

Emergency appeal



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Haiti: Earthquake

Emergency appeal n° MDRHT008
GLIDE EQ-2010-000009-HTI
13 January 2010

This Preliminary Emergency Appeal seeks CHF 10,199,465 (USD 10m or EUR 6.8m) in cash, kind, or services to support the Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) to assist 20,000 families (some 100,000 beneficiaries) for nine months.

The operation will be completed by 13 October 2010. A Final Report will be made available by 13 January 2011 (three months after the end of the operation).

CHF 500,000 (USD 491,265 or EUR 338,880) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to jump start response activities and mobilization of Federation personnel. Un-earmarked funds to replenish DREF are encouraged.

Summary: An earthquake of a magnitude of 7 (Mw) (reference: United States Geological Survey), struck the Haitian coast on 12 January at 17:00 hours rocking the capital and generating a tsunami alert in Haiti and neighbouring countries. The epicentre was located 22 kilometres from the capital, Port-au-Prince and 15 kilometres from the closest towns. A series of aftershocks have been felt, the strongest measuring 5.9 and 5.5 respectively.

Based on the situation and information available at this time, this Preliminary Emergency Appeal responds to a request from the Haitian National Red Cross Society for immediate support to deliver lifesaving assistance in the following sectors: non-food relief items, shelter, emergency health and water and sanitation. Limited damage, needs and loss assessment data is currently available although the catastrophic impact of the disaster is evident and the response operation is expected to quickly increase in volume and intensity on the basis of further assessments over the coming days.

[<click here to view the attached Preliminary Emergency Appeal Budget;](#)
[here to link to a map of the affected area; or here to view contact details>](#)



People sorting through the rubble in Port-au-Prince. Source: New York Times

The situation

The magnitude 7.0 (MW) earthquake that hit Haiti on 12 January 2010 affected the Ouest province with a population of 2.2 million people. According to information obtained by the United Nations Office for the

Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the most affected cities are Port-au-Prince, Carrefour and Jacmel. The Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS) reports that the possible number of those affected can be based on a calculation of 444 people per square kilometre. During the time of the earthquake, many people were at work; therefore increasing vulnerability as a result of the collapse of office buildings.

The most affected area, the capital city of Port au Prince, is densely populated with over two million inhabitants. The earthquake has compounded the already very difficult humanitarian conditions in the country. Government buildings have collapsed or are severely damaged, including the Presidential Palace and several Ministries. Contributing to the situation is the poor quality of construction. At the time this Appeal was launched, there was no official information on the extent or level of damage, although critical city infrastructure such as, electricity, water and phone services have been cut or interrupted. Initial reports indicate a large number of casualties (WHO has estimated over 4,000) and widespread damage. A three-floor hospital is reported to have collapsed and many of the remaining hospitals are not admitting further people due to lack of capacity. Reports also indicate that the United Nations' office in the capital city has been severely damaged, and many UN staff remain missing or unaccounted for. The Haitian National Red Cross Society headquarters which hosts the International Federation offices in the capital has also been damaged, and many staff are also unaccounted for. Initial reports suggest casualties amongst HNRCS staff and volunteers. All International Red Cross staff in Haiti are reported safe.

The Port-au-Prince airport is damaged but open and road access to Port-au-Prince overland from the Dominican Republic has also been confirmed. A local tsunami alert was issued for Haiti, Cuba, Bahamas and the Dominican Republic immediately after the earthquake, but was subsequently withdrawn.

Coordination and partnerships

The Federation team in Haiti has been in constant contact with the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) in Panama and the Regional Representation for the Latin Caribbean in the Dominican Republic, providing initial information on the situation and coordinating the emergency response. The International Federation's Regional Representation for the French and Spanish speaking Caribbean has been monitoring the situation from the Dominican Republic and has alerted all Partner National Societies (PNS) in the area of the current situation and the tsunami alert.

