



World Vision > Haiti Update Report

# A Call to Action

Haiti at 6 months

**World Vision**





# the crisis

On January 12, 2010, an earthquake struck Haiti, devastating the nation's capital and creating one of the most complex urban disasters in decades. More than 220,000 persons were killed and 330,000 injured. An estimated 3 million men, women and children – one in three Haitians – were affected. With the world's attention turned to Haiti, World Vision supporters from across the globe responded, giving generously. As a result, World Vision has implemented programmes across multiple sectors to meet the needs of hundreds of thousands of survivors.

*Men at a displacement camp link hands to create a corridor for a World Vision food distribution to more than 300 families affected by the earthquake. © 2010 World Vision*

The crisis remains enormous, the task daunting, but **progress has been made.**

In the first 180 days, World Vision has:

- Provided a total of 16.8 million litres of clean water since the January 12 quake. We continue to provide 2 million litres of treated water weekly in 23 camps.
- Implemented water and sanitation activities in 28 camps, including constructing hundreds of toilets and showers and promoting hygiene.
- Provided ongoing support to some 120,000 people, distributing tarpaulins, tents, kitchen sets, blankets, mats, foot lockers, and other household items.
- Distributed food to more than 1.86 million people.
- Assisted 7,730 children each week in 22 Child-Friendly Spaces in camps in the greater Port-au-Prince area, the Central Plateau and the border area with the Dominican Republic.
- Opened five mobile and five static health clinics, serving 15 camps and more than 11,000 people.
- Registered more than 760 children separated from their families during the earthquake through the family tracing and reunification unit; more than 80 children have been reunited with their families.

And yet the needs remain great. World Vision is beginning to implement more sustainable large-scale programmes in the areas of shelter, livelihoods, water and sanitation, health and education.

## World Vision's Accomplishments

**Child Protection/Children in Emergencies:** Children are among the most vulnerable in the wake of any disaster, especially one in the developing world. It is estimated that 80 percent of schools in Haiti's capital were damaged or destroyed during the earthquake. World Vision established Child-Friendly Spaces now operating in 22 locations – 15 in Port-au-Prince, 3 in the Central Plateau, and 4 in the border area with the Dominican Republic. Each week, more than 7,700 children benefit from this programme offering a safe space for playing, singing, dancing and drawing, in addition to sessions in child rights, good hygiene and sanitation and environmental issues.

Prior to the earthquake, at least 85 percent of schools were privately operated. Unable to afford school fees, approximately 40 percent of children did not attend school. World Vision is helping fill the current education gap in affected communities, opening early childhood development learning spaces that provide children between the ages of 3 and 8 with nonformal education in a safe and appropriate environment.

With an emphasis on child protection, World Vision's family tracing and reunification unit identifies children separated from their families and provides interim care while seeking to reunite them with existing relatives. To date, 766 children have been registered, 84 of whom have been reunited with family.

**Shelter:** In the months following the earthquake, World Vision assisted more than 120,000 people with emergency shelter and household items, including tarpaulins, blankets, tents, mosquito nets and flashlights. Today, World Vision continues to supply families with basic household needs. However, six months after the earthquake, 1.5 million people, spread across 1,342 sites, remain in emergency shelter. The rainy season has begun and hurricane season will peak in August. Transitional shelters are a priority for those still living in tents or under tarps. On the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, World Vision is partnering with other agencies in Corail to build 525 transitional shelters for displaced families. Construction is under way, but the challenges are daunting. Elsewhere, issues of land tenure and rubble removal continue to slow the work necessary to move people to safer shelters. In the meantime, cash-for-work projects help communities mitigate the risk of flooding through the construction of drainage canals, tent reinforcement and tarp repair.

**Food Security:** In the first months of the response, World Vision provided food to more than 1.86 million people. Following a government decree issued at the end of March, mass distributions were phased out in favor of more targeted food distributions. These included relief rations that, since April 2010, have benefited almost 34,000 displaced persons and host families outside Port-au-Prince. In partnership with the World Food Programme, World Vision has also started a school feeding programme encouraging families to send their children to school, where they will receive a meal.

**Water and Sanitation:** Prior to the earthquake, Haiti lacked proper infrastructure for water and sanitation. The existing infrastructure was then severely damaged by the quake, further reducing access to clean water. In response, World Vision continues to supply 2 million litres of treated water each week to 23 camps. In total, 16.8 million litres of clean water have been distributed since January 12. In 17 camps, more than 200 toilets and nearly 300 showers have been constructed and maintained. Camp residents benefit from cash-for-work projects by constructing toilets, showers and water supply systems, while hygiene promotion activities in the community work to prevent diarrhea and malaria. World Vision is working closely with government agencies to improve the Truitier Municipal Dump by helping separate and contain liquid waste, thereby reducing the risk to the local population living near the waste disposal site. As the rainy season approached, cash-for-work activities included the digging of canals for improved drainage and reduced risk of flooding.

