

# HAITI RECOVERY

## Update

30 April 2010

United Nations Development Programme



## HAITI Earthquake Update: UNDP's Early Recovery

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continues to address the impact of the earthquake in Haiti. We are focused on providing time-critical assistance and supporting recovery initiatives by affected communities to rebuild lives, livelihoods and rehabilitate essential social infrastructure. UNDP is seeking US\$103.9 million under the revised UN Humanitarian Appeal for \$1.4 billion.

The primary focus is livelihoods support and preparation for the hurricane season. Activities include:

- Technical support to Government and Municipal Recovery Coordinators;
- Livelihoods restoration through cash-for-work in Port-au-Prince and other affected communities;
- Organization of labour-intensive emergency public works in support of humanitarian operations;
- Support to early-recovery strategic planning and coordination;
- Solid waste collection systems in affected urban areas;
- Preparation for the hurricane season by establishing early warning systems;
- Watershed management to reduce risk of flooding;
- Provision of micro-grants to small businesses most affected by the earthquake; and
- Protection for displaced Haitians in the border area with the Dominican Republic.

### Programmes already under implementation

■ The **cash-for-work programme** is at the heart of UNDP's efforts in Haiti. Once enrolled, each person is hired for 12 or 24 working days. So far the project has put 95,700 Haitians to work.

Each worker is now paid 200 gourdes, or about \$5.00 at current rates of exchange, for six hours' labour. This is equal to Haiti's minimum wage, which is important so as not to distort the local

labour market and draw jobs away from the private sector that is critically important in ensuring long-term recovery.

About 40 percent of the workers are women—with many more being indirect beneficiaries. UNDP is ready to expand the programme, as conditions and funds allow.

The work includes removing building rubble from the streets, waste collection, canals cleaning, manufacturing of fuel briquettes as an alternative fuel source to wood, and restoring essential public facilities to lay the foundations for mid-term recovery and development. UNDP is also clearing sites for safe resettlement, repairing surface water drainage through watershed management and improving road access to and through affected areas.

The benefits of the cash-for-work programme are clear:

- Puts cash into the pockets of Haitians, so they can purchase goods and services of their choosing, thereby having a positive impact on the local economy whilst directly benefiting families;
- Offers a hand up instead of a hand out;
- Opens up areas of the city to reconstruction workers and equipment; and
- Removes garbage and refuse that are a hazard to human health
- Promotes soil conservation and reduces erosion through reduced reliance on wood harvesting.



Manufacturing of fuel briquettes as an alternative fuel source to wood. Photo: Mariana Nissen/UNDP

Currently, the cash-for-work programme is being implemented by UNDP, together with neighbourhood committees, DINEPA (*Direction Nationale de l'eau Potable et de l'assainissement*), DPC (*Direction de la Protection Civile*) and municipalities, so that the programme is for Haitians and according to their needs and priorities, with ownership by the national institutions. In a further boost to the local economy, UNDP purchased tools and equipment through local merchants. The programme is very flexible and is being implemented in localities outside of Port-au-Prince.

■ **Coordination:** UNDP has been leading the in-country early recovery cluster since 22 January 2010. Cash-for-work activities and other early recovery efforts are coordinated at this level. UNDP is currently coordinating with UNICEF on cash-for-work for education and with the World Food Programme on cash- and food-for-work programmes.

■ **Funds for cash-for-work:** Through the revised UN Humanitarian Appeal, UNDP is requesting \$80.2 million—of the \$103.9 million—for the cash-for-work programme. To date, \$ 33.9 million has been confirmed from a wide variety of donors; the funding gap stands at \$46.3 million. Significant donor support is urgently needed to expand the cash-for-work programme and reach the largest number of affected Haitians.

### Strengthening the Government's capacities

A critical area of focus for UNDP is the strengthening of the Government's capacities to address the crisis, which have been further weakened by the earthquake, and also the planning capacity of key ministries that would allow the Government of Haiti to plan and implement the reconstruction of the country. UNDP aims to support the Government on disaster management and to ensure that the process of recovery and development in Haiti is nationally owned. Experts on disaster management were sent to work with the Department of Civil Protection.

## Confirmed Contributions to UNDP Haiti Recovery Efforts

Theme	Funders	Total Amount US\$ To date*
UNDP's cash-for-work programme	Australia, Bahrain, Banesco Bank, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chad, China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Norway, Spain, Benfica Foundation, Korean-American Association, Korean Broadcast Company, UN Central Emergency Response Fund, UN Emergency Relief Response Fund for Haiti, UN Peacebuilding Fund, United Nations Foundation, UNDP	33,891,461

Source: UNDP \* 30 April 2010, numbers subject to change

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