

HAITI EARTHQUAKE UPDATE



2nd February 2010 - Earthquake measuring 7.3 occurred on January 12th 2010

The true extent of the damage of the 12th January earthquake in Haiti is still not fully known, but the official Haitian government figures are a death toll of **180,000** people, over 250,000 injured and over 3 million now dependent on aid of whom 1.2 million are homeless. Many more bodies are known to be trapped in the rubble and the true death toll may never be known.

The Humanity First team in Haiti continued to see patients on Monday in Jimani, Carrefour and Port-au-Prince. So far, Humanity First has deployed 37 staff in Haiti and has dealt with over **4,000** medical cases. To date, HF has dispatched over 4 Tonnes of medical supplies to Haiti in support of our operations. The most common complaints now for patients presenting at our camps are STDs, fever, aches and pains, psychosomatic and post traumatic stress disorders. Thankfully, the predicted outbreaks of cholera and diarrhoea have not materialised.



The team in Port-au-Prince continues to liaise on a daily basis with the UN, local authorities and other NGOs. Dr. Daud, the HF Haiti Disaster Co-ordinator in Toronto commented on the next phase:

“The need for surgery has almost ended, and we are now moving into the next phase of disease prevention and general medicine. In terms of the rehabilitation phase, we have been working on education and infrastructure projects in Haiti for 3 years, and expect to focus on these areas for several months whilst the country gets back on its feet. Currently we are working on options to rebuild an orphanage, establish water filtration plants and the mid-term support of a community of 5,000 people.”

Significant funds are needed to buy supplies of medicines, fluids and other urgent requirements. Please speak to your local HF rep or visit our website www.humanityfirst.org to donate through your nearest Humanity First operation.

About Humanity First

Humanity First is an international charitable trust established to promote and safeguard the preservation of human life and dignity. It is a non-political, non-sectarian international relief and development agency that works with the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.

Humanity First was established in 1995 and now has registered operations in **29** countries with projects in **6** continents.

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