

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Haiti: Earthquake

Emergency appeal n° MDRHT008
GLIDE EQ-2010-000009-HTI
Operations update n° 8
10 March 2010

Period covered by this Ops Update: 22 February – 7 March 2010

Appeal target (current): Swiss Francs 218.4 million (US Dollars 203,478,000 or Euros 148,989,000) in cash, kind, or services is solicited to support the Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS)/Federation to provide basic non-food items and emergency/transitional shelter to 80,000 beneficiary families and provide emergency health care, fulfilment of basic needs in water and sanitation and livelihoods support for vulnerable populations in the earthquake-affected region. Of the Swiss Francs 218.4 million sought, the International Federation solicits Swiss Francs 2.07 million to support its inter-agency coordination of the Shelter and Non-Food Items Cluster.

The donor response report shows current coverage of 50% of the Appeal target. This does not include yet-to-be-registered commitments.

Unofficial coverage, including pledges yet to be registered, has reached 58 percent as follows: Plan of Action: 57.7% / Shelter cluster coordination: 14%



Intense rain swept through the western end of the southern Haitian promontory over the weekend, leaving parts of the city of Les Cayes (pictured) under a metre and a half of water.

[<Click here to go directly to the donor response report; or here to view contact details>](#)

Appeal history:

- Swiss Francs 500,000 (US Dollars 491,265 or Euros 338,880) was allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to jump-start response activities and mobilization of Federation personnel. Non-earmarked funds to replenish DREF are encouraged.
- A Preliminary Emergency Appeal for Swiss Francs 10.1m was launched on 12 January 2010 to support the Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) to immediately deliver life-saving assistance to some 20,000 families (some 100,000 beneficiaries) for 9 months.
- A Revised Preliminary Emergency Appeal with a Revised Budget of Swiss Francs 105.7 million to assist up to 60,000 families (300,000 people) for 3 years was issued on 26 January 2010.
- On 9 February, Operations Update no. 5 was published, reflecting revised objectives for the six-month relief phase of the operation under the plan of action, and including a revision of the preliminary budget to Swiss Francs 218.4 million of which Swiss Francs 2.07 million is designated to support the Federation's inter-agency coordination of the Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI) Cluster.
- **An Appeal, replacing the current Preliminary Appeal is expected to be launched by the end of March**, following the agreements reached at the Montreal Summit, and based on a new plan of action

for the relief phase of the operation and associated budget currently being drafted, to reflect a prolonged relief phase of up to 12 months.

Summary:

Providing emergency and transitional shelter, and improving sanitation facilities remain the **key priorities**.

Substantial progress has been made thanks to the stepped-up pace of relief distributions: **more than half of the 80,000 target families have now received emergency shelter materials** – representing an increase of over 50% in households reached over the two week reporting period. Distribution of essential NFI has also increased dramatically, with a 90% jump in the number of jerry cans distributed, 85% for blankets, and 80% for kitchen sets.

The International Federation is spearheading plans to provide more durable cover to the homeless – and has started bringing in wood-and-plastic-sheeting dwellings to form a more resistant **emergency and transitional ‘core shelter’**. In addition, a prototype of a two-storey steel core-dwelling is being finalized, providing another option for transitional shelter, and ensuring a measure of flexibility in meeting the variety of shelter needs.

Movement water production and distribution activities reach 260,000 people per day with 5.3 litres of water, as well as providing clean water to eight medical facilities. As of 7 March, a total of **40 million litres of safe drinking water** had been distributed by the ERUs.

Sanitation remains one of the major challenges. To date, 1,102 latrines have been installed by Red Cross Red Crescent partners in 20 camps, and 500m3 of waste have been disposed of - more than doubling progress over the two week reporting period.

The vaccination campaign is on target to reach 150,000 people within a matter of weeks – of which **125,000 have been vaccinated so far**. The Red Cross Red Crescent is the main implementing partner in this Ministry of Health-led campaign. ERU basic health care units and integrated mobile teams have now treated more than 55,000 people in post-earthquake Haiti. Malaria is showing a 10% prevalence and is thought to be on the rise.

Although there have not yet been outbreaks of communicable diseases, the situation continues to be of grave concern, especially as a number of health organizations are beginning to phase-out their activities in Haiti, leaving potential gaps in health service delivery.

Following a planning exercise held in Haiti as a follow-up to the Montreal Summit, a revised Plan of Action is being finalized and an Appeal is expected to be launched by the end of March, to replace the existing Preliminary Appeal.

The International Federation offers its sincere gratitude to the National Societies, governments, private donors and individuals who have contributed to this Appeal. Their support contributes to achieving this Appeal's objectives and strategic aim to save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters.

The situation

The intense rain that swept through the western end of the southern Haitian promontory over the weekend of 27-28 February left parts of the city of Les Cayes under a metre and a half of water and reportedly claimed eight lives. Once again, nature acted as a harsh reminder of how much remains to be done, despite unrelenting efforts by humanitarian organizations to meet the basic needs of the earthquake-affected population.

And not only for those who have been directly affected. Like in many towns and cities across Haiti, the 70,000-strong population of Les Cayes has been swollen by refugees from the earthquake zone - staying with friends and relatives, or camping in open spaces – thereby underlining the additional needs of surrounding communities. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) announced that it had started distributing aid to earthquake survivors and host families in outlying areas, near the border with the Dominican Republic, where the population was been swollen by 10-15% through displacement – assisted by local officials and Haitian National Red Cross Society volunteers.

Although there continues to be progress on all fronts, the topmost question on everybody's minds is whether it will be in time and whether it will be enough. With the rainy season set to officially begin on 1 April, closely followed by the onset of the hurricane season in June, the sense of urgency has not abated.

And the hard work is showing results. Just under two months after the earthquake, humanitarian agencies distributing emergency shelter-materials have reached more than 650,000 people – the halfway mark of an estimated 1.3 million homeless. Tens of thousands of tarpaulins, tents, ropes, timber uprights and tool kits continue to pour into Haiti, helping to put some form of shelter over people's heads ahead of the rainy season, which peaks in May. The shelter cluster estimated that it is on track to reach all of the 1.3 million people on or before the original target date of 1 May, providing most with a minimum of protection from the elements – and is hoping to have reached two thirds of them by 1 April.

But everyone recognizes that the provision of emergency shelter is still very far from constituting an ideal situation. The International Federation is spearheading plans to provide more durable cover to the homeless – and has started bringing in wood-and-plastic-sheeting dwellings to form a more resistant emergency and transitional 'core shelter'. In addition, a prototype of a two-storey steel core-dwelling is being finalized, providing another option for transitional shelter, and ensuring a measure of flexibility in meeting the variety of shelter needs. The Federation has likened these shelter solutions to "small houses", but has cautioned that only 6,000 are expected to be available by the end of May.

Mounting concerns in this race against time have led the Haitian government and Inter-Agency Clusters to advocate for the voluntary resettlement of hundreds of thousands of people from the over-crowded and vulnerable tent camps – many of which are in low-lying areas prone to flooding. OCHA has indicated that plans were underway to clear rubble and set up sanitation facilities in five locations outside the capital for new settlements. Efforts are underway to 'decongest' the camps and settlements – such as the recent relocation of 635 families in Leogane by the Danish Red Cross ERU to more appropriate sites, through a combination of land acquisition, and the provision of materials and tools to enable people to return to their neighbourhoods where possible.

In the meantime, sanitation remains another area of grave concern – in particular finding appropriate latrine solutions for the crowded and flood-prone camps, and ensuring effective solid waste management. Furthermore, there are increasing worries regarding potential gaps in health service delivery, given that a number of health organizations are beginning to phase-out their activities in Haiti. Vector control remains another issue to be addressed as a matter of urgency. Discussions are on-going with the government regarding how best to implement vector control measures in the camps. Indeed, malaria, which spikes each rainy season in Haiti because of mosquito breeding, is likely to prove one of the biggest challenges. The Federation and partner National Societies are distributing LLINs as part of the relief package, and are planning to scale-up information and awareness activities on malaria prevention and LLIN use.

For their part, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) and its partners have helped more than 4.3 million to date. The agency is assisting the Government to plan a more targeted food distribution to provide 300,000 families, or 1.5 million people, with rice, beans, oil, salt and other supplies. Humanitarian efforts aim to focus on emergency support aimed at increasing national food production, access to food, create employment and prevent further deterioration of food security.

Operational priorities are still focusing on the on-going needs for emergency shelter, site management support, IDP camp management sanitation and supplementary activities. The scale and complexity of the crisis in the wake of the 7.0-magnitude earthquake means that the emergency response phase will continue for months to come.

As of 7 March, the Direction for Civil Protection (DCP) confirms that the number of people living in spontaneous settlement sites is over 1.3 million people. In addition, 604,215 people are reported to have left Port-au-Prince for outlying departments. The majority of this group, totalling 162,509 people, is displaced in Artibonite department, north-west of Port-au-Prince.

Coordination and partnerships

The HNRCS and the International Federation continue to maintain coordination and partnership with State institutions and local authorities, international aid agencies and other actors. The Cluster system is one of the principal interagency coordination mechanisms in place. Twelve Clusters are active in Haiti, as reported previously¹, with the Federation assuming the role of convener of the Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items Cluster. Highlights of developments in Cluster activity can be found in OCHA Situation Reports².

