Le Pakistan est situé dans une région du monde particulièrement vulnérable aux catastrophes naturelles de toutes sortes. La diversité de sa géographie entraîne de multiples risques dont des sécheresses, des inondations, des séismes et des cyclones.

The Republic of Haiti is part of an island in the Great Antilles in the Caribbean Sea. The climate is tropical and the rainy season extends from April to June and from October to November, whereas the hurricane season lasts from June to November. The country is regularly hit by natural catastrophes, mainly tropical storms and hurricanes, whose impacts are made all the worse by the heavy deforestation of the country.

On January 12, 2010, Haiti was struck by a devastating earthquake that measured 7.0 in magnitude and causing over 200,000 deaths and leaving 2.3 million displaced and homeless. The quake, which was the worst to hit the country in 200 years, wrought extensive damage. It is estimated that 70% of the capital Port-au-Prince was destroyed, and that many areas in the West and South East of the country were also significantly devastated (destroyed by 15 to 60%).

Humanitarian Aid, Reconstruction and Development Program

Context

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Humanitarian situation

200,000 deaths
2.3 million homeless
105,000 houses destroyed and 208,164 severely damaged
1,550,000 people displaced and living in 1,555 temporary camps
600,000 people who moved to other regions
Our response

In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, Development and Peace, with the full support of the Canadian bishops, launched an appeal for donations for relief efforts amongst its members, the faithful and the general public. Through this appeal, $21.5 million was donated.

This amount is a testament to the mobilization capacity of Development and Peace’s supporters and to the generosity of Canadians. With this sum, Development and Peace has been able to mount a program that covers the various phases required to respond to a disaster of this scope. Of the amount raised, $18 million has been allocated directly to projects in Haiti, with the remainder being used for an on-site team that is supporting the implementation of the program over a period of six years.

In addition to public contributions, we also received an additional $7.5 million in funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for two major projects, one aimed at rebuilding homes and infrastructure and another for re-establishing agricultural production, from the Quebec Ministry of International Relations (MRI) and from other institutions.

The Emergency Phase

FROM JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 2010

In the aftermath of the earthquake, two Emergency Relief Program Officers from Development and Peace travelled to Haiti to provide logistical support for the organization and distribution of humanitarian aid. We teamed with partners of the Caritas network, namely Caritas Haiti and Catholic Relief Services (CRS). In the first six months after the earthquake, the Caritas network was able to bring relief to 2.3 million people by supplying food, water and shelter, and also by providing medical and psychosocial services to traumatized earthquake victims. We allocated approximately $3.5 million to this phase of our response.

During these first nine months, Development and Peace assisted religious communities that were deeply involved in providing health and education services to Haitians prior to the earthquake. Our contribution supported activities like providing hot meals to enable children to return to school, the distribution of seeds to communities hosting displaced families, community level cash-for-work programs to remove debris while providing earthquake victims with much needed income to meet their basic needs, and measures to protect women in camps.

Beyond immediate emergency relief, Development and Peace also assisted its local partner organizations in re-establishing the infrastructure of their offices and in replacing or repairing damaged equipment (vehicles, computers, telephones, etc) to allow these organizations to quickly become operational in order to aid earthquake victims, and to play a vital role in the reconstruction of the country.

Over $28 million for aid

$21,414,015 in public donations
$7,134,280 from CIDA
$250,000 from the MRI
$37,400 from other sources

Total: $28,835,695
Reconstruction and Relaunching the Local Economy

SEPTEMBER 2010 – AUGUST 2013

In September 2010, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE launched the reconstruction phase of its program, founded on the intrinsic human dignity of each person and focused on social change in favour of the poor and marginalized. In addition to reconstructing homes and community infrastructure, the program set out to rebuild the nation’s tattered social fabric to elicit the active participation of Haitians in the “re-founding” of their own country. We committed some $9.5 million to this phase of the program.

This phase of the program was mainly focused on the most vulnerable segments of the population in areas directly affected by the earthquake, on those who were displaced, and on communities and families hosting earthquake victims. Within these broader sectors, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE focused its assistance on the most vulnerable, and particularly on female-headed households.

We also reinforced our work with civil society organizations, mainly peasant associations, women’s groups, community radio networks and organizations working to defend and strengthen human rights. In all cases, the organizations in question are deeply rooted in their communities and work directly with the local population, especially the most vulnerable.

We worked closely with the Caritas network, and more specifically with Caritas Haiti, in order to support the latter in putting in place development projects, to strengthen its knowledge of disaster risk reduction techniques, to help it promote equitable relationships between women and men, and to strengthen the financial and administrative skills of its staff. We also built partnerships with religious communities in order to actively participate in the reconstruction of the infrastructures they require to provide essential health and educational services, as well as strengthen their activities in support of the local population.

Some of the activities done during this phase include:
- Strengthening peasant associations in the provinces of the Northeast, Central Plateau, Artibonite and the Southeast to relaunch agricultural production;
- The distribution of seeds and organic inputs to 6,500 peasant families; and
- The construction and renovation of schools and housing.

The Emergency Phase

FROM JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 2010 (continued)

In short, this phase of the program allowed DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE to:
- Distribute food to 1.5 million people;
- Provide medical aid and vaccinations to 160,000 people through mobile clinics;
- Provide temporary housing and shelter to 160,000 people;
- Distribute potable water, latrines, washing stations and hygiene kits to 280,000 people;
- Distribute seeds and tools to displaced people and host communities;
- Renovate or rent office space for local partners and repair equipment; and
- Repair or rebuild schools, purchase school supplies and provide meals to displaced students.
Reconstruction and Relaunching the Local Economy

SEPTEMBER 2013 – DECEMBER 2015

This final phase involves the continuation of the program underway and is intended to strengthen it. It does not constitute a new program, but rather aims to complete and consolidate the gains already achieved. For this phase of the program, we allocated the remaining $5 million in funds that were not already committed to specific projects.

