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Education and health care help quake-affected children start fresh in a Haitian mountain village

JACQUOT, Haiti, 10 January 2011 – Until recently, health care and education facilities were non-existent in the Haitian mountain village of Jacquot, near the capital, Port-au-Prince. But 12 months after the earthquake that devastated this Caribbean nation, local residents now have both.

Podcast #32: Rebuilding Haiti's education system one year after the earthquake

NEW YORK, USA, 10 January 2011 – UNICEF Radio podcast moderator Amy Costello spoke late last month with Carlos Vasques, architect and UNICEF Education Specialist, and Tania McBride, UNICEF Communication Specialist, to find out how the education system in Haiti is managing to move forward a year after the earthquake that devastated the country's schools, affecting millions of children.

A Haitian engineer helps UNICEF rebuild education from the ruins

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 7 January 2011 – From a hill in the densely populated Delmas area of Port-au-Prince – where vendors hawk household goods, charcoal, vegetables and multi-coloured paintings – there is a stunning postcard view of the ocean.

For children and families in Haiti, the long road from relief to recovery

NEW YORK, USA, 6 January 2011 – One year on, children in Haiti are still reeling from the lingering impact of the 12 January 2010 earthquake, the single largest catastrophe to hit the country in centuries.

Income-generating programme keeps quake-affected families together in Haiti

LEOGANE, Haiti, 6 January 2011 – Far from the congested capital of Haiti lies Leogane, a provincial town that was near the epicentre of the January 2010 earthquake, which claimed more than 220,000 lives. Scenes of devastation still characterize the once-bustling seaside municipality.

UNICEF supports community mobilization to stop spread of cholera in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 6 January 2011 – Even as it addresses the aftermath of the January 2010 earthquake, Haiti now faces a devastating cholera epidemic that has killed thousands and sickened many more.

Families in Haiti's Cité l'Eternel struggle to get through each day

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 6 January 2011 – Surrounded by her meagre possessions – a foam mattress, a blanket, a few pots, a bucket and a basin – Deliverance 'Tite Soeur' Boislo struggles to get through her daily chores in the two-room concrete shell that has been home to her family for months.

Parents and teachers help children in Haiti cope with quake effects

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 4 January 2011 – Like many people in Haiti, Jean Andre Durvier can't forget the moment the earthquake struck Port-au-Prince. Under the shade tarp at the back of the tiny Dalmas 33 Dei Gloria primary school – a temporary facility that his two sons attend – Mr. Durvier speaks softly amidst the constant roar of traffic in the capital, Port-au-Prince.

A mother in Haiti recalls the moments that changed her family's life

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 4 January 2011 – Ezana Tales is a mother three children – Jefflove, 11, Vekerson, 9, and Manoupnepha, 4 – who all survived the earthquake that struck Haiti last January. She recently recalled the trauma her family experienced during and after the disaster.

UNICEF Executive Director brings a message of hope to Haiti's most vulnerable

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 16 December 2010 – In a surprise visit to Haitian capital, Executive Director Anthony Lake yesterday reaffirmed the commitment of UNICEF and other UN agencies to continue the fight against the cholera epidemic here, and encouraged Haitians themselves to take action against the disease.

In Haiti, UNICEF trains educators to mobilize communities against cholera

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti 9 December 2010 - Chydena Laguerre Joseph holds up a brightly colored cholera prevention poster in Wharf Jérémie, one of Port-au-Prince's most overcrowded and poorest neighbourhoods. Gathered around her, a group of children wearing ragged clothes and shining smiles begins to sing a song she just taught them:

Nutrition in a time of cholera: A challenge for Haitian mothers and babies

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 6 December 2010 – In the cramped and squalid conditions of the tented city in Mais Gate, a camp for Haitians displaced by the January earthquake, baby Sebastian brings a sparkle to his mother Lucienne's eyes.

UNICEF-supported campaign raises awareness about cholera prevention in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 23 November 2010 – As Haiti's cholera epidemic continues and hospitals here struggle with a mounting number of patients seeking help, UNICEF and its partners are conducting an information campaign to raise awareness about preventing the spread of the disease.

UNICEF Haiti stresses cholera prevention in overcrowded districts of Port-au-Prince

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 19 November 2010—Fabiula Deballe, 27, looks exhausted as she stands in front of a tented cholera treatment centre at the Gheskio clinic in Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital. For three days, she has been sitting by her son's bed who is recovering from cholera.

UN appeals for funding as cholera outbreak worsens in Haiti

GONAÏVES, Haiti, 12 November 2010 – The death toll in Haiti's cholera epidemic has now climbed to some 800, with more cases reported in the capital, Port-au-Prince, and other areas outside the Artibonite Region where the outbreak originated. In response to the worsening situation, the United Nations has issued a new appeal for \$163 million in donor aid.

In Gonaïves, cholera cases increase in aftermath of Hurricane Tomas

GONAÏVES, Haiti, 10 November 2010 – After several 14-hour days battling a cholera epidemic in the coastal town of Gonaïves, the last thing Dr. Dieula Louissaint needed was a hurricane.

A Haitian mother struggles to provide her family with safe water

L'ESTERE, Haiti, 9 November 2010 – It is late morning in L'Estere, a small community in Haiti's Artibonite region, north of the nation's capital of Port-au-Prince. Igenice Merceda has arrived at the community hospital. She's happy because today she will be taking home her son Godson Noel. Only yesterday, Igenice wasn't sure if her son's three siblings would ever see him alive again.