The International Federation has approved CHF 500,000 in DREF funds to enable the HNRCS to rapidly scale up its immediate relief activities. The Federation has mobilized the following resources to support RC/RC movement coordination and to support the HNRCS with rapid assessment activities:

- A regional team comprising a reporting delegate, logistician and health in emergencies coordinator deployed on 13 January to Haiti through the Dominican Republic.
- A Field Assessment Coordination Team (FACT) with staff specialized in shelter, relief, health, logistics and reporting deployed on 13 January to Haiti

Given the nature of the situation in Haiti, the Federation and ICRC are collaborating closely on a 'Movement' approach, including collaboration, facilitation, and support for the entry and movement of the FACT and ERU assets. ICRC is also deploying a rapid response unit that will work closely with Federation personnel. The ICRC response unit will assess needs in support of their ongoing programme and expertise in restoring family links (RFL), work in prisons, and the management of dead bodies.

PADRU has participated in coordination meetings with UN OCHA in Panama to share preliminary information on needs and response, including the mobilization of assessment teams. A United Nations Disaster and Assessment Coordination Team (UNDAC) is being mobilized and OCHA has indicated that a UN Flash Appeal will be launched shortly.

The Federation Zone Office in Panama is coordinating planning with operational partners to ensure the timely delivery of assistance and to contribute to the humanitarian coordination effort. The first regular telephone conference to brief National Societies on the developing situation was conducted on 13 January.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Federation representation in country is liaising with all Movement Partners to coordinate and mobilize the response efforts. There has been very limited direct communication with the HNRCS leadership due to

damage to the National Society headquarters building, the communications network, and difficulty in moving about within Port-au-Prince.

All HNRCS volunteers are currently assisting the affected people along with PNSs, the Federation office and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Haiti. The Emergency Operations Centre of the Dominican Red Cross is active and coordinating first assessments from the border area. A first triage of wounded persons is being carried out by the HNRCS in Port au Prince. The National Society's VHF system is functioning and providing constant monitoring and information sharing between all Movement partners in country. The Dominican Red Cross, the International Federation Regional Representative in Santo Domingo and the Spanish Red Cross carried out an assessment by air on 13 January.

The following Emergency Response Units (ERUs) have been deployed: Logistics (Swiss Red Cross), Rapid Deployment Hospital (Norwegian/Canadian Red Cross), IT&Telecom (Spanish Red Cross), two Relief/shelter units (American and a joint Benelux/French Red Cross), two mobile Basic Health Care units (German and a joint Finnish/French Red Cross) as well as two Water/Sanitation Modules for 15,000 people each (Spanish and French Red Cross). Other National Societies such as the Austrian, British, Danish, Italian, Japanese, New Zealand and Swedish Red Cross are on stand-by in case more ERUs are needed. Various partner National Societies are mobilizing additional support for operational teams, and the International Federation in Port-au-Prince is starting to secure possible areas for office and accommodations for incoming teams.

The HNRCS and the Federation have 3,000 family kits pre-positioned in the country following the 2008 Hurricane Season. These kits, consisting of hygiene kits, kitchen kits, blankets, mosquito nets, jerry cans and buckets, are being made available immediately. PADRU is coordinating the dispatch of 13 vehicles to Haiti in order to facilitate the relief operation.

The needs

Immediate needs: Based on the information available at the moment the immediate needs are focused on vulnerable groups and initially include: search and rescue activities, relief distributions, emergency health, water and sanitation, emergency shelter, logistics and telecommunications. A gender focus forms one of the main criteria for the selection of beneficiaries. Once initial assessments are carried out, further needs will be identified. Given the nature of the disaster, restoring family links (RFL) is a vital part of the operation for the initial response stage

The proposed operation

The operation is designed to provide immediate support to the Haitian National Red Cross Society in the delivery of lifesaving assistance and relief in the sectors mentioned above for 20,000 families (some 100,000 people). The operation is very fluid and evolving quickly, and it is anticipated that the beneficiary numbers will increase. The initial allocation from DREF funds allows the National Society to initiate damage and need assessments and to jump-start relief activities and the mobilization of personnel. Assessments are just beginning, and more detailed information will become available shortly. Based on this, objectives may be added or expanded on, as relevant to the operation.

