# HEALTH CLUSTER IN HAITI

# HAITI EARTHQUAKE

# BULLETIN N°15

# 3 February 2010

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The Health Cluster has created a new subgroup on information management in order to improve its organization and enhance decision making.
- The Dominican Civil Defense, with support from the Haitian Civil Defense and UNDP - Dominican Republic, will establish a shelter in Croix des Bouquets for at least two months. The camp will be situated in Santo #17, with a capacity for 2,000 people.
- Organizations arriving to Haiti should preferably stay for a period between 6 months to one year in order meet existing needs and ensure the continuity of care.

Photos: PAHO/WHO

## ASSESMENT AND MONITORING

- The Clinton Foundation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, is contacting all organizations listed on the 'who, what, where' sheet who have medical staff in the country to find out exactly how many and which institutions are working.
- PAHO/WHO distributed an updated list of 90 functioning hospitals in metropolitan Port-au-Prince and affected areas. The Health Cluster has asked partners to review the list to identify errors, including institutions not listed or those that may not be functioning.
- The inter-agency multi-sectoral rapid assessment (IRA) continues in affected areas. Some 28 teams are visiting 54 areas. Assessments in areas closest to Port-au-Prince have now been completed. The final results are expected by the end of this week.
- More physical therapists are needed to provide post-operative care.
- Google sent a representative to evaluate communications and information sharing among the various health NGOs and partners.

## GAP FILLING

### DRUGS AND SUPPLIES

- Forty-five basic inter-agency emergency kits (IEHKs) are now in the Dominican Republic. Five will remain in the Dominican Republic and 40 are awaiting transport to PROMESS in Haiti. The comprehensive IEHK contains medicines to treat 1,000 patients for three months for common diseases.
- There is limited quantity of oral rehydration salts at PROMESS. The Cluster is exploring availability at other locations.

### OUTBREAK CONTROL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- The national epidemiological team's work plan was presented to authorities on Tuesday. The main objectives of this plan are to coordinate epidemiological surveillance for a national and international response, strengthen the operational committee for epidemiological surveillance (COSE - a network of early warning made up of health institutions in the country) and carry out active surveillance with operational visits to investigate cases and assess risk.
- Epidemiological alerts must be communicated to the situation room and Health Cluster partners were provided with contact information in case a report needs to be submitted.
- The immunization campaign organized by MoH, UNICEF and PAHO/WHO began on Tuesday.

### PROVISION OF BASIC HEALTH SERVICES

- MSF France installed a trauma hospital in Saint-Louis de Gonzague, with a 200-bed capacity. They also have a site for post-operative care in Delmas 30, with a capacity of 200 beds.
- The Turkish field hospital (20 bed capacity) is working 24 hours a day, and includes intensive care where they can follow up post-op patients. They also have an ambulance for patient transportation.
- The MDM Greece Hospital, located at Somapi Camp (Metropolitan Industrial Park), is increasing its capacity from 30 to 45 beds.
- The Ministry of Health is developing a list of hospital bed availability.

### WATER AND SANITATION

- Staff trained by PAHO/WHO is now chlorinating water in the Direction Nationale de l'Eau Potable et Assainissement (DINEPA) water trucks. On Tuesday, PAHO/WHO visited Port-au-Prince's main water supplier, Fresè local. Water quality will be tested in the coming days to ensure quality is maintained along the distribution chain.

## COORDINATION

- Dr. Jorge Castilla is now the Health Cluster Coordinator.
- PAHO/WHO/ is inviting NGOs and organizations to share responsibility and to actively participate in the Cluster, for example, by supporting health clusters in different departments within the country.
- Beginning the week of 8 February, Health Cluster subgroups will meet as follows:
  - Monday/Thursday: Primary Health Care/Clinics/Mobile
  - Monday: Reproductive Health
  - Tuesday/Friday: Hospitals
  - Wednesday/Saturday: Information Management
  - Wednesday: Mental Health
  - Everyday: Epidemiology (Laboratoire National).
  - Sunday: no meetings.
- The Disability subgroup (led by Handicap International and CBM) had its first meeting with the Ministry of Health on materials and supplies needed. They are creating a plan to organize actions, create priorities and map services.

## CONTACTS

Pan American Health Organization
Emergency Operations Center, Washington DC
eoc@paho.org

Health Cluster in Haiti
hai.clustersante@paho.org

## IMPORTANT LINKS

**www.paho.org**
**www.who.int**
**http://oneresponse.info/Disasters/Haiti/Health/Pages/default.aspx**