Haiti Earthquake

Global ETC Teleconference #7

Date: 14/09/21   Time: 14:00 UTC

Attendance

Chair: Prakash Muniandy (Global ETC team)

Organisation	Name	Organisation	Name
ACF	Thomas Gerard	MSB	John Isaksson
CCC/Intelsat	Peter Davidson	UNICEF	Kamal Kamaleddine
CDAC	Fanman Tsang		Thierry Beniflah
Cisco Crisis Response	Matt Altman		Ike Uzoegwu
Ericsson Response	Lars Ruediger	WFP	Patrick Midy
Gov't of Luxembourg	Gilles Hoffman		Runar Holen
	Philippe Hein		Ozdzan Hadziemin
GSMA	Isaac Kwamy		Carlos Hilarion
ITDRC	Dustin Li		Caroline Teyssier
Internews	Stijn Aelbers		Claire Roach
ITU	Paul Hamilton	WVI	Mijalko Guevara
	Rodrigo Robles		
	Jake Spinnler		
	Marius Michele		

Teleconference / Meeting started at 14:05 UTC

Agenda

1. Situation Update
2. Partners' Updates
3. AOB

Minutes

1. Situation update

- The coverage area of the security communications radio network in Les Cayes, which was installed two weeks ago by WFP with emergency.lu equipment, was increased by moving the VHF radio repeater station to a higher location. The new location offers improved coverage of Les Cayes city-center, airport and near-by areas. The repeater may be moved again to a mast at the new UNICEF office in Les Cayes for even better coverage of the town and surrounding area.

- Last week, the ETS implemented radio-based security communications services in Jérémie with the installation of a repeater station at a local hospital. The work was carried out in a joint effort by emergency.lu, Ericsson Response and WFP Haiti, with a duplex filter provided by UNDSS and a repeater loaned by the national disaster unit in Les Cayes. Currently the radio communications network covers most of the city of Jérémie. Once the surrounding area which is currently cut off due to a bridge closure becomes accessible, a higher location may be identified where the repeater can be installed for better coverage.

- The ETS has received a request to support the primary Departmental Emergency Operations Centre (COUD) in Jérémie with its solar power system after it suffered physical damage in the earthquake.

- The ETS can provide NGOs that have the required authorizations with the dedicated simplex radio frequency allocated to NGOs in Haiti. The ETS has submitted a request for a short-term deployment of a standby partner emergency telecommunications resource aimed at supporting the improvement of security communications and providing user training on radio and satellite equipment to NGOs.

- Iridium PTT is being used by many agencies and NGOs and may require some additional training support from the ETS.

- Haiti Participative, a Haitian NGO providing medical services, has been participating in ICT WG meetings and offered to initiate coordination with other national NGOs to identify their IT and Telecoms support needs.

- The ETS submitted an input to the OCHA sitrep, including actions taken by ETS partners and outlining gaps in staffing and funding that have delayed the strengthening of security communications systems in the affected area and the country as a whole.

2. Partners' Updates

- Telecoms Sans Frontières and Ericsson Response have concluded their missions and remain on stand-by to provide remote support to the services they established in country.

- ITDRC has also ended its mission in Haiti and continues to monitor the solutions it has deployed in support of local NGOs in 17 locations.

- Emergency.lu has reduced their team of three to one staff member who will install a Ranger VSAT at the temporary hospital being set up by a Norwegian Emergency Medical Team (NEMT) in l'Asile, in addition to

continuing to support the French Civil Protection Unit in Cavaillon. The staff member may also support the extension of internet connectivity to the WFP guesthouse in Les Cayes before his departure next week.

- The Disaster Connectivity Map for Haiti, an initiative of the ITU and the ETC with support from the Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA), is available here. The map has been updated regularly since the measurement campaign began a month ago to show the current state of the telecommunications network in the country. The campaign will stop gathering new data points this afternoon, but all the data collected so far will remain available.

Teleconference / Meeting ended at 14:30 UTC

Next Teleconference/ Meeting will be held on 28 September at: 14:00 UTC

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

Acronyms

BGAN	Broadband Global Area Network
CDEMA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency
COUN	National Emergency Operations Centre, Haiti
COUD	Departmental Emergency Operations Centre, 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
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ISP	Internet Service Provider
IT	Information Technology
ITDRC	Information Technology Disaster Resource Center
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: Haiti.ETS@wfp.org

Minutes: Claire Roach, Global ETC Information Management Officer