

The history of my country tells me that my ancestors come from* African continent.

They have been taken as slaves,* crossed the Atlantic Ocean to replace the Indians who couldn't resist the treatment they were inflicted, it was in 1700-1789

* Arrived on this part of America, particularly in the Caribbean, we fought and we* obtained our independence in 1804.

*Jacques Theodore Holly, black American, dreamed of living on a free land, left the United States, included 37 from Connecticut and 64 from New York, Pennsylvania and West Canada. They left with the blessing of the Episcopal Church in the USA. The sailing vessel arrived in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on June 1, 1861. Less than two weeks later, on June 13, 1861, he was received as citizen of Haiti, signed by President Geffrard.

* The Church has strengthened since and we are a Diocese of 180000 to 200000 members and 48 Priests.

*Our Diocese is part of the 2eme province of 9 provinces of THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

*Our Bishop is Jean Zaché DURACIN.

I coordinate the activities of CEDDISEC since 1995; I have experienced* several cyclones and sometimes 4 in one year. We Anticipated cyclones, heavy rains but not earthquake.

* Japan has anticipated earthquake and tsunami of 3 meters high but not 10 or 12 meters high. Therefore man will always face unexpected events.

* We faced this earthquake which has left on our arms . . .

* Dead bodies

*Houses destroyed,

* Debris, rubbles

* Refugees under tents,

* Internally displaced persons,

It was terrible * ***

Last night we tried to participate as we can to advocacy in terms of asking G20 to pay attention to *climate change*. It is a real problem that the world needs to face on an upper level.

**** This range of solidarity, towards the adversity, helps us not only to share our experiences but also take advantage of lessons learned.

Thank you to Anglican Alliance which has caused this meeting,

* We have just celebrated Ash Wednesday. The Primate of THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, PRESIDING BISHOP, ALONG WITH Jean Zache Duracin, diocesan bishop of Haiti, came to support those who are living as refugees in their own country.

*The day of January 12th was indeed, the most deadly day in history leaving more than 300,000 lives, hopes, dreams, and ambitions buried under tons of concrete debris. Men, women, children, and elderly alike lost everything.

*Shortly after the earthquake, the first efforts of **CEDDISEC** of course focused on addressing the urgent needs of **food, potable water, and provisional shelter**.

*

1-use what we have

2-Haitian doctor providing care to their bro and sis

3-Take from our storage room goods : water, shelter, food, medicines/first aid

4-make contact with our priests, development agents, local leaders- Staff and congregations communicate with the diocesan office.

I may say our gratitude to ERD, to South Africa....

The arrival of many medical teams converging in Haiti from the four corners of the world in a unprecedented display of human solidarity, the desperate population received immediate attention.

Actions taken by CEDDISEC following the earthquake:

1. Establishment of 60 mobile medical clinics in the affected area.

The sites for the clinics were chosen based on a survey conducted by CEDDISEC employees in collaboration with local authorities including CASEC and leaders of influential community organizations. This survey was used as a basis for other interventions in the Leogane area.

2. The construction of 145 provisional houses in conjunction with the priests, local authorities, civil society in the affected communities.

3. Distribution of more than 10,000 tarps, 6,000 tents, 100,000 hygiene kits, and 100,000 meals including potable water.

4. Distribution of 30,000 educational kits to affected schools based on the survey of needs.

5. Following the earthquake we the cholera epidemic which has caused around 3,000 deaths

and 400,000 hospitalizations.

In response to the cholera epidemic, CEDDISEC distributed hygiene kit which comprised of soap, bleach, and water treatment tablets in 19 camps according to a survey conducted by 11 community agents.

Totals from April 12, 2010 to February 13, 2011:

- 2,865 aided families representing approximately 6,620 individuals
- 18,000 flasks of water treatment tabs (Aquatab) representing 2,700,000 liters of purified water
- 6,000 packs of water equaling 360,000 liters of potable water
- 6,452 bars of soap
- 1,464 oral rehydration packets

International Aid Management

The management of the international assistance following the earthquake remains a subject of great concern. Among the critics we find:

- Duplication of actions on the ground,
- Projects launched which failed to reflect the needs of the population,
- large proportion of aid funds spent on equipment and employee wages.
- Millions dollars were allocated to send thousands of foreign troops
- Slow process of delivering the aid

Still today, numerous articles in the national and international press denounce the inefficiency and absence of transparency among the NGO's which dovetails with the corruption and lack of leadership continuing to gangrene the Haitian government.

Recommendations:

Haiti is and will be in a state of reconstruction for the near foreseeable future. To undertake the work at hand, CEDDISEC wishes to implement the following measures of rectification:

1. Reinforce the management of the assistance and the development of policies
2. Logically match and insure the authenticity of financial donations according to the priorities of the beneficiary countries.
3. Coordinate actions of donors to reduce costs and encourage transparency.
4. Stress the evaluation of results for integrated and sustained positive advance

* As the one year anniversary of the January 12th quake has just past, I can't help but recall the harsh words and criticism that overwhelmed airways and TV screens world-wide, referring to the slow pace or LACK of response and recovery work "we" -- relief & development organizations, international and national -- have accomplished in the past year. . .

These thoughts are hard for me to reconcile with my own experiences of the endless days, the 7-day work weeks, and the conviction and commitment we have given (and continue to give) to our rescue, relief and recovery programs in Haiti.

* How is it that these two, opposing images - - of our people, young and old digging through and removing rubble, transporting lumber and rebuilding homes, **and** that of our people, young and old still living in squalor in the streets without proper food, sanitation, or a safe place to lay their head at night -
- How is it that these two opposing images can come from the same country?

As I look back and seek to learn, what more could we have done... I reflect upon past experiences and our own preparedness to respond.

It seems that the challenge was not a “lack” of experience or the “absence” of a preparedness plan, but rather the under-estimation - - in ability to anticipate - - the actual magnitude of the crisis that would hit.

To this end, a lesson and recommendation I choose to share with all of you, is to re-evaluate not simply your readiness to response, but also your readiness to scale up to a magnitude comparable with a crisis you might not be able to anticipate.