**Healthcare:** In the cramped living conditions of the camps, poor sanitation, lack of clean water and poor nutrition can lead to increased illness, especially among children, pregnant women and the elderly. With 10 fixed and mobile clinics and health interventions in 15 camps, World Vision is offering primary healthcare and nutritional monitoring services to more than 11,000 people. Eight hospitals in Port-au-Prince currently receive drugs and medical supplies and continue to accept referrals from World Vision clinics. In coordination with UNICEF and the Ministry of Health, World Vision ensures the immunization of children under 8 years and the distribution of vitamin A supplements. Mothers' Clubs formed in the early days of the emergency response have now transitioned into Health Awareness Clubs, providing a forum for discussion of health issues between women, men, youth and the elderly. Baby-Friendly Areas continue to offer sessions to pregnant and lactating mothers in breastfeeding, nutrition, diarrhea prevention and more. Important public health messages continue to be delivered through a popular drama troupe with performances that speak to issues of health, hygiene and psychosocial needs.

**Economic Recovery and Livelihoods:** Cash-for-work initiatives involve community members in their neighborhood reconstruction, while also providing income to families. Efforts across 29 camps currently assist more than 10,000 beneficiaries, providing work in repairing emergency shelters, cleaning pit latrines, improving drainage and collecting waste. In a recent innovation, World Vision is offering cash transfers to those with disabilities, creating opportunities for improved livelihoods and potential income-generation activities, and providing vocational training and instruction in basic business planning. In other livelihoods programming, World Vision is offering training on keyhole gardens, composting, and the use of fuel-efficient stoves, in addition to reforestation projects and watershed rehabilitation.



# A Call to Action

*Josephine and Dabiola enjoy spending time with other children in one of World Vision's Child-Friendly Spaces. © 2010 World Vision*

Invariably in humanitarian response, the time comes when mass food distributions stop and emergency shelter programmes have serviced populations. It is then that agencies like World Vision begin to move towards more sustainable solutions – helping people to find more transitional solutions to shelter and recover old, or establish new, economic livelihoods.

In this transition phase from relief to recovery, there is a danger of losing the sense of urgency that drove early efforts. World Vision is resolved to retain that sense of urgency and works tirelessly to meet the ongoing needs of survivors in helping them rebuild their lives.

The emergency in Haiti is ongoing, with some 1.5 million homeless persons at risk of hunger, violence and disease. If a tropical hurricane strikes while Haiti is still in recovery, the “secondary disaster” could be devastating, compounding the problems of an already beleaguered country. The number of homeless could increase, making them far more vulnerable to heavy rain. Agencies are acting now to mitigate these risks, pre-positioning emergency supplies and reinforcing temporary shelters with new tarps and poles while paying Haitian men and women to dig trenches, thereby easing the effects of heavy rains.

The mammoth task of reconstructing Haiti is now under way, with the Haitian government and development partners beginning projects in major areas to rebuild the institutions, infrastructure and society of Haiti. The following are recommendations for keeping Haiti and its poorest citizens a priority.

## **Donor governments and institutions can:**

- Ensure that the UN Humanitarian Flash Appeal is fully funded. Despite a high initial influx in funding, revisions show that many

key response clusters lack sufficient funds to meet the need. An additional US\$505 million is required to ensure that the basic needs of survivors are met.

- Remain vocal in ensuring that programmes and strategies prioritise the basic rights of children to education, healthcare and protection from violence. Despite record pledges towards the reconstruction of Haiti by the international community, little of the funding explicitly addresses children's needs. Any efforts to rebuild Haiti will be undermined if the needs of the next generation are ignored.
- Allow for flexibility and encourage adaptations of grants to address the changing needs of displaced populations. This is especially important where grants written early in the response did not take a community-based approach.

### **The Government of Haiti can:**

- Progressively strengthen its role in leading the humanitarian response for its citizens, prioritising the finalization of plans for resettlement and housing for the homeless population and providing the political will necessary to assist NGOs in the expeditious implementation of these plans.
- Request increased investment and funds from its development partners. The Government of Haiti's Action Plan for Reconstruction and Development addresses the need for social reconstruction of Haiti, yet its budget allocations for basic services like education, health and social protection are negligible in meeting the needs of children.

### **The United Nations and coordinating partners can:**

- Ensure a comprehensive humanitarian coordination mechanism that effectively utilises the contributions of the UN clusters and their partners. Shelter is but one element of the needed settlement plan. Without a more comprehensive approach, time may be wasted in negotiating details of specific service options and in programmes that do not best address the needs of the population.
- Provide strengthened leadership and support coordination with the Government of Haiti, endeavoring where possible to streamline coordination mechanisms and ensure a smooth transition or parallel process of humanitarian and reconstruction mechanisms, such as the Interim Commission and Settlement Commission, while promoting forums that are inclusive and representative of all key stakeholders.