Emergency Shelter and NFI Cluster

The International Federation is the official convener of the Shelter/NFI Cluster as of 10 February 2010.

Given the scale of the disaster and the fact that shelter is a high priority, the IFRC is deploying a large dedicated Shelter Coordination Team (SCT), to be able to provide coordination services. This team is being deployed for at least 6 months. So far twelve dedicated persons have been deployed and others are on the way. In **Port-au-Prince** the team consists of two staff members (from Netherlands Red Cross and German Red Cross), a Government Liaison from IFRC, a Technical Coordinator from CARE, two Information Managers (from CARE and IFRC), a GIS Specialist from MapAction, and a Communications Officer from British Red Cross. This team coordinates the shelter actors in Port-au-Prince and gives support to the teams in the hubs. A hub has been established in **Leogane**, with a staff member from Spanish Red Cross, and an Information Manager from CARE. The hub in **Jacmel** is staffed by a member from the Australian Red Cross. A staff member in the **Dominican Republic** is giving support to the Haiti cluster from that country and evaluating the need for further coordination from there in the coming weeks. Additional people will be deployed over the coming days in the roles of Shelter Information Managers, a Logistics Advisor, Shelter Recovery Advisors and Environmental Advisors. A Google Group³ has been created in English and French where all the relevant information can be found in both languages.

The IFRC is appealing for 2.07 million CHF to convene the Shelter/NFIs Cluster in Haiti and the Dominican Republic through the IFRC Emergency Appeal, as a distinct project; funds for this purpose need to be earmarked for coordination. This cost represents less than 1.5% of the funds that are being requested for shelter in Haiti by all the Shelter Cluster members, including UN agencies, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, IOM and NGOs. The budget is detailed in Operations Update 5.

To resource the initial IFRC-led Shelter/NFI Cluster Coordination Team, acknowledgement is made of the human resources provided by or being finalized with the Andorra Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, French Red Cross, German Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, CARE, MapAction, UN Habitat, UNHCR and WWF US. The Federation also acknowledges the financial support provided to date from DfID (via IOM in support of CARE), the Netherlands Red Cross, and the Swedish Red Cross.

Movement Coordination

The final details of the Memorandum of Understanding and the Terms of Reference for the various levels of the Movement Coordination Framework are being completed. Mapping of all sectors is currently underway, so as to obtain the best possible overview of the entire Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's interventions and future

¹ The Twelve Clusters are: Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items, Camp Coordination and Camp Management, Education, Food, Logistics, Nutrition, Protection, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Agriculture, Early Recovery, Emergency Telecommunications and Health. Decentralized cluster mechanisms cover regions outside of Port-au-Prince. Furthermore, Logistics/Telecommunications, Health, Emergency Shelter, WASH, and Nutrition clusters are active in the Dominican Republic.

² The latest OCHA reports for Haiti can be found on: <http://ochaonline.un.org/tabid/6412/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

³ See <http://groups.google.com/group/shelterhaiti2010>

plans. This will also include an identification of needs based on assessments and priorities, so that Movement partners have better access to relevant information when making their future plans.

On 4 March, the Movement Operations Committee met in the Port-au-Prince Base Camp, to discuss the future plans of the entire Movement. Over 60 delegates attended. The President of HNRCS opened the meeting and highlighted the priorities of the National Society over the coming months and years. The Federation presented its plans for the transition from emergency to longer-term intervention, with a special emphasis on shelter for IDPs. The Federation's Country Representative presented the structure of the operation, while operational issues were highlighted by the Operations Coordinator. Partner National Societies made a brief presentation of their future plans in Haiti. The Federation Vice-President along with the President of the Ecuadorian Red Cross, also attended the meeting.

Following a planning exercise held in Haiti as a follow-up to the Montreal Summit, a revised Plan of Action is being finalized and an Appeal is expected to be launched by the end of March, to replace the existing Preliminary Appeal.

The Recovery Assessment Team's (RAT) technical teams have finished field work in Haiti and are writing up a series of sector-specific technical reports that will contribute to the final RAT report and recovery framework. A workshop was held in the Americas Zone to share learnings and to receive feedback on the format of the report. The report will be shared with the Zone and secretariat headquarters for comments, before being finalized.

Movement coordination mechanisms continue to operate smoothly. Thirty-eight Partner National Societies have now shared their current and future activities in Haiti with the Movement Coordinator. A complete overview is being up-dated by the Movement Programme Coordinator, based on information provided by PNSs⁴. This is a key part of the Movement Coordination mechanism, which strives for good coordination, transparency, and participation by all, at all levels of the operation.

This operation has deployed 21 Emergency Response Units (ERU), the largest ever in the history of the Movement. The latest map showing where the ERUs are working is on DMIS⁵. Four ERU rotations are expected to take place over a four month period, for a total of 495 ERU staff participating in the operation.

As of 7 March, seventeen Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members have been deployed from National Societies within the Americas to support the operation, as follows

Regional Intervention Team (RIT) member deployments to Haiti Operation <i>At 7 March 2010</i>		
Area of expertise	# of RIT members deployed	National Societies of origin
Finance	1	Nicaraguan Red Cross
IT/Telecoms	2	Belize / Guyana Red Cross Societies
Logistics	2	Nicaraguan Red Cross / Red Cross Society of Panama
Relief	6	Belize / Costa Rican / Cayman Islands Overseas Branch of the British Red Cross/ St. Lucia Red Cross
Reporting	1	Grenada Red Cross
WatSan	5	Guatemalan / Mexican / Salvadoran Red Cross
Total	17	11 NSs

⁴ Additional inputs should be sent to ola.skuterud@ifrc.org

⁵ For DMIS follow: https://www-secure.ifrc.org/DMISII/Pages/00_Home/login.aspx

In addition, numerous sister National Societies as well as governments, private donors and companies have contributed to the HNRCS/Federation Appeal for those affected by the earthquake, in cash, in-kind goods and with personnel and services. For a complete list of all donors, please refer to the Donor Response Report.

National Society Capacity-Building

The Haitian National Red Cross Society volunteers, staff and leadership guide this operation. Their impartial and tireless actions to provide humanitarian aid to the earthquake-population began immediately after the earthquake. Other Movement members are integrating HNRCS volunteers in their operations, with a view to strengthening local capacity and skills, based on the dedication and abilities already demonstrated during the emergency.

HNRCS volunteers have been providing essential out-reach activities, in identifying the most vulnerable in the makeshift camps, and monitoring for possible disease outbreaks. Furthermore, over 120 volunteers are involved in the current vaccination campaign, thereby assisting greatly in the scope and rapidity of vaccinations.

Further information on the progress to strengthen the HNRCS is detailed under the relevant section below.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Relief distribution of essential non-food items and shelter material continues to progress at a rapid pace. Between **1,500 to 2,500 families** (up to 12,500 people) are receiving food and non-food items **every day** through the sustained efforts of the Federation and sister National Society relief teams. Over the two week reporting period, distribution of essential NFI has increased dramatically, with a 90% jump in the number of jerry cans distributed, 85% for blankets, and 80% for kitchen sets. In addition, over half of the 80,000 targeted households have now received tarpaulins – representing 42% of all tarpaulins distributed by Shelter Cluster members throughout Haiti. Furthermore, 9,022 tool kits and 3,404 tents have also been distributed by the Federation and partner NS.

Shelter is and will remain one of the most challenging issues of the operation due to a number of factors (i.e. land issues, availability of experienced technical human resources, supply chain, etc). This is also a critical element in providing adequate protection for the up-coming hurricane and rainy seasons, and to enable people to move on to recovery. The Federation is working to scale-up capacities in shelter, and is looking for possibilities of collaboration to reinforce the Movement's collective operational capacity as a matter of priority.

In support of relief distributions, the Cash Transfer Programme team (CTP) has now up-dated and submitted its Plan of Action. Mapping of settlements, along with the locations of markets and payment agents, is underway. Training is also underway with sister National Societies, as well as HNRCS volunteers, on the new registration process, to capture mobile phone numbers in anticipation of the cash programme roll-out.

One thousand to 1,300 people daily receive attention in basic health care units and mobile clinics, with a total of 55,085 people treated to date. Red Cross Red Crescent partners, with the active involvement of 120 HNRCS volunteers, have vaccinated 125,000 people, and remain the key partner in a Ministry of Health-led campaign to reach 150,000 people over the coming weeks.

Approximately 260,000 people benefit from the 1.5 million litres of water produced, purified and/ or distributed by Red Cross Red Crescent water and sanitation teams each day. Over 40 million litres of safe drinking water has been distributed since the beginning of the operation and over 1,102 latrines have been installed in 20 camps.

Sanitation teams are also installing hand washing facilities and showers, and providing bins and equipment for refuse collection. Hygiene activities are on-going, focusing on training of hygiene promoters and trainers, and in finding innovative ways to communicate health and hygiene messages - such as through street theatre, and the dissemination of 23 million text messages via mobile phones.

The Recovery Assessment Team (RAT) technical teams have finished field work in Haiti and are writing up a series of sector-specific technical reports that will contribute to the final RAT report and recovery framework.

Following a planning exercise held in Haiti as a follow-up to the Montreal Summit, a revised Plan of Action is being finalized and an Appeal is expected to be launched by mid-March, to replace the existing Preliminary Appeal.

