



Haiti Progress Report 2010

www.oxfam.org



On 12 January, Oxfam will be remembering our lost colleagues, Pierre Amédée Marescot and Aurelus Auguste.



Foreword

12 January 2010 is a date that Oxfam will long remember. A major earthquake hit a heavily populated area in the poorest country in the Western hemisphere. The relief operation was among the biggest Oxfam has ever undertaken, amid destruction and logistical challenges that were among the worst we have ever faced.

Public support for the Haiti disaster response was overwhelmingly generous. Oxfam's fundraising efforts, and the spontaneous reaction of many people worldwide, provided us with \$98m with which to respond to the disaster.

In the face of bereavement and personal loss, our Haiti team worked tirelessly to help survivors from day one, and have continued their efforts throughout this challenging year. In the first week, they distributed plastic sheeting and tools to people on the streets and, with the National Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation (DINEPA), organised the trucking of water to the largest camp, where it was distributed to 10,000 residents.

Within a few weeks, we were flying in equipment through neighbouring Santo Domingo, transporting it overland to warehouses in Port-au-Prince. By the end of March we had reached 180,000 people in a congested capital city where installing emergency shelters and sanitation facilities has proved immensely challenging. And now – 12 months on – 500,000 people have benefitted from our earthquake response work, and another 700,000 are the focus of our life-saving cholera prevention activities.

There is no getting away from the huge challenge that lies ahead for the Haitian people, their government, and the aid agencies involved in humanitarian response. Oxfam, and other agencies, will continue to work tirelessly to help people survive these truly terrible circumstances – but we can only help them to thrive when the country is more stable and can deliver the public services that people need to recover fully. Everyone living and working in Haiti is dependent upon the government being able to take action, and on the concentrated and immediate support of bilateral and multilateral donors, to help rebuild this shattered country.

The Haiti earthquake will go down in history as one of the most devastating natural disasters of our time. The challenges of operating in the ruins of a cramped city, with accumulated rubble and massively damaged infrastructure have been almost insurmountable. But I am proud to say that Oxfam and other agencies have risen to this challenge. We have adapted tried-and-tested approaches in new areas and, together with our partner organizations and Haitian staff, have found strength in our ability to tackle obstacles and come up with creative solutions.



Residents of Port-au-Prince find a path through fallen buildings that used to be their city streets.

Photo: Jorge Silva, Reuters

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has given so generously, and helped to make our humanitarian response work in Haiti possible over the past year. Together we have achieved a lot, but we still have many challenges ahead as we move into 2011.

Handwritten signature of Jeremy Hobbs.

Jeremy Hobbs,
Executive Director, Oxfam International

Introduction

Even before the earthquake struck on 12 January 2010, Haiti was the poorest nation in the Western hemisphere, ranked by the United Nations Development Programme as one of the world's 50 poorest countries (2009). **In short, life was already a struggle for most families. Then the earthquake hit, and lives were turned upside down.** It was the most powerful earthquake in Haiti for 200 years.

In the capital Port-au-Prince, 86 per cent of the city's two million residents lived in densely populated slum areas, where clean water and sanitation were a rarity. Women, because of their roles as mothers and primary care givers, had a particularly tough time, and were especially vulnerable to the violence and intimidation that are commonplace in crowded conditions.

The quake killed more than 220,000 people and injured over 300,000. It left more than one million people homeless – many of whom are still traumatized and still living in tents or under tarpaulins. The majority of these earthquake-affected families are located in 1,300 temporary camps in and around Port-au-Prince, where Oxfam and other agencies are working.

The high concentration of people in the capital, the destruction of Port-au-Prince, and the huge loss of life led to the disruption of all forms of economic activity and the day-to-day running of the state and national government.

Relief supplies are unloaded in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, ready to be transported by road to Port-au-Prince. If you laid out all the tarpaulins that have been distributed by the aid agencies involved in providing temporary shelters end-on-end, they would reach from New York City to Mexico City, Madrid to Moscow, Bangkok to Beijing, or Nairobi to Cairo.

Photo: Kenny Rae/Oxfam America



Oxfam's response

Oxfam, having worked in the country since 1978, was one of the first agencies to respond. So began one of the largest and most complex emergency programs that it has ever been involved in. Even in the developed world, recovery from disasters can take years. In a country already suffering from extreme poverty, political instability, and weak and often corrupt state institutions, the task ahead was even more daunting.

