



HAITI EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE (HEAR)

FINAL RESULTS REPORT (Revised)

February 5, 2010 to December 31, 2011

For

**THE UNITED STATES AGENCY
FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

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HEAR PROJECT FINAL RESULTS REPORT

Project Goal: Promote recovery by enabling families to live safely on their original home sites and resume livelihood strategies.

Project Overview:

The Haiti Earthquake Response (HEAR) Project, which was implemented over a period of 23 months by World Concern Development Organization (WCDO) in partnership with USAID/OFDA, was focused on promoting rapid recovery for the victims of the January 12, 2010 devastating earthquake. The 7.0 earthquake caused a massive destruction of hundreds of thousands of buildings and led to a loss of an estimated 230,000 lives and displacement of 1.3 million persons. The massive infrastructure destruction created an unprecedented situation which affected most of the populous areas as well as the economic and administrative center of Port-au-Prince. Initial HEAR project focus was made in the neighborhood of Delmas commune and covered Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS) as well as Shelter and Settlements (S&S) sectors. The activities included cash grants for small businesses, temporary employment (cash for work), transitional shelters (t-shelters) and provision of house repair assistance. The project injected cash into local economy which stimulated economic activity through provision of cash grants and engaging host and internally displaced persons (IDPs) into cash for work (CFW) rubble removal activities, which helped to provide better access for t-shelter and house repair activities.

Following the successful implementation of a 12 month-Phase I, USAID/OFDA approved a further 8-month HEAR project's Cost Modification proposal (Phase II). With ERMS sector activities concluded in Phase I, WASH activities added and S&S targets increased, Phase II was exclusively focused on the Nazon area of Delmas commune. In September 2011, OFDA approved WCDO's 3 month no-cost extension request to December 31, 2011 in order to allow for completion of Phase II targets for both S&S and WASH sectors.

The monitoring of ERMS, S&S and WASH sector activities was done through weekly and monthly field visits, work progress reports, and observations and consultations with communities, partners and other stakeholders. Site visits by OFDA field staff were very helpful in identifying areas for improvement including staff training, capacity building and quality control. WCDO worked to consider the suggestions immediately and put additional measures in place to enhance project quality including the Ministry of Public Construction (MTPTC) house repair guidelines training workshop conducted by MTPTC engineers. The training enhanced capacity, quality monitoring and supervision of project activities.

By the end of the grant (December 31, 2011), HEAR project component of ERMS assisted 1,100 persons through cash grants while 5,844 persons were employed through cash for work rubble removal activities. In the S&S sector, 774 vulnerable households were provided with t-shelters while 2,037 households had their earthquake-damaged houses repaired benefiting over 14,055 persons. In the WASH sector, 628 latrines were rehabilitated and 388 rainwater harvesting systems installed benefitting 1,164 households. The Project encountered constraints including insecurity exacerbated by a rise in the criminality as well as disruption in the supply chain and shortages of some construction materials. Despite the constraints the project achieved and surpassed most of the indicator targets for all the three objectives within budget. Lessons learned and best practices from the implementation of the HEAR project activities are documented and will be shared and used in future related disaster response projects implemented by WCDO, its partners and other stakeholders.

I. Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS) Sector:

Objective: Restore sources of income affected by the Haiti earthquake.

ERMS Sector Start Date: February 05, 2010 **ERMS Sector End Date:** February 04, 2011

Cumulative figures for both targeted and reached beneficiaries for all objectives:

	Targeted:	Reached:
Total Beneficiaries	10,000	15,642
IDPs:	2,000	3,128

Indicator	Achieved During the Life of the Grant (Feb 5, 2010 to Feb 4, 2011)
Sector: Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)	
Sub sector: Economic Asset Restoration	
Number of people assisted through economic asset restoration activities <i>Target: 1,000 families/5,000 individuals</i>	1,100 members of households were assisted through economic asset restoration activities. <i>(Percent of the target achieved: 110%)</i>
Total USD amount channeled into the local economy (through cash grants, vouchers, livelihoods fairs) <i>Target: \$450,000</i>	USD 453,422 was channeled into the economy through cash grants. <i>(Percent of target achieved: 101%)</i>
Number of people in addition to owners employed by enterprises restored through program activities <i>Target: 1,500</i>	1,054 people in addition to owners of enterprises were employed by enterprises restored through project activities. <i>(Percent of target achieved: 70%)</i>
Sub sector: Temporary Employment	
Number of people employed through CFW activities <i>Target: 2,000</i>	5,844 people were employed through CFW rubble removal activities. <i>(Percent of target achieved: 292%)</i>
Average USD amount per person earned through the CFW activities <i>Target: \$150 (new target)</i>	USD 926,891.21 was used to pay CFW beneficiaries. On average \$158.61 per person ¹ . <i>(Percent of target achieved: 106%)</i>
Number and percent of women employed through CFW activities <i>Target: 700 (35%)</i>	2,387 women (40.8%) have been employed through CFW activities. <i>(Percent of target achieved: 117%)</i>

