



Earthquake in Haiti

How donations to the Humanitarian Coalition helped survivors



On January 12, 2010, a powerful earthquake shook Haiti, killing more than 300,000 people. The sense of shock and devastation was felt around the world.

Moved by the magnitude of the tragedy and the suffering of the Haitian people, Canadians gave generously. In the aftermath of the earthquake, the Humanitarian Coalition and its agencies received \$15 million in donations to help save and rebuild lives.

Thanks to our donors, survivors received food, water and health care. Temporary shelters, clinics and education facilities were built to meet the immediate needs. Our agencies paid local residents to repair damages and remove rubble, providing income while improving communities. Seeds, farming tools and farm animals helped local farmers to get back on their feet again.

Here are a few examples of how Canadian donors made a difference:

Water and sanitation



Our agencies provided water and sanitation for about 50 000 people forced to leave their homes and live in camps. They built toilet facilities and hand washing stations and offered training on hygiene and waste management best practices to prevent the spread of disease.





Shelter and household items

Along with providing temporary shelters to more than 8,000 families, our agencies also distributed basic household items such as mattresses, buckets, cooking pots and dishes, and flashlights.



Education

Whether in a temporary learning space or a newly repaired classroom, our agencies know that children need a place to learn, to play and to grow.

Along with providing facilities and staff, we distributed school kits to 28,000 children and teaching kits to 462 teachers. We also trained teachers on helping their young pupils deal with the psychological impact of the trauma they had experienced.



Job Creation

More than 15,000 people who had lost their livelihood through the earthquake were hired to work on projects that would help rebuild their community. The work teams removed rubble from a school, a church and an orphanage. They repaired irrigation canals and built soil conservation walls to prevent erosion. At the same time, they earned money to support their families.



Farming

From backyard gardens to crops and animals, food production was hit hard by the earthquake. Our agencies distributed vegetable seeds to women who are mainly responsible for backyard gardening. We also established four nurseries for harder-to-grow vegetables and trained local workers to plant and care for seedlings. The plants were then distributed to families for household use and for sale. For larger scale farmers who had lost their livelihoods, we provided farming tools, seeds and goats to help them get back on their feet.



The Humanitarian Coalition continues to respond to major international disasters. We are also present and active when lesser-known humanitarian emergencies strike around the world.

[You can learn more here about our response to smaller-scale disasters, and what you can do to help survivors.](#)

For regular updates on current disasters and responses, follow us on and .

**HUMANITARIAN
COALITION** 
Together saving more lives

