



# Lessons Learned Operation Unified Response

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# Overview

- **Background**
- **What we learned and improve upon**
- **What went well!**
- **Questions!**



# Haiti



- **French colony, based on forestry and sugar-related industries, became one of the wealthiest in the Caribbean but only through the heavy importation of African slaves and considerable environmental degradation.**
- **Declared independence in 1804.**
- **The poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.**
- **Haiti has been plagued by political violence for most of its history.**
- **Civil Unrest between February 2004 – May 2004**
- **A massive magnitude 7.0 earthquake struck Haiti in January 2010 with an epicenter about 15 km southwest of the capital, Port-au-Prince. <sup>1</sup>**

# Haiti





# Haiti Earthquake

- **The earthquake struck on January 12, 2010 at 4:53 p.m.**
- **The 7.0 magnitude earthquake's epicenter hit just 10 miles west of Port-au-Prince and its 2 million inhabitants**
- **3 million people in need of emergency aid after major earthquake**
- **The major earthquake sent 33 aftershocks ranging in magnitude from 4.2 to 5.9<sup>2</sup>**

# Typical Damage





# What is an FDPMU?

- **Mission**

- The primary mission of the Navy's Forward Deployable Preventive Medicine Units (FDPMU) is to rapidly assess, prevent, and control health threats in theaters of operation by threat characterization and enhancement of organic preventive medicine assets.<sup>1</sup>



# Our FDPMU

- Industrial Hygienist
- Entomologist
- Environmental Health
- Preventive Medicine Doctor
- Microbiologist
- 8 Techs





# **FDPMU Occupational Health**

- **Unknown Chemical Analysis**
- **Traditional Occupational Air Sampling**
- **Noise Surveys**
- **Environmental Air Sampling (24 Hour)**

# Areas of Improvement

- **Respiratory Protection and other PPE**
- **“A little education”**
- **Early in and last out**
- **What we do and don't do**





# Respiratory Protection

- Different brands with different cartridges
  - Force Protection Brief
- Fit testing
  - When and Who
- Program management difficulty
  - Train the Trainers
- Change out schedules





# Personal Protective Equipment



- **Resupply Fees**
- **Variety of PPE**
  - **Different Units**
  - **Different PPE**
- **Not enough**
- **Force protection brief**
- **Supply chain**

# “A Little Education”

- PPE is important
- Trying to educate Locals
  - How to protect the individual
  - Bio waste bags are for Bio waste

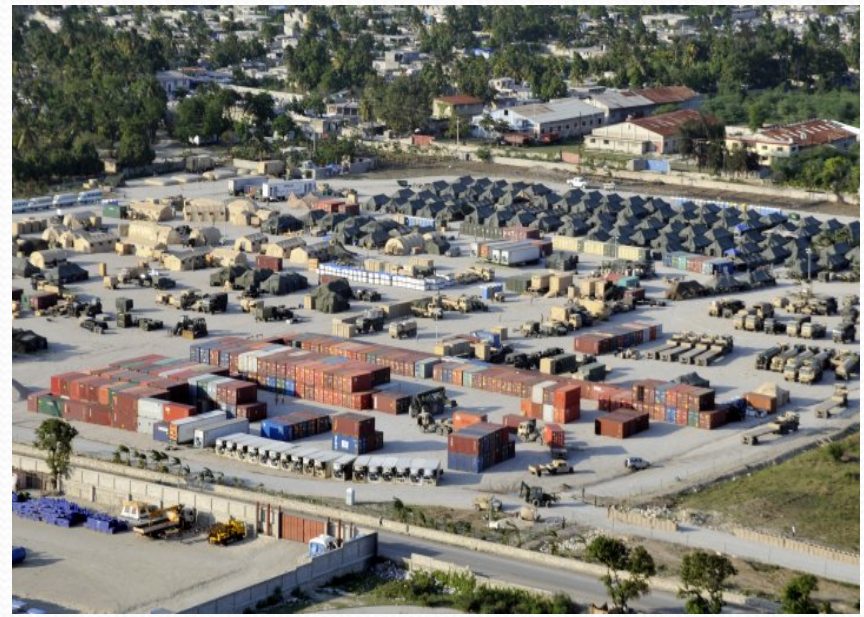




# Early In and Last Out

- **Many units arrived before PM units and chose different real estate to work in**
- **Killick on a fuel spill and sewage drainage field**
- **LSA Hope set up with PM direct input**





<http://haitiearthquakephotos.com/earthquake-photos>

# What we do and don't do

- **Med Logistics vs Preventive Medicine**
- **Training vs use of services**
- **Entomology assistance vs over exposure**
- **Request for daily spraying vs full preventive measures**





# What went well

- **Respiratory protection program**
- **Laboratory support CHPPM (USA Public Health Command Provisional)**
- **Interagency Support**



# Respiratory Protection Program



- **Personal protective equipment out to thousands of service members in days**
- **Great attitude of service members**
- **Locals worked well with US personnel**

# Laboratory support

- US Army Public Health Command (Provisional) (formerly CHPPM)





# Interagency Support

- USAID
- HHS
  - EPA
  - DMAT
  - CDC
- DOD
- FEMA





# Sources

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