

Haiti Earthquake

One Year On



Plan's response to the January 2010 earthquake and priorities for the future

17 December 2010



Child Friendly Spaces in Jacmel are assisting boys and girls recover psychosocially from the affects to the Haiti earthquake

Foreword

As we approach the first anniversary of one of the most tragic events in Haiti's history, it is important that we take stock. What have we achieved so far? What have we learned? What could we have done better? It is also critical that we remain accountable to you, our donors and supporters, and show how your contributions to Plan are making a difference. We still have far to go to rebuild a better Haiti, and while the early generosity of Plan donors still supports our work, the future needs for financial, technical and human resources remain enormous.

Immediately after the earthquake, there was an outpouring of support. Haitians helped their neighbours and families. Work colleagues took great risks for other co-workers. The Haitian Diaspora provided enormous moral and material support. The international community and people across the world gave generously and made commitments to support Haiti. In the background – beyond the glance of the media that keeps us on our toes – people made special efforts to re-establish communications systems, provide health and essential services and ensure that the monetary, banking, and commercial systems remained functional. Organisations like Plan receive a lot of public recognition in emergency situations but the behind-the-scenes work of volunteers and other institutions – including commercial enterprises, both large and small – are the foundations on which we build our emergency response programmes.

As the early days passed, the magnitude of the disaster and the amount of time, resources and effort needed to recover and rebuild became startlingly clear: billions of dollars and at least 10 to 15 years of ongoing effort would be needed. We also realised that rebuilding a better Haiti would require the coordinated and synchronised contribution of emergency-response organisations, local, national and international governments, major donors, business enterprises, social entrepreneurs and long-term development agencies. Recovering from major disasters is always complex and requires time, patience, and a significant amount of resources. Equally as important as the need for an effective emergency response is strong leadership and good coordination; without these, there is a risk of increased chaos and that all efforts become less effective.

One of the big risks in crisis situations is that those who are directly affected are excluded from the design and planning of the response and rebuilding efforts. 'Experts' are everywhere, but we must not forget that there is equally valuable expertise within the affected communities and families. We do not underestimate the importance of including these voices, as well as those of young people and children. One month after the quake, some 1,000 children and youths participated in a national survey overseen by Plan, in which they were asked to describe their earthquake experiences in drawings or words and to prioritise their hopes for a new Haiti. The final report from this process became an invaluable guide that informed our response and longer-term strategies and those of other organisations. The children's key message was the need for education; despite the crisis, they identified this as their most important priority. Plan's work in Haiti has always prioritised education and we will strengthen this in the future.

Disasters have a way of uniting people across geographies and cultures, and often bring out the best in humankind. In the days following 12 January 2010, the whole world embraced Haiti with an outpouring of support. I would like to thank all those who gave, and continue to give generously to Plan's work in Haiti this past year. We trust that the continued support of our sponsors and donors will allow us to work with the people of Haiti to build a country that promises a better future for its children, one in which they can reach their full potential and where their rights and dignity are respected.

Jim Emerson
Country Director

Plan's Response in Numbers

Income and expenditure

- Since 12 January 2010, Plan has raised US \$30 million and secured US \$13 million in gifts-in-kind, and spent US \$23 million and US \$13 million in gifts-in-kind.¹

Education

- Plan has helped over 30,000 children return to school by providing school kits, re-building classrooms, training teachers and supplying equipment for schools.
- Over 1,000 children also participated in summer school and catch-up classes to prepare them for the beginning of the school year.

Health

- Plan secured a \$13 million donation of essential drugs that enabled us to support the treatment of over 27,000 patients in mobile clinics.
- Over 31,000 children were vaccinated for measles, diphtheria and tetanus.

Child Protection

- Approximately 11,000 children have participated in activities inside the 30 safe and supportive child-friendly spaces that Plan constructed after the earthquake.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- 23,000 people have received hygiene promotion kits and public health awareness messages.

Cholera Response

- Plan's cholera response, launched in October 2010, has so far reached over 100,000 people through prevention and awareness campaigns, hygiene kit distributions, water and sanitation assessments and improvements and health interventions. Plan's work in this area has been fully integrated into our earthquake-response activities and is expected to reach thousands more.

Cash for Work/Livelihoods Recovery

- Plan provided over 28,000 people with employment through our cash for work scheme.
- Work included clearing over 13,000 metres of road, clearing over 50,000 metres of canal and drainage systems, digging latrines, preparing sites for temporary classrooms and planting over 400,000 seedlings on land that had been deforested.

Non Food Items - Shelter/basic provision kits

- 39,000 people were provided with tents and basic non-food provisions in the direct aftermath of the earthquake. Plan, together with partner Irish NGO Haven, provided 100 wooden houses to mothers with young children who'd lost their husbands during the earthquake that the families helped to construct.

Tracing Sponsored Children

- By January 2010, Plan had 42,000 children in its sponsor programme. To date 95 per cent of those children have been found and work is ongoing to locate the remaining 5 per cent.

¹ To end of November 2010.

Executive Summary

This report documents the work of Plan in Haiti before, during and after the earthquake and looks at the challenges for the future.

Plan has been working in Haiti for 37 years and before the earthquake had focused on the kind of projects Plan does best – working at grass roots level in communities on health, education and microfinance as well as training children and young people in promoting their rights. As a country vulnerable to cyclones and hurricanes, Plan had also carried out work in disaster risk management.

The earthquake of 12 January 2010 changed Haiti forever. The report highlights how after the earthquake Plan had to move quickly from its traditional long-term development work to specialised disaster response and recovery and charts this extraordinary shift in focus.

In the section on achievements, the report talks of how Plan continues to run a large multi-programme operation in Haiti and then details where Plan has succeeded against the odds in areas such as humanitarian aid, education, health, child protection, psychosocial support, disaster risk management, cash for work and water and sanitation.

As a child rights organisation Plan listened to the voices of the Haitian children and their communities. Their priorities and recommendations are reflected early on in the report, highlighting the importance of hearing what they have to say. Their main request is for education, but also for protection, right to identity and to be able to participate as citizens.

Although many cases of shelters under construction do exist, the overwhelming lack of available land and the absence of standardised construction codes have slowed efforts to meet the great need to relocate the 15 per cent of Haiti's population that are still living in settlement camps. The absence of systems to enable citizens who lost their legal documents to replace them, or to provide legal identification to those citizens who have never fulfilled that right, continue to present major challenges to the reconstruction process

Like many organisations working in Haiti, Plan was not left unscathed by the earthquake. One staff member died and many others lost family, friends and homes. Several of our offices were unusable and continuing to work amongst the devastation was an enormous challenge

The post-earthquake challenges list both the external forces and the internal and organisational pressures that Plan is having to deal with, including the most recent – the deadly outbreak of cholera.

