

# In Haiti, Build Back Better

## **Build Back Better**

This is a Campaign to rebuild the water system of Portau-Prince, Haiti, after the earthquake of 2010. We are committed to building the system better than it was before the quake.

For more than a year, we have attended meetings of the Clinton Global Initiative focused upon the reconstruction of Haiti. It was Bill Clinton who coined the slogan Build Back Better.

Before the earthquake only 400,000 of the 2.5 million residents of Port-au-Prince had local access to safe drinking and cooking water. Now, as each week allows our Haitian staff time to install chlorinators, more Haitians will have safe, clean water.

In the chaos left by the earthquake it is very difficult to count the users we have at each site. With our sites in the refugee camps, it is even harder to measure numbers of users.

We are manufacturing large 2000-gallon tanks for the city's neighborhoods and smaller 150-gallon tanks for schools, hospitals and orphanages. Both are popular with the Haitian public and government officials at the water agency (DINEPA).

It is quite an adventure for us – a small, Capitol Hill based non-profit – to rebuild a water system for 2.5 million Haitians. We have sought out experts to help – like Daniel Lantagne of the Center for Disease Control; Peggy Geimer, M.D., former medical director for Arch Chemicals; and Fred Stottlemyer of the National Rural Water Association.

We have worked with the U.S. Agency for International Development; the government of Haiti and their water agency (DINEPA); and the United Nations Development Fund. We have joined with Yele Haiti, Action Against Hunger, the American Institute for Research, and other non-governmental groups to install our safe water systems in Port-au-Prince.

We have enlisted a staff led by Haitian Engineer Dalebrun Esther with 6 plumbers and assistants; leased a warehouse in the city; and shipped thousands of chlorine tablets and briquettes to Haiti. We have bought three trucks – one a 1000 gallon water truck – and sent 120 chlorinators to Haiti. With your help – and that of the many foundations, churches and donors who fund us – we will gradually clear the city's water sites and provide a complete water system for Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Lindsay Mattison and Youngmin Chang

Esther Brooks Heung Hwan Lee Franz Stuppard International Action Board of Trustees

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ECOLE	ADRESSE	EFFECTIF	DIRECTEUR
Ecole Mixte la Providence	Village des Rapatriés	260	Pierre Paul Jean Casimir
Ecole Mixte Frères Unis	97, Rlle Aimée,	300	Jean Jn. Willerms
	Belecourt		
Ecole Mixte Apocalypse	3 <sup>ème</sup> Cité Lumière	250	Dédé Solange
Institution Mixte Amos	15, Soleil 12	180	Deril Elimène
Comenius			
Ecole Vision Nouvelle	Soleil 4	200	Jean Dormeçant
Ecole Mixte la fraternité	13, Soleil 12	150	Novert Jean Baptiste
Ecole Mixte Philippe Louidor	1, Soleil 17	140	Philippe louidor
Ecole Chétienne Bienfaisance	233, Rue Volcy	300	Mercier Guilet
Collège Evangélique Nouveau	Avenue Soleil	210	Joseph Clerment
Ecole mixte Bethanie	39, Projet Linthau I	190	Nicoleau Renant
Collège Mixte de la Nouvelle	16, Soleil 4	225	Dorval Youston
Jerusalem			
Collège Notre Dame du Sec	115, Soleil 21	145	Aristhène Gilbert
Ecole Fondamentale Shalom	48, Rue Volcy	450	Félix jean Melinor
Subtotal		3,000	



"Foi d'Abraham is a school in Cite Soleil, the poorest neighborhood in Port-au-Prince. It has classes from kindergarten to sixth grade. It does not have financing. It has 200 students.

We installed a 150-gallon water tank."

Dalebrun Esther Haiti Director December 2010

The following pages list sixty schools in the worst slum area of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Located in the lowlying land near the harbor, the Cite Soleil neighborhood is home to more than three hundred thousand Haitians.

