

Orange staff rallying to support children in Haiti

As part of the solidarity measures adopted by Orange following the earthquake in Haiti, the Orange Foundation is committed to helping renovate schools in partnership with UNICEF.

- a fundraising drive with the French Group staff has made it possible to collect nearly 160,000 euros;
- the Orange Foundation has decided to contribute an equivalent amount for each euro raised;
- as a result, UNICEF will receive 320,000 euros for pursuing its actions for children and enabling them to benefit from an education.

Group's employees rallying around this cause

The level of support shown by staff has been immediate and very strong. So far, nearly 2,300 employees have sent in their donations to the Foundation. Sometimes, whole teams have rallied together to send a cheque showing their collective support.

In total, almost 160,000 euros have been raised, with the Orange Foundation contributing an equivalent amount. Consequently, UNICEF is going to have **320,000 euros** to pursue its actions on education.

Two of the Group's employees, chosen from among the donors, will be going on site during the second half of the year to report to all staff on the actions carried out by UNICEF to support children.

The importance of returning to school

Over and above learning knowledge, school makes it possible for children to find their points of reference again and express how they feel following the disaster. This is confirmed by all emergency relief specialists: for children, meeting together in a place that is specifically for them and returning to a semblance of "normality" through their lessons encourages their psychic reconstruction.

Around 90% of schools have been destroyed or damaged in Port-au-Prince and the west, and 40% of schools destroyed in the southeast, depriving more than 2.9 million children aged 5 to 14 of education.

UNICEF's actions for education

UNICEF will continue shipping school equipment and materials. Tents, "school in a box" kits covering a total of 720,000 children, will make it possible for the children to initially get back to school.

An in-depth audit of all the schools affected will be carried out in order to assess the requirements for rebuilding school infrastructures.

At the same time, 3,000 to 4,000 temporary schools will be deployed, with specific training for teachers on psychosocial support for their pupils.

UNICEF's actions in Haiti

Thanks to its teams on site, UNICEF has been able to support communities affected by the earthquake in Haiti within hours of the disaster: distributing tents, water, food supplies and medicine. And immediately taking care of the children, the most vulnerable among the vulnerable.

Emergency protection centers have been set up to make the children safe from any form of traffic and abuse, identify them, look for their families or find an alternative host solution.

The Orange Foundation

Since its creation in 1987, the Orange Foundation has been conducting a major programme of corporate philanthropy which is the continuation of its company mission: giving everyone the means to communicate, fighting against sensory and social isolation as well as promoting cultural fulfilment. The Orange Foundation is involved in three fields:

- **health/disability** to create links by helping autistic persons, and seeking to improve the autonomy and quality of life of persons suffering from visual or auditory impairments.
- **education** to build links by contributing to the fight against illiteracy and by encouraging the education of girls in developing countries.
- **culture** for developing links by supporting the collective practice of vocal music.

Beyond its actions in France, the Foundation unites and coordinates all group corporate philanthropy initiatives throughout the world.

www.orange.com/fondation

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