There are two appendices: one listing Plan's achievements in numbers and the other detailing our advocacy asks, calling on the Government of Haiti to ensure effective relief, reconstruction and development in a number of key areas

Based on the priorities identified by children and youth within the Post Disaster Needs Assessment, facilitated by Plan in partnership with UNICEF in February 2010 and confirmed in consultations conducted in November 2010, Plan urges the Government, supported by the international community, to prioritise the following²:

- Adopt a national building code and approved models for the construction of permanent schools, which addresses the needs of people living with disability, and ensures quality, cost effective and safe school structures.
- Organise and adopt a system guaranteeing effective birth registration for all citizens, particularly children. This can be achieved notably by:

² See page 18 for Plan's recommendations in full.

- a. Bringing the service closer to the people, by linking birth registration with other services (like health and education) and organising mobile registration systems to reach remote communities.
 - b. Guaranteeing free registration for all citizens who have never been registered and to those who have lost their birth certificate during the earthquake for a period of 2 years.
 - c. Investing in capacity building for civil registrars.
 - d. Involving and mobilising children and youth to raise awareness on the importance of birth certificates and to help with monitoring.
 - e. Strengthen the capacity of the ONI (*Office Nationale de l'Identification Nationale*).
- Adopt formal consultation mechanisms engaging children and youth with the Interim Commission for the Reconstruction of Haiti (CIRH) and the Haitian Government structures to ensure their contribution in all phases of the reconstruction process. This can be achieved notably by:
 - a. Engaging dialogue between CIRH thru the publication of child friendly reports on the mandate and the work undertaken by CIRH.
 - b. Gathering children and youth perspectives through existing, organised and functioning networks at local, departmental and national level
 - c. Integrating children and youth in the revision process of projects submitted to CIRH for approval.

Priorities of Children

From February 18 to March 24 2010, a Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) was conducted at the request of and under the direction of the Government of the Republic of Haiti, with the technical support of the UN, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the World Bank and the European Commission. The results of the PDNA were released at a major donor's conference at the United Nations in New York at the end of March 2010.

Children and youth represent more than half of the population affected by the 12 January earthquake. They were the one of the most vulnerable groups affected by the disaster, and yet many of them quickly mobilised to support their communities and take on strong leadership roles in the emergency response. Despite their active participation, their voices, needs and priorities were not formally included in the PDNA process and there was a risk that their views would not be adequately listened to nor taken into consideration by those in charge of deciding Haiti's future.

For this reason, Plan, in partnership with UNICEF, initiated a parallel consultation process with close to 1,000 children and youth throughout Haiti, to hear their ideas and priorities for the country's reconstruction. Their views were gathered for the purpose of informing and influencing the PDNA and the plans to be submitted to donors. The views of children were sought again in November 2010 and are the basis for Plan's priority recommendations on education, protection and right to identity and participation as citizens.

Voices of children and youth and their recommendations:

- "Disaster risk reduction must become an integral part of education and all children and youth must be guaranteed a safe learning environment with building codes to be enforced for school infrastructures." (Children and Youth PDNA)
- "Before 12 January, I did not receive any information or training on how to cope with natural disasters. I think it is important to avoid construction without government standards. It is necessary to use good materials and to build according to standards." (Children and Youth PDNA)
- "We have the right to learn in a safe environment without having to be afraid... It is the State's responsibility to ensure that all schools are safe for children ...and to have the adequate system to monitor the application of the standard." (Children and youth consultation November 2010)
- "Without the birth certificate, the State does not recognise us as citizens." (Children and Youth consultation November 2010)
- "All necessary measures must be taken to protect children from being trafficked." (Children and youth PDNA)
- "I think the Haitian Government must hear the voices of children and help the children, particularly homeless children, creating shelters for them, building hospitals so that children can receive the health care services they need." (17 year old girl, Children and Youth PDNA)
- "I want a different Haiti where we, the youth, have a chance to participate with the Government; we can be part of the Government and of all activities in the country. In the past, youth had been completely excluded; we need a new strategy or approach to achieve this end." (Boy in age group 11-16, Children and Youth PDNA)
- "I'm sure we'll have a better Haiti with the participation of youth and children. Then, Haiti would become a beautiful country. Haiti cannot be rebuilt without the participation of children and youth, we are Haiti's present, we will be Haiti's future." (Girl in age group 11-16, Children and Youth PDNA)
- "I want that a chance is given to young people because young people can change Haiti if they are given the opportunity." (Boy in age group 11-16, Children and Youth PDNA)

EDUCATION

Before 12 January, the debate on education focused primarily on access to quality education. The issues raised were mainly around: improving the enrolment rate with an emphasis on girls; guaranteeing free compulsory education for all; integrating out-of-school children into education services; addressing violence in school and the importance of developing a good national teacher training programme. The question of poor school infrastructure and the impact of the school environment on children's learning capability were hardly ever raised even after two schools collapsed in 2008. The Department of *Genie Scolaire*, a special unit within the Ministry of Education, focused on supervising public school construction in a country where over 85 per cent of schools are not public.

As a result of the earthquake over 1300 educational establishments collapsed and more than 3000 are unstable. The regions affected by the earthquake were home to almost 50 per cent of the country's total school and university population. Most of those schools were built without taking into account seismic hazards. The pre-existing weakness of the physical infrastructure for education has been exacerbated.

Loss of infrastructure is a barrier to the immediate restoration of educational activities. School reconstruction has been identified as being one of the country's highest priorities not only in the PDNA and the Action Plan for National Recovery and Development (PRDN) but also in the Operational Plan of the Ministry of Education for the period 2010-2015. However, the lack of a building code for schools is delaying the process. Even though there were no established national building codes – for all buildings, not just schools – international building standards were also not often followed in Haiti.

Eleven months after the quake, many schools are still operating under temporary structures that are vulnerable to hurricanes and heavy rains. Children are learning under tents that, with the combination of the bright sunshine and white canvas, create harsh lighting that strains their eyes and can cause headaches. Tents are also very difficult to ventilate and hot, which contributes to an uncomfortable learning environment.

PROTECTION and RIGHT TO IDENTITY

In 1995, a decree enacted by the Haitian Government provided a delay of five years to all unregistered citizens to legalise their status without fees or fines. In 2002, this decree was extended a further five years and expired in 2007. Despite the efforts of the Haitian Government to regularise the civil status of the population, in 1999 an estimated 40 per cent of Haitians did not have a recorded civil status or were registered illegally (United Nation Development Programme). The census of 2003 acknowledged that more than 80 per cent of the population had a birth certificate; however, the reality was that these certificates, although delivered by the State, were very often not valid, as they were not formally registered and issued through the legal registration process. This has led to the denial of the rights of citizens, particularly children who faced enormous challenges to register in schools, participate in the official exams, inherit property or have access to a passport.

