PROGRESS REPORT

Early Recovery - Hurricane Matthew in
Dame Marie and Anse d’Hainault, Department of Grand’Anse

Government of Japan-funded Project
implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Objective: Creating emergency jobs in departments affected by Hurricane Matthew

Period covered: November 2016 – January 2017
Part 1. Summary of Results achieved to date with funding from the Government of Japan

Between 3 and 4 October 2016, a Category 4 hurricane struck the southern coast of the Republic of Haiti. Hurricane Matthew devastated the cities and municipalities in the Departments of the Nippes, the South, and the Grand-Anse. According to Civil Protection reports, 90% of the houses were destroyed. Debris, including from collapsed houses, roofs, fallen trees, flooded cemeteries, dead cattle, latrines, constituted a serious threat to lives and public health, and hamper humanitarian access to populations in need, notably in remote areas. Hurricane Matthew has also affected critical socio-economic infrastructure and lifelines, such as farming, fishing and small scale commercial activities, both formal and informal.

With the support its partners and the of the Government of Japan in particular, UNDP was able to implement its Early Recovery strategy within the first days following this devastating storm. The following report provides the details of the activities undertaken with the funding made available to UNDP from the Government of Japan with regard to emergency employment for the most affected population. Through this emergency employment, the project has contributed to the immediate restoration of dignity and creating access to income opportunities for the most affected population, with a focus on the cleaning and rehabilitation of critical community infrastructures. Key results are summarized below:

- 2,859 short-term jobs in 10-day rotations created in Dame-Marie (1906) and Anse d’Hainault (953), providing immediate income to the most vulnerable;
- 4,800 linear meters of irrigation canals cleaned, allowing communities to restart agricultural activities for the winter season;
- 900 linear meters of road cleared at critical junctures, opening access to secondary roads and facilitating access to markets and affected populations;
- 10,200 m³ of debris and waste collected;
- Support to the restoration of local operational capacities in the communes of Dame-Marie and Anse d’Hainault (replacement of key damaged material and equipment);
- Distribution of protective material as well as tools, including the following that are also used by communities to the restart agricultural activities:
  - 132 Picks
  - 400 Shovels
  - 132 Rakes
  - 2128 Wheelbarrows
  - 132 Machetes
Part 2. Project description

1. Context

After cutting a deadly path across the Caribbean, Hurricane Matthew, a Category 4 storm with sustained winds of 235 km/h, violently struck south-western Haiti on 4 October causing widespread damage, flooding and displacement. The poverty level of the population in this area reaches 70 per cent. Hurricane Matthew has resulted in the largest humanitarian crisis in Haiti since the 2010 earthquake at a time when the country is already facing an increase in the number of cholera cases, and severe food insecurity and malnutrition.

The hurricane caused floods and landslides, damage to road infrastructure and buildings, and shortages of electricity and water. The most affected departments are Grand'Anse, Sud, Nippes and Sud-Est. The western and northwestern departments are also affected. As of October 31, Matthew's official record was 546 dead, 438 injured, 2.1 million affected (12% of the Haitian population), 806,000 people potentially affected by extreme food insecurity, and 1.4 million people in need of humanitarian aid.

Matthew's impact has been devastating, due to pre-existing vulnerabilities, including natural hazards (physical vulnerability), socio-economic fragility and political instability, especially in the communities of Dame Marie and Anse d'Hainault, two coastal municipalities.

Only 24 per cent of the population in Grand'Anse and Sud live in urban areas (Jérémie, Les Cayes). The majority are in more inaccessible rural areas. Accessing safe drinking water and proper sanitation facilities are major challenges. Where cholera was already active, the heavy rains throughout most of the country created a very high risk of its propagation, in addition to many other waterborne diseases that could affect thousands of families and children already at risk across all of the country.

2. UNDP strategy in response Post Matthew

UNDP's Post-Matthew recovery strategy is aligned with the priorities of the Haitian Government and the United Nations in Haiti. It is based on three specific objectives:

1. Strengthen national and local capacity for planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of post-Matthew recovery efforts; and
2. Restore livelihood opportunities and human and productive capacities for resilient economic recovery of the affected communities.
3. Support communities in longer-term recovery efforts, ensuring greater resilience to climate and disaster risk.

In this context, UNDP aims to provide support to the Government to facilitate immediate access to income for the most vulnerable people affected by the crisis, to enable movement and resumption of activities in affected areas and contribute to the stability of precarious neighborhoods by creating economic opportunities and employment opportunities for young
people and women vulnerable to violence in the Grand’Anse, department affected by Hurricane Matthew.