Oxfam's humanitarian approach was based on the following strategic priorities:

- Delivering high-quality program response in accordance with its own code of conduct and international humanitarian standards (established by Sphere¹);
- Focusing on areas of technical program expertise – such as water, sanitation, and hygiene response – and in parts of the city where Oxfam had existing relationships with partners and communities;
- Building the strength and resources of local Oxfam partners, especially those in the earthquake-affected areas;
- Encouraging communities to participate in discussions and decisions about how best to respond to their needs;
- Ensuring that the work Oxfam does is transparent and measured for impact, to reinforce a sense of ownership within communities and civil society.

Over 500,000 people have benefitted from Oxfam's earthquake response program in and around Port-au-Prince, Gressier, Petit Goâve, Grand-Goâve, and Léogâne where we have delivered emergency water, sanitation and hygiene facilities, shelter, and emergency food and livelihoods provision. We are now targeting these same communities with additional activities to prevent the spread of cholera.

In addition, Oxfam is also reaching another 700,000 people in Haiti with life-saving clean water, oral rehydration salts, sanitation services, and hygiene education in an effort to prevent the spread of the disease. These activities are not financed from the Haiti earthquake response fund.

At the time of writing, the total number of people we are now reaching in Haiti with our earthquake response and cholera prevention programs is 1.2 million.

1 The Sphere Project's Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response provide standards and indicators in the key sectors of water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion (WASH); food security, nutrition, and food aid; shelter, settlement, and non-food items; and health services. See: <http://www.sphereproject.org>

Haitian beneficiaries of Oxfam programs in 2010

| Program | Number of Beneficiaries |
|--|-------------------------|
| Earthquake response program | 500,000 |
| Cholera prevention program | 700,000 |
| Earthquake response program and Oxfam's new cholera prevention activities | 1,200,000 |

Oxfam buckets stacked and ready for a hygiene kit distribution at Union Adventiste Camp, Delmas 31, in Port-au-Prince.

Photo: Jane Beesely/Oxfam





Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas in Haiti where Oxfam works.

The scope of this report

This report describes the progress that Oxfam and its partners have achieved so far, and describes what we intend to do in the future. We will look at how we have responded in four main areas:

- 1. Water, sanitation, and hygiene;**
- 2. Food security and livelihoods;**
- 3. Rebuilding communities;**
- 4. Advocacy and campaigning.**

The report is intended as a tool to account to the individuals, governments, and other institutions who have given so generously to Oxfam's humanitarian fund, and to partner organizations and allies, staff, and volunteers. A section on finance towards the end of the report provides an overview of how the money was both raised and spent.

Oxfam is primarily accountable to the people whose lives we seek to improve. We believe that by being more accountable to communities, we can create higher-quality programs and more sustainable impacts. We use appropriate ways to communicate with women and men living in poverty and to respond to the issues that they raise. The following are some measures that have been taken by Oxfam to ensure accountability to the people with whom we work:

- We have involved camp residents in decision making, and seek regular feedback from them about our work. Through regular monitoring, staff and volunteer training, and formalized codes of conduct, we ensure that our programs are accountable, do not have unintended consequences, and adhere to internationally accepted standards.
- We set up a free cell-phone line in March 2010 so that people can contact us around the clock to raise concerns, make requests for help, or supply information. To date, we have received an average of 300 calls per month. We have also set up comment boxes for people to post ideas, requests, and complaints, and have held focus groups to hear people's concerns.
- In Carrefour Feuilles, one of Port-au-Prince's most severely affected neighborhoods, we are working with a group of local representatives from a variety of community-based and local authority groups. They talk to Oxfam's partners and camp residents, reporting on progress and raising concerns through official channels. This committee has played a key role in resolving conflicts and difficulties.
- It is important that the progress and advances that Haitian women had achieved before the earthquake – such as enhanced medical care for female victims of violence and improved representation of women in politics and more widely in society – are defended in the post-earthquake context, and Oxfam is working hard to ensure that our response and reconstruction programs operate effectively to target women and to encourage women leaders.

Throughout this report, when we refer to "Oxfam", we mean the Oxfam confederation as a whole and the Oxfam affiliates who are implementing programs on the ground in Haiti (Oxfam GB, Intermón Oxfam, Oxfam Quebec, and Oxfam America) on behalf of Oxfam and the partners with whom we work.