As a result of the earthquake, thousands of people lost their legal identification documents. The UN Protection Cluster reported in May 2010 that 70 per cent of people living with relatives and 50 per cent of people living in settlement camps had reported that they lost their documents (birth certificates, identity papers and driving licenses etc) because of the earthquake. Special exceptions were approved, and children were allowed to go back to school without their birth certificates. The Government had to put in extra efforts, with the support of the Organisation of American States, to ensure the registration of citizens for the elections of November 2010.

Post-disaster situations 'invite' unscrupulous people looking to traffic vulnerable or separated children. A birth certificate makes the child's real parent/guardian clear to authorities. In addition, many children lost their parents during the earthquake; orphans unable to prove their parentage may be denied their right to inherit. It is important for the Haitian Government to have all its citizens registered at birth to be able to accurately count the population, particularly after a major disaster. This will prevent under-resourcing of local services and uneven distribution of aid funding. The reconstruction of Haiti should address the rights and the needs of all citizens.

Birth registration of all children is a must in order to achieve 'Education for all' in the new Haiti. The denial of this right is a factor that supports the exclusion of an important number of children.

PARTICIPATION AS CITIZENS

The preamble to the Haitian Constitution of March 29, 1987 states its objective: *"To establish a system of government based on fundamental liberties and the respect for human rights, social peace, economic equity, dialogue and the participation of all the people in major decisions affecting the life of the nation, through effective decentralisation."*³ Yet, nearly 23 years after the adoption of this fundamental charter, participation in decision making remains an elusive concept. There were no formal consultation mechanisms to engage children and youth in the decision-making process, even though those under 18 represent around 48 per cent of the population and those aged under 24, 62 per cent.

After the disaster there were few formal communication mechanisms between the decision makers and the citizens, particularly children and youth. This means that most citizens' views on the decisions affecting their lives and the reconstruction of the country were not heard or taken into consideration.

Through our parallel consultation, Plan found that the children and youth of Haiti see a great opportunity to rebuild their country, taking into account the rights of every citizen. Young people have played a key role in the earthquake response and recovery process. It is time for their contribution to be recognised and that their potential to serve Haiti be enhanced. There is an opportunity to build the future leaders of the country through participation in democratic process, citizenship and leadership training.

In the PRDN⁴, there is a common agreement that efforts should be made to involve civil society, and more generally citizens, the rebuilding process. Activities in support of civil society must also be launched in a concerted manner to enable them to play their respective roles, through regular consultations and by giving them the means to make their voices heard.

³ <http://pdba.georgetown.edu/constitutions/haiti/haiti1987.html> . Accessed online 17 December 2010.

⁴ P.42.sect 4.1 PRDN

Plan's Response to the Earthquake

Prior to the earthquake

Prior to the earthquake, Plan had been working in Haiti for 37 years, and our efforts had been focused on:

1. **Integrated community health:** Plan was supporting several health partners to implement activities at the institutional and community levels, including information, education and communications (IEC) materials, primary health care, immunisation, antenatal and post natal care, maternal and child health, school health, HIV/AIDs, support for orphans and vulnerable children, mobilisation/community awareness of good hygiene practices.
2. **Education for life:** Construction and rehabilitation of schools, distribution of school furniture and teaching materials, teacher training, support with school fees, distribution of school materials to children and literacy campaigns.
3. **Microfinance:** Access to microcredit and microfinance services in communities, training for families in business skills and vocational training for youth.
4. **Leadership and capacity building of children and young people in communities:**
 - a. Leadership training programme and promotion of child rights for children, youth and communities through media and equipment training for the networks of children and youth who promote rights on their own radio broadcasts.
 - b. Promoting the use of communication tools to make the promotion of rights (radio, theatre, painting, music, drawing etc.).
5. **Disaster risk management:** Strengthening training and equipment in the departments and offering psychosocial support after natural disasters. Sensitisation and mobilisation on preparedness for cyclones, hurricanes etc.

The earthquake hits

At 4:53pm on 12 January, Plan staff had been in the country's head office in Port-au-Prince, concluding a major planning meeting. The mood was upbeat. For once, they had just been saying, the previous year had passed without any major crises – neither hurricanes nor political instability – and the team was planning to focus the next fiscal year's strategy on doing more of what Plan had been doing best in Haiti for 37 years: long-term community development. Ten seconds later, everything was changed forever.

Three of Plan's main offices, in Port-au-Prince, Croix-des-Bouquets and Jacmel, were badly damaged and rendered structurally unsound. Plan's local staff of 150, mostly Haitians, were shaken and traumatised. Their homes were either lost or badly damaged. Everyone lost family members, friends or both. Even staff with only slightly damaged homes moved outside into tents, as the UN advised everyone to stay outside to avoid more damage from aftershocks.

When Plan's Operations Manager made it home from the country office the night of 12 January, she arrived to find her husband digging her still-alive 12-year-old daughter out of the rubble with his bare hands. A member of Plan Haiti's Human Resources team was not so fortunate: she was killed while attending a professional development class in Port-au-Prince.

After the earthquake

Since January, Plan – while ensuring availability of social, health and education services in its operational areas – has placed a particular focus on helping children and families cope with the emotional impact of the sudden changes to their lives, an element that can often be overlooked in emergency responses. We are

also ensuring that the end result of our humanitarian efforts will lead to a positive change for the country, especially for children and youth, who make up more than half of Haiti's population.

Plan's prior role as a community development organisation focused on the rights of children in Haiti. After the earthquake, it was the children and young people who we had given leadership training to over the years – some 180 of them – who came to our offices and guided us on what our response should be within the communities.

In parallel to the young people, who were mobilising all their resources to support Plan's response, Plan's international Disaster Risk Management team – comprising of personnel from various Plan offices including from Plan offices including: the United Kingdom; Indonesia; Australia; Canada; the United States; Panama, the Dominican Republic; Pakistan; and Ireland all sent technical, management and communications specialists to support our team in Haiti – assistance that continues to this day. Child protection experts and doctors with a background in the psychosocial needs of children in emergencies arrived to support Plan's child-centred approach to disaster response. In Haiti, Plan's core staff has grown from 150 to around 280 people, of whom 30 are international team members.