While the areas of intervention and the nature of the supported activities remain the same as those in the previous phase, the objectives in this final phase go well beyond simply meeting basic needs. This aspect of the program is expected to lay the foundation for much longer-term work. The objectives for the final phase of our program are the following:

- To strengthen Haitian civil society organizations and to enhance their grassroots activities;
- To support the efforts of the Haitian Episcopal Conference, Caritas Haiti and its diocesan branches, and religious communities; and
- To support various initiatives by local actors involved in rebuilding the country.

Financial distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humanitarian aid</td>
<td>$3,266,825</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reconstruction projects</td>
<td>$22,142,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative fees</td>
<td>$3,426,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$28,835,695</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Four strategic areas

**Socio-economic development**

Well before the earthquake, Haiti was recognized as one of the poorest countries in the Americas. Since the earthquake, the extreme poverty in which the majority of Haitians find themselves has only increased, particularly in the slums and in the poor and unhealthy neighborhoods surrounding the capital and major provincial cities. Rife with violence and insecurity, these clusters have become explosive tinderboxes. It is precisely in these areas that Development and Peace will continue to support activities designed to reduce poverty, to generate income for poor and marginalized families and to organize the people. The struggle against extreme poverty is one of the key priorities for this phase of our work and demands that we lend particular attention to slum areas.

**Reconstruction**

In the aftermath of the earthquake, rebuilding homes and community infrastructure became one of the most obvious priorities in Haiti. Beyond the thousands of homes that were destroyed, massive amounts of government, Church, religious, civil society, social and community infrastructure were partially, or entirely destroyed. Development and Peace’s contribution in this area is based on our approach to “rebuilding the human habitat,” which goes beyond simple physical reconstruction to also rebuild and strengthen the social fabric.

**Human rights and democratic processes**

Human dignity and the rights that flow from it have always been at the core of Development and Peace’s work. The human rights situation in Haiti has deteriorated since the earthquake. Violence in camps, violence against women, the eviction of homeless people and arbitrary decisions in the reconstruction process are all of great concern for Development and Peace. The 2010 earthquake, as well as the hurricanes that regularly hit the country have instilled an enduring sense of urgency where authorities govern according to a logic dictated by “emergency laws” that disregard citizen participation in the reconstruction process.

**Capacity building**

Haitian organizations were affected in very different ways by the earthquake. Not only was their infrastructure disrupted, but their institutional and organizational capacity was diminished. Further complicating the situation for these organizations since the earthquake is that they have found themselves in stiff competition with international organizations intervening in the same sectors as they are, but with much greater resources. For these reasons, it is even more important that Development and Peace remain sensitive to local partners’ needs for institutional development and capacity building. We need to help Haitians identify and enhance their capacity to intervene and to participate fully as the principle architects in the “re-founding” of their own country.
A day of celebration in Ti-Boucan!

A crowd of nearly 300 people gathered in Ti-Boucan on February 5, 2013 for the inauguration ceremony in honour of our house-construction project.

A big top was set up across from the plant, where the families, sporting green tee shirts, assembled to share their joy with relatives, friends, neighbours and classmates, all of whom made the trip for the occasion.

Seated at the end of a row, we found Yvonne Delcamize Simon who, like so many others, had lived for several years in a makeshift shelter in extremely precarious conditions. Beneath her great big straw hat, she told us with a smile, “I’m keen for the day to be over so I can sleep under my new roof.”

The ceremony unfolded before the national media and various guests, including Michèle D. Pierre Louis, former prime minister of Haiti; Ketty PAQUIOT, chairperson of the board of ITECA; Jean Bélice Elissaint, representative of the CASEC of Ti-Boucan; Jean-Ronald Oscar, elected member from the electoral division of Gressier; Céliane Jolicoeur, representative of the families; Bérénice Clément, director of UCAONG/MPCE; Gillio Brunelli, representative of DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE; Pierrot Delienne, representative of the prime minister of Haiti; Rose Anne Auguste, delegated minister in charge of human rights and the anti-poverty struggle; and Henri Paul Normandin, Canada’s ambassador to Haiti.

This was a day of recognition for the numerous months of non-stop work by hundreds of people who helped build 58 houses in mountainous, difficult-to-access areas. This means 58 families are able at long last to leave behind their tents and makeshift shelters and settle in homes designed to resist earthquakes and cyclones.

“Neither the families nor Ti-Boucan residents in general should be called project beneficiaries; they’re full-fledged participants who’ve worked every step of the way to make the 58 houses emerge from the ground up,” said Céliane Jolicoeur during her speech.

Henri Normandin, Canada’s ambassador to Haiti, also pointed out that “the concrete results of this work stem from the participation and commitment of each and every citizen of the area. This project also shows what great results we can obtain through solidarity in action.” All the guests underlined the importance of the community’s participation and recalled the slogan of the project: “Si se nou Se kiyès?” (If not us, who else?)

Gilio Brunelli, Director of International Programs at DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE, also stressed that “our project is guided by a desire to enable disaster victims to live in a new house, especially a house where they can feel at home.”

After visiting the plant, Monsignor Toussaint blessed one of the houses built in the town of Sou Kafou. At the end of the day, the families could settle into their new homes and get on with their family lives in a fully dignified way.

As part of its mission, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE responds to humanitarian crises caused by natural disasters or conflict.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE is the Canadian member of Caritas Internationalis, one of the largest humanitarian aid networks in the world.

To learn more about DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE’s work in Haiti, consult www.devp.org/in-haiti.