1. Water, sanitation and hygiene

As a sector lead in water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion (WASH), Oxfam has worked to ensure that people have access to clean, safe drinking water in sufficient supply. We have provided sanitation structures and facilities to help prevent and eliminate potential sources of waterborne disease. We have also trained people to become promoters of public health and hygiene.

The challenge

In a usual humanitarian response, setting up camps across as wide a geographic area as possible is the best way to deliver life-saving assistance to displaced people. This gives people enough room to live, prevents the spread of disease, and allows sufficient space for Oxfam to provide water, sanitation, and other essential services. However, this was impossible in the tightly packed urban environment of Port-au-Prince.

The lack of clean sanitation facilities was a critical problem in the devastated city, and was compounded by government and institutional failure to address public hygiene issues. An urgent public health response was required from Oxfam. Severe overcrowding and the fact that the city was built from, and on, concrete, meant that providing latrines and temporary portable toilets in sufficient numbers was out of the question. So we had to find other solutions. The spread of cholera, transmitted through contaminated drinking water or food, presented an additional challenge, and an immediate threat to many lives.²

A camp-wide education program was conceived and produced in just five days at Petionville Golf Club camp on 19 November, 2010. The disease (green figure on the right), can be overcome by soap (yellow figure in the middle), and water (blue figure on the left).

Photo: Andrew Blejwas/Oxfam America



² Our cholera response program has not been funded by the Haiti earthquake fund, but from general funds.

Our response

- We have provided clean drinking water and sanitation facilities to approximately **400,000** displaced people in Port-au-Prince and the neighbouring areas of Carrefour Feuilles, Croix des Bouquets, and Delmas and, outside the capital, in Gressier, Petit-Goâve, Grand-Goâve, and Léogâne.
- The threat of hurricanes in the second half of the year meant that Oxfam had to work with others to put measures in place to prevent flooding. Manual labor and heavy equipment were both used to clear drainage channels.
- Each month, we have provided over **300 million litres** (approximately 79 million gallons) of clean, chlorinated water to the camps and areas where we work.
- We have built **2,500** latrines and **1,032** bathing shelters, which the camp residents and local people maintain.
- We have distributed hygiene kits containing personal care items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, sanitary pads, and towels to more than **120,000** people.
- Health promotion has also been a vital part of our work. Community members have been recruited and trained to work as ‘mobilizers’ in the camps to reinforce messages about good health and clean sanitation facilities.
- We have worked with the municipal solid waste authority SMCRS (Service Métropolitain de Collecte des Résidus Solides) to help improve its policies and technical capacity. Waste disposal ‘trash’ kits have been provided to **400** households to enable people to dispose of solid waste safely and hygienically, an initiative that has been supported by a popular campaign in public arenas.

Oxfam recruited people living in the camps to assemble Oxfam hygiene kits containing personal care items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, sanitary pads, and towels. The assemblers were paid 500 Haitian goudes (\$12.25) per day to pack 120,000 kits, in just two weeks, for distributing to people in need.

Photo: Caroline Gluck/Oxfam



Collecting water from Oxfam taps.
Photo: Toby Adamson/Oxfam



- We have worked closely with the Haitian authority responsible for supplying water – DINEPA (Direction Nationale de l'Eau Potable et de l'Assainissement) – to find ways to deliver safe drinking water in more sustainable ways through drilling boreholes, installing water pumps, and repairing piped water networks.

In response to the new threat of cholera, Oxfam is ensuring that the 500,000 people involved in our earthquake response program, also receive cholera prevention activities. We are also reaching another 700,000 people in a wider program to prevent the spread of the disease – 365,000 people in the northern city of Cap Haitien, 125,000 people in the central region of Artibonite, and 200,000 people in Port-au-Prince outside of earthquake activities. This involves providing life-saving clean water, oral rehydration salts, sanitation services, and hygiene education in an effort to prevent the spread of the disease. We have continued to reinforce an information campaign on safe hygiene practice, and to monitor the levels of people's health in camps in Port-au-Prince.

Raphael Mutiku, head of Oxfam's water and sanitation operation in Haiti, said: 'Our programs in the capital are in full swing, reaching people with clean water, sanitation services, and hygiene education. We have 700 staff dedicated to stopping the spread of this cholera outbreak. Good hygiene practices can't be introduced overnight, but we're doing our utmost to get hygiene information out to as many people as possible. Most of the cases of cholera in Port-au-Prince are in slums that did not receive post-earthquake relief. Now, we have to all work together to ensure that every last person in Port-au-Prince has clean water and information about good basic hygiene practices. This is the only way to stop the spread of water-borne diseases.'

