

Haiti

Situation Response 2010

Protection and assistance to internally displaced persons
and host communities in Haiti



Donor Relations and Resource
Mobilization Service
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Cover photo: Two girls from earthquake zone living in a host family washing and cooking.

UNHCR / J. BJÖRGVINSSON

Haiti

To address the growing needs of people in Haiti displaced by January's devastating earthquake, UNHCR is launching an expanded operation's plan and budget. UNHCR is supporting the protection cluster in Haiti and is leading the 'mirror' protection cluster in the Dominican Republic. The expanded programme will extend the work of the protection cluster and provide material support to extremely vulnerable individuals. Community-based quick impact projects will support the needs of affected people hosted by friends and relatives in Port-au-Prince and in other areas.

An earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale hit Haiti on 12 January 2010, causing untold human suffering including the death of some 217,000 persons. UNHCR offered the Emergency Relief Coordinator its support to the UN humanitarian response effort to address massive and urgent needs, in particular UNHCR's expertise in protection, camp management, site planning as well as material assistance such as tents and plastic sheeting.

When the earthquake occurred, the existing Cluster arrangements that the UN Country Team in Haiti had in place were activated. OHCHR, as leader of the protection cluster, requested UNHCR's support; and IOM, as leader of the camp coordination and camp management cluster, requested UNHCR's expertise in registration, and other support. UNHCR also provided a Shelter Coordinator to IFRC which leads the emergency shelter cluster.

UNHCR responded positively to these requests and has thus far deployed three protection officers to support the protection cluster, two

technical experts in registration and profiling, and one logistics officer to oversee the distribution of the material assistance provided (2,130 light weight tents, 18,850 rolls of plastic sheetings for 103,400 beneficiaries, 17,400 solar lamps, a field kit and an office kit). The OHCHR/UNHCR protection cluster team conducted an initial rapid protection needs assessment, establishing a protection-monitoring system and conducting advocacy and awareness activities to ensure protection-sensitive responses.

In the Dominican Republic, which has become since the outset of the crisis, an important logistics base for relief operations, the UN Country Team provided support to the UN humanitarian response in Haiti. To this effect, it was given the responsibility of operating within 20 km on Haitian territory from the border, to allow the UN system in Haiti to focus on the earthquake-ravaged zones. 'Mirror' clusters were activated in the Dominican Republic and UNHCR, at the request of the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, took the lead of the protection cluster.

UNHCR deployed a team of five staff members, who are supporting the efforts of the Dominican authorities in addressing protection needs of the Haitians evacuated to the Dominican Republic. UNHCR operates in the border areas, providing material support to vulnerable people. Likewise, for practical purposes, it implements the protection strategy for internally displaced persons and host communities in the border areas within Haiti.

To address the growing needs in Haiti, UNHCR is requesting USD 12,500,120, of which USD 1,700,000 was already included in the revised CAP for Haiti, launched on 18 February 2010. This new budget will enable UNHCR to expand its support to OHCHR to assist displaced people outside Port-au-Prince and those living outside recognised camps. These efforts will help to prevent further displacement or premature return to Port-au-Prince before proper conditions are established while supporting hosting communities.

The needs

The displacement triggered by the earthquake is extremely complex. According to Government of Haiti estimates, some 3 million people have been affected. Some 1.3 million people whose houses have been destroyed

have formed camped settlements inside Port-au-Prince and other affected areas. Some of the IDP settlements include people whose houses have been less damaged but who are scared of spending the night in

them. Finally, people have left Port-au-Prince to relocate to urban or rural areas where they have family or other social connections.

As the international community concentrates its efforts to provide relief to the affected population in the earthquake-hit areas, IDPs outside of camps and settlements and their host communities continue to need assistance. The estimated number of people who moved outside Port-au-Prince is some 500,000, of which some

160,000 moved to regions within 20 kilometers from the Dominican Republic's border.

In addition, in the Dominican Republic, which received medical evacuees and other extremely vulnerable individuals, the protection clusters' assessment indicated the

need to continue to accompany the return of discharged patients to Haiti, monitor the situation of persons with specific needs that might need to remain longer in the Dominican Republic, and the protection needs of Haitians who arrived outside the medical evacuation scheme.

