

DOCTORS OF THE WORLD
عالم أطباء
世界の医療団 ARZTI
ατροί του κόσμου
醫生组织 DOCTORS OF
MEDICOS DEL MUNDO 世
DEL MONDO ΓΙΑΤΡ

UPDATE
MARCH 2010

MÉDICOS DEL MONDO ΓΙΑΤΡΟΙ ΤΟΥ ΚΟΣΜΟΥ DOKTERS VAN DE WEREL
CINS DU MONDE 世界医生组织 DOCTORS OF THE WORLD منظمة أطباء العالم
ICOS DO MUNDO MÉDICOS DEL MUNDO 世界の医療団 ARZTE DER WEL
RE I VÄRLDEN MEDICI DEL MONDO ΓΙΑΤΡΟΙ ΤΟΥ ΚΟΣΜΟΥ DOKTER
के डॉक्टर MÉDECINS DU MONDE 世界医生组织 DOCTORS OF THE WORL
DE WERELD MÉDICOS DO MUNDO MÉDICOS DEL MUNDO 世界の医療団



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DOCTORS OF THE WORLD IN HAITI

EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY

HAITI EARTHQUAKE

KEY DATES

- JAN** → **12** **4.53pm** (local time). The earthquake, measuring **7.3** on the Richter scale, strikes Haiti southwest of Port-au-Prince.
- 13** **3am** (local time). Doctors of the World (DoW) decides to launch an emergency programme. An immediate priority is to make contact with our teams in Haiti. All are safe and sound, but in shock and many have lost loved ones and their homes. Some DoW premises in Port-au-Prince have been destroyed. Later that day, the DoW teams already in Port-au-Prince begin to distribute essential medicines and emergency drugs to two hospitals in the city.
- 14** A team of DoW doctors and surgeons redeployed from the Dominican Republic arrives in Port-au-Prince. The teams have to deal with frequent aftershocks.
- 15** DoW starts mobile clinics to offer first aid and minor surgical care to around **300** patients in the densely populated Cité Soleil area. First reinforcements from Europe arrive in the Dominican Republic.
- 16** DoW surgical teams begin emergency surgery in Port-au-Prince's General Hospital, working alongside surgical teams from other organisations, such as Partners in Health and International Medical Corps.
- 19** DoW outreach teams begin providing primary healthcare to the homeless population dispersed in makeshift camps in central Port-au-Prince. Surgical and medical teams start to work in Sonapi temporary hospital.
- 20** Our surgical teams have conducted more than **50** major operations in the General Hospital. Outreach teams are now carrying out about **140** medical consultations each day. A needs assessment begins in Jacmel.
- 23** A medical team starts work in Pinchinat, Jacmel. In seven days they see **934** patients.
- 30** Emergency equipment and supplies are sent to Jeremie hospital in Grande Anse to help the hospital treat seriously wounded people from the earthquake zone.
- FEB** → **01** DoW's existing programme in Grande Anse is extended to ensure access to medical care. Free healthcare for all will be provided in **11** local health centres for six months.
- 12** The mobile clinics providing basic healthcare in seven different areas of the city have seen **5,845** patients in three and a half weeks.
- 21** The mobile clinics in Petit Goave and Grand Goave have seen **1,044** persons since 8 February. DoW surgical teams in Port-au-Prince General Hospital have now carried out **798** operations.
- 23** The outreach teams in Cité Soleil have now provided more than **2,000** medical consultations (52% in children aged under 15) and about **1,600** psychological consultations.
- MAR** → **01** The emergency surgical activities finish at the end of February and DoW is discussing the long-term needs with the hospital management. The work to ensure access to healthcare for the homeless and displaced populations is ongoing, and DoW will work with the Haitian authorities to help rebuild the country's health system.

A RAPID RESPONSE TO THE HAITI EARTHQUAKE

Before 12 January 2010, the people of Haiti had already suffered more than any population should have to. More than half of the population (54%) were living below the poverty line and average life expectancy at birth was just 57 years. The country is also at serious risk of hurricane damage—less than two years ago the island was hit by four successive hurricanes in two months.

The earthquake has devastated Haiti—both its population (more than 217,000 deaths and 300,000 people injured) and its infrastructure. More than 200,000 homes were destroyed, leaving an estimated 1.2 million people homeless. Around 500,000 people have fled the capital and are displaced elsewhere in Haiti.

→ EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Since the day after the earthquake Doctors of the World (*Médecins du Monde*) teams have been working to treat the wounded and to restore access to healthcare for the population affected. This rapid mobilisation was possible thanks to our teams who were already in place, working on long-term health programmes in Haiti and neighbouring Dominican Republic.

While the DoW teams in Haiti numbered 87 on the day of the earthquake, by the end of February there were 407 people working on the ground as part of the emergency response. The efforts of these teams—which include 340 Haitian staff and 67 international staff—are backed by the work of headquarters teams in the 14 member organisations of the Doctors of the World international network.