In wake of Hurricane Tomas, flooding increases disease risk in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 8 November 2010 – Residents of Haiti are assessing the impact of Hurricane Tomas, which this past weekend came perilously close to adding even greater misery to a nation already reeling from the impacts of the recent cholera outbreak and the 12 January earthquake.

Amidst ongoing cholera crisis, UNICEF and partners respond to hurricane threat in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 5 November 2010 – After the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti in January, coupled with a cholera epidemic over the past two weeks, Hurricane Tomas now poses yet another threat to the most vulnerable part of the country's population – its children.

UNICEF constructs treatment centres to control the spread of cholera in Haiti

L'ESTERE, Haiti, 4 November 2010 – As tropical storm Tomas continues it's ominous path towards Haiti, the possibility that it could strengthen into a hurricane poses a major threat to the beleaguered island nation. With over a million people living in temporary camps and an outbreak of cholera currently tearing its way north, Tomas – expected to pass over Haiti on Friday - would worsen an already dire situation dramatically.

Reintegrating 'restavek' children with their parents in post-earthquake Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 3 November 2010 – For the children at Foyer l'Escale, a UNICEF-supported children's shelter, performance is a form of therapy.

Haiti cholera response broadens to include focus on prevention in local communities

SAINT-MICHEL, Haiti, 1 November 2010 – A three-hour drive up a steep, bumpy road brings two vehicles filled with oral rehydration salts, intravenous fluid and other medical supplies to Saint-Michel, a small agricultural area 300 km north of Saint-Marc, the epicentre of Haiti's cholera outbreak.

UNICEF and partners work to keep a cholera outbreak at bay in Haiti's capital

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 29 October 2010 – In the Rue Oswald Durand, Port-au-Prince's heavily earthquake-damaged downtown area, a truck blares hygiene-promotion messages in Creole: "Wash your hands with soap before eating and after you go to the bathroom. Eat only cooked or peeled foods...."

UNICEF distributes thousands of mosquito nets in fight against malaria

LEOGANE, Haiti, 27 October 2010 – Richemond Casseus is walking through a small village – typical of the hundreds that line Haiti's coastal areas. And he does not like what he sees.

UNICEF prepares for a potential cholera outbreak in Port-au-Prince

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 27 October 2010 – While efforts to contain the cholera epidemic are ongoing in the affected zones of the Artibonite region, UNICEF and its partners have been gearing up for a potential outbreak in Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince.

UNICEF and partners work to contain the cholera outbreak in Haiti

ARTIBONITE, Haiti, 26 October 2010 – The worst is not yet over for Haiti. Ten months after a powerful earthquake devastated the country, a cholera epidemic has spread fear and misery. The outbreak is the country's biggest medical crisis in recent years. At L'Estere Medical Centre here in the country's Artibonite Department, north of Port-au-Prince, the flow of new patients doesn't seem to stop.

UNICEF steps up efforts to contain cholera in Haiti's Artibonite Department

SAINT-MARC, Haiti, 25 October 2010 – Val Voyalant, 10, and her sister Cledna, 3, live in the small community of Pisto, south of Dessaline and near the Artibonite River, the region most affected by the current cholera outbreak in Haiti. The two lie quietly on a hospital gurney against the back wall of an open room. Intravenous tubes feed their arms with a concentrated saline solution.

As cholera toll mounts in Haiti, UNICEF and partners aim to prevent wider outbreak

NEW YORK, USA, 25 October 2010 – Concern is growing in Haiti as the number of cases of acute diarrhoea caused by cholera continues to rise, and fear of a wider outbreak grows. Since the first cases were confirmed last week, a total of some 3,000 cholera cases and more than 250 deaths from the waterborne illness have been reported.

Confronting gender-based violence, and changing perceptions, in Haiti after the quake

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 20 October 2010 – Terlena Day-Isaac, 25, makes her way up a hill in the Terrain Acra camp in the Port-au-Prince. She is a staff member with the American Refugee Committee (ARC) the UNICEF partner that is teaching Haitian women and girls about their rights with regard to gender-based violence – a term that encompasses domestic violence, forced prostitution, sexual assault and rape.

Podcast #30: Building hope for adolescent girls in post-earthquake Haiti

NEW YORK, USA, 20 October 2010 – As schools open for the new academic year in Haiti, the hope is to bring all boys and girls to school – both those who attended before the earthquake struck in January and those hardest to reach, who will go to school for the first time.

Haiti protects its border against post-earthquake child trafficking

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 15 October 2010 – The inspectors from the Brigade for the Protection of Minors (BPM) work on the edge of a 'no man's land' – about a kilometer of road leading up to a market that sprawls across the border between Haiti and the Dominican Republic. And that's what makes their work so vital.

On the first day of school, UNICEF provides support for earthquake-affected children in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 5 October 2010 – For thousands of temporary residents of the Primature displacement camp in the Haitian capital, yesterday's routine began as it has every day since the earthquake struck here in January. But for others, there was one major difference: It was a school day.

UNICEF Executive Director makes first official visit to post-earthquake Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 30 September 2010 – Jant Garane and her four children have been living in a tiny shack at the Accra camp for displaced people since a massive earthquake devastated Haiti last January. The camp is home to more than 20,000 people, including some 8,000 children.

Sports programmes lift youth spirits in post-earthquake Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 29 September 2010 - Fifteen year-old Simeon Kenson has a lot of worries.

Immediate action provides relief after powerful storm sweeps through Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 27 September 2010 – A severe storm ripped through Haiti on 24 September, killing five people, including three children, and injuring dozens.

Haiti's youth ready to act in post-earthquake era

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 14 September 2010 - They came so their voices would be heard.

