

## Haiti Earthquake

### Global ETC Teleconference #2

Date: 19/08/21 Time: 14:00 UTC

#### Attendance

Chair: Brent Carbno (Global ETC team)

Organisation	Name	Organisation	Name
ACF	Gregory Chevalier	TSF	Clement Bruguera
Americares	Vito Castelgrande	US Department of State	Joe Burton
Cisco Crisis Response	Joseph Harrison	UNHCR	Alexander Thomas
	Erin Connor	UNICEF	Thierry Beniflah
	Matt Runyan		Ike Uzoegwu
Ericsson Response	Lars Peder Svensson		Maurice Cooper
Finnish Red Cross	Jonathan Nygard		Junior Riliere Alexandre
	Petri Keskinen		Kamal Kamaleddine
Gov't of Luxembourg	Bram Krieps	WFP	Patrick Midy
GSMA	Isaac Kwamy		Andre Hermann
GVF	Simon Gray		Antonio Guevara
ICRC	Alfredo Bermudez Salazar		Ozdzan Hadziemin
IFRC	Gaspar Lopez		Phyza Jameel
	Jacqueline Polanco		Prakash Muniandy
Internews	Meghann Rhynard-Geil		Caroline Teyssier
ITU	Vanessa Gray		Claire Roach
	Maritza Doris Delgado	WVI	Anthony Kimani
	Sylvester Cadette		Miroslava Roman
	Jake Spinnler		Sergio Delgado
MSB	John Isaksson		
	Sven Olov Sjoqvist		
NetHope	Dagbjartur Brynjarsson		

Teleconference / Meeting started at 14:02 UTC

## Agenda

1. Situation Update
2. Partner Update
3. AOB

## Minutes

### 1. Situation update

- Humanitarian workers are beginning to access the areas most affected by the earthquake. Initial inter-sector planning shows that close to 500,000 people are in need of humanitarian assistance across the three regions affected. These figures are being reviewed by humanitarians working on the Flash Appeal.
- NetHope shared a map prepared by Crisis Ready and Direct Relief showing connectivity after the Earthquake based on facebook data. The maps showed partial connectivity loss in large parts of the department of Les Nippes and in southwestern coastal areas immediately after the earthquake. By 17 August, the map shows that most of Les Nippes has regained connectivity, while the lack of connectivity increased in the western regions, perhaps due to storm impacts, aftershocks, and/or power outages.
- Some community radios are reported to have sustained significant damage. The radio station in Petit Trou de Nippes is still up and running.

### *Coordination*

- A Flash Appeal is being prepared for the Haiti earthquake.
- World Food Programme (WFP) FITTEST Specialist Lasse Axelsson arrived in Haiti to conduct a telecommunications assessment and support Patrick Midy, WFP Haiti Head of TEC with initial interagency coordination. They will visit the National Centre for Emergency Operations (COUN) today to meet other partners and determine the next steps on telecommunications, connectivity, and ICT-related aspects of the response. After the visit to the COUN, a meeting is planned with the UN Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS).
- WFP is planning to send another staff member to support the increased need for inter-agency coordination on the ground with more staff being mobilized to respond to the emergency. . Partners are encouraged to share the names and contact details of personnel deploying to Haiti with the Global ETC for inclusion in local contact lists.

### *Security & Logistics*

- It is not safe to drive from Port-au-Prince to the affected area, as the route crosses through areas controlled by non-state armed groups, most notably Matisan. There have been some reports of trucks being looted. There have also been reports of the local population blocking roads to try to get aid. However, there is no known presence of these groups in the actual affected area.

- The Logistics Sector, led by WFP, has negotiated a temporary agreement with some of the non-state armed groups to allow trucks to pass through.
- The Resident Coordinator must approve any travel to the affected areas from Port-au-Prince by road, which must be accompanied by an armed escort.
- Apart from the security concerns, there are no physical blockages on the roads from Port-au-Prince to the affected areas. The roads are now accessible to trucks as well as light vehicles.
- WFP is providing a daily barge service free-of-cost from Varreux to Jeremie. The road from Jeremie to Les Cayes is still not open so it is best accessed by helicopter.
- There is one United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) helicopter doing daily rotations to the affected areas. The Logistics Sector is taking requests for helicopter transport from humanitarian organisations.
- The United States is mobilising military assets from Honduras to Haiti, including 6-8 helicopters to be used for cargo. Two of these will likely be used for the humanitarian response, pending the approval of the Resident Coordinator.
- The latest infrastructural assessment is available on [log.ie](#). Reports about infrastructural damages can be made through this platform.

## 2. Partner Updates

- On Tuesday the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) received a request for emergency telecommunications equipment from the Government of Haiti through CONATEL, the telecommunications regulatory agency. ITU has prepared a shipment of 20 satellite phones and 10 BGANs and is working with the Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) on the quickest means to transport them to Haiti.
- UNICEF shared their updates with the ICT working group yesterday and will be able to provide more information as they continue to move into the affected areas.
- Télécoms Sans Frontières (TSF) has one staff member in Port-au-Prince, and another landing shortly from Mexico with a VSAT. The TSF team on ground have been integrated in discussions in coordination with UNDAC and OCHA, and are also in touch with Help.NGO in Les Cayes. TSF plans to send at least one person to Les Cayes where a sub-OSOCC is being set up rapidly with a GX terminal and some other equipment. There are at least nine Iridium sat phones with the team already and new sat phones arriving today.
- NetHope members are doing assessments, but access is difficult, so it is taking some time to get to the affected areas. A team has been identified and is on standby to deploy if and when there is a clear request for support. It was decided not to send an assessment due to the security situation.



- MSB is sending an eight-person support team for the European Union Civil Protection team (EUCPT). The team is expected to arrive in Port-au-Prince on 20 August at 13:30 local time. The team is bringing a VSAT intended for the EUCPT team's use. The team plans to go into the impacted area with tents and generators to do an assessment if the security situation permits.

Teleconference / Meeting ended at 14:47 UTC

**Next Teleconference/ Meeting will be held on 23 August at: 14:00 UTC**

09:00 Panama  
10:00 Port-au-Prince / New York  
14:00 UTC  
16:00 Rome  
18:00 Dubai

## Acronyms

ACF	Action Contre la Faim
BGAN	Broadband Global Area Network
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
COUN	National Centre for Emergency Operations, Haiti
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
EUCPT	European Union Civil Protection Team
FITTEST	WFP Fast IT and Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team
GSMA	Global System for Mobile Communications Association
GVF	Global VSAT Forum
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IT	Information Technology
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
MSB	Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OSOCC	On-site Security Operations Coordination Centre
TSF	Télécoms Sans Frontières
UNDAC	United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination
UNDSS	United Nations Department for Safety and Security
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WFP	World Food Programme
WVI	World Vision International



All information related to ETC operations can be found on the website:  
<https://www.etcluster.org/emergency/haiti-earthquake-2021> For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: [global.ETC@wfp.org](mailto:global.ETC@wfp.org)

**Minutes:** Claire Roach, Global ETC Information Management Officer