Case studies

Half of Haiti's urban population had never had a functioning sewage system, and in poorer parts of Port-au-Prince people had learned to adapt to their situation by making use of plastic bags to dispose of human waste. Since this was already working well, Oxfam decided to build on this practice, setting up cubicles and distributing sealable bags for people to take home to use. The bags are then deposited in covered plastic drums, which are emptied daily and their contents transported to a composting site outside the city. This approach has helped to stop the spread of disease, ensuring that human waste is disposed of in a safe way.



Andrena Attis and her family are the owners of a new latrine supplied by Oxfam following a hygiene promotion scheme in their village. 'We sold some chickens and a goat to pay for someone to dig out our latrine pit, and now we have one of our own,' says Andrena. Oxfam has supplied the materials for 2,500 latrines to be built by people living in camps, and in other city locations.

Photo: Chris Hufstader/Oxfam America



In five villages around Petit-Goâve and Gressier, towns to the west of Port-au-Prince, Oxfam has also targeted families who want to stay in or near their damaged homes rather than move to distant camps. Few of the families had latrines before the earthquake, so Oxfam advised communities on how to build and maintain them. The families dig the pits and Oxfam provides the materials. Once the latrine is ready for use, the family is given a cleaning kit and they are then responsible for keeping it clean and in good order. So far 133 latrines have been built, and soon 300 families will each have their own latrine.

2. Emergency food security and livelihoods

Oxfam's work in the field of emergency food security and livelihoods favors local production and reinforces links between producers and consumers. As a priority, we also provide support to small businesses and those owned by women to help them get back on their feet.

The challenge

Unemployment and food shortages are two of the main obstacles that people face as they start to rebuild their lives. The number of people in formal work has fallen from an already low 21 per cent before the earthquake to 8 per cent today, and the number of self-employed people has also dropped, from 65 per cent to 33 per cent. Moreover, the findings of an Oxfam household assessment in June showed a very disturbing fall in incomes in the most vulnerable neighbourhoods of Port-au-Prince.

Guerline Dimanche serves hot bean puree, rice and vegetables at her canteen. Oxfam supported local street food sellers in locations all over Port-au-Prince, targeting 249 canteen owners in Carrefour Feuille with grants to buy food, with a commitment from them to cook and feed 80 of the most vulnerable people in their own communities. In all, 19,920 people received hot food over a two-month period.

Photo: Peleg Charles/Oxfam



Our response

As of December 2010, **41,819** households or 209,095 people have benefited from our livelihoods and food security programs. We respond to the needs of people from a diversity of socio-economic backgrounds.

- Oxfam has supported local street food sellers in locations all over Port-au-Prince. By the end of 2010, **249** street food sellers had each committed to cooking and feeding 80 of the most vulnerable people (the majority of them women) in their own communities for two months. In total, **19,920** people received hot food over a two-month period.
- Basic needs grants: **2,936** families have received grants of \$175 to help them respond to basic needs and replace lost assets. Initial findings show that 87 per cent of these families managed to start or re-start small businesses with the combination of food and cash support. Street food sellers have also been supported through business training, cash grants of \$125 to help re-start their businesses, and fuel-efficient stoves that have reduced their charcoal consumption.
- Cash-for-work: In order to support the basic needs of the most vulnerable households with able-bodied members, Oxfam has engaged people for a total **25,319** work days in cash-for-work programs to enable them to earn money and do a job that will help clean up their environment – such as removing rubble, clearing drains, and digging ditches to carry rainwater away from landslide-prone areas.
- Cash grants: Oxfam has launched cash grant projects to give community residents who were operating small businesses prior to the earthquake a chance to earn an income or replace lost assets. Oxfam prioritizes women by providing cash grants for them to start small businesses and income-generating activities, along with business management and training to help them become self-sufficient. Strict vulnerability criteria were used, and those to benefit have included pregnant women, elderly people, and people with disabilities. Oxfam has given grants of between \$125 and \$250 to a total of **23,374** families. Evaluations are under way, but observations to date show that money has been used for asset replacement, debt repayment, health, education, and other basic household needs.
- Market support: Assessments in February showed that many communities had lost their supply of basic food products as their local grocery stores had collapsed. Oxfam is recapitalizing **210** of these stores through a mixture of grants and loans that aim to reinstate essential community economic activity.
- Recapitalizing small businesses: A labor market assessment conducted in February showed that the pool of skilled construction-related professionals in Haiti was already weak and was further reduced as a result of the earthquake. Oxfam developed a program to recapitalize **1,441** tradesmen such as plumbers, carpenters, and masons to help respond to reconstruction needs through cash and vouchers for tools.