Christine's story: Escaping poverty through education in post-earthquake Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 31 August 2010 – Christine, 14, lives in a camp for displaced people near the international airport here in the Haitian capital. "The only thing I know is that I know nothing," says this energetic girl, who cites Socrates as her motivation for going to school.

UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Lionel 'Leo' Messi visits earthquake-ravaged Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 16 July 2010 – For the people of Port-au-Prince, the last six months have been fraught with difficulties in the wake of the catastrophic earthquake that left their lives in shambles. But while the images out of Haiti still show displacement and poverty, they were replaced yesterday – at least for a few hours – by a sense of uncontainable excitement, as Haitians poured into the streets to greet UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Lionel 'Leo' Messi.

Podcast #27: Educating Haiti's children, six months on

NEW YORK, USA, 12 July 2010 – Today marks the six-month anniversary of the earthquake that devastated Haiti, killing more than 220,000, displacing many more and severely affecting the education system.

Olympic Gold Medallist Yuna Kim, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, thanks Haiti donors

NEW YORK, USA, 9 July 2010 – UNICEF is delighted to announce the appointment of international figure-skating star Yuna Kim as its newest Goodwill Ambassador. In a special video message marking her appointment. Ms. Kim thanks donors who have supported a cause she herself holds dear: UNICEF's earthquake-relief efforts in Haiti.

UNICEF photojournalist Marta Ramoneda documents recovery efforts in Haiti

NEW YORK, USA, 9 July 2010 – It has been six months since a devastating earthquake killed over 220,000 people and disrupted the lives of millions more in Haiti. UNICEF freelance photographer Marta Ramoneda recently returned from a two-week trip to the Caribbean nation, where she documented the recovery efforts now under way there.

Six months on, UNICEF reviews Haiti quake-relief milestones, and looks forward

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 12 July 2010 – Six months after the earthquake that ravaged Haiti on 12 January, UNICEF has released a detailed report chronicling relief efforts to date. Titled 'Children of Haiti: Milestones and looking forward at six months,' the report begins by implicitly asking the question: What did *not* happen following the earthquake?

On the ground in Haiti, after the quake

NEW YORK, USA, 9 July 2010 – Kent Page left New York for Port-au-Prince on 20 January, just over a week after the earthquake that shattered Haiti's most densely populated areas – and the lives of its most vulnerable children. He had been asked to leave his UNICEF headquarters post for a month-long assignment as the agency's chief media spokesperson in the Haitian capital.

Protecting mothers and newborns from HIV and AIDS in post-quake Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 30 June 2010 – Jeanne (not her real name) looks lovingly at her baby daughter Marie and carefully covers her cot with a mosquito net. She is sitting in the living room of a relative's home in Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital, in the heat of the afternoon. For Jeanne, the birth of Marie in May was an extraordinary event.

In post-earthquake Haiti, children's voices are integrated into reconstruction effort

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 21 June 2010 – Over the buzz of children chatting excitedly in Creole, nine-year-old Marie-Ange hunches over her poster paper, meticulously tracing the outline of a school. "This is the school of my dreams," she says.

Call centre responds to needs of separated children in Haitian quake zone

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 15 June 2010 – "Hello, Separated Children Call Centre, how can I help you?" an operator asked. "Where exactly did you say the child is currently? He is at the health Centre? Did the child come by himself or was he brought in by someone? Thank you for calling – we will dispatch two case workers who will arrive at the centre in 30 minutes."

Child-friendly space helps protect young survivors of Haiti earthquake

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 21 May 2010 – Over 100 young voices rise in harmony to affirm a common sentiment. "Sa ki pa nan espas n'ap voye yo ale," they sing in Haitian Creole. "Those that do not belong in this space should be out of this place."

Judith's story: In the face of grief, education brings hope in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 14 May 2010 – On the day of the quake, Ms. Lambert, our school director, sent us home early. I usually stayed after class to help clean the trash in the schoolyard. But that day, Ms. Lambert had heard that not far from our school a university teacher had been killed and there was fear of rioting. She insisted that we rush home and not linger on the streets.

Social mobilizers throughout Haiti spread the word about vaccines

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 12 May 2010 – Haiti is still struggling to cope with the aftermath of the devastating 12 January earthquake, which claimed more than 200,000 lives, destroyed schools, homes, and water and sanitation systems, and left more than 1 million people homeless.

Field diary: Returning to Haiti, UNICEF staffer finds hope

PANAMA CITY, Panama, 5 May 2010 – I have just returned from Haiti, my first visit there since witnessing the indescribable destruction just after the 12 January earthquake.

Vaccination Week of the Americas targets 44 countries, including Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 5 May 2010 – Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean are wrapping up the annual Vaccination Week of the Americas, an initiative covering 44 countries and territories in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. In Haiti alone, an estimated 60,000 children under the age of five were immunized last week.

Two best friends survive the Haiti earthquake and talk about life in camps for the displaced

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 28 April 2010 – Miratson Guerrier and Ricardo Rocourt have been best friends for as long as they can remember. But when the 12 January earthquake destroyed each of their homes, they also became neighbours.

Creating a Haiti fit for children, three months after the earthquake

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 9 April 2010 – As Haiti slowly moves forward after the 12 January earthquake, UNICEF is set to release a comprehensive report taking stock of humanitarian efforts on behalf of the children of Haiti.

Education brings hope to Haiti's children: 'Let us not lose any more'

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 8 April 2010 – From the hillsides around Port-au-Prince one can just see the sparkling blue waters of the Caribbean Sea, tranquil in the bright sunlight. The ascending streets are bustling, energized by the frenetic traffic, the shouts of street vendors, and the masses of people going somewhere or coming from somewhere. It could be a normal day in this city of some 2 million.