Plan had to shift quickly from long-term developmental work to specialised disaster response and recovery in order to meet the changing needs of a massive humanitarian crisis. It was not only Plan's nearly 40,000 sponsored children and their communities who needed our help. Children and families who found themselves living in crowded camps with limited or nonexistent educational facilities, in danger of malnutrition, of disease from unsanitary conditions and of further trauma from frightening aftershocks, abuse or exploitation, also needed support. Like many organisations, Plan was presented overnight with an unprecedented shift in operational focus based on an entirely new set of demands.

During the past months the country has been hit by several severe rain storms with strong winds, which only emphasised the need for rapid installation of transitional shelters, the replacement of thousands of tents and distribution of non-food items. The lack of available land, unclear terms to land ownership, the fact that the cadastre was destroyed during the earthquake and the absence of a national construction code continues to delay the reconstruction of homes, schools and hospitals.

In these challenging circumstances, coordination among all humanitarian actors remains key. Efforts have been made by the international NGO sector to link with Haiti's Government, the United Nations and the *Commission Intérimaire pour la Reconstruction d'Haiti* (CIRH). Plan has been elected together with 14 other international NGOs to be part of the *Comité de Coordination des ONGs*, which provides international NGOs with the opportunity to exchange information, share expertise and best practices, and establish guidelines for a more coordinated, efficient and effective use of resources to benefit the people of Haiti.

Despite the many challenges, Plan was able to contribute significantly over the past year to Haiti's healing, recovery and rebuilding processes, independently and in partnership with other local and international aid agencies that share our goals and vision. In Haiti, Plan's staff have shown great personal resilience this year working tirelessly to honour those they lost by rebuilding a better country.

Achievements

Plan continues to run a large, multi-programme operation across three departments. In the North East Ouanaminthe, Fort-Liberté and Trou du Nord were unaffected by the earthquake but still received an influx of displaced people. In the South East Jacmel, La Vallée and Cayes Jacmel and in the West Beudet, Croix des Bouquets and Dolney were damaged to varying degrees. Although sponsorship communication was disrupted, programme activities continue, albeit against a backdrop of further challenges. Haiti's cholera outbreak has added another complex dimension to operations.



Humanitarian aid / relief

In the days following the earthquake, Plan was able to respond with agility, taking advantage of its partnership with our staff in the Dominican Republic (DR) to act quickly to provide shelter, hygiene kits and food supplies to displaced people and families. When planes with aid shipments could not land at Port-au-Prince airport three days after the earthquake, Plan workers met a boat from our DR team at the port of Jacmel in the South East, and unloaded supplies for some 39,000 people (6,870 families) scattered among 44 shelter sites in the two affected programme areas. Vehicles and drivers from our offices in the DR also helped Plan to operate effectively in the immediate aftermath of the crisis, ensuring fuel for vehicles, for example, amid a widespread shortage.

Approximately one month after the earthquake, Plan's response to immediate survival needs shifted from the provision of temporary shelters and non-food items to a focus on water and sanitation (WASH) and other initiatives in health, education and child protection.

Although directly providing shelter is not within Plan's core work, Plan partnered with the Irish NGO, Haven, for a pilot programme to provide 100 families in Croix-des-Bouquets with transitional shelters. Plan worked with the local mayor and families to verify land ownership and obtain permission to build. The beneficiaries, women with young children who'd lost their husbands in the earthquake, were actively involved in building their new houses, and many received training in construction skills, opening up new employment opportunities. Construction is now complete; the women and their children moved in December 2010.

Education

Prior to the earthquake, access to quality education was already a major challenge in Haiti: facilities were in bad condition, the teaching staff was not adequately trained and the cost of education was beyond most families' ability to pay. The public sector played a minor role in the education sector, with over 85 per cent of schools in Haiti privately run, reflecting a huge shortfall in Government's participation. After the earthquake, the problems of this faltering system were only exacerbated. It is estimated that almost 5,000 schools were damaged or destroyed. Countless qualified teachers were killed, Ministry of Education buildings were destroyed and their staff killed or injured. The basics, such as school furniture, books, pens and paper were lost. Immediately after the earthquake, school was suspended.

Just weeks after the earthquake, Plan's education manager once again began attending regular meetings with the Education Ministry. Plan was consulted at the highest levels on how to get out from under the post-earthquake educational crisis and improve Haiti's educational system for the long term. In the months before schools reopened, Plan staff helped craft messages for a 'get back to school' initiative approved by the Ministry of Education. Schools officially reopened on 5 April 2010, many in large, temporary structures that had been distributed during the preceding two months by agencies like Plan.

Plan's post-earthquake education work in Haiti has included training teachers and school directors on psychosocial support, child protection and disaster risk reduction; educating parents and community members on the importance of getting children back to school; providing temporary classrooms in HousAll

modular units and sunshade tents; creating early child care and development (ECCD) activities and centres in camps; supplying teaching and learning materials; promoting school-based health and nutrition and establishing better water, sanitation and hygiene systems for schools.

The emotional impact of the earthquake on teachers (many of whom lost family members, colleagues and friends) prompted Plan to organise orientation and training for teachers in self care and emotional first aid, thus helping cope with the grief and trauma.

Of particular note are the 152 semi-permanent classrooms that Plan has constructed for schools that were damaged or destroyed in the Jacmel and Croix-des-Bouquets programme areas. They are designed to last 15 years if properly maintained. The selected sites are on existing public and private school campuses or, where there was not enough space on school grounds, school directors found new land and obtained land ownership titles before construction began. The sites were chosen and designs agreed upon in collaboration with Ministry of Education engineers.

Plan trained local Haitian contractors (approximately 18 per site) to build one module of two classrooms in ten days. Each classroom accommodates 40 to 50 pupils. The classrooms are spacious, well-ventilated and are designed to be earthquake and hurricane-resistant. When asked how they felt about the new classrooms, children said they felt safer and more comfortable, and found it easier to concentrate.

Approximately five weeks after the earthquake, Plan procured 22 shipping containers of materials, making these construction plans, and others, possible. Wood, tools, nails, hurricane straps and roof tiles were delivered in May through the port of Jacmel.

Health

Within days of the disaster, Plan secured a US \$13 million donation of essential drugs, including oral rehydration salts, which were flown in and distributed by the World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization.

Plan was given the responsibility of managing health services in the largest resettlement camp – the Haitian Government had relocated some 10,000 people to the camp from Port-au-Prince.

Plan built dormitory housing for health workers so that they would be available 24/7 to camp residents. Plan also built maternal health clinics of wood and tin that can also serve as classrooms for awareness-raising sessions in nutrition, hygiene and now, cholera prevention.