The sixty schools enroll 12,690 students from nearby areas of Cite Soleil. For many years, these students have gone without drinking water the entire school day.

Recently, our group has installed small 150-gallon water tanks in each of these schools. We provided chlorine briquettes with each tank to ensure that the water is clean, and safe. One school tank is pictured above on this page.

Every two weeks – or more often if necessary – our water truck refills the school tanks throughout Cite Soleil. Just this month, we have added water tanks to

thirteen more schools in the area, providing safe water to another 2600 children.

We estimate that Cite Soleil has 500 schools for all one hundred fifty thousand students. Our Haitian staff will continue to install small tanks in these schools, as quickly as we can provide them.

In port in Haiti – as we write this – we have two hundred small tanks for Cite Soleil. These cost \$31,150 to manufacture and \$4,381 to ship to Haiti plus customs and storage. Soon we will order and ship another 200 150-gallon tanks to finish providing safe water to the poorest of the poor – the residents of Cite Soleil.

More than half of the residents benefiting from this program are young children under twelve years old. With your help, we will give clean, safe water to all 500 schools in Cite Soleil.

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Institution Mixte Chrétienne	16, Soleil 21	210	Sylvain Jean
Institution Mixte Maranatha	Soleil 9	180	Luc Georges
Ecole Mixte Laurent Bernadin	Linthau I	220	Noel Frantzcia
Collège le Normalien de la Cité	820, Rue Volcy	300	Desamours Rullin
Ecole Mixte Frères en Jésus	Michico, 3ème Cité Lumière	240	Guillaume Milorme
Ecole Mixte de la Redemption	7, Rue Soloni	231	Sanon Samson
Ecole Mixte la Belle Etoile	Soleil 25	140	Joseph Romane
Ecole Mixte de la Renaissance	2, Soleil 11	158	Frederic Jean junior
Institution Mixte le Mojava	4, Projet Linthau I	230	Major Marc
Institution Mixte Saint Hubert	Rte NIe # I	210	Felix Saint Hubert
Ecole Mixte des Vaillants	98, 3ème Cité Lumière	125	Saint Louis Odnel
Collège Laodicée	3ème Cité Lumière	140	Beaucicault Jean Delince
Institution Chrétienne de Bois	2ème Cité Gérard	134	Chery Jean Baptiste
Neuf			
Institution Mixte CRDE	Rue Oscar Prolongée	234	Olriche Estimé
Subtotal		2,752	



"...mothers have spent nights standing knee-deep in mud, cradling their babies in their arms, while rain pounded the tarpaulins above their head."

> Edwidge Danticat Haiti Author January 2011

Edwidge Danticat is angry. It has been more than one year since the earthquake struck Port-au-Prince, Haiti – her home town.

One million, three hundred thousand people who lost their homes in the quake are still living in giant camps in the parks, vacant lots and ball fields of the capital city. As she says, they are still standing kneedeep in mud.

The blue tarpaulins given out by the United Nations Development Program have become the permanent home for the refugees. Less than 20% of the nine billion dollars raised for reconstruction of Haiti and Port-au-Prince after the quake has been spent. Much of the money remains in banks offshore, awaiting settlement of bickering and disputes among donors and Haitian factions.

There is a 20-page plan for reconstruction developed by the Haitian government which focuses

upon housing, road building, schools, and government buildings. It does not mention the water system.

Clean, safe water is absolutely essential to the survival of the 1.3 million earthquake victims. Therefore, International Action has developed a program for rebuilding the Port-au-Prince water system. We plan to *build it back better*, in the words of former US President William Clinton.

We have designed and begun shipping large tanks for neighborhoods in the city, small tanks for the schools, hospitals and orphanages of the island, and chlorinators to purify the water for drinking and cooking. It is a very large project – far larger than we planned before the earthquake. It will only succeed with increased support from aid agencies, foundations and donors, including you.

