are not able to move back to a safe house or a proximity site. Services to these sites Tabarre Isa and La Corail will be augmented over time.

With regards to Civil-Military-Coordination (CMCOORD) while the United States Joint Task Force (USJTF) drawdown continues, the withdrawal of one infantry battalion has been delayed in order to enable the provision of additional security support to the humanitarian relief operation.

Meanwhile a French contingent has arrived and started work at 4 sites in Port au Prince on 24 March. They are expected to stay in Haiti for 2 months.

The CMCOORD team has been contributing to, and participating in a MINUSTAH military component lessons learned workshop.

IV. Funding

According to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), the revised Humanitarian Appeal of US\$ 1.4 billion is 50 percent funded at US\$ 743 million, with another US\$ 31 million in uncommitted pledges.

All companies that wish to make cash and in kind donations are urged to use the new UN/Business Partnership Gateway, at <http://business.un.org>. This function matches offers of support with UN needs.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in kind contributions by sending an email to: fts@reliefweb.int

VI. Contacts

1. OCHA Contacts

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2. Cluster Contacts in Haiti

The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.

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Websites and document links:

Government of Haiti website: <http://haitiseisme2010.gouv.ht/>

Haiti coordination website: <http://haiti.oneresponse.info>

For more information on Haiti and other crises, visit: www.reliefweb.int

For information on OCHA: <http://ochaonline.un.org/haiti>

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Guide to humanitarian giving for the Haiti Earthquake: <http://ochaonline.un.org/donatetohaiti>
For information on ICRC's family tracing service, go to: <http://www.familylinks.icrc.org/familylinks>.
For the logistics cluster: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a>
For the emergency telecommunications cluster: www.wfp.org/ict-emergency
For the shelter cluster: <http://groups.google.com/group/shelterhaiti2010>
UNHAS flights from SD to PAP: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a/flash-news-17-january-2010-unhas>
Gender ABCs for Haiti: <http://onerresponse.info/crosscutting/gender/>

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