
ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY, EMPOWERMENT, AND CAPACITY BUILDING MUST GUIDE DONOR STATES' EFFORTS IN REBUILDING HAITI

Recommendations for the March 2010 Haiti Donors' Conference

As the international community reaffirms its commitment to Haiti, it must overcome the mistakes of the past. Accountability, transparency, empowerment, and capacity building should guide all rebuilding efforts. Donor states should use a rights-based approach, targeting aid to build the capacity of the Haitian government to ensure the rights of its people. Donor states should act with full transparency and accountability, making information about their plans and programs available to all, and should work with the Haitian government to set up public monitoring and reporting mechanisms. Donor states should coordinate their actions by setting up a Multi-Donor Fund that includes Haitian civil society and community-based organizations as voting members.

BUILD THE CAPACITY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HAITI TO ENSURE HUMAN RIGHTS

- Conduct assistance with the goal of ensuring the government of Haiti has the capacity to guarantee the human rights of all Haitians, including economic, social and cultural rights, as well as civil and political rights. This requires donors to work directly with the Government of Haiti to identify needs and to develop, implement, and monitor programs to provide basic public services, including education and public health, water, and sanitation services.
- Provide, to the fullest possible extent, assistance in the form of budgetary support to the Government of Haiti.
- Encourage all non-governmental organizations operating in Haiti to coordinate with the Government of Haiti and other agencies and report their activities to the Government of Haiti, Multi-Donor Fund, and the Haitian public.

ENSURE TRANSPARENCY OF ASSISTANCE

- Coordinate all assistance through a Multi-Donor Fund.
- Include the Government of Haiti and representatives of Haitian civil society and community-based organizations as voting members on the governing committee of a Multi-Donor Fund.
- Conduct all assistance to Haiti in accordance with the International Aid Transparency Initiative and Paris and Accra principles.
- Call upon the IFIs and Haiti to comply with the International Aid Transparency Initiative and Paris and Accra principles.
- Create a public web-based database to report and track donor pledges, disbursed funds, recipients, sector areas, and expected outcomes under the aegis of the Multi-Donor Fund.
- Establish and fund a mechanism to deliver information about assistance projects to the Haitian people, administered by the Government of Haiti in partnership with civil society and community-based groups.

- Build the capacity of the Haitian government to budget, disburse funds, and implement projects in a transparent way.

EMPOWER THE HAITIAN PEOPLE

- Ensure that assistance projects are Haitian-led and community-based at every stage, recognizing the importance of including internally displaced persons who may not be integrated into the community.
- Prioritize programs benefiting vulnerable groups, including women and children, the disabled, the elderly, and internally displaced persons.
- Call on United Nations sector clusters to include Haitian civil society and community-based organizations.
- Where non-Haitian leadership is absolutely necessary, ensure that Haitians are provided positions where they can learn from project implementation and develop national capacity to perform those functions.

ENSURE ASSISTANCE DELIVERS CONCRETE RESULTS

- Establish and fund a mechanism to measure and monitor the outcomes of assistance projects at the community level. All findings should be made public. This mechanism should be administered by the Government of Haiti in partnership with civil society and community-based groups and should include a mechanism for Haitians to register complaints about problems with implementation of projects.
- Request the United Nations, through the office of the UN Special Envoy, report publicly every six months on disbursement of funds by project, progress on project implementation, and whether aid has been delivered in a transparent, accountable, and participatory manner.
- Ensure that all implementing organizations, including the government of Haiti, UN agencies, NGOs, and community-based organizations, comply with principles of transparency, accountability, participation, and capacity-building by using measurable indicators and provide information on funds expended and progress on project implementation.

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