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ECOLE	ADRESSE	EFFECTIF	DIRECTEUR
Institution Mixte la Reforme	18, Soleil 19	435	Sejour Garry
Ecole Mixte Face à Face	1, 3ème Cité Lumière	100	René Junior
Centre Education Elohim	Cité Lumière	450	Pierre Rodrigue
Institution Mixte Alfred Musset	Soleil 23 # 1	134	Pierre Ecranel
Institution Mixte Foyer Elohim	Soleil 10 # 3	200	Pierre Nicolas Wilner
Ecole Mixte Jericho	Soleil 7 # 79	150	Joseph Yclès
Ecole Mixte Vaillant Soldat	Linthau I	190	Daut Belamin
Ecole Communautaire de Cité	Cité Boston	200	Médard Dieunel
Soleil			
Ecole Mixte le Redempteur	Wharf Soleil 24 # 22	300	Pierre Jude
Jn Jacques Rousseau	Rlle Sonson	234	Juste Desrosiers
Ecole Mi\xte Nouvelle Cité	2e Cité Gérard	110	Gaspard Alfred
Soleil			
Ecole Mixte St Esprit	Soleil 4 A # 26 A	136	Joseph St Fleur
Ecole Mixte la Nativité	Projet Lintheau I	200	Dorelus Jacquelin
Subtotal		2,839	
ECOLE	ADRESSE	EFFECTIF	DIRECTEUR



"In the year since the earthquake, Haiti has lost some thirty-five hundred people to cholera, an epidemic that is born out of water. The epidemic could potentially take more lives than the earthquake itself."

> Edwidge Danticat Haiti Author January 17, 2011

In Haiti, one child out of every eight dies before the age of five of preventable diseases. This is the highest mortality rate among children in the Western Hemisphere, and perhaps the world. These diseases include typhoid, hepatitis, cholera, and chronic diarrhea. All are waterborne.

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has ranked diarrhea as the second highest cause of death among children under the age of five. The cholera outbreak which started in December has already killed 4000 Haitians and put the lives of many children at extreme risk.

Our Haitian Staff – led by Dalebrun Esther – rushed to the cholera zone in the Artibonite Department to install chlorinators. Starting in Saint Mark, they followed the river upstream to Verrettes, La Chapelle and Mirebalais. They sought to prevent the cholera victims from reaching the refugee camps in Port-au-Prince.

They were not successful. A scattering of infected individuals escaped the government's blockade of Artibonite, to hide in the camps in the capital. They infected others.

However, Dalebrun and our staff worked to distribute chlorine tablets to all our installed sites in Port-au-Prince. We installed several new tanks in the camps, and pushed the school program faster. We hope we helped prevent a larger epidemic of cholera.

Our chlorine kills the germs of all the waterborne diseases – cholera, hepatitis, typhoid, and diarrhea. With your continuing support, we shall provide chlorine tablets and briquettes to many towns in Haiti.

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Collège Evangélique Don Divin	3e Cité Lumière	100	Séjour Eustache
Collège Mixte la Nouveauté	Rue Volcy # 90	135	Dumombrun Jn –Claude
Collège Mixte Proculat	Rue Pierre Baptiste	220	Jean Denis
Laurier Rose de Yoland	Projet Drouillard	140	Dorsainvil Ferdinand
Ecole Mixte Enfant Sages	2e Cité Gérard , Rue l'union # 30	180	Guillaume Ajustène
Ecole Communautaire Cité Gérard	1ere Cité Gérard	245	Lanio Warlique
Ecole Mixte Don de Dieu	Rue Vulcain # 14	189	Petit Compére M.
Ecole Mixte le Progrès	Entrée Pelé Simon # 37	250	Nelson L. Phamo
Mixte Courtoisie Eben-Ezer	Ave Soleil # 63	150	Garçon Inevil
Mixte Lumière Celeste	Soleil 19 á l'Int. # 251	320	Janvier Medèle
John Nelson Darly	# 2, Rlle Hyppolite , Cité Militaire	160	Gérome Louis
Peniel Mackenson Michel	# 28, Rue Paul Moral	210	St Felix Jn Claude
Subtotal		2,299	
ECOLE	ADRESSE	EFFECTIF	DIRECTEUR



"A year ago, watching the crumbled buildings and crushed bodies that were shown around the clock on American television, I thought I was witnessing the darkest moment in the history of the country where I was born..."