UNICEF distributes early childhood development kits in Jacmel, Haiti

JACMEL, Haiti, 6 April 2010 – When the earthquake shook the mountains outside this port city in southern Haiti on 12 January, rural schools throughout the area were destroyed or damaged. Not only were classes cancelled for the short term, but looking ahead, parents were afraid to send their children back into damaged classrooms that they feared might collapse.

A nationwide call to return to school brings hope to children in Haiti

JACMEL, Haiti, 5 April 2010 – Almost three months after the massive 12 January earthquake that devastated the country, the Haitian Ministry of Education, with the support of UNICEF and its partners, has issued a nationwide call for children to return to school.

'A Haiti Fit for Children'

NEW YORK, 31 March 2010 – Six international aid organizations met in a public session at UNICEF headquarters yesterday, planning ways to make children the focus of rebuilding Haiti in the aftermath of the 12 January earthquake.

Field Diary: Camp's children excited about return to learning in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 31 March, 2010 – You only have to mention the word 'school' and a sparkle comes into Taïma Celestin's dark brown eyes. It's not hard to understand why. The scheduled reopening of Haiti's schools on 5 April will be the first real opportunity for this confident 10-year-old to leave what is today her home – a tiny lean-to covered with a blue tarpaulin in a former sports ground in the suburbs of Port-au-Prince.

Rescued by a neighbour, a young Haitian earthquake survivor dreams of normalcy

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 29 March 2010 – When the earth began to shake on 12 January 12, Rachel Lunique, 17, sprinted out the door of her family's second-floor apartment. Rachel was just a few steps from the safety of the street, when she heard the desperate cries of the woman in the apartment next to hers.

After the earthquake, protecting Haitian women and girls from violence

ANSE-A-PITRE, Haiti, 29 March 2010 – The effects of the earthquake that struck Haiti some two and a half months ago have reverberated across the country. Both in and beyond the capital, Port-au-Prince, progress made in tackling long-standing human rights issues – including the problem of gender-based violence against women and girls – seems a distant memory.

UNICEF works to reunite children with their families in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 24 March 2010 – We met eight-year-old Jefferson (not his real name) at a reception centre in the heart of Haiti's shattered capital. Jefferson had spent two weeks at the centre, one of perhaps thousands of children who became separated from their families in the aftermath of the massive earthquake of January 12.

Former US President Bill Clinton praises crisis response by UN and UNICEF in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 24 March 2010 – During a visit to Haiti yesterday, former US President and UN special envoy Bill Clinton praised the United Nations for its response to the devastating 12 January earthquake, saying now was the time to help the country escape its impoverished past and build a better future.

Carnegie Hall concert by Lang Lang benefits UNICEF's Haiti earthquake response

NEW YORK, USA, 22 March 2010 – UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and world-renowned pianist Lang Lang gave a special performance for a sold-out audience at Carnegie Hall in New York to benefit UNICEF's emergency response to the earthquake in Haiti.

'Beyond School Books' - a podcast series on education in emergencies

NEW YORK, USA, 17 March 2010 – The earthquake that shook Chile on 27 February reportedly killed hundreds of people and caused widespread damage to homes, hospitals, schools, roads and other infrastructure.

Field Diary: Tent schools provide a refuge for quake-affected Haitian children

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 15 March 2010 – In and around Haiti's devastated capital city, UNICEF-supported 'tent schools' are opening for children affected by the 12 January earthquake.

Field Diary: A family reunited after the earthquake in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 12 March 2010 – On assignment as a UNICEF photographer in Haiti, I had the pleasure of meeting five-year-old Sterling Vincent – a child who had been separated from her family in the aftermath of the 12 January earthquake. I only came to know her over two days, and yet her joy, grit and determination will stay with me forever.

After the quake, Haiti braces for storm season

NEW YORK, 10 March 2010 - As Haiti begins to dig itself out of the rubble of January's earthquake, UNICEF and its partners there are preparing to face another challenge – the rainy season.

Children central to recovery and development after the earthquake in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 9 March 2010 – At the Automeca Hyundai lot, tents, tarpaulins and cloths slung across wooden sticks compete for space with the damaged shells of sedans, pick-up trucks and SUVs. What was once a car dealership is now an encampment for more than 15,000 Haitians, many of them children.

Amidst the rubble, Haiti celebrates International Women's Day

JACMEL, Haiti, 9 March, 2010 - Women have been hit hard by the devastating earthquake in Haiti. But they are not alone.

Protecting HIV-positive mothers and their children after the quake in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 2 March 2010 – Jeanne (not her real name) sat on a mattress in her tent in a makeshift settlement for displaced people that has sprung up in Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital. As the afternoon sun burned through the plastic walls of the tent, she told her story.

Field Diary: A long-term commitment to children affected by the earthquake in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 25 February 2010 – I arrived in this country after the earthquake as part of an emergency team, and today is the last day of my assignment here.

Reaching the most remote Haitian earthquake survivors with safe water

LEOGANE, Haiti 26 February 2010 – Simple plastic buckets and inexpensive water-purification tablets are being used to provide safe drinking water to people living in the mountains outside Leogane, an area that was close to the epicentre of the earthquake that struck Haiti in January.

Providing water and sanitation for earthquake survivors beyond Haiti's capital

LEOGANE, Haiti, 24 February 2010 – Pierre Fuijee used to be a lawyer in the small town of Leogane, an hour's drive from the Haitian capital, Port-au-Prince. But like many others in the town, he lost everything in the 12 January earthquake.