Pioneering approach to providing food aid

Oxfam has pioneered a new way of providing food aid. Instead of using foreign donated food aid, Oxfam provided 'food kits' made up entirely of local food. The kits, including items such as plantain, local rice, beans, maize, meal, yams, cassava, peanut butter, and sweet potato, valued at \$55 per household (\$550,000 in total) were distributed to 10,000 households. Families prefer to receive food that they know and like, and it benefits farmers and local producers too, enabling a market for their produce.

Oxfam has also distributed 135 metric tons of seeds, peas, and cereals to 20,000 people, and 7,000 agricultural tool kits to 7,000 people in the Centre, Sud'est, and Artibonite regions of Haiti to help farming families.

Marie-Rose Menthor – who has a small grocery store – told Oxfam what she had learned: “The trainer told us that there was no such thing as a small business or a large business, they are all businesses and all need to make a profit. I learned a lot of new things that I hadn't known before.”

Once people are earning money again, many will be able to repair or rebuild their homes, so the most important thing Oxfam can do is help them to get back into business.

Photo: Liz Clayton/Oxfam



3. Rebuilding communities

The sheer scale of the earthquake is apparent in the loss of human life and the numbers of destroyed buildings. Oxfam is working with private and public, international and Haitian organizations, to bring a logistical and humanitarian perspective to clearing and rebuilding part of the city.

The challenge

The earthquake destroyed 105,369 homes and damaged 208,164 more, creating an estimated 25m cubic meters of rubble. This could fill enough dump trucks parked bumper to bumper to reach more than halfway around the globe. Immediately following the quake, Oxfam distributed plastic sheeting to provide emergency shelter to more than 98,000 people.

For houses to be rebuilt, sites have to be cleared, but the rate at which rubble is being removed is very slow, and only a fraction of the destroyed buildings have been torn down and sites cleared. And beneath the rubble, major infrastructural work is required by the government to repair roads and construct a sewerage and waste system appropriate for this size of city.

Another reason why few people are returning home is that land ownership is often unclear. Without appropriate papers or deeds, it is hard to make a rightful claim on a piece of land or a property. Oxfam's initial assessments indicated that more than 65 per cent of displaced people had been renting their homes prior to the earthquake.

Residents of Port-au-Prince pass through the rubble of their damaged city on 18 January, 2010. Offers of help continued to flow into earthquake-ravaged Haiti as logistical constraints continued to make it difficult to get aid to thousands of suffering Haitians.

The earthquake created an estimated 20 million cubic meters (25 million cubic yards) of debris that has to be removed. It would take 1,000 trucks a day, for 1,000 days, to clear the streets, and someone in a standard pickup truck more than 8 million trips to a waste facility to move this amount of debris.

Photo: Franz Smetz/EPA

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Our response

- More than **94,000** people benefited from Oxfam's emergency shelter program, through which we provided 12,850 tarpaulins, over 1,000 tents, 34,000 family and household kits containing the basic necessities, and 47,000 mosquito nets.
- To help deliver longer-lasting solutions, Oxfam has initiated a pilot project in Carrefour Feuilles, a community in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, where an estimated 300,000 people used to live, and where earthquake damage involves approximately 50 per cent of all homes. In collaboration with UN HABITAT and the Emergency Architects Foundation, Oxfam, with community organizations APROSIFA (Association for the Promotion of Integral Family Healthcare), PEJEFE (Programme d'encadrement des jeunes), Friendship (Haiti Friendship Ministries), CRAD (Centre de Recherches et Actions pour le Développement), and COZPAM (Platform of Community Organizations of the Port-au-Prince Metropolitan Zone) are leading the reconstruction of their community. The planning process is under way, and includes representatives from the community, local churches, the local authorities, and other community groups. The aim is to build a community that everyone "owns" and is proud of.
- Oxfam has also partnered with Disaster Waste Recovery, which is removing debris from Carrefour Feuilles with heavy machinery and local labor and reusing the debris as new foundations, boundary walls, and gabion walls to stabilise areas vulnerable to landslides. This gives local residents a safer, more stable environment and sets a good example of how rubble can be recycled in constructive ways rather than simply being dumped.