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (basic non-food relief items)
Objective 1 (Relief phase): The most vulnerable people affected by the earthquake have access to basic non-food items and cash transfers that enable them to resume essential household activities.
Expected results (Relief phase) (Note: Details of activities planned are available in Operations Update 6. Future Operations Updates will present revised activities, based on the up-coming Appeal and revisions currently underway in light of the Montreal Summit).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 80,000 families resume essential household activities using non-food relief items: 1 kitchen set, 2 blankets, 1 bucket, 2 jerry cans, 2 mosquito nets and 1 hygiene kit. 20,000 families are supported in fulfilling the basic care and non food needs of their children under two years of age with baby kits. Up to 60,000 families have access to cash that allows them to purchase items to supplement their basic household needs during the emergency phase.

Progress:

The sustained and unrelenting pace of relief distribution means that between 1,500 and 2,500 families are being reached each day by Federation and sister National Society relief teams. The aim is to have distributed essential NFI and shelter items to the targeted 80,000 households by 1 May. The early onset of rains only serves to underline the urgency of providing households with the basic package of non-food relief and shelter items.

As of 7 March 2010, the Federation and PNSs have distributed the following NFI items:

		Shelter Items					Non Food Items							
	Data													
Distributor	Tents	Tarps	Shelter ToolKits	Rope	Blankets	Mosquito Nets	Kitchen sets	Jerry Cans	Buckets	Detergent	Plastic Rolls	Hyg_kits	Food_Total HH	
Colombian RC	0	200	776	1426	1564	0	110	677	10			9746	19016	
French RC	470	224	25	0	1758	464	193	264	0		455	193	0	
German RC	0	0		0	0	0	865	1020	0			510	0	
Haiti RC	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	300			0	3000	
Spain RC	0	400		0	1600	800	0	800	800			225	0	
Turkish RC	177	0		0	650	0	100	0	600			0	3059	
IFRC-ERU RELIEF	61	24904	20	7639	20539	13403	6909	11181	2461	1056	1337	7247	30	
IFRC-German RC	0	2640		2569	5209	30	15	756	2584			771	0	
IFRC-DR RC	0	4685		400	5082	3632	1741	3772	2992			2496	1400	
IFRC-French/Finn ERU	0	22074		8200	28290	21722	11593	14800	6788			9375	0	
IFRC-Turkish RC	0	2832		2000	500	700	350	700	1918			200	0	
IFRC-Colombian RC	0	3280		50	3396	3096	50	3196	1748			1698	0	
IFRC-Canadian RC	1990	4718		1527	14167	9518	5812	7440	1872			4435	0	
Danish ERU	411	17520	8201	246	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	
IFRC-RIT/RDRT-Relief	295	2898		1135	19108	9028	3355	10488	3770			4865	3180	
IFRC-MEX/COL RC	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0			0	4053	
IFRC-Mexican RC	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0			0	500	
Grand Total	3404	86375	9022	25192	101863	62393	31093	55094	25843	1056	1792	41761	34238	

Distribution efforts are focusing on meeting the most immediate needs, with priority being accorded to providing people with tarpaulins and rope, blankets, mosquito nets, jerry cans, kitchen sets and hygiene kits. Over the two week reporting period, distribution of key items has once again risen dramatically, as illustrated below:

Essential NFI distribution between 22 January – 7 March 2010						
Item	Quantity distributed (as of) - Cumulative					
	22 Jan.	31 Jan.	11 Feb.	21 Feb.	7 Mar.	% increase over past 14 days
Tarpaulins (2/HH)	920	8043	30,304	56,352	86,375	53%
Blankets 2/HH)	920	11,694	37,578	55,034	101,863	85%
Mosquito nets (2/HH)	-	2,726	21,324	35,307	62,393	77%
Jerry Cans (2/HH)?	-	3,121	15,431	28,763	55,094	91%
Hygiene Kits (1/HH)	-	10,7743	20,632	28,077	41,761	49%
Kitchen Sets 1/HH)	460	2,529	10,591	17,304	31,093	80%

Relief distribution continues to be coordinated through the International Federation Relief Cell. All four ERUs, together with PNS are working together to plan, organize and implement NFI distributions.

The Relief team is instituting a process of beneficiary feedback through interviews, with a view to assessing post-relief phase distributions.

A Haitian National Red Cross Society distribution team has been established, to work independently on relief, according to the same plan and objectives as Relief ERUs. This team was set up with the assistance of a RIT/RDRT from the Cayman Islands Overseas Branch of the British Red Cross. The Haitian National Red Cross Society team is conforming to all Federation relief distribution standards.

The Cash Transfer Programme team (CTP) has now up-dated and submitted its Plan of Action, and is coordinating assessment activities with the Relief ERU teams, as well as with bi-lateral assessment/distribution teams of the Colombian and Mexican Red Cross Societies. Mapping is underway of settlements being targeted by the relief teams, along with the locations of markets and payment agents. Training is also underway with the Benelux and Danish ERU, the Colombian and Mexican Red Cross Societies, the Canadian Red Cross in Jacmel, as well as HNRCS volunteers on the new registration process, to capture mobile phone numbers in anticipation of the cash programme roll-out. Proof of concept for the technology platform and encashment process is expected to be completed by 15 March.

Members of the team met with one of the primary wholesalers and retailers, who confirmed sufficient availability of all supplies and food in Port-au-Prince. The team is establishing contact with Port-au-Prince mayors to discuss the feasibility of cash-for-work options. In addition, CTP team members participated in a mobile banking summit with Haitian government officials, Digicel, Voila, a State Department technology delegation, and representatives from the Haitian banking sector. Discussions are on-going with Haitian mobile phone companies, leading banks and money transfer companies aimed at the development of a consortium of providers in support of the cash grant for basic needs/asset replacement programme.

Challenges:

The upswing in the rhythm of distributions is out-pacing replenishment by suppliers of the logistics pipeline. Relief teams are taking advantage of a break to review procedures, security measures and set up monitoring systems in the camps.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion
Objective 1: The risk of waterborne and water related diseases has been reduced through the provision of minimum safe water, minimum sanitation and hygiene promotion.
Expected Results (Relief phase) (Note: Details of activities planned are available in Operations Update 6. Future Operations Updates will present revised activities, based on the up-coming Appeal and revisions currently underway in light of the

Montreal Summit).

- 150,000 people in Port-au-Prince, Carrefour, Leogane, and Jacmel and Petit Goave have access to safe water.
- Three health facilities in Port-au-Prince and Leogane have access to safe water.
- 80,000 families will receive a 6 months' supply of aqua tablets for water purification.
- At least 150,000 people in Port-au-Prince and Leogane have improved environmental sanitation through community clean-up committees and healthier hygiene practices.
- 150,000 to 300,000 people in Port-au-Prince, Leogane and Jacmel have better access to sanitation facilities.

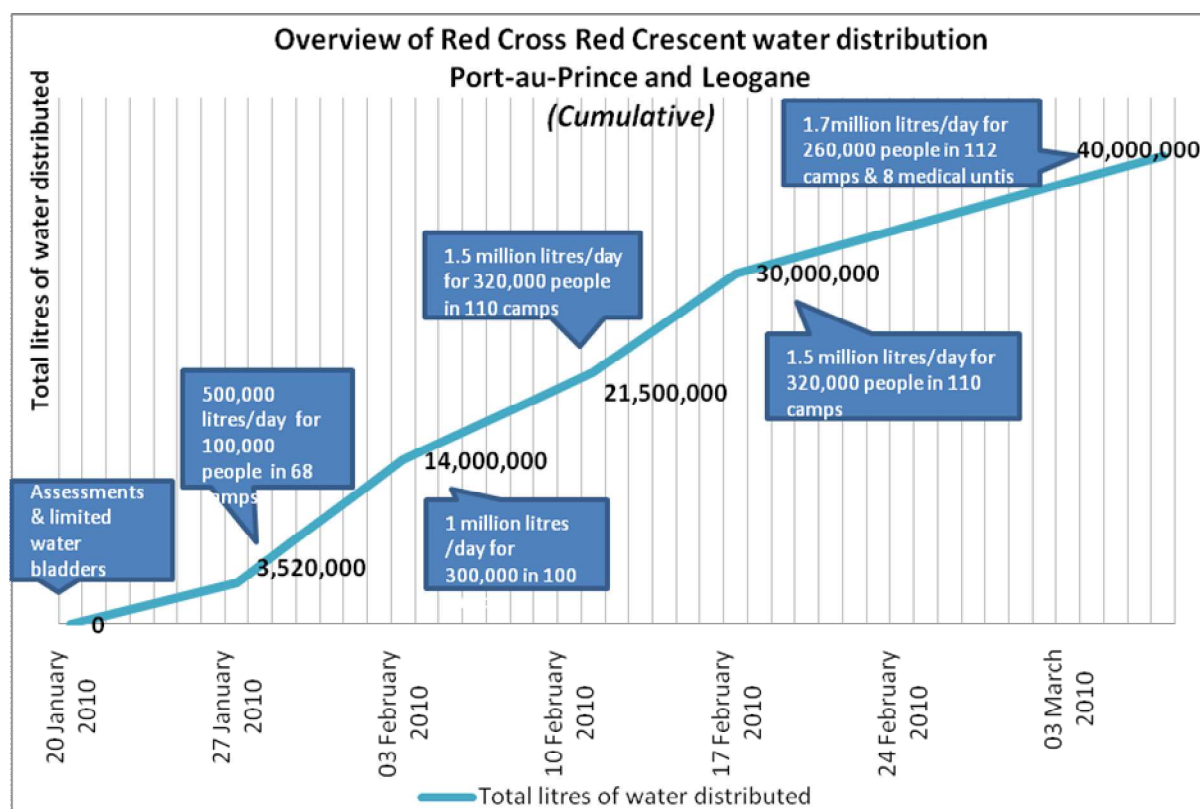
Progress:**Water Distribution**

ERUs are distributing 1.7 million litres each day to 112 water points in the camps and makeshift camps of Port-au-Prince and Leogane, as well as supplying eight medical units. An estimated 260,000 beneficiaries are currently being provided with an average of 5.3 litres/day. A cumulative total of 40 million litres of water has been distributed over the course of the operation so far. Potential exit strategies for water tanking are being investigated as a matter of course.

