



World Meteorological Organization
Working together in weather, climate and water

Urgent assistance for Haiti

Side meeting
25 March 2010

MH EWS Training Workshop
San Jose, Costa Rica



Assistance for Haïti

Outline

- Current situation at Haïtian Meteorological Service
 - Urgent needs
 - Haïti Task Team (plans and milestones)
 - Offers of assistance
 - Re-establishing weather forecasting in Haïti
 - WMO in-country Assessment
-



Assistance for Haïti

Hazards

Heavy Rainfalls
Hurricanes

Impacts:

Flooding
Landslides

Context:

Communities in soft-shelters:
Fragile, vulnerable, traumatized



Current situation at Haitian Meteorological Service

- Monitoring – observational network
 - *real-time: only at 2 airports*
- Data-collection, processing, and exchange
 - *extremely limited*
- Production of forecasts and warnings
 - *Internet-access, little training opportunity*
- Service Delivery: disseminating, communicating forecasts and warnings
 - *Collapsed broadcast infrastructure*

What are the protective actions for the public when there is a weather warning?

Fragile, vulnerable, traumatized communities to natural disasters



Assistance for Haïti

Urgent needs

- Deploy weather stations at secure locations
- Install telecommunication network for collecting data and disseminating forecasts and warnings
- Re-establish forecasting and warning system for Haïti, including reaching the public and Emergency

Management
Goal: Rebuilding and sustaining the Meteorological and Hydrological Services of Haïti for the prevention of natural disasters



WMO RA IV Haïti Task Team

Side meeting - 9 March 2010 @HC32 Bermuda

Urgent Actions

- Monitoring network, secure facilities
- Forecast guidance, dedicated Extranet
- Human resources
- Final product dissemination
- Public visibility of CMN Haïti

WMO In-country assessment (5 – 10 April 2010)

WMO: Plans / Coordinates Urgent Actions, Offers of Assistance, and planning for medium-term and beyond



WMO RA IV Haïti Task Team

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Urgent Actions and Milestones

- Verify Monitoring network, secure facilities **Mar/Apr**
shipping and installations **Apr/May/June**
- Forecast guidance, dedicated Extranet **Apr/May**
- Human resources **Apr/May**; earliest deployment of
« visiting forecaster » to CMN Haïti **May/June**
- Final product dissemination **Apr**
- Public visibility of CMN Haïti (eg. public Web)
Apr/May

WMO In-country assessment 5-10 April 2010



Coordination of assistance

Offers

- Automatic weather stations
 - Rehab existing equipment
 - Secondement French-speaking forecasters
 - 2 EMWIN systems deployment and support
 - Laptop PCs
 - Various forecasting products (NWP, satellite, radar)
 - Dedicated Web pages and portal

 - Verbal offers, and others-to-come

 - **WMO Assessment Mission**
 - **UN Revised Flash Appeal (RFA)**
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Coordination of assistance

Latest Unofficial Offers

- Flash Flood Guidance (HRC)
 - UN FM radio broadcast (OCHA coordinated)
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A concept for re-establishing weather forecasting in Haiti

- CMN Haiti (2 forecasters, +1)
 - French speaking forecasters, on rotation to CMN Haiti, HGD, home
 - Haiti Guidance Desk «HGD» off-site
 - Extranet guidance portal (basic products, consensus, single-window)
 - Hotline support (off-site, in French)
 - « OJT » training; short training sessions by other specialists (e.g. on EPS, HGD products, PWS)
 - Basic level start-up; managed enhancements over time
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WMO In-Country Assessment

5-10 April 2010

Assessment for:

« Development of Meteorological and Hydrological Services in Haïti for the Prevention and Mitigation of Natural Disasters »

Objective:

« To prepare a project proposal for development of meteorological and hydrological services in Haïti, in particular advisory and warning services related to hydro-meteorological hazards that are required by national organizations and the public, for the prevention and mitigation of natural disasters. »

Terms of Reference

Supported by local UNDP
