

2010 earthquake – 50000 victims - ways of help



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On January 12, 2010, at 21:53 UTC, (4:53 pm local time) Haiti was struck by a magnitude 7.0 earthquake, the country's most severe earthquake in over 200 years. The epicenter of the quake was just off the Haitian capital, Port-au-Prince, sparking a tsunami watch for parts of the Caribbean, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Widespread damage resulted from the quake, with a majority of buildings collapsing due to poor structural design. The capital city was devastated. The Presidential Palace was badly damaged, with the second floor entirely collapsing onto the first floor; the Haitian Parliament building and the National Cathedral were also destroyed.

Several institutions confirmed that aid centers were rendered inoperable because of the earthquake, leaving many injured Haitians without care. As of January 14, aid from around the world had begun to arrive, however a badly damaged seaport, congested one-runway airport, shattered communications system, and difficulty coordinating the aid have delayed the delivery of food, medicine, and relief workers, and it is feared that help will arrive too late for many.

ESTSS therefore supports the ways of help ISTSS is promoting.

http://www.istss.org/haitian_earthquake.cfm