> Edwidge Danticat Haiti Author January 2011

On January 12, 2010, a massive earthquake struck Port-au-Prince, Haiti. 300,000 people died in the initial upheaval.

Nearly the entire water system of the city was destroyed. Pipelines from springs and other water sources were broken, tanks and concrete reservoirs were cracked and toppled, and all but thirty of our chlorinators were destroyed.

In the aftermath, Dalebrun Esther and our Haitian crew delivered water directly with our small tank truck; rented larger 3100-gallon trucks to provide water to neighborhoods without water access; and renewed our chlorinators and chlorine supplies at the water sites that functioned. And, in the United States we started to build tanks.

Working with EnviCor in North Carolina, we designed 2000-gallon tanks which nested together for compact shipping to Haiti. Fred Stottlemyer – of the Rural Water Association – added to our design based upon his experience in rural Honduras. Multiple faucets were added to serve many users.

So far we have shipped 68 large 2000-gallon tanks to Port-au-Prince, Haiti. 8 tanks have been installed in the refugee camps of the city, at an orphanage at Croixdes-bouquets, and in a section of Haiti's worst slum, Cite Soleil.

Each site in the earthquake zone – which is all of the metropolitan Port-au-Prince area – requires substantial work. First, a 20-man crew must clear the rubble left by the quake. That takes two weeks and costs \$1200 per site in labor at \$5 per day per man.

Then a crew must build a concrete foundation for the tank to raise it above the lines of users. We have found each platform costs some \$900. Finally, there is the cost of the tank and shipping from the United States of \$1150. The total per site is \$3250 apart from labor.

Our first 68 tanks will replace tanks destroyed in the earthquake. These served some 400,000 Haitians clean, safe water. With your help, we will go beyond these sites to provide tanks installed throughout the city – serving all 2.5 million residents.

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Ecole Yuong Sang	# 45 2e Cité Gérard	130	Pierre Marlie
Ecole Mixte Toussaint	Soleil 2, Angle 2e Cité	200	St Jean Aubertaud
Louverture	# 87		
Collège Mixte Jean de la	# 12 , Rte Nle # 1,C.	170	Pierre Auphila Desilien
Fontaine	Vincent		
Institution Mixte Jean Baptiste	#1,Impasse le Sages	240	Pierre Herard Dessilien
du Sable	C. Vincent		
Ecole Mixte L'harmonie de Dieu	Projet Linthau I	300	Louissaint Pierre Louis
Collège le Phare	Wharf , Soleil 18 # 26	240	Thessier Rodolph
Ecole Mixte Evangélique	Projet Linthau II	120	Suffrant Adlin
Jehovah	-		
Institution Mixte Foyer Eloim	Soleil 10	400	Pierre Nicolas Wilner
Subtotal		1,800	
Total		12,690	



"...We installed a 2000-gallon water tank for the entire community. Now, the orphanage has the ability to serve not only the orphans, but also the neighboring inhabitants."

> Dalebrun Esther Haiti Director December 2010

The water tank on our cover has one of our NORWECO chlorinators attached on top. Ten per cent of the water entering the tank passes through the chlorinator picking up enough chlorine to make 2000gallons safe to drink.

In the United States and Europe, chlorine has been used to treat public water for 100 years. Yet, until now there has been no effective system for treating water in neighborhood systems like Port-au-Prince.

Our tablet chlorinators require no electricity and operate on the gravity flow of water from city water sources. They are simple to install, easy to operate and trouble-free to maintain. They are *appropriate* technology.