Strategy and activities

In Haiti, UNHCR operates with staff under the OHCHR-led protection cluster and with an Office based in the Dominican Republic that covers operation within 20 kilometers inside Haiti from the border with the Dominican Republic.

UNHCR is implementing following activities:

- In the Dominican Republic, identify and assist vulnerable Haitians displaced by the earthquake, including medical patients with special needs and their families, as well as other vulnerable categories (i.e. unaccompanied or separated children, women at risk, elderly, persons with severe disabilities/ amputees, etc.), who require special protection and assistance.
- Ensure the provision of counselling and accompaniment to persons with specific needs, especially where such cases involve transnational family situations.
- Provide material support to shelters, churches and host families in Santo Domingo where discharged patients and their families, as well as other vulnerable Haitians, including unaccompanied or separated children, orphans, women at risk, disabled, etc., have been hosted on a temporary basis.
- Complementing IOM's role, facilitate access to transport assistance to vulnerable Haitian individuals who crossed into the Dominican Republic after the earthquake and wish to return home and provide advice on opportunities for reinsertion in Haiti.
- Identify vulnerable third country nationals (i.e. refugees and other persons of concern, undocumented migrants who were living in Haiti at the time of the earthquake and have since either been internally displaced in Haiti or have crossed into the Dominican Republic) and require counselling and assistance regarding voluntary return to their own countries and or alternative durable solutions, as well as short-term humanitarian assistance, based on needs.

Key targets for 2010

- Monitoring activities and assessments are conducted regularly by the OHCHR/UNHCR team.
- A profiling exercise is conducted in the Ouest, Centre and Artibonite departments and the needs of IDPs and their host communities are identified and proper responses designed.
- A programme of 60 quick impact projects is designed and implemented in the Ouest, Centre, Nord, Grand Anse and Artibonite departments. A programme of 25 quick impact projects is designed and implemented in the areas inside Haiti bordering the Dominican Republic.
- Quick impact projects and assistance to people with specific needs; interventions reinforce protection mechanisms with monitoring and advocacy.
- NFIs are distributed to an estimated 50,000 needy IDPs and host families in the Ouest, Centre and Artibonite departments, to complement those activities carried out by the Shelter Cluster. NFIs are distributed to an estimated 10,000 needy IDPs and host families inside areas of Haiti bordering the Dominican Republic, to complement those activities carried out by the Shelter Cluster.
- 2,000 people with specific needs are identified and assisted.

- The overall response to the needs of IDPs and affected populations, including protection, assistance, reconstruction and rehabilitation measures, adequately includes protection and human rights considerations as per international standards.
- At least 15 reception facilities for medical evacuees and people with specific needs in the Dominican Republic are provided with material support.

2010 UNHCR Budget for Haiti (USD)

Rights groups and objectives	2010 budget
	IDP programme
Favourable Protection Environment	
Prevention of displacement is strengthened	6,986,447
Co-operation with partners strengthened	502,000
Subtotal	7,488,447
Basic Needs and Essential Services	
Shelter and other infrastructure (emergency shelter)	882,573
Population has sufficient basic domestic and hygiene items	460,708
Basic Domestic and Hygiene items	931,120
Subtotal	2,274,401
Logistics and Operations Support	
Transport delivery completed	30,000
Programme Management, Coordination and Support	1,889,508
Subtotal	1,919,508
SUBTOTAL	11,682,356
7 per cent support cost	817,765
TOTAL	12,500,121

Haiti

As of March 2010



FIGSS
Field Information and
Coordination Support Section

Sources:
UNHCR, Global Insight digital mapping
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and the designations used on this
map do not imply official endorsement
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Elevation
(Above mean sea level)

- 3,250 to 4,000 metres
- 2,500 to 3,250 metres
- 1,750 to 2,500 metres
- 1,000 to 1,750 metres
- 750 to 1,000 metres
- 500 to 750 metres
- 250 to 500 metres
- 0 to 250 metres
- Below mean sea level

Legend:

- Capital (Yellow square)
- Planned presence UNHCR/OCHA (Red circle)
- Main town or village (White square)
- Secondary town or village (White circle)
- International boundary (Green dashed line)

