

Responding to Disasters

HAITI
EARTHQUAKE

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NOTES:

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- The views expressed in this compilation are those of the authors and should not be attributed to The George Washington University, American Military University or other affiliations.

Introducing “Responding to Disasters”

The following information is a resource on not-so-frequently asked questions and topics that arise during disasters. This is not intended to be an all inclusive document or list of resources. This is designed for emergency management practitioners but is a good

resource for anyone wanting to donate and assist.

In this issue, we address charitable contributions including good, tested methods of helping (and not). This is by no means an endorsement of any one charity.



Charitable Donations

Guidelines for International Disaster Donations [Center for International Disaster Information]
http://www.cidi.org/guidelines/guide_In.htm

Haitian Earthquake Relief Fraud Alert [FBI]
<http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel10/earthquake011310.htm>

Aid for Haiti: Beware of donor scams [Washington Post]
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/discussion/2010/01/15/DI2010011501367.html>

How to Decide Where to Give to Aid Haiti [Chronicle of Philanthropy]
<http://philanthropy.com/news/updates/index.php?id=10635>

List of more than fifty-nine well-vetted NGOs working to help victims of the disaster [InterAction]
<http://www.interaction.org/crisis-list/earthquake-haiti>

Tips, Tips And More Tips For Funding Haiti Earthquake Relief Efforts [Charity Navigator]
<http://blog.charitynavigator.org/2010/01/tips-tips-and-more-tips-for-funding.html>

Smart Giving in Times of Disasters: Haiti Earthquake [Charities Review Council]
<http://smartgivers.org/Disasters>



Photo by Frederic Dupoux/Getty Images

“Clothing is the worst gift... What people need is money to go out and purchase their own clothes.”

- Rev. Tom Hazelwood, United Methodist Committee on Relief

Additional Resources

GENERAL

Haiti—Earthquake Relief and Information [PhilanTopic]
<http://pndblog.typepad.com/pndblog/2010/01/haiti-earthquake-relief-and-information.html>

US GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Travel Warning: Haiti [US Department of State]
http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_4632.html

2010 Earthquake in Haiti (Person Locator/Welfare) [US Department of State]
<http://www.state.gov/p/wha/ci/ha/earthquake/index.htm>

Help for Haiti/Clinton Bush Haiti Fund [White House]
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/haitiearthquake>

RESPONDING TO DISASTERS

Funds Not Goods

CIDI Urges Appropriate Response to Haiti Earthquake; Americans Should Send Cash Donations to Best Aid Victims of Devastating Earthquake [Center for International Disaster Information]

<http://www.cidi.org/news/haiti-quake.htm>

Four Lies People Tell Themselves About Philanthropy (Or Why You Shouldn't Send Canned Goods to Haiti) [Rosetta Thurman]

<http://rosettathurman.com/blog/2010/01/four-lies-people-tell-themselves-about-philanthropy-or-why-you-shouldnt-send-canned-goods-to-haiti/>

Clothing Could Be Second Disaster [Disaster Network News]

“Donation efforts in aftermath of disasters often come from the goodness of the heart, but they often create an unintended second disaster say disaster responders.”

<http://www.disasternews.net/news/article.php?articleid=4004>

Tips for Funding Haiti Earthquake Relief Efforts

- Avoid Newly-Formed Charities and Give To An Established Charity That Has Worked In Haiti
- Do Not Give To The Haiti Government
- Designate Your Investment
- Do Not Send Supplies
- Be Careful Of Email Solicitations
- Seek Out The Charity's Authorized Website
- Consider The Nature Of The Charity's Work
- Be Inspired By Social Media, But Still Do Your Homework
- Avoid Telemarketers
- Do Not Expect Immediate Results, But Do Keep Tabs On What Your Donation Accomplishes

[Charity Navigator]

<http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=content.view&cpid=1004>



INTERNATIONAL

UN News Centre—News Focus: Haiti Earthquake [United Nations]
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/infocusRel.asp?infocusID=91&Body=Haiti>

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
<http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?lang=en>

Haiti Earthquake – January 2010 [ReliefWeb]
<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc108?OpenForm&emid=EQ-2010-000009-HTI&rc=2>