



WFP (Haiti)
SPECIAL OPERATION SO 200108

Country:	Haiti
Type of project:	Special Operation
Title:	Logistics and Telecommunications Augmentation and Coordination for Relief Operations in Response to the Earthquake in Haiti
Total cost (US\$):	22,239,756.15
Duration:	14 January – 14 April 2010 (3 months)

Executive Brief

On Tuesday, 12 January, an earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale, with a depth of 10 km, was recorded only 16 km from the capital of Haiti, Port-au-Prince.

The city has been severely affected including damage to critical infrastructure components such as, electricity, water and telecommunication services. Initial reports indicate a large number of casualties and widespread damage to buildings and logistics infrastructure.

Provision of humanitarian assistance is hampered by damage to key infrastructure, such as airport and port as well as road blockages. There is an urgent need to augment the logistics capacity in order to meet the humanitarian needs.

Insecurity and looting is a major concern in the aftermath of this disaster. Immediate needs include search and rescue operations; emergency health; water and sanitation; shelter; food; logistics and telecommunications.

Through this special operation WFP will, in its capacity as Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Cluster lead, support the relief efforts of the Humanitarian Community and of the Haitian authorities. The special operation provides for:

- Operational support, including temporary inter-agency storage and humanitarian base camps, strategic airlifts and chartering of coastal vessels with own derricks.
- Coordination of and information management for the logistics response.
- Provision of the telecommunications capability required for the humanitarian community to respond to the crisis.

This special operation will have a duration of 3 months at a total estimated cost of US\$22,239,756.15.

1. Project Background

An earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale struck Haiti on 12 January at 16:53 local time (21:53:09 UTC). The epicenter was located 9 km (6 miles) SSW of

Carrefour, Ouest; 16 km (10 miles) SW of Port-au-Prince. Soon after, more than 20 aftershocks were reported, ranging from magnitude 4.2 to 5.9 on the Richter scale.

It is estimated that two thirds of the population in Port-au-Prince have been affected. Populations are also affected in the cities of Carrefour and Jacmel.

There has been extensive damage to infrastructure. The airport of Port-au-Prince has suffered damage and is currently only open for humanitarian flights. The port has also been severely affected. Various governmental buildings, many offices of the United Nations and other humanitarian actors have also been damaged.

In addition, electricity outages, inaccessible roads and lack of telecommunications are also hampering the rescue and relief efforts.

2. Project Justification

Given the scale of the disaster, WFP urgently needs to augment its logistics and information and communications technology (ICT) capacity, which includes emergency telecommunications capacity, to ensure sufficient assets and staff are in place to support the entire humanitarian community.

The magnitude of the disaster and number of people affected call for a coordinated and efficient response from the international community proportionate to the scope of the disaster to avoid bottlenecks and possible overlaps. The Logistics cluster is active in Haiti¹. WFP, in its role as the lead of both these clusters, will coordinate the logistics and ETC responses.

The disruption to the telecommunications infrastructure and services in the country makes communications difficult and potentially impacts the safety, security and operational capability of a coordinated humanitarian response.

The expected volumes of relief items being brought into the country, in conjunction with damaged infrastructure and limited capacity, will require the setting up of staging areas in and outside Haiti as well as a number of operations and logistics hubs in the affected areas. Road and coastal transport options will also be made available to the humanitarian community.

As a result of the extensive damage to United Nations offices and housing in Port-au-Prince, WFP has been requested by the United Nations Country Team to provide safe and secure office and accommodation facilities for United Nations personnel.

3. Project Objectives

- Support the delivery of humanitarian aid to affected population by augmenting the logistics capacity through the:
 - Setting up of temporary forwarding hubs in and outside Haiti consisting of storage facilities and office space;

¹ And we are awaiting the activation of the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) in the coming days.

- Chartering of coastal vessels;
- Strategic airlifts;
- Deployment of logistics staff;
- Enhance coordination, predictability, timeliness and efficiency of the emergency logistics response under the cluster approach.
- Provision of safe and secure office and accommodation space for United Nations staff.
- Provision of the telecommunications capability required for the humanitarian community to respond to the crisis.

4. Project Implementation

This special operation accommodates the essential logistics and emergency telecommunications requirements to ensure the delivery of key relief items to the affected population and the necessary operational support to the humanitarian community to respond to the crisis.

Given the rapidly evolving situation on the ground, the below implementation plan may be revised as necessary. The activities will include:

Staging area

Port-au-Prince airport will very likely not be able to cope with the amount of humanitarian supplies being brought into the country. WFP will therefore use its existing Humanitarian Response Depot in Panama to receive cargo. WFP will also establish a staging area in Santo Domingo to rapidly forward relief items into Haiti. Should the situation eventuate, WFP sub-offices and storage capacity in Cap Haitien, Gonaives and Jacmel will be made available to support international staging areas. This will provide the humanitarian community with the ability to reach Port-au-Prince by air, by sea and/or by road.