### **Supporters can:**

- Contact World Vision in their country to find out how they can be a voice for the people of Haiti.

# World Vision's Haiti Relief Response

## The first 6 months

**Funds raised<sup>†</sup>**  
Approx. US\$192 million

**Overhead rate<sup>†</sup>**  
Approx. US\$14 million

*Fundraising, administration and other non-ministry costs*

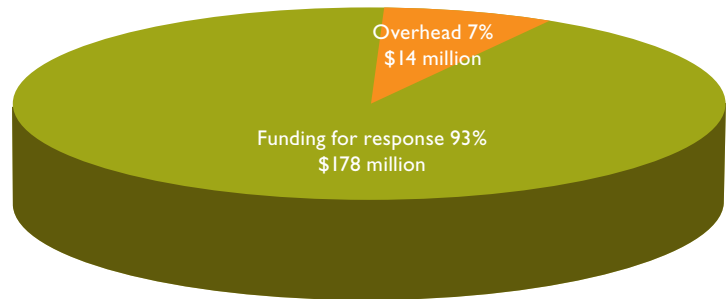
**Funding for response program**  
Approx. US\$178 million

**Funds spent<sup>††</sup>**  
Approx. US\$60 million

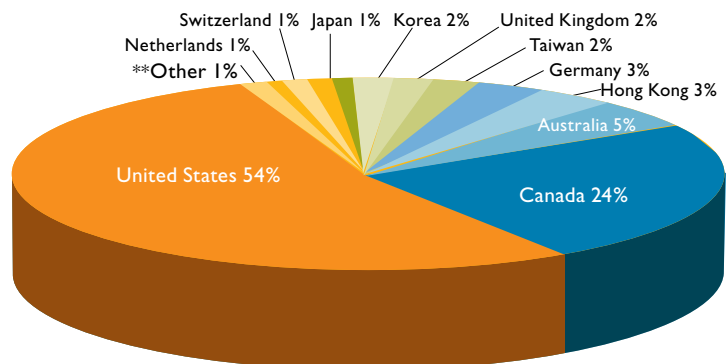
Advocacy	\$109,000
Economic recovery	\$1,600,000
Education	\$129,000
Food security	\$14,100,000
Health	\$1,000,000
Protection programming	\$1,400,000
Shelter	\$19,000,000
Water and sanitation	\$2,700,000
Monitoring and evaluation	\$232,000
Program management	\$3,200,000

Resources distributed through partner organizations \$16,400,000<sup>†††</sup>  
Additional funds were spent in the areas of environmental management and nutrition.

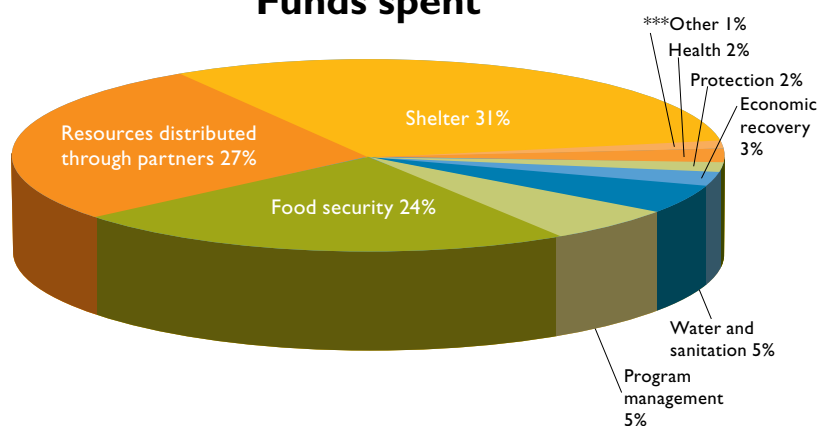
### Funds raised



### Donations by country



### Funds spent



<sup>†</sup> Projected through September 30, 2010 (all numbers are unaudited)

<sup>††</sup> As of May 31, 2010, with forecasts through July 12, 2010 (all numbers are unaudited)

<sup>†††</sup> This total reflects two line items:

1) Cash raised during a multi-organization fundraiser that was coordinated by World Vision Canada (WVC). WVC was required to record all donations and then disbursed the funds among participating organizations.

2) \$4.7 million in gifts-in-kind provided to partner organizations to distribute in Haiti.

\*\* Includes Austria, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Singapore, and Spain

\*\*\* Includes advocacy, education, environmental management, and monitoring and evaluation

For more information, visit

[www.wvi.org](http://www.wvi.org)



World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. Inspired by our Christian values, we are dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people. We serve all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.