We purchase them from the NORWECO Company in Norwalk, Ohio for \$50 or \$120 - depending upon

their size. The small chlorinator was developed for our use in Honduras 15 years ago.

The chlorinators can provide a steady, pre-set level of chlorine which persists in the water for many days. This chlorine can provide dependable protection against waterborne diseases – typhoid, hepatitis, cholera and chronic diarrhea.

The chlorine tablets we use are safe to handle even by amateurs. Made by Arch Chemicals of Norwalk, Connecticut, the tablets are reasonable in cost. In the Jalousie neighborhood of Port-au-Prince our chlorine costs about \$50 per month to protect 50,000 residents.

Worldwide chlorination of water saves more lives than any other public health measure. Together, you and I now provide the same protection to thousands of people in Port-au-Prince.



École la Dignité. Drawn by Gerry Reilly from Architecture for Humanity Location: Cayes de Jacmel, Sud-Est, Haiti. Project Lead - Darren Gill



"...through our Haiti Action Network, members are working to construct affordable shelter... support entrepreneurs; restore cultural and historical landmarks; expand access to clean water...."

> Former President Bill Clinton 42<sup>nd</sup> President of the United States

For those who know the existing schools of Portau-Prince, Haiti, the drawing on the opposite page is like a vision of paradise. Airy and light, sheltered from the tropical sun, beautifully made of local stone, this school will suit anyone's children.

This is what President Clinton means when he asks that we "Build Back Better" in Haiti.

International Action will supply the water tank, chlorinator and initial tablets, and install the drinking water system in this school. For several years, we have been part of the Clinton Global Initiative's Haiti Action Network and through the network we have developed partnerships with other groups working in Haiti. Architecture for Humanity is one of our partners, and we hope to join with them in replacing many other Haitian schools. With another CGI member – the American Institute for Research (AIR) – we have signed an agreement to furnish water systems to 60 schools which AIR is rebuilding in the earthquake zones of Port-au-Prince, Petit Goave and Leogane. These schools will serve some 60,000 students.

Yet another CGI partner – Yele Haiti – helped us install several very large water systems in the Artibonite region where cholera first appeared. With your help, we will continue these partnerships – with AIR, Yele Haiti and Architecture for Humanity – as they continue to rebuild neighborhood institutions.

We will continue to participate in Clinton's Haiti Action Network, to find new partners to rebuild Haiti. Our focus on water systems enables International Action to collaborate with far larger non-governmental groups on the island.





"After the January 12<sup>th</sup> earthquake, most of the Haitian population lives in tents under terrible conditions. There are over 3000 people living in the camp at Cazeau with no clean water. We installed a 2000gallon water tank there."

> Dalebrun Esther Haiti Director December 2010

In the refugee camps and in each urban neighborhood, there exists a local Water Board, made up of 20 residents. This Board speaks for the area to lobby for water service, repairs, and now for chlorine.

Dalebrun Esther and our staff work closely with the local Water Boards. Our aim is to build them into a network of neighborhood health agencies for the distribution of medicine and access to doctors.

We have distributed through these Water Boards more than 600,000 tablets of Albendasole de-worming tablets. Haitians of all ages carry intestinal worms, roundworms and hookworms. Two pills each year rid children of all worms.

We will also use the Water Boards in Cite Soleil to distribute hundreds of special children's books in

Creole developed by Mr. Fequiere Vilsaint, a Miami publisher. We will spend \$5000 for his books designed to teach reading, science, math, and languages.

Using the neighborhood model developed in Portau-Prince, we shall expand our clean water program to other urban areas in Haiti. We intend to develop active Water Boards in Cap Haitian, Port-de-Paix, Grand-Goave, Mirogane, Gonaives and other towns of the nine Departments.

We will provide chlorinators, large and small tanks, and chlorine tablets to each new installation. Your support and that of the agencies, foundations and private donors listed inside our cover page will determine how quickly Haitians get clean, safe water.