Since the earthquake, Plan's health initiatives have focused on preventative care, mobile vaccination clinics and on health posts at the camps that handle referrals and support transportation to hospitals when cases require specialised attention. In Croix des Bouquets, Plan supports the Ministry of Health technically and financially in coordinating health services among all the agencies. Plan partnered with the organisation Foyer Saint Camille and the Haitian hospital Bon Samaritain to increase the number of mobile clinics in Croix-des-Bouquets. In the six months after the earthquake, the mobile clinics treated 7,160 people.

Child Protection

At Plan, protecting children from abuse and exploitation is one of our top priorities. Although it was widely feared that in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake massive numbers of separated children would be taken by traffickers, this was not seen in Plan's operational areas. Plan also worked on preventive measures with a local partner to spread child protection messages at the border with the Dominican Republic in the North East region.

Cooperating with local partners, our youth volunteers and the Haitian Government, Plan helps to reunite separated, unaccompanied and orphaned children with their families. Throughout the year, Plan has been conducting training to raise awareness of child protection in all its programme areas.

The greatest child protection risks witnessed in Plan's operational areas have been in the crowded and unsanitary camps. Girls and women have been especially vulnerable to attack on their way to the washing

facilities. Plan has been working with the Haitian Government's Ministry of Health and peer organisations to make local authorities and the Haitian police aware of these risks and of the importance of reporting them. A standard reporting form, developed by the Ministry of Health in consultation with Plan and other NGOs, was distributed in areas where Plan is active. Plan also established and trained child protection committees in the camps.

Psychosocial Support

Providing emotional first aid and psychosocial support to help children cope with grief and high stress (impacts of disasters that are often ignored or overlooked) is one of the highlights of Plan's work. Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) have been a key component of Plan's disaster relief work in Haiti. These are safe places for children, and often for their parents, who need a break from the harsh realities around them. CFSs help children in the camps achieve a sense of normalcy through song, laughter, play and learning. Plan was able to construct some 30 of these spaces for displaced communities throughout Jacmel and Croix-des-Bouquets, equipping them with tables, chairs and ECCD learning and play kits. The centres' walls prominently feature colourful posters with health and child protection messages.

In the CFS, trained youth volunteers ranging in ages 15 to 24 have taken a leading role in talking to families in their communities about supporting the emotional recovery process. They, along with Plan staff, conduct structured activities and games as a way to explain the importance of child protection. They offer advice and support about who to talk to if people are worried that a child may be at risk of abuse. Their work is reinforced by the onsite support of trained social workers and community-based psychosocial workers. When the need is identified, children are referred to psychologists for more advanced mental health interventions.

In addition, Plan uses the healing properties of play, theatre, sports and even specially trained clowns (from the international organisation Clowns without Borders) to help children recover from grief and shock. Plan also contributed to developing the inter-agency and government guidelines on psychosocial care and support for the Haitian context .

In May 2010, the Fundación Real Madrid (from the Real Madrid Football Club), Iberia and Plan launched a sports project to help Haitian children to start to overcome the emotional distress caused by the earthquake. The Foundation sent two coaches to train young Plan volunteers in football skills. Once trained, the volunteers returned to their camps in Jacmel and Croix-des-Bouquets to run football sessions and train other volunteers. Each was given a kit donated by the project, full of everything they needed to run the sessions.

Disaster Risk Management and Cash for Work Programmes/Livelihoods Recovery

Haiti frequently faces natural disasters such as hurricanes. Because of massive deforestation, the landscape and population are particularly vulnerable to landslides and flooding.

Plan's cash-for-work programmes have combined clearing earthquake damage with mitigating future problems through Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) projects. Cash-for-work teams operate on an equal opportunity basis, are evenly balanced in terms of gender and include people between the ages of 15 and 60.

Work activities over the past year have included clearing waste disposal canals; cleaning irrigation canals; preparing sites for temporary and transitional classrooms; repairing secondary roads; clearing ditches on secondary roads; ravine treatments; hillside soil conservation and tree-planting; street cleaning; cleaning tent villages and digging latrines for displaced people.

A meal is provided for each worker. In addition to boosting employment rates, the programme also raises workers' self-esteem.

Water and Sanitation

In the first days of the disaster Plan was on hand to provide vital emergency water supplies in Croix-des-Bouquets and has since been working to rehabilitate the water systems in this programme area. Water cisterns have been installed in camps and local health centres, benefiting hundreds of people.

Plan has also constructed block latrines, water points, and communal showers in the camps, often with the assistance of Cash for Work beneficiaries who have learned building and maintenance techniques.

Post-earthquake challenges

EXTERNAL PRESSURES

- **CHOLERA:** A deadly outbreak of cholera is the latest crisis to expose Haiti's weak health and water and sanitation systems. After the first cases of cholera started reporting from the Artibonite region in late October, the epidemic spread swiftly throughout the population that had no previous experience with the bacteria that causes rapid dehydration, which can quickly turn deadly if left untreated. As of early December, cholera has already claimed well over 2,000 lives. To date, among Plan Haiti's operational areas, the North East region (Fort Liberté and Ouadamenthe) has been the most severely affected, reporting higher-than-average cases and mortality rates.

Several factors are exacerbating the danger of cholera claiming many more lives, including the lack of clean drinking water sources, basic health services and adequate sanitation facilities, especially in Haiti's vast rural areas—all of which is amplifying the need for swift humanitarian intervention. There is a widespread lack of knowledge in remote areas about cholera's cause and treatment options, as well as lack of close proximity to health services.

In light of lessons learnt from Plan's earthquake response and cholera responses in our other programme countries, Plan mobilised quickly. We deployed a team of medical and public health experts and water and sanitation specialists from Plan's "GO TEAM" (a global surge capacity constituted this year) to bolster the efforts of our in-country team.

Through Plan's existing strong presence in the communities and strong partnerships with youth groups, NGOs, Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) and the Government of Haiti—built up over the past year in Plan's earthquake response work—Plan is conducting numerous public health campaigns in camps, schools, health centres, door-to-door and on the streets to promote awareness of good health and hygiene practices to prevent cholera. We have distributed thousands of water containers with spigots along with water purifying tablets, chlorine, bars of soap and directions for their use in Haitian Creole.

Beyond prevention, Plan's trained health workers are establishing cholera treatment units (CTUs) where community members can receive basic care, oral rehydration or IV fluids at no cost. A major component of Plan's cholera response work will be in continuing to improve the water and sanitation facilities in the camps, schools and health centres. Plan is working with partner organizations and the Government to coordinate all of our activities to reduce the impact of cholera on Haiti.