In the meantime, ERUs continue their already considerable efforts to further increase water distribution. In particular:

- Spanish Red Cross M15 is carrying on with water production and distribution to 24 water points in camps and rural areas, plus one MSF hospital in Leogane. M15 average daily water distribution is 150,000 litres.
- French Red Cross has installed bladders in 64 sites, in Delmas and Cité Militaire in Port-au-Prince, for an estimated number of 140,000 beneficiaries. More than 750,00 litres of drinking water are distributed every day by trucking.
- Dominican Red Cross in Jacmel continues working on the chlorination of the tanker operated by UNICEF and conducting water quality monitoring.

Overall progress for water distribution over the course of the operation to date is illustrated below:

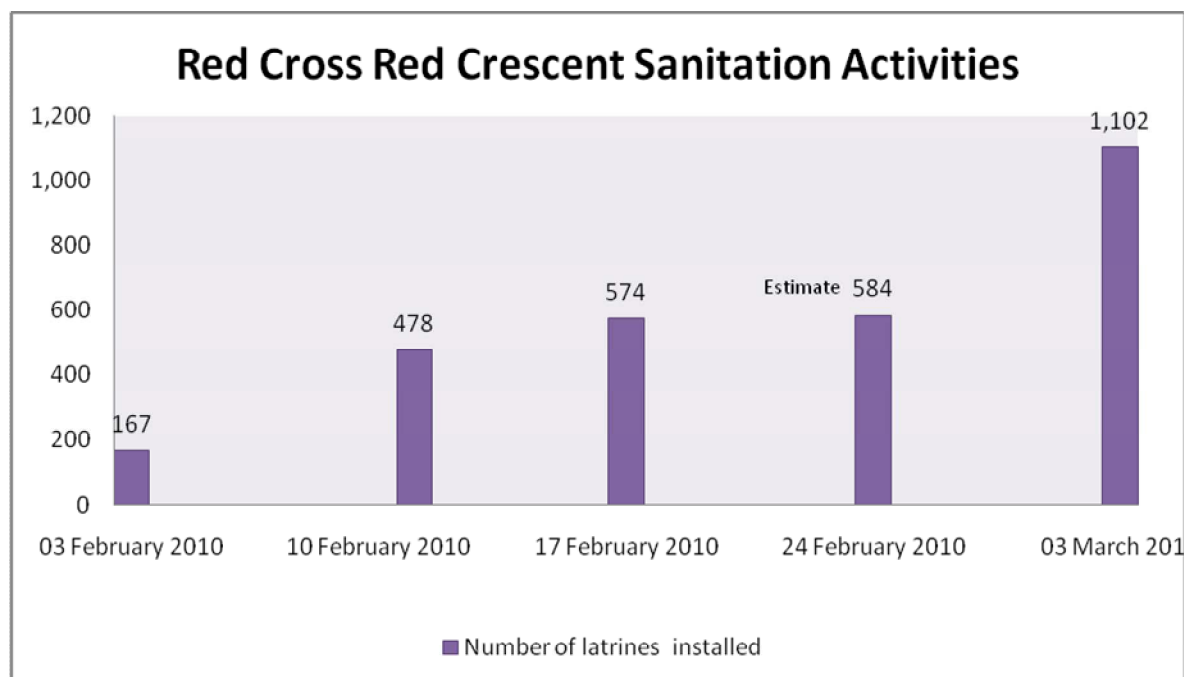
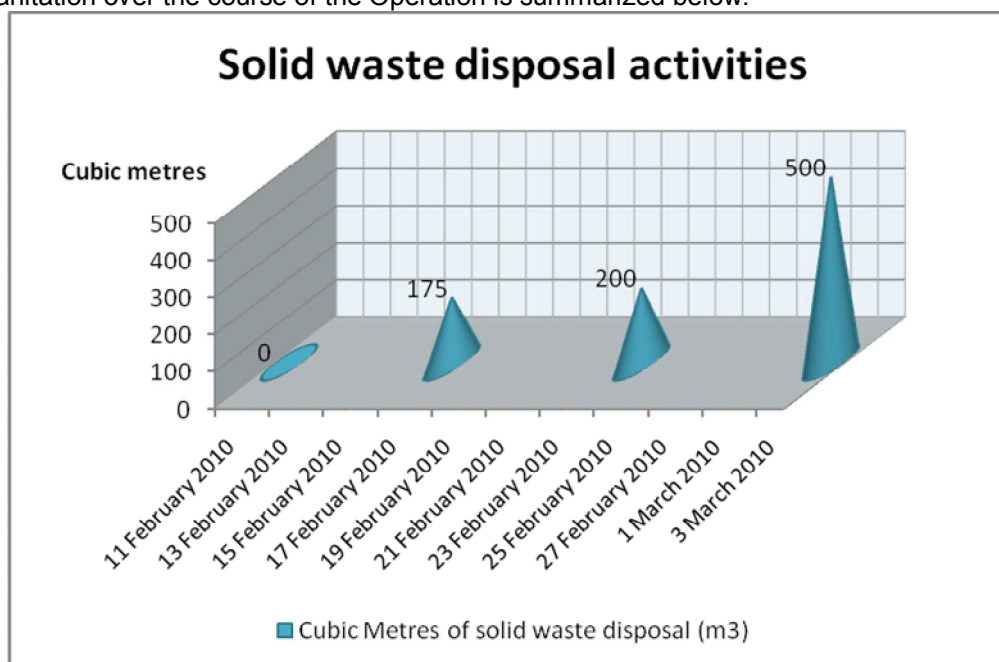


Sanitation activities are being pursued as a matter of urgency in 20 sites in Port-au-Prince and Leogane. As of 7 March, 1,102 latrines have been built, and 500 m3 of solid waste have been disposed of – more than doubling

progress over the two week reporting period. Bathing and washing areas are also being set up in the camps, and 100 showers have been installed in Delmas/Cite Militaire by the French RC M15 ERU. Sixty modified oil drums for rubbish collection purposes have been installed in La Piste and Automeca camps by British RC MSM20 ERU, with on-going clean-up and rubbish collection being coordinated with camp committees. A further 18 drums are on order. Equipment and cleaning material is being provided to camp cleaning teams.

Latrines in La Piste camp have had to be relocated due to their unsuitable location, as a result of a massive increase in the camp population since they were first installed. A prototype tank latrine has been developed, and the first four prototype units installed in La Piste camp. Initial feedback shows that beneficiaries prefer this to the trench latrines.

Progress in sanitation over the course of the Operation is summarized below:



Hygiene promotion activities continue to be carried out in 17 makeshift camps by the Watsan ERUs. The British Red Cross MSM20 ERU has been expanding its hygiene awareness activities through public broadcasts, and specifically targeting children. Red Cross volunteers are using creative methods to get the message out, such as

putting glitter on people's hands to demonstrate how harmful bacteria can be spread from one person to another if they don't wash their hands. Local clowns have also been hired to pass on essential hygiene promotion messages in an amusing and engaging way. French Red Cross ERU has set up 42 hygiene promotion panels at latrine sites.

Community meetings are being held in La Piste camp to identify outstanding hygiene needs. Requests for further assistance include hygiene kits and mosquito nets.

A training of trainers' session in hygiene promotion was held on 5-7 March for 25 HNRCS volunteers in Port-au-Prince, and an additional 32 volunteers have been trained in Leogane by British Red Cross ERU and Austrian Red Cross ERU respectively.

Challenges:

Meeting the demand for latrines and solid waste management before the onset of the rainy season continues to be extremely challenging. Specifically:

- While Automeca camp remains under control, there is growing concern about the longer-term suitability of the site as the rainy season approaches - the provision of any satisfactory drainage is beyond the capacity of the MSM, and latrines are likely to be full in the coming weeks. Furthermore, congestion in the camp limits available space for public meetings. Only tent-to-tent promotion has been possible to date
- La Piste camp continues to expand with an increasing need to get hygiene messages across to a changing audience. Along with the growing population, there are more and more agencies arriving at the camp. This is putting pressure on community leaders and increasing expectations within the population for relief goods and employment.

Adequate preparedness measures for the potential outbreaks of disease need to be evaluated together with health colleagues.