The security situation in Haiti is a source of concern, and the Federation is taking concrete steps to reinforce its security capacity with technical staffing and update protocols and procedures.

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)

Objective: Up to 20,000 families (100,000 people) affected by the earthquake will have benefited from the distribution of non-food items.	
Expected results	Activities planned
Up to 100,000 people affected by the earthquake see their basic needs met by receiving essential non-food items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deployment of two Relief/shelter ERUs: • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Develop a beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance. • Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an exit strategy.
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Emergency shelter

<p>Objective: Ensure that up to 5,000 affected families have healthy and safe emergency shelter to help preserve their physical and mental well-being, human dignity and prevent the further deterioration of their humanitarian situation.</p>	
Expected results	Activities planned
<p>20,000 families have adequate shelter which assists them in returning to their daily lives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Develop community and beneficiary targeting strategy in coordination with local authorities. • Assess the extent of the shelter needs and preferred shelter solutions. • Distribute shelter supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user. • Develop a transition strategy to meet early recovery shelter needs. • Develop a shelter strategy and plan of action to deliver on both emergency shelter solution and shelter recovery options. • Distribute appropriate shelter relief items to assist the population and allow them to play an active role in the reconstruction process • Monitor and evaluate the shelter activities and report on distributions.

Emergency health, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

<p>Objective 1: The affected communities will benefit from basic medical care provided by the HNRCS.</p> <p>Objective 2: The affected communities will benefit from psychosocial support (PSP) to assist in recovery from the effects of the earthquake.</p> <p>Objective 3: The affected communities and people in shelters will be sensitized on key health messages through a health awareness campaign related to vector control and water borne diseases.</p>	
Expected results	Activities planned
<p>Up to 20,000 families have received adequate emergency health care.</p>	<p>For objective 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments. • Develop community and beneficiary targeting strategy in coordination with local authorities. • Assess the extent of the WASH needs and preferred solutions. <p>For objective 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination of activities with the health authorities. • Identification where medical assistance is most needed. • Prioritization and identification of beneficiaries (children, women, elderly). • Organization and support of volunteers. • Further assessments need to be completed by the HNRCS and other external actors in order to describe a health objective. <p>For objective 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need and damage assessments including basic sanitation activities. • Mobilization of volunteer water and sanitation teams. • Identification of communities most affected and shelters available. • Identification of beneficiaries. • Agreements with local authorities for water supply. • Water and sanitation activities. • Training workshops in water sanitation for all volunteers.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storing and distribution of drinking water to shelters and affected communities. • Health awareness campaigns. • Further assessments will be completed by the HNRCS supported by other actors to address the need for a water and sanitation campaign.
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Early Recovery

Early recovery is a priority focus of the Federation, and while it might be premature to assess and specify the detailed needs of the affected population and the activities to be implemented, the assessments currently underway will identify opportunities for early recovery interventions targeting the restoration of livelihoods, transitional and permanent shelter and psycho-social support. Small unconditional cash grants and cash-for-work, are some of the potential activities and approaches that will be considered.

Logistics

A coordinator from the Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) has the primary task of providing additional logistics capacity on the ground supported by a logistics ERU deployed by Swiss Red Cross, with an aim to:

- Assess logistics infrastructure, set-up an efficient logistics unit and identify the best supply chain to support the operation.
- Carry out receipt of relief goods sent by air and sea and arrange transportation to distribution points.
- Liaise and coordinate with other key actors to ensure best use of all information.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and other major stakeholders is vital for fundraising, advocacy and maintaining the profile of emergency operations. During an operation, communications between affected populations and the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as well as with the media and donors, is an essential mechanism for effective disaster response and the cornerstone to promote greater quality, accountability, and transparency. The communications activities outlined in this appeal are aimed at supporting the National Society to improve their communications capacities and develop appropriate communications tools and products to support effective operations. These activities are closely coordinated with the Communications department of the International Federation's Secretariat in Geneva. An information officer from PADRU has carried out approximately 15 interviews on the situation in Haiti with media from the United States, Canada, Malaysia, Mexico and the United Kingdom, and press releases have been issued. A detailed communications plan of action is forthcoming. The FACT contains a reporting delegate and a media unit.