- **CAMP CONDITIONS AND POLITICS:** Conditions in the camps vary significantly: some are spacious with adequate basic services, while others are closely crowded with tents covered with tarpaulins and with inadequate water and sanitation facilities. Camps have evolved into small communities, each with their own unique politics and interpersonal dynamics. Great sensitivity is required to maintain good relations that facilitate positive changes and outcomes.
- **LAND ISSUES/RUBBLE REMOVAL:** While Plan, most NGOs and government agencies in Haiti are working to improve the conditions in camps, land availability issues offer few alternatives. In Haiti, there is an extreme lack of available land for public use. Complicated legal problems have prevented the Government from seizing land. And in terms of urban space, at the most, only an estimated 3 per cent of earthquake rubble and debris has been cleared.
- **SECURITY:** Most recently, fear of cholera has led to violent protests in the North of Haiti, an area which was not affected by the earthquake, other than being a refuge for those who left Port-au-Prince.

Some of the violence has been directed at UN peacekeeping troops, whom unfounded rumours blame for introducing the disease into Haiti. This, in turn, has restricted aid agencies' efforts to respond to the outbreak in that region. The national election on November 28, 2010 introduced more tension into an already precarious situation. Plan staff had to restrict their movements and be especially cautious when going to project sites and programme areas. Threats of possible kidnappings or robberies have led Plan to frequently use unmarked cars for transportation. As of December 9th, fallout of the elections has led to tension and violence on the streets, temporarily closing down Plan Haiti's offices, further disrupting our activities.

ORGANISATIONAL AND INTERNAL CHALLENGES

- **RED TAPE/BUREAUCRATIC DELAYS:** In terms of rebuilding, imported building materials, equipment and supplies are often held up by customs procedures. Projects are easily delayed by logistics and paperwork; and contractors with time-limits soon move on to other projects. The Interim Committee for the Reconstruction of Haiti (ICRH) recently implemented a new project approval process. This has added additional steps in the approval process, even though the effort to provide coordinated leadership is appreciated.
- **COORDINATION AND COMPETITION BETWEEN INGOS:** Over 900 new helping organisations came to Haiti in the wake of the earthquake, bringing the total to some 3,000. This poses challenges to executing a coordinated response in Haiti and engendering solidarity around certain issues, such as those affecting children. It also means there is massive competition for qualified staff to carry out Plan's action plans. Haiti's roads were crowded before the earthquake now, on any given day, the congestion can be almost impenetrable, which also hinders efficient movement to project sites, programme areas and Cluster meetings.
- **ADDED DEMANDS OF THE CLUSTER SYSTEM:** Plan fully supports the UN Cluster System that consists of groupings of UN agencies, NGOs and other international organizations around a sector or service provided during a humanitarian crisis. Plan Haiti staff regularly attend the meetings, which leads to more time spent away from the work in the camps, schools and communities. Even so, Plan has played a critical role in improving the effectiveness and streamlining the many overlapping coordinating mechanisms of NGOs (especially INGOs) and is now an important member of the main forums.
- **INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS:** Some Haitians have mixed feelings about the aid workers who came to help their country, but who, in the process, disrupted their old, familiar way of life. This can lead to tensions in the working environment, whether in the office or at a project site. Many international aid workers have come to Haiti from other cultures without any knowledge of Haiti's culture, experiences and way of life. This has also added to the need for better communication and improved efforts toward mutual understanding. Plan Haiti has also learned the importance of balancing and integrating technical expertise from outside with local and field staff knowledge.
- **TRACING SPONSORED CHILDREN:** At the time of the earthquake, Plan Haiti had some 42,000 sponsored children throughout its three programme areas in the North East, South West and West regions. Intensive work to trace sponsored families is ongoing. Many families migrated to other regions after the earthquake and their whereabouts are difficult to know. To date, the Plan sponsorship team has verified the whereabouts of 95 per cent of sponsored children. The operation is sensitive and requires careful verification and re-verification before all the data can be made public. It involves sponsorship staff and volunteers literally visiting every family more than once to help them cope with the aftermath of the earthquake and to establish each child's whereabouts and welfare.

Appendix 1: Summary of Interventions: Jan 13 to Nov 30, 2010

Initial humanitarian aid relief (to June 2010)	
Hygiene / Family kits	1,886
Tents	3,416
Water, Sanitation, hygiene facilities installed	235
Canadian HousAll units procured	90
Education	
Schools assessed since the earthquake	543
New classrooms provided (semi-permanent and temporary structures)	257
Semi-permanent classrooms under construction or about to start	102
Semi-permanent classrooms completed	50
Classrooms supplied with equipment	700
School latrine blocks constructed	45
Pre-school games and art kits provided	4,334
Individual school kits for children starting the new school year in October	30,000
Portable library kits distributed to schools	180
Teachers trained (primary school, pre-school and ECCD centres)	975
Children participating in summer school remedial/catch-up courses	1,100
Health	
Mobile clinics supported	122
Fixed health facilities supported	9
Estimated number of patients treated in supported health services	27,025
Children vaccinated (measles, diphtheria, tetanus)	31,674
Health training and awareness activities conducted	273
Health professionals and community health workers trained	212
Sleeping dorms constructed of wood for 24/7 health workers	1
Maternal health centres constructed of wood in the camps	1
Child Protection	
Number of police who received training in child trafficking awareness	80
Training sessions: child protection, gender-based violence, children's rights	500
Child protection awareness messages reached how many	38,000
Psychosocial Support	
Child-friendly spaces (CFS) established	30
Children who have benefitted from CFS	4,500
CFS volunteers trained and in place	83
Participants in psychosocial support activities (Orientation/ training for teachers on self care and emotional first aid)	8,592
Disaster Risk Management and Cash for Work	
Participants in CfW activities	28,426
Person-hours of work completed through CfW activities	272,180
Cubic metres of debris cleared	1,405
Streets cleared (metres)	13,155
Trees/seedlings planted to protect vulnerable land	440,000
River bank improvement and canal clearance to reduce flood risk (metres)	50,274
Civil protection committees supported	18
Pre-positioned kits (hygiene, kitchen and other)	1,800
Number of children and youth involved in DRM activities	1,854
Immediate relief distributed after 24 September storm	186 tents & 378 mattresses
Water and Sanitation	
Water point/tank installation (cisterns)	36
Bath cabin construction (wooden structures)	52
Mobile toilet installation (cabins)	79
Latrines (in the bath cabins) (seats)	226
Shower stalls (wooden structures)	20
Received hygiene promotion messages/kits (persons)	23,000

Appendix 2: Joint Statement of INGOs on Priorities

Plan along with its NGO partners welcomes the progress made by the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission (IHRC) toward approving projects of national significance and looks to it to provide effective coordination for the implementation of the Action Plan for National Recovery and Development of Haiti (PRDN), to monitor aid budget allocation and spending, and ensure convergence and the participation of all stakeholders.