Emergency Health
Objective 1 (Relief phase): The immediate health risks of the emergency are reduced through the provision of curative and preventive basic health, emergency evacuation services, targeted community-based health education and psychosocial support for the affected population.
Expected results <i>(Note: Details of activities planned are available in Operations Update 6. Future Operations Updates will present revised activities, based on the up-coming Appeal and revisions currently underway in light of the Montreal Summit).</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical health, surgical care and physiotherapeutic treatment are ensured in the rapid deployment hospital ERU in Port-au-Prince, referral hospital ERU in Carrefour, and other Movement-supported medical facilities with the capacity to provide essential surgical services for a population of 500,000 people. • Primary health care needs are met by the Basic Health Care ERUs and their respective Mobile Health Clinics with a capacity to provide basic health care to a population of 150,000 people. • Affected communities increase their capacity and skills in epidemic control, community based first aid and psychological first aid. • The HNRCS has improved capacity to provide a more effective and relevant evacuation service of wounded and ill to reduce acute injuries and infections during the emergency phase. • Selected affected groups and communities and Movement personnel and volunteers receiving psychosocial support have improved their resilience and coping mechanisms.

There is increasing concern regarding potential gaps in health service delivery, given that a number of health organizations are beginning to phase-out their activities in Haiti. In particular, areas thought to be insufficiently covered include: paediatric services, MCH and longer-term rehabilitation, as well as constructive/elective surgery. There is also concern that some camps and settlements – especially those in remote areas – remain without access to health care services. Partners involved in mobile clinics have begun to hold coordination meetings, with a view to obtaining a better overview of the situation and identify gaps in health care provision.

Although the disease pattern has not changed significantly, worries remain regarding the potential for a rapid deterioration in the health situation despite on-going efforts to meet the most urgent needs - due primarily to the extremely poor living conditions in the camps, and compounded by an early onset to the rains. To be able to

respond to the expected disease outbreak the International Federation is developing a response plan and will also pre-position medical material and medicines in the field.

Vector control is another issue to be addressed as a matter of urgency. Discussions are on-going regarding how best to implement vector control measures in the camps. The Ministry of Health is still reluctant to start spraying. As a result, the only relevant vector control measure is the use of mosquito nets (LLINs). This may however prove to be a challenge in the camps, given that people are living under shelter arrangements that may make it difficult to hang LLINs for personal protection. The Red Cross is distributing LLINs as part of the relief package and is planning to scale-up information and awareness activities on malaria prevention and LLIN use. PSI is currently doing a trial of net hanging in the camps. Feedback from that trial will be shared with partners.

The International Federation, together with the Centre for Disease Control and MENTOR, will be participating in a fever study over the coming three weeks, which will be repeated following the rainy season. The Federation and partner PNSs will participate through the BHUs in Leogane and Automeca (PaP), as well as the field hospitals in Carrefour and Petit Goave. The Ministry of Health has approved the use of rapid malaria testing for the duration of the emergency phase.

Progress:

Red Cross basic health care units together with integrated mobile clinics have treated more than 55,085 people in post-earthquake Haiti, as of 7 March. Some 1,000 and 1,300 people continue to be seen on a daily basis. BHCUs from Finland, Germany, Japan and France are working closely together and coordinating their programmes through regular meetings. The German Red Cross referral hospital is continuing its operation in Carrefour, but is now scaling down in order to be better prepared for the rainy season, which might create some major challenges since the hospital is situated in an area with limited drainage possibility. The number of emergency cases remains low, however an increase has been noted in mother child health (MCH) cases.

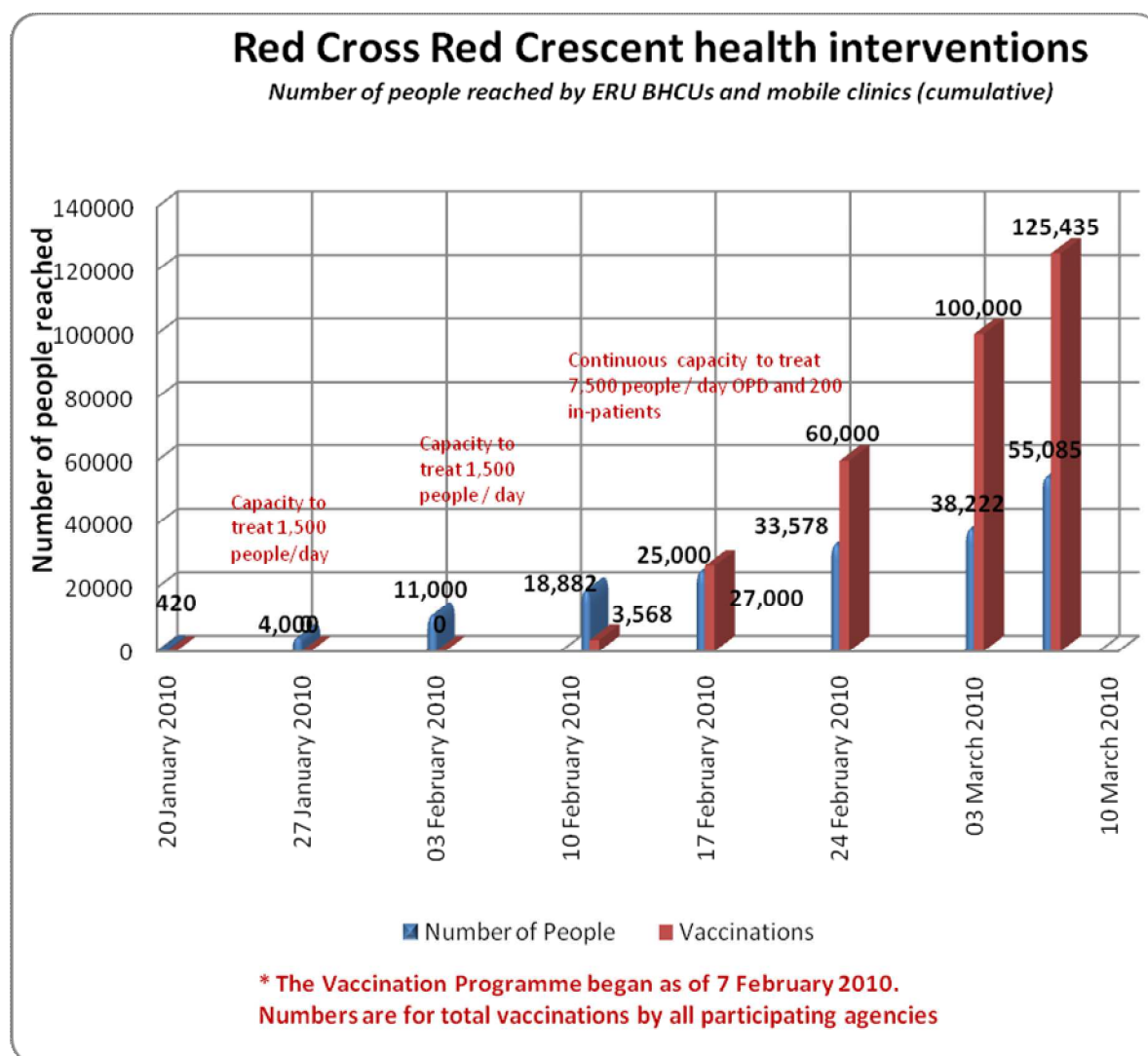
To date, 23 million text messages with key health messages have been sent through to beneficiary mobile phones.

The mass vaccination campaign led by the Ministry of Health since 6 February is well on track to reach its target of 150,000 people – with Movement components as the key implementing partners for this campaign. As of 7 March, some 125,000 people had been vaccinated, thanks to the dedicated support of some 120 HNRCS volunteers working together with team members from all ERU health teams – reaching over 80% of the overall target. The vaccination consists of five different components: measles, diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus, as well as albendazol – a deworming agent – and vitamin A. As other partners scale-up their activities, the International Federation intends to scale-down its vaccination activities, in order to shift focus to hygiene promotion and vector control in areas with a high risk of disease outbreaks.