Case studies

It is important that local people are involved in the rebuilding of their own communities. In Carrefour Feuilles, one of the most heavily damaged parts of Port-au-Prince, Oxfam has ensured that two members from each of the organizations listed above were trained in techniques to involve local people in decisions about the rebuilding of their own environment.

A master plan has since been developed by the people for what they want to see in the rebuilding of Carrefour Feuilles. It includes community buildings, a park for recreation, schools, a hospital, a police station, and a recycling and waste management centre. Involving people in creating a concrete vision for the rebuilding of their community is important because it brings a sense of ownership and hope for the future. It is the community now that will ensure that the government and aid agencies continue to listen to them, and keep their plan on track.



Porky (left) and Elizé (right) crush rubble from the demolished building they are standing in. They are making aggregate that will be used in concrete mix for new buildings.

Photo: Toby Adamson/Oxfam

Gabion houses

Iléne is working in front of a new type of house – one that has been carefully engineered with steel rods and plates to help withstand the force of an earthquake or hurricane. These new buildings are reinforced with strong wire baskets – called gabions – that are filled with rubble from demolished houses and covered with render made from finely crushed concrete blocks.

This project should not only provide families with homes but also enable Oxfam to demonstrate the viability of rubble as a construction technique. The houses are also cost-effective to build and enable people to earn an income as they take part in the reconstruction of their communities.

‘I am putting chicken wire onto the metal frames and filling them with rubble,’ says Iléne. ‘I think these rubble houses are great. They feel more solid than the ones made of building blocks. If another earthquake comes, these houses should be safe.’

Iléne and others were involved in decisions about the design of the new buildings. The inclusion of a concrete floor; a kitchen or storage area; a shaded veranda – essential in this hot country – and two ways in and out of the house, reflects community aspiration for the homes that people want.

Iléne is attaching chicken wire to gabion baskets that, when folded back, will be filled with rubble to make the walls of her community's new meeting place.

Photo: Toby Adamson/Oxfam



4. Advocacy and campaigning

Oxfam has a long history of responding quickly and efficiently to emergencies. As well as working with the communities directly affected, we also work hard to ensure the best possible response and outcome by influencing more powerful organizations – urging governments, multilateral, and international institutions to contribute more to help those in need or to stop activities that are detrimental to the aid effort. We are also committed to ensuring that affected people and our supporters are informed about what we are doing.

The challenge

Haiti was one of the most unequal societies in the world before the earthquake: state institutions catered to the needs of the upper and middle classes and the system of patronage meant that the most vulnerable people saw few benefits from their government, and the international aid donations that the country had received.

Based on Oxfam's 60-plus years of experience working in disaster response, we knew that the earthquake could either exacerbate this situation or be a new beginning for Haiti. It presented a once-in-a-century opportunity for change, and it was imperative that we should help the Haitian people to get their voices heard and encourage government to resolve the inequities in society. It is more urgent than ever that the Haitian authorities move forward on longstanding issues that they are best placed to resolve, showing leadership in setting up reconstruction programs that create jobs and build skills; helping homeless families to return home and rebuild their lives; and supporting initiatives to promote investment Haitian agriculture and businesses.

With support from the international community, the government needs to invest in public works, such as water provision and road building, and should develop job creation schemes. These activities, along with cash payments to the most vulnerable, will help people get back on their feet and will generate jobs, which are the number one priority for most Haitians, including those in camps.

Our response

We campaign to help ensure that the voices of poor and marginalized people are heard and that our years of experience working in the country help to shape the decisions that affect its people. The following are a few examples of what we have delivered to date:

- After learning that private landowners were forcing residents of temporary camps to find alternative accommodation, Oxfam alerted the humanitarian community and government to this issue by quantifying the number of forced expulsions and negotiating stays of eviction with the landowners.
- Working in coalition with other organizations, Oxfam lobbied the United Nations, the USA, and Canada to ensure that the voices of Haitian people were heard at key meetings and conferences alongside those of government representatives.
- When rumors started to spread about the residents of some camps being moved to new sites, Oxfam, with other NGOs, opened lines of communication with the residents, ensuring that people could voice their concerns and were briefed fully on plans about camp movements.
- We successfully lobbied donors at high-level reconstruction conferences in January and March 2010, using a public opinion survey and in-depth report to influence decisions on behalf of the Haitian people. Oxfam's report has formed the basis of many reconstruction proposals, while the public opinion poll is the only one of its kind. It highlights the priorities of the Haitian people: education, employment, and shelter.
- In October 2010, Oxfam produced a report, 'Planting Now: Agricultural challenges and opportunities for Haiti's Reconstruction'. This report outlines ways in which the government's National Plan for reconstruction could be improved by fully involving women for their strong production and marketing skills, and rural farmers, on whom the development of the nation's rural economy depends. Oxfam calls on international donors and governments to invest in the plan as an essential poverty reduction strategy, and urges them to look at and amend unfair trade and agricultural policies that keep Haiti poor.
- After concerted campaigning by many organizations, including Oxfam, on 21 July 2010 the IMF announced the cancellation of Haiti's outstanding debt of approximately \$268m and the approval of a three-year loan to support the country's reconstruction.

5. Finance

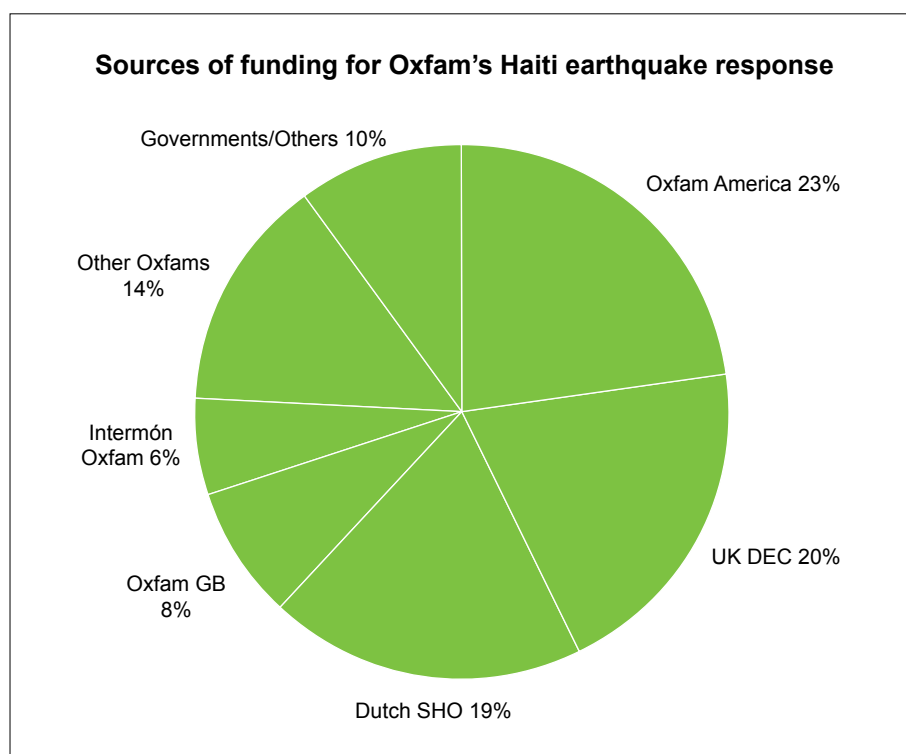
Oxfam raised approximately \$98m for its three-year earthquake response program. We have not yet received all of this money, as a proportion of the funds raised will be given in phases. By the end of 2010 Oxfam will have spent approximately \$68m. Over the next two years we will spend the remaining \$30m helping earthquake survivors to recover and reconstruct their lives and livelihoods.³

Sources of funding

Appeals to the public made by each of our affiliates raised the largest proportion of funds, with over \$50m resulting from the overwhelmingly generous responses of supporters and donors all over the world. A further \$38m of public donations came through other mechanisms, such as the Dutch Cooperating Aid Organisations (SHO) fund and the UK's Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC).

The remaining **\$9m** was given to Oxfam through governments and other agencies such as the European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO) and the Spanish, Belgian, Flemish, Scottish, and Quebec governments, as well as AusAID, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and the UK's Department for International Development (DfID).

Other than the 10 per cent of funds donated by governments/other institutions, the rest of Oxfam's earthquake response fund came from generous public donations.



3. Our figures are based on actual accounts up to the time of writing, plus an estimate up to the one-year anniversary of the earthquake.