Our response to the emergency has been a coordinated effort involving Doctors of the World's entire international network. Three of the network's member organisations were already working in Haiti before the earthquake and have since sent reinforcements. Five other member organisations of the network rapidly sent emergency and/or post-emergency teams. The remaining international network member organisations have provided essential financial, human resources and logistical support, and may get involved in the reconstruction programmes.



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Doctors of the World's emergency response has focused on four main elements

- Emergency surgery to treat those injured in the earthquake zone
- Access to healthcare for homeless people in the earthquake zone and those displaced to other areas of the country
- Prevention activities, including vaccination, tackling violence, providing information on HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, and ensuring access to water and food
- Provision of psychological support

DOCTORS OF THE WORLD

EMERGENCY PROGRAMMES

PORT AU PRINCE

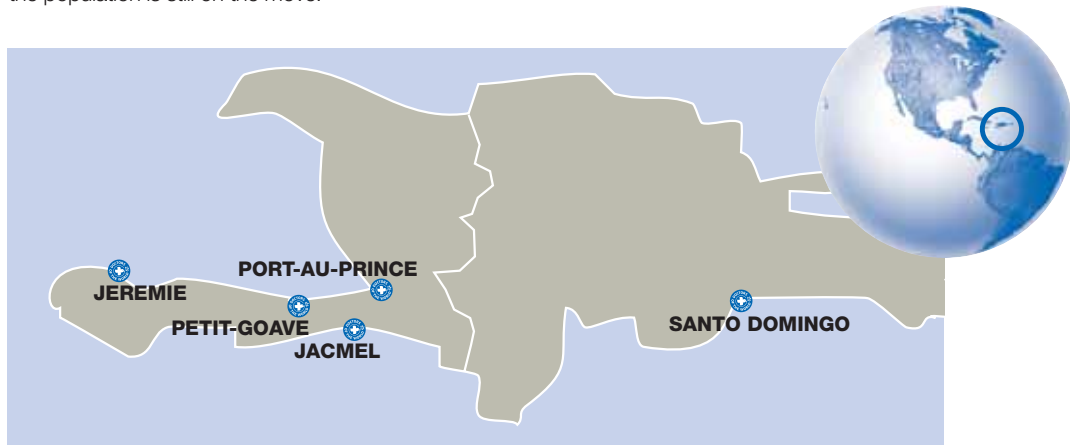
General Hospital (Hopital Universitaire de l'Etat d'Haiti or HUEH)

Doctors of the World international surgical teams carried out emergency surgery and provided pre- and post-operative care in Port-au-Prince General Hospital. By 12 February, the teams had carried out 697 operations — mainly repairing wounds and managing fractures. The surgical teams adopted a conservative approach to serious limb injuries; despite this 6% of the operations unfortunately resulted in amputations (Figure 1).

DoW was one of 10 organisations working in the hospital, under the co-ordination of the hospital management. Our teams worked closely alongside the surgical teams of other organisations — such as Partners in Health and International Medical Corps — through a joint system of triage and post-operative care, and by pooling resources whenever necessary.

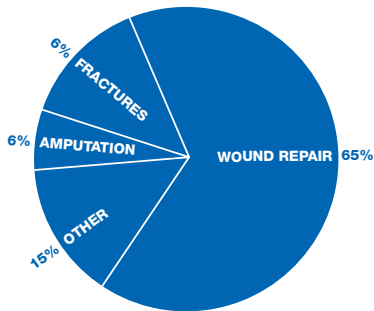
Makeshift settlements around central Port-au-Prince (Champ de Mars, Sans Fil, Carrefour Feuille, Bernard MEVS, Deprez-Tapis rouge, Delmas and Cité Georges)

More than 700,000 people are said to be living in the 500-plus makeshift settlements that have sprung up around the city. In partnership with our long-term Haitian partners URAMEL and SOE, and with the support of many medical volunteers (medical students, nurses), DoW medical outreach teams run mobile clinics in seven different areas of the city. These clinics cover between 15 and 20 settlements and carry out around 250 medical consultations a day (Figure 2). Semi-permanent clinics are now being introduced in some settlements, while the outreach teams continue to run mobile clinics in sites where the population is still on the move.



MOBILE CLINIC ACTIVITIES

- Providing medical care (including basic primary care, treatment for acute and chronic conditions, dealing with sexual violence, pre-natal care, family planning, immunisation, treating injuries, infectious disease surveillance and referrals to nearby hospitals)
- Ongoing evaluation of the situation and highlighting unmet needs such as water, sanitation and food
- Community awareness-raising activities by 36 trained community health workers (covering issues such as hygiene, HIV, violence) and signposting towards other support organisations
- Supporting the district health centres
- Providing mental health support



Surgery at Port-au-Prince general hospital (697 operations in 4 weeks)



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As part of the range of activities offered by the mobile clinics (see box) our outreach teams aim to facilitate access to psychological support. The outreach teams have brought children’s games to the settlements—not only do these games give the children something to do, they also create an opportunity for their parents to talk. Where possible signs of post-traumatic stress are identified, our community agents refer people to one of the three hospitals where DoW is already working on mental health issues.