Young people enlisted to help meet sanitary needs in quake-stricken Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 22 February 2010 – Sanitation is among the most urgent concerns in Haiti following January's earthquake. UNICEF estimates that overall, 1.1 million displaced people require emergency latrines. The agency and its partners plan to install over 10,000 latrines in the short term and another 20,000-plus within six months.

A Haitian father's account of the earthquake and its aftermath

FOND PARISIEN, Haiti, 19 February 2010 - Dieuveil Marcelin Aristide and his son Lemark, 12, are encamped in a small tent with a dozen other strangers located

some 50 km from their former home in Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital.

Field Diary: Children's ward treats Haitian quake survivors in the Dominican Republic

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic, 18 February 2010 – The moment I arrived at the children's ward at Dario Contreras Hospital, I heard cries from the wounded. About a dozen injured young people lay in one room, some crammed two to a bed. Some had a parent by their side, some were alone.

'Baby tents' offer quake-affected Haitian mothers a safe place to breastfeed

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 18 February 2010—Amidst the collapsed buildings and temporary camps of this battered city stand 12 special tents dedicated to providing mothers and their infant children a safe and calm place to breastfeed.

Tent classrooms and school kits help restart education in Haiti's quake zone

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 17 February 2010 – The first day of school in a UNICEF tent classroom was a happy day for Yolanda Senatus, 9 – and a far cry from the tragic day she had experienced just a month earlier.

Rebuilding childhood in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 16 February 2010 – An estimated 1.26 million children – approximately 700,000 of them school-aged – have been directly affected by the earthquake in Haiti. They urgently need support and assistance to rebuild their lives.

A month after the quake, massive aid effort continues for Haitian children and families

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 12 February 2010 – A month after the 12 January earthquake that levelled densely populated areas of Haiti, UNICEF Director of Emergency Operations Louis-George Arsenault travels by helicopter over the cities of Port -Au-Prince and Leogane, and on to the southern port of Jacmel.

Volunteers provide psycho-social support to young Haitian quake survivors

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic, 11 February 2010 – In hospital after hospital, and tent after tent, Haitian boys and girls with broken or amputated limbs lie on mattresses, unable to run around and play. Their casts are awkward and they're crammed for space.

UNICEF and partners promote infant and young child nutrition in post-quake Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 10 February 2010 – Under normal circumstances, February is Carnival time here in the Haitian capital, including its centrally located park, Champs de Mars.

UNICEF and partners deliver essential supplies to Haiti's most vulnerable children

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 9 February 2010 – Four weeks after the earthquake that devastated Port-au-Prince and other parts of Haiti, the capital's Louverture International Airport never sleeps. Supply flights arrive 24 hours a day with essential aid for the hundreds of thousands left homeless by the quake, including the most vulnerable survivors: orphaned and separated children.

UNICEF scales up its supply effort to reach every Haitian child in need

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 8 February 2010 – On a dusty, hot day here in the Haitian capital late last week, UNICEF's new logistics hub was buzzing. Fifty people were loading trucks with hygiene kits for immediate dispatch to quake-stricken communities in Port-au-Prince and Jacmel.

Meeting the changing health needs of children affected by the earthquake in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 8 February 2010 – Dr. Gerlant Van Berlaer is a paediatrician with B-Fast, a Belgian non-governmental organization and UNICEF partner specializing in rapid medical deployment to large-scale emergencies. His team arrived in Port-au-Prince one day after the 12 January earthquake, setting up a field hospital complete with surgical suite on the grounds of the Laboratoire National de Santé Publique.

UNICEF Executive Director meets quake-affected children and families in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 5 February 2010 – UNICEF Executive Director Ann M. Veneman visited the Haitian capital yesterday, meeting with UNICEF staff, g overnment leaders and survivors of the massive earthquake that struck here on 12 January.

Haitian-American doctor cares for families evacuated to Dominican Republic

JIMANI, Dominican Republic, 4 February 2010 – Down a dusty dirt road, amidst small houses, grazing goats and dirt yards, there's an oatmeal-coloured cement church. Inside, the chairs are pushed back to the walls, the polished wooden pews are lined up in rows at the far side, and people are resting on ragged mattresses on the floor.

UNICEF and partners increase access to safe water in Haitian quake zone

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 3 February 2010 – Safe water is flowing in earthquake-affected areas of Haiti. Overall, UNICEF and its partners are now distributing more than 2.6 million litres of drinking water daily to over half a million people here in the Haitian capital, Port-au-Prince, and in the cities of Leogane and Jacmel.

UNICEF and partners launch immunization campaign in Haiti quake zone

 $PORT-AU-PRINCE, \ Haiti, \ 3\ February\ 2010-Magalie\ grimaces\ as\ the\ needle\ pierces\ her\ skin,\ and\ her\ four-year-old\ son\ screams\ as\ it\ pierces\ his.\ Despite\ the\ pain,\ this\ needle\ has\ the\ potential\ to\ save\ both\ of\ their\ lives\ -\ and\ right\ now,\ their\ lives\ are\ precarious.$

Radio provides a vital link to families amidst the children's emergency in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 2 February 2010 – A cacophony of songs and voices drifts from the tented camp as thousands of handheld radios transmit entertainment and, more important, information.

High-profile UNICEF supporters raise Haiti relief funds and awareness

NEW YORK, USA, 5 February 2010 – Best-selling author and one-time child soldier Ishmael Beah, and long-time Goodwill Ambassador Mia Farrow, are among the latest UNICEF supporters to add their voices to the worldwide appeal for donations to help children in Haiti, in the wake of the 12 January earthquake there.

