

2010 Earthquake in Haiti: Evaluating the non-governmental response for the improvement of health conditions

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Crisis Before Earthquake

On January 2010, a 7.0 earthquake shook the country, causing 220,000 fatalities, 300,000 injuries and leaving 1.5 million citizens without a home (Goyet et al. 13) Also 1,300 educational establishments and more than 50 hospitals that were left “unusable”. (Goyet et al. 13)

Table 2.1 Damage and losses from the 2010 Haiti earthquake (rounded to millions of US dollars)

Sectors	Public	Private	Total
Social	352 (23.2%)	1,161 (76.8%)	1,513 (19.4%)
Water and sanitation	29 (12.3%)	206 (87.7%)	235 (3%)
Health	282 (60%)	188 (40%)	470 (6%)
Education	40 (8.4%)	437 (91.6%)	477 (6.1%)
Food safety and nutrition	0	330 (100%)	330 (4.2%)
Infrastructure, including housing	1,402 (31.4%)	3,059 (68.6%)	4,461 (57.2%)
Production sectors	3	1,327 (100%)	1,330 (17%)
Environment*	324 (64.3%)	175 (35.7%)	499 (6.4%)
TOTAL	2,081 (26.7%)	5,722 (73.3%)	7,803 (100%)



Methods

- Revision of secondary literature
- Summary of the literature on the reaction to the earthquake
- Peer review of several drafts

Conclusion

- Aid provided by PAHO/WHO proved to be successful in the coordination of all organizations
- Distribution of free health care to 6,868 persons per month
- Successful psychological aid to relieve tragedy

Resources Cited

- Goyet, C., Sarmiento, J.P., Grünwald, F. (2011). Health response to the earthquake in Haiti: January 2010. *Pan American Health Organization* 1-180
- Raviola, G., Eustache, E., Oswald, C., Belkin, G. (2012). Mental health response in Haiti in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake: A case study for building long-term solutions. *Harvard Revision Psychiatry* 20: 68-77.
- Earthquake in Haiti – One Year Later – PAHO/WHO Report on the Health Situation. *Pan American Health Organization*. (2011). 1-17 (Graphs were retrieved from information in the latter article. Pages 15, 50, and 119)
- Photograph by Talia Frenkel/ American Red Cross. 2010. Earthquake in Haiti: Red Cross Red Crescent response. Retrieved from www.flickr.com/photos/ifrc/4347853415/in/photolist-7wvxGB

Actions by PAHO, WHO and Partners in Health

- Cluster approach to identify and coordinate main priorities for plans of action
- Sub-clusters to collaborate on mobile clinics, health information, disease monitoring, reproductive health, disability and rehabilitation, hospitals, and psychological support
- Recruitment of 17 psychologists, 50 social workers and assistants to receive training in psychopharmacology
- Support groups and special burial ceremonies

Results

- Establishment of 17 hospitals
- Distribution of 900,000 vaccine doses
- Free access to primary health care
- Development of community programs
- Creation of child and family social activities
- Provision of information on disaster risk awareness

Figure 4.2 Number of international agencies registered with the Health Cluster following the Haiti earthquake

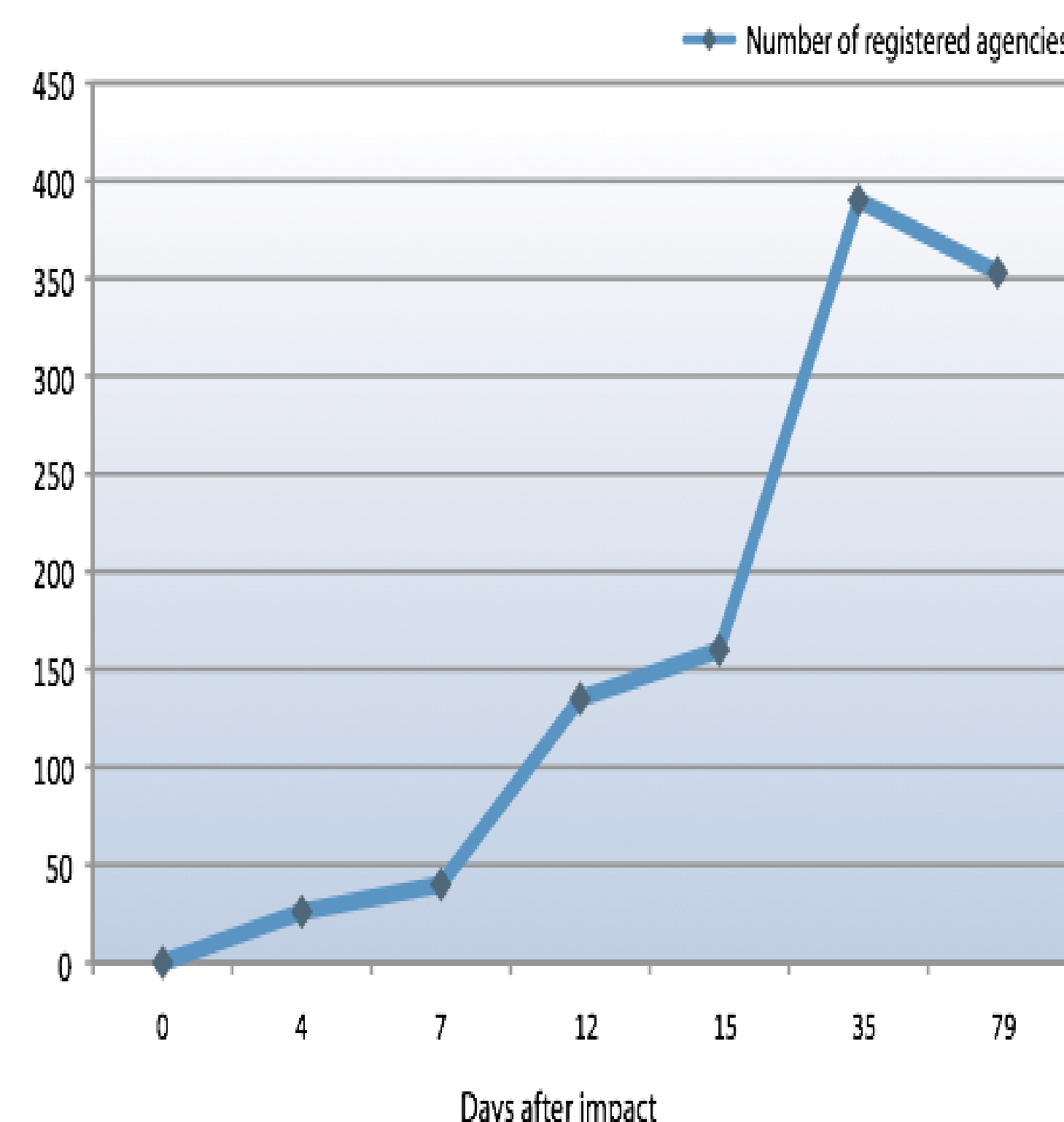


Figure 7.2 Categories of items arriving at Port-au-Prince airport, 16 January-25 February 2010

