



CANADIAN CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION FOR

**Development
and Peace**

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE Haiti Program *2-Year Progress Report*



It has been two years since Haiti was struck by a devastating earthquake that sent this already impoverished country into a state of emergency, and leaving in its wake an unprecedented scale of destruction and wreckage.

There are many challenges for Haitians in the rebuilding of their country. First, there are the multiple needs created by the earthquake itself, and then there are the root causes that made this earthquake such a destructive force in the first place, and which must be addressed.

For DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE, this has meant putting in place a program that creates a continuum between emergency aid, reconstruction and sustainable development, so that a socially just society that benefits all Haitians can emerge.

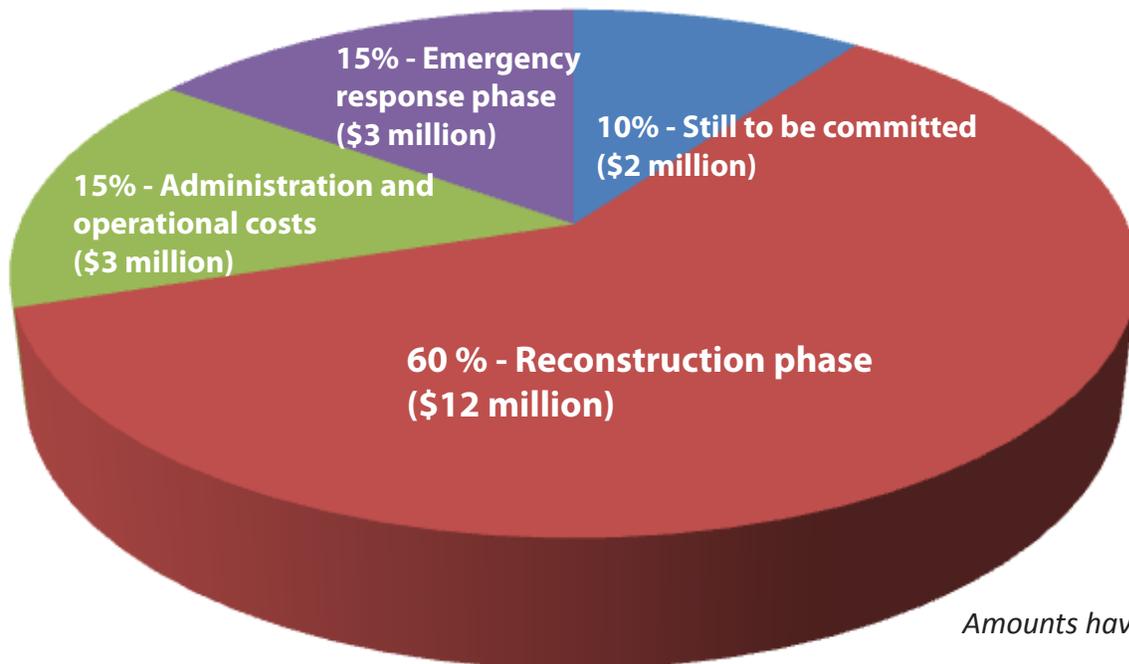
Thanks to the generosity of Canadians, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE raised \$20 million to go towards supporting Haitians in rebuilding their country, and what many there see as an opportunity to overturn a long history of injustice and poverty. Prior to the earthquake, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE had already been working in Haiti for 40 years through its regular programming. In developing its response to this disaster, it relied on the expertise of its many existing partnerships

with local organizations to understand the needs and reach some of the more poor and vulnerable groups affected by the disaster.

What these local partners expressed was a desire to create real and lasting change in their country and improve the livelihoods of all Haitians in the long-term. It became clear that DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE's contribution would be most valuable in the reconstruction and recovery phase. It may mean slower progress, but by ensuring careful planning that includes the ongoing participation of local communities in the reconstruction process, the result will be local ownership of projects, which is more sustainable and provides some guarantee, not only of lasting improvements, but also in preventing tragedy-stricken communities to fall into a cycle of increasing vulnerability.

After the initial emergency response phase, which lasted approximately a year, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE is now supporting reconstruction projects with over 20 local partners. It has committed over \$12 million towards these projects, and with remaining funds will continue to develop projects that correspond to the evolving needs of the population in this complex situation.