Focus on Haiti: A UNICEF photographer bears witness to the children's emergency

NEW YORK, USA, 1 February 2010 – Award-winning freelance photographer Roger LeMoyne has been taking pictures for UNICEF since 1990, and has spent a great deal of time on assignment in Haiti. He was one of the first photographers to arrive in the country after the earthquake struck on 12 January.

A day in the life of UNICEF staff members on the ground in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 1 February 2010 – UNICEF has maintained a presence in Haiti since 1949. The earthquake that struck this country with such disastrous force on 12 January has significantly affected the agency's capacity to respond, but staff members have been adapting to difficult conditions on the ground.

On both sides of the border, essential aid and safe water for Haitian families

JIMANI, Dominican Republic, 29 January 2010 – A wide-open space the size of a football pitch looks like just the place for a group of children to kick around a soccer ball. Instead, the gated property of the Buen Samaritano hospital is filled with rows of blood-stained mattresses and sheltered by makeshift tents, which are no more than sheets stretched over sticks.

Helping Haiti's orphaned and separated children find their families

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 29 January 2010 – Rodrigue wipes away his tears and carries on talking. It's an astounding act of bravery for the 12-year-old Haitian boy, who saw his parents die in the 12 January earthquake here.

UNICEF overcomes logistical challenges to help hundreds of thousands in Haiti

NEW YORK, USA, 28 January 2010 – More than two weeks after a powerful earthquake struck Haiti, UNICEF's emergency relief effort is reaching hundreds of thousands of survivors. As of last night, 13 planes had brought health, nutrition, and water-and-sanitation supplies to Haiti and the neighbouring Dominican Republic.

Return from Haiti: UNICEF staffer reflects on the children's emergency

PANAMA CITY, Panama, 28 January 2010 – After a week in Port-au-Prince immediately following the earthquake, it was time for me to return home. Entering the city had been an ordeal; leaving was just as stressful.

Reaching young survivors with health and nutrition aid in Haiti's quake zone

JACMEL, Haiti, 27 January 2010 – In parts of Haiti devastated by the earthquake that struck on 12 January – including the capital, Port-au-Prince, as well as the southern port city of Jacmel and other localities – UNICEF is reaching children with life-saving support.

UNICEF and partners provide safe water for Haitian children and families

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 26 January 2010 – Two weeks after the earthquake that devastated Haiti, UNICEF continues to reach children with life-saving support, including urgently needed safe water.

In Jacmel, a young Haitian filmmaker documents the earthquake's aftermath

NEW YORK, USA, 26 January 2010 – Jean Bernard Bayard, 29, is a second-year film student at Ciné Institute, the only film school in the southern port city of Jacmel, Haiti. Since the devastating earthquake struck Haiti on 12 January, Mr. Bayard and other film students have used their cameras to document the events and stories unfolding around them.

Charlie's ride: London boy, 7, gets on his bike to raise £150,000-plus for Haiti appeal

LONDON, United Kingdom, 26 January 2010 – In a stirring example of the generosity seen worldwide in the aftermath of the 12 January earthquake in Haiti, Charlie Simpson, 7, has raised tens of thousands of British pounds for children in Haiti by completing a five-mile sponsored cycle around his local park.

To help Haiti's children heal, build back education better than before

NEW YORK, USA, 25 January 2010 – With nearly half of the country's population under the age of 18, children have been significantly affected by the 12 January earthquake in Haiti. Schools have been destroyed, and children are taking shelter in camps for the displaced. Many have been orphaned or separated from their families.

UNICEF and Haitian volunteers working together to protect children at risk

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 25 January 2010 – UN representatives and leaders from 15 nations are meeting today in Montreal, Canada, to discuss the long-term reconstruction of earthquake-shattered Haiti – with the aim of building back better than before.

A young Haitian earthquake survivor uses art to cope with disaster

NEW YORK, USA, 22 January 2010 – Until their home was destroyed in last week's earthquake, Bruno Rene, 18, lived with his mother in the southern Haitian port city of Jacmel. Since then, Bruno, an aspiring artist, has been working on art projects to cope with the impact of the disaster.

Crisis response continues in Haiti, with an eye on challenges that pre-date the quake

NEW YORK, USA, 24 January 2010 – Aid is reaching children in parts of Haiti devastated by the 12 January earthquake, but huge humanitarian challenges remain. Many of the disaster's worst effects – including its impact on child health and safety – are aggravated by the country's longstanding impoverishment and instability.

The stars come out for Haiti relief

NEW YORK, USA, 23 January 2009 – The two-hour, star-powered 'Hope for Haiti Now' global concert benefiting Haiti earthquake relief – broadcast last night – featured more than 100 artists, many of whom have shown a long-time commitment to supporting UNICEF's work in emergencies.

Young, injured Haitian quake survivors cross Dominican border for treatment

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic, 21 January 2010 – Nine days after the earthquake that devastated Haiti, UNICEF is delivering life-saving support to children and families in need. Several planeloads of aid have landed in Haiti and the neighbouring Dominican Republic. Half a dozen more supply flights are scheduled to arrive before the end of the week.

Sebastien's story: A young Haitian earthquake survivor speaks

NEW YORK, USA, 21 January 2010 – The earthquake in Haiti has wiped out the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of people and crippled essential services for some 3 million Haitians from all walks of life – ranging from the desperately poor to middle-class and the affluent.

Delivering supplies and protecting children in the Haiti earthquake zone

NEW YORK, USA, 20 January 2010 – A powerful aftershock struck Haiti early this morning, adding to the stress of children and families affected by the 12 January earthquake there but apparently causing little further damage. Relief operations are ongoing.