Capacity of the National Society

During the past pre-hurricane meetings, National Societies from countries prone to hurricanes in the Americas participated actively in the revision of a contingency plan for the region (which had been designed during the 2007 pre-hurricane meeting). Efforts to develop and update a regional contingency plan have helped explore disaster preparedness tools, available capacities within the region, possible response strategies and operating procedures, which provided participants with hands-on practice. This process will continue. The HNRCS is also part of the National Risk and Disaster Management Office.

In general, the Haitian National Red Cross Society has broad experience in disaster response, particularly as a result of the lessons learnt from operations in response to hurricanes Dean and Noel in 2007 and Hurricanes Gustav, Hanna and Ike in 2008. This operation will rely on and continue to contribute to strengthening the skills of staff and volunteers (headquarters and branches) in the International Federation's emergency response mechanisms. The Well-Prepared National Society (WPNS) process was recently completed in Haiti. It was attended by representatives from HNRCS headquarters and 13 regional branches, as well as representatives from Participating National Societies, the ICRC and the International Federation as observers and actors involved in advancing the process. This enabled the National Society to reflect on existing capacities and identify gap areas in disaster management.

Capacity of the Federation

PADRU, in coordination with the Zone Office in the Americas and the Regional Representation for the Caribbean in the Dominican Republic is providing support to the National Society in the response needs such as organizing the provision of initial relief items, development of Plans of Action, logistics and human resources as needed. Global surge capacity is being utilized to meet the need for additional operational support, provided through partner national Societies.

Budget summary

See attached budget (Annex 1) for details.

Yasemin Aysan
Under Secretary General
Disaster Response and Early Recovery Division

Bekele Geleta
Secretary General

How we work

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

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- In Panama: Mauricio Bustamante, Acting Head of the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU), phone (507) 316 1001; fax (507) 316 1082; email: Mauricio.bustamante@ifrc.org.
- In Panama: Ilir Caushaj, Acting Head of the Regional Logistic Unit, phone (507) 316 1001; fax (507) 316 1082; email: ilir.caushaj@ifrc.org.
- In Dominican Republic: Alexandre Claudon, Regional Representative for the Latin Caribbean; e-mail: alexandre.claudon@ifrc.org.
- In Panama: Maria Alcázar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator for the Americas; cell phone: (507) 66781589; email: maria.alcazar@ifrc.org
- In Geneva: Pablo Medina, Operations Coordinator for the Americas; phone: (41 22) 730 42 74; fax: (41 22) 733 03 95; email: pablo.medina@ifrc.org

[<Preliminary Emergency Appeal budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

PRELIMINARY APPEAL BUDGET SUMMARY

Annex 1

HAITI EARTHQUAKE**MDRHT008****ORIGINAL****RELIEF NEEDS**

Shelter	800,000
Construction Materials	
Clothing & Textiles	110,000
Food	
Seeds & Plants	
Water & Sanitation	800,000
Medical & First Aid	600,000
Teaching Materials	
Utensils & Tools	440,000
Other Supplies & Services (estimated ERU costs of CHF 5m)	4,575,000
Total Relief Needs	7,325,000

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT

Land & Buildings	
Vehicles Purchase	
Computers & Telecom Equipment	29,000
Office/Household Furniture & Equip.	
Medical Equipment	
Other Machinery & Equipment	

TRANSPORT, STORAGE & VEHICLES

Storage - Warehouse	18,000
Distribution & Monitoring	366,500
Transport & Vehicles Costs	480,000
Service fee & recovery	180,000

PERSONNEL

International Staff	135,000
Regionally Deployed Staff	96,000
National Staff	72,000
National Society Staff	250,000
Consultants	

WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

Workshops & Training	50,000
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GENERAL EXPENSES

Travel	120,000
Information & Public Relations	150,000
Office running costs	15,000
Communication Costs	100,000
Professional Fees	
Financial Charges	100,000
Other General Expenses (operational reviews & evaluations)	50,000

