Haiti Advocacy Working Group Two Year Recommendations

The January 12, 2010 earthquake devastated Haiti, killing and injuring hundreds of thousands and leaving over 1.5 million homeless. Two years later, over half a million Haitians are still living in camps. Even more struggle to survive throughout the country on less than $3 per day. The U.S. must reprioritize Haiti reconstruction efforts in light of these facts, by supporting the Haitian government, directly consulting with Haitian grassroots and improving aid accountability. In addition, we recommend the following:

U.S. House of Representatives: Haiti GBV Resolution

U.S. Senate: Assessing Progress in Haiti Act
Co-sponsor and support passage of the Assessing Progress in Haiti Act, S. 1576, in the Senate, introduced by Senator Mary Landrieu on 9/19/11.

USAID: Procurement
Set and report on specific targets for each Haiti project for a certain percentage of funds to be used for local contracting and subcontracting and on Haitian labor.

Strictly enforce their reporting requirements for primary contractors and to render public all reports provided by primary contractors that cover weekly (or monthly) activities, summaries of grant implementation, funds obligated and disbursed, summaries of grant implementation and detailed records of all subcontracting activities.

Secretary Clinton and U.S. State Department: Haiti Land and Housing
Publicly state support for: (1) the Haitian government’s efforts in land reform in ways that prioritize the needs of vulnerable populations and includes a clear position against forced evictions and (2) urgently advancing USG housing commitments, including repairing as promised 14,000 damaged homes and partnering with the Haitian Government to advance housing development plans that respect vulnerable populations’ right to housing and utilize environmentally sustainable land and materials.

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and World Bank: Aid Disbursements
Expedite disbursement of the nearly $1.2 billion in approved but mostly undisbursed post-earthquake grants, prioritizing aid that benefits the most vulnerable.

Provide semi-annual disbursement progress reports on all approved grants.

(World Bank, Trustee of the multi-donor Haiti Reconstruction Fund)
Disclose amounts of disbursed HRF funds and amounts still remaining to be disbursed.

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