Set-up of operations and logistics hubs in country

Set-up of a logistics hub in the Port-au-Prince port, including MOSS- compliant operation center (prefabricated offices and mobile storage units to support the humanitarian response). Furthermore, once the airport is fully operational, it is expected that a large volume of humanitarian goods will be delivered through Port-au-Prince airport, thus requiring the augmentation of the storage capacity.

Coastal services to Haiti

Chartering of a coastal vessel with own derrick for containers and/or a roll on-roll off capabilities to ensure delivery of humanitarian supplies to coastal affected areas. This vessel will operate from Santo Domingo to Port-au-Prince and/or ensure delivery to other affected areas, including Gonaives Island and Jacmel.

Provision of safe and secure office and staff accommodation

Based on a request from the Resident Coordinator WFP will set up safe and secure office and accommodation facilities for United Nations Agencies as the United Nations system in Port-au-Prince has lost offices and accommodation due to the earthquake.

The following solutions will be used to provide office and accommodation space to up to 500 United Nations personnel:

- Chartering of a ship inclusive of catering facilities and connectivity. The vessel would be anchored at Port-au-Prince and it will serve as operational and accommodation centre.
- Mobilization of and setting up of humanitarian base camps in secure locations.

Logistics Cluster Coordination

Logistics Cluster cells will be reinforced in Port-au-Prince and established in Santo Domingo, with support from WFP's Regional Bureau in Panama and the Global Logistics Cluster in Rome. The Logistics Cluster will coordinate the logistics operation and provide common logistics services. The cargo moved by these services will be dispatched based on the priority set by the Humanitarian Coordinator. Furthermore, the Logistics Cluster will provide information management, cargo tracking, as well as GIS/mapping services.

In addition, the Logistics Cluster will liaise with the National Authorities and the Peacekeeping mission in Haiti to coordinate civil military interaction with national and international military entities. The Logistics Cluster will focus primarily on logistics and operational coordination for the use of military assets in relief activities.

Surface transport

The existing truck fleet in Haiti will be mobilized to the affected areas and made available to the humanitarian community to provide transport from the airport to the distribution sites. These deliveries will be supported by earth moving equipment in the short term for the removal of debris and rubble from roads in urban areas.

Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) activation

The fundamental ICT infrastructure of the offices of WFP and many of the other humanitarian agencies in the area of operations have been destroyed or severely damaged. New temporary common inter-agency office facilities will be established to accommodate multiple agencies, which include WFP and the other humanitarian partners. This special operation will equip the new offices with the requisite ICT infrastructure and related services to meet the individual requirements of the various agencies. The project will also provide emergency telecommunications services by establishing a robust inter-agency emergency telecommunications system and communications center (COMCEN) in the common operational areas. These ICT and ETC facilities will allow humanitarian workers to better coordinate assessments, rescue and relief operations in all the affected areas. Specifically, the project will:

- Establish and operate comprehensive ICT infrastructure and related services to support the operational activities of multiple agencies in the areas of operation.
- Ensure availability of inter-agency telecommunications infrastructure and services covering both data and operational voice communications (satellite connectivity and radio networks) as required by the ETC.
- Adhere to standardized ICT platforms and procedures to avoid duplication and ensure cost-effective services (MOSS compliant communications).

Strategic Airlifts

In order to facilitate the immediate deployment of the support equipment required for the start-up of operations, this Special Operation makes provision for strategic airlifts from the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot network to Haiti.

5. Project Management

The Country Office Head of Operations will be the Project Manager for this special operation. The Country Director will be the Funds Manager and the Head of Finance will be the Allotment Manager.

6. Project Cost & Benefits

This special operation has a total cost of US\$22,239,756.15 and is expected to provide the necessary logistics and emergency telecommunications support to life saving emergency operations in Haiti.

7. Monitoring & Evaluation

The key performance indicators are:

- Common transport capacity made available vs. utilization.
- Common warehouse capacity available vs. utilization.
- Time framework compliance with phased approach.
- Monthly tonnage/volume transported by boat/barge vs. received.
- Monthly tonnage/volume delivered inland vs. received.
- Number of agencies/NGOs coordinated.
- Use of interagency coordination and information related services provided (website, reports, surveys, maps, assessments).
- Security telecommunications and back-up power equipment installed in all emergency operation centers and forwarding hubs.

RECOMMENDATION

This special operation covering the period from 13 January 2010 to 12 April 2010 at a total cost to WFP of US\$22,239,756.15 is recommended for approval by the Executive Director with the budget provided.

APPROVAL

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Josette Sheeran
Executive Director