Cité Soleil

In partnership with the public hospital, known as CHOSCAL, Doctors of the World teams have been treating more than 100 patients a day in the poorest area of the city. The activities include: emergency care, first aid, general medical care, minor surgery, pre- and post-operative care and psychological support. In addition, three outreach teams visit 16 makeshift settlements (each one now home to between 500 and 9,000 people) to run mobile clinics that treat the injured, provide psychological support and refer the most serious cases to the hospital. While people wait to see a doctor, community health workers carry out health education activities and a child immunisation campaign is underway. Prior to the earthquake, Doctors of the World was working in this area to tackle HIV and ensure access to family planning—these activities are now up and running again.

Carrefour

At the request of a Haitian NGO, Doctors of the World is now working with a group of around 900 homeless people in Carrefour. Among other things, the DoW teams are helping with a vaccination campaign on this site.

Sonapi

Doctors of the World surgical and medical teams have been working in a temporary hospital in Sonapi, south of Port-au-Prince airport. Our teams have been carrying out an average of 150 consultations a day and the hospital has had to increase its inpatient capacity from 40 to 70 beds due to the high level of demand.

JACMEL

A DoW team ran an emergency project in Pinchinat, Jacmel, between 23 and 30 January. During that time, they saw 943 patients with a wide variety of medical conditions and health needs (gastritis was the most common). The team has since moved on to Petit-Goave.

PETIT-GOAVE AND GRAND-GOAVE

Doctors of the World has been working in this area for years providing primary healthcare, focusing particularly on tackling malnutrition, and the organisation had a lead role in coordinating the health activities in this badly-damaged region in the aftermath of the earthquake. In partnership with local authorities, DoW teams quickly set up mobile clinics to reach the most isolated groups. Helicopter delivery of tents and other equipment has enabled the reopening of four DoW clinics in parts of Grand-Goave that were inaccessible by road. The project is also working in 10 dispensaries to improve nutrition. The team that had been working in Jacmel (see above) has now arrived in Petit-Goave to increase the capacity of the mobile clinics. The programme will be extended to strengthen sexual and reproductive health services and to implement a psychosocial support programme.

JEREMIE, GRANDE ANSE

Although the Grande Anse area was not directly affected by the earthquake, some 110,000 people have travelled there from the earthquake zone. The Doctors of the World team, which has been working in Jeremie for several years, reacted quickly to support the local health services in caring for this displaced population.

Under DoW's existing programme in Grande Anse, free primary healthcare was introduced in nine health centres for pregnant women and children under five years old. This access to free healthcare is now being extended to the whole population in a total of 11 local health centres for a period of six months. The nutrition programme has also been strengthened in both the hospital and health centres. Local health workers will be trained to screen for malnutrition. Finally, more support is being provided to the maternity unit in Jeremie hospital.

OTHER PROJECTS

Doctors of the World is also conducting a needs assessment for strengthening mother and child healthcare in **Petit-Goave** and **Miragoane**.

SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

A logistical base in Santo Domingo supports all the emergency programmes. More than 40 tonnes of medical and logistical supplies have been sent to Haiti. In the first month, this base organised the arrival, departure and transport of 130 international staff.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Our teams report that one of the key factors in overcoming the huge operational difficulties facing humanitarian organisations in the field in the aftermath of the earthquake, was a collaborative approach. In addition to the joint efforts of the different member organisations of the DoW international network, the contribution of our long-term local partner organisations has been vital. Close collaboration with other international organisations also helped our teams to overcome the chaos they faced in the early days.

FUNDING

Funders who have supported this work include the EU (ECHO), Paris City Council, Clinton Foundation, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Quebec Ministry for International Relations, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (through the UN Flash Appeal), Munich City Council, Caja Madrid Foundation, Vinci, L'Oreal and Sanofi. The support of our individual donors—who have contributed more than \$10 million across the Doctors of the World network—has also been vital.

Previous funders of our work in Haiti include ECHO, UK Department for International Development, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, CIDA, UNICEF, Fondation Air France and Sternstunden.



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HAITI:

LONG-TERM COMMITMENT

Although the first acute phase of emergency treatment for those injured in the earthquake has now passed, the health needs in Haiti remain huge. The situation of the 1.2 million people who have been rendered homeless is particularly worrying. Less than a quarter of this population have received tents. The conditions in the makeshift camps—little access to sanitation, water and food—increase the risks of respiratory infections and diarrhoeal diseases, especially during the forthcoming rainy season.