Distribution of funds raised (over 5 years) - \$20 million



Amounts have been rounded

The Emergency Response Phase

In the aftermath of the earthquake, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE quickly mobilized its resources to begin to respond to the emergency needs of the population in Haiti. It teamed with partners in the Caritas network, including Caritas Haiti and Catholic Relief Services, who had the capacity to provide significant aid to those affected by the earthquake. Within six months, the Caritas network had reached 2.3 million people, whether through the distribution of food, water and shelter, the provision of medical aid or counseling services to cope with the effects of this traumatic event.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE also called on its long-standing partners in the country to support them in helping their communities recover, and joined forces with religious communities, who are very involved in health and educational services in the country.

Emergency response phase projects lasted until December 2010 and DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE disbursed close to \$3 million for these projects.

Some of the projects in this response include:

- Provision of hot meals in schools to help get children



back into classrooms;

- The distribution of seeds in communities hosting displaced family members;
- Cash-for-work programs to help give people an income to purchase necessities ;
- Protection for women in camps;
- Psycho-social services for school-aged children; and
- New equipment for local organizations to quickly become operational.

The Reconstruction Phase



DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE's reconstruction program in Haiti, which began in November 2010, has a four-year horizon. It is aligned with the organization's approach towards humanitarian aid, which recognizes the dignity of all persons and is inspired by the preferential option for the poor. It is also oriented towards social transformation in favour of the poor and excluded, which implies not just the physical reconstruction of houses and community infrastructures, but also the reconstruction of the country's social fabric and the inclusive participation of Haitian women and men in what some are calling the re-founding of their country.

Through this program DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE is reaching vulnerable communities in areas directly affected by the earthquake, displaced persons outside the directly affected areas, as well as host communities and families. Among this population, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE is meeting the needs of the most vulnerable, particularly families headed by women, in both urban and rural areas.

The program is aimed at improving the quality of life of the vulnerable, reducing the potential impact of future disasters and generating sustainable community spaces that are conducive to social and democratic life.

Cont.

The Reconstruction Phase

To achieve this goal, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE has prioritized three strategic areas for its program:

- Food sovereignty and security
- Reconstruction (housing and community infrastructures)
- Human Rights

It has also set aside funds to respond to future emergencies, for example, as was seen with the cholera outbreak in the country, and to help local organizations develop disaster reduction strategies.

Here are some of the projects that have been completed or are currently in progress:

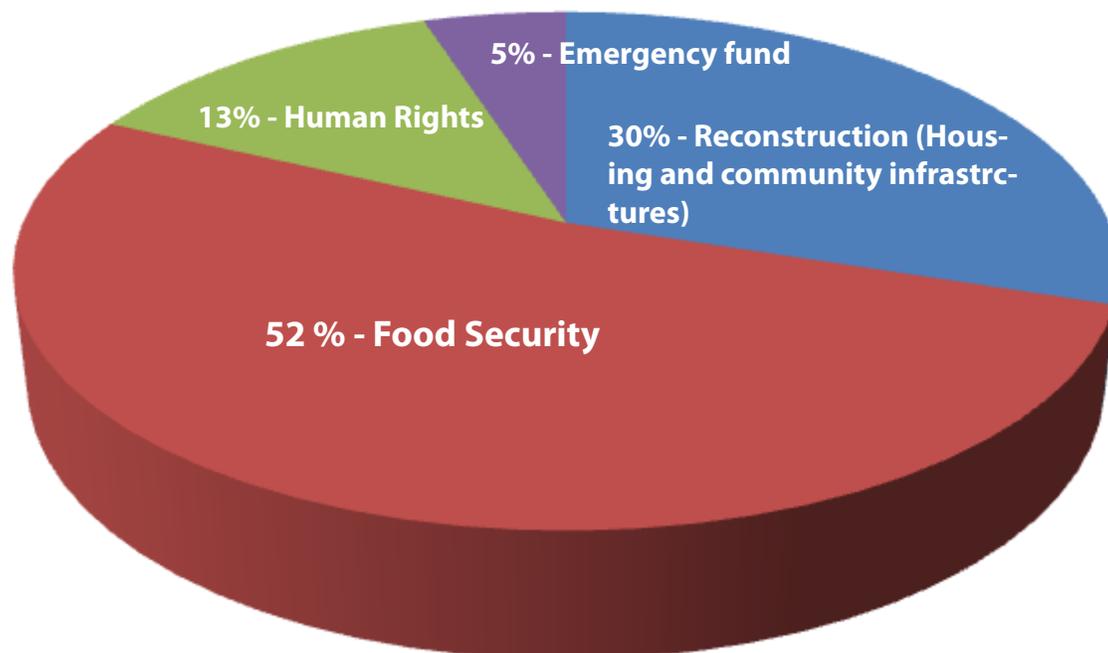
- Construction of an elementary school for girls in Port-au-Prince, which was completed in September 2011;
- The construction of a shelter for abused women in Jacmel;
- Renovations to an agricultural training centre;
- The construction of training workshops for orphaned children;
- Distribution of information and medication to prevent cholera;
- Community radio programming to raise awareness on disaster prevention, security and human rights;
- Establishment of five tree nurseries; and
- Distribution of seeds and livestock to female farmers.