The Government of Haiti should also take the opportunity presented by the IHRC for constructive engagement with all humanitarian stakeholders, as well as using it as a mechanism for providing accountability and transparency of aid spending to its citizens.

We continue to support the Government's vision for moving forward, as outlined in the Action Plan, and would like the following critical issues to be taken into account by the donor community and the Government of Haiti as we seek better solutions and progress together in the relief, reconstruction and development of Haiti.

EDUCATION

- The top priority in all rebuilding efforts should be the improvement and expansion of Haiti's education and vocational training systems for all children and young adults. Free, quality, inclusive, basic education is the right of every child – and is essential to improving maternal and child health, increasing earning power and preparing a generation of new leaders. Donors and international partners should support the Government of Haiti in the development of a shared implementation plan for providing universal basic education for all school-aged children for a minimum of 12 years and increasing access to vocational training and skill building.
- Donors, NGOs and the Government of Haiti should work in collaboration with the private sector and Haitian civil society to provide access to vocational training and the building of new skills, which can provide access to economic opportunities and placements for many young people who have been affected by the earthquake.
- Donors, NGOs and the Government of Haiti are encouraged to focus support to education not only through the immediate (one-time expenditure) building of new infrastructure, but through the training and long-term hiring of teachers with increased, long-term budgetary investment to support quality, inclusive education and teacher salaries. All rebuilt or new infrastructure need to be accessible by persons with disabilities, including entrances to education buildings and water and sanitation facilities.
- The Government of Haiti should improve the governance of the education system, the planning of education human resources and the training and more efficient management of school supplies and logistics by promoting transparency and accountability in public finances. It should also establish norms to ensure that private schools that receive large amounts of funding for school repair and reconstruction provide assurances to communities and donors that quality education is thereby becoming available to more children, and it should provide better government supervision of the quality of education in private schools.
- Plan calls for the adoption of a national building code and approved models for the construction of permanent schools, which addresses the needs of people living with disability, and ensures quality, cost-effective and safe school structures.
- The Government of Haiti and humanitarian actors should provide opportunities for children, parents and communities to actively participate in assessing, planning, designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating early childhood care and all other education programming.
- The humanitarian community should document all cases of forced evictions in order to identify patterns and causes according to type of land being occupied and potential prevention and response measures. It should also develop forced eviction standard operating procedures that support good practices.

PROTECTION AND RIGHT TO IDENTITY

- Organise and adopt a system guaranteeing effective birth registration for all citizens, particularly children. This can be achieved notably by:
 1. Bringing the registration service closer to the people, by linking birth registration with other services (like health and education) and organising mobile registration systems to reach remote communities.
 2. Guaranteeing free registration for all citizens who have never been registered and to those who have lost their birth certificate during the earthquake for a period of two years.
 3. Investing in capacity building for civil registrars.
 4. Involving and mobilising children and youth to raise awareness on the importance of birth certificates and to help with monitoring.
- Donors should pledge to increase the US \$10 million social protection budget called for in the Government of Haiti Action Plan for National Recovery and Development by US \$3,807,000 to ensure that it meets the basic needs of the estimated 100,000 children separated from their families. Even if the basic social protection system for vulnerable groups outlined in the Action Plan committed a third of the spending to separated children, this would only provide US \$1.85 per month per separated child over a 18-month period.
- Donors are encourage to work with the Government of Haiti, the UN Cluster System, NGOs and community child protection networks to create a comprehensive social protection package that supports families affected by the earthquake who are at risk of abandoning their children. The package should cover elements of health, education, shelter, economic recovery and livelihoods.
- Donors and NGOs should work with the Government of Haiti and community child protection networks to create and fund a strategy against violence against children, particularly the sexual abuse of girls, including a public campaign to change behaviour, supported by activities at the family and community levels.
- The Government of Haiti is urged to scale up border security, including increasing the number of trained personnel, vehicles, and coordination with the Dominican Republic, to prevent and respond to child trafficking and to take concrete measures – including reinforcing the application of the protocol of Palermo on trafficking in persons and the 138 and 182 conventions to effectively combat the internal trafficking of children and combating the *restavek* practice which involves sending a child to work for a host family.
- The protection of women and children in the camps and assistance for victims of Gender Based Violence (GBV) should be addressed by all stakeholders. Proper complaints and follow-up mechanisms must be made available and accessible to everyone, including children. This should be supported through the training of the national police force in the prevention of GBV, and through the recruitment of female police officers, as well as by strengthening community policing. In addition, the Government of Haiti should seek to implement the provision of free access to health care and medical certification for victims of violence.
- The Government of Haiti, donors and the international community should address disability as a cross-cutting issue in all their work and increase the focus on protection and assistance to all persons with disabilities: injured, older persons, persons with disabling chronic diseases, as well as persons with physical, mental, psychological and sensorial impairments. Concrete strategies and actions regarding the inclusion of persons with disabilities need to be provided and the inclusion of people living with disabilities should be properly and clearly demonstrated in all aid coordination mechanisms (CIRH, UN Cluster System, INGOs, Presidential Commission, the Haiti Action Plan for National Recovery and Development and others).

PARTICIPATION AS CITIZENS

- Adopt formal consultation mechanisms engaging children and youth with the Interim Commission for the Reconstruction of Haiti (CIRH) and the Haitian Government structures to ensure their contribution in all phases of the reconstruction process. This can be achieved notably by:
 1. Engaging dialogue between CIRH thru the publication of child-friendly reports on the mandate and the work undertaken by CIRH.
 2. Gathering children and youth perspectives through existing, organised and functioning networks at local, departmental and national level.
 3. Integrating children and youth in the revision process of projects submitted to CIRH for approval.
- All reconstruction and development efforts should include the voices of the citizens of Haiti, civil society and other non-state actors working in Haiti, building on existing strengths within the Haitian community. Channels of communication should be created to facilitate the sharing of information around reconstruction and development effort with to citizens, with particular attention to ensuring the participation and provision of information to the most vulnerable groups, including children, people with disabilities, and people living with disabling chronic disease and HIV/AIDS.
- The donor community should support the Government of Haiti in a way that enables it to lead and have full ownership of the reconstruction process, thereby speeding up the process of institution building and strengthening. Fair and equitable recovery and development is essential. Communities with the least resources must be given priority in the reconstruction and in future development processes.