¹ Each beneficiary gets \$150 for 30 days worked. However Community Monitors who inspect the work carried out by cash for work beneficiaries receive \$187 for their role. Due to the insecure nature of other areas, some beneficiaries were allowed to work longer than 30 days. Hence the higher average of \$158.61

II. Shelter and Settlements (S&S) Sector:

Objective: Prevent the negative coping strategy of migrating to camps through the provision of adequate living space and transitional shelters at the original home site.

S&S Sector Start Date: February 05, 2010 **S&S Sector (NCE) End Date:** December 31, 2011

Cumulative figures for both targeted and reached beneficiaries for all objectives:

	Targeted	Reached
Total Beneficiaries:	12,250	14,055
IDPs:	2,450	2,811

Indicator	Achieved During the Life of the Grant (Feb 5, 2010 to Dec 31, 2011)
Sector: Shelter and Settlements (S&S)	
Subsector: Emergency/Transitional Shelter	
Number of households receiving Emergency/Transitional shelter, pursuant to Sphere standards and FOG guidelines. <i>Target: 2,450 (1,700 house repairs and 750 t-shelters)</i>	2,037 households had their houses repaired while 774 other households received emergency transitional shelters. Total beneficiaries: 2,811 <i>(Percent of the target achieved: 115%)</i>
Percent of total affected population receiving Emergency/Transitional shelter or house repair assistance <i>Target: 85%</i>	14,055 beneficiaries had their houses repaired or received t-shelters (115%) <i>(Percent of the target achieved: 135%)</i>
Total USD amount and percent of approved project budget for Emergency/Transitional shelter or house repair spent in the affected local economy. <i>Target: \$2,899,765 (75%)</i>	USD 2,085,050 of the approved Emergency/Transitional shelter budget has been spent in the local economy during the life of the grant. <i>(Percent of the target achieved: 72%)</i>
Percent of targeted families still living on their home site 30 days after the end of program period. <i>Target: 80%</i>	80% of targeted families still living on their homes site 30 days after the end of the program. <i>(Percent of the target achieved: 100%)</i>

III. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Sector:

Objective: Improve access to water supply, sanitary facilities and enhance the adoption of essential hygiene practices for the vulnerable population.

WASH Sector Start Date: February 05, 2011 **WASH Sector (NCE) End Date:** December 31, 2011

Cumulative figures for both targeted and reached beneficiaries for all objectives:

	Targeted:	Reached:
Total Beneficiaries	6,750	5,820
IDPs:	1,350	1,164

Indicator	Achieved During the Life of the Grant (Feb 5, 2011 to Dec 31, 2011)
Sector: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	
Sub sector: Hygiene Promotion	
Percent of target population demonstrating good hand washing practices <i>Target: 75%</i>	70% of target population demonstrating good hand washing practices <i>(Percent of target achieved: 93%)</i>
Percent of target population demonstrating correct water usage and storage <i>Target: 75%</i>	80% of the target population demonstrating correct usage and storage. <i>(Percent of target achieved: 106%)</i>
Number and percent of clean water points functioning three months after completion <i>Target: 1,088, 75%</i>	94% of the sample selected were functioning, and 67% were clean <i>(Percent of target achieved: 90%)</i>
Sub sector: Sanitation	
Number and percent of household latrines rehabilitated that are clean and in use in compliance with Sphere standards <i>Target: 362, 75%</i>	100% of latrines were clean and in use in compliance with Sphere standards <i>(Percent of target achieved: 133%)</i>
Number and percent of households' hand washing facilities completed and in use <i>Target: 362, 75%</i>	388 hand washing facilities completed and in use. <i>(Percent of target achieved: 107%)</i>
Number and percent of households disposing of solid waste appropriately <i>Target: 362, 75%</i>	439 households of the 628 owners of rehabilitated latrines were disposing of solid waste appropriately. <i>(Percent of target achieved: 69%)</i>
Sub sector: Water Supply	
Number and percent of household water supplies with 0 coliform bacteria per 100 mls <i>Target: 1,088, 75%</i>	None of the water supplies achieved 0 coliform units per 100 ml. <i>(Percent of target achieved: 0%)</i>
Average water usage of target population in liters per person per day prior to and after intervention <i>Target: 15 liters</i>	10 liters on average per person per day (<i>Note: this result was measured during the dry season.</i>) <i>(Percent of target achieved: 66%)</i>
Number and percent of water points with measurable chlorine residual exceeding 0.2mg/l <i>Target: 1,088, 75%</i>	None of the water supplies achieved chlorine residual exceeding 0.2 mg/L. <i>(Percent of target achieved: 0%)</i>