This recovery approach responds not only to the immediate needs of affected regions for rapid response but also creates conditions for long-term recovery, promoting resilience to multiple shocks (including natural disasters) and sustainable development. This approach underscores the need to link relief efforts with longer-term rehabilitation and development efforts.

3. Project Summary

With the funding from the Government of Japan, UNDP is facilitating recovery efforts by combining community recovery with the injection of financial resources at the household level through the creation of emergency jobs, economic recovery in debris management, reconstruction and/or rehabilitation of community infrastructure, community involvement and capacity building of local authorities.

In terms of geographical scope, UNDP has concentrated, as planned in the Government of Japan and UNDP’s agreement, in the Department of Grand’Anse, one of the three most affected departments by Hurricane Matthew and particularly in the communes of Dame Marie and Anse d’Hainault.

UNDP adopted a Cash for Work methodology, named in Haitian Créole “Solèy Leve” or “Sunrise”, whereby teams provided close technical assistance to Municipalities and Community-based Associations which enabled the creation of 2859 jobs short-term jobs, over a period of 10 days of which at least 40% should be occupied by women (Target: 5000 short-term jobs).

4. Operational strategy and implementation modalities

a. Geographic targeting
Based on the recommendations of multi-hazard maps, risk prevention plans and recovery plans, waste management assessments, capacity analysis of the Mayors’ offices and lessons learned from C4W activities, and with the view to strengthen synergies with the other humanitarian/development actors and the Government, UNDP has initiated its recovery activities in the municipalities of Dame-Marie and Anse d’Hainault (with funding from the Government of Japan), as well as in 8 other municipalities in the department of Grande Anse.

b. Beneficiaries targeting
Based on the UNDP cash-for-work methodology, teams are providing close technical assistance to Mairies and Associations in order to create 5,000 short-term jobs over 10 working days, with at least 40% of women, as the excepted results described in the original concept note.

To do so, 7 agreements will be signed directly with the local authorities and organizations of the municipalities concerned for the implementation of the project activities (3 agreements have been signed so far). It is to be noted that it will be possible to sign several agreements with the local authorities or associations, depending on the progress of the works.
The beneficiaries must meet at least one of the following criteria to be selected:

- Most vulnerable families living in the most affected areas on the basis of risk mapping (Reference Multi-risk Mapping, Coastal Areas)
- Housing partially or totally destroyed during the hurricane
- Persons currently residing in a temporary shelter
- Persons with special needs
- Persons with disabilities
- Single-parent families with a male head of household and infants
- Elderly
- Persons in excluded groups

At least 50% of the selected beneficiaries will be women:

- Female-headed affected household, with loss of at least 50% of productive assets (fields, small livestock etc.);
- Disabled, inactive or under-age Female head of household, with a precarious source of income;
- Female head of household, with a source of income less than 6,000 Gourdes per month
- Female of 65 years and over
- Households with cases of malnutrition of pregnant and lactating women
- Household with at least 2 children under 5 years of age and headed by a woman

(c. Methods of payment)

The project is using the 3 following strategies for paying the community workforce:

1. Use of local "Caisses Populaires" CPDAM and CAPAJ;
2. Use of the transfer of funds (mobile money);
3. Use of commercial banks such as Sogebank.

So far, for the two municipalities of Dame Marie and Anse d’Hainault, the adopted modality is the use of Caisses Populaires (CPDAM). In cases where the beneficiaries of the projects have a mobile phone, payments by mobile will be prioritized (via the company DIGICEL). However, in some communal sections, nearly 60 per cent of people do not have a telephone and it is therefore vital to identify and work with a third party, including “Caisses Populaires” that fully participate in the economic revitalization of communities.
5. **Next steps**

- Based on the success of this phase, the project will launch a second phase of cash for work activities in the targeted communities in the month of February 2017, which will target more than 2,000 new direct beneficiaries.
- A rapid assessment of the cash for work activities has been done in December 2016, based on the rapid-evaluation recommendations, the project should complete the cash for work activities with more effective and long-term economic recovery and waste management activities. For this purpose, the project will sign new agreement with local and international NGOs experienced in economic recovery and waste management in supporting the local communities. This phase should start in February 2017
- As expected result of the project, a multidimensional database of the beneficiaries from the project will be finalized in April 2017
- Also the mid-term evaluation of the project should be initiated in April 2017

6. **Annexes**

- Recovery plan for Dame Marie

7. **Focal Points**

a. **PNUD**

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