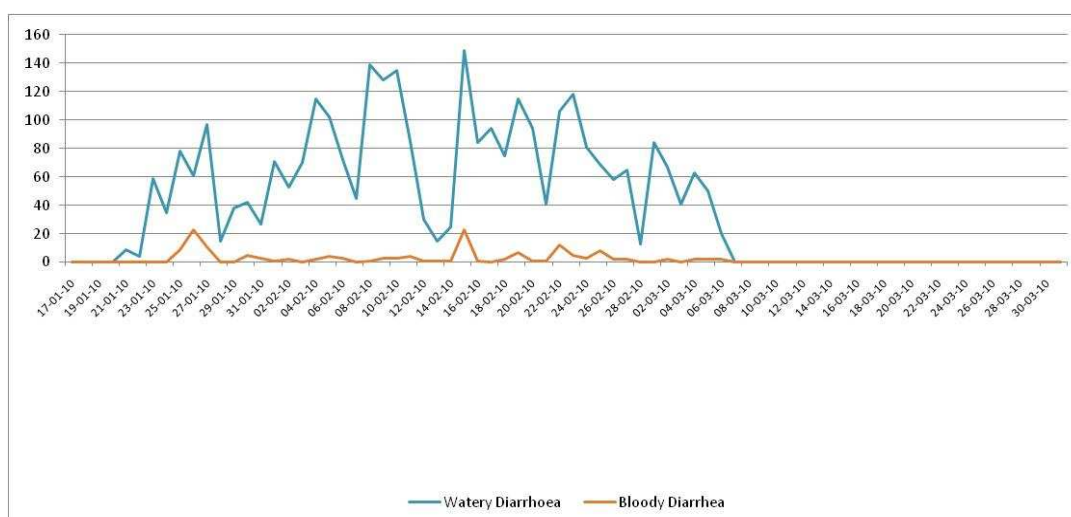
A volunteer of the HNRCS hands out a vaccination card to a woman at the IDP camp of Villambet, in outskirts of Port-au-Prince, where 3000 people live. Photo source: IFRC

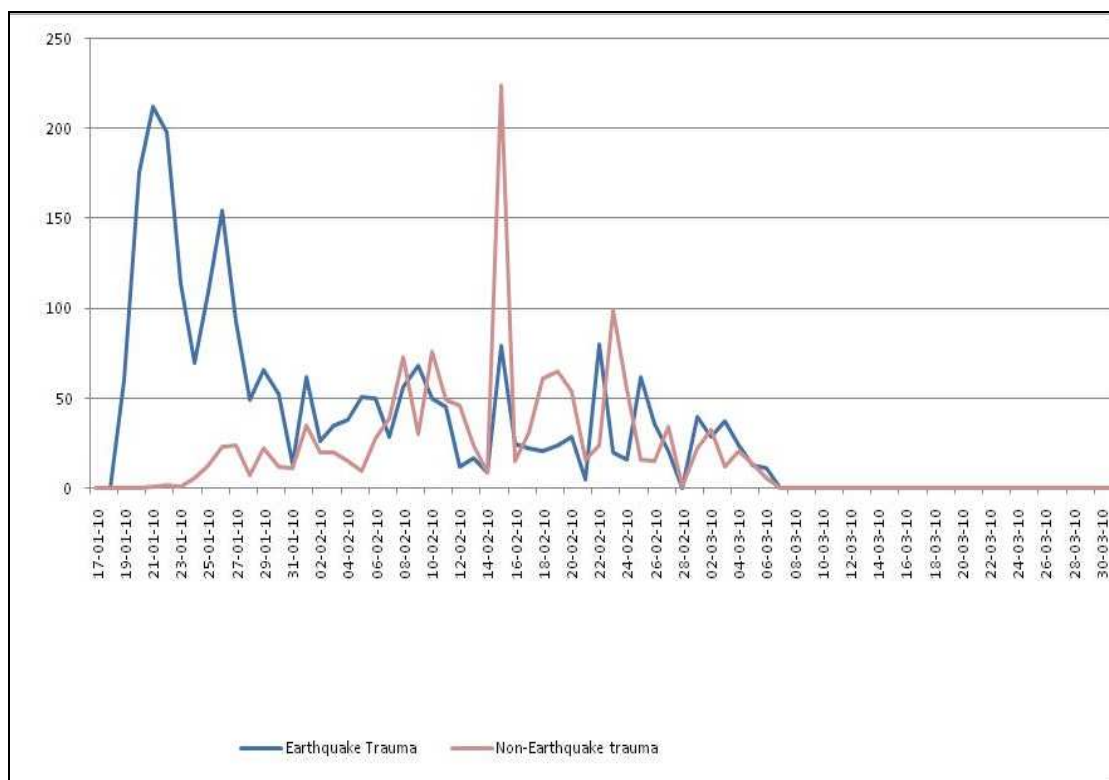
Overall progress over the course of the operation to 7 March is illustrated below:



In terms of patient profiles, psychosocial needs continue to remain high, even as the number of earthquake-related physical trauma continues to decrease steadily. Health teams are also noting an increase in the number of malaria cases – making up 10 % of all cases currently being diagnosed. Respiratory infections and watery diarrhoea are fairly stable with no evidence of outbreaks.

Graphs showing morbidity patterns





Other health-related developments during the reporting period include:

- The French Red Cross is providing psychosocial support activities for children (ages 5 to 11 years) through its dispensaries. Some 500 children are welcomed every day from the settlements of Place St Pierre and Place Boyer.
- The Korean Red Cross will have phased-out its activities in Haiti as of 4 March.
- Two additional Qatari Red Crescent delegates started working with the Finnish BHU as of 1 March, bringing the total to seven medical staff.
- The Japanese Red Cross Society intends to continue the clinics in Port-au-Prince as well in Leogane for the coming 3-4 months.

Challenges:

The impact of the rainy season on health could provide serious challenges. The risk of epidemic outbreaks remains a real possibility. Response capacities will need to be strengthened in the coming months to avoid additional health problems from arising and thereby diverting resources from the response to any potential emergency.

Shelter and community infrastructure	
Objective 1 (Relief phase): Ensure that 80,000 affected families have healthy and safe emergency shelter to help preserve their physical and mental well-being, human dignity and prevent the further deterioration of their humanitarian situation.	
Expected results (Note: Details of activities planned are available in Operations Update 6. Future Operations Updates will present revised activities, based on the up-coming Appeal and revisions currently underway in light of the Montreal Summit).	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most vulnerable affected families are supported in the recovery of their comprehensive well-being through the distribution of emergency shelter materials to 80,000 families in Port-au-Prince, Carrefour, Leogane and Jacmel. • Collective rubble removal is achieved by local committees using 1,200 clearing kits linked with a cash for work programme in Carrefour, Leogane and Jacmel. • 3,000 host families receive cash vouchers for the purchase of shelter materials to improve the living conditions and promote housing solutions in host families. 	

The IFRC's Shelter Technical Team (STT), composed of four specialists, is currently focusing on:

- Preparations for implementation of the wooden Core-Transitional Shelter (CTS) programme in Leogane, Jacmel and Petit Goave;
- Preparations for implementation of the wooden CTS programme in Port-au-Prince;
- Preparations for implementation at La Piste-l'Aviation site;
- Concluding a design study to finalise generic specification of the steel-frame TS solution.

Two additional specialists will be joining the team to cover the related areas of:

- Host-family programme;
- Safe hurricane shelter centre programme.

The International Federation is urging Partner National Societies to communicate their interest in participating in the implementation of the shelter plan of action **as a matter of urgency** – in particular the type of programme, the target population and the locations being considered. This will enable the Federation to evaluate additional resources required for effective implementation and coordination of all shelter-related activities, and is crucial to the success of the programme.

Progress:

Concerted efforts continue to be made to respond to this critical need as rapidly and efficiently as possible. As of 7 March 2010, combined Movement actors have provided over 43,000 families (215,000 people) with emergency shelter materials consisting of tarpaulins and rope – an increase of 53% over the past two weeks, and representing some 20% of the total emergency shelter response to date.

In addition 3,404 families have now received tents – doubling coverage over the reporting period. Distribution of covering kits, shelter kits with timber and tents in progress in Leogane, Port-au-Prince and Jacmel. Details are reported in the relief table under Objective 1.

Relief/shelter ERUs will continue to distribute shelter relief items as a matter of priority, with shelter kits now being complemented by timber and 6 Corrugated Galvanized Iron (CGI) sheets (a total of 2,280 units of CGI have recently been received from DfID).

Specifications and design for the wooden core shelter and wooden transitional shelter have been accepted by the Movement's technical working group as being suitable to the Haitian context. This design will be accessible via the shelter cluster website to all interested organizations⁶. Additional activities for the implementation of the wooden core TS are well underway, as follows:

- Specifications for the 18m2 prototype are available to be shared with interested PNS;
- In addition to the 12m2 samples, a wooden core 18m2 shelter prototype has been erected in the compound for demonstration purposes;
- A technical manual of instructions is being developed with the support of a local artist;
- Recruitment and training of local staff is underway;
- Training has been organized for 30 volunteers allocated to shelter activities;
- Development of a Memorandum of Understanding template for site owners and beneficiaries is in process, with support from the Federation's Legal Department.
- Federation procurement for 6,000 wooden core shelters is in process – of which 1,000 are being procured regionally for delivery between 10-21 March, and an additional 5,000 units are under tender for delivery in April.

A shelter assessment team along with a technical team (carpenters) are being set up, to identify potential target sites and communities for the implementation of the wooden core shelter programme. The Canadian and American Red Cross Societies, with technical support from the International Federation, are looking to test the implementation of the wooden core shelter in Leogane. An American Red Cross shelter delegate will join the Canadian Red Cross and International Federation/Haitian National Red Cross Society teams. CARE international has proposed implementing the International Federation's wooden Core/Transitional shelter programme in Leogane. This initiative has been welcomed by the Canadian Red Cross, and discussions are underway with HNRCS regarding the possibility of having implementing partners from outside the Movement. The Netherlands Red Cross team will assess potential implementation of the wooden core shelter in Petit Goave. The objectives of this pilot phase will be to:

- Define criteria for the target population (with local government);

⁶ See <http://groups.google.com/group/shelterhaiti2010>

- Evaluate the implications for the community concerned;
- Define a realistic time-frame for implementation;
- Evaluate the level of technical assistance required to guarantee qualitative results;
- Train technical teams in the step-by-step assistance role;
- Evaluate the financial impact of the implementation process;
- Capture lessons learned to readjust and improve the implementation process.