Field Diary: Supplies and protection for unaccompanied children in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 19 January 2010 – One week has gone by since an earthquake turned what was already a desperately poor part of the world into a full-fledged humanitarian emergency. The race against time to bring relief to the people of Haiti continues.

UNICEF concerned for the safety of Haiti's most vulnerable children

NEW YORK, USA, 19 January 2010 – The earthquake that struck Haiti a week ago has left many thousands of children orphaned, lost or separated from their families – and vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.

Donors worldwide support Haiti relief efforts of UNICEF and partners

NEW YORK, USA, 19 January 2010 – As the full magnitude of the crisis in Haiti continues to unfold, donors have rushed to provide UNICEF with funding to meet the needs of children and families at risk.

UN Secretary-General visits Haiti as emergency supply efforts continue

NEW YORK, USA, 18 January 2010 – Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and other UN and government officials visited stricken areas of Port-au-Prince yesterday, amidst continuing international efforts to help 3 million people – perhaps half of them children – affected by the 12 January earthquake in Haiti.

Field Diary: Notes from a tent hospital in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 17 January 2010 – This morning I went to visit a field hospital set up at the UN mission's logistical base here in Port-au-Prince. The hospital consists of two giant tents filled with Haitians wounded during the earthquake.

UNICEF steps up efforts to protect child health and safety in Haiti quake zone

NEW YORK, USA, 17 January 2010 – Thousands have died, an unknown number are injured and an estimated 300,000 are homeless following the earthquake that struck Port-au-Prince and other densely populated areas of Haiti on 12 January, affecting a total of more than 3 million people.

UN and UNICEF launch aid appeal to overcome massive challenges in Haiti quake zone

NEW YORK, USA, 15 January 2010 – The people of Port-au-Prince and other areas affected by this week's devastating earthquake in Haiti are living outdoors, surrounded by the ruins of their homes. Picking through the rubble, they try to salvage what they can from a tragedy that defies comprehension.

Angélique Kidjo appeals for Haiti earthquake relief donations

NEW YORK, USA, 15 January 2010 – UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Angélique Kidjo has added her voice to the global call for donations to bring urgently needed assistance to the children of Haiti and their families. The singer and activist took time out from her European concert tour to record a fundraising appeal in Paris.

Aid begins to arrive in Haiti for earthquake survivors in dire need

NEW YORK, USA, 14 January 2010 – UNICEF is part of a massive international relief effort now under way to assist up to 3.5 million people affected by Tuesday's 7.2-magnitude earthquake in Haiti.

Supplies on the way to survivors of the earthquake in Haiti

NEW YORK, USA, 13 January 2010 – The first shipment of UNICEF supplies for survivors of yesterday's devastating earthquake is on its way to Haiti. The emergency aid is urgently needed, as basic services and infrastructure in the western hemisphere's poorest nation were already close to collapse even before the 7.0-magnitude quake struck.

UNICEF gears up relief efforts for earthquake-stricken Haiti

PANAMA CITY, Panama, 13 January 2010 – Despite heavy damages to its own offices in Port-au-Prince, UNICEF is ready to provide immediate support to the victims of the unfolding humanitarian crisis following the earthquake that hit Haiti yesterday.

Angélique Kidjo launches new campaign with Pampers to help eliminate tetanus

PARIS, France, 28 September 2009 – UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and Grammy-winning world music artist Angélique Kidjo has launched 'Give the Gift of Life', a new campaign with Pampers to help eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT) by 2012.

Haiti prepares for another hurricane season

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 8 September 2009 – Several tropical depressions have already formed in the Caribbean this summer, but Haiti is better prepared today than in 2008, when four major hurricanes slammed into the island.

UNICEF and ECHO prepare for a new storm season in Haiti

NEW YORK, USA, 4 June 2009 – This year's Atlantic storm season began on Monday and many forecasters are expecting that it will not be as intense as last year, which saw 16 tropical storms and eight hurricanes.

Amid last year's destruction, Haiti braces for another hurricane season

GONAÏVES, Haiti, 16 March 2009 – As Haiti braces for another hurricane season, UNICEF Representative in Haiti Annamaria Laurini recently surveyed Gonaïves, the country's third largest city, to evaluate its emergency preparedness. She was accompanied on the visit by UNICEF Emergency Operations Chief Lucia Elmi.

A lifeline for mothers in a Port-au-Prince hospital

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 12 January 2009 – In the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, no one struggles harder than the women trying to support their families.

UNICEF nominee Paul Farmer receives CDC Foundation Hero Award

NEW YORK, USA, 10 October 2008 – Dr. Paul Farmer, a tireless activist, researcher and public health practitioner whose organization, Partners in Health, provides community-based care for millions of people throughout the developing world, has received the 2008 Hero Award from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Foundation in Atlanta, Georgia.

Haiti's flood-damaged schools struggle to reopen

GONAIVES, Haiti, 3 October 2008 – Venette and her sister arrived at their school around mid-morning. They were handed a shovel. Then they joined a crew of mud-splattered men and waded into what used to be their cafeteria.

After the storms: Field diary from flood-stricken Gonaïves, Haiti

GONAÏVES, Haiti, 25 September 2008 – I have worked in Latin America and the Caribbean from 1994 to 2000 and have visited Haiti several times during that period. As I landed in Port au Prince this time around, I saw that after more than eight years the situation of poverty and despair has not changed much. Misery can be seen everywhere. Children are begging and women are trying, mostly unsuccessfully, to sell some homemade products.

