

F O N D A T I O N

Digicel

HAITI

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

June 2010 Edition

The Foundation's modular schools



From the Executive Chairman:

Life is resuming its daily course, after a fashion.

Since April, children have returned to school. Although the conditions are still difficult, there they meet other children and it's an opportunity for them to talk about the traumas they have experienced.

At the Foundation, we have redoubled our efforts to ensure that the new school year starting in October will meet all necessary conditions for success. We have had many meetings with the Minister for Education in relation to providing transitional and permanent schools, following the standards and new norms established, so that no other catastrophe will ever again put in danger the lives of our pupils. The latest estimate is that 38,000 students died on 12 January.

We are fortunate to be working with communities and school management, who, despite losing everything, are already focused on the future, on the needs of their children and their hunger for education. It is our privilege to help them in achieving their ambitions and every day they motivate us to work harder.

The School of the Year program started two weeks ago. The results are already fantastic and much better than last year. The teachers are very motivated, the school directors are competing with each other in introducing new ideas, and the children are delightfully caught up in the general enthusiasm. It is a ray of sunshine bringing hope for a better tomorrow.



Among its post-earthquake activities, the Digicel Foundation plans to build 50 schools. A number of these are specially designed modular schools, which are faster to construct while also providing a safe environment and using materials already in Haiti. The modular schools are both earthquake- and hurricane-resistant and designed to last many years.

The Foundation will build schools throughout the areas most affected by the earthquake of 12 January. In particular, the community of Leogane is expected to receive about a dozen modular build schools. It is one way for the Foundation to help the students of Leogane town, which was the epicenter of the earthquake, to overcome the trauma of the tragic events.

The Foundation is especially grateful to Kentz, an Irish engineering company that has donated two highly experienced project managers to assist in the construction of the schools.

The search for the School of the Year is underway!



The second year of the Digicel Foundation 'School of the Year' which seeks to reward and recognize the best school this year was recently launched. The scheme was developed to motivate the management of the different schools built by the Digicel Foundation to take care of and to fully utilize the school building as a step towards self-sufficiency in the years to come.

Website updated.

The Digicel Foundation Haiti has recently launched a revised version of its Internet site, which is now more interactive and dynamic. It displays the geographic location of our projects and most importantly the ability now to submit project proposals online. The application form in French and Kreyol has also been revised. Already online submissions are arriving every day!

We invite you to visit the site at www.fondationdigicelhaiti.org and of course, we would love to hear your comments and suggestions for more improvements.



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(continued)

The concept has been well received by the school directors and is already bearing fruit with definite progress in relation to protection of the environment. It has also been a means for schools to share best practice and to learn from each other.

The results of this second year will be announced at the end of July and the three top-placing schools will receive respectively US\$5,000, \$2,500 and \$1,000 which will serve to finance a new viable project in those schools.

Tent distribution



To help the thousands of families without shelter, Digicel, through its Foundation, has donated 19,000 tents which will provide shelter to 100,000 Haitians living in camps. With a long-life and specially designed to resist heavy rain, the tents were distributed to organizations who, since 12 January, have been working to help people with temporary shelter. Hundreds of tents were distributed to NGOs, religious institutions, and State organizations including the police, mayors and ministries.

The tents were also give to the Haitian media, to the Football Federation and to partners of the Foundation such as Concern and Partners in Health.

The tents measure 10' x 10' with a 'bathtub' style polyethylene floor which ensures protection from ground water. Sourced from a US manufacturer, the tents were delivered in 14 containers of 40' which recently arrived in Port au Prince. They are well-ventilated and allow a continuous circulation of fresh air.