#### **About International Action**

We are a private, non-profit organization located on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Since 2006, we have installed chlorinators on many public water tanks in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Before the January 12, 2010, earthquake, we provided clean, safe water to 400,000 Haitians in the capital city.

Following the earthquake, we began making water tanks in the United States to replace those damaged in Port-au-Prince. We have sent 68 large tanks and 300 small tanks to Haiti since then.

Our staff in Washington includes two Haitians – Wesley Laine and Jeffery Sejour – and Director Lindsay Mattison and Associate Director Youngmin Chang. All have visited Haiti to know conditions there.

Our Haitian staff is led by Dalebrun Esther – a Haitian-trained chemical engineer and experienced neighborhood organizer. Mr. Esther is general coordinator of the *Committee of Poor Neighborhoods of Port-au-Prince*, and has served as *President of Zone II* in Cite Soleil, Haiti's worst slum. He is married and is the father of two girls.

Joanes Bastian is head technician and plumber for us in Haiti, installing chlorinators and tanks in Port-au-Prince, testing water samples and distributing chlorine. Jean-Rene Lamour is a technician with our group, trained as a plumber and field worker. Daniel Esther is a plumber installing chlorinators in Gonaive and L'Archaie for us and Pierre-Jacques Esther is driver and auto mechanic, keeping our three trucks running. Emilio Bastien serves as a plumber for our group and installs systems in Cite Soliel and L'Archaie. Samson Esther maintains our inventory control and Evans Lamour maintains our books and payroll accounts.

#### A Special Note

Several times in this piece on Haiti, we quote Edwidge Danticat. All of her quotes came from her recent note in the <u>New Yorker</u> magazine, January 17, 2010.

One of the many joys of working with Haitians is getting to know Madam Danticat's writing. Her books include:

> Krick? Krack! Breath, Eyes, Memory The Farming of Bones Behind the Mountains After the Dance The Butterfly's Ways

All are available in English. Her publishers include Penguin, Crown and Soho Press.

#### **Board of Trustees**

<u>William Curry</u> is our President. He served as counselor to President Clinton in his second term, writes for the Hartford Courant often and is working on a book on White House politics. <u>Victor Grinev</u> provides pipeline equipment for projects in Russia, where he lived and was educated. He is Treasurer of our group. <u>Heung Hwan Lee</u> serves as our Secretary, and publishes the Korean edition of Foreign Policy magazine.

<u>Tom McCarthy, Jr</u> is our counsel. Tom is a Washington attorney with Akin Gump and has worked with Haitian officials including recent Prime Minister Bellerive. <u>Esther Brooks</u> has lived in Spain, Syria and France and is a longtime supporter of our work. <u>Alfredo Forti</u> is Undersecretary of Defense in Argentina. He was the OAS official for Reconciliation in El Salvador.

<u>Anne Zill</u> runs an art gallery in Portland, Maine and helped found the Women's Campaign Fund and is on the Board of the Fund for Constitutional Government. <u>David Potter</u> is a banker and computer specialist in Salt Lake, Utah and leads some Mormon efforts to aid Haiti.

Edward Rawson is an active advocate of world government, joining the World Federalists in 1946. Ed remains a supporter of Citizens for Global Solutions and the United Nations. Edward spent 30 years with U.S. AID working in South Korea, the Philippines, and Saudi Arabia.

<u>Franz Stuppard</u> is a Haitian-American, longtime U.S. Air Force Veteran, and regular sponsor of projects in Saint Mark, Haiti, his hometown. <u>Laura Tew</u> is former Washington representative for Arch Chemicals, largest maker of chlorine worldwide. Few know more than Laura Tew about making drinking water safe.





Dalebrun addresses waterboard leaders.

International Action received its ruling granting tax-exempt status from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service in August 2006.



Rotationally Molded Polyethylene

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