Doctors of the World was committed to Haiti before the earthquake struck, and we'll carry on working long after the media spotlight has moved on. For now, this means continuing with our work to ensure access to healthcare and psychological support for those affected. The Haitian president has announced plans to move more of the homeless population to organised rural camps outside Port-au-Prince, and this might change the health needs and the type of humanitarian response required in coming weeks. In the longer term, Doctors of the World will work with the Haitian authorities to help rebuild the country's health system.

Doctors of the World's 15-year history in Haiti was a crucial factor in enabling us to react quickly to this emergency. Our presence on the ground at the time the earthquake struck, our understanding of the Haitian context and, above all, the local knowledge and expertise of our Haitian staff were all invaluable.

ONGOING AND RECENT WORK IN HAITI

The projects which were ongoing in January 2010, or had been recently, included:

- A long-term programme to support victims of violence in Port-au-Prince
- A multi-sectoral programme to provide medical care to the community of Cité Soleil, the poorest area of Port-au-Prince, in partnership with CHOSCAL
- Emergency programmes in Gonaïves and Grande Anse to provide medical care to people affected by the 2008 hurricanes
- A long-term mother and child health programme in Jeremie, Grande Anse. One aspect of the programme is to introduce provision of free primary healthcare for pregnant women and children under five
- Supporting local health services in Petit-Goave and Grand-Goave, with a particular focus on mother and child health. In 2009, the focus of the programme was extended to include tackling malnutrition

Doctors of the World has also been assessing the needs and exploring the feasibility of several potential new programmes:

- Reproductive health in the Ouanaminthe/Dajabon border area
- Cervical cancer prevention in Cap-Haïtien
- Disaster risk management in Grande Anse

AT HOME AND ABROAD

A key element of Doctors of the World's work is that, as well as providing healthcare in developing countries we also support the most vulnerable groups in our own societies. Across the network we are working to ensure that vulnerable groups, such as migrants and homeless people, have access to healthcare. In response to the emergency in Haiti, Doctors of the World is providing psychological support to members of the Haitian community in Montreal who might need psychological support.

MÉDECINS DU MONDE 世界医生组织 DOCTORS OF THE WORLD العالم أطباء منظمة LÄKARE I VÄRLDEN MEDICI DEL MONDO ΓΙΑΤΡΟΙ ΤΟΥ ΚΟΣΜΟΥ DOKTERS VAN DE WERELD MÉDICOS DO MUNDO MÉDICOS DEL MUNDO 世界の医療団 ÄRZTE DER WELT दुनिया के डॉक्टर MÉDECINS DU MONDE 世界医生组织 DOCTORS OF THE WORLD العالم أطباء منظمة LÄKARE I VÄRLDEN MEDICI DEL MONDO ΓΙΑΤΡΟΙ ΤΟΥ ΚΟΣΜΟΥ DOKTERS VAN DE WERELD MÉDICOS DO MUNDO MÉDICOS DEL MUNDO 世界の医療団 ÄRZTE DER WELT दुनिया के डॉक्टर MÉDECINS DU MONDE 世界医生组织 DOCTORS OF THE WORLD العالم أطباء منظمة LÄKARE I VÄRLDEN MEDICI DEL MONDO ΓΙΑΤΡΟΙ ΤΟΥ ΚΟΣΜΟΥ DOKTERS VAN DE WERELD MÉDICOS DO MUNDO MÉDICOS DEL MUNDO 世界の医療団



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ABOUT DOCTORS OF THE WORLD

Doctors of the World, also known as Médecins du Monde, is an international humanitarian organisation that has been providing care to vulnerable populations for 30 years. Our work, which takes place in both developing and developed countries, relies on the commitment of our volunteers and salaried staff.

Doctors of the World runs both emergency and long-term programmes. We always aim to strengthen national health systems, build capacity for health workers, bring services closer to communities and work in partnership with local organisations. As an impartial, non-governmental organisation, Doctors of the World advocates for access to healthcare for all, especially for those whom the world is forgetting.

Doctors of the World's international network is composed of 14 member organisations: Argentina, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

KEY FIGURES

- 165 programmes in 68 countries
- 210 domestic programmes in the 14 member organisations of the international network
- €92.6 million budget for the Doctors of the World international network in 2008
- 60% of our funding comes from private donors, 40% from institutional grants

→ FOR MORE INFORMATION

Doctors of the World

62, rue Marcadet, 75018 Paris, France
T: +33 1 44 92 13 00
F: +33 1 44 92 99 92

Fundraising Office

T: +33 1 44 92 13 53
ddi@medecinsdumonde.net

International Network Head Office

T: +33 1 44 92 14 80
dri@medecinsdumonde.net

www.mdm-international.org
www.medecinsdumonde.org