IV Constraints encountered and how they were addressed:

a) Insecurity: Insecurity of staff was exacerbated by risks of kidnappings and criminal elements targeting the seizure of construction materials for their own use or sale. The effect of insecurity was minimized through ongoing consultation, discussion and engagement with community leaders in Nazon. Community empowerment training was also conducted in order to build leadership skills amongst community leaders and supporting constructive dialogue and collaboration amongst different sectors of the Nazon community. The leadership training was aimed at minimizing existing insecurity situations in other areas as well as preventing future insecurity incidents through dialogue.

b) Narrow roads and passageways: Narrow roads and passageways to construction sites in Nazon constrained delivery of materials to project activity sites. A combination of motivating beneficiaries to ferry their materials to construction sites coupled with the use of smaller trucks to carry materials to final destination sites were two main strategies being used to minimize this constraint.

c) Shortage of some construction materials: There were some shortages of materials including cement, blocks, rainwater harvesting containers and metal sheets in the market owing to increased reconstruction activities taking place in the country. Prepositioning and contracting arrangements with the major suppliers was used as a hedge to minimize the effect of shortages.

d) Concerns over cholera outbreak in Port au Prince: The Cholera outbreak negatively affected implementation of other food related economic project activities particularly in the ERMS sector. Consequently, WCDO with funding from another USAID/OFDA grant implemented the Cholera Awareness Campaign in Nazon and other areas of Port au Prince in order to increase cholera awareness and its prevention and treatment.

V. Lessons learned:

Lesson 1: Consistent Interaction and engagement with community leaders: Consistent interaction with community leaders (Comite Quartiers) was necessary for implementing effective recovery projects allowing flexibility to plan, monitor, evaluate and adjust activities.

Lesson 2: Cash for work significant to household economic recovery: Cash for work contributed to household economic recovery and was essential in facilitating the return of displaced population to their original homes. However, dependency of cash for work remains a concern because it is intended to be a short-term intervention which must transition to more sustainable interventions.

Lesson 3: Engaging with Government has a large impact on the whole recovery process: Humanitarian organizations must fully engage Government through policies and guidelines to have a large impact on the whole recovery process. HEAR project engagement with MTPTC through repair guidelines and the mason training program strengthened and authenticated its house repair and locally designed anti-hurricane and anti-seismic transitional shelters.

Lesson 4: Involving local construction engineers, masons and community volunteers leads to empowerment: Involving local construction engineers, masons and local community volunteers in house repair and the design of t-shelters, community process and participation builds confidence, pride that they are able to make a difference and capabilities to pursue disaster mitigation. This leads to empowerment. Having taken part in the reconstruction themselves, each individual is fully aware about disaster resistant construction. Their own traditional knowledge base and practices have been successfully incorporated in the reconstruction process. It can safely be assumed that future construction activities undertaken by them would incorporate the same features that they learnt when the project team was present. This would be the best proof of a successful mitigation practice.

Lesson 5: Use of local capacities lowers project costs: Because of local engineers' involvement and use of local procured materials, the cost of house repair and t-shelter construction is much less compared to those incurred when external agencies did everything, leaving very little scope for local engineers.

Lesson 6: Improving livelihoods options for the trained masons: The project's trained masons have made it possible for them to make their present houses and possible future ones using anti-seismic and anti-hurricane technology. And a pool of trained masons in the Nazon community have led to creation of a "mason's guild" that would market its own services not just within Nazon but to all other neighboring communities as well. This is a useful livelihood opportunity in a country with a very high formal unemployment rate like Haiti.