In addition, site identification is in process in Port-au-Prince, with two sites being targeted in Cité Soleil (“Fort Dimanche and Annexe de la Mairie”). HNRCS is requesting a site clean-up in Fort Dimanche from the Centre National de l’Équipement (CNE). The aim is to re-locate households from the overcrowded camp at La Piste. HNRCS is coordinating with the Mayor of Cité Soleil to confirm possible intervention and implementation of the wooden core shelter in both sites.

Generic specifications for the two-storey steel frame shelter solutions are being prepared. A technical specialist hired by the Netherlands Red Cross is currently setting-up two prototypes for review, in order to finalize design specifications for tendering, and including a foundation system which would allow for flexibility if frames have to be moved

Additional activities undertaken during the reporting period include:

- Registration of 100 households living near their destroyed houses in process in Jacmel. Land clearing should start this week to allow delivery of CTS materials by the 3rd week of March;
- 130 CTS wooden units have been prefabricated by the Canadian Armed Forces, to be made available for Leogane and/or Gressier. Additional materials will be ordered to complement the units.
- The Danish Red Cross ERU has relocated 126 families onto privately donated land, while another 509 families were given the choice of a family-size tent or emergency shelter materials and returned to general areas from which they came in Leogane, with a view to decongesting existing camps.

The **pilot host families programme** in Les Cayes is being developed with the aim of proposing an integrated approach targeted at host families in rural communities, and initially including three one-monthly unconditional cash grants to help cover basic needs, as well as the provision of a voucher for specific shelter items to be distributed via local traders. The project would then be replicated based on lessons-learned. A shelter voucher specialist from the Shelter Technical Team, with funding from Netherlands RC, will arrive shortly to begin pilot testing together with HNRCS.

Challenges

There is an urgent need to further clarify PNS interest and capacity to support the Shelter Plan of Action. This will enable the Federation to allocate the necessary resources and ensure effective coordination in meeting emergency/transitional shelter needs as efficiently as possible, as well as identify any gaps that the International Federation may be required to implement.



1 March 2010. Women carry water at the new Camp Fondsable site where the Danish Red Cross relief Emergency Response Unit (ERU) has resettled 126 families in a new tented encampment on privately donated land alongside the old site near Leogane. Source: Danish Red Cross

Identifying human resources with relevant shelter expertise for assessment and implementation is proving challenging. There is an urgent requirement for experienced Shelter delegates for the operation.

Identifying potential sites for shelter intervention remains problematic, due to the on-going flux of population and land use/rights issues. Several discussions have been held with government and at shelter cluster coordination

meetings. IFRC, together with HRCNS, plans to propose criteria for the selection of beneficiaries to the government.

As a majority of the affected population were tenants (over 70% in Port-au-Prince and Leogane) land and tenure issues will be significant. The inclusion of a Housing, Land and Property rights advisor within the Movement Shelter Coordination team is foreseen to provide a dedicated service on this issue to implementing National Societies. This role will be supported by similar capacity within the IFRC-led Shelter/NFI Cluster Coordination Team with expertise from UN Habitat

Strengthening of HNRCS capacities

Objective 1 (Relief phase): HNRCS volunteer management in emergencies is improved.	
Expected results	Activities planned
The HNRCS has reinforced its body of active, trained volunteers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure management of new volunteers and incorporate them in the relief operation. • Develop or revise job descriptions for current volunteers. • Ensure coverage of a core group of volunteers by the accident insurance scheme. • Increase the capacity of the national society to respond to emergencies, through strengthening of volunteer networks

Progress:

The Haitian National Red Cross Society volunteers, staff and leadership continue to lead this operation. The positive impact of their impartial and tireless actions to provide humanitarian aid to the earthquake-population is noteworthy.

The capacity-building Plan of Action in IT and Telecom for HNRCS is currently being reviewed between both parties in order to add objectives focused on building a Haitian National Red Cross Society team that can take ownership of the IT and Telecom activities in the NS. These objectives will be accompanied by activities to train HNRCS volunteers in the use of radios and computing tools, in disaster response, and VHF radio network management.

A Haitian Red Cross distribution team has been established, to work independently on relief, according to the same plan and objectives as Relief ERUs. This team was set up with the assistance of a RIT/RDRT from the Cayman Islands. The Haitian Red Cross team is conforming to all Federation relief standards

Although HNRCS does not have shelter as a major area of focus, it has been heavily involved in shelter activities during recent hurricane and tropical storm responses. Shelter training was undertaken with volunteers in 2008, and the HNRCS has been closely involved throughout in the development and implementation of the shelter relief activities to date.

Based on information available to date, training and integration of HNRCS volunteers into operational activities – with a view to enhancing skills and specialized knowledge – is occurring across all areas of the operation. The following table provides a snapshot of volunteer capacity-building activities as part of the emergency response so far.

HNRCS Volunteer Involvement in Response Operations (Note: These figures are early estimations and will continue to be up-dated as information becomes available)			
Area	Number of Volunteers	Capacity-building / Skills	Movement Partners
Relief	60	Evaluation and identification of beneficiaries Distribution methods	International Federation
Health	16	First aid and basic health care	French Red Cross
	10	Psychosocial support	Norwegian/Canadian Red Cross/Magen David Adom rapid deployment hospital

	120	Vaccination campaign	International Federation
Water and Sanitation	137 15	Hygiene promotion Sanitation / Spraying	International Federation British/French/Spanish/Austrian Red Cross
Shelter	30	Shelter kit and core shelter use	International Federation
IT/Telecoms	1	HNRCs counterpart fully incorporated	International Federation
	3	Radio room operations	
Communications	13	Story-writing for internet site.	
TOTAL (incomplete)	404		

Challenges:

HNRCs staff and volunteers have been seriously affected by the earthquake, and there has been a loss of previously acquired capacity.

The personal and living conditions of many HNRCs staff and volunteers remain difficult.

IT/Telecom

Objective 1 (Relief phase): A well functioning and reliable communications system has been established to ensure effective communication and security for all Movement partners for the immediate response to the disaster.

Expected results

(Note: Details of activities planned are available in Operations Update 6. Future Operations Updates will present revised activities, based on the up-coming Appeal and revisions currently underway in light of the Montreal Summit).

- The shared ICRC / HNRCs VHF network is covering the operational areas.
- Radio contact is possible from branches to communicate operational updates.
- Data communication and office facilities are available for the operation.

The IT/Telecom team supports clear communications and contributes to safety in all aspects of this operation via computer support services and radio communications.

Progress:

IT

A dedicated operational IT/telecom team is being created, given the current repatriation of IT and Telecom ERU members. Two regional intervention team (RIT) members have recently joined the operation.

Other key IT activities over the reporting period include:

- Installation of American Red Cross/Spacenet donated VSAT station in IFRC Base Camp at Port-au-Prince. The system was installed by Spacenet Technicians and is currently connected to NinaB v2.0 through a load balancing router.
- Plans are underway to extend the wireless coverage to the Base Camp as facilities expand.
- Providing on-going support to delegates in computer compatibility and in controlling a virus infection.

Radio

Key radio activities over the reporting period include:

- Installation of ICRC Repeater at Obleon, for backup purposes.
- Installation of a radios in the German RC truck (1), and Finnish (3) and Spanish (1) RC cars.
- Programming of 40 handsets for Spanish RC.
- Installation of Operation's Channel 2 repeater (EQHT CH2) in Obleon.
- Review of the Call Signs Policy to adapt to new RC sites.
- Training for blood bank personnel in radio usage.

Challenges:

The procurement of IT and Telecom equipment only available abroad remains an issue, due to the delivery times stipulated by provider, and problems of lack of stock at IFRC procurement centres. Customs procedures are also becoming more stringent, due to the amount of items received.

The on-going arrival of new delegates implies an increase in IT/Telecom installation, configuration and viruses check tasks.

The implementation of 24/7 radio room services has been delayed by a week, due to human resources issues. The team is currently reviewing Haitian labour regulations in order to adapt the contracts of radio operators. An additional three radio operators will be hired, to allow for an additional rotation, in order to meet rest times as stipulated by labour regulations.

Logistics

Objective 1 (Relief phase): To effectively manage the supply chain from arrival of relief items and ERUs, including clearance, storage and forwarding to distribution.

Expected results

(Note: Details of activities planned are available in Operations Update 6. Future Operations Updates will present revised activities, based on the up-coming Appeal and revisions currently underway in light of the Montreal Summit).

- All programmes receive professional logistics support and goods are received for distribution as planned.

Efficient and coordinated logistics continues to underpin the unrelenting pace of relief actions in Haiti. The supply chain - procurement, transport, fleet and mobilization in several countries - is done by air, sea and land.

Progress:

NFIs are currently being restocked (with the on-going arrival of sea freight containers). The British Red Cross Logistics ERU has relocated to Port-au-Prince – and is preparing for the arrival of forthcoming core shelter kits. Airfreight operations are now minimal for both Port-au-Prince and Santo-Domingo.

As of 7 March, 99 flights have been received and handled between Santo Domingo and Port-au-Prince. Emphasis is now on road and sea delivery, with flights being phased out. Total tonnage of shipments has reached 4,396 MT tonnes.

Details of logistics statistics are set out below.