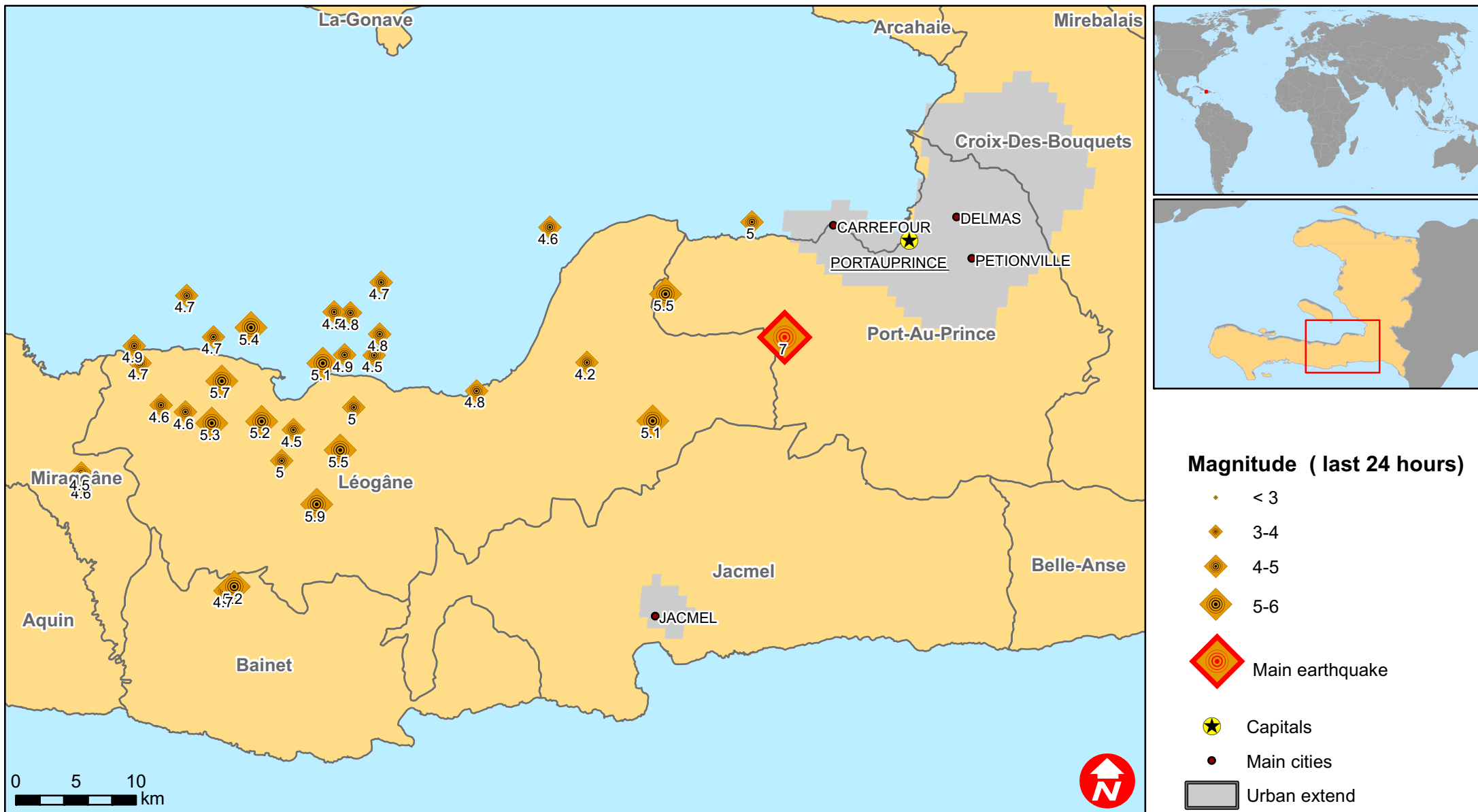
PROGRAMME SUPPORT

Programme Support - PSR	662,965
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Total Operational Needs 2,874,465**Total Appeal Budget (Cash & Kind) 10,199,465****Available Resources****Net Request 10,199,465**



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The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, Federation, USGS - EQ13012010.mxd