

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDING FACILITY



GFDRR
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery



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Strengthening Preparedness, Response, and Resilient Recovery in Haiti

Context and Objectives

On August 14, 2021, a 7.2-magnitude earthquake struck the southern peninsula of Haiti, killing over 2,240 people, displacing an estimated 650,000 more, and destroying over 137,000 buildings. The response to this earthquake demonstrated that while the actions taken by government agencies were more efficient and better coordinated than compared to the response to the 2010 earthquake, there remain critical areas of need, especially when disaster events occur simultaneously, as witnessed when Tropical Storm Grace hit the same earthquake-affected areas immediately following the earthquake.

One of these critical areas of need is the ability to provide safe, para-seismic shelters, a role that has often fallen to school buildings. However, as seen in the aftermath of the earthquake, over 1,250 schools were damaged or destroyed. Emergency shelter management also needs to be more efficient to allow schools to resume normal activities as soon as possible after an emergency.

The objective this project is to provide guidance and support to the country's National Disaster Risk Management System (SNGRD) and the General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC, within the Ministry of Interior and Territorial Communities). The support for these agencies entails strengthening preparedness and response capacities, ensuring a proper transition of post-disaster activities from emergency to recovery and to improve the DGPC's shelter management capacity in a Fragile, Conflict and Violence (FCV) context. In addition, this project provides technical support to the DGPC to consolidate earthquake impact assessments, supports the Government plan, design and supports implementation of recovery activities. It also aims to strengthen the DGPC's institutional capacity and support the identification of informed investments in critical resilient infrastructure such as in hydromet, multipurpose emergency shelters and safe schools.

Main Activities

- **Strengthening the DGPC's impact assessment, preparedness, and response capacities:**
 - Strengthening the capacities of the GCPC in situations of complex and overlapping risks and emergencies in an FCV context.
 - Enhancing the capacities of the SNGRD and the DGPC to transition from the emergency phase post-disaster more rapidly to the recovery phase through the identification of recovery activities.
 - Providing technical support to ameliorate the management of shelters during emergency situations.
 - Strengthening data collection and information management capacities of the DGPC.
- **Support planning, design and implementation of targeted recovery activities post-earthquake:**
 - Supporting the DGPC in prioritizing recovery needs and their inclusion in the post-earthquake recovery plan with a focus on mainstreaming resilience in an integrated approach, as requested by the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation (MPCE).

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- Providing technical assistance to support a resilient recovery of DGPC infrastructure and the housing sector, as well as formulating recommendations for implementation of public building and housing recovery projects based on lessons learned after the 2010 earthquake and 2016 Hurricane Matthew.
- Assessing availability of building materials and related costs as well as recommendations for housing and school reconstruction in a FCV context.
- **Institutional strengthening of the DGPC as a General Direction:**
 - Supporting the institutional transition of the Civil Protection to a General Directorate, including by streamlining the internal structure, processes, planning and budget definition, preparedness, as well as identifying investments needed to ensure the DGPC can fulfil its mandate as a General Directorate.
 - Providing TA to the DGPC to train 140 Municipal Civil Protection Committees (CCPCs), including on gender and disability inclusion in preparedness and emergency response, taking into account aspects of behavioral science identified through previous TA activities.
 - Strengthening the DGPC capacity to coordinate with international partners.
- **Identification of Critical Resilient Infrastructure (CRI) for efficient preparedness and response:**
 - Improving hydromet services, identifying needs and vulnerabilities in Haiti's emergency shelters
 - Defining an investment plan for safer schools serving as multipurpose emergency shelters.

Results

This project is in its inception phase.

Partnerships and Coordination

This project's primary counterparts are the following Haitian government institutions: the DGCP within the Ministry of Interior and Territorial Communities (MICT); the Hydromet Unit (UHM) within the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR); the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MENFP); and the National Center for Geo-Spatial Information (CNIGS) within the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation (MPCE).

Country

- Haiti

Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility Component

- Regional Technical Assistance Facility to Mainstream Resilience

Amount approved

- EUR 650,000 / \$750,000

Duration

- 10/2021 – 02/2023