SHELTER AND SETTLEMENT

- The Government of Haiti is encouraged to take on a greater leadership role and to continue working in partnership with all reconstruction and development stakeholders – donors, UN, NGOs and the private sector – to approve a joint, comprehensive settlement and shelter strategy and operational plan to address the housing needs of 1.3 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) still living in spontaneous (formal and informal) settlements. This strategy needs to address a range of options, including, but not limited to:
 1. The return of IDPs to their communities with appropriate support to the most vulnerable.
 2. Support for the reconstruction of destroyed and damaged property according to building standards that take into account the likelihood of future natural disasters.
 3. Strategies and direction for large resettlement sites.
 4. Access to sustainable livelihoods, social services and economic opportunities for the internally displaced.
 5. Adherence to universal accessibility standards by providing public and private infrastructure that is easily accessible for people with special needs.
- The Government of Haiti should address land ownership, land tenure and land access issues through judicial reform and clarification of the relevant legal frameworks. The Government of Haiti, the donor community, UN and NGOs should place more emphasis on the development of governmental institutions that can support land registration and decentralization.

EVICTIIONS

- The international donor community needs to fully fund the strategies of the Government of Haiti and the UN for 2011 to 2012. Recognising the exceptional severity of the earthquake in Haiti, which took place on 12 January 2010, norms and standards reflecting the traditional duration of an emergency should be revised according to the actual needs of Haiti's affected population. The delivery of basic services should be maintained until the resettlement of the majority of IDPs.

- It is now estimated that 144,175 people have been subject to threats of eviction. Of these, 28,065 individuals have been subject to actual evictions. Consistent with the Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Framework on Durable Solutions for IDPs, regardless of the legal status or location of displaced persons (and thereby consistent with the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement), the effective protection of displaced persons is of primary concern to the INGO community. The Government of Haiti's policies and decisions on durable solutions for displacement should be guided by the rights and needs of IDPs, and physical safety and political context should be taken into consideration when determining whether return is appropriate.
- The Government of Haiti should provide land for the construction of transitional shelters and accelerate the pace of their the construction, in order to address the shelter needs of IDPs who have no alternative options, as well as seeking to resolve land-related disputes on a case-by-case, non-discriminatory basis that does not presuppose land ownership, ensuring the involvement of the Government of Haiti at the national and local levels.

HEALTH

- Donors should work with the Government of Haiti, the UN Cluster System and NGOs to restore damaged essential health care services and improve all health services by supporting a health system which includes training of health workers, including rehabilitation of professionals; strengthening of drug management systems; strengthening of health information systems, and reducing financial barriers to receiving health care. As part of this work, donors should fund the establishment of a durable system of social protection and free health care, at least for children under the age of five years, pregnant women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, injured persons and persons with disabling chronic diseases.
- Donors should provide support for the provision of community-based mental health services, as well as community-based rehabilitation and psychosocial support for earthquake affected populations, by strengthening community self-help and social support, as well as strengthening access to basic mental health care at primary health care facilities.
- The Government of Haiti and the donor community needs to work with all humanitarian response actors on the prevention, detection and treatment of malnutrition, including severe, acute and chronic malnutrition, through the allocation of specific budget support to nutrition in the health sector funding frame; the systematic integration of nutrition units in every health centre; the effective implementation of the national protocol for the treatment of acute malnutrition approved in July 2010 (*Protocole National de Prise en Charge de la Malnutrition en Haiti*); and by promoting exclusive breastfeeding, implementing malnutrition screening and close surveillance of the nutritional situation.
- The Government of Haiti, donors and humanitarian actors should work on establishing training for rehabilitation professionals (physical, occupational and speech therapists, prosthetic and orthotic technicians, etc.). The integration of rehabilitation departments in the health care system needs to take place at different levels: primary, secondary and tertiary.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

- The Government of Haiti, the UN WASH Cluster, NGOs and all actors involved in restoring access to water and sanitation should not only focus on water, but to an equal degree on access to sanitation and hygiene promotion. Sanitation in any urban and rural context is a vital issue for health, dignity and protection. At least 10 per cent of WASH infrastructures must be accessible to persons with disabilities, such as wheelchair users, and to other vulnerable groups.
- The Government of Haiti and donors are encouraged to work together to set up an efficient sanitation and waste management system to minimize health risks. This system can rely on building the capacity of the State's solid waste collection agency (SMCRS) to define its needs; on the development within the *Direction Nationale de L'eau Potable et de l'Assainissement* (DINEPA) of a sanitation service; the opening of other public waste sites (for debris and waste); and a communication campaign to begin behavioural change regarding waste management.

- Donors and the Government of Haiti should support the building of a cost-effective and efficient water network in urban areas and of adequate water access installations for rural areas in order to ensure access to potable water and increase access to water in all areas of Port-au-Prince with affordable pricing as defined according to the human right principles of access to water and sanitation, which entitle everyone to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic use.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- The Haitian Government has developed an ambitious US \$772 million agricultural reconstruction plan, the National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP), focusing on infrastructure, sustainable production increases, value chain development, and rural service delivery. In keeping with the aid effectiveness principle of *ownership*, donors should support national plans developed in consultation with citizens, but so far, the international community has not provided all of the requested resources for the NAIP.
- The Government of Haiti should prioritise the mobilization of the national resources that the NAIP plan requires. Implementation should emphasise boosting small-scale farmers' incomes and productivity, particularly with regard to staple food crops.
- The Government of Haiti should also, as a first step towards improving land tenure security, ensure that the legal system gives equal recognition to both of Haiti's official languages. It should provide expanded legal assistance so that rural citizens can obtain access to justice in such matters as land disputes, and bring idle state land into production in transparent ways, through leasing and the employment of wage labourers.
- In addition, the Government of Haiti should make health care and education available in rural areas and facilitate the creation of off-farm employment opportunities, making rural areas attractive places to live and work.
- The international community should fund the purchase of local food aid whenever appropriate, and bilateral donors should endeavour to increase coherence between aid and trade policies, including reforming trade-distorting rice subsidies that lead to dumping and undermine Haitian producers.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

- The Government of Haiti, the international humanitarian community and donors should ensure that disaster risk reduction (DRR) is prioritised in all reconstruction and recovery strategies, with a minimum of 10 per cent of total humanitarian funding made available for DRR interventions. As part of this commitment, donors should allocate significant resources to build the capacities of both communities and local and national authorities, such as the *Direction de la Protection Civile* (DPC), to manage and reduce disaster risk and vulnerabilities by having access to the necessary information and resources, as well as by having the authority to implement actions for DRR, in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action and the Haiti National Platform for DRR.
- The international community, donors and the Government of Haiti should promote strong coordination with civil society actors working with earthquake-affected communities, as well as national community-based organisations and NGOs throughout the recovery and reconstruction process, thereby ensuring that DRR information is available to communities and is included in school curricula.
- DRR should be taken into account in the development of all programmes and activities in urban and rural areas – both at the policy and project level – in particular ensuring that buildings are constructed in accordance with earthquake- and hurricane-resistant engineering codes and standards.