Sources of funding for Oxfam's Haiti earthquake response

| Source | Total received (\$) |
|--|---------------------|
| Oxfam America | 22,694,381 |
| UK DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee) | 19,388,244 |
| SHO (consortium of leading Dutch Agencies) | 18,750,000 |
| Oxfam GB | 8,085,435 |
| Oxfam Intermón | 6,198,433 |
| Other Oxfam affiliates | 13,282,706 |
| Governments/others | 9,403,328 |
| Total | 97,802,527 |

How the money has been spent

The biggest focus of Oxfam's spending in this first year has been on relief supplies and materials, with **\$19.5m** spent on emergency water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion activities. A further **\$11m** was used to help people in re-establishing their livelihoods and food security. Over **\$5m** was used for the provision of shelter and the distribution of other non-food items.

\$8m was spent on logistics, ensuring that vital supplies and equipment were purchased, transported, and stored safely in warehouses before distribution. Approximately **\$10m** was spent on the staffing necessary to carry out our operations. Over 90 per cent of Oxfam's staff are Haitian; expatriates from all over the world have supported them, providing technical expertise and humanitarian program management.

A further **\$6.5m** went on capital items such as vehicles, accommodation, and office space, essential for the smooth co-ordination of a large and complex operation, especially over this length of time. Another **\$3m** was spent on other program activities, including disaster risk reduction, advocacy, campaigning, and media activities.

Finally, **\$4m** – 7 per cent of the overall budget – was spent on management support, providing the external support, supervision, monitoring, and reporting that our program needs to deliver resiliently in these conditions.

Oxfam's earthquake response program will continue for another two years – making use of the funds generously given, to continue the reconstruction and recovery process in Haiti.

6. The future

What still needs to be done

International organizations and government donors need to work more closely with Haitian authorities, reinforcing Haitian involvement in the recovery process at all levels, and working to improve the performance of ministries. We all need to listen to and support the efforts of millions of ordinary Haitians, who struggle daily to improve their lives and those of their children.

Oxfam's vision over the next two years is that our work will make a significant contribution to a better life for Haitian people, particularly those affected by the earthquake.

Emmanuella Joanna Raymond, seen here in the doorway of her small shop, has received some business training from Oxfam. She said she really loved the training and that if she had received that kind of training before the earthquake, her business would have been much further along: she has learned that you have to really manage the money that comes in and the money that goes out.

Photo: Toby Adamson/Oxfam



Farmers benefit from a seed distribution in the town of Desvarieux, Haiti, on May 11, 2010. Most families feel the strain of supporting additional family members and friends who left Port-au-Prince after the earthquake. These extra seeds are desperately needed since most people had eaten the stock that they had intended for planting this year.

Photo: Ami Vitale/Oxfam



We will continue to build on our successful relationships with local partners, civil society, local governance, and communities in order to:

- Continue to focus our work on the most vulnerable, particularly women, girls, elderly people, and disabled people;
- Move from delivering water by tankers to working with the government to provide longer-term solutions to help communities gain sustainable water, sanitation, and waste management services;
- Invest in new and recovering small businesses to inject money into the local economy and create employment;
- Establish an urban resource centre for training, sharing information on reconstruction, and encouraging local design and innovation for rebuilding homes and communities;
- Encourage links between small-scale agricultural producers, local markets, and consumers to increase access to food and provide better livelihoods for producers;
- Promote and support more sustainable agricultural practices and technologies that protect the environment;
- Help people to adapt to climate change and minimize risks of natural disasters;
- Encourage active and responsible citizenship and the participation of civil society in the process of reconstruction.

As Oxfam implements its recovery and reconstruction programs over the next two years, we will also continue to advocate for a just and sustainable rebuilding strategy in Haiti, led by the government and with meaningful participation of civil society, including community and religious leaders and local and international NGOs.

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This paper was written by Elspeth Clayton and Lucy Davies. Oxfam acknowledges the assistance of Richard Atkinson, Lourdes Benavides de la Vega, Andrew Davies, Yonel Delmas, Anne Edgerton, Esther Guillaume, Lina Holguin, Sophie Martin-Simpson, Trust Nkomo, Sandrine Robert, and Philippa Young, and of Abigail Humphries Robertson in its production.

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For further information on the issues raised in this paper please e-mail information@oxfaminternational.org

The information in this publication is correct at the time of going to press.

Published by Oxfam GB for Oxfam International under ISBN 978-1-84814-796-6 in January 2011. Oxfam GB, Oxfam House, John Smith Drive, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 2JY, UK.

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Registered charity in England and Wales No 202918 and Scotland SC039042