Key Statistics:

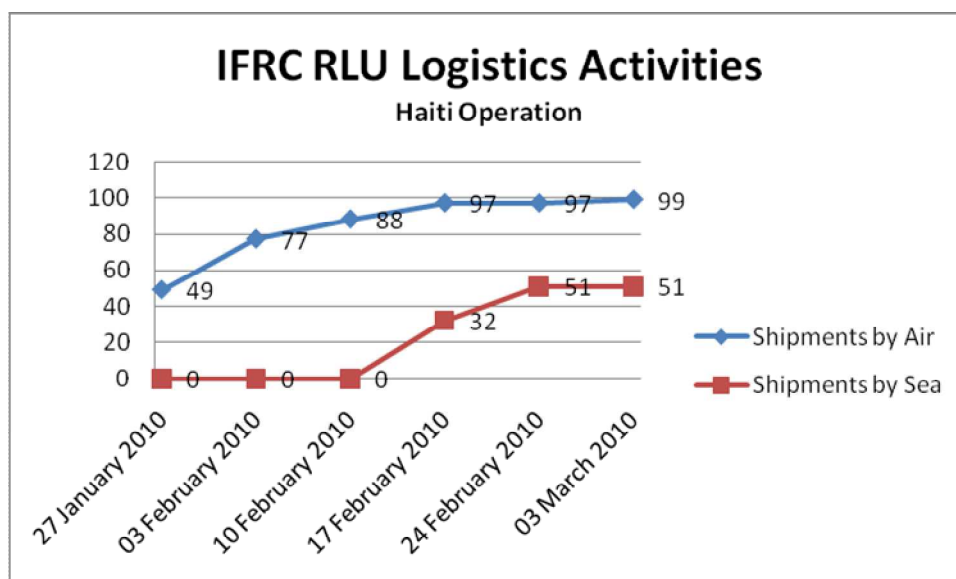
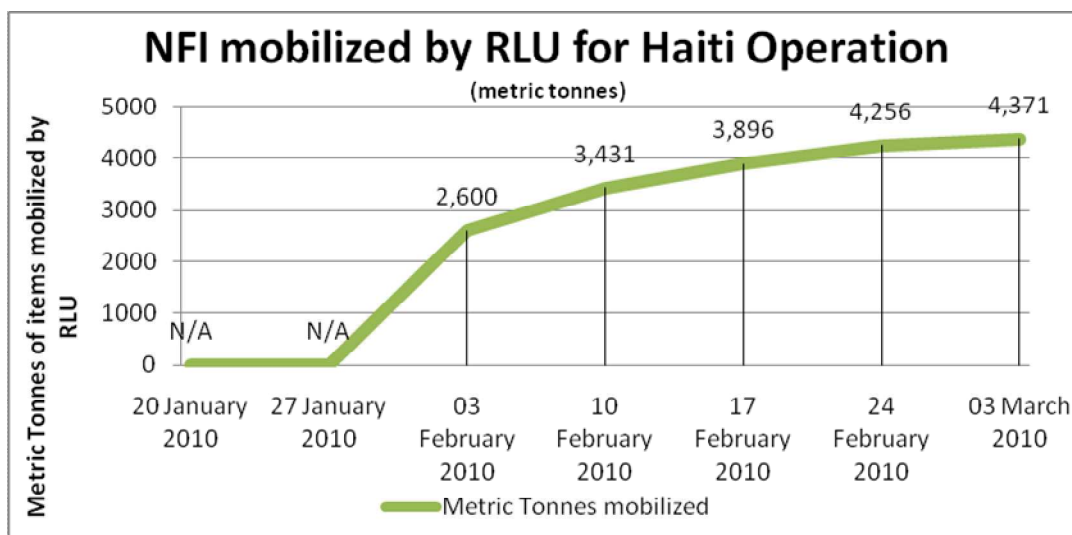
Activity	To Date Total
Flights received in the operation	99
Sea shipments (40' containers)	52
Total tonnage of shipments	4'396

Activity	Period
Aircraft handled	0
Trucks / containers received Haiti	36
Estimated tonnage	540
Trucks despatched	12
Estimated tonnage	72

Other developments in logistics over the reporting period include:

- The contract for the Core Shelter warehouse site was finalized with the owner. The compound (9000 M2) is currently being prepared, with the first 1,000 core shelter kits expected from 11 March onwards (preparations being made for the provision of additional machinery for on-site re-cutting of timber). Tender for next 5,000 kits underway.
- A donation for 2,280 corrugated iron sheets from DfID has been received.

Overall progress over the course of the operation to date is illustrated below:



Challenges:

It is important for donors who pledged in-kind contributions to speed up the delivery of goods and provide RLU with clear delivery timeframe.

It has been noted that the operation is receiving cargo at the Dominican Republic border without notification. All PNSs and ERUs are reminded to inform the Panama RLU of all in-coming consignments. The consignments should be integrated into the Pipeline Report.

Partner National Societies implementing bi-lateral programmes are requesting support from Federation Logistics. The administrative and financial framework to provide services to bilateral programmes (service agreements) does not yet exist in Haiti.

Customs procedures are more strict. As a result, all shipments must be notified to the RLU (with copies of all shipping docs provided 48 hours in advance) so as to avoid unnecessary delays.

Security

Objective 1 (Relief phase): A well functioning and effective operational security framework that will enable RC/RC personnel to operate safely and securely.

Expected results

(Note: Details of activities planned are available in Operations Update 6. Future Operations Updates will present

revised activities, based on the up-coming Appeal and revisions currently underway in light of the Montreal Summit).

- Sound operational security management structures and procedures established and operating effectively ensuring a safer working environment.
- Federation and HNRCS operations have good security awareness and are able to anticipate and react to changing situations and circumstances in a timely manner.
- Improved planning capacity, more effective management and prevention of security incidents, and enhanced ability to be proactive through reports, analysis and lessons learned.
- Effective working partnerships established with other agencies providing increased access to information and resources.

Despite the operation's size and complexity, Movement actors continue to operate safely and securely. Having volunteers and staff from the HNRCS participate in all phases of the relief efforts is advantageous. Clear communication in the local language of Creole, as well as cultural understanding of their society, allow HNRCS volunteers to contribute to security objectives.

Progress:

A security meeting was held with all distribution teams in Port-au-Prince. The International Federation Security Department together with Federation operational management, attended the meeting. The discussion focused on security at distributions and during assessments, and how to work with camp committee to transfer security to the camp population.

Challenges:

Early rains have highlighted the precarious nature of shelter, with the many people in makeshift camps still lacking adequate cover. People's on-going vulnerability and discomfort has led to unrest on a few occasions, as they begin to lose patience. This is an area that continues to be monitored closely, to ensure the safety of RCRC distribution teams.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

Media interest continues to focus on the impending rainy season, and related shelter needs. The Federation issued a press release on 8 March

In terms of media relations, the following interviews/activities have taken place:

- Radio SBS Australia in Spanish.
- Phone interview with AP on Google Earth.
- Interviews with Christian Science Monitor, NY Times, NBC, Development Today, Wall street Journal, Al Jazeera. .
- Briefing for correspondent and photographer from Vanity Fair.
- Reuters Caribbean Bureau has used quotes from recent International Federation web stories.
- A new web story was sent to Geneva about the vaccination of 100,000 persons by the International Federation in Port au Prince (illustrated with photos from IFRC photographer in the field).
- Contacts with local Haitian journalists.
- Interviews on Camp Fondsable story, first seen on ifrc.org, with Miami Herald and Agence France Presse.
- On-camera interview with Swiss TSR TV.
- Interview by Head of Operations with IRIN audio.

Media activities planned over the coming weeks include field visits from ABC Australia, CKOM/CJME Canada (a CNN affiliate) and TVE (largest Spanish broadcaster). All media content is routinely made available to PNS through briefings on key messages. A photo gallery on Leogane from an International Federation photographer has been published at www.ifrc.org .

Providing information to the earthquake-affected population remains a central part of the Movement's communication activities. Since 2 February 2010, 23 million SMSs on health topics and the vaccination campaign for children and youth have been sent to mobile phone users.

This operation's media team has posted 37 news stories and 12 press releases since the earthquake. News in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic and photos galleries of the Movement's actions in Haiti can be found on the International Federation website: www.ifrc.org. Red Cross volunteers, as requested, have started to add photos on the local server which will soon be uploaded in the FTP server. The Communications Department in the Secretariat is happy to furnish additional information upon request.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The International Federation's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In Panama, Mauricio Bustamante, Acting Head of the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU); phone (507) 316 1001; fax (507) 316 1082; e-mail mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org
- In Panama: Ilir Caushaj, Regional Logistics Coordinator, Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU); phone (507) 316 1001; fax (507) 316 1082; e-mail ilir.caushaj@ifrc.org
- In the Dominican Republic: Alexandre Claudon, Regional Representative for the Latin Caribbean; e-mail: alexandre.claudon@ifrc.org.
- In Panama: Maria Alcázar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for the Americas; cell phone: (507) 66781589; email: maria.alcazar@ifrc.org
- In Geneva: Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator for the Americas; phone: (41 22) 730 42 74; fax: (41 22) 733 03 95; email: pablo.medina@ifrc.org
- Shelter Cluster: Coordinator can be contacted on shelterhaiti2010@gmail.com; *Information and updates can be obtained from* www.shelterhaiti.org

[<Click here to return to the title page>](#)