

CHF INTERNATIONAL: HAITI EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE



CHF has been implementing the KATA program in Haiti since 2006 and has five field offices dispersed across the country.

Since beginning KATA, CHF has succeeded in:

Creating over **128,000** short term jobs

Increasing access to clean drinking water for **48,000** people

Establishing over **2,000** microenterprises

Repairing over **27 km** of roads

Completing over **100** infrastructure projects

At the end of February, CHF was awarded \$20.9 million in USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance funding to respond to the earthquake for eight months. We are responding in three ways:

RUBBLE REMOVAL

CHF is clearing rubble from roads, drainage canals and public buildings in Port au Prince and Petit Goave. This is in partnership with municipal government, with whom we work to establish priority areas for clearance and in coordination with other aid agencies undertaking cash for work activities.

CHF is clearing 2750 cubic meters of rubble every day – this is slightly more than the volume of an Olympic swimming pool (2500 cubic meters).

There are two components to this:

Heavy Machinery Rubble Removal

CHF has been partnering with Caterpillar-Haytrac in Haiti since before the earthquake, jointly running a vocational training program to train Haitian Caterpillar operators. We are working with Caterpillar-Haytrac now to remove large amounts of rubble from roads, canals and public buildings on a daily basis, employing graduates of the CHF-Caterpillar vocational training program and training more operators. Additionally, as part of this process, we have retrieved important public records such as the archives of the Ministry of Education and the main Cathedral.



Cash for Work Rubble Removal Teams

Creating employment is vital. Haiti has an unemployment rate estimated around 70% and this has been increased by the destruction. CHF will employ approximately 16,000 day laborers for a minimum of 20 days each, to clear rubble in rubble removal teams. The teams are of 12 laborers, equipped with tools and safety training, and paid 200 gourdes a day (approx \$5). We aim for 40% of the laborers to be women. CHF provides laborers with basic health insurance and vaccinations.

Heavy machinery and cash for work rubble teams in action.



SHELTER

Shelter is essential for the estimated more than one million internally displaced people in Haiti. With the rainy season beginning March and rains and tropical storms possibly lasting until the end of November, safe, sanitary shelter that is storm and seismically resistant is essential.

CHF International is an expert in transitional shelter – temporary homes that meet international standards, where families can live for up to two or three years. Most recently we provided 5000 temporary homes in Padang, Indonesia, and have provided these shelters in Peru, Indonesia and El Salvador in the recent past.

In Haiti, we will be building or improving up to 5600 shelters for Haitian families.

CHF's transitional shelters are made of a wooden structure and a special plastic sheeting. It takes approximately 4 skilled people and 3-4 community helpers to build such a shelter. The building has a slanted roof with a gutter, so that rain water can be recycled for drinking, and we are looking into including solar lamps to upgrade the shelters. The size of the shelter responds to international standards of 3.5 square meters per person.

Where a Haitian family has an existing good quality shelter, we can also provide them with a kit of construction equipment and training to enable them to make their shelter safe, sanitary and resistant to the climate.



A transitional shelter in Sumatra after the 2008 earthquake there; a transitional shelter in Haiti jointly completed by skilled labor and volunteers.



JOBS AND INFRASTRUCTURE CREATION

CHF approaches disaster relief with a view to sustainable development. To take into account the new demands of the situation in Haiti, we have also altered our long term development program, KATA. CHF is continuing this long term jobs and infrastructure creation programs across Port au Prince, Gonaives, Petit Goave, St Marc and Cap Haitien to support the relief effort.



A cash-for-work participant with her first paycheck.

We are focusing on:

Short term jobs creation

Working with our offices throughout Haiti, we are undertaking infrastructure projects, such as road building, canal clearing and school construction that create short term, cash for work jobs for people in these areas and teach them new skills. The aim of this work is to provide employment opportunities both for host communities and internally displaced Haitians new to these communities. This will discourage both groups from moving to the devastated Port au Prince area in search of employment opportunities among rubble removal crews, and ease the problems of the congested capital city, while encouraging economic development in the regions.

Long term jobs creation

CHF is continuing our long term job creation plans, both in Port au Prince and all around Haiti. This includes the garment sector, where we are training workers (including middle managers, operators, supervisors and mechanics) to increase their skills, so that they can undertake higher quality products and earn more money. It also includes the agricultural sector, where we are working to stabilize crop fields and work with, for example, fishermen collectives and mango producing associations, to increase their productivity.