“As I looked at the endless stretches of misery, I kept thinking of the people I had just met, especially their deeply held conviction that they are contributing to the rebuilding of this country in a substantial way by their work. They are right and deserving of our support.”

Archbishop Richard Smith, President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (Cccb), on his recent visit to Haiti with a DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE delegation.

Distribution of reconstruction program funds (\$12 million) by priority area



Support from CIDA

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE has received additional funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for two projects that it is implementing in Haiti.

The first project is in collaboration with the Mouvman Peyizan Papay (the Papaye Peasant Mouvement) to strengthen the food security of displaced and rural populations in the region of Hinche. The project, which will last two years, is expected to benefit up to 20,000 rural families, 4,000 of whom are earthquake refugees. Project activities include watershed management, improving land use, reforestation, increasing agricultural production, and job creation.

CIDA is contributing \$2,136,844 towards this project and DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE is contributing \$635,965.

The second, is a housing reconstruction project in the region of Gressier, which was at the epicentre of the earthquake. The project aims to build new permanent houses for 448 families, particularly those which have been identified

as most vulnerable, such as female-headed households. Working with local organization ITECA, the houses are being designed with the input of the community and should be completed towards the end of 2012.

CIDA is contributing \$4,997,439 towards this project and DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE is contributing \$1,645,500.



Story from the field: Hope for a childhood

By François Gloutnay, Communications Officer at DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE. This piece was written during a joint CCCB-DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE visit to Haiti in Decembre 2011.

The place where Father Miguel Jean Baptiste asks us to meet him doesn't exactly inspire complete confidence. There can be no doubt that this building was heavily damaged during the earthquake of January 12, 2010. From the street, we can see that the roof on the right side has been twisted and that there are stones missing.

But this is where the founding director of Foyer Maurice Sixto offers us refreshments and a bit of food. He seats us close to the door and gives us a warning: at the slightest noise, we have to get out of there! But there is no way he will let the children he takes care of come in here like they used to.

The hundreds of restavèks (literally, "stay-withs") that come to the Foyer Maurice Sixto are now going to class... in the playground! In Haiti, restavèk is what they call children from poor families who are given to strangers in the hope that they will have a better life. The reality, however, is quite different

for these 300,000 children, who mainly become domestic workers. They have no rights, they don't attend school, and they suffer abuses. "Their birthdays are not even celebrated and they don't get any presents at Christmas, unlike the

children in the family where they work," explains Wénéss Jeanty, Executive Director of Foyer Maurice Sixto.

Father Miguel has managed to succeed in making it so that 350 restavèks can at least attend school a few hours per day. The schooling is free for them and they get a meal every day. "But giving them food is not enough. We also have to change the structures," he said. So that these "children without a childhood"

can regain their dignity.

And that is where DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE comes in; it has committed funds (\$292,000) to a construction project for a training centre that Father Miguel calls the "school of talents." The restavèks will have their classes there and will participate in activities that are normally prohibited to them (such as choir and learning a trade), so that they will finally be able to "have a taste of the warmth of childhood."



Read more about DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE's work in Haiti at www.devp.org/en/emergencies/haiti