Goodwill Ambassador Mia Farrow urges tsunami-like response in Haiti's disaster zones

GONAÏVES, Haiti, 22 September 2008 – Looking down from helicopter at the devastation wrought by a month of hurricanes and catastrophic flooding, actress Mia Farrow made an immediate comparison.

Delivering life-saving aid to hurricane-affected children and families in Haiti

GONAÏVES, Haiti, 17 September 2008 – Fernando Thermidor has the look of a toddler who is all cried out as he buries his tear-stained face in his mother's shoulder.

Storms batter the Caribbean, displacing thousands of children and their families

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 5 September 2008 – Over 200 people are dead and nearly 600,000 urgently need help after a series of storms that have battered Haiti over the past three weeks, according to UN officials. And there may be more storms to come.

Executive Director visits UNICEF-supported projects on first official visit to Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 7 January 2008 – UNICEF Executive Director Ann M. Veneman has just completed her first trip to Haiti, the country with the highest rates of infant and maternal mortality in the Western Hemisphere.

Partners In Health: Preventing mother-to-child HIV transmission in Haiti

NEW YORK, USA, 6 December 2007 – In Haiti, where 2.2 per cent of the adult population is living with HIV, according to the latest Demographic and Health Survey, care and prevention are urgent issues. The Zanmi Lasante ('Partners In Health' in Haitian Creole) project is actively working to reduce the number of new infections, with a special focus on curbing mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Basketball star Sam Dalembert brings hope and encouragement to Haitian children

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 25 September 2007 – US National Basketball Association star and Philadelphia 76ers centre Samuel Dalembert has just completed a one-week visit to his native country, Haiti, where he spread the message of hope and encouragement to thousands of vulnerable children and women.

Breaking the cycle of mother-to-child HIV transmission in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 30 July 2007 – Della lives in an isolated village in the Northwest Department, an arid and mostly barren region that is among the poorest of Haiti's 10 departments. It is in this economically challenged area that the young mother is raising her four daughters while preparing for the birth of her fifth.

UNICEF and partners help child domestic workers in Haiti regain their rights

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 20 April 2007 – Andre does not know his real name nor how old he is. His mother died when he was young and he says he was sent to work for another family because his father was unable to take care of him.

Dropping guns for books in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 21 September 2006 – A back-to-school campaign has brought new hope to the children of Cité Soleil, the seaside slum in the Haitian capital that has long been regarded as one of most violent neighbourhoods in the whole Western Hemisphere.



Football helps Ivna Chérie, 11, forget violence in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti – On a sweltering Saturday morning when many Haitians are staying out of the sun, Ivna Chérie is playing football with her schoolmates on the marram pitch of a dilapidated stadium outside the capital, Port-Au-Prince.

Schools reopen in Bel Air, bringing hope and stability to Haitian children scarred by violence

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 31 March 2006 – Sitting in rows of four on benches newly provided by UNICEF, young girls and boys fill classrooms in the schools of Port-au-Prince's rundown suburb of Bel Air. And you can read the joy and excitement on their faces.

Haiti's children still struggling for survival

NEW YORK, USA, 21 March 2006 – Haiti's children are facing a continuing struggle for survival, with one in eight likely to die before the age of five. A lack of basic services such as water, health care and education are compounded by poverty and violence, locking children into a cycle of deprivation and abuse.

Haiti's President-elect René Préval pledges to put children on top of political agenda

NEW YORK, USA, 20 February 2006 – Haiti's new President-elect, René Préval, has announced that he intends to put children on top of his political agenda. "Children must be taken off the streets. Weapons must be taken from the hands of children and replaced with pens and books," said President Préval during a broadcast aired by AFP, the French news agency.

Haiti: Grim reality for street children

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 27 December 2005 – Homeless children stand in the middle of a busy street in order to stop passing cars and beg passengers for money. This scene has become far too common in many neighbourhoods of Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital.

Haiti: Paediatric HIV treatments are saving children's lives

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, 18 October 2005 - Like any boy, 7-year-old Samson Verneret enjoys playing with his favourite toys. But unlike other children his age, Samson is living with HIV.

'Xchange' helps children escape from cycle of poverty and violence

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 14 October 2005 – In many parts of this city, Haiti's capital, armed gangs recruit children for use as messengers, or to commit crimes. The gangs lure the children with money and food – which are hard to come by for many who live in the poverty-stricken neighbourhood of Cité Soleil. But once in a gang, children are coerced to fight other gangs or carry out illegal acts, with a beating or worse as punishment if they refuse.

A home for a child orphaned by Hurricane Jeanne

PORT-AU-PRINCE, 26 September 2005 – "When Hurricane Jeanne hit Gonaives [one year ago], my home was destroyed and both my parents died," said Daniel Joseph, 11. With no one to turn to for help, Daniel went to Port-au-Prince, the capital.

One year after Hurricane Jeanne, recovery continues

GONAIVES, Haiti, 18 September 2005 – One year ago Hurricane Jeanne slammed into this coastal town, causing flooding and mudslides, leaving over 2,500 people dead or unaccounted for and severely affecting 300,000 more, including at least 150,000 children.

Reaching children with life-saving vaccines

Port-au-Prince, 25 June 2004 - "This is the heart of the immunization campaign in Haiti," says UNICEF Immunization Officer Enrique Cuevas as we enter the dimly lit

warehouse. The cool room offers a nice contrast to the hot summer day.

Haiti Launches Vaccination Week

Millions of children across the Americas will be vaccinated this week as part of an unprecedented campaign led by UNICEF. "Vaccination: an act of love," will aim to reach the most isolated and vulnerable children in countries such as Haiti where basic health care is badly lacking.

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