Lesson 7: Additional training on water treatment is required: The results of laboratory testing on rainwater collection tanks were quite surprising. None of the sampled beneficiaries were compliant on water treatment with chlorine, as instructed by the installation team and promoted by the hygiene campaign team. WCDO staff will continue working in the Nazon community, focusing on increased education on water treatment. While the independent evaluation did show that none of the beneficiaries are consuming untreated water, the use of contaminated water in dishwashing, laundry and cooking is a significant risk for the spread of cholera and other waterborne diseases. WCDO staff have developed a curriculum and will hold community education sessions with the following key messages:

1. Flush rainwater reservoirs with the first rain to remove heavy residue.
2. Treat water with chlorine (*klor*) after it has settled, and let stand for 30 minutes.
3. Maintain residual chlorine effect to ensure continued effectiveness of treatment.

VI. Best Practices in Implementing Recovery Projects

- **Consult and ensure the participation of the vulnerable people:** Humanitarian organizations must consult and make sure that there is full participation of the vulnerable people in order to ensure that relief and recovery interventions are developed in consultation with the needs of the target people. Humanitarian actors should ensure that they consult affected people about their priorities.
- **Consider the likely impact of the chosen interventions on recovery:** When considering recovery interventions, humanitarian organizations must also consider the

likely impact of the intervention of recovery and whether a different approach might be better for recovery. Provision of steel framed, plastic sheeting tents during phase 1 (immediately after the earthquake) met immediate shelter needs, but providing house repair support and providing a locally designed anti-hurricane, anti-seismic and community participatory shelter structure promoted better recovery. The use of cash and local procurement in the HEAR project enhanced recovery prospects of the most vulnerable people in particular as well as the whole Haitian economy in general.

- **Implement strategies to reduce disaster risk:** Including disaster risk reduction measures and strategies that must reflect the full range of hazards and risks as opposed to focusing on just one is crucial in reducing vulnerability to future disasters. The disaster reduction strategies implemented in HEAR project including providing anti-flooding, anti-seismic and anti-hurricane measures to both house repairs and t-shelters construction will go along way in reducing the vulnerabilities to future earthquake, flooding and hurricane disasters. The structures have been built or repaired to resist any likely major hazards. The Phase II locally designed transitional shelters, with deep foundation base, are integrated with permanent shelter solution.
- **Recovery must be undertaken within the framework of mitigation:** Recovery covers rehabilitation and reconstruction and should be undertaken within the framework of mitigation and vulnerability reduction, and not just bringing back the situation to pre-disaster level.

VII. Overall Project Performance and Impact

During the life of the grant (February 5, 2010 to December 31, 2011), WCDO provided critical humanitarian assistance to the earthquake disaster-affected populations in Delmas Commune (particularly in Nazon zone) in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan. Land ownership, insecurity exacerbated by criminality, shortage of construction materials, and transportation through increasingly narrow alleys presented significant obstacles to transitional shelter and house repairs. Despite the hindrances caused by political instability, increased criminality and fear of kidnappings as well as disruption in supply chain and shortage of construction, the project implemented all of the planned activities, achieved and surpassed most of target indicators and made progress towards achieving project aims and objectives of the HEAR project. This final report concludes recording of performance of all the activities of both the initial grant (Phase I) and the activities of the approved cost modification (Phase II). WCDO initiated a new t-shelter model, which is leading the way in locally designed, anti-hurricane, anti-seismic and participatory shelter construction. WCDO continued to exceed expectations, built deeper community relations and helped to depopulate camps, prevented community members from becoming IDPs, as well as creating conducive atmosphere allowing IDPs' to return to their communities and livelihoods, thereby facilitating a swift recovery from the earthquake disaster. The whole range of interventions undertaken supported the victims to get back to normal life and reintegrating them to regular community functions and livelihoods.

Annex 1: OFDA’s General Directors Monitoring Visit to WCDO HEAR Project



Former OFDA Director, Mark Ward (center) visits House Repair Activities in Nazon (November 12, 2010)



New OFDA Director, Mark Bartolini (left) visits T-Shelters and House Repair Activities in Nazon (February 24, 2011)

Annex 2: HEAR Project Activity Photographs



WCDO inspection of a completed t-shelter



A completed transitional shelter in Nazon



One of the house repair crew fixing cement mortar, closely monitored by a construction engineer



A mason repairing a wall over a lintel during yellow-coded house repair activity in Nazon



Completed rainwater harvesting system with collection gutter and reservoir connected to a tap



One of the beneficiaries admiring her rainwater harvesting system reservoir and outlet tap



Rehabilitated latrine in Nazon for one of the t-shelter household beneficiaries