

## Haiti Earthquake

### Global ETC Teleconference #3

Date: 24/08/21 Time: 14:00 UTC

#### Attendance

Chair: Brent Carbno (Global ETC team)

Organisation	Name	Organisation	Name
CCC/Intelsat	Peter Davidson	UNDFS	Eduardo Artigas
CDAC	Fanman Tsang	UNHCR	Alexander Thomas
Cisco Crisis Response	Joseph Harrison	UNICEF	Massoumeh Farman Farmaian
	Matt Altman		Maurice Cooper
	Matt Runyan		Junior Riliere Alexandre
CONATEL	Gregory Domond		Kamal Kamaleddine
Ericsson Response	Mike Duffin	WFP	Patrick Midy
	Lars Ruediger		Runar Holen
Finnish Red Cross	Jonathan Nygard		Andre Hermann
	Petri Keskinen		Antonio Guevara
Gov't of Luxembourg	Roland Nurenberg		Ozdzan Hadziemin
IFRC	Jeangarino Pierre		Carlos Hilarion
Internews	Stijn Aelbers		Prakash Muniandy
ITDRC	Dustin Li		Caroline Teyssier
ITU	Paul Hamilton		Claire Roach
	Sylvester Cadette		Mats Persson
	Marius Michele		Lasse Axelsson
			Frederic Urlep
NetHope	Dagbjartur Brynjarsson	WHO	Anthony Kimani
TSF	Clement Bruguera	WVI	Miroslava Roman
	Florent Bervas		Sergio Delgado
	Armando Samayoa		Mijalko Guevara
US Department of State	Joe Burton		

## Agenda

1. Situation Update
2. Partner Update
3. AOB

## Minutes

### 1. Situation update

- The government has declared a state of emergency that will remain in place until mid-September. Under the state of emergency, customs procedures are being eased for the time of the response. Organisations who are making donations of equipment to the civil protection department can benefit from these processes. Additional information on customs procedures can be found in the [CIQP Bulletin](#).
- Runar Holen from WFP FITTEST arrived in Port-au-Prince today to continue the interagency coordination activities initiated by Patrick Midy, WFP Haiti Head of TEC. He will be continuing ICT Working Group meetings and will invite all partners on the ground. All partners that are deploying staff on the ground are encouraged to provide their contact information to Runar and to participate in the working group.
- The WFP team arrived in Les Cayes yesterday to conduct a telecommunications assessment. There is currently no security communications network in southern Haiti. The WFP team on the ground is working to establish a security communications network in Les Cayes as soon as possible starting with the installation of one repeater, on loan from the emergency.lu team. Efforts will be made to have systems for UN agencies and NGOs. WFP has obtained a list of one UN duplex channel and one NGO simplex channel and is awaiting UNDSS for confirmation that we can use these frequencies. All are encouraged to contact the WFP team for frequencies.
- Partners on the ground report that GSM connectivity is working in most areas. 4G is working in Port-au-Prince, les Cayes and Jeremie.
- The Haitian civil protection agency has established an operations centre in Les Cayes (the COUD) in addition to the emergency operations centre in the capital (the COUN). There is an on-site Security Operations Coordination Centre (OSOCC) set up across the street to the COUN in Port-au-Prince, and in Les Cayes a sub-OSOCC is being established near to the COUD.
- The Logistics Cluster is not activated, however the Global Logistics Cluster has deployed staff on the ground to support a national logistics sector coordination mechanism. They are cooperating with foreign military actors on the transportation of goods. Transport via barge, helicopter, and daily convoys from Port-au-Prince can be arranged through the Logistics Cluster. There is plenty of capacity to move cargo by air with the air assets provided by military actors. Roads have been mostly cleared with only one bridge just outside Jeremie down.

- There is currently no joint Common Feedback Mechanism (CFM) established in Haiti, however conversations are underway with CDAC and IFRC on reviving the CFM that was established with their support and led by Civil Protection in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew. Further updates on this may be available from CDAC in the coming days.

## 2. Partner Updates

- CONATEL, the regulator of the Haitian telecommunications sector, has requested 20 satellite phones and a BGAN from ITU in order to support the Civil Protection Department in the coordination of relief operations. The equipment has been shipped and will be received by CONATEL on behalf of Civil Protection. CONATEL is also exploring options for providing connectivity to the population.
- Luxembourg has deployed two ICT officers and coordinated their deployment with along Ericsson Response who also deployed one staff member. The teams brought with them two VSAT GATRs intended to be deployed in Les Cayes and Jeremie, as well as additional equipment for linking and access-point capacity. Caribbean Airlines accepted the equipment as cargo at a preferential rate. There were no issues with regard to the limited amount of lithium batteries included in the shipment.
- Télécoms Sans Frontières (TSF) has staff deployed in Port-au-Prince, Les Cayes, and Jeremie. TSF is exploring options to provide connectivity to the sub-OSOCC set up across from the COUD in Les Cayes using a local ISP. This may take up to a week but can remain in place for Civil Protection even after the response. In Jérémie, the departmental coordination centre seems to have sufficient connectivity. The use of VSATs may however be useful for redundancy.
- TSF is also installing a VSAT from Eutelsat at a Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) hospital in Les Cayes. Other organisations working on site may also need access to this VSAT for redundancy.
- TSF is working with Help.NGO to assess connectivity needs for communities around Les Cayes. Three small communities without connectivity have been identified.
- Help.NGO is distributing Wi-Fi in the OSOCC in Port-au-Prince using civil protection connectivity that is already in place (Digicell 50mb link).
- World Vision sent a second response team to the affected areas with a focus on setting up child-friendly spaces. The team will gather information on the connectivity, power supply, and ICT needs that would be required for implementation and may need assistance in covering such gaps.
- Cisco Crisis Response (CCR) has been in touch with government stakeholders but has not received any specific requests. CCR offered to look into options for supporting the establishment of a secure connection to linking different systems and contribute to enhancing the security communications systems

Teleconference / Meeting ended at 14:36 UTC

### **Next Teleconference/ Meeting will be held on 26 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 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
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IFRC	International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ISP	Internet Service Provider
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: [Haiti.ETS@wfp.org](mailto:Haiti.ETS@wfp.org)

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